



BRIEF



Actors Karthik Aryan and Kriti Sanon at Taj Mahal, in Agra, Saturday.

L-G nod

New Delhi: Delhi Lt Governor V K Saxena has approved 126 posts of principals and deputy education officers in city government-run schools which had lapsed as these were "lying vacant" for more than two years, Raj Niwas officials said on Saturday. Besides, he has also put on hold a proposal to abolish 244 posts of principals and deputy education officers as proposed by the city's education department since these posts had also been lying vacant for more than five years, they said.

Shot at

Aligarh: A former Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) student was shot at outside a hostel on the campus, police said on Saturday. Mohammad Faizan, who is a boarder at the Ross Masood Hall hostel, was rushed to the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College hospital and his condition is stated to be critical, they said. AMU proctor Md Waseem told PTI that Faizan was shot at on the night of February 3. "Though the motive behind the attack is still not clear, police are investigating the matter," he added.

Shot down

New Delhi: A Pakistani drone carrying about 6 kg narcotics has been shot down by the Border Security Force along the International Border in Rajasthan on Saturday, a senior officer said. The flying machine was brought down during the intervening night of February 3-4 in Srikarapur area of Sriganganagar sector of the state. "A Pakistani drone along with two bags containing six packets of suspected narcotics, weighing about 6 kgs, has been recovered by a joint team of the force and local police," a BSF spokesperson said.

Complaint

Muzaffarpur: A Bihar-based rights activist on Saturday filed a complaint against yoga guru Ramdev for allegedly hurting religious sentiments of Muslims with his remarks at a recent meeting of seers. Tamanna Hashmi lodged the complaint against Ramdev before a local court here and demanded the registration of an FIR against him. At a meeting of seers in Rajasthan's Barmer on Friday, the yoga guru had accused Muslims of resorting to terror and abducting Hindu women, while comparing Hinduism to Islam and Christianity.

Weather
High 30 Low 11

SC eases procedure in implementation of 'living wills'

Notes insurmountable obstacles in its implementation

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI)

Taking note of the "insurmountable obstacles" in the implementation of advance medical directives of terminally-ill patients, the Supreme Court has eased the procedure to make it more workable.

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

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

What is 'living will'....

A living will is an advance medical directive on end-of-life treatment. The Supreme Court's 2018 order on passive euthanasia, wherein it recognised the right to die with dignity as a fundamental right and an aspect of Article 21 (right to life) of the Constitution, notwithstanding, people wanting to get a "living will" registered were facing problems due to cumbersome guidelines, prompting a reconsideration by the apex court.

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Issuing a slew of modifications, a five-judge Constitution bench, headed by Justice KM Joseph, has made the role of doctors and hospitals more important in the mechanism.

The court has said the difficulties being encountered have been voiced by a large number of doctors and it has become absolutely necessary for the apex court to revisit its directions. The court said a living will now be signed by the executor in the presence of two at-testing witnesses, preferably independent, and at-tested before a notary or gazetted officer.

"It should specify the name of a guardian(s) or close relative(s) who, in the event of the executor becoming incapable of taking decisions at the relevant time, will be authorised to give consent to refuse or withdraw medical treatment in a manner consistent with the advance directive.

"The document should be signed by the executor in the presence of two at-testing witnesses, preferably independent, and at-tested before a notary or gazetted officer," the bench, also comprising Justices Ajay Rastogi, Aniruddha Bose, Hrishikesh Roy and CT Ravikumar, said.

MAN-ANIMAL CONFLICT

Man killed in tiger attack

Manendragarh, Feb 04:

About the incident...

A 37-year-old man was killed in an attack by a tiger in Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur district of Chhattisgarh, forest officials said on Saturday.

The incident took place at Kachod village under Kolhari circle of Manendragarh Forest Division on Friday evening, said Loknath Patel, Manendragarh Divisional Forest Officer (DFO).

The deceased, identified as Budhrum Agariya, was a local resident. Preliminary investigation revealed that Agariya had gone to Gundru river near his village for fishing. But when he did not return home till late evening, a search was

The incident took place at Kachod village under Kolhari circle of Manendragarh Forest Division on Friday evening.

The deceased, identified as Budhrum Agariya, was a local resident. Preliminary investigation revealed that Agariya had gone to Gundru river near his village for fishing. But when he did not return home till late evening, a search was launched for him. During the search operation, his mutilated body was found in the forest. Pugmarks of a tiger were also spotted near the place from where his body was recovered," Patel said.

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Two days back, pugmarks were spotted in the forest of Kolhari circle in the division, following which forest personnel were asked to search the region, the DFO said, adding that the villagers were instructed to avoid stepping out of home after sunset.

After learning about the tiger attack incident, a forest team rushed to the spot and gave Rs 25,000 relief to the victim's family, while the remaining Rs 5.75 lakh will be released once the requisite formalities are completed, he added.

PUBLIC ART FEST



Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurates Nagpur Kala Sangh, the public art festival, in Nagpur, Saturday.

ED recovers arms, contraband during raids in Punjab

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI)

Arms, ammunition and suspected narcotics weighing about 16 kgs was recovered after raids were conducted in Punjab as part of a money laundering probe linked to a drug trafficking case, the Enforcement Directorate said on Saturday. The searches were conducted on Friday at 10 different premises in villages like Sheron, Naushera Pannuan and Bugha in the Tarn Taran district. The business and residential premises of Skattar Singh alias Laddi, Gajjan Singh, Makhan Singh and their family members apart from some associates were searched, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said in a statement.

Supreme Court gets five new judges

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI)

Five judges were appointed to the Supreme Court on Saturday with the Centre clearing the names recommended by the Collegium on December 13 last year.

Law Minister Kiren Rijju tweeted to announce the appointment of Justice Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court; Justice Sanjay Karol, Chief Justice, Patna High Court; Justice P V Sanjay Kumar, Chief Justice, Manipur High Court; Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah of Patna High Court; and Justice Manoj Misra of Allahabad High Court as

Five new judges...

Justice Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court; Justice Sanjay Karol, Chief Justice, Patna High Court; Justice P V Sanjay Kumar, Chief Justice, Manipur High Court; Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah of Patna High Court; and Justice Manoj Misra of Allahabad High Court.

apex court judges.

Once they take oath early next week, the strength of the apex court will go up to 32 judges. At present the top court

is functioning with 27 judges, including the Chief Justice of India. Its sanctioned strength, including the CJI, is 34.

Their appointments come amidst strong observations by a Supreme Court bench questioning the delay on part of the government in appointing and transferring judges based on the recommendations of the SC Collegium.

A senior government functionary said the five appointments have nothing to do with the bench's observation and were made after the Centre took a considered decision.

The appointments came in due course, he added.

DOUBTFUL DEATH

Veteran singer Vani Jayaram found dead with injury

Chennai, Feb 04 (PTI):

Iconic playback singer Vani Jayaram, who has crooned over 10,000 songs in 19 languages, including the very popular Hindi number 'Bole re papihara' and who was named for the Padma Bhushan Award recently, died here on Saturday.

She was 77 and was living alone at a downtown apartment, where she was found dead, police said adding there was an injury on her forehead and further investigation is on.

Vani Jayaram's husband predeceased her and she had no children, the singer's domestic help said.

In her long and illustrious career of over 50 years, she has rendered a mine of memorable songs including the 'Bole re papihara' from Hindi flick



Guddi (1971), 'Yezhu Swarangalukkul' from Tamil film Apoorva Ragangal (1975) and 'Malligai En Mannan Mayangum' (1974 Tamil movie Deerga Sumangali). She has worked with iconic musicians including M S Viswanathan and Ilayaraja. Former Chief Minister and top star in her times J Jayalalitha was among those for whom Vani Jayaram has sung.

JAMIA NAGAR VIOLENCE

Accused made 'scapegoats', dissent has to be 'encouraged': Court

Sharjeel, Tanha, Safoora absolved

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

A court here on Saturday discharged 11 people including student activists Sharjeel Imam and Asif Iqbal Tanha, who participated in anti-CAA protests, in the 2019 Jamia Nagar violence case, saying they were made "scapegoats" by police and that dissent has to be encouraged, not stifled.

Noting that the accused were merely present at the protest site and there was no incriminating evidence against them, the court said dissent is an extension of the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression, subject to reasonable restrictions. It said investigative

agencies need to discern the difference between dissent, which has to be given space, and insurrection that should be quelled.

The court, however, ordered the framing of charges against one of the accused, Mohammad Ilyas.

"Marshalling the facts as brought forth from a perusal of the charge sheet and three supplementary charge sheets, this court cannot but arrive at the conclusion that the police were unable to apprehend the actual perpetrators behind the commission of the offence, but surely managed to rope the persons herein as scapegoats," Additional Sessions Judge Arul Varma said.

The court faulted the police for failing to produce any WhatsApp chats, SMS

or other proof of the accused interacting with each other and criticised it for "arbitrarily" choosing to array some people from the crowd as accused and police witnesses, saying this "cherry-picking" by the police is detrimental to the precept of fairness.

An FIR was lodged in connection with the violence that erupted after a clash between police and people protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) in the Jamia Nagar area here in December 2019.

Imam was accused of instigating the riots by delivering a provocative speech at the Jamia Millia University on December 13, 2019. He will continue to remain in jail as he is an accused in the larger conspiracy case of the 2020 northeast Delhi riots.

SHOWCAUSE NOTICE TO PATIALA MP

'Cong welcome to take whatever decision it wants'

Chandigarh, Feb 04 (PTI):

Suspended for her alleged anti-party activities, Congress' Patiala MP Preet Kaur Saturday said the party is welcome to take whatever decision it wants but asserted she always gave her best to the party.

The Congress on Friday suspended her and also asked her to explain why she should not be expelled for "anti-party activities".

Kaur is the wife of former chief minister Amarinder Singh, who joined the BJP after being ousted from the Congress.

"The Congress is welcome to take whatever decision it wants. I have always given my best to the party and to the people who have repeatedly elected me. I owe it to them and will continue to serve them, as always. I derive

my strength from my people. Everything else is secondary," Kaur said on Twitter on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring accused the former Union minister of weakening the Congress in Patiala, and said she should leave the party on her own.

"It would have been better if Preet Kaur ji quit the party on her own. She left no stone unturned in weakening the Congress in Patiala," claimed Warring.

The Congress' disciplinary panel member secretary Tariq Anwar had said the action against Kaur follows complaints against her from the party's Punjab unit chief Amarinder Raja Warring and other state leaders that she was helping the BJP in the state.

FIRST TRANS MAN'S PREGNANCY

Kerala transcouple set to welcome baby

Kozhikode, Feb 04 (PTI):

A transgender couple in Kerala has announced pregnancy, in possibly the first such case in the country, and are expecting their child in March.

Ziya Paval, a dancer, took to Instagram and announced that her partner, Zahhad, is now eight months pregnant.

"We are about to realise my dream of becoming a mother and his dream of becoming a father. An eight-month-old foetus is now in (Zahhad's) belly... From what we came to know, this is the first trans man's pregnancy in India..." Paval said in the Instagram post.

Paval and Zahhad have been together for the past three years. They both were



Transgender couple Ziya and Zahad at their home in Kozhikode, Saturday.

undergoing hormone therapy to change their genders but halted that for the purpose of having the baby. Zahhad, who was transitioning to become a man,

has stalled it to conceive a baby. Speaking to media, Paval said, "The trans community is living in constant fear of society. We all are worried what the society will think. There are numerous trans people who want to be a parent. There are many persons for whom the transman pregnancy is possible. But they are not coming forward."

The couple has been busy for the past two days giving interviews to various media houses.

Paval narrates their journey towards the gender changing process and how they had to stop the hormone treatment in order to conceive the child.

Zahhad said he never had even thought about getting pregnant.

'Millet Canteen'

New Delhi, Feb 04:

In line with the government's impetus, a "Millet Canteen" will be operationalised at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here by March 1.

The canteen will be set up on the second floor of the central cafeteria and will offer millet-based dishes on a 24x7 basis. It shall be operationalised latest by March 1, according to a circular issued on Saturday by AIIMS Director Dr M Srinivas.

The government has decided to celebrate 2023 as the "International Year of Millets" to make it a people's movement so that the Indian millets, recipes and value-added products are promoted globally, the circular said.

EXPERTS OPINE

Some 350 stones from original Nane Darwaja at Raigad Fort retrieved

Marked for reconstruction

Aurangabad, Feb 04 (PTI):

More than 300 stones that fell possibly due to landslide from the 'Nane Darwaja' of Maharashtra's historic Raigad Fort have been retrieved and will be used to rebuild the structure based on architectural points from the time, an expert involved in the work said on Saturday.

Situated in the Sahyadri mountain range, Raigad Fort, some 370 kilometres from here, was made the capital of the Maratha Empire in 1674 on the coronation of Chhatrapati Shivaji



Maharaj. As per the book 'Shrimad Raigrau' by Gopal Chandorkar, the Nane Darwaja was an octroi collection point at the fort and the structure may have collapsed due to a landslide at

the time, conservation architect Varun Bhamare said.

"We searched for the arch and bracket stones that fell from the structure in the valley below and managed to retrieve around 350 of them. These have been numbered by us after identifying their position in the original structure. Work to fix them accordingly to recreate the structure has begun," Bhamare told PTI.

A channel made from cutting stone to ensure water flowing downhill does not harm Nane Darwaja has also been found and the mud and sludge covering it has been cleared for it to drain out water as per the original architecture, he added.

BSP seals the only cinema theatre of Bhilai Township

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: On Saturday, the Enforcement Squad of the Town Services Department of Bhilai Steel Plant sealed the Miraj Cinema located at New Civic Center. It is the only Cinema Theatre located within the limits of Bhilai Township.

A joint team of Enforcement Department, Land Section, Housing Section, Electricity Department, General Section, Civil Section, Fire Department, Medical Department, Public Relations Department, and Public Health Department, along with officers of District Administration and Police force reached the Miraj Cinema (formerly known as Geet Talkies) to seal the premises.



Audiences and staff of all three screens (theatres) of the Cinema were asked to move out after which the building was sealed. A gym is located on the ground floor of this complex. The visitors and staff of this gym were also asked to move out and thereafter the Gym was also sealed.

The team did not seize any item / goods as per the instructions of the

Judicial Magistrate. However, the entire premise was sealed and all types of commercial activities were stopped with immediate effect. Three Inspector rank police officers along with their teams were present to maintain law and order.

The Town Services Department got the special support of Bhilai Steel Plant's Officers' Association President



Narendra Banchor and General Secretary Parminder Singh. A Fire Tender of BSP Fire Brigade and an Ambulance with medical staff also remained present during the proceedings.

Under the guidance of Mr Bisen, Executive Magistrate of the District Administration, the decree passed by the Estate Court was executed by the

Enforcement Department with the help of all the departments.

It needs to be mentioned here that about Rs 6.92 crores was due against the Miraj Cinema for many years, which was not being paid by the owners of Miraj Cinema. The matter was heard by the Estate Court and on the basis of Court's order, the building of Miraj Cinema has been sealed.

Monika Sahu of MTCN tops in poster exhibition

Bhilai, Feb 04: Monika Sahu, a student of B Sc 3rd year, Mother Teresa College of Nursing, Kumhari, has brought laurels to the college by winning in Poster exhibition organised during an international workshop.

The theme one day international workshop was "Challenges in Disaster Response and Emergency Management". The students took part in the poster exhibition in the workshop and conveyed the views to the people through posters.

Here it needs a mention that students from other colleges also registered their participation in this international workshop, but in this race of competition, B Sc third year stu-



dent of Mother Teresa College of Nursing, Kumhari Monika Sahu got the first position and made the college proud. Vice President of SRGOI (Shri

Rawatpura Sarkar Lok Kalyan Trust, Dr JK Upadhyaya congratulated the student on winning the first position and wished her a bright future.

Bunkar Bhavan of Patan to be renovated soon

CM attends Parmeshwari Mahotsava in Patan

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: The Bunkar Bhavan of Patan will be renovated soon to provide employment opportunities to the maximum number of people. Collector will conduct inspection and take necessary steps in this regard, said Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel while addressing the people at Parmeshwari Mahotsava in Patan.

Baghel said that every year Parmeshwari Jayanti is organized in Patan by the Dewangan Samaj. People of this Samaj are involved in agriculture and weaving. The state government procured 107 lakh metric



tonnes of paddy this year and all this has happened in a very convenient manner. This year 23.5 lakh farmers have sold paddy. The paddy cultivators and area of paddy cultivation have increased considerably due to the schemes of Chhattisgarh government.

Excellent work has been done in Bastar in the tex-

tile sector. The textiles are being marketed under the brand name Dannex. The establishment of Rural Industrial Parks (RIPA) will create great opportunities for enterprising Samajs like Dewangan Samaj.

CM added that they have opened nine SAGES schools in Patan.

Dewangan Samaj is a very hardworking society, that's why its people are called Mahajan. The Chief Minister said that earlier there were only two community buildings in Patan.

The community building of Dewangan Samaj was constructed and later it was renovated also. It feels nice to see the development of Patan. Along with agriculture, business is also growing rapidly, Baghel said.

Dewangan Samaj President Balduu Bhale addressed the gathering and expressed gratitude towards Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. Hemant Dewangan and other office bearers were present.

Child victim of sexual offence gets justice in six months

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: A Fast Track Special Court in Durg delivered justice in six months to a 16-year-old victim of sexual offence. The charge sheet was filed on August 05, 2022 after which the court trial was conducted on Fast Track and the judgement was pronounced on February 04.

The Fast Track Special Court sentenced the 22-year-old convict to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for sexually assaulting and raping a minor girl on the promise of marriage. On Saturday, the Upper Sessions Judge (Fourth), FTSC - POCSO, Sangeeta

Naveen Tiwari convicted Shrawan Kumar Sahu, son of Annu Ram Sahu, a resident of Asha Nagar, Durg. The girl's family had lodged a complaint at Mohan Nagar Police Station on May 30, 2022 after she went missing on May 29, 2022.

Special Prosecutor Santosh Kasar informed that the accused worked at a Mixture Factory near the residence of the victim. On the promise of marriage, the accused lured the 16-year-old victim to flee with him and establish sexual relations. On May 29, 2022, the victim's father had gone to attend a marriage in

Surajpur while her mother had gone to work as a labourer in a Rice Mill. The victim was alone at home with her aunt. The accused contacted the girl and lured her to flee with him. The girl left home after informing her aunt that she was going to a nearby shop.

She met the accused at some place and thereafter the accused took her to a lodge in Amgaon. When the girl did not return, her family lodged an FIR at Mohan Nagar Police Station. On the other hand, the accused raped the girl at a lodge in Amgaon on promise of marriage. Later the police

rescued the girl on June 05, 2022.

After trial, the Special Court found the accused guilty and awarded different jail terms for section 366 of IPC and Section 6 of POCSO Act under which the accused was tried. He was sentenced to three year of rigorous imprisonment and Rs 100 fine under section 366 of IPC and 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and Rs 5000 fine under section 6 of POCSO Act.

The jail terms would run concurrently and penalties for different sections aggregating to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and Rs 5100 fine.

BSP invites applications for Merit awards to contractual worker's wards

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: BSP has invited applications for recognition of meritorious wards of BSP's contractual workers for the academic year 2021-22 for Classes VIII, X & XII. A Circular regarding the scheme has been notified by Education department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant.

As per the scheme approved by BSP, contractual workers who have completed at least 3 months of service between July 01, 2020 to June 30, 2022 are eligible to apply for Merit awards for their wards in Classes VIII, X & XII.

There are a total of 150 awards, with 50 awards in each category of Classes VIII, X & XII. The awards include Rs 5000 for students of Classes VIII, Rs 8000 for students of Classes X and Rs10,000 for students of Classes XII. The award money will be deposited in the bank accounts of the students directly, for which a copy of Bank passbook alongwith name of student, name of Bank, Account no, and IFSC code is required to be submitted.

The award will be given to students pursuing studies under any Board on the basis of percentage of marks obtained in classes

8th, 10th and 12th. In case the number of eligible candidates crosses 50, percentage of marks obtained in classes 7th, 9th and 11th class will also be applicable in determining the merit award list.

Applications to be made in prescribed Proforma (Circular, Proforma and details available on BSP intranet) and available in Contract Labour Cell and Education department are to be submitted alongwith relevant documents to Contract Labour Cell, BSP or Education department, Russian complex, Sector 07. Last date of receiving applications is February 28, 2023.

Sinter Plant 3 celebrates its 21st Foundation Day with fervour

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: Sinter Plant 3 celebrated its 21st Foundation Day with great zeal and enthusiasm on February 04, 2023. The occasion was marked by a series of activities and events to commemorate the achievements of the past 21 years.

A special function to celebrate the occasion was organised. Anirban Dasgupta, Director In-Charge, BSP was Chief Guest on the occasion. Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c Iron, Asit Saha, CGM I/c M&U, SV Nandanwar, CGM (Int Audit), Tarun Kanrar, CGM(CO-CCD), SK Gajbhiye, CGM(Mech), DL Moitra



CGM (Envnt) and other senior officials from Bhilai Steel Plant joined the SP-III collective in the celebrations. Former employees of Sinter Plant-III were also invited to grace the occasion and bless the SP-III collective. All the guests acknowledged the

contributions made by Sinter Plant 3 to Bhilai Steel Plant. A short film showcasing the journey of SP-3 over the last 21 years was also released.

The management of Sinter Plant 3 paid tribute to the hard work and dedication of its employees &

contractual workers, followed by lighting of lamps, cutting of cake, and releasing of balloons with messages of safety, success, and prosperity. Celebratory sweets were also distributed.

In his address to the gathering, Director In-Charge Anirban Dasgupta congratulated Team SP-3 for their recent achievements and team work and urged them to strive for further milestones. He also emphasized the importance of safety during work.

"We are proud to mark this significant milestone in the history of Sinter Plant 3," said Anup Kumar Dutta, CGM SPs. "The past 21 years have

been a journey of growth, learning, and achievement, and we are grateful to our employees and their families for their unwavering support."

Bhilai Steel Plant is a symbol of India's industrial prowess and has been at the forefront of the country's steel production for over six decades. Sinter Plant 3 has played a key role in this success and will continue to work towards a sustainable and prosperous future for all.

The programme was organised under the leadership of MRK Shariff, GM I/c SP-III and the entire team of SP-III worked hard to make the event a grand success.

CM announces to host National Jamboree in Chhattisgarh

Baghel attends 23rd Scout Guide Rally of Durg District



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: The National Jamboree of Scouts and Guides will be organised in Chhattisgarh. The Chief Minister made this announcement while addressing the Scouts and Guides rally in Patan on Saturday.

Addressing the programme, Chief Minister said that the Scouts movement started in Britain with the purpose of promoting friendship and service. Indian culture is also based on the idea of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam



and thus both the ideas are similar ideas of fraternity and service. He further said that the helicopter attracts the attention of children and they run towards it in enthusiasm. Baghel said that he was watching the scouts and guides from the helicopter while landing near the Camp. The children at the ground remained disciplined and did not turn away after seeing the helicopter. Scouting leaves a deep discipline in our lives, he added.

The children mesmerised the audiences with the attractive match

past and cultural programmes.

State Chief Commissioner (Bharat Scouts and Guides) and Parliamentary Secretary Vinod Sevenal Chandrakar was also present at the camp. In his address, he expressed gratitude towards CM Bhupesh Baghel, who is also the Chief Patron of State Scouts and Guides. He said that on the instructions of the Chief Minister, the scouts did a lot of service during the Corona period. He said that the children of Chhattisgarh are partici-



pating in programs held across the country.

District President (S&G) Avinash Chandrakar also addressed the gathering. OBC Commission Vice President RN Verma, Patan Nagar Panchayat President Bhubendra Kashyap, District Panchayat Vice President Ashok Sahu, Janpad President Rambai Sinha, Laxman Chandrakar and other public representatives were present. Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena and SP Dr Abhishek Pallav were also present.

Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sec X celebrates annual day, 'Kanakadhara'

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sec-X, celebrated its 34th Annual Day Function "Kanakadhara" Nursery to KG II on February 03, 2023 amidst great zest, vivacity and exaltation. Rajani Rajak, Narishakti President Awardee 2018 and folk artist was the esteemed Chief Guest. She was escorted by the dignitaries and the Principal Bipin Deshmukh. The function commenced by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and garlanding the portraits of Goddess Saraswati and the holy patron of the school the Parmacharya of Kanchi Kamakotti Peetham Sri Chandra Shekharendra Saraswati Swamikal.

The programme was also graced by V Ramachandran, President SSES, Chandra Shekhar, member management committee, Bipin Deshmukh, Principal SSV, Harish Chandra Chattwani, Vice Principal, Shobha Nair and S Usha Head Mistress, school staff, the members of PTA, parents. On this occasion the Principal of the school Bipin Deshmukh accorded a warm welcome to all on be-



half of Sri Sankara fraternity and tabled the annual school report. In his address he advised the parents to praise the child in front of everybody and not to compare their ward with others. V Ramachandran, President Sri Sankara Education Society, welcomed the gathering and was very enthusiastic about the growth of India. He appealed the parents to encourage their ward to excel their talent. He also opined that the success of an individual depends on the good co-ordination of Parent-Teacher and student. The Chief Guest, Rajani Rajak addressed the gathering with her words of wisdom. She emphasised on the morality in education for the all round development of the child. She expressed her views on the importance of the family to inculcate the moral values in child. She praised the children that every child is the gift of God and devotion of education is the

wisdom to God. A token of appreciation was presented to chief guest. Prize was distributed to the tiny tots of Nursery to KG - II - compassionate child, full attendance, well dressed, well behaved, obedient child, social child, discipline child, pre-mature child, helping child and care for belonging child. The cultural fiesta began with song Bachche man ke Sachche by pre-primary teachers. The programme, threaded various colours of tiny tots of Nursery to KG - II which enlightened the audience towards spirituality. The various event's were Har Har Sankara, Welcome Dance, Aaj hai Sunday, Hum jab Honge 60 Saalke and Retro dance by tiny tots of Nursery, Aigiri Nandini by Geashna Shree, Krishna Dance, Phoolon ka, Taarom ka, Papa mere papa / Mai Tera Ladla, Dashavatar, Punjabi Dance, Goan Dance and Chhattisgarhi Dance by KG - I,

Shlok Chanting by Rudra Pratap Shrivastav, Itni Si Hasi, Badal Pe Paonhai, Bam Bam Bole, Babu Sehat ke Liye tu to Hanikarak, Zubi Dubi and Soldier's Life by KG - II kids enthralled the gathering. The cultural programme was meticulously planned by the team of teachers - Y Anju Kameshwari, Sunita Patnaik, N Jaya Lakshmi, Maitri Mishra, D Meenakshi, V Revathi, Ratna Bhalla, Satbir Bhatia, Pommani Satyanarayana, Jharna, V Nirmala, Anupama Sahu, Manju Rao, Sarita Nair, Premalata Pandey, Heena Kausar and Ruby Dewanjee. The digital backdrop of the stage was magnificently designed by Tarannum Rashid, decoration by Meeta Shukla and Akhilesh Kashyap. The programme was ably compered by Anita Verma, Roshni Malakorna, Sikha Verma, Joshi Mary and V Harshita. Vote of thanks was proposed by Sarita Nair - Wing Incharge.

CM rolls out mobile millet cafe in Raigarh

Raipur, Feb 04: Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Saturday flagged off the state's first mobile millet cafe, "Millet on Wheels", in Raigarh district, an official said.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief minister said the initiative will help increase awareness about consumption of millets.

The Raigarh district administration has started "Millet on Wheels", which will be run by Anubhav women's group, the official said.

The outlet will serve dishes made of ragi, kodo, and kutki varieties of millets, he said.

The state government is



promoting the production and consumption of millets under 'Millet Mission', and is also procuring the food grains at support price, the official said.

As a value addition, a

Amitabh Bachchan thanks CM for Millets gift

Writes "I hope Chhattisgarh becomes world famous in Millets"



Raipur, Feb 04: On the occasion of Makar Sankranti, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel sent millet gift hampers to many film personalities, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan thanked the Chief Minister and said that Chhattisgarh has many specialties. Thank you for sending the millet food. Sharing this letter on his Twitter account, the Chief Minister thanked Amitabh Bachchan.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Baghel sent greetings for Makar Sankranti

in the form of gift hampers. The Chief Minister had also tweeted about it on his Twitter account.

It is worth noting that the state government is always promoting millets. In order to promote millets, the Chief Minister recently organised a lunch of millet-based dishes for all MLAs in the Vidhansabha. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also praised the Chhattisgarh government's work on millets.

Need of the hour is to work for sustainable development: Dr Bharathidasan

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 04: Amidst the footfall of thousands of students from schools, the three-day ISRO exhibition organized under the aegis of City-based NH Goel World School, concluded here.

The head of the exhibition NJ Bhatt satisfied the curiosity of the students in question answer session. He told the students that ISRO takes in its fold the students from commerce and humanities streams as well. The students were amazed to know the presence of science is all pervasive. 'From knitting a sweater to ploughing agrarian fields all are perfect examples of science.' Bhatt added.

The Chief Guest of the



closing ceremony, Dr Bharathidasan (IAS Officer) threw light on the vastness of the space during his speech. He said that we must take pride in the fact that mathematicians like Aryabhata and Bhaskar were our ancestors who unraveled layers of mysteries enveloping the space. He also said the need of the hour is to work for sustainable development with due consideration to urbanization, agriculture and environment.

Ananya wins two medals at All India CBSE Athletics meet

Raipur, Feb 04: Ananya Pandey from Chhattisgarh won two medals in the All India Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) National Athletics meet held at Varanasi.

According to the information received, Ananya Pandey won two national medals including a silver medal in the 100 Meters Sprint events. She won the second medal in the form of 200 Meters Bronze Medal.

Prior to hit, she has declared 'Best Athlete' at



under the aegis of Athletics Federation of India. She has earlier also won two state championships in 2022 at the Chhattisgarh State Athletics Championship including gold in the 100 and 200 Meters.

Two gold medals at the School Games Federation of India, Chhattisgarh is also on her record book. She is daughter of educationist Dr Awinash Pandey from Raipur city. Vijay Sangwan is the coach of Ananya Pandey.

CBSE Zonal level, in November after she had won two golds in 100 and 200 meters.

She had already won 3 medals in West Zone Athletics meet organized

Chhattisgarh child scientists presented research projects at National Children's Science Congress

2 child scientists presented at the Indian Science Congress

12 girls among the 16 child scientists.



Raipur, Feb 04: The research work presented by 16 Chhattisgarh child scientists at the National Children's Science Congress in Ahmedabad was highly praised by the experts. The National Children's Science Congress was held from January 27 to 31 in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, by the Gujarat Council of Science and Technology and by the Government of India's Department of Science and Technology. It drew approximately 1200 child scientists from other Indian states. Additional Chief Secretary, Mrs. Renu Pillay, expressed her joy at the selection of 12 girls out of 16 child scientists. She believes that this selection demonstrates that girls are actively participating in science and research. This will also send an important message to society.

The National Children's Science Congress 2022 will have five sub-themes: Knowing Your Ecosystem, Promoting Health, Nutrition and Well-Being, Ecosystem and Social and Cultural Practices for Health, Ecosystem-Based Approaches to Self-Reliance, Ecosystem Research work on technological innovation for sys-

tem and health. Priyansh Bhaduri, Nandita Kevat, Rupshikha Sahu, Disha Sahu, Priyanshu Patel, Radhika Kanwar, Bhumika Joshi, Karam Samuel, Maheshwar Sahu, Jahnvi

Thakur, Kiran Kanwar, Khushi Jha, Manohar Baghel, Prarthana Kevat, Anvika Gupta and Ananya Singh from Chhattisgarh participated and presented the research project in National Children's

Science Congress. Medals and citations were awarded to the child scientists in the concluding session.

Along with this, child scientists and teachers participated in teachers workshop, meet of scientist session, popular science talk, exhibition, activity camp, poster presentation and cultural program. Scientist Dr. J.K. Rai and four teachers Mr. Anil Tiwari, Mr. Jagdishwar Rao, Mrs. Meena Johnson and Mrs. Seema Chaturvedi participated and guided the child scientists.

Aside from that, two child scientists, Anmol Malviya and Kumari Harshita Rathia, who were chosen from the State Level Children's Science Congress, presented their research project at the 108th Indian Science Congress, which was held in Nagpur, Maharashtra, from the 3rd to the 7th of January. Along with this, Dr. J.K. Rai and Dr. Bina Sharma of the Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology, as well as two project staff, demonstrated various activities of the Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology through exhibits.

Cancer patients honoured on World Cancer Day



At Regional Cancer Centre

Raipur, Feb 04: Various programmes were organized at Regional Cancer Institute of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, Raipur on the occasion of World Cancer Day. To spread awareness about cancer among the common people in Raipur, a marathon, 'Canethon', was organized from Marine Drive to Regional

in the competition. Ishanya stood first and Navya stood second in children's category.

Rahul Maravi bagged first position, Dr Awadhesh Bharat second position and Hemlata third position in senior category. Loni and Shubhangi got consolation prizes. Adult and child patients who received treatment and recovered in the department were felicitated. A total of 80 patients aged from 2 years to 80 years participated in the event. Patients from north to south part of the state shared their experiences about winning their battle with cancer and the contribution of the doctors who treated. They also appreciated the efforts of the doctors, nursing staff and the paramedical staff.

Cancer Institute at 6.30 am with participation of as many as 250 students of Pt Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College along with the staff of the hospital. Top three winners were awarded Rs 3,000, Rs 2,000 and Rs 1,000 respectively. A poster competition was organised to create public awareness over cancer. Children undergoing treatment in cancer department, medical students and children of hospital staff participated

128th birth anniv of Swami Parmavananda today



Raipur, Feb 04: 128th birth anniversary of Swami Parmavananda is scheduled on February 04 at BSS Parnavananda Academy, VIP Road, Mahant Ved Prakash of Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Trust will be the chief guest while former Rajya Sabha MP Shrigopal Vayas will be the special guest of the programme. As part of the celebration Guru Vandana and Bhajan Kiratan will be presented by Sunhari Yade Musical Group Raipur owned by Ranjit Kumar Bose. He along with his disciples and fellow artists will conduct the programme.

Role of pathologists important in diagnosis of diseases

Two-day state level annual convention of Pathology



Raipur, Feb 04: The department of pathology in Pt Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College (Pt JNMCC) Raipur has organised two-day state level 17th annual conference of pathologists (CAPCON-2022-23). The conference began on January 4 at newly constructed Atal Bihari Vajpayee auditorium in the college campus. About 180 government and private pathologists from Chhattisgarh are participating in the conference.

Health Secretary R Prasanna was the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the conference. Pt Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial Health Science and Ayush University Vice Chancellor Dr Ashok Chandrakar presided over the inaugural ceremony. Director Medical Education Dr Vishnu Dutt, Dean Dr Tripti Nagaria, Superintendent Dr SBS Netam, Chhattisgarh Pathology Association President Dr Renuka Gahine and Secretary Dr Jayanti Chandarkar were present on the occasion. The conference began

with welcome address of Professor Dr Arvind Neral. Noted pathologists from Tamil Nadu, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Nagpur are delivering lectures and sharing their experiences in the conference. Dr Neral urged the Health Secretary to start separate Department of Transfusion Medicine and Hematology in Medical College Raipur in future.

The diagnostic aspect is very important in the field of medicine for the prevention and diagnosis of diseases and the role of pathologist is very important in the diagnosis of diseases, health secretary Prasanna said in his address. He informed ongoing efforts to improve the diagnostic facility for the people. He also said that efforts would be made to start the Department of Transfusion Medicine and Hematology in the Medical College.

According to Vice Chancellor of Ayush University Dr Ashok Chandrakar pathologists are the main members of the patient's

राजमहा पुत्री मेला 2023

5 फरवरी - 18 फरवरी 2023

पहला स्नान 5 फरवरी, माघी पुन्नी	दूसरा स्नान 14 फरवरी, जानकी जयंती	तीसरा स्नान 18 फरवरी, महाशिवरात्रि
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चलव हम सब इन जावो मेला

54 एकड़ में नया मेला स्थल
3.25 मीटर चौड़ा 610 मीटर लंबा नया लक्ष्मण झूला

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Padma award to wood craftsman Ajay Mandavi

Pays courtesy call on Chief Minister



Raipur, Feb 04: Ajay Mandavi, a wood craftsman selected for the prestigious Padma awards paid a courtesy call on Chief Minister Shri Bhupesh Baghel at his residence office on Thursday evening. Shri Baghel congratulated and gave best wishes to Mandavi for being selected for one of the highest civilian honors of India.

Chief Minister Baghel said wood artist Mandavi is the pride of not only Kanker district but also of Chhattisgarh. The wonderful art and craft of this

journey. One such is the 'Shanta Arts Art Group' which is a group of prisoners, most of whose members have left Naxalite violence at different times and have joined the mainstream of society through art. This also serves as a rehabilitation for prisoners to earn money in an ethical way. Its instructor and guide are wood artist Ajay Mandavi, who apart from teaching the art to the inmates, prepares them psychologically to lead a dignified life as better human beings in society. He also creates a better social environment for these inmates.

of financial support are commendable and inspiring for the coming generation.

It is worth mentioning that Mandavi has done many exemplary works throughout his artistic

Rs 8672 cr received from minerals

In the current financial year Mineral officials review meeting



Raipur, Feb 04: The state government has received mineral revenue of Rs. 8672 crore till the month of December 2022 against the target of Rs.13 thousand crore for mineral revenue in the financial year 2022-23. This information was given in the review meeting of regional heads of the department and district mineral officers held on February 1 at Indravati Bhawan, Nava Raipur under the chairmanship of Director Geology and Mining Mr. Jai Prakash Maurya. In the meeting, selection of new blocks for allotment through e-auction of major and minor

minerals in the state, operation of sand mines for scheduled areas, new instructions regarding allotment of coal blocks. Progress was reviewed on other important topics. It was informed in the meeting that 12 new mineral blocks have been allotted by the department. The right to operate sand mines in the notified areas has been re-assigned to the

panchayats. It was also informed in the meeting that coal bed methane blocks have been allotted in Surajpur and Korea districts of the state. Keeping in view the inherent importance of coal bed methane in the interest of industrial and state revenue, a detailed presentation was given by the representative of Directorate General of Hydrocarbons

during the meeting. Similarly, a presentation was also given on IT based mineral transportation services by a private company. The head of the department Mr. Anurag Dewan, Joint Director (Earth) Mr. Sanjay Kankane, Joint Director (K.P.) Mr. Mahipal Singh Kanwar and other officers of Directorate level were present in the meeting.

Sickle cell centers open in district hospitals, CHC will also start soon

Raipur, Feb 04: The Union Budget 2023-24 has taken up the mission of eradicating sickle cell and anemia by the year 2047. Around 25 lakh population in the state is affected by sickle cell (a blood disease). Dr. Ashish Sinha, Medical Director of Sickle Cell Institute, said that the system of examination and treatment of sickle cell patients is being strengthened at the grassroots level. Point of care testing machine will be given for sickle cell test in every government hospital. The procurement process has started for this. As per the information sickle cell centers have been opened in all 28 district hospitals where patients are being provided free treatment. At the same time,

doctors are being trained to provide facilities for checkup and treatment in 174 community health centers of the state. The process of setting up a sickle hospital at the state sickle cell institute has also started at a cost of about Rs 50 crore.

Chhattisgarh ranks third in the country in providing IFA (Iron Folic Acid) supplementation to children, adolescents, pregnant and lactating women under Anemia Free India Campaign. Only Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra are ahead of Chhattisgarh in the whole country. Dr. VR Bhagat, State Nodal Officer of Anemia Free India Program said that anemia occurs due to lack of blood in the body. IFA supplementation has been

given to 66.4 per cent children in the age group of six months to 59 months and 71.5 per cent children in the age group of five to nine years in Chhattisgarh under the campaign to eradicate anemia. During this period, 74.6 per cent children and adolescents of 10 to 19 years age, 95 per cent pregnant women and 61.6 per cent child-bearing women have been given IFA supplements. Under the Anemia Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, children from six months to 19 years and pregnant and lactating women are given IFA supplements. Iron and folic acid syrup to small children, tablets to pregnant and child-bearing women are provided by Mitamins. This campaign will now be run on a larger scale.

B. Ramachandra Rao takes charge as Head of Project-NTPC Korba



Korba, Feb 04: B. Ramachandra Rao, Chief General Manager, NTPC Korba has taken charge of Korba Super Thermal Power Station as Head of Project with effect from Feb 01.

He joined NTPC in 1984 and has more than 38 years of experience with NTPC. Rao has previously worked in other NTPC

Units and offices like Ramagundam, Balco-CPP, Western Region-I Headquarters (Mumbai) and Kudgi.

A seasoned professional in his field, Shri B.R. Rao obtained his Licentiate in Electrical Engineering from Board of Technical Education after which he obtained AMIE in Electrical Engineering from the Institution of Engineers, India. He also holds a PGD in finance.

He has rich and varied experience in areas of Commissioning, Operations, Operating Services, Engineering, Electrical Erection, Project Co-ordination, Project Construction etc.

Union Budget failed to address employees issues : NFIR

Raipur, Feb 04: While the Union Budget has proposed concessional Tax Regime for salaried class and senior citizens, the genuine aspirations of Central Government Employees have not been addressed, resulting disappointment among them. The frozen amount of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief for the period from January, 2020 to June, 2021 has not been decided to be released for ensuring refund to employees as well pensioners in spite of the fact that frozen decision of Central Government in April, 2020 was arbitrary

and unjustified.

During Covid 1 & 2.1 Wave period, the Railway employees have ensured movement of freight trains, Migrant Specials, Oxygen Special etc., and in the course of performing duties, many employees got infected with Corona Virus which resulted in death of over 3500 Railway employees. Their families have not been extended financial relief in the form of ex-gratia till date.

Commuted value of pension presently being recovered for a period of 15 years should be restored on completion of 12 years as the

Government is in a position to get back the money in a period of 12 years. The Government has not considered this valid demand of Central Government pensioners. The Government did not provide Old Age Parent Care Leave to the single female Government employees by liberalizing the existing Child Care Leave.

Dr. M. Raghavalah General Secretary NFIR urged the Finance Minister to look into the above genuine issues for satisfactory redressal, informs Sameer Pandey, AJGS SECRMC Bilaspur.

Wetlands should be identified in Chhattisgarh: Akbar

Work should be done for its development



Raipur, Feb 04: State Forest and Climate Change Minister Mohammad Akbar participated in the program organised on World Wetlands Day at Aranya Bhawan, Nava Raipur. Addressing the program, he said that wetlands are considered very suitable for ecological and healthy environment. According to the intention of the Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel in the state, action is going on for the development of wetlands by preparing an action plan in a phased manner. On this occasion, Forest and Climate Change Minister Akbar laid special emphasis on identifying wetlands in

Chhattisgarh and working fast for their development. Along with this, he said that there should be a special initiative to quickly list the wetlands in the state after survey and to declare important wetlands as Ramsar sites. The program was also addressed by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Mr. Rakesh Chaturvedi and Member Secretary of State Wetland Authority Mr. Arun Pandey. During this, Forest Minister Mr. Akbar also released the

published booklet 'Prosecution in wildlife crime cases' based on the article of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Mr. Arun Pandey. It may be noted that Chhattisgarh has a total of 35,534 wetlands, out of which there are 7711 wetlands with an area of more than 2.25 hectares and 27,823 wetlands with an area of less than 2.25 hectares. The area of all these wetlands is 3,37,966 hectares, which is 2.5 percent of the geographical area of the state. Among these, Janjgir-Champa district has 6.78 percent, Dhamtari district

6.65 percent, Durg district 3.55 percent, Raipur district 3.53 percent and Mahasamund district 3.52 percent of the total geographical area of the state as wetlands.

During this, detailed information was given regarding the action plan for the coordinated development of wetlands available in the state. In view of the habitat development of the migratory and local birds coming to the wetlands located in the state, a survey is being conducted regarding the migratory birds and local birds coming to the 27 wetlands located in the state of Chhattisgarh. After the survey, an action plan is being prepared for their conservation, promotion and preparation of natural habitat and to make them aware for bird tourism.

State level IRAD review meeting concludes

Raipur, Feb 04: The IRAD (Integrated Road Accident Database) project is an initiative of the Ministry of Police, Road Transport and Highways, Government of India and is funded by the World Bank, aimed at improving road safety in the country. NIC and IIT Madras are jointly entrusted with the research and analysis activities as well as design, development, training and implementation of the IRAD project.

In Chhattisgarh, this project has started operation and IRAD app training from 1 July 2021 in the entire district. There is a single unit platform for all the departments associated with IRAD, in which accident information is easily obtained. The Union Ministry of Road



Transport and Highways (MORTH) in collaboration with National Informatics Center (NIC) and IIT Madras has launched IRAD (Integrated Road Accident Database) Mobile App and Web Application.

The data uploaded on this application will be very useful for future action plans of road safety through the concerned departments (police, transport, highway and health). There is a possibility of reduction in accidents by

taking necessary corrective measures after knowing the exact causes of accidents on various roads of the state. IRAD's year 2022 was reviewed on February 1. The meeting was coordinated by Pradeep Gupta (ADG, Raipur), IRAD Project Nodal Officer Mr. Sanjay Sharma (AIG Traffic, Raipur), Mr. Saransh Shirke (State Rollout Manager, Raipur). State nodal officers of all departments and district roll out managers of all dis-

tricts were also present in this session. ADGP Traffic Mr. Pradeep Gupta ordered the police officers to use this app only to fill the information about the accident, but it can be used for some new thinking which can help in reducing the accident and it was also told that the accident is only due to high speed. The vehicle does not move, the investigators who go to the site and collect the actual information.

In this session, information was given about collecting various types of information related to road accidents through the app and maintaining its quality, as well as it was also told that the Transport, Highway and Health Department should be informed about the causes of road accidents.

Shankaracharya College shine in inter-college cricket



Raipur, Feb 04: Finals of Inter College Cricket were held at Shankaracharya College Raipur. It was organised by Chhattisgarh Swami Vivekanand Technical University (CSVTU). The final match was played between the teams of BIT, Durg and Shankaracharya College (SSIPMT). Shankaracharya won the match by 8 wickets by defeating BIT Durg. Top performers in finals from SSIPMT were Anutosh Pandey (highest

Five students selected in varsity team

wicket taker 04 wickets), Abhinav Saxena (highest run scorer 52 runs) and Vipul Barik (allrounder 35 runs and 02 wickets). The trials for CSVTU University Cricket team was held after the Inter College Finals and 05 players from SSIPMT were selected to represent CSVTU in All India Inter University Cricket Tournament to be held in Bhubneshwar from 17-23 February.

Sports Officer (SSIPMT) MM Beg informed that for the first time 5 players from SSIPMT Raipur were selected for the varsity team.

Legion of honour by DPS Raipur to encourage pre-school kids

Raipur, Feb 04: The utopian idea of holding Graduation Ceremony for the kindergarten kids entering the first level of school life is a novelty manoeuvre by Delhi Public School, Raipur to acknowledge their perceptive march towards sound credence of knowledge in the years to come. This prestigious event, therefore, is held every year which is an opportunity for toddlers to learn to hold a stage show right from peeparing to dance recitals and yoga portrayals.

On 1st February, 2023, parents and guardians as invites gathered to witness their tiny tots unfolding their sojourn of learning with Dr. Bhawna Sirohi, Medical Director and Sr. Medical Oncologist of Balco, Raipur who presided over as the Chief Guest. She was courteously introduced and felicitated with a memento by the Principal, Raghunath Mukherjee. He, further extended his warm welcome to the parents, intimated them about the vi-



sion of the school stressing on the significant role a parent should play in motivating and responding to their child's needs. As if words wouldn't be enough, a graceful welcome dance recital along with floral felicitation to the distinguished guests earmarked the event's exciting commencement after the lighting of the auspicious lamp.

Proceeding further, the preschool kids, exquisitely clad in ethnic as well as contemporary dresses,

mesmerized the audience with their cultural cavalcade kicking off from Bhakti dance to classical dance 'Mohiniyattam' and punjabi folk dance, 'Gidda.' Adding flavour to this panoramic pot pourri was 'Howdy Cowboy,' another engrossing dance portraying American culture. Then unfolded some hilarious 'Clown dance' followed by maestros playing and singing their way into the hearts of the audience. Not to be precluded, the Yoga perform-

ers exhibited their belief in 'precaution is better than cure.' Finally, exuding further strength of character and dedication in showcasing their acuity so far, the children then climbed on to the dais to be conferred with Certificates of Graduation in their graduation attire complete with gown and head-gear.

Congratulating the parents and the primary graduates, the Chief Guest was all in praise of the pristine ingenuity she

got to see. "Such convocations and immaculate performances are rare to come by," said she wishing the school unprecedented success in the years to come. Accepting the greetings gracefully, Head mistress R. Bhawani thanked the audience for their unstinted support and enthusiasm saying, "Graduation is an exciting time. It is both, ending and a beginning. It is warm memories of the past and big dreams for the future. So it's a time to

thank all the parents and teachers in training the kids to master multifarious activities which will go a long way in nurturing their personality and communication skills."

Finally, wishing them luck to continue their education in the main stream of the school with the same zeal and zest, Pro Vice Chairman Mr. Baldeo Singh Bhatia, Mr. Vijay Shah and Mr. Pukhraj Jain, also sprinkled their love and adoration.

Work seriously to eradicate malnutrition: Collector

Peanut-jaggery 'laddus' to be provided in Anganwadis



Central Chronicle News

Korba, Feb 04: District Collector Sanjeev Jha here held a review meeting of Women and Child Development Department and Health Department in the Collectorate Assembly Hall and inquired about the status of malnourished and anemic women and children in the district and instructed to eradicate malnutrition.

and to provide green-fresh vegetables, peanut-jaggery laddus and blood-iron folic acid pills to remove iron deficiency through Anganwadis.

Instructions were also given to prepare an action plan to supply nutritious vegetables produced in the Gothans in the concerned Anganwadis. Along with this, instructions were given to do seriously the work of getting rid of malnutrition by enrolling severely malnourished children in NRC.

The Collector instructed the officers of the Women and Child Development Department to issue show cause notices to Pali CDPO Deepthi Patel for indifference in sorting severely malnourished children in the district.

Development Department, Preeti Khokhar Chakhyar along with block medical officers and project officers were present.

Joint Action Plan 'A War Against Drugs' by NCRPC

Central Chronicle News

Koriya, Feb 04: The National Child Rights Protection Commission (NCRPC) has prepared a joint action plan "A War Against Drugs" involving various departments on the prevention of drug and substance abuse among children and illegal trafficking in which the police, Panchayat, health, drug con-

troller, education, women and child development, excise and public relations departments have been included. A virtual meeting will be called on 08 February 2022 to review the action taken by all the departments on the implementation of the joint action plan, in which all

the concerned departments will compulsorily participate. In this regard, a letter was issued by the Collector-cum-Chairman District Child Protection Committee to all concerned for necessary action. The issued letter gives detailed information about the joint action plan on the

prevention of drug and substance abuse between children and illegal trafficking. Under this, 100 meters around school education and child care institutions will be developed to wean children away from drug abuse and through convergence work in a time-bound manner.

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA

BRANCH: ADAWAL (Code-06215), DIST. BASTAR (C.G.)

Publication of Notice Regarding Possession of Property u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. A demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against each account and stated herein after calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

Table with 4 columns: SI No., Name of the Borrowers & Address, Demand Notice Dt., Outstanding Amount, and Description of immovable Property. Includes details for Mrs. BEENA BHADORIA & Mr. SEERISH BHADORIA.

Date: 05.02.2023, Place: Jagdalpur. Authorized Officer, State Bank of India

INDIAN BANK E-AUCTION ON 23.02.2023

Branch: Jai Stambh Chowk, Rajnandgaon (C.G.)

APPENDIX- IV-A* [See proviso to rule 8 (6)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Table with 7 columns: SI No., Name & Address of the Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s) & Branch, Detailed description of the Properties & Encumbrances on properties, Outstanding Amount, Reserve Price, EMD, Bid Incremental Amount, and Property ID No. Includes details for M/s Vijay Traders and M/s Mahaveer Construction and Travels.

Date and Times of E-Auction: 23.02.2023, 11.00 am to 04:00 pm

Bidders are advised to visit the website (www.mstccommerce.com) of our e auction service provider MSTC Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPDESK No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk.

Date: 04.02.2023, Place: Rajnandgaon (C.G.) Authorized Officer, Indian Bank

DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL, HUDCO, BHILAI (C.G)

(Managed by DAV College Managing Committee, New Delhi-55)

WALK IN INTERVIEW

DAV Public School, Hudco, Bhilai Dist-Durg, required qualified teachers in different subjects having command over written and spoken English. The candidates having ability to teach classes from LKG to X/ XII may appear for the written and personality test at DAV Public School, Hudco, Bhilai Dist-Durg on the following schedule.

For - PRT/TGT/LDC - 13.02.2023 Reporting Time - 7:30 to 8:00 a.m., Written Test: 8:10 a.m. to 9:10 a.m. For - PGT: 14.02.2023, Reporting Time: 7:30 to 8:00 a.m., Written Test: 8:10 a.m. to 9:10 a.m.

Age Criteria: - Only for PGTs-Maximum 40 years (Candidates having experience of 5 years in a Public School with same capacity will have relaxation in upper age by 2 years) and all other posts will be of Maximum 35 years as on 31.12.2022.

Salary - As per 7th CPC: PGT-47600/-, TGT-44900/-, PRT- 35400/-, LDC-19900/-

PGT-Chemistry, Economics, Commerce, Physics, English, TGT- Sanskrit, Social Science, English, Hindi and Mathematics

PRT-Sanskrit, English, Social Science, Maths, Science, Hindi, Computer, Drawing, PET, Special Educator, Wellness Teacher

Mother Teacher, Librarian & LDC

Essential Qualification for different posts: - For PGT- Post Graduate with at least 50% marks and above in the concerned subject and having recognized B.Ed. degree. For PRT/TGT- Graduate/Post Graduate with at least 50% marks and above in the concerned subject, having recognized B.Ed. degree & CTET/CGTET. For Drawing- Recognized Degree / Diploma as per CBSE norms. For PET- B.P.Ed./ M.P.Ed. with at least 50% marks. For Librarian- B.Lib./M.Lib. with at least 50% marks. For LDC- B.Com. with at least 50% and knowledge of Tally. For Special Educator- Graduate 50% with B.Ed. (Special Education). For Wellness Teacher- Graduate/Post Graduate in Psychology with 50% or Post Graduate with Diploma in Career Guidance & counseling.

The candidates are required to bring their testimonials in original and a recent passport size photograph for written test. Candidates shortlisted on the basis of written test will have to appear in the personality test.

Other benefits- DA, PF, Pension, Gratuity, Leave Encashment & EDLI as per DAV norms.

The candidate fulfilling the essential qualification may be placed in grades and pay scale of PGT, TGT & PRT as per DAV norms upon their qualification, experience and performance in the interview. In case of non-availability of deserving and suitable candidates the management reserves the right to place them in purely on contractual appointment. No TA/DA is admissible for the interview. Decision of the selection committee will be final. Candidates are to appear for one post/subject only.

Deputy Regional Officer, DAV Public Schools, CG Zone-A

Bank of India advertisement for Kondagaon Branch, Behind Bus Stand, Vikash Nagar, Kondagaon. Tel- 07786-242275/242185. Email- kondagaon.raipur@bankofindia.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Kondagaon Branch, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 published/issued a demand notice dated 14-12-2021 calling upon the Borrower/s & Guarantor/s as stated below to repay the amount as mentioned in the notice and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act, 2002 read with Rule 8 of the said rules as mentioned below.

The Borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank of India, Kondagaon Branch, District- Kondagaon for an amount and interest thereon as mentioned below for respective accounts.

Table with 4 columns: Sr. No., Name of the A/c, Demand Notice, Date & Amount +/- Int. From, Branch & Name of Borrower/Guarantor, Possession taken On, and Description of Property & Boundaries. Includes details for Mr. Rajendra Dewangan s/o Sewak Dewangan.

Date: 02-02-2023, Place: Kondagaon

AUTHORISED OFFICER BANK OF INDIA JAGDALPUR BRANCH

SBI State Bank of India

RAJPC, ZONAL OFFICE, BYRON BAZAR, RAIPUR (C.G.)

Tender Invitation Notice For Vehicle Sales

The vehicle seized by our branch are proposed to be sold by tender on the basis of "As is where is".

Table with 5 columns: (1) No., (2) Name of the Borrower & Address, (3) Details of Vehicle, (4) Min. Reserve Price, (5) EMD Price. Includes details for Shri Jeet Garud S/o Shri Ashok Shankar Garud.

Date: 05.02.2023, Place: Raipur. Authorized Officer, State Bank of India, RAJPC, Raipur

Interested buyers should pay 10% (Column-5) of the minimum reserve price (Column-4) by draft or banker cheque payable in favour of Assistant General Manager, State Bank of India, RAJPC, Raipur. Submit your offer amount. ID proof, Address and phone number in closed envelope with tender form in plain paper. Interested person can contact the chief manager (maintenance) on the above mentioned number for the terms and conditions of the tender and vehicle inspection information. The last date for submitting the tender form in State Bank of India, RAJPC Raipur is 13.02.2023 till 3.00 pm. Date of tender opening 13.02.2023 at 4.00 pm Place- State Bank Of India, RAJPC Raipur has been fixed. The Bank reserves the right to cancel or suspend any tender/complete tender process without assigning any reason.

Date: 05.02.2023, Place: Raipur. Authorized Officer, State Bank of India, RAJPC, Raipur

न्यायालय- गिरीश कुमार मण्डवी, द्वितीय व्यवहार न्यायाधीश

वर्ग-1, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

प्रकरण क्रमांक- 10 बी./2020 प्रोसेस क्रमांक- 69 पेशी तारीख- 23.02.2023

केनरा बैंक, विरुद्ध - वादी

सौरभ गुप्ता, - प्रतिवादी

बनाम-

01. सौरभ गुप्ता, उम्र- 37 वर्ष लगभग पिता- घनश्याम दास गुप्ता, पता- मकान नंबर 302, अनुवस्त्र रेसीडेन्सी, न्यू शांति नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

02. श्रीमती रश्मि देवी खंडेलवाल पिता- घनश्याम दास कट्टा, पता- मकान नंबर 301, अनुवस्त्र रेसीडेन्सी, न्यू शांति नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

वादी केनरा बैंक ने आप सौरभ गुप्ता के विरुद्ध दावा वास्ते ऋण राशि वसूली प्रदान किये जाने संस्थित किया है। आपको न्यायालय में तारीख 23.02.2023 को दिन में 11.00 बजे उत्तर देने के लिये उपसंजात (हाजिर) होने के लिये समस किया जाता है। आप स्वयं न्यायालय में या किसी वकील द्वारा उपसंजात हो सकते हैं, जिसे सम्यक अनुदेश दिये गये हों और जो इस वाद से संबंधित सारवान प्रश्नों का उत्तर दे सके। आपको यह निर्देश दिया जा रहा है कि आप उस दिन अपनी प्रतिरक्षा का लिखित कथन दाखिल करें और उस दिन ऐसी सब दस्तावेजों को जो आपके कब्जे या शक्ति में हैं पेश करें जिन पर आपको प्रतिरक्षा या मुजर्राई दावा या दावा आधारित है और यदि आप किसी अन्य दस्तावेज पर चाहे वह आपके कब्जे में हो या अपना प्रतिरक्षा या मुजर्राई को दावे या प्रतिदावे के समर्थन में साक्ष्य के रूप में निर्भरता करते हैं तो आप ऐसे दस्तावेज की लिखित कथन के साथ उपलब्ध की जाने वाली सूची में प्रविष्टि करें।

आपको सूचित किया जाता है कि आप तारीख 23.02.2023 को इस न्यायालय में उपसंजात नहीं होंगे तो प्रकरण की सुनवाई और उसका निपटारा आपके अनुपस्थिति में किया जावेगा।

नोट- यदि कारणवश दिनांक 23.02.2023 को अवकाश हो जाता है या कार्य स्थगित हो जाता है या पीठासीन अधिकारी अवकाश पर हो तो प्रकरण की सुनवाई अगले कार्य दिवस पर किया जावेगा।

यह आज तारीख 28.01.2023 को मेरे हस्ताक्षर एवं न्यायालय की मुद्रा लगाकर किया गया है।

(गिरीश कुमार मण्डवी) द्वितीय व्यवहार न्यायाधीश वर्ग-1 रायपुर छ.ग.

सौल

न्यायालय- गिरीश कुमार मण्डवी, द्वितीय व्यवहार न्यायाधीश

वर्ग-1, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

प्रकरण क्रमांक- 9 बी./2020 प्रोसेस क्रमांक- 70 पेशी तारीख- 24.02.2023

केनरा बैंक, विरुद्ध - वादी

हरिश्चन्द्र पटेल, - प्रतिवादी

बनाम-

हरिश्चन्द्र पटेल, उम्र- 57 वर्ष पिता- श्री दुर्जीराम पटेल, पता- वाई नं. 51, मेहर पारा, रायपुर, तहसील व जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.) वर्तमान पता- सी-416, अविवा ग्रीन सिटी, हुल्का, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

वादी केनरा बैंक ने आप हरिश्चन्द्र पटेल के विरुद्ध दावा वास्ते ऋण राशि वसूली प्रदान किये जाने संस्थित किया है। आपको न्यायालय में तारीख 24.02.2023 को दिन में 11.00 बजे उत्तर देने के लिये उपसंजात (हाजिर) होने के लिये समस किया जाता है। आप स्वयं न्यायालय में या किसी वकील द्वारा उपसंजात हो सकते हैं, जिसे सम्यक अनुदेश दिये गये हों और जो इस वाद से संबंधित सारवान प्रश्नों का उत्तर दे सके। आपको यह निर्देश दिया जा रहा है कि आप उस दिन अपनी प्रतिरक्षा का लिखित कथन दाखिल करें और उस दिन ऐसी सब दस्तावेजों को जो आपके कब्जे या शक्ति में हैं पेश करें जिन पर आपको प्रतिरक्षा या मुजर्राई दावा या दावा आधारित है और यदि आप किसी अन्य दस्तावेज पर चाहे वह आपके कब्जे में हो या अपना प्रतिरक्षा या मुजर्राई को दावे या प्रतिदावे के समर्थन में साक्ष्य के रूप में निर्भरता करते हैं तो आप ऐसे दस्तावेज की लिखित कथन के साथ उपलब्ध की जाने वाली सूची में प्रविष्टि करें।

आपको सूचित किया जाता है कि आप तारीख 24.02.2023 को इस न्यायालय में उपसंजात नहीं होंगे तो प्रकरण की सुनवाई और उसका निपटारा आपके अनुपस्थिति में किया जावेगा।

नोट- यदि कारणवश दिनांक 24.02.2023 को अवकाश हो जाता है या कार्य स्थगित हो जाता है या पीठासीन अधिकारी अवकाश पर हो तो प्रकरण की सुनवाई अगले कार्य दिवस पर किया जावेगा।

यह आज तारीख 28.01.2023 को मेरे हस्ताक्षर एवं न्यायालय की मुद्रा लगाकर किया गया है।

(गिरीश कुमार मण्डवी) द्वितीय व्यवहार न्यायाधीश वर्ग-1 रायपुर छ.ग.

सौल

न्यायालय कलेक्टर, दुर्ग जिला-दुर्ग (छतीसगढ़)

व्यक्तिगत उपस्थिति समल

रा.प्र. क्र. 198/ व-121/वर्ष 2022-23

प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, युनिफ़ॉर्म बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, शाखा-ईएचपी फिलाई तहसील व जिला दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

प्रेषिणी श्री मोहम्मद सैफ आ. महमूद आलम पता-सी.एच. 872, हाउसिंग बोर्ड, कोहका फिलाई तहसील व जिला दुर्ग

.....अनावेदक

उपरोक्त वादी द्वारा इस न्यायालय में वित्तीय आस्तियों का प्रतिपत्तिकरण और पुनर्गठन और प्रतिपत्तिकरण प्रवर्तन अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 14 के अन्तर्गत अनावेदक द्वारा अवेदक बैंक से गृह ऋण की सुरक्षा हेतु बैंक के पक्ष में रखी गई बंधक संपत्ति-मौजा-तितुरडीह, प.ह.नं.-15/20, वाई-21 सिंधिया नगर के अंदर ख.नं.-18/31 (प्लॉट नं.-4) क्षेत्रफल 2800 तहसील व जिला दुर्ग को बकाया राशि की अदायगी नहीं करने के कारण रिक्त भौतिक आधिपत्य में प्राप्त करने हेतु प्रस्तुत आवेदन पत्र पर प्रकरण संस्थित कर प्राकृतिक न्याय सिद्धांत के अन्तर्गत अनावेदकों को इस न्यायालय द्वारा समक्ष सुनवाई किये जाने हेतु सूचना पत्र जारी कर आहूत किया गया था। जारी नोटिस सुनवाई तिथि को अनुपस्थित होने पर प्रकरण में समक्ष सुनवाई का युक्तियुक्त अवसर प्रदान किया जाना है। अतएव इस समन के जरिये अनावेदकों को आदेश दिया जाता है कि आप इस मामले की आगामी पेशी दिनांक 06/02/2023 को कलेक्टर, दुर्ग के न्यायालय में व्यक्तिगत रूप से अनिवार्यतः उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष प्रस्तुत करें। यदि आप निर्धारित सुनवाई तिथि को अनुपस्थित पाये गये तो मामले की सुनवाई आपकी गैरहाजिरी में की जाकर आपके विरुद्ध एकपक्षीय कार्यवाही की जावेगी। आज दिनांक 16/01/2023 को मेरे हस्ताक्षर एवं न्यायालय की मुद्रा लगाकर किया गया।

अपर कलेक्टर, दुर्ग दुर्ग, दिनांक 03.02.2023

सौल

मुहर

INDIAN BANK E-AUCTION ON 15.03.2023 & 16.03.2023

Branch- Durg (C.G) Branch- New Khursipar Bhilai (C.G)

APPENDIX- IV-A* [See proviso to rule 8 (6)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, Symbolic Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s) / Secured Assets/ Dues/ Reserve Price/ e-Auction Date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below -

Table with 7 columns: SI No., Name & Address of the Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s) & Branch, Detailed description of the Properties & Encumbrances on property, Outstanding Amount, Reserve Price, EMD, Bid Incremental Amount, and Property ID No. Includes details for Branch: Durg Borrower- (M/s Omkar Fuels).

Bidders are advised to visit the website (www.mstccommerce.com) of our e auction service provider MSTC Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPDESK No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk.

Date: 05.02.2023, Place: Bhilai & Durg. Authorized Officer, Indian Bank

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Regional Office Dhamtari, First Floor, Bank of Baroda, Indira Place, Civic Center, Bhilai, (Chhattisgarh) - 490006 Telephone: 0788-2963574, www.bankofbaroda.com

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Movable Properties

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described movable assets charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower/s/Guarantor/s/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:

The auction will be online e-auction through website https://bob.auctiontiger.net on 28/02/2023 between 1.00 PM to 4.00 PM with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of Branch / Contact No., Details of Borrower / Guarantor, Brief Description of Vehicle to be sold/ Registration No, Total Dues as on 04/02/2023 (Exclusive of Interest and Other Charges), Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Amount (in Rs. Actual), and EMD Account No & IFSC Code. Includes details for Kanker, RAMESH NARETI, PARMESHWAR GAWADE, KESHO S/O MANU, KUMA S/O JOGA, PANDARU MANDAVI S/O SANNU MANDAVI.

The last date for submission of EMD shall be on 27/02/2023. The interested bidders may inspect the asset at site between 1.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. on 21/02/2023 to 26/02/2023. Bid increment amount will be Rs.5000.00 (Rupees Five Thousands Only). All further detailed terms & conditions of sale can be accessed from our website https://bankofbaroda.com/e-auction.htm and website of e-auction agency https://bob.auctiontiger.net.

Place: Bhilai Date: 05.02.2023. Authorized Officer, Bank of Baroda

NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I, SANTOSH KUMAR VERMA S/O BHAGWAT PRASAD VERMA Resident of, Shitala Ward No. 09, Parpodi Distt- Bemetara, C.G. have changed my old name SANTOSH KUMAR VERMA S/O BHAGWAT PRASAD VERMA, so in future I should be recognized by my new name SANTOSH VERMA S/O BHAGWAT PRASAD VERMA in all government and other documents.

SANTOSH VERMA Shitala Ward No. 09, Parpodi Distt- Bemetara, C.G.

मुहर

BRIEF



A sports person performs yoga during the 'Kare Yog-Rahe Nirog' programme, in Gomtinagar area of Lucknow, Saturday.

Bail

Bhopal: A special court on Saturday granted bail to Congress Rajya Sabha member Digvijaya Singh in a defamation case filed by a BJP leader whom he had accused of being involved in the Vyapam scam that rocked Madhya Pradesh in 2013. The court dealing with cases against MPs and MLAs granted relief to the Congress leader in the defamation case filed in 2014, said Singh's lawyer Ajay Gupta told PTI. Singh had been asked to appear in the court.

Oppose

Amritsar: The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee has strongly opposed any move to introduce ballistic helmets for Sikh soldiers. A delegation of the SGPC, the apex religious body of the Sikhs, met the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) chief to discuss the issue. The SGPC delegation said no interference in the matter of Sikh identity will be tolerated. Therefore, under no circumstances the helmets can be accepted on Sikh soldiers, they said.

Lifer

Latur: A court in Maharashtra's Latur district sentenced a man to life imprisonment for beating to death a labourer working in his farm. The court of judge R B Rate on Friday found the accused Nitin Mahadev Sugave guilty of charges under section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code. The man was sentenced to life imprisonment and a fine of Rs 1,000 was imposed on him.

Arrested

Idukki: Malayalam actor Baburaj has been arrested in a case of cheating in 2021, police said on Saturday. The actor appeared before the police here as was ordered by the Kerala High Court. "His arrest was recorded as per the High Court's direction. He was later produced before a local court here and he got bail," the police told PTI.

Training

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday flagged off a batch of nine undergraduate students from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST)-Jammu on an exposure-cum-training programme to Kansas State University, USA.

Cong for Kejriwal's resignation after ED charge sheet

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI)

The Congress on Saturday demanded that Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal should resign as it said he has no moral right to be in office as the Enforcement Directorate has 'clearly indicted' him in the excise scam.

Congress leader and former Union minister Ajay Maken said a Rs 100 crore kickback has been established against Kejriwal and his ministers in the scam, and a PMLA court took cognisance of the charge sheet on Thursday and allowed that charges be framed against all the accused.

"The Indian National Congress demands the immediate resignation of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, along with the indicted ministers Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain," Maken told reporters here, adding that they have no moral right to continue in office.

He said the money trail has also been mentioned in the charge sheet, leading to advertisements in Goa elections and cash payments to volunteers to carry out surveys.

Maken said a DANICS officer has claimed that the GOM report for a 12 per cent margin for wholesalers of liquor trade was handed over to him at Kejriwal's residence, where Sisodia and Jain were also present.

It is alleged that this report was handed over to him without any discussions, he claimed.

"From this 12 per cent margin to the wholesalers, 6 per cent is alleged to be paid back as a kickback," Maken claimed.

He also alleged that the concessions by the Kejriwal government to liquor traders further caused loss to the exchequer, which include Rs 144.36 crore waived off from liquor license fee on account of COVID-19.

Besides, he said Rs 30 crore EMD (earnest money deposit) for Airport L-1 was returned and margin of profits increased from 5 to 12 per cent. Still a 10 per cent enhancement from the license was not charged, he said. The former Delhi Congress chief also said, "Delhi asks Kejriwal... Where is Lokpal?"

Maken said one sees a 'Kejriwal versus Delhi L-G' every day in special sessions of the Delhi Legislative Assembly, in courts, on streets, and on trivial issues.

"But have we ever seen Kejriwal or the AAP protesting for Lokpal? In 2014, Kejriwal asked for the dissolution of the Delhi Assembly in favour of passing the Lokpal Bill. Where is that Bill now?" he asked.

"The government has ensured that even a weak Lokayukta is non-functional in Delhi," the Congress leader alleged.

He claimed that despite being approved by the Lieutenant Governor, annual reports of the Lokayukta have not been tabled in the House since 2017-18.

Despite being approved by the L-G, the Lokayukta faces huge constraints of manpower and functionaries, Maken said, adding that the key post of Director of Investigation in the office of Lokayukta has not been filled.

"Ever since Kejriwal came to power, the Lokayukta, in its reports,

has been flagging various debilitating constraints being faced by it in terms of its independence, lack of powers, compromised financial autonomy, or non-availability of any machinery for conducting investigations, but all in vain," he told media.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has claimed, in its supplementary charge sheet, filed in the court that a part of the alleged Rs 100 crore "kickbacks" generated in the scrapped Delhi excise policy was used in the AAP's 2022 Goa assembly election campaign.

It has also claimed that a close aide of the Delhi chief minister arranged a video call through FaceTime (a video calling facility on iPhone) on his phone for one of the accused Sameer Mahandru.

In the call, Kejriwal told Mahandru that the aide is "his boy" and he should trust him and carry on with him, the ED has claimed.

Kejriwal has dismissed the charge sheet, alleging that cases filed by the agency are "fake" and are used to "topple" governments and buy MLAs at the behest of the Centre.

AAP to contest all seats in MP Assembly elections

Says BJP and Cong play 'destructive politics' for power

Bhopal, Feb 04 (PTI)

The AAP will contest all 230 seats in Madhya Pradesh Assembly polls, due later this year, a party office-bearer said on Saturday indicating the Arvind Kejriwal-led party will pitch the Delhi model of governance to target the BJP and opposition Congress and accused them of playing "destructive politics".

AAP organisational general secretary Sandeep Pathak cited the performance of the party in recent local bodies polls in MP and said it will form the next government.

"We will field candidates in all the Assembly constituencies and with all our might fight elections," Pathak told reporters here.

The 2018 Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh led to a hung assembly, with the Congress emerging as the largest party with 114 seats in the 230-member House, but failing to win a majority. The BJP had won 109 seats.

The Congress later formed a coalition government under Kamal Nath. However, the dispensation collapsed in March 2020 after several MLAs of Congress defected to BJP, paving the way for the saffron party to return to power.

Asked whether the time was too short for the AAP to brace up and spread its footprint in MP given the Kejriwal-led party currently doesn't have an executive committee after it was dissolved recently, he said the committee will be formed soon.

"As the number of our leaders and workers has grown manifold in MP, we

dissolved our state executive committee to expand it and add new faces," the AAP leader said while announcing the launch of a membership drive for the party in MP.

"People fight elections. Our party has grown stronger by leaps and bounds which was seen when we won a mayoral election during civic polls in MP last year. At many places our corporators came out with flying colours," he claimed.

The local bodies' elections have sent out a loud and clear message to both the parties (BJP and opposition Congress).

"We are going to form the next government in MP. We have 2,000 to 2,500 corporators in the country," he said.

The Rajya Sabha MP also said the "destructive and dirty politics" was giving way to the "constructive politics" in India with the emergence

'Technology can help achieve goal of ease of living'

Lucknow, Feb 04 (PTI)



Yogi Adityanath

Technology can help in achieving not only the goal of ease of doing business but also ease of living, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Saturday.

He was speaking at the inauguration of a VFS Global Visa Application Centre here.

With the launch of this centre, the facility to complete the visa application process for 10 countries — Austria, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal, Germany, Italy and Saudi Arabia — will be available in Lucknow. "The inaugura-

tion of the VFS centre in Lucknow a week before the Global Investors Summit is an opportunity not only for the residents of Lucknow but also for the people of Uttar Pradesh," Adityanath said. With the launch of this centre, applying for visas to 10 countries will become

much easier for the residents of the state, he said.

"By using technology in today's time, we can achieve the goal of not only ease of doing business but also ease of living. If a little effort is made in this direction, the goals can be achieved," he added.

This centre has the capacity to handle more than 1.20 lakh visa applications every year. "I have also been informed that VFS Global, in collaboration with the Indian Hotels Company Limited, will train the youth of the state in hospitality services as per the skill development programme of the state government," the chief minister said.

Blood stains found on tube seized from accused's home

Mumbai, Feb 04 (PTI)

MBBS STUDENT'S MURDER

Blood stains have been found on a floating tube seized from the residence of a lifeguard accused of killing 22-year-old MBBS student Sadichha Sane, a Mumbai police official said on Saturday.

Sane, a third-year MBBS student, had gone missing in November 2021 and lifeguard Mittu Singh was held last month along with one more person.

As per police, Sane died after falling on the rocks at Bandra Bandstand during a tussle with Singh, who then took a floating tube and dragged her body into the sea before returning.

The probe team, during panchama, seized the floating tube from Singh's residence as well as the clothes worn by him on the night of the incident, the official

said. Blood stains from the injury on Sane's forehead sustained during her fall on the rocks, have been found on the floating tube and this could be strong evidence to nail the accused, he said.

The blood stains will be matched with that of Sane's kin for identification and other details as part of the probe, the official added.

CONVOCATION CEREMONY



A student of Adamas University receives degree from Nobel Laureate Prof. Ada E. Yonath, a Crystallographer from Israel, in North 24 Parganas, Saturday.

Union Minister Sonowal inaugurates Oil jetty No. 7

At Juna Kandla

Kandla, Jan 04:



Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, Government of India, inaugurated & laid foundation stone for various capacity enhancement projects of Deendayal Port Authority, Kandla on 23-01-2023 at 11:30 AM virtually, from Kaziranga, Assam. In the august presence of Shripad Naik, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Tourism (Virtually); Shantanu Thakur, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways (Virtually); along with physical presence of Vinodbhai Chavda, MP - Kachchh; Maitiben Maheshwari, MLA - Gandhidham and distinguished guests. The Union Minister inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various capacity

enhancement projects of Deendayal Port Authority, Kandla: Deendayal Port has developed this oil jetty which will enhance the liquid handling capacity of mainly edible oil, and fulfil the requirement of future projection. The proposed Oil jetty project, is envisaged for Capacity Augmentation for handling liquid cargo at Deendayal Port, which is a long pending request of Port users and call of an hour. The project shall enhance the liquid cargo

handling capacity at Kandla by 2.00 MMTPA, thereby reducing the waiting period (pre-berthing detention time) of vessels and higher-level functioning of existing Port & Private assets, connected to liquid cargo handling business. Since, individual ships will be berthed for much less time, more number of ships will be handled increasing the cargo throughput. Reduction in turn-around time will benefit both shipping companies as well as port users.

MATRIMONIAL

कायस्थ

वधु चाहिये

वधु चाहिये- कायस्थ- 32/ 5' 5", शिक्षा-एमबीए, असिस्टेंट मैनेजर (प्रा. जाँब) के लिये सुन्दर, सुशील व गृह कार्य में दक्ष वधु चाहिये. संपर्क करें- मो.- 9835484418. (251098)

मैरिज ब्यूरो

जुड़ेंगे रिश्ते-जुड़ेंगे संबंध-सफल दो परिवारा का मिलन, सभी आयु, जाति, विधवा/विधुर/अविवाहित/ तलाक़रुद्ध-जीवनसाथी हेतु-विवरण, फोटो क्लरसप के बाद फोन करें-सार्थक एजेंसी-07587936914.

मुस्लिम

वधु चाहिये

मुस्लिम वधु चाहिए- दूटि बाधित, 30 वर्षीय 5'4" बी.ए. द्वितीय वर्ष, 2बहन, निवासी-सक्ती (छ.ग.) युवक हेतु मुस्लिम समाज की योग्य युवती चाहिए छत्तीसगढ़ निवासी संपर्क करें-7999784360, 424145196. (NB54347)

सामान्य

वधु चाहिये

Urgent Required Suitable Bride below 37yr. for Bengali Kayastha Boy 5' 5" 74 born. Own business Raipur. B.Sc, Dip. Mech. Engineer Cast No Bar, Hindu. Mob.No.- 8770346757, 6265246266. (54337)

बंगाली

वधु चाहिये

वधु चाहिए- बंगाली ब्राह्मण युवक 27 वर्ष 5'7" एम.ए. इंग्लिश, बी.एड, बी.ई. सिविल हेतु वधु चाहिए जाति बंधन नहीं स्वयं का मकान 8 एकड़ कुपि भूमि, गृहकार्य में दक्ष कन्या चाहिए, बिलासपुर, कोरबा एवं रायपुर वालों को प्राथमिकता संपर्क- 103169962, 7805909181 (54348)

वर चाहिये

वधु 54, उचाई 5'2", एम.कॉम, स्वयं का बिजनेस 10 लाख रूपए वार्षिक आय, 12 एकड़ खेती, मान्य विधुर घटस्फोटित तथा घर जवाबि मान्य, घर, गाड़ी स्वयं की जाति व शिक्षण की अट नहीं. संपर्क करें-मो.- 7758031866, 9503597649.

वर चाहिये

वधु चाहिये-वधु 30 वर्ष, ब्राह्मण घटस्फोटित शिक्षण बी.कॉम प्राइवेट जाँब जैलरी 38,000, स्वयं का घर / खेती अंतरजाति लन चाहिये. मो.-7249614280. डी. 7219652260-आर.

वर चाहिये

वर चाहिये-वधु 49, शिक्षण बी.ए.एस. सी. गवर्नमेंट जाँब सैलरी 58000, मिस्टर पेशान 25,000 स्वयं का घर/ खेती अंतरजाति लन/ रिलेशनशिप चाहिये. मो.- 7058823571, 9172892449.

नावभारत मैट्रीमोनियल

जोड़ीयां स्वर्ग में बनाई जाती है... अब इनको तुंहना और भी आसान नवभारत मैट्रीमोनियल के साथ...

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High-altitude spying marks new low for US-China ties

Washington, Feb 04:

Even before America's top diplomat Anthony Blinken postponed his visit to Beijing, the US-China relationship was at an all-time low.

Just how low became painfully evident when a day before his departure, an apparent Chinese spy balloon over the state of Montana roiled the tensions he was trying to address. Eventually, the Chinese foreign ministry claimed the unmanned airship was used for weather research and had blown off course. The accompanying expression of regret suggested Beijing did not want the incident to mar the secretary of state's visit - the first of its kind in five years. But the damage was done. Hours after China's apology, the US State Department called off the trip.

Given how wide the rift has become, the fact that the trip was happening in the first place had been cause for celebration. But now what remains is a sense of huge missed opportunity. All along, US officials had made clear that this was not about breakthroughs. It was about talking. Mr Blinken wants to "avoid competition veering into conflict". "One of the ways you do that is making sure that you actually have good lines of communication," he said in a speech last month, calling for "putting some guardrails into the relationship." That means restoring regular



contacts and establishing working norms. "I think the goal [was] to basically fast-forward this Cold War to its détente phase, thereby skipping a Cuban Missile Crisis," says Jude Blanchette, a China expert at the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies. It hasn't been an easy ride for the world's two biggest economies. A Trump-era trade war, tensions over Taiwan and an increasingly assertive China under Xi

Jinping derailed the relationship in recent years. And it plummeted further as China refused to condemn Russia over its invasion of Ukraine.

Then came a meeting between Presidents Joe Biden and Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G20 summit in November. The two leaders expressed the desire to avoid conflict and reduced the heat of their rhetoric. And Mr Blinken wanted to build on that. Even before the balloon

went up, the shift was one of tone, more than substance. The Americans have continued to press ahead with the economic restrictions and military expansion in the region, angering Beijing. In the past week, Japan and the Netherlands were reported to have reached an agreement with Washington to restrict exports of advanced chip manufacturing equipment to China. This would be only the latest step by the US to limit Beijing's access to sensitive semiconductor technology, cutting it out of microchip supply chains.

"This shows the US has taken a much harder line on tech transfer, trying to get key allies on board," says Chris Miller, a professor of international history who wrote a book about US-China tensions over chip technology.

Another Chinese surveillance balloon transiting Latin America: Pentagon

Washington, Feb 04 (PTI): A second Chinese spy balloon has been spotted, this time in the skies over Latin America, the Pentagon has said, a day after another one of the size of three buses and carrying a "large" payload was seen in US skies that prompted US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to postpone his planned visit to China.

"We are seeing reports of a balloon transiting Latin

America. We now assess it as another Chinese surveillance balloon. We have no further information to provide at this time," Pentagon Press Secretary Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder said on Friday. It is unclear exactly which country in the region the balloon is hovering over but it does not appear as if it is headed towards the United States, according to CNN. The detection of the Chinese sur-

veillance balloon transiting Latin America comes a day after the Pentagon announced that a Chinese surveillance balloon within its territory was flying over Montana, leading to Blinken postponing his planned trip to Beijing. Montana, a sparsely populated state, is home to one of only three nuclear missile silo fields in the US, at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

NASA-ISRO SYNTHETIC APERTURE RADAR



Officials and delegates look at the scientific core of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. The satellite, a joint mission between NASA and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is expected to launch in 2024.

Sri Lanka must correct its 'errors and failures': Wickremesinghe

Colombo, Feb 04 (PTI):

Sri Lanka needs to rectify its "errors and failures" and review its strengths and gains as a nation, President Ranil Wickremesinghe said on Saturday, as the country marked its 75th anniversary of independence at a critical time when it is reeling under an unprecedented economic crisis.

The main Independence Day event was attended by foreign dignitaries, including India's Minister of State for External Affairs V Muralidharan.

Wickremesinghe presided over the ceremony which featured a military parade with a 21-gun salute. The celebrations happened despite criticism from Opposition groups who claimed the events costing Rupees 200 million were a waste as the island nation continues to grip in its worst economic crisis since gaining independence. In his message, Wickremesinghe said: "Our 75th anniversary of independence from colonial rule is being observed during an extremely critical and challenging time in the country". "However it presents an opportunity for us not only to review our strengths



Sri Lankan president Ranil Wickremesinghe greets school children as airforce commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana, background left, and police chief Chandana Wickremaratne, right, watch during the 75th Independence Day ceremony in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Saturday, Feb. 4. Sri Lanka marks the anniversary of independence from British colonial rule on Feb. 4 each year.

and gains as a nation but also to rectify our errors and failures," he said.

During mid-2022 Sri Lanka faced the worst economic crisis since independence which led to months-long public protests leading to a political crisis. Shortages of essentials due to the forex crisis forced people onto the streets demanding the resignation of the then president Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Last year in April, Sri Lanka declared its first-ever debt default in its his-

tory. Muralidharan said he was happy to represent India at "friendly neighbour" Sri Lanka's 75th Independence Day celebrations.

"This milestone coincides with 75 years of establishment of diplomatic rela-

tions between both countries. India is always a dependable partner and a reliable friend of Sri Lanka," he tweeted.

Last year, India extended USD 3.9 billion in support to Sri Lanka to deal with the economic crisis. New Delhi recently gave assurance to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to restructure the country's debt.

Sri Lanka, which is trying to secure a USD 2.9 billion bridge loan from the IMF, was negotiating to get financial assurances from its major creditors - China, Japan and India, which is the requisite for Colombo to get the bailout package. Saturday's Independence day event was boycotted by all Opposition groups who claimed it had no public mandate and was a burden on a public already hurt by the crisis.

They pointed to scarcities of food and medicine leaving people in poverty.

Oil industry in Pakistan on verge of collapse' amid liquidity crisis

Islamabad, Feb 04 (PTI):

Oil companies in cash-strapped Pakistan have warned that the industry is on the "brink of collapse" as the dollar liquidity crisis persists and their cost of doing business balloons due to the rupee's devaluation.

The government removed the dollar cap to meet the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) demand which resulted in the Pakistani rupee falling to a historic low of Rs

276.58 in the interbank market, according to a Geo News report.

The IMF has set several conditions for resuming the bailout, including a market-determined exchange rate for the local currency and an easing of fuel subsidies, both conditions which the government has already implemented.

In a letter to the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) and Energy Ministry, the Oil Companies Advisory

Council (OCAC) said that the "sudden depreciation" of the rupee has caused losses worth billions of rupees to the industry as their letters of credit (LCs) are expected to be settled on the new rates, "whereas the related product has already been sold", it said.

The government has also restricted LCs due to dwindling foreign exchange reserves, which fell to USD 3,086.2 million as of January 27, just enough to cover only 18

days' worth of imports, the report said.

Pakistan is facing a balance of payments crisis and the plummeting value of the local currency is pushing up the price of imported goods.

Energy comprises a large chunk of Pakistan's import bill. The country typically meets more than a third of its annual power demand, using imported natural gas, prices for which shot up following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Pakistan blocks Wikipedia for failure to remove blasphemous content

Islamabad, Feb 04 (PTI):

Pakistan has blocked Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia, for its failure to remove offensive or blasphemous material, the country's telecom authority said on Saturday. The blacklisting of Wikipedia comes days after the Pakistan Telecom Authority (PTA) degraded Wikipedia services for 48 hours, threatening to block it if the content deemed blasphemous was not deleted.

Wikipedia is a free online encyclopedia, created and edited by volun-

teers around the world and hosted by the Wikimedia Foundation. PTA spokesperson Malahat Obaid said the ban had primarily been imposed for non-compliance with the orders. "The decision can be reviewed once Wikipedia removes sacrilegious content that has been identified by the regulatory authority," the spokesperson added. The PTA spokesperson earlier stated that Wikipedia was approached for blocking/removal of the said content by issuing a notice. An opportunity for a hearing was also provided; however, the platform neither complied by removing the blasphemous content nor appeared before the authority.

Given the intentional failure on part of the platform to comply with the directions of PTA, the services of Wikipedia were degraded for 48 hours with the direction to block/remove the reported contents.

On Friday, the Wikimedia Foundation said "it does not make decisions around what content is included on Wikipedia or how that content is maintained".

It added that this is "by design to ensure that articles are the result of many people coming to-

gether to determine what information should be presented on the site, resulting in richer, more neutral articles". "As of Friday, February 3, our internal traffic reports indicate that Wikipedia and Wikimedia projects are no longer accessible to users in Pakistan," it said.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE FOR AUGMENTATION WORK

Tender Notice No.: Sr.DEE(RS&G)BSP/OTP/22-23-20, Dated: 31.01.2023. Name of Work: Bilaspur Division Augmentation of Auditorium Cum Multipurpose Hall At Titli Chowk Bilaspur(Deopit). Tender Value (Approx.): ₹ 33,44,399/- . Bid Security Amount: ₹ 66,900/-.

Tender Closing Date & Time: 23.02.2023, 15.00 hours.

For further details, eligibility criteria and the complete details for the above work, please refer/download tender document which is available on our website: www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engg. CPR/10/434 (RS&G)/Bilaspur. fSouth East Central Railway @secrail

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
Expression of Interest (E.O.I)

SECR, Bilaspur Division has decided to develop Uslapur Model goods shed (UGSU) by complying the following directives of National Green Tribunal, New Delhi.

1. Installation of water sprinklers (rain gun) in loading and unloading area.
2. Installation of Windshield in both side of railway siding in accordance with CPCB guidelines.
3. Provision of garland drain and settling pits in both side of the siding area to check the coal dust flow in surface water body.
4. Installation of Rain bath at entrance and exit of the siding.
5. Repairing of road in coal siding area.
6. Asphalt approach road up to coal siding.
7. Development of thick green belt on both sides of railway track.

Division Railway Manager (Commercial), Bilaspur division, South East Central Railway on behalf of president of India is hereby inviting EOI (Expression of Interest) from the all interested parties to develop the Uslapur Model goods shed (UGSU).

All interested parties can submit their application in the office of the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bilaspur in the office hours from 11:00 hrs to 03:30 hrs on 13.02.2023.

Sr. Divl. Comml. Manager
SEC Railway, Bilaspur

CPR/10/443

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता
लो० नि० वि० यां संभाग रायपुर छ.ग.

ज्ञाप क्रमांक 805/व.ले.लि. रायपुर, दिनांक : 02/02/2023

शुद्धि पत्र

निविदा सूचना क्रमांक 454/NIT-40/2022-2023/ व ले लि दिनांक : 25/01/2023 में निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है :-

- 1) निविदा क्र. T0441 (कुल 01 नग निविदा) को अपिहार्य कारणों से निरस्त किया जाता है।

(जी क्रमांक 98003)

कार्यपालन अभियंता
लो. नि. वि. यां संभाग
रायपुर छ.ग.

G-98197/1

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
P.W.D. (B&R) AMBIKAPUR CIRCLE AMBIKAPUR

Invitation Date:- 31.01.2023

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

01. For tender detail please visit <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
02. Bid Due Date- 20.02.2023
03. Concern Division- Manendragarh Division

S. No.	N.I.T.No./Online System Number	Name of Work	PAC in lacks
1	222 122594 1st Call D Class and Above	Upgradation of Existing infrastructure work at Higher Secondary School (Swami Aatmanand English Medium) Budar Block Baikunthpur Distt. Korea (C.G.)	45.82
2	223 122601 1st Call D Class and Above	Road Furniture work of Ghutra to Mousra Road Length 4.30 Km., Kelhari Chouk to MP Border Road Length 1.80 Km, Ratanpur to Chopan via Koteya Length 2.00 Km. Kashbahra Bhauta road Length 2.00 Km. Kendai Chotiya Bardar Khadgawan Baikunthpur Sonhat Ramgarh MP Border Road Length 19.00 Km. at Distt. Korea (C.G.)	39.37
3	224 122602 1st Call D Class and Above	Structural Strengthening/Repair of Residential and Non Residential Building at PWD Korea Division Manendragarh Distt. Korea (C.G.)	49.40

Superintending Engineer
P.W.D. Ambikapur Circle Ambikapur

G-98232/1

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
TANDULA WATER RESOURCES DIVISION DURG (C.G.)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

(1st Call)
System Tender No. : 122016/NIT No. : 60/SAC/2022-23, Durg, Dated : 01.02.2023
Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 22.02.2023 at 17:30 Hour

Name of Work : Renovation of Irrigation Inspection Bungalows Bhilai-03 (Under Remodeling & Lining of Bhilai Distributory and 5 Nos Minor and 01 Nos sub Minor Work) In Block Patan District Durg.

Probable Amount of Contract : Rs. 69.29 Lakhs
(As per S.O.R. Dated 01.08.2010 (As amended dated 01.08.2014))

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from Date 08.02.2023, at 17:31 Hours (IST) onwards.

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

Executive Engineer
Tandula Water Resources Division
Durg (C.G.)

G-98210/2

RAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
2nd Floor, Bhakt Mata Karma Commercial Complex, New Rajendra Nagar, Raipur (C.G.)
Email : ceordaryp@gmail.com, Website : <https://rda.cgstate.gov.in>
Toll Free No. 1800-233-7188

Sale of Recreation Land at RAIPUR Date 03.02.2023

Online Tenders are invited for "Sale of Amod-Pranod Land (Zone - 7B, Approx 21.713 HA -53.65 Acres) (Freehold Ownership Rights) Near Boriya Lake At Sector-3A, Kamal Vihar, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)"

S. No.	System Tender No.	Location	Area (In Hect.) approx	Reserved Land Premium (INR Crore)	EMD (INR Crore)
1	123444	Sector-3A, Kamal Vihar	21.713	61.61 Cr.	1.90 Cr.

Tenderers shall download tender from website and tender processing fee is INR. 1.00 Lacs only (Including GST).

- Date of Pre-bid meeting - at 12:00 PM on 16.02.2023
- Last Date for Online submission of Tender - upto 03:00 PM on 20.03.2023
- Last Date for physical submission of Technical bid - upto 02:00 PM on 23.03.2023
- Opening of Technical Bid at 04:00 PM on - 23.03.2023

The details of tender and terms & conditions are available on the e-procurement website <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Any amendment/modification in the tender documents, will only be uploaded on the e-Procurement website and shall not be published in any newspaper.

Superintending Engineer



CENTRAL Chronicle

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New dimensions of terrorism

Terrorism has been dragging on for decades now. When countered by Indian security agencies, old methods have been replaced by new ones. From fidayeen attacks to target killings, from suicide bombers to IED blasts, and from IED blasts to sticky bombs, the latest addition is the “perfume IED,” a chemical even unknown to the police. This is a serious development with unimaginable consequences. Jammu and Kashmir Police team which cracked the blind blast case in eleven days deserves all accolades. Along with this Narwal blast case, the police claim to have also cracked the Shastri Nagar and Katra blast cases, which were earlier claimed to be ordinary blasts. More damaging is the fact that the arrested terrorist is a working government teacher and Lashkar-e-Taiba’s active terrorist, who has been doing serial blasts and keeping the CID and local police clueless until now. Arif is not the only one involved from Reasi; one friend is also involved, and that friend’s uncle is also an active LET terrorist and is right now in Pakistan. No vigilance had been kept on them; all three involved have been indulging in terrorist activities without any hindrance. Reasi has, of late, also become a hotbed of terrorist activities, a transit route, and an ideal place for dormant terrorist cells to remain hidden. Last July, in a daring act, the villagers of Tuksan village in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir captured and handed over two Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists to the police, who had come to the village as imposters seeking shelter. Despite these recent past activities, proactive countermeasures like basic police verification are missing. Who are the local OGW and UGW in Jammu and Katra who helped this Reasi module operate in Jammu? All these serial incidents have very serious consequences, and a feckless approach will not work. Our intelligence and police are unaware of furtive sleeper modules. A proper investigation has to be conducted into how a terrorist got recruited under RET, then regularised in a government job, and how he managed mandatory CID verification. Despite being on the verge of collapse, Pakistan has been consistently involved in terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir, this time with a unique perfume IED. It is clear that terrorism is here only and instead of focusing on Kashmir only, now, the focus areas are Reasi and other parts of the Jammu Division. Local police and CID must devise countermeasures to checkmate the nefarious designs of Pakistan-backed terrorists. Even a small incident in the peaceful Jammu Division is good enough to shatter the confidence of the public. Even this perfume IED has been smuggled from across the border via drones-another serious matter that has to be taken care of. There are still many untangled wires in the story: where was the shipment of perfume IED dropped from drones, who collected it, who are the OGWs and UGWs in that particular area, and how has this chemical reached Reasi? Are there other sleeper cells also in possession of this IED chemical? All these unanswered questions are quite nagging in the sense that even though the Narwal blast case has been worked out, the danger is still there. The police have to be extra vigilant, and the public must also keep an eye on the things around them. Every responsible citizen should inform the police, and the police, on their part, should start immediate police verification of tenants and non-locals. A working government employee turning out to be an active LET terrorist is not an odd case. The Administration has been trying to isolate these anti-national elements and weed them out of the system, but even for this, the police have to play an active role. Our police are on the job; they have apprehended the perpetrators in only eleven days and will tackle these new dimensions of terrorism.

Repercussions of Rivers Pollution

Vijaykumar H K

A new study found that freshwater fish across the country have high levels of ‘forever chemicals,’ a class of thousands of synthetic chemicals that do not degrade easily in our environment. Despite being phased out of industries in our country over two decades ago, the most commonly found chemical was perfluoro-octane sulfonic acid (PFOS), demonstrating the unintended, far-reaching consequences of failing to properly regulate the use of these long-lasting substances. People and wildlife, as well as rivers, rely on clean, healthy freshwater ecosystems for survival. Rivers such as the Yamuna, Narmada, Brahmaputra, and Krishna are indicator species, which means their presence in a waterway indicates the health of the ecosystem. When the water is contaminated, rivers can consume large amounts of pollutants through their food. The only way to protect rivers and other wildlife is to restore damaged ecosystems and keep our rivers clean by implementing science-based policies that regulate harmful substances such as PFOS chemicals. Across the country, researchers discovered fish with detectable levels of hazardous chemicals. Despite the fact that these chemicals were identified as a health risk long ago, they were used for a variety of industrial and manufacturing purposes for many decades and, in many cases, are still used today. According to the researchers, PFOS is present in the bloodstreams of more than 15% of Indians according to studies. These chemicals have been linked to an increased risk of cancer, reproductive harm, immune system suppression, and a variety of other medical conditions in humans. Water pollution prevention is critical for protecting the health of people and major rivers.

AERO-MODELLING SHOW

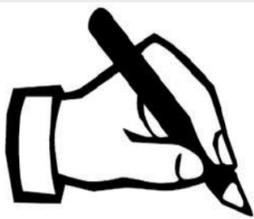


Children click selfie during a Aero-modelling show, as part of Patiala Heritage Festival, at Aviation Club in Patiala, Saturday, Feb. 4.

Towards a cleaner future



R.K SINGH



India assumed the Presidency of G20 on Dec. 1, 2022, the premier inter-governmental forum for international cooperation. India’s Presidency is marked with hopes, dreams, and aspirations, particularly when the world is gradually limping back to normalcy post covid, and the threat of global recession looms large. The challenges of global warming and climate change have never been greater. The world is seeking answers to some of these most pressing issues urgently. The Indian Presidency aims to build upon the efforts and outcomes of the earlier presidencies, while foraying into newer areas of global cooperation to build a sustainable future for all. As the theme of India’s Presidency – ‘One Earth, One Family, One Future’ or ‘Vasudhiava Kutumbakam’ suggests, we are committed to work towards healing our ‘One Earth’, creating harmony within our ‘One Family’ and giving hope for our ‘One Future.’

India remains one of the fastest growing economies in the world today. Notwithstanding the fact that it supports almost 17% of the world’s population, we have done considerably well in managing growth and in mitigating climate change. India’s per

capita emission of 2.4 tCO₂e (tonne carbon dioxide equivalent) is well below the world average of 6.3 tCO₂e in 2020 (according to ‘Emissions Gap Report 2022: The Closing Window’ released by the United Nations Environment Program). In the 2022 Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI), we have been ranked amongst the top 5 performing countries.

India is also leading the world in the transition to a low carbon economy. We have already achieved our commitment on non-fossil fuel capacity addition, made in its Nationally Determined Commitments (NDC) much ahead of the targeted year of 2030 and has since updated its targets. As per the updated NDC, India now stands committed to reduce Emissions Intensity of its GDP by 45 percent by 2030, from 2005 level and achieve about 50 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030.

With a young population, growing urbanization, digitalization, and big-time adaptation of technology, mushrooming of start-ups, India’s primary focus has been to provide universal access to affordable power in a sustainable manner. The country has made signifi-

cant strides in recent times in turning things around. We are now a power surplus nation, from a deficit one a few years ago. We have established an integrated national grid, strengthened the distribution network, emerged as a significant player in renewable energy, and achieved universal household electrification.

India’s energy mix is quite a diversified one. The power generation happens through a multitude of sources that include coal, lignite, natural gas, oil, hydro and nuclear to increased contribution of renewable sources solar, wind, and biomass. The government is sharply focused towards increasing India’s capacity to produce clean electricity through new technology and innovation.

Usage of renewable energy is growing at a faster rate in India with new capacity additions to double by 2026. The share of solar and wind in India’s energy mix has grown phenomenally. The country is also one of the world’s largest producers of modern bioenergy. Green hydrogen will play a vital role in decarbonizing the economy and the country aims to become a global hub for green hydrogen production and exports.

India has emerged as a country with the fastest-growing Renewable Energy (RE) capacity in the world. This has also made it the most attractive investment destination for the renewable energy.

These efforts are helping India meet its own needs while also contributing to global efforts at reducing CO₂ emissions worldwide.

The challenge now lies in making energy affordable even as commodity prices are rising, and tight market conditions are increasing energy se-

curity risks.

While focus on policy measures and mitigation are important, it is imperative to focus on individuals and communities to bring concrete/measurable change. India has demonstrated significant successes in driving development, and societal and behavioural changes through large-scale collective action in initiatives such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Ujjwala Scheme or Give It Up Campaign.

India is well-poised to take forward the global initiative – LIFE or Lifestyle for the Environment – introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at COP26 at Glasgow in 2021. LIFE calls upon individuals and communities to drive/build it as an international mass movement towards ‘mindful and deliberate utilization, instead of mindless and destructive consumption’ to protect and preserve the environment. LIFE puts individual and collective duty on everyone to live a life that is in tune with the Earth and does not harm it.

As a large developing economy with over 1.4 billion people, India’s climate adaptation and mitigation ambitions are not just transformational for India but for the entire planet. India’s impressive progress in transitioning toward renewable energy shows that countries can succeed by making smart choices about using their resources to meet their needs.

India’s G20 Presidency will share, collaborate, and build on the sense of trusteeship amongst the member countries to build a sustainable future for all.

(Author is Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy. Views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judicial autonomy

The stance of the CJI vis-a-vis the law minister and the government’s wish to prevail upon the Collegium is praiseworthy. It amounts to being brazen if any effort is made to undermine the independence granted to the agencies under constitutional provisions. Majority in Parliament doesn’t entitle the government to be inattentive and in a mode of rejection to the arguments put forth by equally important, responsible and intelligent people. If any change in the legal system is required, it has to be done in accordance with the constitutional provisions. The Constitution is supreme, and not even Parliament or majoritarianism, which poses a serious threat to democratic values.

Chaman Arora, Ferozepur City

Age limit for leaders

It is disheartening to know that the former PM manmohan Singh is in a wheelchair. However, the question is, why legislators are appointed or elected despite their physical disability and age, whereas other professions have age limit, medical standards etc. to be complied with? Then these legislators will remain absent for most of the sessions. They also get pension and other benefits. There should be a fixed retirement age for all legislators, like in other professions.

Vikramjit Singh, Amritsar

Tax discrimination

Tax exemption to Rs 3-lakh limit had been since 1997. Government employees enjoyed limitless exemption in last 25 years on this cause. In spite of several letters to the authorities from aggrieved non-government retirees; they have had to suffer and each paid lakhs extra in income tax on leave encashment amounts. It is not understood why there is discrimination in tax matters for government and non-government employees.

Ashok Kumar Goel, Panchkula

Nothing for middle class

India has emerged as the world’s fastest-growing major economy, but how does it impact the common man and the middle class? The Budget has been presented, but how will it benefit a person who is struggling with unemployment and one square meal a day? All the talk about GDP and Budget looks good only on paper. Job protection would help more than financial aid. The middle class is indeed absent from most welfare schemes. In fact, a weak consumer doesn’t help in the recovery of a country’s economy.

Ramesh Gupta, Narwana

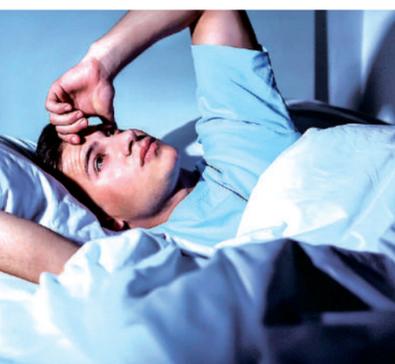
Poor sleep quality linked with multiple sclerosis risk in teens

Failure to receive at least seven hours of quality sleep during the teenage years is associated with the subsequent risk of developing multiple sclerosis (MS), according to a study. The research, published in the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry, suggests that clocking up enough hours of restorative sleep while young may help to ward off the condition. MS is influenced by both genetic and environmental factors, including smoking, teenage weight (BMI), Epstein-Barr virus infection -- one of the most common human viruses -- sun exposure, and vitamin D, the researchers said.

Shift work has also been linked to a higher risk of the condition, particularly at a young age, but whether sleep patterns -- duration, body clock disruption, and sleep quality -- might affect this

risk has not been fully assessed, they said. The researchers from Stockholm University and Karolinska Institutet, Sweden used data from a population-based case-control study, the Epidemiological Investigation of Multiple Sclerosis (EIMS), comprising 16 70-year-old Swedish residents.

People with MS were recruited from hospital- and privately-run neurology clinics and matched for age, sex, and residential area with two healthy people randomly se-



lected from the national population register between 2005 and 2013 and 2015 and 2018. The researchers focused particularly on sleep patterns during the ages 15 to 19, and the final analysis included 2,075 people with MS and 3,164 without the condition in this age group when recruited to the study. The study par-

ticipants were asked about their sleeping patterns at different ages: length of sleep on work or school days, and at weekends or on free days.

Short sleep was defined as less than seven hours per night; adequate sleep as 7-9 hours; and long sleep as 10 or more hours. Study participants were also asked to assess sleep quality during different age periods using a 5-point scale, where 5 equalled very good. The average age at which MS was diagnosed was 34. Sleep length and quality during adolescence were associated with the risk of an

MS diagnosis, which increased in tandem with fewer hours and poorer quality of sleep, the researchers found.

Compared with sleeping 7-9 hours per night during the teenage years, short sleep was associated with a 40 per cent increased risk of subsequently developing MS, they said. However, long sleep, including at weekends or on free days, was not associated with an increased MS risk, according to the study. Similarly, subjectively assessed poor sleep quality during this period was associated with a 50 per cent higher risk of developing the condition, the researchers said. The researchers caution that their findings should be interpreted cautiously on account of potential reverse causation -- whereby poor sleep could be a consequence of neurological damage rather than the other way around.

BRIEF

Plastic industry

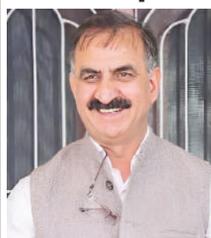


New Delhi: Chemical and Fertilisers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya called on investors to invest in Indian plastic industry and assured a strong government support. Addressing CEOs conclave at PLASTINDIA here, the minister said, "the country boasts a strong and impartial legislative structure along with favourable manpower and technical expertise", an official statement said. "India provides a big market as the consumption power is increasing along with a rising middle class," he said and asked investors to understand India's ethos and invest in the country's growth story. More than 90 CEOs of the plastic industry from both India and abroad participated in the conference.

GST Council

New Delhi: The GST Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprising state counterparts, will meet on February 18. "The 49th meeting of the GST Council is scheduled to be held at New Delhi on February 18, 2023," the GST Council said in a tweet on Friday. The council may take up a discussion on the report of a group of ministers on taxation of 'pan masala' and 'gutka' firms and a report by a Group of Ministers (GoM) on setting up of appellate tribunals.

Cement impasse



Hamirpur: The Himachal Pradesh government is all set to end the impasse created by the closure of two cement factories and indefinite strike by truck operators union and the industries minister will hold talks with the Adani group to resolve the issue. Chief Minister Sukhinder Singh Sukhu said on Saturday.

Coal production

New Delhi: The country's coal production increased by 12.94 per cent to 89.96 million tonnes in January 2023. The country's coal output stood at 79.65 million tonnes (MT) in the corresponding month of the previous fiscal. As per provisional data of the coal ministry, Coal India Ltd (CIL) registered a production growth of 11.44 per cent in January, whereas SCL and captive mines, and others posted a growth of 13.93 per cent and 22.89 per cent, respectively. Of the top 37 coal producing mines, production of 28 was more than 100 per cent, while the output of three mines stood between 80 and 100 per cent during last month.

Adani's FPO pullout has not impacted India's image: FM

Mumbai, Feb 04:

India's economic image is not affected due to Adani Group's recent decision to pull out Rs 20,000 crore FPO amid allegations of financial wrongdoings, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Saturday. The finance minister said there has been an accretion of USD 8 billion to the forex reserves in the last two days alone. "...our macroeconomic fundamentals or our economy's image, none of which has been affected. Yes, FPOs (follow-on public offers) come in, and FIIs (foreign institutional investors) get out," Sitharaman told reporters here. The minister said there are "fluctuations" in every market but the accretion over the last few days establishes the fact that the perception of both India and its inherent



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with Union Ministers of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad and Pankaj Chaudhary addresses a press conference in Mumbai, Saturday, Feb. 4.

strengths is intact. Answering a broader question on the allegations against Adani Group, she said the country's independent financial sector regulators will be looking into the aspect and added that capital markets watchdog Securities and Exchange Board of India has the wherewithal to ensure stability in markets. "...for keeping the market

and the markets regulated in prime condition, the Sebi is the authority. And it has the wherewithal to keep that prime condition," she said. The finance minister also said that the RBI has already spoken out on the issue, referring to Friday's statement, which said the banking sector is resilient and stable.

About ten days ago, US-

based short seller Hindenberg Research made a slew of allegations on the corporate governance front against Adani Group. The Ahmedabad-based group has denied all the allegations and termed it as a calculated attack on India. It has cancelled the FPO even after managing subscriptions to it. Finance Secretary TV Somanathan on Saturday

stood by his comment on the controversy where he called it a storm in a teacup, clarifying that this is in the context of macro-economic terms and the stability of India's public financial institutions.

Meanwhile, on the decision to convert outstanding dues into equity at Vodafone Idea, Somanathan said the transaction is being done as a package for all telcos. He said the government share will be held by the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) where the stake will be considered as a public shareholder. DIPAM secretary Tuhiin Kanta Pandey said the price has been taken at Rs 10 despite the Vodafone Idea shares trading lower on bourses because, as per laws, preferential allotments have to happen at the face value of a share.

SBI Q3 net soars 62 pc; discloses Rs 27k cr exposure to Adani Group

Mumbai, Feb 04:

The country's largest lender SBI on Friday reported a 62 per cent rise in its net profit to Rs 15,477 crore for the December 2022 quarter, helped by core income growth and improvement in asset quality. On a standalone basis, State Bank of India's post-tax profit grew to Rs 14,205 crore during the October-December 2022 period from Rs 8,432 crore in the year-ago period and Rs 13,265 crore in the preceding July-September quarter. Amid the controversy triggered by a slew of allegations against the Adani Group, the government-owned lender disclosed that its overall exposure to the Gauram Adani-led embattled conglomerate is Rs 27,000 crore and it does not see any difficulties in loan repayments. For the quarter under review, the core net interest income rose 24.05 per cent to Rs 38,069

crore on the back of a 0.35 per cent expansion in the net interest margin to 3.50 per cent and 18.61 per cent growth in net advances. Amid the 'war for deposits' in the system, the bank posted a slower deposit growth at over 8 per cent, and chairman Dinesh Khara said it has already activated multiple measures to push up the number. He also added that it carries excess government securities holdings of over Rs 3 lakh crore, which can be deployed, and made it clear that it will not engage in a price war in such a way that it has to compromise on the NIMs. The other income rose to Rs 11,468 crore for the reporting quarter against Rs 8,673 crore in the year-ago period. On the asset quality front, it reported a gross non-performing assets ratio of 3.14 per cent as against 4.50 per cent in the year-ago period and 3.52 per cent in the quarter-ago period.

Committed to ensuring market integrity; measures in place to address excess volatility: Sebi on Adani crisis

New Delhi, Feb 04:

Amid a raging controversy over a meltdown in Adani group stocks, regulator Sebi on Saturday said it is committed to ensuring the stock market's integrity and all necessary surveillance measures are in place to address any excessive volatility in individual shares. Without naming the Adani group specifically, the capital markets watchdog said in a statement that unusual price movement in the stocks of a business conglomerate has been observed in the past week. Officials confirmed that the statement has been issued in the wake of the

Adani matter only. "As part of its mandate, Sebi seeks to maintain orderly and efficient functioning of the market and has put in place a set of well-defined, publicly available surveillance measures (including the ASM framework) to address excessive volatility in specific stocks.

"This mechanism gets automatically triggered under certain conditions of price volatility in any stock," the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said. Stock exchanges BSE and NSE have put three Adani group companies - Adani Enterprises, Adani Ports and Special Economic

Zone and Ambuja Cements - under their short-term additional surveillance measure (ASM), which basically means that intra-day trading would require a 100 per cent upfront margin and is aimed at curbing speculation and short-selling in these stocks. Sebi further said that in all specific entity-related matters, if any information comes to its notice, then, as per extant policies, the same is examined and after due examination, appropriate action is taken. "Sebi has consistently followed this approach on entity-level issues and would continue to do so in future as well," it added.

Govt to push primary steel producers to use 50 pc of input from recycled steel by 2047: Scindia

Kochi, Feb 04:

Union Steel Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Saturday said his ministry will push primary steel producers to use 50 per cent of their input from scrapped/recycled steel by 2047 to help achieve the government target of moving into a circular economy. Currently, the level of recycled steel usage in primary steel production is only around 10 per cent even though recycled steel contributes to 22.5 per cent of the domestic total steel production of 140 million tonnes, the minister said while addressing the last day of the three-day international conference of material recycling here. The 10th conference is being or-



ganised by the Material Recycling Association of India and is attended by over 2,000 delegates from 38 countries. Noting that recycling is the key cog in the wheel of manufacturing as economies move into a circular model of development, he said, "Going forward the industry should focus on the 6Rs philosophy of reduce (exploitation of natural resources), recycle,

reuse, recover, re-design and reinforce". He said the government is committed to reducing CO2 emissions in the steel sector by 5 per cent by 2030 from the current 2.85 to 1.4 CO2/tonne of crude steel, and to achieve this recycling scrap steel is an extremely important source. "Today, scrap usage is only 15 per cent in primary steel production. We will push the steel industry to increase this to 25 per cent in the next five years, and by 2047, this should double to 50 per cent. This means that the primary steel producers consume only 50 per cent of iron ore by then," Scindia said. This is needed as the natural resources are finite and the demand looks infinite, he said, adding the steel indus-

try has the biggest role to play in the whole process. The country currently produces 25 million tonne of scrap steel and annually imports 5 million tonne of scrap steel with zero import duty, he added.

The recycling industry is highly unorganised and is worth about USD 50 billion now. There are over 25,000 recycling units in the country. However, in the metals space almost 95 per cent are organised, Material Recycling Association president Sanjay Mehta said. He also urged the minister to extend the duty-free imports of other scraps such as copper, aluminium, zinc and other metals as many countries are adopting no export of scrap policies now.

BSNL to soon launch indigenously developed 4G services

Nagpur, Feb 04:

State-owned telecom firm BSNL will soon launch indigenously developed 4G services in the country and plans to cover 28,000 villages under the BSNL 4G saturation project, a top official said. BSNL Director (HR) Arvind Vadnerkar in a press conference here said that the firm will very soon launch an indigenously developed 4G service in the market. It is likely to be rolled out this year, he noted. This will be the world-class 4G services, and in a very short span of time, BSNL will go into 5G services as well, he added. Vadnerkar also informed

about BSNL's 4G saturation project, which will be covering about 28,000 villages in the country. These include villages where there was no mobile coverage. In Maharashtra, 4,900 villages will be covered with 4G services. The official said the government is helping BSNL in all its initiatives with funding and other resources. Vadnerkar said all these factors are helping BSNL in its turnaround. For example, it is witnessing a good operational profit for the last three years though they have not achieved in terms of net profit. BSNL will start achieving net profit by 2026-27, he added.

Next e-auction of FCI wheat under OMSS to bulk consumers to be held on Feb 15: Govt

New Delhi, Feb 04:

The next e-auction for the sale of FCI wheat to bulk consumers like flour millers under the open market sale scheme (OMSS) will be held on February 15, the Food Ministry said on Saturday. State-run Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been mandated to sell 25 lakh tonnes of wheat from its buffer stock to bulk consumers under the OMSS in order to contain rising prices of wheat and wheat products in the country. The first sale of wheat through e-auction was held on February 1-2. About 9.2 lakh tonnes of wheat was sold from FCI

depots in 23 states. The plan was to hold a weekly e-auction every Wednesday. However in a statement, the Food Ministry said: "The second sale of wheat through e-auction will be held throughout the country on 15th February on Wednesday." This means the FCI will not hold e-auction of wheat next week and the ministry has not cited reasons for not holding the auction. Meanwhile, the FCI has directed all winning bidders of the first e-auction to remit the cost and lift the stock immediately from concerned depots across the country and make the same available in respec-

tive markets in order to further contain the prices. "The prices are set to fall further after the wheat sold in the e-auction is lifted and atta is made available in the market," it added. Wheat is being offered at a reserve price of Rs 2,350 per quintal plus freight charges. Last month, the government announced plans to sell 30 lakh tonnes of wheat in the open market from its buffer stock under OMSS in order to check wheat and wheat flour prices. Out of 30 lakh tonnes, FCI will sell 25 lakh tonnes to bulk consumers like flour millers through e-auction and 2 lakh tonnes to states/Union Territories.

Savings via tax-free instruments Rs 4 lakh crore: Revenue secretary

New Delhi, Feb 04:

Household savings through tax saving instruments is just Rs 4 lakh crore, which is 16 per cent of total savings, and shifting to new tax regime won't endanger the country's savings rate, Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra said on Friday. He said the total household savings today are 27-30 per cent of India's GDP and the schemes announced in budget, especially for senior citizens and women, will help the country in improving the savings rate. "I would also like to point out that the

savings through tax exemptions is actually a very small portion of the total savings of our country, which are about Rs 25 lakh crore for households. Savings through tax (saving) instruments are only Rs 4 lakh crore. You know people are now investing otherwise," Malhotra said at a CII post-budget event. To encourage taxpayers to shift to exemption-less tax regime, the Budget 2023-24 has proposed changes to the new optional tax regime which provides that no tax would be levied on annual income of up to Rs 7 lakh.

Reliance Retail expands its presence

Mumbai, Feb 04:

Smart Bazaar, the large format supermarket from Reliance Retail has launched its new store. The store provides one-stop shopping experience by offering a wide range of products under one roof, ranging from Grocery, Fruits & Vegetables, Dairy to Kitchenware, Homeware, Apparel, Consumer Electronics etc. With the launch of this store, Smart Bazaar now has a presence of three stores in Bilaspur.

Built over 20,000 sq ft of sprawling shopping space, Smart Bazaar is designed to provide customers with bigger savings and a better shopping experience. It offers customers a wide variety of products, ranging

from daily essentials such as groceries, dairy products, fruits and vegetables, to special items and utilities such as homeware, kitchenware, footwear, apparels and consumer electronics, all under one roof. It also provides customers great saving opportunities through the year with discounts of up to 5% on MRP and special seasonal offers.

The store has line-up of plethora of brands across categories such as processed foods and beverages, personal care, healthcare, hygiene, fabric, homeware and home décor available on attractive offers. Special benefit of shopping at Smart Bazaar is that bigger purchases always fetch greater savings.

Adani crisis: Banking sector resilient and stable, says RBI

Mumbai, Feb 04:

Amid concerns over banks' exposure to the crisis-ridden Adani Group, the Reserve Bank on Friday said India's banking sector is resilient and stable, and the central bank maintains constant vigil on the lenders. Responding to media reports expressing concern about the exposure of Indian banks to a "business conglomerate", the Reserve Bank said in a statement that it is constantly monitoring the banking sector. However, the RBI did not name the Adani Group in the statement. Stocks of Adani Group firms have taken a massive beating on the bourses after US-based short-seller Hindenburg

Research made a litany of allegations in a report, including fraudulent transactions and share price manipulation at the Gautam Adani-led group. The group has rejected the allegations. Hindenburg released the report on January 24 - the day on which Adani Enterprises' Rs 20,000-crore follow-on share sale opened for anchor investors.

In its statement, the RBI said as per the current assessment, "the banking sector remains resilient and stable. Various parameters relating to capital adequacy, asset quality, liquidity, provision coverage and profitability are healthy." "As the regulator and supervisor, the RBI maintains a constant vigil on the

banking sector and on individual banks with a view to maintain financial stability. The RBI has a Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC) database system where the banks report their exposure of Rs 5 crore and above which is used for monitoring purposes," the central bank added. The RBI, the statement said, remains vigilant and continues to monitor the stability of the Indian banking sector. It further said banks are also in compliance with the Large Exposure Framework (LEF) guidelines issued by the RBI. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) earlier this week sought details about lenders' exposure to the Adani Group.

India Cements to embark on refurbishment of old cement plants costing Rs 1,600 crore: Srinivasan

Chennai, Feb 04:

Cement maker The India Cements Ltd has drawn up plans to refurbish its old manufacturing facilities at an estimated outlay of Rs 1,500 to Rs 1,600 crore, its Vice Chairman and Managing Director N Srinivasan said.

The funds to undertake the refurbishment would be met through internal accruals and the firm has roped in two international consultants for this exercise, he said. India Cements has embarked on a programme for a complete refurbishment of its old cement plants for improving their efficiency, Srinivasan told reporters. The 'refurbishment programme' is es-



timated to cost Rs 1,500 crore to Rs 1,600 crore and will take about 15-18 months for completion, he said. The city-based company has a vast land of 26,000 acres and the funds would be raised by monetising the land bank, he further said. Srinivasan said two international expert firms - Krupp Polysius and F L Smidth - were roped in as consultants on how to make these plants efficient.

Shania Twain drops new album 'Queen of Me'

Grammy Award-winning country music artist Shania Twain released her new album, "Queen of Me" on Friday. The record is a limitless expression of pop that allows it to sit comfortably next to her many chart successors, enshrining it as an upbeat, playful, and joyous album. The album is sonically inspired by '70s and '80s funk and rock - just like the sounds she grew up with and considered her heroes. It's a departure from the past and a strident step into an ever-improving future. The album consists of 12 new tracks. In the stand-out friendship anthem "Best Friend", Shania affectionately gushes over her closest confidant as she emphasises "you always take the blame and you know I'd do the same for you. No matter what, yeah I got you, and I know that you got me." The LP represents a deep and dynamic creative statement from this iconic voice - from the energetic opener "Giddy Up!" through the empowered title track "Queen of Me", and the passionate finale "The Hardest Stone" - which was produced by Tyler Joseph. To celebrate this next era in style,

Shania will also embark on a global "Queen of Me" Tour, produced by Live Nation. The tour marks the first time fans around the world will get to see the queen in all of her glory in nearly five years, following a highly successful Vegas residency run. Kelsea Ballerini, Lindsay Ell, Hailey Whitters, Breland, Robyn Ottolini, Priscilla Block, Mickey Guyton, Lily Rose, Talk, and Tenille Townes will be joining Shania on select dates throughout the tour. "The Queen of Me" Tour kicks off on Friday, April 28 at Spokane Arena in Spokane, WA and makes stops across North America and Europe in Vancouver, Denver, Toronto, Los Angeles, New York, London, Dublin, and more before wrapping up on November 14 at Rogers Arena in Vancouver, BC.



'Wagle Ki Duniya' approaches 2nd anniversary

Sony SAB launched Wagle Ki Duniya - Nayi Peedhi Naye Kissey two years ago with an aim to entertain audiences with relatable content and endearing characters. The show has won hearts across the country through its unique way of addressing various social issues through the everyday lives of its characters. As the show successfully completes two wonderful years on television it is time to celebrate this big win! After pulling off this incredible journey it's hard not to feel a flood of emotions, and that's what the cast and crew of the show are going through right now. Embracing this achievement, the team celebrated on the sets of the show and thanked each other for everyone's endless hard work and sheer dedication to make this venture a success. Sumeet Raghavan, who essays the lead role of Rajesh Wagle, said "Being a



part of this show has been an incredible experience. The team and cast have become like family to me, and I am obliged for the bond

we have formed. The show holds a special place in my heart, and I am proud to be a part of it. Rajesh Wagle represents the middle-class

man and has struck a chord with its viewers. I'm immensely proud of the journey the show has taken over the last two

years and the evolution of its characters. A big thank you to our viewers who have shown us heaps of love. Please keep watching the show and celebrating the Wagle family with us." Pariva Pranati, who plays the role of Vandana Wagle, said "I have a deep connection with the character of Vandana.

Her emotions and behaviour resonate with me, and it's been effortless to portray the raw and realistic aspects of her, whether it's her getting upset over something so mundane as a cup of coffee or cherishing the little moments with her husband. It has been an absolute pleasure to showcase the different facets of Vandana's character to the audience and this journey over the last two years has been nothing short of amazing." Tune in to watch Wagle Ki Duniya: Nayi Peedhi Naye Kissey only on Sony SAB every Monday to Saturday at 9.00 PM.

'Pathaan' crosses Rs 700 cr worldwide in 9 days

The recently-released action film 'Pathaan', which marked the return of Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan on the silver screen, is smashing box-office records. The film is having a historic run in the theatres with domestic and overseas box office collections crossing Rs 700 crore in just nine days.



'Pathaan' on its ninth day registered an incredible Rs 15.65 crore nett in India (Rs 15 crore in Hindi and Rs 0.65 crore in just nine days).

The film has been directed by Siddharth Anand of 'War' fame.

Siddharth has been entrusted by Aditya Chopra to start two franchises of

the YRF Spy Universe given his mastery over the action genre. Siddharth is also the only Hindi film director to have delivered five Rs 50 crore nett box office days and also five Rs 100 crore worldwide gross box office days with 'War' and 'Pathaan'.

&TV characters find themselves in tricky situations

This week in &TV shows Dooori Maa, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, characters will find themselves in tricky situations. About &TV's Dooori Maa track, Krishna shares, "As Ashok has disappeared, Yashoda (Neha Joshi) lodges a missing report. Yashoda, Arvind, and Krishna (Aayudh Bhanushali) try to find Ashok but are unsuccessful. Malti (Anita Pradhan) and Dadaji (Sunil Dutt) blame Yashoda for Ashok leaving the house, which upsets her."



About &TV's Happu Ki Ultan Paltan track, Daroga Happu Singh shares, "Katori Amma (Himani Shivpuri) and Rajesh (Kamna Pathak) compete to find out who Happu loves the most. They put him in a situation where he must choose one of them to go out. Rajesh calls Happu and asks him to accompany her to her friend

Karishma's house at 5 p.m., while Katori Amma requests that he visits the temple with her. How will Happu deal with this tricky situation?" About &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai track, Anita Bhabhi shares, "Commissioner (Kishore Bhanushali) directs Happu and Manohar to trace a man called Peeping Tom who is keeping an eye on him and his wife. They both start searching for him.

Samantha Ruth Prabhu shares photo dump from a busy January

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who swayed the nation with her moves in "Oo Antava" from "Pushpa: The Rise", and her work in the recent release "Yashoda", recently shared that the year started on a busy note for her as January was all about work for her. On Friday, the actress took to her Instagram to share throwback pictures that capture her working on herself and working on projects. She has posted several pictures including the one where can be seen spending time with the team of "Citadel". Another picture sees her in the look for the trailer launch of "Shaakuntalam" and also a picture of her workout



from the gym. The actress is now at work in full force with nothing seems to be stopping her.

She titled the post, "January". The last picture from her carousel is a message she shared about self-love and motivation. And indicating how she got back on her feet. She had earlier opened up about a skin ailment,

Myositis that she had got but is now clearly back with full force, we can see there is no stopping for the most popular actress in India. On the work front, Samantha has an interesting slate of projects including the Disney-like fairytale film "Shaakuntalam", the romantic comedy, "Kushi", and "Citadel".

Thalapathy Vijay's film No. 67 finally gets a name - 'LEO'



The suspense over the title of Thalapathy Vijay's much-talked-about 67th movie is finally over. The Lokesh Kanagaraj directorial tentatively titled "Thalapathy67" finally has an official name - 'LEO' - the makers announced on Friday. The makers have released the title promo which is grand and befits

a Vijay-starrer. Introducing the viewers to some heart-throbbing visuals of Vijay, 'LEO' promises yet another masterpiece from the house of 7 Screen Studio. Keeping Vijay company are Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt and Trisha Krishnan. Directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, the film is produced by S.S. Lalit Kumar.

Rajpal Yadav sings praises of his 'Shehzada' co-actor Kartik

Get ready for a 'royally humorous' roller coaster ride with this weekend's fun-tastic episode of Sony Entertainment Television's 'The Kapil Sharma Show! B-town's dashing stars, Kartik Aaryan, Kriti Sanon, Ronit Roy and Rajpal Yadav will be gracing the show to promote their upcoming action drama 'Shehzada', that is currently the talk of the town. Not only will the guests make some interesting revelations but will also be laughing out loud to some of the hysterical antics of host Kapil Sharma and his atrangi



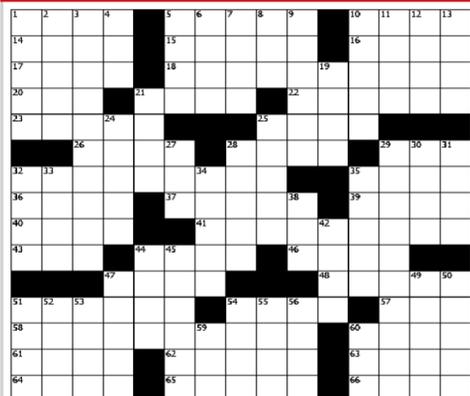
mohalla. Amidst the fun banter, popular comedian, Rajpal Yadav will be singing praises about his co-actor Kartik Aaryan

and the hardwork he puts in while shooting a film. Talking about Kartik Aaryan, Rajpal Yadav will be reminiscing about the

time when Kartik had fallen ill during the shoot of 'Shehzada', and he shares, "We were shooting at a place where the weather was extremely hot and we were all exhausted because of that. One evening, the producer came to us and told us that our "Shehzada" (Kartik Aaryan) is ill and so, he might not be able to shoot the next morning. We only had a day's work left after which we were supposed to return. We thought that maybe there won't be any shoot but lo and behold, in the early hours of the morning, we see Kartik all set to shoot even though he had high fever.

CROSSWORD

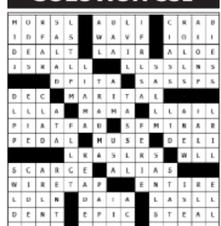
552



- ACROSS**
- Potato
 - Wood turner
 - Trims (off)
 - Burgundy, e.g.
 - Farm units
 - Notion
 - Finishes
 - Brief work of fiction (2 wds.)
 - Had a snack
 - Hone
 - Warns of danger
 - Upper body
 - Bustle
 - Agile
 - Red root
 - Author _____ Fleming
 - Guessed roughly
 - Shakespeare King
 - Threescore and King
 - Seoul's country
 - Coffee vessels
 - Highway section
 - Make coffee

- DOWN**
- Perspire
 - Type of bean
 - Grasp
 - _____ Moines
 - Tie firmly
 - Long (for)
 - Horse's gait
 - Not him
 - Landed property
 - Metric measure
 - Bloodhound's clue
 - Cheeky
 - Declares
 - Skirt opening
 - Fish bait
 - Church steeple
 - Hebrew feast
 - Tibetan ox
 - Flat cap
 - Illogical
 - Isn't, incorrectly
 - Snout
 - Singer _____ Fitzgerald
 - Penn or Conery
 - Subject
 - Dutch bloom
 - Top card
 - Lyric poems
 - Tie
 - Appoint
 - Clothe
 - Prickly plants
 - Make tea
 - Citric _____
 - Flightless bird
 - Prophetic sign
 - Cinch
 - Poker payment
 - Observes
 - Memorable period
 - Switch position

SOLUTION 551



Rank turner could backfire, go for sporting tracks: Experts

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

Fully aware of the current Indian batting lineup's issues of tackling spinners on rank turners, the team management will do well to ask for sporting tracks against Australia in the upcoming four-match Test series, one which offers turn from third day, feels former selectors and experts.

Once known as master players of spin, the Indian teams in recent years have looked more at home against express pace and steep bounce while struggling against slow bowling.

The only noteworthy innings in the last two to three years on a rank turner would be current skipper Rohit Sharma's technically perfect knock of 161 on a wretched Chepauk track where the other top order batters had struggled.

Even an attack comprising Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Shakib Al Hasan and Taijul Islam made life difficult for India in the second away Test in Mirpur last December before Ravichandran Ashwin and Shreyas Iyer bailed them out.

"Playing spinners on flat deck isn't the problem. We must admit that our batters have struggled against quality spin bowling on tracks that



Captain Rohit Sharma bats during a practice session ahead of the first test cricket match against Australia, in Nagpur.

have offered turn. I don't know what kind of tracks will be in the offing but rank turners could backfire," former Test spinner and noted commentator Murali Kartik told PTI during an interaction.

Kartik explained that

even at the domestic level, there aren't too many players, who are actual masters against spinners.

"When I was in my teens and playing competitive league cricket in Chennai, as 15-16 year

Axar Patel likely to be third spinner

Recently Sunil Joshi, who was a part of last selection panel told ESPNcricinfo that if India want to win the series, they would need Kuldeep in the playing XI. It was against Australia at Dharamsala five years back that Kuldeep made his Test debut with a four-wicket haul. But injuries and team combination meant that he could play only seven more Tests with 34 wickets in his kitty. Axar Patel, in the meantime, has played the same number of Tests in the last two years and has 47 wickets.

"For me, there is no debate that Axar Patel should be India's third spinner with (Ravichandran) Ashwin and (Ravindra) Jadeja. The form in which he has been and on wickets that will be on offer, Axar is a straightforward choice," former national selector Jatin Paranjape said. He also felt that India won't prepare "snake pits" but he would expect the tracks to offer turn from second day onwards. "I have full confidence in Rohit, Cheteshwar Pujara and Virat (Kohli) that they would handle Nathan Lyon admirably," Paranjape said. His former colleague Devang Gandhi concurred on choice of Axar as the third spinner. "Look, if you have track that starts breaking right away, then Axar is a better choice than Kuldeep. Kuldeep will release the ball from the back of his hand and hence flight more," said Gandhi. "On tracks where the ball starts turning square, he will have a propensity to get hit. Also, when he tries bowling flatter, he tends to go a little shorter. In case of Axar, on turners, he hits the immaculate length. "Also

Play Rahul at No.5 and Bharath is your first keeper: Prasad

Former chairman of selectors MSK Prasad feels that Shubman Gill's new found confidence should be used to fullest effect and he should bat in the opening slot and not go down the order. "I would not mind seeing KL Rahul at No. 5 in Tests. I don't think Gill should be asked to come down the order. Rahul has played well in 50-over cricket and I see no reason why he shouldn't come down the order," Prasad, a former India stumper, said.

He feels that choice between Axar and Kuldeep is a tricky one and can't pick one without having a look at the track a day ahead of the match. In case of wicketkeeper, Prasad wants to see KS Bharat make his Test debut. Prasad had played a role in the rise of Bharat. "He (Bharat) has been groomed for this role even in presence of Rishabh Pant for the past two years. So, it is only fitting that Bharat is given the first chance to don the big gloves. He is ready," said Prasad.

old, I was bowling to Vikram Rathour, S Sharath, Senthilnathan, some of the finest domestic batters of those times. Then I graduated to first-class cricket and I was bowling to Ajay Sharma and late Raman Lamba, two doyens of Ranji Trophy.

By the time, I played international cricket, it gave me a lot of confidence," said Kartik, one of the best left-arm spinners of his generation.

Asked who among Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel should be the third spinner for India, Kartik said that it would all depend on the track.

"If it is flatter deck, then Kuldeep could be a good choice as he has the skills to take pitch out of equation. If it starts turning from second day onwards, Axar could come in. But if you ask me, invariably the third spinner will be under-bowled as you expect your two main guys to do the job," Kartik said.

Australia have plenty of spin options: Cummins

Bengaluru, Feb 04 (PTI):

Australia captain Pat Cummins on Saturday said his team is not fretting over its spin combination as it has enough options to support veteran off-spinner Nathan Lyon in the high-profile four-match Test series against India beginning in Nagpur on Thursday.

The touring Australians have named Mitchell Swepson along with finger spinner Ashton Agar to team up with Lyon.

"We've got plenty of options here (with) finger spin, wrist spin, left arm (pace) when (Mitchell) Starc comes back," Cummins told reporters in his first media interaction after arriving in India. "We'll obviously pick the bowlers that we think are going to take 20 wickets. But how we split that up, we're not 100 per cent sure yet." Asked if it would be a two-pronged spin attack, he said: "I wouldn't say it's a given. Obviously it's very conditions dependent. Particularly in the first test, once we get to Nagpur we will see that."

The Australians are here for a training camp before heading to Nagpur on Monday.

"The good thing is someone like Agar was in our last team, Swepson played the last two overseas tour, so a bit of experience.

"Murphy played in the last tour. We feel that we got a lot of support in that department for Lyon."

The 29-year-old Cummins pointed out that middle-order batter Travis Head also offers off-spin option. "Travis Head also bowls really good offspin. We have to balance things. We have got



a plenty of variety there to choose from. We have not locked in any bowling lineup so far."

While there is so much talk about spin bowling, Cummins said his side should not forget about their intimidating pace bowling attack. "I think sometimes, talking about a couple of spinners, you forget how good a lot of our fast bowlers have been in all conditions. "Even some of the SCG wickets, there haven't been a lot in them for quick bowlers, but the quick bowlers have found a way," he added. Cummins has come a long way since he made a Test comeback after six years in Ranchi during the last tour of India in 2017.

An injury-prone Cummins then dished out a hostile spell to dismiss the star Indian trio of KL Rahul, Virat Kohli and Ajinkya Rahane en route to figures of 4/106.

"It was my first test in six years. I just wanted to reaffirm that's where I wanted to be in Test cricket. I really enjoyed that spell, you can't be worried about your body or different things. You just got to go all out. I really enjoyed that.

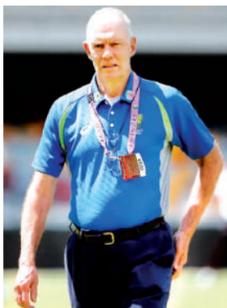
Australia can win: Greg Chappell

Melbourne, Feb 04 (PTI):

Batting great Greg Chappell believes Australia can win the upcoming high-profile four-match Test series as India are "vulnerable" this time with injuries to key players like Rishabh Pant and Jasprit Bumrah.

While the swashbuckling keeper-batter Pant is ruled out for most part of the year as he continues to recover from injuries sustained during a horrific car crash, Indian pace ace Bumrah (back injury) does not figure in the Indian squad for the first two Tests.

"Australia can win this series. India are more vulnerable at home than they have been for some time due to injuries to key players like Rishabh Pant, Ravindra Jadeja and Jasprit Bumrah. They will rely heavily on Virat Kohli," Chappell wrote in an opinion piece for 'Sydney Morning Herald'.



Premier spin-bowling all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, who recovered from a knee injury and made a comeback in the Ranji Trophy last month, is in the Indian squad for the Test series beginning in Nagpur on Thursday.

"Visiting teams are often fooled by a game that seems to be going nowhere but suddenly changes at a frenetic pace. The Indians are used to this, so Australia will need to adapt quickly with mind, bat and ball," said the former India coach. Finger spinner Ashton Agar, who is Australia's only left-arm tweeker in the squad, should be preferred to partner Nathan Lyon on turning tracks, Chappell said.

"Should the pitches favour spin, which is more likely, I expect Ashton Agar to get the nod because finger spin is considered to be more accurate," said the 74-year-old Chappell who scored 7110 runs from 87 Tests with an impressive average of 53.86 between 1970 and 1984.

"Anil Kumble who took 619 wickets in Test cricket, rarely strayed off the straight and narrow. His stock in trade were fast, flat leg breaks which were always threatening the stumps. Batters knew if they missed, they were in trouble. Jadeja's stock in trade is similarly unerring.

"Agar has got to emulate their roles. One bowler leading runs will be the difference in a tight contest."

Green might have an outside chance of playing Nagpur Test: McDonald

Bengaluru, Feb 04 (PTI):

Dashing all-rounder Cameron Green is making a quick recovery from his index finger injury and has an "outside chance" of making it to Australia's playing eleven for the opening Test against India starting in Nagpur on February 9. The 23-year-old seam bowling all-rounder, who is recovering from a surgery on his index finger in his right hand, had a bowl at the nets in Alur.

"We haven't put a clear line through him on the team sheet. So, I wouldn't say he was in discomfort when he was bowling," McDonald told reporters here on the sidelines of their four-day training camp.

However there are still some concerns when he is batting, admitted the head



coach. "I would say one of the deliveries jarred the bottom of the bat and that can create discomfort for anyone, but there is a little bit of awareness around that finger. He has made some significant steps forward in the last couple of days, probably to my surprise.

"So, there is still an outside chance, everything going well, he might be on the team sheet," McDonald kept the options open.

Dipa Karmakar handed 21-month ban after failing dope test

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

Star gymnast Dipa Karmakar has been handed a 21-month ban for failing a dope test conducted by the International Testing Agency, contrary to claims made by Indian officials that her "suspension" last year was not related to doping offence.

Karmakar's dope sample collected out-of-competition by the ITA, an independent organisation that manages the anti-doping programme of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG), was found to contain Higenamine, which is a prohibited substance under World Anti-Doping Agency Code.

Her ban period will, however, end on July 10 this year as it was counted from the day (October 11, 2021) the sample was collected.

"The ITA confirms that Dipa Karmakar has been



suspended for a 21-month period, effective until 10 July 2023 after testing positive for higenamine (S3. Beta-2 Agonists as per the World Anti-Doping Agency prohibited list)," the ITA said in a statement late on Friday.

"The positive sample was collected on behalf of the FIG in the scope of an out-of-competition control on 11 October 2021," it added.

The Switzerland based non-profit organisation works under the supervision of WADA and International Olympic Committee to implement anti-doping programmes for various international

federations. The ITA further said Karmakar's dope issue was resolved under a case resolution agreement pursuant to article 10.8.2 of the FIG Anti-Doping Rules and equivalent provision in the WADA. "The athlete's results have been disqualified from October 11, 2021 onwards."

Karmakar, who shot to fame after finishing fourth in the 2016 Rio Olympics in the vault event, has been struggling with injuries ever since she underwent a surgery to treat an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury in 2017. Her last FIG event was the 2019 World Cup in Baku.

The ban on Karmakar flies on her face as well as on the Gymnastic Federation of India officials who have been claiming ignorance after she was put in the "suspended" category by the FIG in February last year.

Sancet hat trick leads 10-man Bilbao to 4-1 win over Cadiz

Barcelona, Feb 04 (AP):

Oihan Sancet scored his second career hat trick to lead 10-man Athletic Bilbao to a 4-1 victory at home over Cadiz in the Spanish league.

Bilbao lost defender Yuri Berchiche to a second yellow card in the 58th minute while leading 3-1 on Friday.

Cadiz was never able to take advantage of the extra man or stop Sancet from completing his treble.

Sancet grabbed the 10th-minute opener with a fierce strike from an angle that found the top corner.

New signing Gonzalo Escalante equalized for Cadiz at San Mames Stadium in the 25th.

But Sancet struck again 10 minutes later by firing in a pass by Ra I Garc a after Cadiz gave up



the ball near its area while under pressure. Defender Yeray Alvarez headed in a free kick to add to the lead just before halftime. Despite losing Berchiche, Bilbao hit on the break in the 75th.

Garc a booted a long ball forward, I aki Williams nicely headed it onto the path of Sancet, and the forward fired home for his third goal of the evening. "I can't explain how this feels," Sancet said while he was soaking up applause from more than 40,000 Bilbao supporters. "All my thanks to our fans for the support they are showing. I am happy that my goals helped the team get the win."

Sancet leads Bilbao with seven goals, all in the league. He scored his other hat trick in January 2022 in a 3-1 win at Osasuna. Ernesto Valverde's Bilbao, which has advanced to the Copa del Rey semifinals, moved into seventh place in the league standings after ending a run of three losses in the competition. Cadiz remained in the relegation zone.

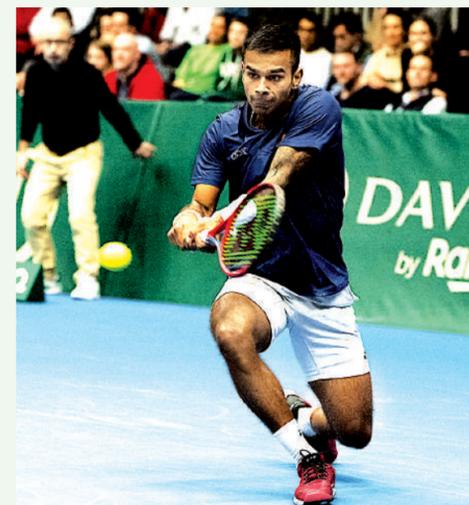
Bopanna-Bhambri pair loses in straight sets

Hillerod, Feb 04 (PTI):

Indian duo Rohan Bopanna and Yuki Bhambri lost to world number 9 Holger Rune and Johannes Ingildsen in straight sets to hand hosts Denmark a 2-1 lead after the doubles tie in the Davis Cup World Group Play-Off on Saturday. The Danish pair made short work of the Indians winning 6-2 6-4 in just 65 minutes as Rune's presence proved to be a decisive factor.

Earlier on Friday, India's number one Sumit Nagal had erased a one-set deficit to pip August Holmgren 4-6 6-3 6-4 in two hours and 27 minutes.

Nagal restored the parity after Bhambri had a forgettable opening singles losing 2-6 2-6 to the rising teen sensation Rune. Bhambri has quit singles and now plays only doubles on tour. The 25-year-old Nagal, ranked 506,



dropped serve in the very first game of the match but once he got hold of his nerves, he was his usual fighting self. He got the break back but squan-

dered the chances when Holmgren offered them. The Danish player, ranked 484, eventually sealed the set. In the second set, it was Nagal who drew the

first blood and went up 5-2. He served out the set in the ninth game to force a decider.

Nagal had a chance to get the first break when he made a deep return and Holmgren's forehand return sailed over the baseline at 30-all but the home player served well to save the chance.

Nagal got another chance when Holmgren netted a forehand at deuce point in the third game but he himself made a forehand error on the breakpoint. While Nagal preferred to hit from the baseline, Holmgren charged the net often to create chances for volley win-

ners. Holmgren handed Nagal another break chance when he tried to pick a low volley but could not keep the ball in the court and followed that up with a double fault, allowing the Indian to take a mini 3-2 lead.

That lead stayed with Nagal and he came out serving for the match in the 10th game. Holmgren's forehand error gave the Indian three match points and converted the first one on home team player's unforced error. In the opening singles, Rune broke Bhambri twice in each set. The 19-year-old converted four of the seven break chances while the Indian did not get a single chance to break his opponent. Rune played percentage tennis while Yuki struggled with his first serve, double faulting four times in the lop-sided contest being played at indoor hard courts.

Sumit Nagal returns the ball to Denmark's August Holmgren during the qualifiers Davis Cup tennis match between Denmark and India, in Hillerod, Denmark.

Vande Metro in lines of Vande Bharat soon

Hyderabad, Feb. 04 (PTI):

Akin to Vande Bharat trains, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked the Ministry of Railways to come up with "Vande Metro", a train concept to run between two nearby big stations, Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw said here on Saturday.

Speaking to reporters, he also said Indian Railways has given away Rs 59,000 crore worth of subsidies in the transportation of food grains, fertilizers and many other items last year which is equivalent to 55 per cent concession for every passenger.

Minister has given the target this year. After the success of Vande Bharat train, (he asked to) develop a new world-class regional train which will be Vande Metro," he said.

The Minister said they are planning to come out of a prototype within the next 12 to 16 months and then roll it out and run it for at least one year.

Explaining the concept of "Vande Metro", he said the trains will be run with high frequency between two cities which are close to less than 100 Km each.

According to him, these kinds of trains are called "Regional trans" in Europe.

About Vande Bharat trains, he said in the last

two and half years, they run almost 12,00,000 km and every seven to eight days a new train is being introduced.

The Railway Minister said the Vande Bharat train between Secunderabad and Visakhapatnam is running very well with almost 120 per cent occupancy prompting the department to introduce more routes in Telangana.

Rebuking the reports that railways are being privatised, Vaishnaw said the Central government is doing whatever is good for the Ministry and "there is absolutely no question of privatization."

He said the Centre has plans to develop

Hyderabad city as a hub for 6G and advanced railway technologies such as AI, machine Learning and IoT. "So Centres of Excellence are being developed within Hyderabad for these two important very futuristic technologies," he said.

On the recently presented Union Budget, the minister said it is one of the most important budgets that has ever been presented in this country when the entire world is going through a very difficult and uncertain time.

He said the budget has given more allocation to railways in Telangana and if the state government co-operates, there would be much more funds.

CLEANLINESS DRIVE



Dera Sacha Sauda volunteers participate in a cleanliness drive in Jaipur, Saturday.

DISTURBING SITUATION

Parking attendant thrashed with bat

Will not be able to walk for 6 months

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

Saddled with debt and two mentally ill brothers, Vikas Thakur, who was assaulted with a cricket bat by a drunk man near PVR Priya, will now be bedridden for six months having undergone surgeries in head, and a fracture in backbone, according to a relative who spoke to the doctors.

Pathak, a parking attendant, was brutally assaulted Wednesday evening by a man, a physical education teacher, when he

asked him to pay Rs 60 in parking charges. "Doctors told us in morning that it will take at least six months for Vikas Thakur to walk," Subhash Singh, an uncle of 34-year-old Pathak, said.

"Doctors have done two surgeries, on both sides of his head. They said the surgeries were successful. Thakur has received a crack in his backbone. He is semiconscious, but responding through his hands. He is not able to speak," Singh told PTI.

Singh is a supervisor at the parking lot in Vasant Vihar area of south Delhi where the incident happened. He was at a temple nearby, when his nephew was assaulted. "When the

incident happened, I was sitting at a temple which is near the spot. The man was in drunken state and refused to give the parking charges. He even abused the attendants. He took out a cricket bat and ran behind Thakur and another attendant, Manoj Kumar.

"Kumar managed to save himself, but Thakur was beaten with a bat," he said, adding, there were 50-60 people around the spot but no one came to his nephew's rescue.

"We took him to AIIMS Trauma Centre where he is undergoing treatment. It took the man only 10 minutes from abusing, assaulting, and fleeing in his car," Singh said. There have

been rows before at the parking lot, but none like this, he said. Thakur's wife, with her brother, flew to Delhi as soon as she heard about the assault, borrowing Rs 25,000 for airfare and other expenses.

Back home, he has a mother, three kids -- two sons and a daughter -- and two brothers who are undergoing mental treatment at a hospital in Ranchi, Jharkhand, Singh said.

"Thakur earlier used to work as a driver in Kishangarh, but was sacked during the coronavirus pandemic, after his employer lost his job. Later, he went to his home," Singh said. Thakur had returned to Delhi 3-4 months ago and got the job

of a parking attendant. He drives too in his spare time to make extra money.

"He belongs to a poor family. His sister's husband attacked her around two years ago. Thakur took a loan of Rs 2 lakh and was spending it on his sister's treatment and a court case.

"He has already repaid Rs 50,000 and was in the process of returning the remaining amount, but now this happened. Our employer has assured his wife that he will help them in get treated," Singh said.

Thakur's wife on Saturday took a room on rent in southwest Delhi's Kusumpur Pahari area to stay near her husband while he recovers.

Body of baby who died after 'hot iron' treatment exhumed

Another 3-month old girl under treatment

Shahdol (MP), Feb 04 (PTI):

The body of a two-and-a-half-month-old girl has been exhumed in Madhya Pradesh's Shahdol district following her death after allegedly being branded with a hot iron rod more than 50 times by an exorcist, an official said on Saturday.

District Collector Vandana Vaidya said the baby's body was exhumed on Friday and a post-mortem will be conducted on Saturday.

Initial investigation has shown that she died due to pneumonia but the real reasons behind the death could be known after the post-mortem report, she

said. The child's mother, a resident of Kathotia under Sinhpur police station limits in the tribal-dominated district, said her family first took her ailing daughter to a quack but her condition didn't improve.

The family then approached a woman faith healer who poked the child's body with a hot iron rod 51 times in a bid to treat her, the mother said. However, the baby's condition deteriorated and she was taken to the district hospital, which referred her to Shahdol Medical College. The baby died during treatment on Wednesday, she said.

The family members

then buried the child's body. After learning about the incident from local media, the government decided to exhume the body.

Meanwhile, another case where a 3-month-old girl was branded with a hot iron rod is under treatment also came to the fore in Shahdol on Saturday, an official said.

The infant, identified as Shubhi Kol, daughter of one Suraj Kol, was brought to the government-run Birsra Munda Medical College on Wednesday after she was branded with a hot iron rod, the institution's superintendent Dr Nagendra Singh said.

JMM FOUNDATION DAY



Tribal artists perform during the 44th foundation day celebrations of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), in Dhanbad, Saturday.

IIT Ropar develops air nano bubble technology

That can reduce water usage in textile sector by 90%

Chandigarh, Feb 04 (PTI):

The Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar on Saturday said it has developed an innovative green technology -- air nano bubble -- that can reduce the usage of water in the textile sector by up to 90 per cent.

"Textile is one of the most water-intensive industries and there is an escalating need to address the problem of managing water usage in the textile industry associated with contamination of water.

At IIT Ropar, we are inventing and incorporating new-age processing methods to conserve water for our future generations," Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar said in a statement here.

Neelkanth Nirmalkar, who has developed this technology, said as per

rough estimate, 200-250 litres of water is required to process one kg of cotton fabric.

The laboratory reports suggest that the air nano bubble dispersed in water can reduce the water consumption and chemical dosage by 90-95 per cent which ultimately saves 90 per cent of the energy consumption as well, Nirmalkar claimed.

In the textile industry, water is used at many steps required for fabric preparation, including for dyeing, finishing chemicals in textile substrates, desizing (process of removal of sizing material from yarn), scouring, bleaching, and mercerising (chemical treatment of fabric to enhance affinity towards dye, the statement said).

At the same time, the textile industry also pro-

duces the highest volume of waste water. The major source of water pollution is pre-treatment, dyeing, printing, and finishing of textile materials, it said.

"The technology is based on nano bubbles of air and ozone. The bubbles are hydrophobic in nature therefore, interact better than water with the fabric and distribute chemicals and dyes in the fabric much more efficiently than just water," Nirmalkar said.

These bubbles are of a size equivalent to 1/1000th times of human hair. Ozone nano bubbles efficiently remove extra dye during fabric wash and degrade the dye in the water, said Nirmalkar, who is an assistant professor at chemical engineering department of IIT, Ropar.

CHANGE IN EXAM PATTERN

Now, online common entrance exam first

For Agniveer recruitment process

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

The army has announced a change in the Agniveer recruitment process and candidates wanting to join the force will now have to first appear for an online common entrance examination (CEE), followed by physical fitness and medical tests.

While advertisements regarding the change in the process have been put out by the army in various newspapers, sources on Saturday said, the notification for this is expected to be issued around mid-February.

When process will start...

The first online CEE is slated to be held in April at nearly 200 locations across the country and for it all preparations have been finalised. The changed methodology will ensure increased focus on cognitive aspect during selection. It will have wider outreach across the country and also reduce the large crowds seen during recruitment rallies to make them more manageable and easier to conduct. The first step will be the online CEE for all candidates at nominated centres, followed by physical fitness test for CEE-qualified candidates during recruitment rallies, and medical tests in the end.

The first online CEE is slated to be held in April at nearly 200 locations across the country and for it all preparations have been finalised, a source said.

"The changed methodology will ensure increased focus on cognitive aspect during selection. It will have wider outreach across the country and also reduce the large

crowds seen during recruitment rallies to make them more manageable and easier to conduct," the source said.

An advertisement published in a leading newspaper with the title -- 'Transformational Changes in Recruitment in Indian Army' -- on Friday, lists the new three-step methodology for the recruitment process.

TN firm to suspend manufacturing of ophthalmic preparations

As eye drop linked to vision loss in US

New Delhi, Feb 4 (PTI):

A day after its plant was inspected by Indian drug regulatory bodies over allegations that its eye drop was linked to vision loss in the US, Tamil Nadu-based Global Pharma Healthcare has been asked to stop manufacturing all ophthalmic products till the inquiry is completed, officials said on Saturday.

A three-member team each from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)

and the State Drug Controller visited the plant in Tamil Nadu's Kancheepuram, 40 km from Chennai, on Friday after the company recalled the eye drop. The teams have also collected samples of eye drop -- Artificial Tears -- which were exported. The eye drop is not sold in India.

According to an official report, the joint investigation at the firm's manufacturing site at Thirupurur in Tamil Nadu's Kancheepuram was conducted on February 3 by the team of senior central and state drugs officials, under the supervision of

Tamil Nadu's Director of Drugs Control and CDSCO's Assistant Drugs Controller (South Zone).

During investigation, it was found that, the firm has exported two consignments of 24 batches of Artificial Tears to the USA -- B No: PCMI001 to PCMO08 and B.No. PCMJ001 to PCMJ016 -- which were manufactured in 2021 and 2022.

No stocks of the said batches were found during the investigation, the report said. "The firm has maintained the control samples for the said batch-

es. The samples were taken for an analysis from the 4 batches of control samples.

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BRIEF



Actors Karthik Aryan and Kriti Sanon at Taj Mahal, in Agra, Saturday.

L-G nod

New Delhi: Delhi Lt Governor V K Saxena has approved 126 posts of principals and deputy education officers in city government-run schools which had lapsed as these were "lying vacant" for more than two years, Raj Niwas officials said on Saturday. Besides, he has also put on hold a proposal to abolish 244 posts of principals and deputy education officers as proposed by the city's education department since these posts had also been lying vacant for more than five years, they said.

Shot at

Aligarh: A former Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) student was shot at outside a hostel on the campus, police said on Saturday. Mohammad Faizan, who is a boarder at the Ross Masood Hall hostel, was rushed to the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College hospital and his condition is stated to be critical, they said. AMU proctor Md Waseem told PTI that Faizan was shot at on the night of February 3. "Though the motive behind the attack is still not clear, police are investigating the matter," he added.

Shot down

New Delhi: A Pakistani drone carrying about 6 kg narcotics has been shot down by the Border Security Force along the International Border in Rajasthan on Saturday, a senior officer said. The flying machine was brought down during the intervening night of February 3-4 in Srikarapur area of Sriganganagar sector of the state. "A Pakistani drone along with two bags containing six packets of suspected narcotics, weighing about 6 kgs, has been recovered by a joint team of the force and local police," a BSF spokesperson said.

Complaint

Muzaffarpur: A Bihar-based rights activist on Saturday filed a complaint against yoga guru Ramdev for allegedly hurting religious sentiments of Muslims with his remarks at a recent meeting of seers. Tamanna Hashmi lodged the complaint against Ramdev before a local court here and demanded the registration of an FIR against him. At a meeting of seers in Rajasthan's Barmer on Friday, the yoga guru had accused Muslims of resorting to terror and abducting Hindu women, while comparing Hinduism to Islam and Christianity.

Weather
High 30 Low 11

SC eases procedure in implementation of 'living wills'

Notes insurmountable obstacles in its implementation

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI)

Taking note of the "insurmountable obstacles" in the implementation of advance medical directives of terminally-ill patients, the Supreme Court has eased the procedure to make it more workable.

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

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

What is 'living will'....

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

guidelines, prompting a reconsideration by the apex court.

Issuing a slew of modifications, a five-judge Constitution bench, headed by Justice KM Joseph, has made the role of doctors and hospitals more important in the mechanism.

The court has said the difficulties being encountered have been voiced by a large number of doctors and it has become absolutely necessary for the apex court to revisit its directions. The court said a living will now be signed by the executor in the presence of two at-testing witnesses, preferably independent, and at-tested before a notary or gazetted officer.

"It should specify the name of a guardian(s) or close relative(s) who, in the event of the executor becoming incapable of taking decisions at the relevant time, will be authorised to give consent to refuse or withdraw medical treatment in a manner consistent with the advance directive.

"The document should be signed by the executor in the presence of two at-testing witnesses, preferably independent, and at-tested before a notary or gazetted officer," the bench, also comprising Justices Ajay Rastogi, Aniruddha Bose, Hrishikesh Roy and CT Ravikumar, said.

MAN-ANIMAL CONFLICT

Man killed in tiger attack

Manendragarh, Feb 04:

About the incident...

A 37-year-old man was killed in an attack by a tiger in Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur district of Chhattisgarh, forest officials said on Saturday.

The incident took place at Kachod village under Kolhari circle of Manendragarh Forest Division on Friday evening, said Loknath Patel, Manendragarh Divisional Forest Officer (DFO).

The deceased, identified as Budhrum Agariya, was a local resident. Preliminary investigation revealed that Agariya had gone to Gundru river near his village for fishing. But when he did not return home till late evening, a search was

The incident took place at Kachod village under Kolhari circle of Manendragarh Forest Division on Friday evening.

The deceased, identified as Budhrum Agariya, was a local resident. Preliminary investigation revealed that Agariya had gone to Gundru river near his village for fishing. But when he did not return home till late evening, a search was

launched for him, he said.

"During the search operation, his mutilated body was found in the forest. Pugmarks of a tiger were also spotted near the place from where his body was recovered," Patel said.

Two days back, pugmarks were spotted in the forest of Kolhari circle in the division, following which forest personnel were asked to search the region, the DFO said, adding that the villagers were instructed to avoid stepping out of home after sunset.

After learning about the tiger attack incident, a forest team rushed to the spot and gave Rs 25,000 relief to the victim's family, while the remaining Rs 5.75 lakh will be released once the requisite formalities are completed, he added.

PUBLIC ART FEST



Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurates Nagpur Kala Sangh, the public art festival, in Nagpur, Saturday.

ED recovers arms, contraband during raids in Punjab

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI)

Arms, ammunition and suspected narcotics weighing about 16 kgs was recovered after raids were conducted in Punjab as part of a money laundering probe linked to a drug trafficking case, the Enforcement Directorate said on Saturday. The searches were conducted on Friday at 10 different premises in villages like Sheron, Naushera Pannuan and Bugha in the Tarn Taran district. The business and residential premises of Skattar Singh alias Laddi, Gajjan Singh, Makhan Singh and their family members apart from some associates were searched, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said in a statement.

Supreme Court gets five new judges

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI)

Five judges were appointed to the Supreme Court on Saturday with the Centre clearing the names recommended by the Collegium on December 13 last year.

Law Minister Kiren Rijju tweeted to announce the appointment of Justice Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court; Justice Sanjay Karol, Chief Justice, Patna High Court; Justice P V Sanjay Kumar, Chief Justice, Manipur High Court; Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah of Patna High Court; and Justice Manoj Misra of Allahabad High Court as

Five new judges...

Justice Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court; Justice Sanjay Karol, Chief Justice, Patna High Court; Justice P V Sanjay Kumar, Chief Justice, Manipur High Court; Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah of Patna High Court; and Justice Manoj Misra of Allahabad High Court.

apex court judges.

Once they take oath early next week, the strength of the apex court will go up to 32 judges.

At present the top court

is functioning with 27 judges, including the Chief Justice of India. Its sanctioned strength, including the CJI, is 34.

Their appointments come amidst strong observations by a Supreme Court bench questioning the delay on part of the government in appointing and transferring judges based on the recommendations of the SC Collegium.

A senior government functionary said the five appointments have nothing to do with the bench's observation and were made after the Centre took a considered decision.

The appointments came in due course, he added.

DOUBTFUL DEATH

Veteran singer Vani Jayaram found dead with injury

Chennai, Feb 04 (PTI):

Iconic playback singer Vani Jayaram, who has crooned over 10,000 songs in 19 languages, including the very popular Hindi number 'Bole re papihara' and who was named for the Padma Bhushan Award recently, died here on Saturday.

She was 77 and was living alone at a downtown apartment, where she was found dead, police said adding there was an injury on her forehead and further investigation is on.

Vani Jayaram's husband predeceased her and she had no children, the singer's domestic help said.

In her long and illustrious career of over 50 years, she has rendered a mine of memorable songs including the 'Bole re papihara' from Hindi flick



Guddi (1971), 'Yezhu Swarangalukkul' from Tamil film Apoorva Ragangal (1975) and 'Malligai En Mannan Mayangum' (1974 Tamil movie Deerga Sumangali). She has worked with iconic musicians including M S Viswanathan and Ilayaraja. Former Chief Minister and top star in her times J Jayalalitha was among those for whom Vani Jayaram has sung.

JAMIA NAGAR VIOLENCE

Accused made 'scapegoats', dissent has to be 'encouraged': Court

Sharjeel, Tanha, Safoora absolved

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

A court here on Saturday discharged 11 people including student activists Sharjeel Imam and Asif Iqbal Tanha, who participated in anti-CAA protests, in the 2019 Jamia Nagar violence case, saying they were made "scapegoats" by police and that dissent has to be encouraged, not stifled.

Noting that the accused were merely present at the protest site and there was no incriminating evidence against them, the court said dissent is an extension of the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression, subject to reasonable restrictions. It said investigative

agencies need to discern the difference between dissent, which has to be given space, and insurrection that should be quelled.

The court, however, ordered the framing of charges against one of the accused, Mohammad Ilyas.

"Marshalling the facts as brought forth from a perusal of the charge sheet and three supplementary charge sheets, this court cannot but arrive at the conclusion that the police were unable to apprehend the actual perpetrators behind the commission of the offence, but surely managed to rope the persons herein as scapegoats," Additional Sessions Judge Arul Varma said.

The court faulted the police for failing to produce any WhatsApp chats, SMS

or other proof of the accused interacting with each other and criticised it for "arbitrarily" choosing to array some people from the crowd as accused and police witnesses, saying this "cherry-picking" by the police is detrimental to the precept of fairness.

An FIR was lodged in connection with the violence that erupted after a clash between police and people protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) in the Jamia Nagar area here in December 2019.

Imam was accused of investigating the riots by delivering a provocative speech at the Jamia Millia University on December 13, 2019. He will continue to remain in jail as he is an accused in the larger conspiracy case of the 2020 northeast Delhi riots.

'Millet Canteen'

New Delhi, Feb 04:

In line with the government's impetus, a "Millet Canteen" will be operationalised at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here by March 1.

The canteen will be set up on the second floor of the central cafeteria and will offer millet-based dishes on a 24x7 basis. It shall be operationalised latest by March 1, according to a circular issued on Saturday by AIIMS Director Dr M Srinivas.

The government has decided to celebrate 2023 as the "International Year of Millets" to make it a people's movement so that the Indian millets, recipes and value-added products are promoted globally, the circular said.

SHOWCAUSE NOTICE TO PATIALA MP

'Cong welcome to take whatever decision it wants'

Chandigarh, Feb 04 (PTI):

Suspended for her alleged anti-party activities, Congress' Patiala MP Preet Kaur Saturday said the party is welcome to take whatever decision it wants but asserted she always gave her best to the party.

The Congress on Friday suspended her and also asked her to explain why she should not be expelled for "anti-party activities".

Kaur is the wife of former chief minister Amarinder Singh, who joined the BJP after being ousted from the Congress.

"The Congress is welcome to take whatever decision it wants. I have always given my best to the party and to the people who have repeatedly elected me. I owe it to them and will continue to serve them, as always. I derive

my strength from my people. Everything else is secondary," Kaur said on Twitter on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring accused the former Union minister of weakening the Congress in Patiala, and said she should leave the party on her own.

"It would have been better if Preet Kaur ji quit the party on her own. She left no stone unturned in weakening the Congress in Patiala," claimed Warring.

The Congress' disciplinary panel member secretary Tariq Anwar had said the action against Kaur follows complaints against her from the party's Punjab unit chief Amarinder Raja Warring and other state leaders that she was helping the BJP in the state.

EXPERTS OPINE

Some 350 stones from original Nane Darwaja at Raigad Fort retrieved

Marked for reconstruction

Aurangabad, Feb 04 (PTI):

More than 300 stones that fell possibly due to landslide from the 'Nane Darwaja' of Maharashtra's historic Raigad Fort have been retrieved and will be used to rebuild the structure based on architectural points from the time, an expert involved in the work said on Saturday.

Situated in the Sahyadri mountain range, Raigad Fort, some 370 kilometres from here, was made the capital of the Maratha Empire in 1674 on the coronation of Chhatrapati Shivaji



Maharaj. As per the book 'Shrimad Raigrau' by Gopal Chandorkar, the Nane Darwaja was an octroi collection point at the fort and the structure may have collapsed due to a landslide at

the time, conservation architect Varun Bhamare said.

"We searched for the arch and bracket stones that fell from the structure in the valley below and managed to retrieve around 350 of them. These have been numbered by us after identifying their position in the original structure. Work to fix them accordingly to recreate the structure has begun," Bhamare told PTI.

A channel made from cutting stone to ensure water flowing downhill does not harm Nane Darwaja has also been found and the mud and sludge covering it has been cleared for it to drain out water as per the original architecture, he added.

BSP seals the only cinema theatre of Bhilai Township

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: On Saturday, the Enforcement Squad of the Town Services Department of Bhilai Steel Plant sealed the Miraj Cinema located at New Civic Center. It is the only Cinema Theatre located within the limits of Bhilai Township.

A joint team of Enforcement Department, Land Section, Housing Section, Electricity Department, General Section, Civil Section, Fire Department, Medical Department, Public Relations Department, and Public Health Department, along with officers of District Administration and Police force reached the Miraj Cinema (formerly known as Geet Talkies) to seal the premises.



Audiences and staff of all three screens (theatres) of the Cinema were asked to move out after which the building was sealed. A gym is located on the ground floor of this complex. The visitors and staff of this gym were also asked to move out and thereafter the Gym was also sealed.

The team did not seize any item / goods as per the instructions of the

Judicial Magistrate. However, the entire premise was sealed and all types of commercial activities were stopped with immediate effect. Three Inspector rank police officers along with their teams were present to maintain law and order.

The Town Services Department got the special support of Bhilai Steel Plant's Officers' Association President



Narendra Banchor and General Secretary Parminder Singh. A Fire Tender of BSP Fire Brigade and an Ambulance with medical staff also remained present during the proceedings.

Under the guidance of Mr Bisen, Executive Magistrate of the District Administration, the decree passed by the Estate Court was executed by the

Enforcement Department with the help of all the departments.

It needs to be mentioned here that about Rs 6.92 crores was due against the Miraj Cinema for many years, which was not being paid by the owners of Miraj Cinema. The matter was heard by the Estate Court and on the basis of Court's order; the building of Miraj Cinema has been sealed.

Monika Sahu of MTCN tops in poster exhibition

Bhilai, Feb 04: Monika Sahu, a student of B Sc 3rd year, Mother Teresa College of Nursing, Kumhari, has brought laurels to the college by winning in Poster exhibition organised during an international workshop.

The theme one day international workshop was "Challenges in Disaster Response and Emergency Management". The students took part in the poster exhibition in the workshop and conveyed the views to the people through posters.

Here it needs a mention that students from other colleges also registered their participation in this international workshop, but in this race of competition, B Sc third year stu-



dent of Mother Teresa College of Nursing, Kumhari Monika Sahu got the first position and made the college proud. Vice President of SRGOI (Shri

Rawatpura Sarkar Lok Kalyan Trust, Dr JK Upadhyaya congratulated the student on winning the first position and wished her a bright future.

Bunkar Bhavan of Patan to be renovated soon

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: The Bunkar Bhavan of Patan will be renovated soon to provide employment opportunities to the maximum number of people. Collector will conduct inspection and take necessary steps in this regard, said Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel while addressing the people at Parmeshwari Mahotsava in Patan.

Baghel said that every year Parmeshwari Jayanti is organized in Patan by the Dewangan Samaj. People of this Samaj are involved in agriculture and weaving. The state government procured 107 lakh metric



tonnes of paddy this year and all this has happened in a very convenient manner. This year 23.5 lakh farmers have sold paddy. The paddy cultivators and area of paddy cultivation have increased considerably due to the schemes of Chhattisgarh government.

Excellent work has been done in Bastar in the tex-

tile sector. The textiles are being marketed under the brand name Dannex. The establishment of Rural Industrial Parks (RIPA) will create great opportunities for enterprising Samajs like Dewangan Samaj.

CM added that they have opened nine SAGES schools in Patan.

Dewangan Samaj is a very hardworking society, that's why its people are called Mahajan. The Chief Minister said that earlier there were only two community buildings in Patan.

The community building of Dewangan Samaj was constructed and later it was renovated also. It feels nice to see the development of Patan. Along with agriculture, business is also growing rapidly, Baghel said.

Dewangan Samaj President Baldu Bhale addressed the gathering and expressed gratitude towards Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. Hemant Dewangan and other office bearers were present.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: A Fast Track Special Court in Durg delivered justice in six months to a 16-year-old victim of sexual offence. The charge sheet was filed on August 05, 2022 after which the court trial was conducted on Fast Track and the judgement was pronounced on February 04.

The Fast Track Special Court sentenced the 22-year-old convict to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for sexually assaulting and raping a minor girl on the promise of marriage. On Saturday, the Upper Sessions Judge (Fourth), FTSC - POCSO, Sangeeta

Naveen Tiwari convicted Shrawan Kumar Sahu, son of Annu Ram Sahu, a resident of Asha Nagar, Durg. The girl's family had lodged a complaint at Mohan Nagar Police Station on May 30, 2022 after she went missing on May 29, 2022.

Special Prosecutor Santosh Kasar informed that the accused worked at a Mixture Factory near the residence of the victim. On the promise of marriage, the accused lured the 16-year-old victim to flee with him and establish sexual relations. On May 29, 2022, the victim's father had gone to attend a marriage in

Surajpur while her mother had gone to work as a labourer in a Rice Mill. The victim was alone at home with her aunt. The accused contacted the girl and lured her to flee with him. The girl left home after informing her aunt that she was going to a nearby shop.

She met the accused at some place and thereafter the accused took her to a lodge in Amgaon. When the girl did not return, her family lodged an FIR at Mohan Nagar Police Station. On the other hand, the accused raped the girl at a lodge in Amgaon on promise of marriage. Later the police

rescued the girl on June 05, 2022.

After trial, the Special Court found the accused guilty and awarded different jail terms for section 366 of IPC and Section 6 of POCSO Act under which the accused was tried. He was sentenced to three year of rigorous imprisonment and Rs 100 fine under section 366 of IPC and 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and Rs 5000 fine under section 6 of POCSO Act.

The jail terms would run concurrently and penalties for different sections aggregating to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and Rs 5100 fine.

BSP invites applications for Merit awards to contractual worker's wards

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: BSP has invited applications for recognition of meritorious wards of BSP's contractual workers for the academic year 2021-22 for Classes VIII, X & XII. A Circular regarding the scheme has been notified by Education department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant.

As per the scheme approved by BSP, contractual workers who have completed at least 3 months of service between July 01, 2020 to June 30, 2022 are eligible to apply for Merit awards for their wards in Classes VIII, X & XII.

There are a total of 150 awards, with 50 awards in each category of Classes VIII, X & XII. The awards include Rs 5000 for students of Classes VIII, Rs 8000 for students of Classes X and Rs10,000 for students of Classes XII. The award money will be deposited in the bank accounts of the students directly, for which a copy of Bank passbook alongwith name of student, name of Bank, Account no, and IFSC code is required to be submitted.

The award will be given to students pursuing studies under any Board on the basis of percentage of marks obtained in classes

8th, 10th and 12th. In case the number of eligible candidates crosses 50, percentage of marks obtained in classes 7th, 9th and 11th class will also be applicable in determining the merit award list.

Applications to be made in prescribed Proforma (Circular, Proforma and details available on BSP intranet) and available in Contract Labour Cell and Education department are to be submitted alongwith relevant documents to Contract Labour Cell, BSP or Education department, Russian complex, Sector 07. Last date of receiving applications is February 28, 2023.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: Sinter Plant 3 celebrated its 21st Foundation Day with great zeal and enthusiasm on February 04, 2023. The occasion was marked by a series of activities and events to commemorate the achievements of the past 21 years.

A special function to celebrate the occasion was organised. Anirban Dasgupta, Director In-Charge, BSP was Chief Guest on the occasion. Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c Iron, Asit Saha, CGM I/c M&U, SV Nandanwar, CGM (Int Audit), Tarun Kanrar, CGM(CO-CCD), SK Gajbhiye, CGM(Mech), DL Moitra



CGM (Envt) and other senior officials from Bhilai Steel Plant joined the SP-III collective in the celebrations. Former employees of Sinter Plant-III were also invited to grace the occasion and bless the SP-III collective. All the guests acknowledged the

contributions made by Sinter Plant 3 to Bhilai Steel Plant. A short film showcasing the journey of SP-3 over the last 21 years was also released.

The management of Sinter Plant 3 paid tribute to the hard work and dedication of its employees &

contractual workers, followed by lighting of lamps, cutting of cake, and releasing of balloons with messages of safety, success, and prosperity. Celebratory sweets were also distributed.

In his address to the gathering, Director In-Charge Anirban Dasgupta congratulated Team SP-3 for their recent achievements and team work and urged them to strive for further milestones. He also emphasized the importance of safety during work.

"We are proud to mark this significant milestone in the history of Sinter Plant 3," said Anup Kumar Dutta, CGM SPs. "The past 21 years have

been a journey of growth, learning, and achievement, and we are grateful to our employees and their families for their unwavering support."

Bhilai Steel Plant is a symbol of India's industrial prowess and has been at the forefront of the country's steel production for over six decades. Sinter Plant 3 has played a key role in this success and will continue to work towards a sustainable and prosperous future for all.

The programme was organised under the leadership of MRK Shariff, GM I/c SP-III and the entire team of SP-III worked hard to make the event a grand success.

CM announces to host National Jamboree in Chhattisgarh

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: The National Jamboree of Scouts and Guides will be organised in Chhattisgarh. The Chief Minister made this announcement while addressing the Scouts and Guides rally in Patan on Saturday.

Addressing the programme, Chief Minister said that the Scouts movement started in Britain with the purpose of promoting friendship and service. Indian culture is also based on the idea of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam



and thus both the ideas are similar ideas of fraternity and service. He further said that the helicopter attracts the attention of children and they run towards it in enthusiasm. Baghel said that he was watching the scouts and guides from the helicopter while landing near the Camp. The children at the ground remained disciplined and did not turn away after seeing the helicopter. Scouting leaves a deep discipline in our lives, he added.

The children mesmerised the audiences with the attractive match

past and cultural programmes.

State Chief Commissioner (Bharat Scouts and Guides) and Parliamentary Secretary Vinod Sevenal Chandrakar was also present at the camp. In his address, he expressed gratitude towards CM Bhupesh Baghel, who is also the Chief Patron of State Scouts and Guides. He said that on the instructions of the Chief Minister, the scouts did a lot of service during the Corona period. He said that the children of Chhattisgarh are partici-

pating in programs held across the country.

District President (S&G) Avinash Chandrakar also addressed the gathering. OBC Commission Vice President RN Verma, Patan Nagar Panchayat President Bhubendra Kashyap, District Panchayat Vice President Ashok Sahu, Janpad President Rambai Sinha, Laxman Chandrakar and other public representatives were present. Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena and SP Dr Abhishek Pallav were also present.

Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sec X celebrates annual day, 'Kanakadhara'

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 04: Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sec-X, celebrated its 34th Annual Day Function "Kanakadhara" Nursery to KG II on February 03, 2023 amidst great zest, vivacity and exaltation. Rajani Rajak, Narishakti President Awardee 2018 and folk artist was the esteemed Chief Guest. She was escorted by the dignitaries and the Principal Bipin Deshmukh. The function commenced by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and garlanding the portraits of Goddess Saraswati and the holy patron of the school the Parmacharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham Sri Chandra Shekharendra Saraswati Swamikal.

The programme was also graced by V Ramachandran, President SSES, Chandra Shekhar, member management committee, Bipin Deshmukh, Principal SSV, Harish Chandra Chattwani, Vice Principal, Shobha Nair and S Usha Head Mistress, school staff, the members of PTA, parents. On this occasion the Principal of the school Bipin Deshmukh accorded a warm welcome to all on be-



half of Sri Sankara fraternity and tabled the annual school report. In his address he advised the parents to praise the child in front of everybody and not to compare their ward with others. V Ramachandran, President Sri Sankara Education Society, welcomed the gathering and was very enthusiastic about the growth of India. He appealed the parents to encourage their ward to excel their talent. He also opined that the success of an individual depends on the good co-ordination of Parent-Teacher and student. The Chief Guest, Rajani Rajak addressed the gathering with her words of wisdom. She emphasised on the morality in education for the all round development of the child. She expressed her views on the importance of the family to inculcate the moral values in child. She praised the children that every child is the gift of God and devotion of education is the

wisdom to God. A token of appreciation was presented to chief guest. Prize was distributed to the tiny tots of Nursery to KG - II - compassionate child, full attendance, well dressed, well behaved, obedient child, social child, discipline child, pre-ventable child, helping child and care for belonging child. The cultural fiesta began with song Bachche man ke Sachche by pre-primary teachers. The programme, threaded various colours of tiny tots of Nursery to KG - II which enlightened the audience towards spirituality. The various event's were Har Har Sankara, Welcome Dance, Aaj hai Sunday, Hum jab Honge 60 Saalke and Retro dance by tiny tots of Nursery, Aigiri Nandini by Geashna Shree, Krishna Dance, Phoolon ka, Taarom ka, Papa mere papa / Mai Tera Ladla, Dashavatar, Punjabi Dance, Goan Dance and Chhattisgarhi Dance by KG - I,

Shlok Chanting by Rudra Pratap Shrivastav, Itni Si Hasi, Badal Pe Paonhai, Bam Bam Bole, Babu Sehat ke Liye tu to Hanikarak, Zubi Dubi and Soldier's Life by KG - II kids enthralled the gathering. The cultural programme was meticulously planned by the team of teachers - Y Anju Kameshwari, Sunita Patnaik, N Jaya Lakshmi, Maitri Mishra, D Meenakshi, V Revathi, Ratna Bhalla, Satbir Bhatia, Pommani Satyanarayana, Jharna, V Nirmala, Anupama Sahu, Manju Rao, Sarita Nair, Premalata Pandey, Heena Kausar and Ruby Dewanjee. The digital backdrop of the stage was magnificently designed by Tarannum Rashid, decoration by Meeta Shukla and Akhilesh Kashyap. The programme was ably compered by Anita Verma, Roshni Malakorna, Sikha Verma, Joshi Mary and V Harshita. Vote of thanks was proposed by Sarita Nair - Wing Incharge.

CM rolls out mobile millet cafe in Raigarh

Raipur, Feb 04: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Saturday flagged off the state's first mobile millet cafe, "Millet on Wheels", in Raigarh district, an official said.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief minister said the initiative will help increase awareness about consumption of millets.

The Raigarh district administration has started "Millet on Wheels", which will be run by Anubhav women's group, the official said.

The outlet will serve dishes made of ragi, kodo, and kutki varieties of millets, he said.

The state government is



promoting the production and consumption of millets under 'Millet Mission', and is also procuring the food grains at support price, the official said.

As a value addition, a

processing plant of millets has been set up at Nathia-Navaon in Kanker district, and more such units will be established at rural industrial parks being developed in gauthans, he added.

Amitabh Bachchan thanks CM for Millets gift

Writes "I hope Chhattisgarh becomes world famous in Millets"



Raipur, Feb 04: On the occasion of Makar Sankranti, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel sent millet gift hampers to many film personalities, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan thanked the Chief Minister and said that Chhattisgarh has many specialties. Thank you for sending the millet food. Sharing this letter on his Twitter account, the Chief Minister thanked Amitabh Bachchan.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Baghel sent greetings for Makar Sankranti

in the form of gift hampers. The Chief Minister had also tweeted about it on his Twitter account.

It is worth noting that the state government is always promoting millets. In order to promote millets, the Chief Minister recently organised a lunch of millet-based dishes for all MLAs in the Vidhansabha. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also praised the Chhattisgarh government's work on millets.

Need of the hour is to work for sustainable development: Dr Bharathidasan

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 04: Amidst the footfall of thousands of students from schools, the three-day ISRO exhibition organized under the aegis of City-based NH Goel World School, concluded here.

The head of the exhibition NJ Bhatt satisfied the curiosity of the students in question answer session. He told the students that ISRO takes in its fold the students from commerce and humanities streams as well. The students were amazed to know the presence of science is all pervasive. 'From knitting a sweater to ploughing agrarian fields all are perfect examples of science.' Bhatt added.

The Chief Guest of the



closing ceremony, Dr Bharathidasan (IAS Officer) threw light on the vastness of the space during his speech. He said that we must take pride in the fact that mathematicians like Aryabhata and Bhaskar were our ances-

tors who unraveled layers of mysteries enveloping the space. He also said the need of the hour is to work for sustainable development with due consideration to urbanization, agriculture and environment.

Ananya wins two medals at All India CBSE Athletics meet

Raipur, Feb 04: Ananya Pandey from Chhattisgarh won two medals in the All India Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) National Athletics meet held at Varanasi.

According to the information received, Ananya Pandey won two national medals including a silver medal in the 100 Meters Sprint events. She won the second medal in the form of 200 Meters Bronze Medal.

Prior to hit, she has declared 'Best Athlete' at



CBSE Zonal level, in November after she had won two golds in 100 and 200 meters.

She had already won 3 medals in West Zone Athletics meet organized

under the aegis of Athletics Federation of India. She has earlier also won two state championships in 2022 at the Chhattisgarh State Athletics Championship including gold in the 100 and 200 Meters.

Two gold medals at the School Games Federation of India, Chhattisgarh is also on her record book. She is daughter of educationist Dr Awinash Pandey from Raipur city. Vijay Sangwan is the coach of Ananya Pandey.

2 child scientists presented at the Indian Science Congress

12 girls among the 16 child scientists.

Raipur, Feb 04: The research work presented by 16 Chhattisgarh child scientists at the National Children's Science Congress in Ahmedabad was highly praised by the experts. The National Children's Science Congress was held from January 27 to 31 in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, by the Gujarat Council of Science and Technology and by the Government of India's Department of Science and Technology. It drew approximately 1200 child scientists from other Indian states. Additional Chief Secretary, Mrs. Renu Pillay, expressed her joy at the selection of 12 girls out of 16 child scientists. She believes that this selection demonstrates that girls are actively participating in science and research. This will also send an important message to society.

The National Children's Science Congress 2022 will have five sub-themes: Knowing Your Ecosystem, Promoting Health, Nutrition and Well-Being, Ecosystem and Social and Cultural Practices for Health, Ecosystem-Based Approaches to Self-Reliance, Ecosystem Research work on technological innovation for sys-



tem and health.

Priyansh Bhaduri, Nandita Kevat, Rupshikha Sahu, Disha Sahu, Priyanshu Patel, Radhika Kanwar, Bhumika Joshi, Karam Samuel, Maheshwar Sahu, Jahnvi

Thakur, Kiran Kanwar, Khushi Jha, Manohar Baghel, Prarthana Kevat, Anvika Gupta and Ananya Singh from Chhattisgarh participated and presented the research project in National Children's

Science Congress. Medals and citations were awarded to the child scientists in the concluding session.

Along with this, child scientists and teachers participated in teachers workshop, meet of scientist session, popular science talk, exhibition, activity camp, poster presentation and cultural program. Scientist Dr. J.K. Rai and four teachers Mr. Anil Tiwari, Mr. Jagdishwar Rao, Mrs. Meena Johnson and Mrs. Seema Chaturvedi participated and guided the child scientists.

Aside from that, two child scientists, Anmol

Malviya and Kumari Harshita Rathia, who were chosen from the State Level Children's Science Congress, presented their research project at the 108th Indian Science Congress, which was held in Nagpur, Maharashtra, from the 3rd to the 7th of January. Along with this, Dr. J.K. Rai and Dr. Bina Sharma of the Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology, as well as two project staff, demonstrated various activities of the Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology through exhibits.

Cancer patients honoured on World Cancer Day



At Regional Cancer Centre

Raipur, Feb 04: Various programmes were organized at Regional Cancer Institute of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, Raipur on the occasion of World Cancer Day. To spread awareness about cancer among the common people in Raipur, a marathon, 'Canethon', was organized from Marine Drive to Regional

Cancer Institute at 6.30 am with participation of as many as 250 students of Pt Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College along with the staff of the hospital. Top three winners were awarded Rs 3,000, Rs 2,000 and Rs 1,000 respectively. A poster competition was organised to create public awareness over cancer. Children undergoing treatment in cancer department, medical students and children of hospital staff participated

in the competition. Ishanya stood first and Navya stood second in children's category.

Rahul Maravi bagged first position, Dr Awadhesh Bharat second position and Hemlata third position in senior category. Loni and Shubhangi got consolation prizes. Adult and child patients who received treatment and recovered in the department were felicitated. A total of 80 patients aged from 2 years to 80 years participated in the event. Patients from north to south part of the state shared their experiences about winning their battle with cancer and the contribution of the doctors who treated. They also appreciated the efforts of the doctors, nursing staff and the paramedical staff.

Role of pathologists important in diagnosis of diseases

Two-day state level annual convention of Pathology



Raipur, Feb 04: The department of pathology in Pt Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College (Pt JNMCC) Raipur has organised two-day state level 17th annual conference of pathologists (CAPCON-2022-23). The conference began on January 4 at newly constructed Atal Bihari Vajpayee auditorium in the college campus. About 180 government and private pathologists from Chhattisgarh are participating in the conference.

Health Secretary R Prasanna was the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the conference. Pt Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial Health Science and Ayush University Vice Chancellor Dr Ashok Chandrakar presided over the inaugural ceremony. Director Medical Education Dr Vishnu Dutt, Dean Dr Tripti Nagaria, Superintendent Dr SBS Netam, Chhattisgarh Pathology Association President Dr Renuka Gahine and Secretary Dr Jayanti Chandarkar were present on the occasion. The conference began

with welcome address of Professor Dr Arvind Neral. Noted pathologists from Tamil Nadu, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Nagpur are delivering lectures and sharing their experiences in the conference. Dr Neral urged the Health Secretary to start separate Department of Transfusion Medicine and Hematology in Medical College Raipur in future.

The diagnostic aspect is very important in the field of medicine for the prevention and diagnosis of diseases and the role of pathologist is very important in the diagnosis of diseases, health secretary Prasanna said in his address. He informed ongoing efforts to improve the diagnostic facility for the people. He also said that efforts would be made to start the Department of Transfusion Medicine and Hematology in the Medical College.

According to Vice Chancellor of Ayush University Dr Ashok Chandrakar pathologists are the main members of the patient's

diagnostic team. Whether it is cancer detection, or any other serious disease, the prognosis and treatment of the patient's disease depends on the information and diagnostic provided by the pathologist, he said. Professor Dr Rabia Parveen Siddiqui proposed a vote of thanks. An organizing committee has been formed for the successful implementation of this scientific and educational conference. Dr Arvind Neral is Organizing Chairman, Dr Rabia Parveen Siddiqui Organizing Secretary and Dr Chandrakala Joshi is the Associate Secretary. Other members of the committee are Dr Varsha Pandey, Dr Amit Kumar Bhardwaj, Dr Vijay Kapse, Dr Vanita Adile, Dr Reeti Sharma, Dr Ruchi Verma, Dr Kasturi Mangrulkar, Dr Vikas Bambeshwar, Dr Anubhav Chandrakar, Dr Saroj Kumari, Dr Sudit Pal, Dr Pushkar Chowdhary, Dr Aviral Mishra, Dr Megha Verma, Dr Sarita Thakur and Dr Miloni Lanjewar.

राजमहा पुत्री मेला 2023

5 फरवरी - 18 फरवरी 2023

पहला स्नान 5 फरवरी, माघी पुन्नी	दूसरा स्नान 14 फरवरी, जानकी जयंती	तीसरा स्नान 18 फरवरी, महाशिवरात्रि
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128th birth anniv of Swami Parmavananda today



Raipur, Feb 04: 128th birth anniversary of Swami Parmavananda is scheduled on February 04 at BSS Parnavananda Academy, VIP Road, Mahant Ved Prakash of Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Trust will be the chief guest while former Rajya Sabha MP Shrigopal Vayas will be the special guest of the programme. As part of the celebration Guru Vandana and Bhajan Kiritan will be presented by Sunhari Yade Musical Group Raipur owned by Ranjit Kumar Bose. He along with his disciples and fellow artists will conduct the programme.

Padma award to wood craftsman Ajay Mandavi

Pays courtesy call on Chief Minister



journey. One such is the 'Shanta Arts Art Group' which is a group of prisoners, most of whose members have left Naxalite violence at different times and have joined the mainstream of society through art. This also serves as a rehabilitation for prisoners to earn money in an ethical way. Its instructor and guide are wood artist Ajay Mandavi, who apart from teaching the art to the inmates, prepares them psychologically to lead a dignified life as better human beings in society. He also creates a better social environment for these inmates.

of financial support are commendable and inspiring for the coming generation. It is worth mentioning that Mandavi has done many exemplary works throughout his artistic

Rs 8672 cr received from minerals

In the current financial year Mineral officials review meeting



Raipur, Feb 04: The state government has received mineral revenue of Rs. 8672 crore till the month of December 2022 against the target of Rs.13 thousand crore for mineral revenue in the financial year 2022-23. This information was given in the review meeting of regional heads of the department and district mineral officers held on February 1 at Indravati Bhawan, Nava Raipur under the chairmanship of Director Geology and Mining Mr. Jai Prakash Maurya. In the meeting, selection of new blocks for allotment through e-auction of major and minor

minerals in the state, operation of sand mines for scheduled areas, new instructions regarding allotment of coal blocks. Progress was reviewed on other important topics. It was informed in the meeting that 12 new mineral blocks have been allotted by the department. The right to operate sand mines in the notified areas has been re-assigned to the

panchayats. It was also informed in the meeting that coal bed methane blocks have been allotted in Surajpur and Korea districts of the state. Keeping in view the inherent importance of coal bed methane in the interest of industrial and state revenue, a detailed presentation was given by the representative of Directorate General of Hydrocarbons

during the meeting. Similarly, a presentation was also given on IT based mineral transportation services by a private company. The head of the department Mr. Anurag Dewan, Joint Director (Earth) Mr. Sanjay Kankane, Joint Director (K.P.) Mr. Mahipal Singh Kanwar and other officers of Directorate level were present in the meeting.

Sickle cell centers open in district hospitals, CHC will also start soon

Raipur, Feb 04: The Union Budget 2023-24 has taken up the mission of eradicating sickle cell and anemia by the year 2047. Around 25 lakh population in the state is affected by sickle cell (a blood disease). Dr. Ashish Sinha, Medical Director of Sickle Cell Institute, said that the system of examination and treatment of sickle cell patients is being strengthened at the grassroots level. Point of care testing machine will be given for sickle cell test in every government hospital. The procurement process has started for this. As per the information sickle cell centers have been opened in all 28 district hospitals where patients are being provided free treatment. At the same time,

doctors are being trained to provide facilities for checkup and treatment in 174 community health centers of the state. The process of setting up a sickle cell hospital at the state sickle cell institute has also started at a cost of about Rs 50 crore. Chhattisgarh ranks third in the country in providing IFA (Iron Folic Acid) supplementation to children, adolescents, pregnant and lactating women under Anemia Free India Campaign. Only Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra are ahead of Chhattisgarh in the whole country. Dr. VR Bhagat, State Nodal Officer of Anemia Free India Program said that anemia occurs due to lack of blood in the body. IFA supplementation has been

given to 66.4 per cent children in the age group of six months to 59 months and 71.5 per cent children in the age group of five to nine years in Chhattisgarh under the campaign to eradicate anemia. During this period, 74.6 per cent children and adolescents of 10 to 19 years age, 95 per cent pregnant women and 61.6 per cent child-bearing women have been given IFA supplements. Under the Anemia Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, children from six months to 19 years and pregnant and lactating women are given IFA supplements. Iron and folic acid syrup to small children, tablets to pregnant and child-bearing women are provided by Mitamins. This campaign will now be run on a larger scale.

B. Ramachandra Rao takes charge as Head of Project-NTPC Korba



Korba, Feb 04: B. Ramachandra Rao, Chief General Manager, NTPC Korba has taken charge of Korba Super Thermal Power Station as Head of Project with effect from Feb 01. He joined NTPC in 1984 and has more than 38 years of experience with NTPC. Rao has previously worked in other NTPC

Units and offices like Ramagundam, Balco-CPP, Western Region-I Headquarters (Mumbai) and Kudgi. A seasoned professional in his field, Shri B.R. Rao obtained his Licentiate in Electrical Engineering from Board of Technical Education after which he obtained AMIE in Electrical Engineering from the Institution of Engineers, India. He also holds a PGD in finance. He has rich and varied experience in areas of Commissioning, Operations, Operating Services, Engineering, Electrical Erection, Project Co-ordination, Project Construction etc.

Union Budget failed to address employees issues : NFIR

Raipur, Feb 04: While the Union Budget has proposed concessional Tax Regime for salaried class and senior citizens, the genuine aspirations of Central Government Employees have not been addressed, resulting disappointment among them. The frozen amount of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief for the period from January, 2020 to June, 2021 has not been decided to be released for ensuring refund to employees as well pensioners in spite of the fact that frozen decision of Central Government in April, 2020 was arbitrary

and unjustified. During Covid 1 & 2.1 Wave period, the Railway employees have ensured movement of freight trains, Migrant Specials, Oxygen Special etc., and in the course of performing duties, many employees got infected with Corona Virus which resulted in death of over 3500 Railway employees. Their families have not been extended financial relief in the form of ex-gratia till date. Commuted value of pension presently being recovered for a period of 15 years should be restored on completion of 12 years as the

Government is in a position to get back the money in a period of 12 years. The Government has not considered this valid demand of Central Government pensioners. The Government did not provide Old Age Parent Care Leave to the single female Government employees by liberalizing the existing Child Care Leave. Dr. M. Raghavalah General Secretary NFIR urged the Finance Minister to look into the above genuine issues for satisfactory redressal, informs Sameer Pandey, AJGS SECRMC Bilaspur.

Wetlands should be identified in Chhattisgarh: Akbar

Work should be done for its development



Raipur, Feb 04: State Forest and Climate Change Minister Mohammad Akbar participated in the program organised on World Wetlands Day at Aranya Bhawan, Nava Raipur. Addressing the program, he said that wetlands are considered very suitable for ecological and healthy environment. According to the intention of the Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel in the state, action is going on for the development of wetlands by preparing an action plan in a phased manner. On this occasion, Forest and Climate Change Minister Akbar laid special emphasis on identifying wetlands in

Chhattisgarh and working fast for their development. Along with this, he said that there should be a special initiative to quickly list the wetlands in the state after survey and to declare important wetlands as Ramsar sites. The program was also addressed by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Mr. Rakesh Chaturvedi and Chief of Forest Force Mr. Sanjay Shukla, Chairman State Biodiversity Board Mr. Rakesh Chaturvedi and Member Secretary of State Wetland Authority Mr. Arun Pandey. During this, Forest Minister Mr. Akbar also released the

published booklet 'Prosecution in wildlife crime cases' based on the article of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Mr. Arun Pandey. It may be noted that Chhattisgarh has a total of 35,534 wetlands, out of which there are 7711 wetlands with an area of more than 2.25 hectares and 27,823 wetlands with an area of less than 2.25 hectares. The area of all these wetlands is 3,37,966 hectares, which is 2.5 percent of the geographical area of the state. Among these, Janjgir-Champa district has 6.78 percent, Dhamtari district

6.65 percent, Durg district 3.55 percent, Raipur district 3.53 percent and Mahasamund district 3.52 percent of the total geographical area of the state as wetlands. During this, detailed information was given regarding the action plan for the coordinated development of wetlands available in the state. In view of the habitat development of the migratory and local birds coming to the wetlands located in the state, a survey is being conducted regarding the migratory birds and local birds coming to the 27 wetlands located in the state of Chhattisgarh. After the survey, an action plan is being prepared for their conservation, promotion and preparation of natural habitat and to make them aware for bird tourism.

State level IRAD review meeting concludes

Raipur, Feb 04: The IRAD (Integrated Road Accident Database) project is an initiative of the Ministry of Police, Road Transport and Highways, Government of India and is funded by the World Bank, aimed at improving road safety in the country. NIC and IIT Madras are jointly entrusted with the research and analysis activities as well as design, development, training and implementation of the IRAD project. In Chhattisgarh, this project has started operation and IRAD app training from 1 July 2021 in the entire district. There is a single unit platform for all the departments associated with IRAD, in which accident information is easily obtained. The Union Ministry of Road



Transport and Highways (MORTH) in collaboration with National Informatics Center (NIC) and IIT Madras has launched IRAD (Integrated Road Accident Database) Mobile App and Web Application. The data uploaded on this application will be very useful for future action plans of road safety through the concerned departments (police, transport, highway and health). There is a possibility of reduction in accidents by

taking necessary corrective measures after knowing the exact causes of accidents on various roads of the state. IRAD's year 2022 was reviewed on February 1. The meeting was coordinated by Pradeep Gupta (ADG, Raipur), IRAD Project Nodal Officer Mr. Sanjay Sharma (AIG Traffic, Raipur), Mr. Saransh Shirke (State Rollout Manager, Raipur). State nodal officers of all departments and district roll out managers of all dis-

tricts were also present in this session. ADGP Traffic Mr. Pradeep Gupta ordered the police officers to use this app only to fill the information about the accident, but it can be used for some new thinking which can help in reducing the accident and it was also told that the accident is only due to high speed. The vehicle does not move, the investigators who go to the site and collect the actual information. In this session, information was given about collecting various types of information related to road accidents through the app and maintaining its quality, as well as it was also told that the Transport, Highway and Health Department should be informed about the causes of road accidents.

Shankaracharya College shine in inter-college cricket



Raipur, Feb 04: Finals of Inter College Cricket were held at Shankaracharya College Raipur. It was organised by Chhattisgarh Swami Vivekanand Technical University (CSVTU). The final match was played between the teams of BIT, Durg and Shankaracharya College (SSIPMT). Shankaracharya won the match by 8 wickets by defeating BIT Durg. Top performers in finals from SSIPMT were Anutosh Pandey (highest

Five students selected in varsity team. wicket taker 04 wickets), Abhinav Saxena (highest run scorer 52 runs) and Vipul Barik (allrounder 35 runs and 02 wickets). The trials for CSVTU University Cricket team was held after the Inter College Finals and 05 players from SSIPMT were selected to represent CSVTU in All India Inter University Cricket Tournament to be held in Bhubneshwar from 17-23 February. Sports Officer (SSIPMT) MM Beg informed that for the first time 5 players from SSIPMT Raipur were selected for the varsity team.

Legion of honour by DPS Raipur to encourage pre-school kids

Raipur, Feb 04: The utopian idea of holding Graduation Ceremony for the kindergarten kids entering the first level of school life is a novelty manoeuvre by Delhi Public School, Raipur to acknowledge their perceptive march towards sound credence of knowledge in the years to come. This prestigious event, therefore, is held every year which is an opportunity for toddlers to learn to hold a stage show right from peeparing to dance recitals and yoga portrayals. On 1st February, 2023, parents and guardians as invites gathered to witness their tiny tots unfolding their sojourn of learning with Dr. Bhawna Sirohi, Medical Director and Sr. Medical Oncologist of Balco, Raipur who presided over as the Chief Guest. She was courteously introduced and felicitated with a memento by the Principal, Raghunath Mukherjee. He, further extended his warm welcome to the parents, intimated them about the vi-



sion of the school stressing on the significant role a parent should play in motivating and responding to their child's needs. As if words wouldn't be enough, a graceful welcome dance recital along with floral felicitation to the distinguished guests earmarked the event's exciting commencement after the lighting of the auspicious lamp. Proceeding further, the preschool kids, exquisitely clad in ethnic as well as contemporary dresses,

mesmerized the audience with their cultural cavalcade kicking off from Bhakti dance to classical dance 'Mohiniyattam' and punjabi folk dance, 'Gidda.' Adding flavour to this panoramic pot pourri was 'Howdy Cowboy,' another engrossing dance portraying American culture. Then unfolded some hilarious 'Clown dance' followed by maestros playing and singing their way into the hearts of the audience. Not to be precluded, the Yoga perform-

ers exhibited their belief in 'precaution is better than cure.' Finally, exuding further strength of character and dedication in showcasing their acuity so far, the children then climbed on to the dais to be conferred with Certificates of Graduation in their graduation attire complete with gown and head-gear. Congratulating the parents and the primary graduates, the Chief Guest was all in praise of the pristine ingenuity she

got to see. "Such convocations and immaculate performances are rare to come by," said she wishing the school unprecedented success in the years to come. Accepting the greetings gracefully, Head mistress R. Bhawani thanked the audience for their unstinted support and enthusiasm saying, "Graduation is an exciting time. It is both, ending and a beginning. It is warm memories of the past and big dreams for the future. So it's a time to

thank all the parents and teachers in training the kids to master multifarious activities which will go a long way in nurturing their personality and communication skills." Finally, wishing them luck to continue their education in the main stream of the school with the same zeal and zest, Pro Vice Chairman Mr. Baldeo Singh Bhatia, Mr. Vijay Shah and Mr. Pukhraj Jain, also sprinkled their love and adoration.

Work seriously to eradicate malnutrition: Collector

Peanut-jaggery 'laddus' to be provided in Anganwadis

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Feb 04: District Collector Sanjeev Jha here held a review meeting of Women and Child Development Department and Health Department in the Collectorate Assembly Hall and inquired about the status of malnourished and anemic women and children in the district and instructed to eradicate malnutrition.



The Collector also inquired about various activities being conducted to free women and children from malnutrition and instructed the officers and employees present in the meeting to work seriously to free women and children from anaemia, promote institutional delivery and to provide green-fresh vegetables, peanut-jaggery laddus and blood-iron folic acid pills to remove iron deficiency through

Anganwadis. Instructions were also given to prepare an action plan to supply nutritious vegetables produced in Gothans in the concerned Anganwadis. Along with this, instructions were given to do seriously the

work of getting rid of malnutrition by enrolling severely malnourished children in NRC.

The Collector instructed the officers of the Women and Child Development Department to issue show cause notices to Pali CDPO Deepthi Patel for indifference in sorting severely malnourished children in the district. In the meeting, Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. SN Kesari, Program Officer, Women and Child Development Department, Preeti Khokhar Chakhyar along with block medical officers and project officers were present.

CRPF 65th Battalion distributes blankets

Under civic action program

Central Chronicle News

Mandir-Hasaud, Feb 04: Central Reserve Police Force 65th Battalion located at Tulsi Baradera near capital Raipur distributed blankets to the needy as part of Civic action program which was inaugurated in the presence of Vijay Kumar Singh Commandant 65th Battalion, in which villagers from rural areas and children from tribal hostels participated.

On this occasion, blankets, sarees, mosquito nets and 'lungi', 'gamcha', food items and other honors were distributed to rural women, men and children. Along with this, sports material and blankets were distributed to the students of Primary School Sindaula.



Force with the local people.

Apart from this, the Corps Commandant informed that programs such as these are helpful in establishing a better relationship between the Central Reserve Police Force and the local public on the one hand. The main goal of the organizer of the Civic Action Program is to end the Naxalite activities in the area and maintain peace and law and order with the help of the local people. Commandant Javed Ali, Assistant Commandant and other jawans of Additional Reserve Police Force were also present.

On this occasion, Vijay Kumar Singh, Commandant, 65th Corps informed about the activities being carried out by Naxalites, encouraged the villagers to lead a fear-free life, and also discussed the achievements of the Central Reserve Police

Force with the local people. Apart from this, the Corps Commandant informed that programs such as these are helpful in establishing a better relationship between the Central Reserve Police Force and the local public on the one hand. The main goal of the organizer of the Civic Action Program is to end the Naxalite activities in the area and maintain peace and law and order with the help of the local people. Commandant Javed Ali, Assistant Commandant and other jawans of Additional Reserve Police Force were also present.

BJP-Congress face-to-face regarding unemployment allowance

Central Chronicle News

Balod, Feb 04: After Chhattisgarh's CM Bhupesh Baghel led government has announced unemployment allowance for the youths, after which BJP and Congress leaders are continuously making counter statements in Balod district.



Krishna Kant Pawar



Chandresh Hirwani

While the Congress has described it as a special help and golden opportunity for the unemployed youth, the BJP has chosen to condemn it. Senior Congress leader of the district Chandresh Hirwani said that whatever promises were made by the Congress government, it is fulfilling them one by one.

It takes time to fulfill any promise as it needs a better action plan and to bring it on the ground and for this, a deep study has to be done on how to make a project and every scheme should reach the public. While Bharatiya Janata Party's District President Krishna Kant Pawar said that the government has just talked about giving unemployment allowance, but they should first give the money of the last 4 years to the unemployed at the rate of Rs 25, while it is possible that

130000 rupees will be given to almost each unemployed, which he said the government has not clarified till now. He further said that the people of Chhattisgarh are very intelligent and they should understand these things and should be no longer be misled by the government and whatever decision the government is taking is just an election propaganda.

Awareness created among students about 'Abhivyakti' App

And also about Child Helpline No. and 'Hamar Beti-Humar Maan'

Central Chronicle News

Bemetara, Feb 04: According to the intention of the Chief Minister, under the direction of SP Bemetara I. Kalyan Alicela (LPS) and Adtl. SP Bemetara Pankaj Patel, under the 'Abhivyakti' App and 'Hamar Beti Humar Maan' for the safety of women and daughters and under the guidance of SDO P Berla Tejram Patel, Bemetara Police is widely promoting about the women's safety App and child helpline number 1800-123-6010 through "Hamar Beti Humar Maan" in Bemetara district.



In this context on Jan 31, it was in the presence of principal / teachers / teachers awareness was created among the students by giving detailed information regarding "Abhivyakti" women safety app, child helpline number by constable Nemsingh Rajput, constable Nemsingh Rajput, female head constable Varsha Chaubey team at Swami Atmanand Government Shivali Rathi English Medium School

(SAGSREMS) Bemetara, coming under Police Station City Kotwali Bemetara area. Under "Humar Beti Humar Maan", students are taught about 'good touch and bad touch', 'self-defense', crimes against women and crimes related to mobile and their prevention and prevention and causes of sexual exploitation of women and girls.

Important information was shared to prevent cyber crimes. And by giving information about child helpline number 1800-123-6010 by any citizen, it was informed about its use. The students were also informed about de-addiction that apart from physical

problems, it also causes harm at socio-economic level.

Children were also told about the resolve not to take drugs and its side effects and were informed about traffic rules and other legal information. Along with this, the students were asked to always follow traffic rules and do not drive without license and they were encouraged to wear helmets.

On this occasion, Swami Atmanand Government Shivali Rathi English Medium School, Bemetara's Principal Sudeha Chatterjee, teachers Nitin Agarwal, Avinash Yadav, Utkarsh Rolla, Ishant Kumar, Arun Pal and other teachers and students were present.

Delay in disposal of revenue cases will not tolerated, says Collector

Collector warns in the time-limit meeting

Central Chronicle News

Jagdulpur, Feb 04: Collector Chandan Kumar, warning of strict action in any kind of delay in disposal of revenue cases, said that applications for land diversion, building permission, lease renewal, renaming, account division, demarcation should be disposed of within the stipulated time. In the time-limit meeting held in the Prerna Room of the office, he directed to complete the target of revenue recovery along with quick disposal of all the pending revenue cases.



Reviewing the progress of social status certificate section-wise and tehsil-wise, he also emphasized on online entry in the portal. District level officers of various departments including District Panchayat

CEO Prakash Sarve, DFO DP Sahu, Adtl. Collector Hareesh Mandavi were present in the meeting. According to the decision taken in the meeting of the Indravati Basin Development Authority held under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister, work for water conservation in the Indravati river and its tributaries should be done under Narva development, and instructed to plant more and more trees on the banks of rivers and drains. While preparing for the tree plantation work in

the month of March, he gave instructions to start the work of digging the pit. Reviewing the renovation of Devgudiya in the meeting, instructions were given to complete the approved development works from the departmental head, DMFT head and Bastar Development Authority head. He also gave instructions to compulsorily plant trees in the Devgudi campus. During this, while reviewing the development works, he instructed to increase the pace of works approved under Jal Jeevan

19 lakh worth water ATMs out of order

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Feb 04: Two water ATMs installed in the city at a huge cost of Rs 19 lakh has fallen prey to departmental apathy and is shut down since the last one year. Common citizens are not getting pure drinking water due to closure of these water ATMs and even after fixing the responsibility of maintenance, the general public is being deprived of pure drinking water by the company due to deficiency in service.



Nagpur and the testing of mineral and TDS present in the water of the center established and the physical verification of the quality of water has not been done. The company has demanded the maintenance amount from the municipality by presenting a bill of about Rs. 7 lakhs. In this regard, Municipal President Hemendra Goswami said that the company should operate the water ATM regularly as per the agreement and appropriate action will be taken in this regard after taking information from the authorities.

Citizens have demanded that the closed water ATMs should be restarted and as per information in view of the availability of pure drinking water in the busiest areas of the city, 2 nos. water ATMs were installed by the then state government for the purpose of providing filtered water to the people at a nominal rate. The first was installed in new bus stand and the second in wholesale vegetable market, to make pure water made available to the people coming and going in these busiest areas. The responsibility of complete maintenance of the ATMs are of Right Water Solution Pvt Ltd

What officer says
"The water ATM will be restarted after taking information from the officials."
(Anubhav Singh, Chief Municipal Officer, Mungeli).

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank	Branch: Kodri (C.G)
APPENDIX-IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties	
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002	
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical/constructive/Symbolic (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Kodri Branch, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "What ever there is" on 15.03.2023 for recovery of Rs. 37,93,801/- (Rupees Thirty Seven Lakhs Ninety Three Thousand Eight Hundred One Only) as on 05/01/2023 plus interest and other expenses thereon due to the Indian Bank, Kodri Branch, Secured Creditor, from Borrower- Mr. Neeraj Kumar Sahu, Vill- Amadand, PO- Amadand, Tehsil- Pendra Road, Dist- Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi and Guarantor- Mrs. Neetu Gupta W/o- Mr. Deepak Gupta, Rajiv Vihar, Lingiyadh, Post- Sarkanda, Dist- Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh	
The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:	
Detailed Description of the Property:-	
All that Part and Parcel of Diverted land situated at Khasra No. 690/9, Diverted Land No. 21/5, Plot No. 455, Ward No. 16, Indira Colony area, P.H. No. 22 (New PH No. 34), RNM- Bilaspur, Block- Bliha, Teh & Dist: Bilaspur, Area 2080 Sq.ft. in the name of Smt Nitu Gupta W/o Mr. Deepak Kumar Gupta. Boundaries: North: House of Anthony, South: Gali, East: Gali, West: Bhawesh Sharma land	
Encumbrances on property	Not Known to Bank
Reserve Price	Rs. 31,00,000/-
EMD Amount	Rs. 3,10,000/-
Bid incremental amount	Rs 10,000.00/-
Date and Time of E-auction	15/03/2023, Time- 11.00 AM to 04:00 PM
Property ID No.	IDIB30093471875
Bidders are advised to visit the website (www.mstcecommerce.com) of our e auction service provider MSTC Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPDESK No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with MSTC Ltd, please contact ibapiop@mstcecommerce.com and for EMD status please contact ibafin@mstcecommerce.com .	
For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: https://ibapi.in and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact help line number 18001025026 and 011-41106131.	
Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://ibapi.in and www.mstcecommerce.com .	
Date: 05.02.2023, Place : Kodri Authorised Officer, Indian Bank	

CM honoured the farmers who donated paddy stubble

In the Kisan Annadata Sammelan

Central Chronicle News

Rajnandgaon, Feb 04: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel praised the farmers who donated at Vishal Kisan Annadata Sammelan held in Rajnandgaon development block village Bharregaoan. According to the Chief Minister, the farmers of the state have donated more than 15 lakh quintals of Paddy stubble in Gauthan in response to the Pairadan appeal.



In addition, 12,230 farmers in this area have done commendable work by donating approximately 95 thousand 680 quintals of paddy stubble to 414 Gauthans. This also works for the arrangement of fodder for the cattle. In addition to this,

Chief Minister appreciated the farmers who donated paddy stubble by honoring them. Meanwhile, during the kisan sammelan, Mr. Sanjay Chandrakar, Baldaou Vaishnav, Lachchu Chandrakar, Sanjay Jha, Subhash Nirmalkar, Bhagwat

Verma, Yugal Sinha, Rajesh Chandrakar, Gajadhar Sahu, Mahendra Chandrakar, Durgeshwar Sahu, Manish Sahu, Sushil Thakur, Sukhit Dewangan, Chowaram Sahu, Babulal Lodhi, Umashankar Lodhi, Shatruhan Verma,

Kamlesh Verma, Motilal Verma, Gulshan Verma, Champalal Chandrakar, Praveen Chandrakar, Tamradhwaj Sahu, Narad Sahu, Jeevan Lal Sahu, Sugreev Sahu, Mahesh Diwakar, Ishwar Thakur, Rajesh Sahu, Kuldeep Sahu, Yuvraj Yadav, Ishwar Kumar, Santosh Thakur, Jitendra Patel, Biselal Sahu, Suryakant Gupta, Tokesh Chandrakar, Abhishek Chandrakar, Jeevan Sahu, Devsharan Verma, Dilip Netam, Bisamber Sahu, Madan Sahu, Hindurao Sahu, Rajendra Sahu, and women of Rashtriya Ekta Mahila Samuh were felicitated.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank	Champa Branch, Dist- Janjgir-Champa (C.G.)
NOTICE U/S 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002	
Borrower's & Guarantor's Name & Address	Type
Mr Riyaz Ali S/O Niyamat Ali, LIG- 2nd Floor, 6/E Housing Board Colony, Khamora, Korba, Chhattisgarh-495677	HOUSING LOAN/IMPROVEMENT LOAN
	Limit
	₹ 8,89,000.00/-
	Total Dues
	₹ 7,16,767.77
	as on 15.01.2023
	NPA Dt. 29.11.2022
	Demand Notice Dt. 02.02.2023
	Details of Mortgaged Property
	EMT of Residential House situated at House No LIG-6/E (2nd Floor) in 192 Nos (S+3), Khasra No 296/1, Deen Dayal Awasth Yojana Khamora within the limits of Korba, Tahsil & District - Korba, Chattisgarh
	Area : 477 Sq Ft (44.33 Sq Mt)
	Boundary : North: LIG-06/F, South: LIG-05/F, East: Road, West: LIG-05/G.
The Borrower mentioned above has availed total credit facilities as mentioned above from CANARA BANK and the mentioned Guarantors provided guarantee and secured by way of mortgaged of above mentioned property. The borrower failed to adhere to terms and conditions of sanction. The account became irregular and classified as NPA as mentioned above as per RBI guidelines. The Bank intends to enforce the said property mortgaged by you and issued Demand Notice as mentioned above for recovery of outstanding amount as mentioned above with interest and expenses thereon under registered post with acknowledgment due which were not served to the borrowers and guarantors. Hence this publication issued. Hereby Borrower/Guarantor are called upon to pay the amount mentioned above with rate of interest (Contractual Rate), costs, charges etc., thereon within 60 Days from the date of publication failing which the undersigned will be constrained to initiate action against mortgaged property under section 13(4) and the provision of said Act to realize our Bank's dues. Your attention is invited to provisions of the Sec (8) of Sec (13) of the act in respect of time available to you to redeem the secured assets.	
Date: 04.02.2023 Place: Champa (CG) Authorised officer / CANARA BANK	

BRIEF



A sports person performs yoga during the 'Kare Yog-Rahe Nirog' programme, in Gomtinagar area of Lucknow, Saturday.

Bail

Bhopal: A special court on Saturday granted bail to Congress Rajya Sabha member Digvijaya Singh in a defamation case filed by a BJP leader whom he had accused of being involved in the Vyapam scam that rocked Madhya Pradesh in 2013. The court dealing with cases against MPs and MLAs granted relief to the Congress leader in the defamation case filed in 2014, said Singh's lawyer Ajay Gupta told PTI. Singh had been asked to appear in the court.

Oppose

Amritsar: The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee has strongly opposed any move to introduce ballistic helmets for Sikh soldiers. A delegation of the SGPC, the apex religious body of the Sikhs, met the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) chief to discuss the issue. The SGPC delegation said no interference in the matter of Sikh identity will be tolerated. Therefore, under no circumstances the helmets can be accepted on Sikh soldiers, they said.

Lifer

Latur: A court in Maharashtra's Latur district sentenced a man to life imprisonment for beating to death a labourer working in his farm. The court of judge R B Rate on Friday found the accused Nitin Mahadev Sugave guilty of charges under section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code. The man was sentenced to life imprisonment and a fine of Rs 1,000 was imposed on him.

Arrested

Idukki: Malayalam actor Baburaj has been arrested in a case of cheating in 2021, police said on Saturday. The actor appeared before the police here as was ordered by the Kerala High Court. "His arrest was recorded as per the High Court's direction. He was later produced before a local court here and he got bail," the police told PTI.

Training

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday flagged off a batch of nine undergraduate students from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST)-Jammu on an exposure-cum-training programme to Kansas State University, USA.

Cong for Kejriwal's resignation after ED charge sheet

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI)

The Congress on Saturday demanded that Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal should resign as it said he has no moral right to be in office as the Enforcement Directorate has 'clearly indicted' him in the excise scam.

Congress leader and former Union minister Ajay Maken said a Rs 100 crore kickback has been established against Kejriwal and his ministers in the scam, and a PMLA court took cognisance of the charge sheet on Thursday and allowed that charges be framed against all the accused.

"The Indian National Congress demands the immediate resignation of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, along with the indicted ministers Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain," Maken told reporters here, adding that they have no moral right to continue in office.

He said the money trail has also been mentioned in the charge sheet, leading to advertisements in Goa elections and cash payments to volunteers to carry out surveys.

Maken said a DANICS officer has claimed that the GOM report for a 12 per cent margin for wholesalers of liquor trade was handed over to him at Kejriwal's residence, where Sisodia and Jain were also present.

It is alleged that this report was handed over to him without any discussions, he claimed.

"From this 12 per cent margin to the wholesalers, 6 per cent is alleged to be paid back as a kickback," Maken claimed.

He also alleged that the concessions by the Kejriwal government to liquor traders further caused loss to the exchequer, which include Rs 144.36 crore waived off from liquor license fee on account of COVID-19.

Besides, he said Rs 30 crore EMD (earnest money deposit) for Airport L-1 was returned and margin of profits increased from 5 to 12 per cent. Still a 10 per cent enhancement from the license was not charged, he said. The former Delhi Congress chief also said, "Delhi asks Kejriwal... Where is Lokpal?"

Maken said one sees a 'Kejriwal versus Delhi L-G' every day in special sessions of the Delhi Legislative Assembly, in courts, on streets, and on trivial issues.

"But have we ever seen Kejriwal or the AAP protesting for Lokpal? In 2014, Kejriwal asked for the dissolution of the Delhi Assembly in favour of passing the Lokpal Bill. Where is that Bill now?" he asked.

"The government has ensured that even a weak Lokayukta is non-functional in Delhi," the Congress leader alleged.

He claimed that despite being approved by the Lieutenant Governor, annual reports of the Lokayukta have not been tabled in the House since 2017-18.

Despite being approved by the L-G, the Lokayukta faces huge constraints of manpower and functionaries, Maken said, adding that the key post of Director of Investigation in the office of Lokayukta has not been filled.

"Ever since Kejriwal came to power, the Lokayukta, in its reports,

has been flagging various debilitating constraints being faced by it in terms of its independence, lack of powers, compromised financial autonomy, or non-availability of any machinery for conducting investigations, but all in vain," he told media.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has claimed, in its supplementary charge sheet, filed in the court that a part of the alleged Rs 100 crore "kickbacks" generated in the scrapped Delhi excise policy was used in the AAP's 2022 Goa assembly election campaign.

It has also claimed that a close aide of the Delhi chief minister arranged a video call through FaceTime (a video calling facility on iPhone) on his phone for one of the accused Sameer Mahandru.

In the call, Kejriwal told Mahandru that the aide is "his boy" and he should trust him and carry on with him, the ED has claimed.

Kejriwal has dismissed the charge sheet, alleging that cases filed by the agency are "fake" and are used to "topple" governments and buy MLAs at the behest of the Centre.

AAP to contest all seats in MP Assembly elections

● Says BJP and Cong play 'destructive politics' for power

Bhopal, Feb 04 (PTI)

The AAP will contest all 230 seats in Madhya Pradesh Assembly polls, due later this year, a party office-bearer said on Saturday indicating the Arvind Kejriwal-led party will pitch the Delhi model of governance to target the BJP and opposition Congress and accused them of playing "destructive politics".

AAP organisational general secretary Sandeep Pathak cited the performance of the party in recent local bodies polls in MP and said it will form the next government.

"We will field candidates in all the Assembly constituencies and with all our might fight elections," Pathak told reporters here.

The 2018 Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh led to a hung assembly, with the Congress emerging as the largest party with 114 seats in the 230-member House, but failing to win a majority. The BJP had won 109 seats.

The Congress later formed a coalition government under Kamal Nath. However, the dispensation collapsed in March 2020 after several MLAs of Congress defected to BJP, paving the way for the saffron party to return to power.

Asked whether the time was too short for the AAP to brace up and spread its footprint in MP given the Kejriwal-led party currently doesn't have an executive committee after it was dissolved recently, he said the committee will be formed soon.

"As the number of our leaders and workers has grown manifold in MP, we

dissolved our state executive committee to expand it and add new faces," the AAP leader said while announcing the launch of a membership drive for the party in MP.

"People fight elections. Our party has grown stronger by leaps and bounds which was seen when we won a mayoral election during civic polls in MP last year. At many places our corporators came out with flying colours," he claimed.

The local bodies' elections have sent out a loud and clear message to both the parties (BJP and opposition Congress).

"We are going to form the next government in MP. We have 2,000 to 2,500 corporators in the country," he said.

The Rajya Sabha MP also said the "destructive and dirty politics" was giving way to the "constructive politics" in India with the emergence

'Technology can help achieve goal of ease of living'

Lucknow, Feb 04 (PTI)

Technology can help in achieving not only the goal of ease of doing business but also ease of living, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Saturday.

He was speaking at the inauguration of a VFS Global Visa Application Centre here.

With the launch of this centre, the facility to complete the visa application process for 10 countries — Austria, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal, Germany, Italy and Saudi Arabia — will be available in Lucknow. "The inaugura-



Yogi Adityanath

tion of the VFS centre in Lucknow a week before the Global Investors Summit is an opportunity not only for the residents of Lucknow but also for the people of Uttar Pradesh," Adityanath said. With the launch of this centre, applying for visas to 10 countries will become

much easier for the residents of the state, he said.

"By using technology in today's time, we can achieve the goal of not only ease of doing business but also ease of living. If a little effort is made in this direction, the goals can be achieved," he added.

This centre has the capacity to handle more than 1.20 lakh visa applications every year. "I have also been informed that VFS Global, in collaboration with the Indian Hotels Company Limited, will train the youth of the state in hospitality services as per the skill development programme of the state government," the chief minister said.

Blood stains found on tube seized from accused's home

Mumbai, Feb 04 (PTI)

Blood stains have been found on a floating tube seized from the residence of a lifeguard accused of killing 22-year-old MBBS student Sadichha Sane, a Mumbai police official said on Saturday.

Sane, a third-year MBBS student, had gone missing in November 2021 and lifeguard Mittu Singh was held last month along with one more person.

MBBS STUDENT'S MURDER

As per police, Sane died after falling on the rocks at Bandra Bandstand during a tussle with Singh, who then took a floating tube and dragged her body into the sea before returning.

The probe team, during panchama, seized the floating tube from Singh's residence as well as the clothes worn by him on the night of the incident, the official

said. Blood stains from the injury on Sane's forehead sustained during her fall on the rocks, have been found on the floating tube and this could be strong evidence to nail the accused, he said.

The blood stains will be matched with that of Sane's kin for identification and other details as part of the probe, the official added.

CONVOCATION CEREMONY



A student of Adamas University receives degree from Nobel Laureate Prof. Ada E. Yonath, a Crystallographer from Israel, in North 24 Parganas, Saturday.

Union Minister Sonowal inaugurates Oil jetty No. 7

● At Juna Kandla

Kandla, Jan 04:

Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, Government of India, inaugurated & laid foundation stone for various capacity enhancement projects of Deendayal Port Authority, Kandla on 23-01-2023 at 11:30 AM virtually, from Kaziranga, Assam. In the august presence of Shripad Naik, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Tourism (Virtually); Shantanu Thakur, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways (Virtually); along with physical presence of Vinodbhai Chavda, MP - Kachchh; Maitiben Maheshwari, MLA - Gandhidham and distinguished guests. The Union Minister inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various capacity



enhancement projects of Deendayal Port Authority, Kandla: Deendayal Port has developed this oil jetty which will enhance the liquid handling capacity of mainly edible oil, and fulfil the requirement of future projection. The proposed Oil jetty project, is envisaged for Capacity Augmentation for handling liquid cargo at Deendayal Port, which is a long pending request of Port users and call of an hour. The project shall enhance the liquid cargo

handling capacity at Kandla by 2.00 MMTPA, thereby reducing the waiting period (pre-berthing detention time) of vessels and higher-level functioning of existing Port & Private assets, connected to liquid cargo handling business. Since, individual ships will be berthed for much less time, more number of ships will be handled increasing the cargo throughput. Reduction in turn-around time will benefit both shipping companies as well as port users.

MATRIMONIAL

कायस्थ

वधु चाहिये

वधु चाहिये- कायस्थ- 32/ 5' 5", शिक्षा-एमबीए, असिस्टेंट मैनेजर (प्रा. जाँब) के लिये सुन्दर, सुशील व गृह कार्य में दक्ष वधु चाहिये. संपर्क करें- मो.- 9835484418. (251098)

मैरिज ब्यूरो

जुड़ेंगे रिश्ते-जुड़ेंगे संबंध-सफल दो परिवार का मिलन, सभी आयु, जाति, विधवा/विधुर/अविवाहित/ तलाक़शुदा-जीवनसाथी हेतु-विवरण, फोटो क्लरसुपर के बाद फोन करें-सार्थक एजेंसी-07587936914.

मुस्लिम

वधु चाहिये

मुस्लिम वधु चाहिए- दूटि बाधित, 30 वर्षीय 5'4" बी.ए. द्वितीय वर्ष, 2बहन, निवासी-सक्ती (छ.गं) युवक हेतु मुस्लिम समाज की योग्य युवती चाहिए छत्तीसगढ़ निवासी संपर्क करें-7999784360, 424145196. (NB54347)

सामान्य

वधु चाहिये

Urgent Required Suitable Bride below 37yr. for Bengali Kayastha Boy 5' 5" 74 born. Own business Raipur. B.Sc, Dip. Mech. Engineer Cast No Bar, Hindu. Mob.No.- 8770346757, 6265246266. (54337)

बंगाली

वधु चाहिये

वधु चाहिए- बंगाली ब्राह्मण युवक 27 वर्ष 5'7" एम.ए. इंग्लिश, बी.एड, बी.ई. सिविल हेतु वधु चाहिए जाति बंधन नहीं स्वयं का मकान 8 एकड़ कुपि भूमि, गृहकार्य में दक्ष कन्या चाहिए, बिलासपुर, कोरबा एवं रायपुर वालों को प्राथमिकता संपर्क- 103169962, 7805909181 (54348)

वर चाहिये

वधु 54, उचाई 5'2", एम.कॉम, स्वयं का बिजनेस 10 लाख रूपए वार्षिक आय, 12 एकड़ खेती, मान्य विधुर घटस्फोटित तथा घर जवाब मान्य, घर, गाड़ी स्वयं की जाति व शिक्षण की अट नहीं. संपर्क करें-मो.- 7758031866, 9503597649.

वर चाहिये-वधु 30 वर्ष, ब्राह्मण घटस्फोटित शिक्षण बी.कॉम प्राइवेट जाँब जैलरी 38,000, स्वयं का घर / खेती अंतरजातिय लन चाहिये. मो.-7249614280. डी. 7219652260-आर.

वर चाहिये-वधु 49, शिक्षण बी.ए.एस. सी. गवर्नमेंट जाँब सैलरी 58000, मिस्टर पेशान 25,000 स्वयं का घर/ खेती अंतरजातिय लन/ रिलेशनशिप चाहिये. मो.- 7058823571, 9172892449.

नावभारत मैट्रीमोनियल

जोड़ीयां स्वर्ग में बनाई जाती है... अब इनको तुंहना और भी आसान नवभारत मैट्रीमोनियल के साथ...

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High-altitude spying marks new low for US-China ties

Washington, Feb 04:

Even before America's top diplomat Anthony Blinken postponed his visit to Beijing, the US-China relationship was at an all-time low.

Just how low became painfully evident when a day before his departure, an apparent Chinese spy balloon over the state of Montana roiled the tensions he was trying to address. Eventually, the Chinese foreign ministry claimed the unmanned airship was used for weather research and had blown off course. The accompanying expression of regret suggested Beijing did not want the incident to mar the secretary of state's visit - the first of its kind in five years. But the damage was done. Hours after China's apology, the US State Department called off the trip.

Given how wide the rift has become, the fact that the trip was happening in the first place had been cause for celebration. But now what remains is a sense of huge missed opportunity. All along, US officials had made clear that this was not about breakthroughs. It was about talking. Mr Blinken wants to "avoid competition veering into conflict". "One of the ways you do that is making sure that you actually have good lines of communication," he said in a speech last month, calling for "putting some guardrails into the relationship." That means restoring regular



contacts and establishing working norms. "I think the goal [was] to basically fast-forward this Cold War to its détente phase, thereby skipping a Cuban Missile Crisis," says Jude Blanchette, a China expert at the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies. It hasn't been an easy ride for the world's two biggest economies. A Trump-era trade war, tensions over Taiwan and an increasingly assertive China under Xi

Jinping derailed the relationship in recent years. And it plummeted further as China refused to condemn Russia over its invasion of Ukraine.

Then came a meeting between Presidents Joe Biden and Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G20 summit in November. The two leaders expressed the desire to avoid conflict and reduced the heat of their rhetoric. And Mr Blinken wanted to build on that. Even before the balloon

went up, the shift was one of tone, more than substance. The Americans have continued to press ahead with the economic restrictions and military expansion in the region, angering Beijing. In the past week, Japan and the Netherlands were reported to have reached an agreement with Washington to restrict exports of advanced chip manufacturing equipment to China. This would be only the latest step by the US to limit Beijing's access to sensitive semiconductor technology, cutting it out of microchip supply chains.

"This shows the US has taken a much harder line on tech transfer, trying to get key allies on board," says Chris Miller, a professor of international history who wrote a book about US-China tensions over chip technology.

Another Chinese surveillance balloon transiting Latin America: Pentagon

Washington, Feb 04 (PTI): A second Chinese spy balloon has been spotted, this time in the skies over Latin America, the Pentagon has said, a day after another one of the size of three buses and carrying a "large" payload was seen in US skies that prompted US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to postpone his planned visit to China.

"We are seeing reports of a balloon transiting Latin

America. We now assess it as another Chinese surveillance balloon. We have no further information to provide at this time," Pentagon Press Secretary Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder said on Friday. It is unclear exactly which country in the region the balloon is hovering over but it does not appear as if it is headed towards the United States, according to CNN. The detection of the Chinese sur-

veillance balloon transiting Latin America comes a day after the Pentagon announced that a Chinese surveillance balloon within its territory was flying over Montana, leading to Blinken postponing his planned trip to Beijing. Montana, a sparsely populated state, is home to one of only three nuclear missile silo fields in the US, at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

NASA-ISRO SYNTHETIC APERTURE RADAR



Officials and delegates look at the scientific core of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. The satellite, a joint mission between NASA and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is expected to launch in 2024.

Sri Lanka must correct its 'errors and failures': Wickremesinghe

Colombo, Feb 04 (PTI):

Sri Lanka needs to rectify its "errors and failures" and review its strengths and gains as a nation, President Ranil Wickremesinghe said on Saturday, as the country marked its 75th anniversary of independence at a critical time when it is reeling under an unprecedented economic crisis.

The main Independence Day event was attended by foreign dignitaries, including India's Minister of State for External Affairs V Muralidharan.

Wickremesinghe presided over the ceremony which featured a military parade with a 21-gun salute. The celebrations happened despite criticism from Opposition groups who claimed the events costing Rupees 200 million were a waste as the island nation continues to grip in its worst economic crisis since gaining independence. In his message, Wickremesinghe said: "Our 75th anniversary of independence from colonial rule is being observed during an extremely critical and challenging time in the country". "However it presents an opportunity for us not only to review our strengths



Sri Lankan president Ranil Wickremesinghe greets school children as airforce commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana, background left, and police chief Chandana Wickremaratne, right, watch during the 75th Independence Day ceremony in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Saturday, Feb. 4. Sri Lanka marks the anniversary of independence from British colonial rule on Feb. 4 each year.

and gains as a nation but also to rectify our errors and failures," he said.

During mid-2022 Sri Lanka faced the worst economic crisis since independence which led to months-long public protests leading to a political crisis. Shortages of essentials due to the forex crisis forced people onto the streets demanding the resignation of the then president Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Last year in April, Sri Lanka declared its first-ever debt default in its his-

tory. Muralidharan said he was happy to represent India at "friendly neighbour" Sri Lanka's 75th Independence Day celebrations.

"This milestone coincides with 75 years of establishment of diplomatic rela-

tions between both countries. India is always a dependable partner and a reliable friend of Sri Lanka," he tweeted.

Last year, India extended USD 3.9 billion in support to Sri Lanka to deal with the economic crisis. New Delhi recently gave assurance to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to restructure the country's debt.

Sri Lanka, which is trying to secure a USD 2.9 billion bridge loan from the IMF, was negotiating to get financial assurances from its major creditors - China, Japan and India, which is the requisite for Colombo to get the bailout package. Saturday's Independence day event was boycotted by all Opposition groups who claimed it had no public mandate and was a burden on a public already hurt by the crisis.

They pointed to scarcities of food and medicine leaving people in poverty.

Oil industry in Pakistan on verge of collapse' amid liquidity crisis

Islamabad, Feb 04 (PTI):

Oil companies in cash-strapped Pakistan have warned that the industry is on the "brink of collapse" as the dollar liquidity crisis persists and their cost of doing business balloons due to the rupee's devaluation.

The government removed the dollar cap to meet the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) demand which resulted in the Pakistani rupee falling to a historic low of Rs

276.58 in the interbank market, according to a Geo News report.

The IMF has set several conditions for resuming the bailout, including a market-determined exchange rate for the local currency and an easing of fuel subsidies, both conditions which the government has already implemented.

In a letter to the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) and Energy Ministry, the Oil Companies Advisory

Council (OCAC) said that the "sudden depreciation" of the rupee has caused losses worth billions of rupees to the industry as their letters of credit (LCs) are expected to be settled on the new rates, "whereas the related product has already been sold", it said.

The government has also restricted LCs due to dwindling foreign exchange reserves, which fell to USD 3,086.2 million as of January 27, just enough to cover only 18

days' worth of imports, the report said.

Pakistan is facing a balance of payments crisis and the plummeting value of the local currency is pushing up the price of imported goods.

Energy comprises a large chunk of Pakistan's import bill. The country typically meets more than a third of its annual power demand, using imported natural gas, prices for which shot up following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Pakistan blocks Wikipedia for failure to remove blasphemous content

Islamabad, Feb 04 (PTI):

Pakistan has blocked Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia, for its failure to remove offensive or blasphemous material, the country's telecom authority said on Saturday. The blacklisting of Wikipedia comes days after the Pakistan Telecom Authority (PTA) degraded Wikipedia services for 48 hours, threatening to block it if the content deemed blasphemous was not deleted.

Wikipedia is a free online encyclopedia, created and edited by volun-

teers around the world and hosted by the Wikimedia Foundation. PTA spokesperson Malahat Obaid said the ban had primarily been imposed for non-compliance with the orders. "The decision can be reviewed once Wikipedia removes sacrilegious content that has been identified by the regulatory authority," the spokesperson added. The PTA spokesperson earlier stated that Wikipedia was approached for blocking/removal of the said content by issuing a notice. An opportunity for a hearing was also provided; however, the platform neither complied by removing the blasphemous content nor appeared before the authority.

Given the intentional failure on part of the platform to comply with the directions of PTA, the services of Wikipedia were degraded for 48 hours with the direction to block/remove the reported contents.

On Friday, the Wikimedia Foundation said "it does not make decisions around what content is included on Wikipedia or how that content is maintained".

It added that this is "by design to ensure that articles are the result of many people coming to-

gether to determine what information should be presented on the site, resulting in richer, more neutral articles". "As of Friday, February 3, our internal traffic reports indicate that Wikipedia and Wikimedia projects are no longer accessible to users in Pakistan," it said.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE FOR AUGMENTATION WORK
Tender Notice No.: Sr.DEE(RS&G)BSP/OTP/22-23-20, Dated: 31.01.2023. Name of Work: Bilaspur Division Augmentation of Auditorium Cum Multipurpose Hall At Titli Chowk Bilaspur (Deposit). Tender Value (Approx.): ₹ 33,44,399/-. Bid Security Amount: ₹ 66,900/-.
Tender Closing Date & Time: 23.02.2023, 15.00 hours.
For further details, eligibility criteria and the complete details for the above work, please refer/download tender document which is available on our website: www.ireps.gov.in
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engg. CPR/10/434 (RS&G)/Bilaspur, fSouth East Central Railway @secrail

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
Expression of Interest (E.O.I)
SECR, Bilaspur Division has decided to develop Uslapur Model goods shed (UGSU) by complying the following directives of National Green Tribunal, New Delhi.
1. Installation of water sprinklers (rain gun) in loading and unloading area.
2. Installation of Windshield in both side of railway siding in accordance with CPCB guidelines.
3. Provision of garland drain and settling pits in both side of the siding area to check the coal dust flow in surface water body.
4. Installation of Rain bath at entrance and exit of the siding.
5. Repairing of road in coal siding area.
6. Asphalt approach road up to coal siding.
7. Development of thick green belt on both sides of railway track.
Division Railway Manager (Commercial), Bilaspur division, South East Central Railway on behalf of president of India is hereby inviting EOI (Expression of Interest) from the all interested parties to develop the Uslapur Model goods shed (UGSU).
All interested parties can submit their application in the office of the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bilaspur in the office hours from 11:00 hrs to 03:30 hrs on 13.02.2023.
Sr. Divl. Comml. Manager SEC Railway, Bilaspur
CPR/10/443

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता
लो० नि० वि०/यां संभाग रायपुर छ.ग.
ज्ञाप क्रमांक 805/व.ले.लि. रायपुर, दिनांक : 02/02/2023
शुद्धि पत्र
निविदा सूचना क्रमांक 454/NIT-40/2022-2023/ व ले लि दिनांक : 25/01/2023 में निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है :-
1) निविदा क्र. T0441 (कुल 01 नग निविदा) को अपिहार्य कारणों से निरस्त किया जाता है।
(जी क्रमांक 98003)
कार्यपालन अभियंता लो. नि. वि. यां संभाग रायपुर छ.ग.
G-98197/1

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
P.W.D. (B&R) AMBIKAPUR CIRCLE AMBIKAPUR
Invitation Date:- 31.01.2023

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
01. For tender detail please visit <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
02. Bid Due Date- 20.02.2023
03. Concern Division- Manendragarh Division

S. No.	N.I.T.No./Online System Number	Name of Work	PAC in lacs
1	222 122594 1st Call D Class and Above	Upgradation of Existing infrastructure work at Higher Secondary School (Swami Aatmanand English Medium) Budar Block Baikunthpur Distt. Korea (C.G.)	45.82
2	223 122601 1st Call D Class and Above	Road Furniture work of Ghutra to Mousra Road Length 4.30 Km., Kelhari Chouk to MP Border Road Length 1.80 Km, Ratanpur to Chopan via Koteya Length 2.00 Km. Kashbahra Bhauta road Length 2.00 Km. Kendai Chotiya Bardar Khadgawan Baikunthpur Sonhat Ramgarh MP Border Road Length 19.00 Km. at Distt. Korea (C.G.)	39.37
3	224 122602 1st Call D Class and Above	Structural Strengthening/Repair of Residential and Non Residential Building at PWD Korea Division Manendragarh Distt. Korea (C.G.)	49.40

Superintending Engineer P.W.D. Ambikapur Circle Ambikapur
G-98232/1

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
TANDULA WATER RESOURCES DIVISION DURG (C.G.)
e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
(1st Call)
System Tender No. : 122016/NIT No. : 60/SAC/2022-23, Durg, Dated : 01.02.2023
Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 22.02.2023 at 17:30 Hour
Name of Work : Renovation of Irrigation Inspection Bungalows Bhilai-03 (Under Remodeling & Lining of Bhilai Distributory and 5 Nos Minor and 01 Nos sub Minor Work) In Block Patan District Durg.
Probable Amount of Contract: - Rs. 69.29 Lakhs
(As per S.O.R. Dated 01.08.2010 (As amended dated 01.08.2014))
The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from Date 08.02.2023, at 17:31 Hours (IST) onwards.
NOTE :- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/ Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.
Executive Engineer Tandula Water Resources Division Durg (C.G.)
G-98210/2

RAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
2nd Floor, Bhakt Mata Karma Commercial Complex, New Rajendra Nagar, Raipur (C.G.)
Email : ceordaryp@gmail.com, Website : <https://rda.cgstate.gov.in>
Tel Fax : (0771) 2536188, 2536788, Toll Free No. 1800-233-7188
Sale of Recreation Land at RAIPUR Date 03.02.2023
Online Tenders are invited for "Sale of Amod-Pranod Land (Zone - 7B, Approx 21.713 HA -53.65 Acres) (Freehold Ownership Rights) Near Boriya Lake At Sector-3A, Kamal Vihar, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)"
S. No. System Tender No. Location Area (In Hect.) approx Reserved Land Premium (INR Crore) EMD (INR Crore)
1 123444 Sector-3A, Kamal Vihar 21.713 61.61 Cr. 1.90 Cr.
Tenderers shall download tender from website and tender processing fee is INR. 1.00 Lacs only (Including GST).
• Date of Pre-bid meeting - at 12:00 PM on 16.02.2023
• Last Date for Online submission of Tender - upto 03:00 PM on 20.03.2023
• Last Date for physical submission of Technical bid - upto 02:00 PM on 23.03.2023
• Opening of Technical Bid at 04:00 PM on - 23.03.2023
The details of tender and terms & conditions are available on the e-procurement website <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
Any amendment/modification in the tender documents, will only be uploaded on the e-Procurement website and shall not be published in any newspaper.
Superintending Engineer



CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 10 No. 306

New dimensions of terrorism

Terrorism has been dragging on for decades now. When countered by Indian security agencies, old methods have been replaced by new ones. From fidayeen attacks to target killings, from suicide bombers to IED blasts, and from IED blasts to sticky bombs, the latest addition is the “perfume IED,” a chemical even unknown to the police. This is a serious development with unimaginable consequences. Jammu and Kashmir Police team which cracked the blind blast case in eleven days deserves all accolades. Along with this Narwal blast case, the police claim to have also cracked the Shastri Nagar and Katra blast cases, which were earlier claimed to be ordinary blasts. More damaging is the fact that the arrested terrorist is a working government teacher and Lashkar-e-Taiba’s active terrorist, who has been doing serial blasts and keeping the CID and local police clueless until now. Arif is not the only one involved from Reasi; one friend is also involved, and that friend’s uncle is also an active LET terrorist and is right now in Pakistan. No vigilance had been kept on them; all three involved have been indulging in terrorist activities without any hindrance. Reasi has, of late, also become a hotbed of terrorist activities, a transit route, and an ideal place for dormant terrorist cells to remain hidden. Last July, in a daring act, the villagers of Tuksan village in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir captured and handed over two Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists to the police, who had come to the village as imposters seeking shelter. Despite these recent past activities, proactive countermeasures like basic police verification are missing. Who are the local OGW and UGW in Jammu and Katra who helped this Reasi module operate in Jammu? All these serial incidents have very serious consequences, and a feckless approach will not work. Our intelligence and police are unaware of furtive sleeper modules. A proper investigation has to be conducted into how a terrorist got recruited under RET, then regularised in a government job, and how he managed mandatory CID verification. Despite being on the verge of collapse, Pakistan has been consistently involved in terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir, this time with a unique perfume IED. It is clear that terrorism is here only and instead of focusing on Kashmir only, now, the focus areas are Reasi and other parts of the Jammu Division. Local police and CID must devise countermeasures to checkmate the nefarious designs of Pakistan-backed terrorists. Even a small incident in the peaceful Jammu Division is good enough to shatter the confidence of the public. Even this perfume IED has been smuggled from across the border via drones-another serious matter that has to be taken care of. There are still many untangled wires in the story: where was the shipment of perfume IED dropped from drones, who collected it, who are the OGWs and UGWs in that particular area, and how has this chemical reached Reasi? Are there other sleeper cells also in possession of this IED chemical? All these unanswered questions are quite nagging in the sense that even though the Narwal blast case has been worked out, the danger is still there. The police have to be extra vigilant, and the public must also keep an eye on the things around them. Every responsible citizen should inform the police, and the police, on their part, should start immediate police verification of tenants and non-locals. A working government employee turning out to be an active LET terrorist is not an odd case. The Administration has been trying to isolate these anti-national elements and weed them out of the system, but even for this, the police have to play an active role. Our police are on the job; they have apprehended the perpetrators in only eleven days and will tackle these new dimensions of terrorism.

Repercussions of Rivers Pollution

Vijaykumar H K

A new study found that freshwater fish across the country have high levels of ‘forever chemicals,’ a class of thousands of synthetic chemicals that do not degrade easily in our environment. Despite being phased out of industries in our country over two decades ago, the most commonly found chemical was perfluoro-octane sulfonic acid (PFOS), demonstrating the unintended, far-reaching consequences of failing to properly regulate the use of these long-lasting substances. People and wildlife, as well as rivers, rely on clean, healthy freshwater ecosystems for survival. Rivers such as the Yamuna, Narmada, Brahmaputra, and Krishna are indicator species, which means their presence in a waterway indicates the health of the ecosystem. When the water is contaminated, rivers can consume large amounts of pollutants through their food. The only way to protect rivers and other wildlife is to restore damaged ecosystems and keep our rivers clean by implementing science-based policies that regulate harmful substances such as PFOS chemicals. Across the country, researchers discovered fish with detectable levels of hazardous chemicals. Despite the fact that these chemicals were identified as a health risk long ago, they were used for a variety of industrial and manufacturing purposes for many decades and, in many cases, are still used today. According to the researchers, PFOS is present in the bloodstreams of more than 15% of Indians according to studies. These chemicals have been linked to an increased risk of cancer, reproductive harm, immune system suppression, and a variety of other medical conditions in humans. Water pollution prevention is critical for protecting the health of people and major rivers.

AERO-MODELLING SHOW



Children click selfie during a Aero-modelling show, as part of Patiala Heritage Festival, at Aviation Club in Patiala, Saturday, Feb. 4.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judicial autonomy

The stance of the CJI vis-a-vis the law minister and the government’s wish to prevail upon the Collegium is praiseworthy. It amounts to being brazen if any effort is made to undermine the independence granted to the agencies under constitutional provisions. Majority in Parliament doesn’t entitle the government to be inattentive and in a mode of rejection to the arguments put forth by equally important, responsible and intelligent people. If any change in the legal system is required, it has to be done in accordance with the constitutional provisions. The Constitution is supreme, and not even Parliament or majoritarianism, which poses a serious threat to democratic values.

Chaman Arora,
Ferozepur City

Age limit for leaders

It is disheartening to know that the former PM manmohan Singh is in a wheelchair. However, the question is, why legislators are appointed or elected despite their physical disability and age, whereas other professions have age limit, medical standards etc. to be complied with? Then these legislators will remain absent for most of the sessions. They also get pension and other benefits. There should be a fixed retirement age for all legislators, like in other professions.

Vikramjit Singh,
Amritsar

Tax discrimination

Tax exemption to Rs 3-lakh limit had been since 1997. Government employees enjoyed limitless exemption in last 25 years on this cause. In spite of several letters to the authorities from aggrieved non-government retirees; they have had to suffer and each paid lakhs extra in income tax on leave encashment amounts. It is not understood why there is discrimination in tax matters for government and non-government employees.

Ashok Kumar Goel,
Panchkula

Nothing for middle class

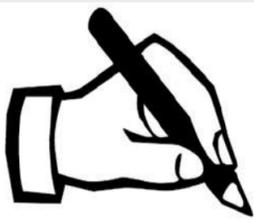
India has emerged as the world’s fastest-growing major economy, but how does it impact the common man and the middle class? The Budget has been presented, but how will it benefit a person who is struggling with unemployment and one square meal a day? All the talk about GDP and Budget looks good only on paper. Job protection would help more than financial aid. The middle class is indeed absent from most welfare schemes. In fact, a weak consumer doesn’t help in the recovery of a country’s economy.

Ramesh Gupta, Narwana

Towards a cleaner future



R.K SINGH



India assumed the Presidency of G20 on Dec. 1, 2022, the premier inter-governmental forum for international cooperation. India’s Presidency is marked with hopes, dreams, and aspirations, particularly when the world is gradually limping back to normalcy post covid, and the threat of global recession looms large. The challenges of global warming and climate change have never been greater. The world is seeking answers to some of these most pressing issues urgently. The Indian Presidency aims to build upon the efforts and outcomes of the earlier presidencies, while foraying into newer areas of global cooperation to build a sustainable future for all. As the theme of India’s Presidency – ‘One Earth, One Family, One Future’ or ‘Vasudhiava Kutumbakam’ suggests, we are committed to work towards healing our ‘One Earth’, creating harmony within our ‘One Family’ and giving hope for our ‘One Future.’

India remains one of the fastest growing economies in the world today. Notwithstanding the fact that it supports almost 17% of the world’s population, we have done considerably well in managing growth and in mitigating climate change. India’s per

capita emission of 2.4 tCO₂e (tonne carbon dioxide equivalent) is well below the world average of 6.3 tCO₂e in 2020 (according to ‘Emissions Gap Report 2022: The Closing Window’ released by the United Nations Environment Program). In the 2022 Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI), we have been ranked amongst the top 5 performing countries.

India is also leading the world in the transition to a low carbon economy. We have already achieved our commitment on non-fossil fuel capacity addition, made in its Nationally Determined Commitments (NDC) much ahead of the targeted year of 2030 and has since updated its targets. As per the updated NDC, India now stands committed to reduce Emissions Intensity of its GDP by 45 percent by 2030, from 2005 level and achieve about 50 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030.

With a young population, growing urbanization, digitalization, and big-time adaptation of technology, mushrooming of start-ups, India’s primary focus has been to provide universal access to affordable power in a sustainable manner. The country has made signifi-

cant strides in recent times in turning things around. We are now a power surplus nation, from a deficit one a few years ago. We have established an integrated national grid, strengthened the distribution network, emerged as a significant player in renewable energy, and achieved universal household electrification.

India’s energy mix is quite a diversified one. The power generation happens through a multitude of sources that include coal, lignite, natural gas, oil, hydro and nuclear to increased contribution of renewable sources solar, wind, and biomass. The government is sharply focused towards increasing India’s capacity to produce clean electricity through new technology and innovation.

Usage of renewable energy is growing at a faster rate in India with new capacity additions to double by 2026. The share of solar and wind in India’s energy mix has grown phenomenally. The country is also one of the world’s largest producers of modern bioenergy. Green hydrogen will play a vital role in decarbonizing the economy and the country aims to become a global hub for green hydrogen production and exports.

India has emerged as a country with the fastest-growing Renewable Energy (RE) capacity in the world. This has also made it the most attractive investment destination for the renewable energy.

These efforts are helping India meet its own needs while also contributing to global efforts at reducing CO₂ emissions worldwide.

The challenge now lies in making energy affordable even as commodity prices are rising, and tight market conditions are increasing energy se-

curity risks.

While focus on policy measures and mitigation are important, it is imperative to focus on individuals and communities to bring concrete/measurable change. India has demonstrated significant successes in driving development, and societal and behavioural changes through large-scale collective action in initiatives such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Ujjwala Scheme or Give It Up Campaign.

India is well-poised to take forward the global initiative – LIFE or Lifestyle for the Environment – introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at COP26 at Glasgow in 2021. LIFE calls upon individuals and communities to drive/build it as an international mass movement towards ‘mindful and deliberate utilization, instead of mindless and destructive consumption’ to protect and preserve the environment. LIFE puts individual and collective duty on everyone to live a life that is in tune with the Earth and does not harm it.

As a large developing economy with over 1.4 billion people, India’s climate adaptation and mitigation ambitions are not just transformational for India but for the entire planet. India’s impressive progress in transitioning toward renewable energy shows that countries can succeed by making smart choices about using their resources to meet their needs.

India’s G20 Presidency will share, collaborate, and build on the sense of trusteeship amongst the member countries to build a sustainable future for all.

(Author is Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy. Views are personal)

Poor sleep quality linked with multiple sclerosis risk in teens

Failure to receive at least seven hours of quality sleep during the teenage years is associated with the subsequent risk of developing multiple sclerosis (MS), according to a study. The research, published in the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry, suggests that clocking up enough hours of restorative sleep while young may help to ward off the condition. MS is influenced by both genetic and environmental factors, including smoking, teenage weight (BMI), Epstein-Barr virus infection -- one of the most common human viruses -- sun exposure, and vitamin D, the researchers said.

Shift work has also been linked to a higher risk of the condition, particularly at a young age, but whether sleep patterns -- duration, body clock disruption, and sleep quality -- might affect this

risk has not been fully assessed, they said. The researchers from Stockholm University and Karolinska Institutet, Sweden used data from a population-based case-control study, the

Epidemiological Investigation of Multiple Sclerosis (EIMS), comprising 16 70-year-old Swedish residents. People with MS were recruited from hospital- and privately-run neurology clinics and matched for age, sex, and residential area with two healthy people randomly se-



lected from the national population register between 2005 and 2013 and 2015 and 2018. The researchers focused particularly on sleep patterns during the ages 15 to 19, and the final analysis included 2,075 people with MS and 3,164 without the condition in this age group when recruited to the study. The study par-

ticipants were asked about their sleeping patterns at different ages: length of sleep on work or school days, and at weekends or on free days.

Short sleep was defined as less than seven hours per night; adequate sleep as 7-9 hours; and long sleep as 10 or more hours. Study participants were also asked to assess sleep quality during different age periods using a 5-point scale, where 5 equalled very good. The average age at which MS was diagnosed was 34. Sleep length and quality during adolescence were associated with the risk of an

MS diagnosis, which increased in tandem with fewer hours and poorer quality of sleep, the researchers found.

Compared with sleeping 7-9 hours per night during the teenage years, short sleep was associated with a 40 per cent increased risk of subsequently developing MS, they said. However, long sleep, including at weekends or on free days, was not associated with an increased MS risk, according to the study. Similarly, subjectively assessed poor sleep quality during this period was associated with a 50 per cent higher risk of developing the condition, the researchers said. The researchers caution that their findings should be interpreted cautiously on account of potential reverse causation -- whereby poor sleep could be a consequence of neurological damage rather than the other way around.

BRIEF

Plastic industry

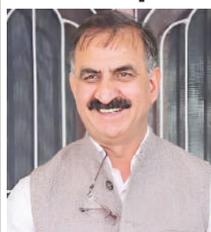


New Delhi: Chemical and Fertilisers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya called on investors to invest in Indian plastic industry and assured a strong government support. Addressing CEOs conclave at PLASTINDIA here, the minister said, "the country boasts a strong and impartial legislative structure along with favourable manpower and technical expertise", an official statement said. "India provides a big market as the consumption power is increasing along with a rising middle class," he said and asked investors to understand India's ethos and invest in the country's growth story. More than 90 CEOs of the plastic industry from both India and abroad participated in the conference.

GST Council

New Delhi: The GST Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprising state counterparts, will meet on February 18. "The 49th meeting of the GST Council is scheduled to be held at New Delhi on February 18, 2023," the GST Council said in a tweet on Friday. The council may take up a discussion on the report of a group of ministers on taxation of 'pan masala' and 'gutka' firms and a report by a Group of Ministers (GoM) on setting up of appellate tribunals.

Cement impasse



Hamirpur: The Himachal Pradesh government is all set to end the impasse created by the closure of two cement factories and indefinite strike by truck operators union and the industries minister will hold talks with the Adani group to resolve the issue. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said on Saturday.

Coal production

New Delhi: The country's coal production increased by 12.94 per cent to 89.96 million tonnes in January 2023. The country's coal output stood at 79.65 million tonnes (MT) in the corresponding month of the previous fiscal. As per provisional data of the coal ministry, Coal India Ltd (CIL) registered a production growth of 11.44 per cent in January, whereas SCL and captive mines, and others posted a growth of 13.93 per cent and 22.89 per cent, respectively. Of the top 37 coal producing mines, production of 28 was more than 100 per cent, while the output of three mines stood between 80 and 100 per cent during last month.

Adani's FPO pullout has not impacted India's image: FM

Mumbai, Feb 04:



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with Union Ministers of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad and Pankaj Chaudhary addresses a press conference in Mumbai, Saturday, Feb. 4.

India's economic image is not affected due to Adani Group's recent decision to pull out Rs 20,000 crore FPO amid allegations of financial wrongdoings, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Saturday. The finance minister said there has been an accretion of USD 8 billion to the forex reserves in the last two days alone. "...our macroeconomic fundamentals or our economy's image, none of which has been affected. Yes, FPOs (follow-on public offers) come in, and FIIs (foreign institutional investors) get out," Sitharaman told reporters here. The minister said there are "fluctuations" in every market but the accretion over the last few days establishes the fact that the perception of both India and its inherent

strengths is intact. Answering a broader question on the allegations against Adani Group, she said the country's intentional financial sector regulators will be looking into the aspect and added that capital markets watchdog Securities and Exchange Board of India has the wherewithal to ensure stability in markets. "...for keeping the market

and the markets regulated in prime condition, the Sebi is the authority. And it has the wherewithal to keep that prime condition," she said. The finance minister also said that the RBI has already spoken out on the issue, referring to Friday's statement, which said the banking sector is resilient and stable. About ten days ago, US-

based short seller Hindenberg Research made a slew of allegations on the corporate governance front against Adani Group. The Ahmedabad-based group has denied all the allegations and termed it as a calculated attack on India. It has cancelled the FPO even after managing subscriptions to it. Finance Secretary TV Somanathan on Saturday

stood by his comment on the controversy where he called it a storm in a teacup, clarifying that this is in the context of macro-economic terms and the stability of India's public financial institutions. Meanwhile, on the decision to convert outstanding dues into equity at Vodafone Idea, Somanathan said the transaction is being done as a package for all telcos. He said the government share will be held by the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) where the stake will be considered as a public shareholder. DIPAM secretary Tuhiin Kanta Pandey said the price has been taken at Rs 10 despite the Vodafone Idea shares trading lower on bourses because, as per laws, preferential allotments have to happen at the face value of a share.

SBI Q3 net soars 62 pc; discloses Rs 27k cr exposure to Adani Group

Mumbai, Feb 04:

The country's largest lender SBI on Friday reported a 62 per cent rise in its net profit to Rs 15,477 crore for the December 2022 quarter; helped by core income growth and improvement in asset quality. On a standalone basis, State Bank of India's post-tax profit grew to Rs 14,205 crore during the October-December 2022 period from Rs 8,432 crore in the year-ago period and Rs 13,265 crore in the preceding July-September quarter. Amid the controversy triggered by a slew of allegations against the Adani Group, the government-owned lender disclosed that its overall exposure to the Gauram Adani-led embattled conglomerate is Rs 27,000 crore and it does not see any difficulties in loan repayments. For the quarter under review, the core net interest income rose 24.05 per cent to Rs 38,069

crore on the back of a 0.35 per cent expansion in the net interest margin to 3.50 per cent and 18.61 per cent growth in net advances. Amid the 'war for deposits' in the system, the bank posted a slower deposit growth at over 8 per cent, and chairman Dinesh Khara said it has already activated multiple measures to push up the number. He also added that it carries excess government securities holdings of over Rs 3 lakh crore, which can be deployed, and made it clear that it will not engage in a price war in such a way that it has to compromise on the NIMs. The other income rose to Rs 11,468 crore for the reporting quarter against Rs 8,673 crore in the year-ago period. On the asset quality front, it reported a gross non-performing assets ratio of 3.14 per cent as against 4.50 per cent in the year-ago period and 3.52 per cent in the quarter-ago period.

Committed to ensuring market integrity; measures in place to address excess volatility: Sebi on Adani crisis

New Delhi, Feb 04:

Amid a raging controversy over a meltdown in Adani group stocks, regulator Sebi on Saturday said it is committed to ensuring the stock market's integrity and all necessary surveillance measures are in place to address any excessive volatility in individual shares. Without naming the Adani group specifically, the capital markets watchdog said in a statement that unusual price movement in the stocks of a business conglomerate has been observed in the past week. Officials confirmed that the statement has been issued in the wake of the

Adani matter only. "As part of its mandate, Sebi seeks to maintain orderly and efficient functioning of the market and has put in place a set of well-defined, publicly available surveillance measures (including the ASM framework) to address excessive volatility in specific stocks. "This mechanism gets automatically triggered under certain conditions of price volatility in any stock," the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said. Stock exchanges BSE and NSE have put three Adani group companies - Adani Enterprises, Adani Ports and Special Economic

Zone and Ambuja Cements - under their short-term additional surveillance measure (ASM), which basically means that intra-day trading would require a 100 per cent upfront margin and is aimed at curbing speculation and short-selling in these stocks. Sebi further said that in all specific entity-related matters, if any information comes to its notice, then, as per extant policies, the same is examined and after due examination, appropriate action is taken. "Sebi has consistently followed this approach on entity-level issues and would continue to do so in future as well," it added.

Govt to push primary steel producers to use 50 pc of input from recycled steel by 2047: Scindia

Kochi, Feb 04:



Union Steel Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Saturday said his ministry will push primary steel producers to use 50 per cent of their input from scrapped/recycled steel by 2047 to help achieve the government target of moving into a circular economy. Currently, the level of recycled steel usage in primary steel production is only around 10 per cent even though recycled steel contributes to 22.5 per cent of the domestic total steel production of 140 million tonnes, the minister said while addressing the last day of the three-day international conference of material recycling here. The 10th conference is being or-

ganised by the Material Recycling Association of India and is attended by over 2,000 delegates from 38 countries. Noting that recycling is the key cog in the wheel of manufacturing as economies move into a circular model of development, he said, "Going forward the industry should focus on the 6Rs philosophy of reduce (exploitation of natural resources), recycle,

reuse, recover, re-design and reinforce". He said the government is committed to reducing CO2 emissions in the steel sector by 5 per cent by 2030 from the current 2.85 to 1.4 CO2/tonne of crude steel, and to achieve this recycling scrap steel is an extremely important source. "Today, scrap usage is only 15 per cent in primary steel production. We will push the steel industry to increase this to 25 per cent in the next five years, and by 2047, this should double to 50 per cent. This means that the primary steel producers consume only 50 per cent of iron ore by then," Scindia said. This is needed as the natural resources are finite and the demand looks infinite, he said, adding the steel indus-

try has the biggest role to play in the whole process. The country currently produces 25 million tonne of scrap steel and annually imports 5 million tonne of scrap steel with zero import duty, he added. The recycling industry is highly unorganised and is worth about USD 50 billion now. There are over 25,000 recycling units in the country. However, in the metals space almost 95 per cent are organised, Material Recycling Association president Sanjay Mehta said. He also urged the minister to extend the duty-free imports of other scraps such as copper, aluminium, zinc and other metals as many countries are adopting no export of scrap policies now.

BSNL to soon launch indigenously developed 4G services

Nagpur, Feb 04:

State-owned telecom firm BSNL will soon launch indigenously developed 4G services in the country and plans to cover 28,000 villages under the BSNL 4G saturation project, a top official said. BSNL Director (HR) Arvind Vadnerkar in a press conference here said that the firm will very soon launch an indigenously developed 4G service in the market. It is likely to be rolled out this year, he noted. This will be the world-class 4G services, and in a very short span of time, BSNL will go into 5G services as well, he added. Vadnerkar also informed

about BSNL's 4G saturation project, which will be covering about 28,000 villages in the country. These include villages where there was no mobile coverage. In Maharashtra, 4,900 villages will be covered with 4G services. The official said the government is helping BSNL in all its initiatives with funding and other resources. Vadnerkar said all these factors are helping BSNL in its turnaround. For example, it is witnessing a good operational profit for the last three years though they have not achieved in terms of net profit. BSNL will start achieving net profit by 2026-27, he added.

Next e-auction of FCI wheat under OMSS to bulk consumers to be held on Feb 15: Govt

New Delhi, Feb 04:

The next e-auction for the sale of FCI wheat to bulk consumers like flour millers under the open market sale scheme (OMSS) will be held on February 15, the Food Ministry said on Saturday. State-run Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been mandated to sell 25 lakh tonnes of wheat from its buffer stock to bulk consumers under the OMSS in order to contain rising prices of wheat and wheat products in the country. The first sale of wheat through e-auction was held on February 1-2. About 9.2 lakh tonnes of wheat was sold from FCI

depots in 23 states. The plan was to hold a weekly e-auction every Wednesday. However in a statement, the Food Ministry said: "The second sale of wheat through e-auction will be held throughout the country on 15th February on Wednesday." This means the FCI will not hold e-auction of wheat next week and the ministry has not cited reasons for not holding the auction. Meanwhile, the FCI has directed all winning bidders of the first e-auction to remit the cost and lift the stock immediately from concerned depots across the country and make the same available in respec-

tive markets in order to further contain the prices. "The prices are set to fall further after the wheat sold in the e-auction is lifted and atta is made available in the market," it added. Wheat is being offered at a reserve price of Rs 2,350 per quintal plus freight charges. Last month, the government announced plans to sell 30 lakh tonnes of wheat in the open market from its buffer stock under OMSS in order to check wheat and wheat flour prices. Out of 30 lakh tonnes, FCI will sell 25 lakh tonnes to bulk consumers like flour millers through e-auction and 2 lakh tonnes to states/Union Territories.

Savings via tax-free instruments Rs 4 lakh crore: Revenue secretary

New Delhi, Feb 04:

Household savings through tax saving instruments is just Rs 4 lakh crore, which is 16 per cent of total savings, and shifting to new tax regime won't endanger the country's savings rate, Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra said on Friday. He said the total household savings today are 27-30 per cent of India's GDP and the schemes announced in budget, especially for senior citizens and women, will help the country in improving the savings rate. "I would also like to point out that the

savings through tax exemptions is actually a very small portion of the total savings of our country, which are about Rs 25 lakh crore for households. Savings through tax (saving) instruments are only Rs 4 lakh crore. You know people are now investing otherwise," Malhotra said at a CII post-budget event. To encourage taxpayers to shift to exemption-less tax regime, the Budget 2023-24 has proposed changes to the new optional tax regime which provides that no tax would be levied on annual income of up to Rs 7 lakh.

Reliance Retail expands its presence

Mumbai, Feb 04:

Smart Bazaar, the large format supermarket from Reliance Retail has launched its new store. The store provides one-stop shopping experience by offering a wide range of products under one roof, ranging from Grocery, Fruits & Vegetables, Dairy to Kitchenware, Homeware, Apparel, Consumer Electronics etc. With the launch of this store, Smart Bazaar now has a presence of three stores in Bilaspur. Built over 20,000 sq ft of sprawling shopping space, Smart Bazaar is designed to provide customers with bigger savings and a better shopping experience. It offers customers a wide variety of products, ranging

from daily essentials such as groceries, dairy products, fruits and vegetables, to special items and utilities such as homeware, kitchenware, footwear, apparels and consumer electronics, all under one roof. It also provides customers great saving opportunities through the year with discounts of up to 5% on MRP and special seasonal offers. The store has line-up of plethora of brands across categories such as processed foods and beverages, personal care, healthcare, hygiene, fabric, homeware and home décor available on attractive offers. Special benefit of shopping at Smart Bazaar is that bigger purchases always fetch greater savings.

Adani crisis: Banking sector resilient and stable, says RBI

Mumbai, Feb 04:

Amid concerns over banks' exposure to the crisis-ridden Adani Group, the Reserve Bank on Friday said India's banking sector is resilient and stable, and the central bank maintains constant vigil on the lenders. Responding to media reports expressing concern about the exposure of Indian banks to a "business conglomerate", the Reserve Bank said in a statement that it is constantly monitoring the banking sector. However, the RBI did not name the Adani Group in the statement. Stocks of Adani Group firms have taken a massive beating on the bourses after US-based short-seller Hindenburg

Research made a litany of allegations in a report, including fraudulent transactions and share price manipulation at the Gautam Adani-led group. The group has rejected the allegations. Hindenburg released the report on January 24 - the day on which Adani Enterprises' Rs 20,000-crore follow-on share sale opened for anchor investors. In its statement, the RBI said as per the current assessment, "the banking sector remains resilient and stable. Various parameters relating to capital adequacy, asset quality, liquidity, provision coverage and profitability are healthy." "As the regulator and supervisor, the RBI maintains a constant vigil on the

banking sector and on individual banks with a view to maintain financial stability. The RBI has a Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC) database system where the banks report their exposure of Rs 5 crore and above which is used for monitoring purposes," the central bank added. The RBI, the statement said, remains vigilant and continues to monitor the stability of the Indian banking sector. It further said banks are also in compliance with the Large Exposure Framework (LEF) guidelines issued by the RBI. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) earlier this week sought details about lenders' exposure to the Adani Group.

India Cements to embark on refurbishment of old cement plants costing Rs 1,600 crore: Srinivasan

Chennai, Feb 04:

Cement maker The India Cements Ltd has drawn up plans to refurbish its old manufacturing facilities at an estimated outlay of Rs 1,500 to Rs 1,600 crore, its Vice Chairman and Managing Director N Srinivasan said. The funds to undertake the refurbishment would be met through internal accruals and the firm has roped in two international consultants for this exercise, he said. India Cements has embarked on a programme for a complete refurbishment of its old cement plants for improving their efficiency, Srinivasan told reporters. The 'refurbishment programme' is es-



timated to cost Rs 1,500 crore to Rs 1,600 crore and will take about 15-18 months for completion, he said. The city-based company has a vast land of 26,000 acres and the funds would be raised by monetising the land bank, he further said. Srinivasan said two international expert firms - Krupp Polysius and F L Smidth - were roped in as consultants on how to make these plants efficient.

Shania Twain drops new album 'Queen of Me'

Grammy Award-winning country music artiste Shania Twain released her new album, "Queen of Me" on Friday. The record is a limitless expression of pop that allows it to sit comfortably next to her many chart successors, enshrining it as an upbeat, playful, and joyous album. The album is sonically inspired by '70s and '80s funk and rock - just like the sounds she grew up with and considered her heroes. It's a departure from the past and a strident step into an ever-improving future. The album consists of 12 new tracks. In the stand-out friendship anthem "Best Friend", Shania affectionately gushes over her closest confidant as she emphasises "you always take the blame and you know I'd do the same for you. No matter what, yeah I got you, and I know that you got me." The LP represents a deep and dynamic creative statement from this iconic voice - from the energetic opener "Giddy Up!" through the empowered title track "Queen of Me", and the passionate finale "The Hardest Stone" - which was produced by Tyler Joseph. To celebrate this next era in style,

Shania will also embark on a global "Queen of Me" Tour, produced by Live Nation. The tour marks the first time fans around the world will get to see the queen in all of her glory in nearly five years, following a highly successful Vegas residency run. Kelsea Ballerini, Lindsay Ell, Hailey Whitters, Breland, Robyn Ottolini, Priscilla Block, Mickey Guyton, Lily Rose, Talk, and Tenille Townes will be joining Shania on select dates throughout the tour. "The Queen of Me" Tour kicks off on Friday, April 28 at Spokane Arena in Spokane, WA and makes stops across North America and Europe in Vancouver, Denver, Toronto, Los Angeles, New York, London, Dublin, and more before wrapping up on November 14 at Rogers Arena in Vancouver, BC.



'Wagle Ki Duniya' approaches 2nd anniversary

Sony SAB launched Wagle Ki Duniya - Nayi Peedhi Naye Kissey two years ago with an aim to entertain audiences with relatable content and endearing characters. The show has won hearts across the country through its unique way of addressing various social issues through the everyday lives of its characters. As the show successfully completes two wonderful years on television it is time to celebrate this big win! After pulling off this incredible journey it's hard not to feel a flood of emotions, and that's what the cast and crew of the show are going through right now. Embracing this achievement, the team celebrated on the sets of the show and thanked each other for everyone's endless hard work and sheer dedication to make this venture a success.



part of this show has been an incredible experience. The team and cast have become like family to me, and I am obliged for the bond

we have formed. The show holds a special place in my heart, and I am proud to be a part of it. Rajesh Wagle represents the middle-class

man and has struck a chord with its viewers. I'm immensely proud of the journey the show has taken over the last two

years and the evolution of its characters. A big thank you to our viewers who have shown us heaps of love. Please keep watching the show and celebrating the Wagle family with us." Pariva Pranati, who plays the role of Vandana Wagle, said "I have a deep connection with the character of Vandana.

Her emotions and behaviour resonate with me, and it's been effortless to portray the raw and realistic aspects of her, whether it's her getting upset over something so mundane as a cup of coffee or cherishing the little moments with her husband. It has been an absolute pleasure to showcase the different facets of Vandana's character to the audience and this journey over the last two years has been nothing short of amazing." Tune in to watch Wagle Ki Duniya: Nayi Peedhi Naye Kissey only on Sony SAB every Monday to Saturday at 9.00 PM.

'Pathaan' crosses Rs 700 cr worldwide in 9 days

The recently-released action film 'Pathaan', which marked the return of Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan on the silver screen, is smashing box-office records. The film is having a historic run in the theatres with domestic and overseas box office collections crossing Rs 700 crore in just nine days.



'Pathaan' on its ninth day registered an incredible Rs 15.65 crore nett in India (Rs 15 crore in Hindi and Rs 0.65 crore in all dubbed versions). In nine days, the film has recorded Rs 259.6 crore in

overseas territories, while nett collection in India stand at Rs 351 crore, as per trade sources. The film has been directed by Siddharth Anand of 'War' fame. Siddharth has been entrusted by Aditya Chopra to start two franchises of the YRF Spy Universe given his mastery over the action genre. Siddharth is also the only Hindi film director to have delivered five Rs 50 crore nett box office days and also five Rs 100 crore worldwide gross box office days with 'War' and 'Pathaan'.

&TV characters find themselves in tricky situations

This week in &TV shows Dooori Maa, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, characters will find themselves in tricky situations. About &TV's Dooori Maa track, Krishna shares, "As Ashok has disappeared, Yashoda (Neha Joshi) lodges a missing report. Yashoda, Arvind, and Krishna (Aayudh Bhanushali) try to find Ashok but are unsuccessful. Malti (Anita Pradhan) and Dadaji (Sunil Dutt) blame Yashoda for Ashok leaving the house, which upsets her."



Meanwhile, Vibhuti (Asif Sheikh) meets a wealthy man who hires him to find tattoos of horses on people's bodies for a fee of five crores. Vibhuti accepts the offer and begins spying on others. Watch Dooori Maa at 8:00 pm, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan at 10:00 pm, and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 pm, airing every Monday to Friday only on &TV!

About &TV's Happu Ki Ultan Paltan track, Daroga Happu Singh shares, "Katori Amma (Himani Shivpuri) and Rajesh (Kamna Pathak) compete to find out who Happu loves the most. They put him in a situation where he must choose one of them to go out. Rajesh calls Happu and asks him to accompany her to her friend

Samantha Ruth Prabhu shares photo dump from a busy January

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who swayed the nation with her moves in "Oo Antava" from "Pushpa: The Rise", and her work in the recent release "Yashoda", recently shared that the year started on a busy note for her as January was all about work for her.



On Friday, the actress took to her Instagram to share throwback pictures that capture her working on herself and working on projects. She has posted several pictures including the one where can be seen spending time with the team of "Citadel".

from the gym. The actress is now at work in full force with nothing seems to be stopping her.

Myositis that she had got but is now clearly back with full force, we can see there is no stopping for the most popular actress in India. On the work front, Samantha has an interesting slate of projects including the Disney-like fairytale film "Shaakuntalam", the romantic comedy, "Kushi", and "Citadel".

Another picture sees her in the look for the trailer launch of "Shaakuntalam" and also a picture of her workout

Thalapathy Vijay's film No. 67 finally gets a name - 'LEO'



The suspense over the title of Thalapathy Vijay's much-talked-about 67th movie is finally over. The Lokesh Kanagaraj director tentatively titled "Thalapathy67" finally has an official name - 'LEO' - the makers announced on Friday.

Introducing the viewers to some heart-throbbing visuals of Vijay, 'LEO' promises yet another masterpiece from the house of 7 Screen Studio.

The makers have released the title promo which is grand and befits

Keeping Vijay company are Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt and Trisha Krishnan. Directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, the film is produced by S.S. Lalit Kumar.

Rajpal Yadav sings praises of his 'Shehzada' co-actor Kartik

Get ready for a 'royally humorous' roller coaster ride with this weekend's fun-tastic episode of Sony Entertainment Television's 'The Kapil Sharma Show! B-town's dashing stars, Kartik Aaryan, Kriti Sanon, Ronit Roy and Rajpal Yadav will be gracing the show to promote their upcoming action drama 'Shehzada', that is currently the talk of the town. Not only will the guests make some interesting revelations but will also be laughing out loud to some of the hysterical antics of host Kapil Sharma and his atrangi



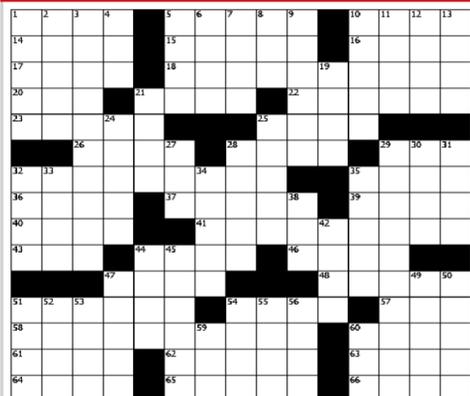
mohalla. Amidst the fun banter, popular comedian, Rajpal Yadav will be singing praises about his co-actor Kartik Aaryan

and the hardwork he puts in while shooting a film. Talking about Kartik Aaryan, Rajpal Yadav will be reminiscing about the

time when Kartik had fallen ill during the shoot of 'Shehzada', and he shares, "We were shooting at a place where the weather was extremely hot and we were all exhausted because of that. One evening, the producer came to us and told us that our "Shehzada" (Kartik Aaryan) is ill and so, he might not be able to shoot the next morning. We only had a day's work left after which we were supposed to return. We thought that maybe there won't be any shoot but lo and behold, in the early hours of the morning, we see Kartik all set to shoot even though he had high fever.

CROSSWORD

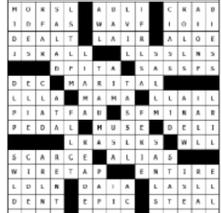
552



- ACROSS**
- Potato
 - Wood turner
 - Trims (off)
 - Burgundy, e.g.
 - Farm units
 - Notion
 - Fort
 - Finishes
 - Brief work of fiction (2 wds.)
 - Had a snack
 - Hone
 - Warns of danger
 - Upper body
 - Bustle
 - Agile
 - Red root
 - Author _____ Fleming
 - Guesseed roughly
 - Shakespearean King
 - Threesporean King
 - Seoul's country
 - Coffee vessels
 - Highway section
 - Make coffee

- DOWN**
- Perspire
 - Type of bean
 - Grasp
 - _____ Moines
 - Tie firmly
 - Long (for)
 - Horse's gait
 - Not him
 - Landed property
 - Metric measure
 - Bloodhound's clue
 - Cheeky
 - Declares
 - Skirt opening
 - Fish bait
 - Church steeple
 - Hebrew feast
 - Tibetan ox
 - Flat cap
 - Illogical
 - Isn't, incorrectly
 - Snout
 - Singer _____ Fitzgerald
 - Penn or Conery
 - Subject
 - Dutch bloom
 - Top card
 - Lyric poems
 - Tie
 - Appoint
 - Clothe
 - Prickly plants
 - Make tea
 - Citric _____
 - Flightless bird
 - Prophetic sign
 - Cinch
 - Poker payment
 - Observes
 - Memorable period
 - Switch position

SOLUTION 551



Rank turner could backfire, go for sporting tracks: Experts

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

Fully aware of the current Indian batting lineup's issues of tackling spinners on rank turners, the team management will do well to ask for sporting tracks against Australia in the upcoming four-match Test series, one which offers turn from third day, feels former selectors and experts.

Once known as master players of spin, the Indian teams in recent years have looked more at home against express pace and steep bounce while struggling against slow bowling.

The only noteworthy innings in the last two to three years on a rank turner would be current skipper Rohit Sharma's technically perfect knock of 161 on a wretched Chepauk track where the other top order batters had struggled.

Even an attack comprising Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Shakib Al Hasan and Taijul Islam made life difficult for India in the second away Test in Mirpur last December before Ravichandran Ashwin and Shreyas Iyer bailed them out.

"Playing spinners on flat deck isn't the problem. We must admit that our batters have struggled against quality spin bowling on tracks that



Captain Rohit Sharma bats during a practice session ahead of the first test cricket match against Australia, in Nagpur.

have offered turn. I don't know what kind of tracks will be in the offing but rank turners could backfire," former Test spinner and noted commentator Murali Kartik told PTI during an interaction.

Kartik explained that

even at the domestic level, there aren't too many players, who are actual masters against spinners.

"When I was in my teens and playing competitive league cricket in Chennai, as 15-16 year

Axar Patel likely to be third spinner

Recently Sunil Joshi, who was a part of last selection panel told ESPNcricinfo that if India want to win the series, they would need Kuldeep in the playing XI. It was against Australia at Dharamsala five years back that Kuldeep made his Test debut with a four-wicket haul. But injuries and team combination meant that he could play only seven more Tests with 34 wickets in his kitty. Axar Patel, in the meantime, has played the same number of Tests in the last two years and has 47 wickets.

"For me, there is no debate that Axar Patel should be India's third spinner with (Ravichandran) Ashwin and (Ravindra) Jadeja. The form in which he has been and on wickets that will be on offer, Axar is a straightforward choice," former national selector Jatin Paranjape said. He also felt that India won't prepare "snake pits" but he would expect the tracks to offer turn from second day onwards. "I have full confidence in Rohit, Cheteshwar Pujara and Virat (Kohli) that they would handle Nathan Lyon admirably," Paranjape said. His former colleague Devang Gandhi concurred on choice of Axar as the third spinner. "Look, if you have track that starts breaking right away, then Axar is a better choice than Kuldeep. Kuldeep will release the ball from the back of his hand and hence flight more," said Gandhi. "On tracks where the ball starts turning square, he will have a propensity to get hit. Also, when he tries bowling flatter, he tends to go a little shorter. In case of Axar, on turners, he hits the immaculate length. "Also

Play Rahul at No.5 and Bharath is your first keeper: Prasad

Former chairman of selectors MSK Prasad feels that Shubman Gill's new found confidence should be used to fullest effect and he should bat in the opening slot and not go down the order. "I would not mind seeing KL Rahul at No. 5 in Tests. I don't think Gill should be asked to come down the order. Rahul has played well in 50-over cricket and I see no reason why he shouldn't come down the order," Prasad, a former India stumper, said.

He feels that choice between Axar and Kuldeep is a tricky one and can't pick one without having a look at the track a day ahead of the match. In case of wicketkeeper, Prasad wants to see KS Bharat make his Test debut. Prasad had played a role in the rise of Bharat. "He (Bharat) has been groomed for this role even in presence of Rishabh Pant for the past two years. So, it is only fitting that Bharat is given the first chance to don the big gloves. He is ready," said Prasad.

By the time, I played international cricket, it gave me a lot of confidence," said Kartik, one of the best left-arm spinners of his generation.

Asked who among Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel should be the third spinner for India, Kartik said that it would all depend on the track.

"If it is flatter deck, then Kuldeep could be a good choice as he has the skills to take pitch out of equation. If it starts turning from second day onwards, Axar could come in. But if you ask me, invariably the third spinner will be under-bowled as you expect your two main guys to do the job," Kartik said.

Australia have plenty of spin options: Cummins

Bengaluru, Feb 04 (PTI):

Australia captain Pat Cummins on Saturday said his team is not fretting over its spin combination as it has enough options to support veteran off-spinner Nathan Lyon in the high-profile four-match Test series against India beginning in Nagpur on Thursday.

The touring Australians have named Mitchell Swepson along with finger spinner Ashton Agar to team up with Lyon.

"We've got plenty of options here (with) finger spin, wrist spin, left arm (pace) when (Mitchell) Starc comes back," Cummins told reporters in his first media interaction after arriving in India. "We'll obviously pick the bowlers that we think are going to take 20 wickets. But how we split that up, we're not 100 per cent sure yet." Asked if it would be a two-pronged spin attack, he said: "I wouldn't say it's a given. Obviously it's very conditions dependent. Particularly in the first test, once we get to Nagpur we will see that."

The Australians are here for a training camp before heading to Nagpur on Monday.

"The good thing is someone like Agar was in our last team, Swepson played the last two overseas tour, so a bit of experience.

"Murphy played in the last tour. We feel that we got a lot of support in that department for Lyon."

The 29-year-old Cummins pointed out that middle-order batter Travis Head also offers off-spin option. "Travis Head also bowls really good offspin. We have to balance things. We have got



a plenty of variety there to choose from. We have not locked in any bowling lineup so far."

While there is so much talk about spin bowling, Cummins said his side should not forget about their intimidating pace bowling attack. "I think sometimes, talking about a couple of spinners, you forget how good a lot of our fast bowlers have been in all conditions. "Even some of the SCG wickets, there haven't been a lot in them for quick bowlers, but the quick bowlers have found a way," he added. Cummins has come a long way since he made a Test comeback after six years in Ranchi during the last tour of India in 2017.

An injury-prone Cummins then dished out a hostile spell to dismiss the star Indian trio of KL Rahul, Virat Kohli and Ajinkya Rahane en route to figures of 4/106.

"It was my first test in six years. I just wanted to reaffirm that's where I wanted to be in Test cricket. I really enjoyed that spell, you can't be worried about your body or different things. You just got to go all out. I really enjoyed that.

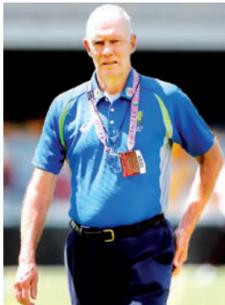
Australia can win: Greg Chappell

Melbourne, Feb 04 (PTI):

Batting great Greg Chappell believes Australia can win the upcoming high-profile four-match Test series as India are "vulnerable" this time with injuries to key players like Rishabh Pant and Jasprit Bumrah.

While the swashbuckling keeper-batter Pant is ruled out for most part of the year as he continues to recover from injuries sustained during a horrific car crash, Indian pace ace Bumrah (back injury) does not figure in the Indian squad for the first two Tests.

"Australia can win this series. India are more vulnerable at home than they have been for some time due to injuries to key players like Rishabh Pant, Ravindra Jadeja and Jasprit Bumrah. They will rely heavily on Virat Kohli," Chappell wrote in an opinion piece for 'Sydney Morning Herald'.



Premier spin-bowling all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, who recovered from a knee injury and made a comeback in the Ranji Trophy last month, is in the Indian squad for the Test series beginning in Nagpur on Thursday.

"Visiting teams are often fooled by a game that seems to be going nowhere but suddenly changes at a frenetic pace. The Indians are used to this, so Australia will need to adapt quickly with mind, bat and ball," said the former India coach. Finger spinner Ashton Agar, who is Australia's only left-arm tweeker in the squad, should be preferred to partner Nathan Lyon on turning tracks, Chappell said.

"Should the pitches favour spin, which is more likely, I expect Ashton Agar to get the nod because finger spin is considered to be more accurate," said the 74-year-old Chappell who scored 7110 runs from 87 Tests with an impressive average of 53.86 between 1970 and 1984.

"Anil Kumble who took 619 wickets in Test cricket, rarely strayed off the straight and narrow. His stock in trade were fast, flat leg breaks which were always threatening the stumps. Batters knew if they missed, they were in trouble. Jadeja's stock in trade is similarly unerring.

"Agar has got to emulate their roles. One bowler leaking runs will be the difference in a tight contest."

Green might have an outside chance of playing Nagpur Test: McDonald

Bengaluru, Feb 04 (PTI):

Dashing all-rounder Cameron Green is making a quick recovery from his index finger injury and has an "outside chance" of making it to Australia's playing eleven for the opening Test against India starting in Nagpur on February 9. The 23-year-old seam bowling all-rounder, who is recovering from a surgery on his index finger in his right hand, had a bowl at the nets in Alur.

"We haven't put a clear line through him on the team sheet. So, I wouldn't say he was in discomfort when he was bowling," McDonald told reporters here on the sidelines of their four-day training camp.

However there are still some concerns when he is batting, admitted the head



coach. "I would say one of the deliveries jarred the bottom of the bat and that can create discomfort for anyone, but there is a little bit of awareness around that finger. He has made some significant steps forward in the last couple of days, probably to my surprise.

"So, there is still an outside chance, everything going well, he might be on the team sheet," McDonald kept the options open.

Dipa Karmakar handed 21-month ban after failing dope test

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

Star gymnast Dipa Karmakar has been handed a 21-month ban for failing a dope test conducted by the International Testing Agency, contrary to claims made by Indian officials that her "suspension" last year was not related to doping offence.

Karmakar's dope sample collected out-of-competition by the ITA, an independent organisation that manages the anti-doping programme of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG), was found to contain Higenamine, which is a prohibited substance under World Anti-Doping Agency Code.

Her ban period will, however, end on July 10 this year as it was counted from the day (October 11, 2021) the sample was collected.

"The ITA confirms that Dipa Karmakar has been



suspended for a 21-month period, effective until 10 July 2023 after testing positive for higenamine (S3. Beta-2 Agonists as per the World Anti-Doping Agency prohibited list)," the ITA said in a statement late on Friday.

"The positive sample was collected on behalf of the FIG in the scope of an out-of-competition control on 11 October 2021," it added.

The Switzerland based non-profit organisation works under the supervision of WADA and International Olympic Committee to implement anti-doping programmes for various international

federations. The ITA further said Karmakar's dope issue was resolved under a case resolution agreement pursuant to article 10.8.2 of the FIG Anti-Doping Rules and equivalent provision in the WADA. "The athlete's results have been disqualified from October 11, 2021 onwards."

Karmakar, who shot to fame after finishing fourth in the 2016 Rio Olympics in the vault event, has been struggling with injuries ever since she underwent a surgery to treat an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury in 2017. Her last FIG event was the 2019 World Cup in Baku.

The ban on Karmakar flies on her face as well as on the Gymnastic Federation of India officials who have been claiming ignorance after she was put in the "suspended" category by the FIG in February last year.

Sancet hat trick leads 10-man Bilbao to 4-1 win over Cadiz

Barcelona, Feb 04 (AP):

Oihan Sancet scored his second career hat trick to lead 10-man Athletic Bilbao to a 4-1 victory at home over Cadiz in the Spanish league.

Bilbao lost defender Yuri Berchiche to a second yellow card in the 58th minute while leading 3-1 on Friday.

Cadiz was never able to take advantage of the extra man or stop Sancet from completing his treble.

Sancet grabbed the 10th-minute opener with a fierce strike from an angle that found the top corner.

New signing Gonzalo Escalante equalized for Cadiz at San Mames Stadium in the 25th.

But Sancet struck again 10 minutes later by firing in a pass by Ra I Garc a after Cadiz gave up



the ball near its area while under pressure. Defender Yeray Alvarez headed in a free kick to add to the lead just before halftime. Despite losing Berchiche, Bilbao hit on the break in the 75th.

Garc a booted a long ball forward, I aki Williams nicely headed it onto the path of Sancet, and the forward fired home for his third goal of the evening. "I can't explain how this feels," Sancet said while he was soaking up applause from more than 40,000 Bilbao supporters. "All my thanks to our fans for the support they are showing. I am happy that my goals helped the team get the win."

Sancet leads Bilbao with seven goals, all in the league. He scored his other hat trick in January 2022 in a 3-1 win at Osasuna. Ernesto Valverde's Bilbao, which has advanced to the Copa del Rey semifinals, moved into seventh place in the league standings after ending a run of three losses in the competition. Cadiz remained in the relegation zone.

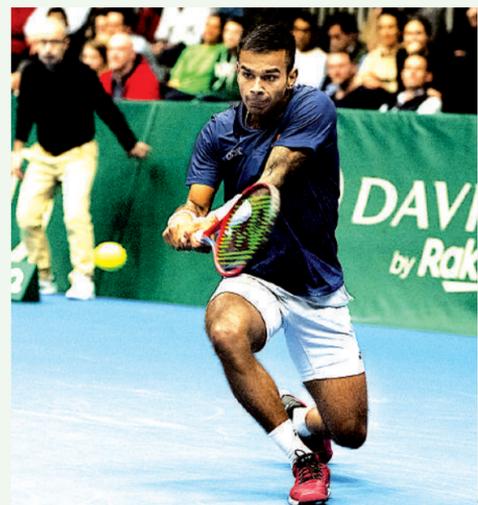
Bopanna-Bhambri pair loses in straight sets

Hillerod, Feb 04 (PTI):

Indian duo Rohan Bopanna and Yuki Bhambri lost to world number 9 Holger Rune and Johannes Ingildsen in straight sets to hand hosts Denmark a 2-1 lead after the doubles tie in the Davis Cup World Group Play-Off on Saturday. The Danish pair made short work of the Indians winning 6-2 6-4 in just 65 minutes as Rune's presence proved to be a decisive factor.

Earlier on Friday, India's number one Sumit Nagal had erased a one-set deficit to pip August Holmgren 4-6 6-3 6-4 in two hours and 27 minutes.

Nagal restored the parity after Bhambri had a forgettable opening singles losing 2-6 2-6 to the rising teen sensation Rune. Bhambri has quit singles and now plays only doubles on tour. The 25-year-old Nagal, ranked 506,



dropped serve in the very first game of the match but once he got hold of his nerves, he was his usual fighting self. He got the break back but squan-

dered the chances when Holmgren offered them. The Danish player, ranked 484, eventually sealed the set. In the second set, it was Nagal who drew the

first blood and went up 5-2. He served out the set in the ninth game to force a decider.

Nagal had a chance to get the first break when he made a deep return and Holmgren's forehand return sailed over the baseline at 30-all but the home player served well to save the chance.

Nagal got another chance when Holmgren netted a forehand at deuce point in the third game but he himself made a forehand error on the breakpoint. While Nagal preferred to hit from the baseline, Holmgren charged the net often to create chances for volley win-

ners. Holmgren handed Nagal another break chance when he tried to pick a low volley but could not keep the ball in the court and followed that up with a double fault, allowing the Indian to take a mini 3-2 lead.

That lead stayed with Nagal and he came out serving for the match in the 10th game. Holmgren's forehand error gave the Indian three match points and converted the first one on home team player's unforced error. In the opening singles, Rune broke Bhambri twice in each set. The 19-year-old converted four of the seven break chances while the Indian did not get a single chance to break his opponent. Rune played percentage tennis while Yuki struggled with his first serve, double faulting four times in the lop-sided contest being played at indoor hard courts.

Sumit Nagal returns the ball to Denmark's August Holmgren during the qualifiers Davis Cup tennis match between Denmark and India, in Hillerod, Denmark.

Vande Metro in lines of Vande Bharat soon

Hyderabad, Feb. 04 (PTI):

Akin to Vande Bharat trains, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked the Ministry of Railways to come up with "Vande Metro", a train concept to run between two nearby big stations, Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw said here on Saturday.

Speaking to reporters, he also said Indian Railways has given away Rs 59,000 crore worth of subsidies in the transportation of food grains, fertilizers and many other items last year which is equivalent to 55 per cent concession for every passenger.

Minister has given the target this year. After the success of Vande Bharat train, (he asked to) develop a new world-class regional train which will be Vande Metro," he said.

The Minister said they are planning to come out of a prototype within the next 12 to 16 months and then roll it out and run it for at least one year.

Explaining the concept of "Vande Metro", he said the trains will be run with high frequency between two cities which are close to less than 100 Km each.

According to him, these kinds of trains are called "Regional trans" in Europe.

About Vande Bharat trains, he said in the last

two and half years, they run almost 12,00,000 km and every seven to eight days a new train is being introduced.

The Railway Minister said the Vande Bharat train between Secunderabad and Visakhapatnam is running very well with almost 120 per cent occupancy prompting the department to introduce more routes in Telangana.

Rebuking the reports that railways are being privatised, Vaishnaw said the Central government is doing whatever is good for the Ministry and "there is absolutely no question of privatization."

He said the Centre has plans to develop

Hyderabad city as a hub for 6G and advanced railway technologies such as AI, machine Learning and IoT. "So Centres of Excellence are being developed within Hyderabad for these two important very futuristic technologies," he said.

On the recently presented Union Budget, the minister said it is one of the most important budgets that has ever been presented in this country when the entire world is going through a very difficult and uncertain time.

He said the budget has given more allocation to railways in Telangana and if the state government co-operates, there would be much more funds.

CLEANLINESS DRIVE



Dera Sacha Sauda volunteers participate in a cleanliness drive in Jaipur, Saturday.

DISTURBING SITUATION

Parking attendant thrashed with bat

Will not be able to walk for 6 months

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

Saddled with debt and two mentally ill brothers, Vikas Thakur, who was assaulted with a cricket bat by a drunk man near PVR Priya, will now be bedridden for six months having undergone surgeries in head, and a fracture in backbone, according to a relative who spoke to the doctors.

Pathak, a parking attendant, was brutally assaulted Wednesday evening by a man, a physical education teacher, when he

asked him to pay Rs 60 in parking charges. "Doctors told us in morning that it will take at least six months for Vikas Thakur to walk," Subhash Singh, an uncle of 34-year-old Pathak, said.

"Doctors have done two surgeries, on both sides of his head. They said the surgeries were successful. Thakur has received a crack in his backbone. He is semiconscious, but responding through his hands. He is not able to speak," Singh told PTI.

Singh is a supervisor at the parking lot in Vasant Vihar area of south Delhi where the incident happened. He was at a temple nearby, when his nephew was assaulted. "When the

incident happened, I was sitting at a temple which is near the spot. The man was in drunken state and refused to give the parking charges. He even abused the attendants. He took out a cricket bat and ran behind Thakur and another attendant, Manoj Kumar.

"Kumar managed to save himself, but Thakur was beaten with a bat," he said, adding, there were 50-60 people around the spot but no one came to his nephew's rescue.

"We took him to AIIMS Trauma Centre where he is undergoing treatment. It took the man only 10 minutes from abusing, assaulting, and fleeing in his car," Singh said. There have

been rows before at the parking lot, but none like this, he said. Thakur's wife, with her brother, flew to Delhi as soon as she heard about the assault, borrowing Rs 25,000 for airfare and other expenses.

Back home, he has a mother, three kids -- two sons and a daughter -- and two brothers who are undergoing mental treatment at a hospital in Ranchi, Jharkhand, Singh said.

"Thakur earlier used to work as a driver in Kishangarh, but was sacked during the coronavirus pandemic, after his employer lost his job. Later, he went to his home," Singh said. Thakur had returned to Delhi 3-4 months ago and got the job

of a parking attendant. He drives too in his spare time to make extra money.

"He belongs to a poor family. His sister's husband attacked her around two years ago. Thakur took a loan of Rs 2 lakh and was spending it on his sister's treatment and a court case.

"He has already repaid Rs 50,000 and was in the process of returning the remaining amount, but now this happened. Our employer has assured his wife that he will help them in get treated," Singh said.

Thakur's wife on Saturday took a room on rent in southwest Delhi's Kusumpur Pahari area to stay near her husband while he recovers.

Body of baby who died after 'hot iron' treatment exhumed

Another 3-month old girl under treatment

Shahdol (MP), Feb 04 (PTI):

The body of a two-and-a-half-month-old girl has been exhumed in Madhya Pradesh's Shahdol district following her death after allegedly being branded with a hot iron rod more than 50 times by an exorcist, an official said on Saturday.

District Collector Vandana Vaidya said the baby's body was exhumed on Friday and a post-mortem will be conducted on Saturday.

Initial investigation has shown that she died due to pneumonia but the real reasons behind the death could be known after the post-mortem report, she

said. The child's mother, a resident of Kathotia under Sinhpur police station limits in the tribal-dominated district, said her family first took her ailing daughter to a quack but her condition didn't improve.

The family then approached a woman faith healer who poked the child's body with a hot iron rod 51 times in a bid to treat her, the mother said. However, the baby's condition deteriorated and she was taken to the district hospital, which referred her to Shahdol Medical College. The baby died during treatment on Wednesday, she said.

The family members

then buried the child's body. After learning about the incident from local media, the government decided to exhume the body.

Meanwhile, another case where a 3-month-old girl was branded with a hot iron rod is under treatment also came to the fore in Shahdol on Saturday, an official said.

The infant, identified as Shubhi Kol, daughter of one Suraj Kol, was brought to the government-run Birsra Munda Medical College on Wednesday after she was branded with a hot iron rod, the institution's superintendent Dr Nagendra Singh said.

JMM FOUNDATION DAY



Tribal artists perform during the 44th foundation day celebrations of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), in Dhanbad, Saturday.

IIT Ropar develops air nano bubble technology

That can reduce water usage in textile sector by 90%

Chandigarh, Feb 04 (PTI):

The Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar on Saturday said it has developed an innovative green technology -- air nano bubble -- that can reduce the usage of water in the textile sector by up to 90 per cent.

"Textile is one of the most water-intensive industries and there is an escalating need to address the problem of managing water usage in the textile industry associated with contamination of water.

At IIT Ropar, we are inventing and incorporating new-age processing methods to conserve water for our future generations," Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar said in a statement here.

Neelkanth Nirmalkar, who has developed this technology, said as per

rough estimate, 200-250 litres of water is required to process one kg of cotton fabric.

The laboratory reports suggest that the air nano bubble dispersed in water can reduce the water consumption and chemical dosage by 90-95 per cent which ultimately saves 90 per cent of the energy consumption as well, Nirmalkar claimed.

In the textile industry, water is used at many steps required for fabric preparation, including for dyeing, finishing chemicals in textile substrates, desizing (process of removal of sizing material from yarn), scouring, bleaching, and mercerising (chemical treatment of fabric to enhance affinity towards dye, the statement said.

At the same time, the textile industry also pro-

duces the highest volume of waste water. The major source of water pollution is pre-treatment, dyeing, printing, and finishing of textile materials, it said.

"The technology is based on nano bubbles of air and ozone. The bubbles are hydrophobic in nature therefore, interact better than water with the fabric and distribute chemicals and dyes in the fabric much more efficiently than just water," Nirmalkar said.

These bubbles are of a size equivalent to 1/10000th times of human hair. Ozone nano bubbles efficiently remove extra dye during fabric wash and degrade the dye in the water, said Nirmalkar, who is an assistant professor at chemical engineering department of IIT, Ropar.

CHANGE IN EXAM PATTERN

Now, online common entrance exam first

For Agniveer recruitment process

New Delhi, Feb 04 (PTI):

The army has announced a change in the Agniveer recruitment process and candidates wanting to join the force will now have to first appear for an online common entrance examination (CEE), followed by physical fitness and medical tests.

While advertisements regarding the change in the process have been put out by the army in various newspapers, sources on Saturday said, the notification for this is expected to be issued around mid-February.

When process will start...

The first online CEE is slated to be held in April at nearly 200 locations across the country and for it all preparations have been finalised. The changed methodology will ensure increased focus on cognitive aspect during selection. It will have wider outreach across the country and also reduce the large crowds seen during recruitment rallies to make them more manageable and easier to conduct. The first step will be the online CEE for all candidates at nominated centres, followed by physical fitness test for CEE-qualified candidates during recruitment rallies, and medical tests in the end.

The first online CEE is slated to be held in April at nearly 200 locations across the country and for it all preparations have been finalised, a source said.

"The changed methodology will ensure increased focus on cognitive aspect during selection. It will have wider outreach across the country and also reduce the large

crowds seen during recruitment rallies to make them more manageable and easier to conduct," the source said.

An advertisement published in a leading newspaper with the title -- "Transformational Changes in Recruitment in Indian Army" -- on Friday, lists the new three-step methodology for the recruitment process.

TN firm to suspend manufacturing of ophthalmic preparations

As eye drop linked to vision loss in US

New Delhi, Feb 4 (PTI):

A day after its plant was inspected by Indian drug regulatory bodies over allegations that its eye drop was linked to vision loss in the US, Tamil Nadu-based Global Pharma Healthcare has been asked to stop manufacturing all ophthalmic products till the inquiry is completed, officials said on Saturday.

A three-member team each from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)

and the State Drug Controller visited the plant in Tamil Nadu's Kancheepuram, 40 km from Chennai, on Friday after the company recalled the eye drop. The teams have also collected samples of eye drop -- Artificial Tears -- which were exported. The eye drop is not sold in India.

According to an official report, the joint investigation at the firm's manufacturing site at Thirupurur in Tamil Nadu's Kancheepuram was conducted on February 3 by the team of senior central and state drugs officials, under the supervision of

Tamil Nadu's Director of Drugs Control and CDSCO's Assistant Drugs Controller (South Zone).

During investigation, it was found that, the firm has exported two consignments of 24 batches of Artificial Tears to the USA -- B No: PCMI001 to PCMO08 and B.No. PCMJ001 to PCMJ016 -- which were manufactured in 2021 and 2022.

No stocks of the said batches were found during the investigation, the report said. "The firm has maintained the control samples for the said batch-

es. The samples were taken for an analysis from the 4 batches of control samples.

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