

BRIEF



Class Xth students celebrate on completion of their exams, in Thiruvananthapuram, Wednesday.

Head-on collision

Ludhiana: Three persons were killed in a head-on collision between two trucks near Saludi village on the Khanna-Samrala road in this Punjab district on Wednesday, police said. The impact of the accident was such that the body of a truck driver was taken out after extracting him from the front side of one of the ill-fated vehicle, police said, adding that the whole effort took two hours.

Ordinance

Lucknow: UP government on Wednesday approved an ordinance to amend the rules of UP Nagar Nigam and Nagar Palika in light of recommendations of Uttar Pradesh Backward Classes Commission for urban local bodies polls. The state cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath passed the proposal of the Urban Development department in this regard, Minister AK Sharma told reporters.

Appointed

New Delhi: Two advocates were on Wednesday elevated as judges of the Gujarat High Court. In a tweet, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said advocates Devan Mahendrabhai Desai and Moxa Kiran Thakker have been appointed as judges of High Court of Gujarat.

Flag off

Bhopal: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off the Bhopal-New Delhi Vande Bharat Express train at Rani Kamalapati station here on April 1, and also take part in the Combined Commanders' Conference that day, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on Wednesday.

Inquiry

Mumbai: A magistrate's court here on Wednesday asked police to probe a complaint against West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for allegedly disrespecting the national anthem after the Bombay High Court denied her relief. Metropolitan Magistrate (Sewree court) P I Mokashi directed the Cuff Parade police station in south Mumbai to conduct an inquiry into the matter and submit a report by April 28.

Weather
High 36 Low 23

MARKET
NIFTY 17,080.70
SENSEX 57,960.09

BULLION
GOLD 58,934
SILVER 70,720

COAL LEVY CASE

ED conducts fresh searches against IAS officer, Cong leader

Raipur, Mar 29:

The Enforcement Directorate, probing an alleged illegal coal levy case in Chhattisgarh, on Wednesday conducted searches at places linked to a senior IAS officer, a Congress leader, and others in the state capital Raipur, official sources said. The investigation relates to "a massive scam in which an illegal levy of Rs 25 was being extorted for every tonne of coal transported in Chhattisgarh by a cartel involving senior bureaucrats, businessmen, politicians and middlemen", the agency has said. Visuals on Wednesday morning showed paramilitary personnel in the residence of IAS officer Anil Kumar

Fresh searches....

Visuals on Wednesday morning showed paramilitary personnel in the residence of IAS officer Anil Kumar Tuteja, Raipur Mayor and Congress leader Aijaz Dhebar and liquor businessman Baldev Singh Bhatia alias Pappu Bhatia, where according to officials, searches are underway. Tuteja is posted as Joint Secretary in the state's Industry and Commerce department.

Tuteja, Raipur Mayor and Congress leader Aijaz Dhebar and liquor businessman Baldev Singh Bhatia alias Pappu Bhatia, where according to officials, searches are underway. Tuteja is posted as



One of the residences raided by ED in Bhilai.

On Wednesday, teams of the Enforcement Directorate conducted raids at the residences of six influential people in Durg - Bhilai. One of them is Special Secretary of the Excise Department while four

others are engaged in liquor business. The sixth person targeted by ED is a businessman and has good relations with the ruling party. ED sleuths conducted search at the residence of Excise

launched searches on the premises of a DPR officer, prominent businessman Kamal Sarada, and others.

ED raids in 6 places....

Department Special Secretary KP Tripathi in Sector 9; residence of businessman Pappu Bansal in Khursipar; residence of businessman Vinod Bihari in Deepak Nagar in Durg; residence of Kedia Distillery former manager Sanjeev Fatehpuria in Nehru Nagar; residence of Kedia Distillery Manager Uday Rao in Surya Vihar Colony; and residence of Atul Sinha in Smriti Nagar, who owns two warehouses and is involved in liquor business.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had alleged the ED was acting at the behest of BJP leaders.

Maoists kill two villagers in separate incidents

Narayanpur/Sukma, Mar 29: Two villagers, including a former deputy sarpanch, were allegedly killed by suspected Naxalites in Chhattisgarh's Maoist-hit Bastar division in separate incidents, police officials said on Wednesday. The victims were accused of acting as police informers by assailants, they said. Both incidents took place on Tuesday night. While the man identified as Ramji Dodi was murdered in Narayanpur district, another villager Madkam Raju was killed in Sukma district. A native of Jhara village under Dhanora police station limits (Narayanpur), Dodi, a former deputy sarpanch, was strangled to death near his home. As per the preliminary information, a group of over a dozen Naxalites intercepted Dodi when he was going to his relative's place on foot and then abducted his two more family members, both men, from his house.

About the deaths....

Both incidents took place on Tuesday night. While the man identified as Ramji Dodi was murdered in Narayanpur district, another villager Madkam Raju was killed in Sukma district. A native of Jhara village under Dhanora police station limits (Narayanpur), Dodi, a former deputy sarpanch, was strangled to death near his home. As per the preliminary information, a group of over a dozen Naxalites intercepted Dodi when he was going to his relative's place on foot and then abducted

his two more family members, both men, from his house, he said. The trio were taken inside a nearby forest, where Naxalites murdered Dodi and handed over the body to two others with a pamphlet suggesting he was acting as a police informer, he said.

his two more family members, both men, from his house, he said. The trio were taken inside a nearby forest, where Naxalites murdered Dodi and handed over the body to two others with a pamphlet suggesting he was acting as a police informer, he said.

K'taka votes on May 10

Results on May 13

New Delhi, Mar 29 (PTI): Assembly elections in Karnataka will be held in a single phase on May 10 and the votes counted on May 13, the Election Commission announced on Wednesday, setting the stage for a key BJP versus Congress electoral fight ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha showdown. The Janata Dal (Secular) is the third major party in the state, which has a 224-member assembly. The BJP currently has 119 seats, followed by the Congress with 75. The JD (S) has 28 MLAs, while two seats are vacant. Addressing a press conference here, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said the notification for the elections will be issued on April 13 and the last date for filing nomination papers will be April



CEC Rajiv Kumar speaks during a press conference for the announcement of the schedule of Karnataka Legislative Assembly elections, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

20. Kumar said the nomination papers will be scrutinised on April 21 and the last date for withdrawal of nominations is April 24. He said the elections have been scheduled on a Wednesday, and not on a

Monday or Friday, to encourage greater participation of voters. "People can take a day off and have a long weekend. But by holding the poll on Wednesday, the possibility has been reduced," he said, adding

Vital statistics...

For the assembly elections, 58,282 polling stations will be set up in the state. The average voter per polling station is pegged at 883. Fifty per cent of the polling stations have webcasting facility. A total of 1,320 polling stations will be managed by women officials. Among the over 5.24 crore voters, over 5.60 lakh have been identified as persons with disability

that the move is part of the EC's effort to ensure greater participation and curb voters' apathy in going to the polling stations. The ruling BJP and the Congress have already launched spirited campaigns for the elections.

PLEASURE AND ENJOYMENT



Young women take bath at Har Ki Pouri in Tawi river, in Jammu, Wednesday.

ROSE VALLEY ED attaches assets worth Rs 159 cr

New Delhi: Assets worth around Rs 150 crore have been attached under the anti-money laundering law as part of an ongoing investigation against the Rose Valley Group, the Enforcement Directorate said on Wednesday. A provisional order for attachment of assets has been issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and as many as 139 immovable properties consisting land, flats, commercial and office space, shops etc. registered in the name of various companies of Rose Valley Group and its directors in Tripura, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, have been frozen, the agency said in a statement. The money laundering case stems from a CBI FIR and charge sheets.

Justice Ramesh Sinha takes oath as HC CJ

Raipur, Mar 29:

Justice Ramesh Sinha, senior judge of Allahabad High Court, on Wednesday took oath as the Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court.

Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan administered the oath of office to him at a function held at the Raj Bhavan. He took oath in Hindi.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, his cabinet colleagues, former chief minister Raman Singh and senior officials were present on the occasion.

On March 10, Justice Goutam Bhaduri was appointed as the acting chief justice of the high



Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan administering the oath of office to Justice Ramesh Sinha.

court of Chhattisgarh following the retirement of Chief Justice Justice Arup Kumar Goswami.

As per the information mentioned on Allahabad High Court website, born on September 5, 1964, Chief Justice Sinha graduated in law from Allahabad University in 1990.

He was enrolled as an advocate on September 8, 1990 and practised in the civil and criminal side, it said.

He was sworn-in as the Additional Judge of Allahabad High Court on November 21, 2011 and later on August 6, 2013 appointed as permanent judge, it added.

SC OBSERVATION

'Don't mix politics, religion, hate speech will end'

New Delhi, Mar 29 (PTI):

The Supreme Court on Wednesday took serious exception to hate speeches saying these will end the moment politics and religions are separated and politicians stop using religion in politics.

Terming hate speeches a "vicious circle", the top court said these utterings are being made by fringe elements and people should restrain themselves from doing so.

A bench of justices KM Joseph and BV Nagarathna referred to speeches of former prime ministers Jawaharlal Nehru and Atal Bihari Vajpayee, saying people from remote areas and every nook and corner

used to gather to hear them. "Major problem arises when politicians are mixing politics with religion. The moment politics and religion are segregated, this will end. When politicians stop using religion, all this will stop. We have said in our recent verdict also that mixing politics with religion is dangerous for democracy," Justice Joseph said.

Wondering as to how many people can courts initiate contempt action, the bench said why cannot the people of India take a pledge to not vilify other citizens or communities.

"Everyday fringe elements are making speeches to vilify others including on TV and public forums," the bench said

while hearing a contempt petition against various state authorities including Maharashtra for failing to register FIRs against those making such speeches.

When Solicitor General Tushar Mehta pointed out a derogatory speech made in Kerala by a man against a particular community and questioned that petitioner Shaheen Abdullah has selectively pointed out the incidents of hate speeches in the country, this triggered sharp exchanges between the court and Mehta.

He also pointed out a statement made by a DMK party leader and said why has the petitioner's counsel not made him and those states party in the contempt petition.

Mohammad Faizal's LS membership restored

New Delhi, Mar 29 (PTI): The Lok Sabha Secretariat on Wednesday restored the membership of NCP leader Mohammad Faizal P



P, who was disqualified from the lower house in January following his conviction in a criminal case with a 10-year jail term.

Faizal, who represents Lakshadweep, had moved the Kerala High Court against the sessions court order and obtained a suspension of his conviction and sentence. "In view of order dated 25.01.2023 of the High Court of Kerala, the disqualification of Mohammed Faizal P.P., notified vide Gazette Notification no. 21/4(1)/2023/TO(B) dated

India mother of democracy: PM

New Delhi, Mar 29 (PTI): Describing India as the mother of democracy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said the country has become the fastest-growing major economy despite many global challenges and this proves that the democracy can deliver. In a virtual address to the Summit for Democracy, 2023, Modi also said that every initiative of his government is powered by collective efforts of the citizens of India. "India, despite the many global challenges, is the fastest growing major economy today. This itself is the best advertisement for the democracy and the world. This itself says that democracy can deliver," he said. Modi was



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the Summit for Democracy, via video conferencing, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

speaking at the second Summit for Democracy, co-hosted by US President Joe Biden, Costa Rica President Rodrigo Chaves Robles, Zambia President Hakainde Hichilema, the Netherlands Prime Minister Mark Rutte and South Korea President Yoon Suk Yeol.

Happy RAMNAVMI



Open Roof for Marriage & Party

Power House, 47, C Market, Near Sapna Talkies, Nandini Rd, Janjiri, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh 490001
Phone: 098932 15251



MAHESHWARI TRADERS

Mahesh

Stockist :

Submersible, Monoblock, Pump, G.I. Pipes, Black Pipes, PVC Pipes Fittings & Generator

Auth. Dealer :

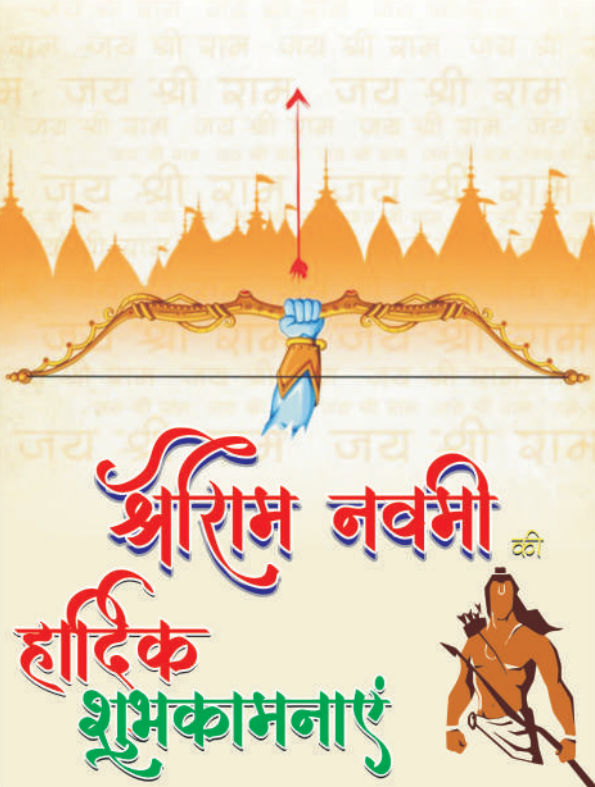
Bajaj, Cropmton, Sabar, Bharat, Techno, VSG & Dura Pumpset.

G.E. Road, Ganjpara Durg (C.G.)



RITURAJ GAS

SHOP NO. 43, AKASH GANGA COMPLEX SUPELA, BHILAI, CHHATTISGARH-490023



Devotees celebrate Navaratri with devotion



Bhilai, Mar 29: The denizens are celebrating Navaratri with great devotion across the city. Devotees are gathering at the temples daily and are offering prayers to the Goddess Durga. Women are organising bhajan sandhyas daily at Shri Radha Krishna Mandir premises in Nehru Nagar. Through bhajans, the women are paying obeisance to the Maa Durga and her different forms. Akhand Jyoti Kalashs have been lit in the temple. Maha Ashtami was celebrated on Wednesday. Navaratri celebrations will conclude with Haven on March 30.

MP Vijay Baghel demands new train from Durg to Palasa



Bhilai, Mar 29: Durg MP Vijay Baghel met the Union Railway Minister Ashwani Vaishnav recently and raised the demand of operating a new train from Durg to Palasa - Berhampur via Vijayanagar. President of Andhra Utkal Sangharsh Samiti and Former Railway Advisory Committee member K Umashankar Rao, Dr S Adinarayana, Capt Sanjeev, Roshan Tamrakar and L Srinivasa Rao were also present. Andhra Utkal Sangharsh Samiti President K Umashankar Rao said that MP Vijay Baghel raised this demand twice in the Lok Sabha. During the meeting with the Union Railway Minister, he stressed on starting the new train soon. The Minister assured to take appropriate action. The new train from Durg to Palasa, Berhampur via Vijayanagar will provide facilities to lakhs of Andhra - Utkal residents and tourists. Apart from this, it will be easier for the elderly, women and children to travel on this route.

Swachhata Rally organised at Sinter Plant 3



Bhilai, Mar 29: A Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was organised at SAIL- Bhilai Steel Plant's Sinter Plant No 3 under the leadership of Chief General Manager Anup Kumar Dutt. The Swachhata Rally was organised to promote cooperation and participation in the Swachh Bharat initiative. All the participants of the rally were administered the Oath of Cleanliness and took a vow to sincerely promote this cause, so that awareness towards cleanliness continues in future as well. Commencing from the Sinter building and passing through the Lubrication & Ventilation sections and Machine-1, the rally concluded at Machine-2. During the course of the rally, the entire route from Machine 1 to Machine was cleaned by the participants. Organised by MRK Sharif, General Manager SP-3, senior officers including AK Bedekar, Head of Operations, CS Ram, Head of Mechanical, Saurabh Varshney, Head of Electrical and their teams took active part along with other officers, employees and workers of the Sinter Plant Department and Labour welfare Officers and contract workers.

SRJS makes elaborate arrangements for Ram Navami

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 29: Shri Ram Janmotsav Samiti (SRJS) is organizing a grand event of Shri Ram Navami on March 30 for the 38th consecutive year. SRJS Youth Wing President Manish Pandey informed that Mahaprasad will be prepared from more than 95 quintals of grains donated by people. Attractions of the event will be a grand live painting of Shri Ram temple by All India Platinum Artist Awardee Pramod Sahu, attractive automatic tableaux and light and sound show.

Sant Shri Shri 1008 Balakdas Maharaj of Pateswar Dham will address the Dharma Sabha. On the other hand, senior journalist Dr Himanshu Dwivedi will deliver the keynote address and Patron Prem Prakash Pandey will preside over. The center of attraction in the program will be the grand live painting of Shri



Ram Mandir. Pramod Sahu, a well-known artist of the region, will make the live painting of Shri Ram Mandir on the stage. More than 20000 devotees will join the recitation of Shri Hanuman Chalisa at the Dharma Sabha at Ramleela Maidan, Power House. This year a procession will be taken out from all the 12 blocks for which the route has already been decided. All these processions will reach Ramila Maidan Power House via fixed route. Processions of more than 1150 temples are participating in the

event. The processions from Kumhari, Charoda, Bhilai 3, Hathkhaj, Patharia and Dabrapara will join to form Baba Bholenath Shobhayatra. Processions from Khursipar, Jamul, Dhaur, Navatariya, Kherdha, Dhancha Bhavan, Kailash Nagar, Kurud, Ghasidas Nagar, Housing Board, Faujinagar Chhawani, Nandani Road, Shramik Nagar, Shankar Nagar, Shantipara, Baikunthdham, Fish Market, Subhash Nagar, Ward-39 will join to form Bhagwan Chaturbhuj

Shobhayatra. Processions from Nankatti, Karanja, Bassein, Samoda, Bhatgaon, Ganiyari, Nagpura, Malud, Chikhali, Khapri, Belodi, Jewra-Sirsa, Kohka Junwani, Model Town, Nehru Nagar, Kosanala, Krishna Nagar, Vaishalinagar, Ramnagar, Ravanbatha Supela will join to make Maa Balmeshwari Shobhayatra. Processions from Kokadi, Kodiya, Hanod, Khamharia, Dhanod, Joratrai, Dundera, Patora, Utai,



Newai Basti, Maroda Station, Mahuwari, Maroda, Tanki Maroda, Risali, Pragati Nagar, Ruabandha Basti, Ruabandha Sector, HUDCO, Sector-9, Sector-10, Sector-8, Sector-7, Sector-6, Sector-5 and Sector-1 will join together to form Maa Danteshwari Shobhayatra. All the shobha yatras would reach Power House Ramila Maidan at 07:30 pm. Display of tableaux, akhanda, panthi nacha, raut nacha, bhajan sandhya and dharma sabha will be held here.

मध्य भारत के सबसे बड़े धार्मिक एवं सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम

श्रीरामनवमी 38वां उत्सव वर्ष

डॉ. हिमांशु द्विवेदी
प्रधान संपादक, हरिभूमि ग्रुप एवं INH ग्रुप मुख्य वक्ता

रमेश माने
प्रतीय अध्यक्ष

बुद्धन गोकुर
प्रतीय महामंत्री

सेवकराम साहू
जिला अध्यक्ष

प्रवीण पाण्डेय
कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष

आदरणीय श्री श्री 1008 रामबालक दास जी महात्यागी
मुख्य अतिथि

स्वप्न हुआ साकार अयोध्या में सज रहा श्रीराम का दरबार

बसंत प्रधान
जिला महामंत्री

जोगिन्दर शर्मा
जिला महामंत्री

दीपक मिश्रा
जिला महामंत्री

मदन सेन
जिला महामंत्री

मनीष पाण्डेय
युवा विंग अध्यक्ष

मुख्य आकर्षण

- श्रीराममंदिर की भव्य लाइव पेंटिंग
- आकर्षक स्वचलित झांकियां
- कलाकार - श्री प्रमोद साहू
- भव्य लाइट एंड साउंड शो
- (ऑल इंडिया आर्टिस्ट फ्लोरिनम अवार्ड)
- विशाल धर्मसभा

गुरुवार, 30 मार्च, 2023 | संध्या 5:30 बजे से वूलन मार्केट, श्रीरामलीला मैदान, सेक्टर - 1, भिलाई

मा. श्री प्रेम प्रकाश पांडेय जी
संरक्षक - श्रीराम जन्मोत्सव समिति

जनसहयोग से बने महाप्रसाद को ग्रहण करने आप सादर आमंत्रित हैं।

विनीत: श्रीराम जन्मोत्सव समिति, भिलाई - दुर्ग



CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 173

Rahul Gandhi's Political Future

The recent court verdict against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has sparked a debate on his political future. Some argue that he is finished, while others believe that he is in a win-win position. However, it is too early to predict the outcome of this evolving story. The BJP claims that Rahul is politically finished, but Congress argues that he is in a good position. If a higher court stays or overturns the verdict, it will be advantageous for him. If it does not, Rahul is prepared to pay 'any price' and even go to jail, which might give him more political mileage. The court convicted Rahul for criminal defamation over his remarks about the "Modi community" during a campaign rally in Karnataka in 2019. The BJP politician Purnesh Modi filed a complaint against him, accusing him of defaming the community. The court pronounced a two-year imprisonment, but Rahul was granted bail immediately and suspended the sentence for a month, allowing him time to appeal in a higher court against the punishment. Rahul's conviction also means that he will be unable to contest the Lok Sabha elections for the next eight years apart from losing his present membership in the lower house. The membership of an MP or MLA sentenced for two years or more ends immediately after the court convicts them. The Lok Sabha promptly announced Rahul's dismissal the next day. To come out of this situation, Rahul needs the strong backing of the united party, the united opposition, and the support of the public. The judgment has united the opposition against the ruling dispensation. Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal and other opposition leaders, like Tamil Nadu chief minister M.K. Stalin, former U.P. chief minister Akhilesh Yadav, and former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray joined the condemnation of the act. West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee was the first to condemn the action while she has been opposing Congress all these days. Congress responded that the conviction was to divert the Adani issue in Parliament as Congress has demanded a joint parliamentary probe into the Adani-Henderson report. Rahul Gandhi said he would not "back down" from asking questions on the Adani stocks issue or be intimidated by threats, disqualifications, and prison sentences. Refusing to apologize for the remark, Rahul said: "My name is not Savarkar, my name is Gandhi. Gandhis don't apologize to anyone." The complete response of the public to Rahul's conviction is yet to come. Congress is yet to take it to the streets to involve the people in the coming days. Even though the conviction was a psychological blow to Rahul, his party, and the entire opposition, it all depends on how it is communicated to the people, handle the situation, translate it into public sympathy, and sustain it until the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Critics are skeptical about Rahul's ability to translate this into public sympathy, given the BJP's increasing popularity, tight control over the media, and winning spree. But Gandhi will still be news. In the coming months, before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, Congress will face its first significant test in Karnataka followed by Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh, where there will be a direct contest with the BJP. If the party wins the elections in these states, it will cheer the opposition. If the party loses, it will be a setback before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and reconcile to Modi performing the hat trick. Rahul's success depends on many ifs and buts. This includes whether he will get a higher court order to stay his verdict and how the public reacts. Congress must also change the poll narrative for the 2024 polls. In short, BJP cannot wish away Rahul. No politician is finished until he is finished. Rahul can be no exception. The BJP probably realizes the adage never to bring your opponent into the limelight. The moral of the story is that politicians, whatever high positions they occupy, should have tight control over their tongues. But at the same time, it is essential to ensure that legitimate criticism and opposition to the ruling party are not stifled using archaic laws.

AMRUT 2.0

Towards a Water-Secure and Self-Reliant India

Access to clean water and sanitation is a basic human right, and the importance of this cannot be overstated. The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) was launched in 2015 with the aim of providing basic infrastructure and services in 500 cities across the country. The mission was focused on ensuring universal coverage of water supply and sewerage management, as well as improving urban infrastructure and amenities. Now, with the launch of AMRUT 2.0 in October 2021, the objective has been expanded to cover all statutory towns in the country. The new mission is a five-year plan, spanning from Financial Year 2021-22 to 2025-26, and has a reform agenda that focuses on financial sustainability, ease of living for citizens, and water sector reforms. AMRUT 2.0 aims to make cities "self-reliant" and "water-secure" by providing universal coverage of sewerage and septage management in 500 cities. The mission has received State Water Action Plans (SWAPs) from all States and Union Territories (UTs) and has approved 6,527 projects costing Rs1,29,636 crore (including Operation and Maintenance Cost). The plan is ambitious, with 148 lakh new tap connections and 33.42 lakh new sewer connections planned to be provided through these projects. The mission also proposes adding or augmenting 8,435 Million Liters per Day (MLD) water treatment plant capacity and 2,795 MLD sewage treatment plant capacity. In addition, 2,102 water bodies rejuvenation projects worth Rs 3,664 crore have been approved under SWAPs and a special tranche of SWAP to give impetus to 'Amrit Sarovar' under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. While the progress made under AMRUT 2.0 is commendable, there are still challenges to overcome. The biggest challenge is to ensure the financial sustainability of the mission. To address this issue, AMRUT 2.0 has adopted a number of measures, including the introduction of user charges, improving the efficiency of the water supply and sanitation systems, and increasing the use of technology to reduce water loss. The mission also aims to promote public-private partnerships to leverage private sector resources and expertise to achieve its objectives. One of the other challenges that need to be addressed is the lack of skilled manpower to manage and operate the water and sanitation systems. AMRUT 2.0 recognizes this and has included a focus on capacity building and training programs for the staff and officials involved in the implementation of the mission. These programs aim to improve the technical skills and knowledge of the personnel involved in the water and sanitation sector, thereby improving the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the systems. It is heartening to note that progress has already been made under the mission. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has approved Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for 2,058 projects worth Rs 36,481.47 crore. Notice Inviting Tender have been issued for 1,025 projects worth Rs 19,157.55 crore, works have awarded for 608 projects worth Rs 5,422.82 crore and 29 projects worth Rs102.99 crore have been completed. However, it is important to note that AMRUT 2.0 is still in its early stages, and more needs to be done to ensure that the objectives are achieved. In addition, AMRUT 2.0 also has a strong focus on reforms related to financial sustainability, ease of living for citizens, and water sector reforms. This is a positive step towards ensuring that urban areas in India are able to meet the growing demands for basic infrastructure and services, while also becoming more self-reliant and sustainable in the long run.

Central Chronicle invites articles, write-ups, and comments on a wide range of issues for our editorial page. Submissions should be between 800-900 words in length. In addition, we welcome letters to the editor for this page. While letters may be edited for clarity, we aim to preserve the integrity of the original message, and ask that they be kept to around 50-60 words. Submissions can be sent via email to editor@centralchronicle@gmail.com.

ASHTAMI



Women devotees offer prayers while immersing 'shaakh' at Har Ki Pouri in Tawi river on the occasion of Ashtami, in Jammu, Wednesday, March 29.

Significance of Lord Shri Ram

Ram Navami is the birthday of Maryada Purushottam Prabhu Sri Ram, which falls on the 9th day of the Indian new year Chaitra Shukla Paksha of Vikrami Samvat. Ram is the seventh and most popular Avtar (incarnation) of Lord Vishnu Dashavatar and has taken birth on earth in TretaYug to destroy the evil forces. The nine-day auspicious Chaitra Navratra festival also concludes on this day. Lord Surya is the ancestor of Ram, so devotees start this auspicious day by "Jal Arpan" (offering water) to the supreme God Surya in the morning. In TretaYug, not only Prabhu Ram, but other personalities were also incarnations of Gods and Goddesses who played their specific role as ordinary human beings. Goddess Lakshmi has incarnated as Mother Sita, Sheshnag as Lakshman, God of Sudarshan Chakra as Bharat, God of PanchjanyaShankh as Shatrudhan. The entire Leela of God's Avtar was for the victory of goodness over evil forces and the establishment of Dharma on earth after the removal of Adharma.

Yash pal Ralhan, Jalandhar

Advantages of Open Forge Software

As a citizen of Chhattisgarh, I was pleased to learn about the state's efforts to promote e-governance with the use of Open Forge software. This platform will allow government departments to easily acquire software for monitoring their programs and schemes, and for expanding their reach to the people. By providing access to numerous software applications, the platform will bring uniformity to various schemes being run across the country, while also saving valuable time and money for the government. During the state-level training-cum-workshop, officers from various departments were trained on the use of this platform. The National eGovernance Division (NeGD) will provide technical training for two days, further ensuring the successful implementation of this software. I commend the Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotion Society (CHIPS) for taking this initiative to provide citizens with the advantages of the latest information technology sector technologies. Let us hope that this effort will result in more efficient and effective governance for the people of Chhattisgarh.

Rajesh Sharma, Korba

ER. PRABHAT KISHORE



Beloved by the people, adored by his Gurus and admired by the Rishis-Munis, Lord Ram is the epitome of courtesy and virtues. Lord Vishnu has incarnated on earth to demonstrate how an ideal human being should follow the path of Dharma. Prabhu Ram symbolizes a devoted son, an ideal husband, an ideal brother, a loyal friend, an ideal warrior and above all an ideal king. That is why an ideal and utopian democratic system in all age-old earth has been termed as "Ram Rajya". Ram Rajya is known as the period of happiness, peace, duty, justice and prosperity. Shri Ram's life is full of struggle and even in the toughest circumstances he

did not deviate from the path of righteousness, compassion and wisdom. He set the highest standards of conduct and upheld the greatest of virtues and ethics in every walk of life. He was savior for the weak & the oppressed and was ruthless in penalizing the vicious forces. The teachings of his life is guiding light for all sections of the society. The name & fame, wealth, physical charming all fade up with time, but the noble character, boundless compassion and magnanimous deeds endure for all the times. Some special characteristics of Ram- Being dutiful, Courageous, Intelligent, Justice, Kindheartedness, Obedience, Patience,

Popularity, & Universal love are the torch bearer for the human world. The story of Prabhu Ram has been scripted in various languages and by various authors in their own ways. Of these epics, "Ramayana" in Sanskrit by Maharshi Valmiki and "Ram CharitManas" in Hindi by GoswamiTulsidas are most popular among devotees. Prabhu Shri Ram has special significance in other sects originating from Sanatan Dharma, particularly in Sikhism. In the Holy scripture of Sikhs Shri Guru GranthSahibji, the name of Prabhu "Ram" have been chanted 2533 times. Prabhu Ram is Nirgun as well as Shagun. His personality and teachings are not limited to a particular sect, belief or space, rather he is ideal for all human beings. He is present in soul of everyone and available each and every particle of the universe (KanKanmeinPrabhu Shri Ram). Ramnavami is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion by people all over the world with special prayer, pujas, and processions of Ram, Sita, Lakshman and Hanuman. Fasting on this day can help purify the body and mind and brings blessings and good fortune. Shri Ram creates the path to the devotees to reach the zones of liberation and immortality.

(Author is a technocrat & academician.)

They don't make like him any more

Kajal Chatterjee

It is perhaps "in-thing" to say that the politicians have devastated the society and the nation, as if they have descended from an alien planet and are imposing themselves upon us. But the fact remains that they are part and parcel of this very society only and get elected to Assemblies, Parliament and Governance through free will of the electorate only. So if the politicians are indeed so "rogue", then the finger of blame should be directed at the voters or common people only. However, despite a lot of filth in politics, all leaders are definitely neither corrupt nor devils. But how do we treat those exceptional personalities. Perhaps it would not be out of context if the life and deeds of late A.K.Roy get highlighted. Born in Rajshahi (present day Bangladesh) in a family

of freedom fighters, Arun Kumar Roy went on to earn a degree in Chemical Engineering from Kolkata University and also pursued higher education in Germany. Returning to India, Roy joins Sindi fertilizer factory near Dhanbad (then in Bihar, presently in Jharkhand) obviously in a high post. But witnessing the exploitation of the laborers and poverty of the downtrodden, he resigned from the economically lucrative glamorous job to join a Communist outfit and started his fight on behalf of the vulnerable. Despite strong opposition from the coal mafia and vested interests; he went on to become MLA as well as MP from Dhanbad totalling 6 terms with occasional defeats also (in 1970s and 80s). Thanks to his immense personal sacrifice in the career front so as to fight for the exploited lot and due to his im-

peccable honesty and simplicity, AK Roy was nothing but a living legend in the Dhanbad coal belt. Without entering into a matrimonial bond, Roy used to live in a tiny room within the party office. The salary which he used to receive as MP/MLA were spent for the welfare of the poor. No Bank Account, only two sets of shirts and trousers, travel in general class compartments. So when I became eligible to vote during the 1989 Lok Sabha polls, obviously my first vote of life had been cast in favor of Roy. He had won, but that was the last electoral win of his career. In 1991 general polls, he was defeated by BJP's Rita Verma - wife of a Dhanbad police officer who was killed by bank robbers in early 1991. Not only did she get the advantage of a huge sympathy vote, the Ayodhya "movement" was also the hot talk of the town and society. Moreover in "eco-

nomically liberalised" India, all traits of sacrifice honesty principles pro-poor attitude were fast losing its earlier values and relevance in the society. Religion started becoming the electoral trump card with selfish consumerism and money-making by hook or by crook gaining social acceptance - promoting it to be perhaps the only goal of life. Despite being politically marginalized, Roy continued to work in his own way silently among the downtrodden. He didn't view politics as a means of garnering wealth and prosperity, but as an avenue to award selfless service to the society. So the handsome pension, of which he was entitled to as an ex-MP, again used to get redirected towards the President's Welfare Fund. And as innumerable poor in this country is bereft of electricity, Roy voluntarily used to stay in an electricity-less room till his

last days. This highly exceptional personality, aged 84, breathed his last on 21st July 2019 unsung, far far away from the limelight. Barring a few lines here and there, his passing away elicited not even a single ripple also in the Indian society. It was not Roy's loss, rather it is the tragedy of the nation. Indeed they don't make personalities like AK Roy any more. And also it proves that traits of honesty, simplicity, humility and selfless service to humanity do not capture the imagination of the society any more. Yes, currently only religion, caste and audacious vulgar bankrupt violent talks sell like hot cakes in the current electoral environment. So common people have simply forfeited all moral right to accuse politicians behind the mess prevalent in the society. No wonder why it gets stated "People get the government/leaders they deserve".

Jacqueline Fernandez wraps up 1st schedule of 'Fateh' in Amritsar



Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez, who recently was feted with at the Annual Los Angeles Festival of Film, Fashion, and Art for her international film, 'Tell It Like a Woman', has wrapped up the first schedule of her next film 'Fateh'. Jacqueline was shooting for her part in Amritsar and seemed to have a great time with the film's team in the city. As she was shooting in Amritsar, the actress brought some glimpses of her amazing time in the city for her fans. She took to her Instagram to share her memories from the north Indian city as she shared many things from receiving a sketch of herself from a fan, enjoying the lassi to eating delicious Punjabi food. She wrote in the caption, "Thank you Amritsar #fateh @sonu_sood @zeestudioofficial @vaibhavisra23 @fateh_4bharat @ilcondor @shaanmu @marcepdrozo @sam_debroy @gopikagulwadi" Jacqueline had the best of her time while shooting for 'Fateh' which also stars Sonu Sood. The actress also visited the Golden Temple with Sonu. Apart from 'Fateh' alongside Sonu Sood, Jacqueline also has 'Crack' alongside Vidyut Jammwal and Arjun Rampal in the pipeline.

It's triple celebration for Vidisha Srivastava!



& TV's cult-comedy show Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai recently completed eight years and 2000 episodes. We caught up with Vidisha Srivastava aka 'Gori Mem' Anita Bhabi on her incredible journey in the show as she also completes one year of playing Anita Bhabi in the show. **Excerpts from the interview:**
It is a triple celebration for you. How does it feel to complete a year as Anita while your show Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai has turned eight years and completed 2000 episodes?
I feel fortunate to be a part of such an immensely popular show. Last year, when I was approached to play Anita, I was a bit skeptical. Before me, two actresses played this character beautifully. After a year of being associated with the show, I feel blessed for being accepted and appreciated for portraying Anita Bhabi. Very few shows continue to enjoy a loyal fan base and the completion of eight years, and 2000 episodes testifies the popularity of our show. I would like to thank the channel,

our producers, my co-stars, and most importantly, our viewers, for believing in me and supporting me throughout.
How does it feel when fans address you as Gori Mem or Anita Bhabi?
People in social media and friend circle have started addressing me by my character's name. A recent incident made me emotional. I was in my hometown, Varanasi, during Maha Shivratri. In the lanes where I have spent my childhood, people kept asking me 'Anita Bhabi kaisi hain aap?' I feel it is the biggest compliment for any actor when you get recognised for the role you play on-screen.
Do you have plans to sign Bollywood movies?
Honestly, I have been offered Hindi movies even before I did films in the South. However, I did not accept the roles as it did not excite me. As an actor, I look forward to meaty and challenging roles. I love to portray characters that add value to the overall concept of the show. Anita Bhabi is an excellent opportunity for me to showcase my acting prowess and I am looking forward to achieving more milestones being a part of Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai.
Watch Vidisha Srivastava as Anita Bhabi in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 PM every Monday to Friday!



Reena Kapoor is set to astound audience with her character transformation

Reena Kapoor's outstanding presentation on Star Bharat's "Aashao Ka Saver...Dheere Dheere" Se has captured the attention of people. The narrative emphasizes the difficulties faced by individual women, particularly widows who struggle to forge their own identities in society following the passing of their husbands. Reena Kapoor will surprise as she unveils her character makeover for the forthcoming track in Star Bharat's "Aashao Ka Saver...Dheere Dheere Se."
She says "My character as 'Bhawana', started off as a very calm, vulnerable, and soft-spoken character who was required to adhere to patriarchal society's norms imposed by her family. She was also frequently ignored and excluded from family simply because she is a widow, which caused her to change and eventually decide to stand up for herself while adamantly conveying a powerful message to the audience that one needs to be their own hero as your happiness is in your own hands.
Stay tuned to watch 'Aashao Ka Saver...Dheere Dheere Se' every Monday to Friday at 9:30 pm only on Star Bharat.

Nani: I would love to work with Deepika Padukone

Telugu superstar Nani, who is travelling to different cities to promote his film, 'Dasara', said that he would love to share screen space with Bollywood actress Deepika Padukone and will also explore an opportunity to work with Aamir Khan.
"I would love to work with Deepika Padukone as she is a marvellous actress and definitely if I get an opportunity and a right story, I would just love to be cast opposite her, Nani said."
Nani is known for his work in Telugu films like 'Ashta Chamma', 'Ride', 'Bheemili Kabaddi Jattu', 'Ala Modalaindi', 'Pilla Zamindar', 'Eega', 'Yeto Vellipoyindhi Manasu', 'Yevade Subramanya', and many more. He also hosted the second season of 'Bigg Boss Telugu', and got a lot of appreciation in the movie 'Jersey'.
As the actor talked about his special love for Bollywood, he shared that he wants to be part of a Rajkumar Hirani project.
He added: "The one Bollywood director I really



want to work with will be Rajkumar Hirani. I am just fond of the kind of movies he makes."
Asked about his favourite Bollywood star with whom he would like to work, he said: "I just wish to work with Aamir (Khan)sir. I enjoy watching his movies," adding that he will also watch Ajay Devgn's 'Bhola'.
Moving ahead, Nani talked about his wife Anjana, and said that she is fond of his movies. "She just loves watching my films and always goes for the morning show on the release date. She loves watching the film with the crowd." Nani spoke about his untitled project and said: "My next film will be completely opposite of 'Dasara'. I will be playing a father of a 6-year-old girl. There will be a completely different set up and my character is also going to be completely different from what I am playing in this movie."

Rapper Badshah: I always love shocking people

It wouldn't be wrong to call him number one as all his songs from 'Genda Phool', 'Paani', 'Jugnu' to his latest 'Sanak' among many others have been chartbuster hits. Rapper Badshah says he loves to shock people and wants to bring madness into their life with his hip-swaying numbers.
You've already made it big by being the number one musical artist, moving ahead where does Badshah see himself?
Badshah, who has even collaborated with "Prince of Reggaeton" J. Balvin with the song 'Voodoo', said: "Adding Madness to people's life. I always love shocking people."
"Right when you think, this is it and you just raise the bar. That's what I love and that's what I'm always

looking towards." Too much swag is synonymous to Badshah, whose real name is Aditya Prateek Singh Sisodia.
Does it ever get tiring to put up an act?
"I have to be really convinced before putting a song out. That is why, even if it is tiring, I put all my energy and creativity into it. And before every show, I always Hug my team before going on stage," added the rapper, who is considered one of the highest-paid artists in the country.
Badshah, who is a big fan of



Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan and coined his stage name from the actor's 1999 film 'Badshah', started his career in 2006. Since then he has belted out hits such as 'DJ Waley Babu', 'Kar Gayi Chull', 'Genda Phool' and 'Players' to name a few.
Asked if the creative satisfaction ever gets lost in the numbers game, Badshah said: "Sometimes, yes. It's actually a benchmark where you are right now. But they should not define your music making process. "They should not affect your thinking process as an artist. But of course, it helps you to know where you stand, not the numbers, but there are other stats as well," added the rapper, who was seen performing in Bhubaneswar for Seagram's Royal Stag Boombox, a first-of-its-kind musical experience.
"Like I love Bhubaneswar because I get a lot of love from this place. This is a fact that I came to know because of these stats. You use them to your advantage probably," said Badshah, who has appeared in Forbes India's Celebrity 100 in 2017, 2018 and 2019 as one of the highest-paid celebrities in India and as the only rapper in the list.

Shilpa Agnihotri joins 'Tere Ishq Mein Ghayal'



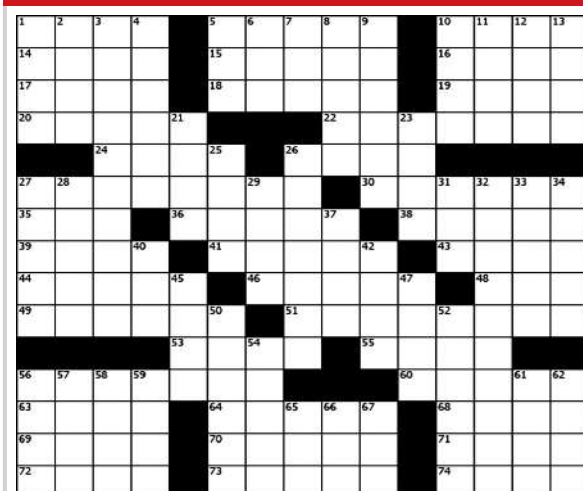
Actress Shilpa Agnihotri, who was last seen in the show 'Vish Ya Amrit: Sitara', makes her return to TV with the show, 'Tere Ishq Mein Ghayal'. She plays the role of Sudha, who is the wife of Sameer (Nikhil Arya) and she talks about the show and her character.
"The title of Tere Ishq, makes me think of wounded love, something very deep. I think the VFX of the show is its USP. Characters have been well-etched and have the right tune in with each other. Also, the way it's being shot beautifully. There is a method to this madness which makes the entire concept and presentation amazing, stylish." Shilpa says that initially she does not know much about her character. "I think in time, I will know

much more. We have just started and there is a way to go," she shares. She recalls her first day on the sets and says: "When you see the poster you only know of the three brilliant actors that are there in the show as the leads. But once I reached the set, I got to know about the remaining fabulous cast. And, I was very glad to work with them."
"Any show that involves VFX and that too this well is bound to stand ahead in the race. Everything here is being done on a much larger scale." She adds that the trend of thriller and mystery shows will always be there and people are fond of watching it. "These genres have a niche audience that always comes back for shows like these. My hus-

band (Apurva Agnihotri, actor) is also a fan and watches a lot of international shows belonging to these genres. Such shows have a charm of their own and keep the interest level going till the end," shares the actress.
So who is her greatest critic? "I hoped that my husband would be my greatest critic, but he is my biggest admirer (smiles). So I guess I'm lucky in that aspect," she adds.
Showering more praise on him and how together they stay positive, she adds: "Apurva and I celebrate life every single day by thanking God for being there for us. We also say thanks for every single breath that we take, being healthy and happy. Life is a celebration for us every day."

CROSSWORD

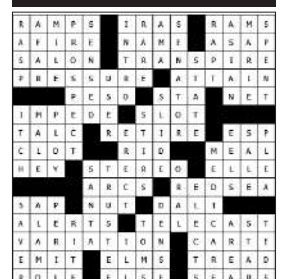
602



- ACROSS**
1. Corn cores
5. Guinness and Baldwin
10. Baseball glove
14. Egg on
15. Jeweler's measure
16. Farm unit
17. Suffer defeat
18. Informed
19. Acute
20. Iron or lead
22. Commanded
24. Snow toy
26. Appeal
27. More formal
30. Speech-maker
35. Snaky swimmer
36. Stitched together
38. Not these
39. _____ Fitzgerald of jazz
41. Truckers' vehicles
43. Circle segments
44. Cinders
46. Goes up

48. Make a doily
49. Narrow waterway
51. Disperses
53. Warsaw native
55. Dinner or lunch
56. Stalemate
60. Aviator
63. Cash drawer
64. Astronomer Carl _____
68. Peruvian capital
69. Applaud
70. Elude
71. Small bills
72. Egg layers
73. Railroad station
74. Ice arena
DOWN
1. Serene
2. Band instrument
3. Popular book
4. Shoplifts
5. Alias abbr.
6. Regulation
7. Memorable time
8. Holiday song
9. Hi-fi system
10. Create
11. Cake decorator
12. Family chart
13. Care for
21. Smaller amount
23. Small arrow
25. Expires
26. Assumption
27. Feats
28. Lease again
29. Water vessel
31. Exclamation of triumph
32. Meat-filled pasta
33. Felix's roommate
34. _____ jockey
40. Medical group (abbr.)
42. Garment juncture
45. Small tastes
47. Ladder rung
50. Flung
52. Clothes maker
54. Take off
56. Longing
57. Distance measure
58. Strategy
59. Swiss mountains
61. Harbinger
62. Assigned job
65. Space
66. Uproar
67. Fish trap

SOLUTION 601



I know how to deal with people's expectations: Rohit Sharma

Mumbai, Mar 29 (PTI):

Rohit Sharma knows a thing or two about winning IPL trophies and having been there and done that on five occasions for Mumbai Indians, public expectation is the last thing to make him wary. The most successful captain in the history of IPL with five championships, Sharma knows that Mumbai Indians as one of the title contenders comes enters any tourney with a baggage of hype and hoopla. And that's what a protective skipper wants to shield the youngsters in his side from as one can easily get overawed by the sense of occasion. "Expectations will always be there whenever we go out to play, not just in the IPL. Having played for so many years it does not bother me and I am not worried about what the people are expecting me

to do," Sharma said at the season opening media conference organised by MI. "We know that we have to do our best and win the trophy. To keep thinking about it all the time is to put pressure on yourself," the skipper said. Dewald Brevis, Tilak Verma will all be playing their second season but for young Cameron Green with a multi-million dollar deal, IPL will be a different beast altogether. "I don't want to put too much pressure on them (youngsters) right now. Closer to our first game, we will give them that specific roles. Obviously leading up that first game, guys pretty much know what we are expecting from them," Sharma explained.

Play like you play first-class cricket

The one tip that MI skipper always offers to the new players in the set-

up is to think the platform as an extension of domestic cricket and do exactly what got them success over there. "I will try to tell them to replicate what they did in first-class or club cricket. I know the IPL is a different ball game but I tell them to bring that mindset. At the end of the day, the battle is between bat and ball," he added.

Sharma said while his side will miss Jasprit Bumrah but to compensate his absence, MI will have Jofra Archer ready to unleash his 145 plus thunderbolts. Mumbai Indians are also expected to announce a replacement for Bumrah, the captain confirmed.

"It will be a big miss but it is an opportunity for someone else. There are a couple of guys who have been with this team for the last two years and they are very much ready to step up. Hopefully we



will blood a few youngsters," Sharma said. "Jofra (Archer) was part of the team last year, but he was injured. Obviously we all know the quality of Jofra. It is

lot of young players will get an opportunity and this is a platform for them to come out and express themselves," he said.

Impact Player would depend on team dynamics

Talking about the new rule of "Impact Player", Sharma said there will be more clarity on the change after a first few matches. "There's no doubt that the captains would use it. But, again, like I said, it depends on all the team dynamics. What the other teams have as an 'Impact Player' who is sitting outside.

"We will not be worried about what the other teams are doing. We will see what we can do and how we can strengthen our team on that particular day.

"We'll get some idea (about how to use the rule) in the first couple of

games and obviously, we've had a good chat around this new rule as well," Sharma said.

Nine players are sorted, you need to discuss about a couple

The 'Impact Player' allows 12 players to take active part in the game and hence the skipper said that team combinations will remain fluid although at least nine slots out of 12 being sorted. Sharma said it was too early for him to discuss team combination.

"Obviously, (it is) too early to talk about the combination. You want to try and cover all bases. You are playing against RCB and we know how they play. We want to field our best eleven rather 12 now," he said.

"These practice games that we play will give us a fair bit of an idea about what we want to do as a team. In terms of combination, it's pretty tough

to reveal anything right now. Your nine of the players are sorted, it's just that one or two slots that we need to have more chats around. Otherwise, our squad is pretty much settled."

Would love to grow as player with inputs from Boucher

Sharma had forged a successful combination with

Mahela Jayawardene for some years and is equally hopeful that he will develop a fine rapport with new head coach Mark Boucher. For the record, Jayawardene is now the Global Head of all the MI franchises. "It's always been my philosophy. I like to learn and grow as a cricketer. I have heard so many good things from the South African players about Mark about how he is taken the SA team through in the last couple of years," the skipper waxed eloquent.

TEAM JERSEY LAUNCH EVENT



Royal Challengers Bangalore players Virat Kohli, Harshal Patel, Captain Faf Du Plessis, Mohd Siraj, Dinesh Karthik, Mahipal Lomror with KEI management during an event to launch the team jersey in Bengaluru, Wednesday, March 29.

Pandit hoping that Iyer is back 'very soon'



Kolkata: Kolkata Knight Riders head coach Chandrakant Pandit is hoping that their full time skipper Shreyas Iyer will return to action "very soon" and until then, he expects Nitish Rana to do well in the high-pressure leadership role. A recurring back injury is likely to keep Iyer out of action for the first half of the IPL. He had also missed the first and fourth Test against Australia due to the persistent back issues. "Whatever little cricket I have played or coached, I have never gone back over things like squad unavailability. Shreyas' absence will make a difference since he is important, but this is truly unfortunate.

Joseph's 5-40 gives West Indies T20 series win in SA

Johannesburg, Mar 29 (AP):

Fast bowler Alzarri Joseph finished off South Africa with three wickets in the 19th over as West Indies won the third Twenty20 by seven runs and took the series 2-1. Joseph collected 5-40 after

ball of that 19th over for the crucial breakthrough when he was caught at long on looking for his third six.

Hendricks had earlier been dropped a couple of times on the boundary but West Indies captain Rovman Powell held on



his late burst, which ensured South Africa fell short of West Indies' challenging total of 220-8.

South Africa threatened for a moment, mainly because of Reeza Hendricks' 83 from 44 balls, but ultimately only managed 213-6 in its 20 overs. Hendricks fell to Joseph off the first

this time. South Africa needed 35 runs off the last two overs and was up against it already, but Joseph then had Heinrich Klaassen caught two balls after Hendricks' departure and sent a delivery smashing into Wayne Parnell's stumps two balls after that to set up the victory.

Elena Rybakina hits 10 aces in Miami for 12th straight win

Miami Gardens, Mar 29 (AP):

Reigning Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina extended her winning streak to 12 matches by delivering 10 aces her fourth consecutive outing with at least that many in a 6-3, 6-0 victory over 25th-seeded Martina Trevisan in the Miami Open quarterfinals. Rybakina has 46 aces through four matches at the hard-court tournament in Florida and a WTA-leading 201 this season. The 23-year-old, who represents Kazakhstan, improved to 20-4 in 2023, including a run to the Australian Open final in January and a title at Indian Wells, California, last week. She is trying to become only the fifth player to win the women's trophies at Indian Wells and Miami in the same season. Top-ranked Iga Swiatek did it a year ago; she withdrew from Miami this time because of a rib injury. "Of course it would be amazing to achieve something like that," the 10th-seeded Rybakina said about the prospect of completing what's known as the Sunshine Double, "but it's still far away."



Lionel Messi surpasses 100 career goals for Argentina

Santiago Del Estero, Mar 29 (AP): Lionel Messi scored a hat trick and surpassed 100 career goals for Argentina with three in the first half of Tuesday's international friendly against Curacao. The World Cup winners beat the Caribbean side 7-0 in their second match since clinching the trophy in December. The 35-year-old Messi opened the scoring against Curacao in the 20th minute with a right-foot shot from the edge of the box to reach the 100-goal milestone. Nico Gonzalez added another three minutes later with a header from close range. Messi then scored his 101st for Argentina in the 33rd minute with a crossed shot to the right of the goalkeeper and his 102nd in the 37th after an easy run to score. Two minutes earlier he had assisted Enzo



Fernandez' blast from the edge of the box.

Will try to be unpredictable for bowlers: Joe Root

Jaipur, Mar 29 (PTI):

Ahead of his maiden IPL stint, Rajasthan Royals' star English recruit Joe Root says he will try to "get the best out of myself" and "be unpredictable for bowlers" in the tournament beginning March 31.

"I'll try and be unpredictable for bowlers. I am sure I will smile and enjoy it, and will try to get the best out of myself," Root said in a team release.

Ahead of a practice session here, the 32-year-old spoke about his new team.

"Everyone seems to want to create that feel around things that it's more than just performances on the field. They said they were delighted to get me in the auction..."

England's ex-Test cricket captain is looking forward to the season.

"It's an experience that you can't replicate anywhere else in the world. I've never experienced it before so it's all going to be very new to me, which, for an experienced player in that's played a lot of international cricket, is really exciting."

"I've heard a lot of things. And I'm really looking forward to living it now." Sharing his thoughts on the Royals' team, Root said; "Last year was an exceptional year for the franchise and I've always enjoyed



watching Sanju (Samson) play. I think he's a hell of a talent and seems to keep growing every year as a player and as a leader."

The stylish batter also spoke about how he is preparing himself for the format. "I'm just trying to be as consistent as I can be. You can always work on things slowly and in the background but ultimately you are trying to make sure that your strengths are as good as they possibly can be."

"And that you know you're switched on and ready for any situation and scenario that you find yourself in and you have that clarity under pressure."

Captaining Dhoni was a little bit daunting: Steve Smith



New Delhi, Mar 29 (PTI): Australian star Steve Smith says captaining MS Dhoni in the 2017 IPL was "a little bit daunting" but he also learned to be calm and level-headed by spending time with the Indian great. In that season, Smith led

the Rising Pune Super Giants squad that also featured Dhoni season, as Chennai Super Kings were serving a two-year ban from the competition. Smith, who will part of the commentary team in the upcoming season, led the franchise to the finals of the tournament in 2017, narrowly missing out on the title by just one run. Recalling his experiences of captaining the RPS and how Dhoni played a big role in that season, Smith told Star Sports, "When I got the call to say that they wanted me to captain, it was a little bit daunting. But that season, MSD was just wonderful.

ADMISSION Open

Contact for Advertising: 96302 59335

MODEL ENGLISH HR. SEC. SCHOOL

"Education makes future better"

Special Discount on Admission fees before 31st March 50%

Admission Open

Nursery to 12th (Biology, Maths, Commerce)

Register Now at www.mesraipur.com

* Spoken English & Personality Development Classes

* Transport & Surveillance Facility

* Monthly Seminar & Discussion

* Personal attention on each students

Civil lines, Katora Talab Road, Raipur (C.G.) Contact:- 07771-4000123

ROYAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Play Group Nursery, Pre Primary, Class I to XII (Science, Commerce, Bio, Arts)

Special Discount on Admission fees before 31st March 50%

Salient Features

- Extra curricular activities
- Personal attention to each student Limited student in each class
- Music, dance, personality development classes
- Conveyance facilities scholarship to all first class students
- Yoga & Meditation
- Well equipped lab, Computer Lab & A large playground

Mathporena, Chourasiya Colony, Raipur, (C.G.)
Mo.: 9589085558, 9329621221, Email:- rpsraipur123@gmail.com

ASSURANCE OF SUPERIOR SAFETY

- RELIABLE AND STRONG
- BENCHMARK OF SAFETY

- NEXT GEN FEATURES
- COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Eicher Skyline School Bus

GK Automotive Pvt Ltd

Opp. Kabir Nagar, Sondongri, Ring Road No.-2, Raipur (C.G.)
Mo.: 98422 00097

SRJS makes elaborate arrangements for Ram Navami

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 29: Shri Ram Janmotsav Samiti (SRJS) is organizing a grand event of Shri Ram Navami on March 30 for the 38th consecutive year. SRJS Youth Wing President Manish Pandey informed that Mahaprasad will be prepared from more than 95 quintals of grains donated by people. Attractions of the event will be a grand live painting of Shri Ram temple by All India Platinum Artist Awardee Pramod Sahu, attractive automatic tableaux and light and sound show.

Sant Shri Shri 1008 Balakdas Maharaj of Pateshwar Dham will address the Dharma Sabha. On the other hand, senior journalist Dr Himanshu Dwivedi will deliver the keynote address and Patron Prem Prakash Pandey will preside over. The center of attraction in the program will be the grand live painting of Shri



Ram Mandir. Pramod Sahu, a well-known artist of the region, will make the live painting of Shri Ram Mandir on the stage. More than 20000 devotees will join the recitation of Shri Hanuman Chalisa at the Dharma Sabha at Rameleela Maidan, Power House. This year a procession will be taken out from all the 12 blocks for which the route has already been decided. All these processions will reach Ramlila Maidan Power House via fixed route. Processions of more than 1150 temples are participating in the

event. The processions from Kumbhari, Charoda, Bhilai 3, Hathkholj, Patharia and Dabrapara will join to form Baba Bholenath Shobhayatra. Processions from Khursipar, Jamul, Dhaur, Navatariya, Kherdha Dhanca Bhavan, Kailash Nagar, Kurud, Ghasidas Nagar, Housing Board, Faujinagar Chhawani, Nandani Road, Shramik Nagar, Shankar Nagar, Sha n t i p a r a , Baikunthdham, Fish Market, Subhash Nagar, Ward-39 will join to form Bhagwan Chaturbhuji

Shobhayatra. Processions from Nankatti, Kachandur, Karanja, Bassein, Samoda, Bhatgaon, Ganiyari, Nagpura, Malud, Chikhali, Khapri, Belodi, Jewra-Sirsa, Kohka Junwani, Model Town, Nehru Nagar, Kosanala, K r i s h n a n a g a r , Vaishalinagar, Ramnagar, Ravanbhatna Supela will join to make Maa B a m l e s h w a r i Shobhayatra. Processions from Kokadi, Koliya, Hanod, Khambaria, Dhanod, Joratrai, Dundera, Patora, Utai,

Newai Basti, Maroda Station, Mahuwari, Maroda, Tanki Maroda, Risali, Pragati Nagar, Ruabandha Basti, Ruabandha Sector, HUDCO, Sector-9, Sector-10, Sector-8, Sector-7, Sector-6, Sector-5 and Sector-1 will join together to form Maa Danteshwari Shobhayatra. All the shobha yatra s would reach Power House Ramlila Maidan at 07:30 pm. Display of tableaux, akhanda, panthi nacha, raut nacha, bhajan sandhya and dharma sabha will be held here.

MP Vijay Baghel demands new train from Durg to Palasa



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 29: Durg MP Vijay Baghel met the Union Railway Minister Ashwani Vaishnav recently and raised the demand of operating a new train from Durg to Palasa - Berhampur via Vijayanagaram. President of Andhra Utkal Sangharsh Samiti and Former Railway Advisory Committee member K Umashankar Rao, Dr S Adinarayana, Capt Sanjeev, Roshan Tamrakar and L Srinivasa Rao were also present. Andhra Utkal Sangharsh Samiti President K Umashankar Rao said that MP Vijay Baghel raised this demand twice in the Lok Sabha. During the meeting with the Union Railway Minister, he stressed on

starting the new train soon. The Minister assured to take appropriate action. The new train from Durg to Palasa, Berhampur via Vijayanagaram will provide facilities to lakhs of Andhra - Utkal residents and tourists. Apart from this, it will be easier for the elderly, women and children to travel on this route.

Devotees celebrate Navaratri with devotion

Central Chronicle News



Bhilai, Mar 29: The denizens are celebrating Navaratri with great devotion across the city. Devotees are gathering at the temples daily and are offering prayers to the Goddess Durga. Women are organising bhajan sandhyas daily at Shri Radha Krishna Mandir premises in Nehru Nagar. Through bhajans, the women are paying obeisance to the

Maa Durga and her different forms. Akhand Jyoti Kalashes have been lit in the temple. Maha Ashtami was celebrated on Wednesday. Navaratri celebrations will conclude with Havan on March 30.

SRIP Kumhari celebrates National Pharmacy Education Day

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 29: Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy, Kumhari celebrated National Pharmacy Education Day in the honour of birth anniversary of Professor Mahadeva Lal Schroff, to recognize his contribution in establishing pharmacy education in India. On this occasion Poster competition and Rangoli competitions were organized for D Pharm and B Pharm students where students through their creativity promoted the theme of the

event as awareness for prevention of life style disorders, against misuse of Narcotics and Psychotropic disorders and safe disposal of medicines. The event started with the inaugural speech by Dr A l a n k a r S h r i v a s t a v a , Principal, SRIP Kumhari. While addressing students said that Prof M L Schroff is recognized as the Father of Pharmacy Education in India and he is certainly an ideal to the



entire pharmacist working in the country and motivated students to acquire knowledge and develop themselves as professionals in delivery of health-care in the country. Dr Umesh Garg , Director, SRIP Kumhari Campus also addressed the gathering by motivating students to participate and learn and apply simultaneously through these activities. The chief guest of the function was Prof Shekhar Verma, Professor and Principal, University College of Pharmacy and is currently appointed as Registrar, State Pharmacy Council, Chhattisgarh. Prof Shekhar Verma was felicitated in the function for his continuous efforts towards contribution in the upliftment of pharmacy profession at state and national level.

Plate Mill celebrates 40th birthday

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 29: The Plate Mill of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, a leading manufacturer of high-quality steel plates in the country celebrated its 40th birthday on March 29. It was on this very day, i.e., March 29 in the year 1983 that Plate Mill produced its very first plate. Since its establishment, Plate Mill has been producing high quality steel plates for its customers. The Mill has produced a wide range of steel plates that meet the industry's most stringent demands.

Million Tonnes of Steel Plates have been cumulatively produced since inception. To mark the event, Director In-charge, Bhilai Steel Plant, Anirban Dasgupta cut a specially designed cake in front of the beautifully decorated first ever rolled plate of the Mill. Addressing the gathering, Dasgupta said "forty years ago, we started this journey with a vision to produce best quality steel plates. Today, we celebrate all our achievements in the area of plate making and are proud of our team that has worked together to reach this milestone".



Works, Anjani Kumar, said "an important milestone has been reached by Plate Mill. He expressed his desire to see Plate Mill reach greater heights and achieve tougher targets." Executive Director,

Personnel, MM Gadre reminisced his stint in Plate Mill. Chief General Manager, Plate Mill, Ravindra Kumar Bisare, gave the entire credit for the Mill's achievements to his team and the support structure provided by the allied agencies. He also noted that it is due to the blessings and guidance provided by the Director In-charge and Executive Director Works of Bhilai Steel Plant that Plate Mill has the confidence to take up even more tougher targets. Also present on this auspicious occasion were Dr Ravindranath, CMO In charge (Medical Services), MM Gadre, Executive Director (Personnel), PK Sarkar, CGM In-charge Services, SK Ghosal, CGM SMS 2, MK Goyal, CGM MWRM, Tusharkant, CGM SRM, Sanjay Kumar, GM In-charge PPC. President of Officer Association NK Banthor and his team, Union representatives Anand Pandey, R Dinesh and Shriram Kumar were also present.

Swachhata Rally organised at Sinter Plant 3

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 29: A Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was organised at SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Sinter Plant No 3 under the leadership of Chief General Manager Anup Kumar Dutt. The Swachhata Rally was organised to promote cooperation and participation in the Swachh Bharat initiative.



All the participants of the rally were administered the Oath of Cleanliness and took a vow to sincerely promote this cause, so that awareness towards cleanliness continues in future as well. Commencing from the Sinter building and passing through the Lubrication & Ventilation sections and Machine-1, the rally concluded at Machine-2. During the course of the rally, the entire route from Machine 1 to Machine was cleaned by the participants. Organised by MRK Sharif, General Manager SP-3, senior officers including AK Bedekar, Head of Operations, CS Ram, Head of Mechanical, Saurabh Varshney, Head of Electrical and their teams took active part along with other officers, employees and workers of the Sinter Plant Department and Labour welfare Officers and contract workers.

Central Induction Programme of SAIL MTTs 2023 batch inaugurated

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 29: The Central Induction of SAIL Management Trainees (Technical) 2023 batch was inaugurated by Soma Mondal, Chairman SAIL by virtually joining the MTTs present at Bhilai Niwas on March 28, 2023. KK Singh, Director (Personnel) who was physically present gave the keynote address.



Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP), Sanjeev Kumar, ED (HRD) SAIL, MM Gadre, ED (P & A), S Mukhopadhyay, ED (Projects), AK Chakravorty, ED (MM), Dr AK Panda, ED (F & A), Samir Swarup, CGM I/c (Mines and Rowghat), Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M & HS), CGMs and senior officials of the Plant were present at the inaugural session of Central Induction programme. Two introductory video presentations titled 'Glances from On-boarding of SAIL MT(T)s-2023' and 'Introduction to SAIL' were played to provide the MTTs a glimpse into the working and infrastructure of SAIL. Dipika Aggarwal, Himanshu, Harshil, Swarnadip and Kaushik representing RSP, BSL, BSP, DSP and ISP expressed their aspirations and expectations from SAIL. The MTTs were accorded a warm welcome by a song by BSP school students. One MTTs each from the five integrated steel plants (ISPs) of SAIL, shared their aspirations and expectations from SAIL briefly on behalf of their batch and also extended their thanks on being treated hospitably by Bhilai Steel Plant during the initial phase of the Central Induction Programme. Welcoming the MTTs,



Soma Mondal, Chairman SAIL apprised them how richly has our Maharatra company contributed to the task of nation building, strengthening infrastructure development in India and supplying desired steel for such prestigious projects as Navy's INS Vikrant, Mangalyaan Mission etc and rails laid out across the length and breadth of our country. You are the best of talent from the country and must develop your competencies professionally, she said, adding that we must all strive for excellence and use opportunities to collaborate with each other. Sticking to discipline, learning from each other, igniting one's creative spirit, identifying role model and giving back to society have been the key factors in our growth, she said, adding that the ecosystems in our steel townships are developed by SAIL. Sharing her own experiences in her professional journey so far with SAIL, Chairman SAIL gave the young MTTs certain suggestions for a disciplined professional journey. She assured the trainees of best possible opportunities in SAIL and urged them to do something good for the society and environment and make the

country proud. Welcoming all the fresh MTTs, Chairman SAIL stated that KK Singh, Director (Personnel) in his keynote address, congratulated the newly selected MT(T)s and welcomed them to the SAIL family. You all have joined us after getting through one of the toughest screening processes, and we look forward for you to own SAIL as your company and bring a positive change and take SAIL to new heights, he said. Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) in his address to the MTTs stated that you've chosen not just a career, rather you have

chosen a way of life. The quality of life, serene place to work, the township with benefits of a larger city will be your home, he said. SAIL is already a 20 million tonne entity and will expand to 35 million tonne in coming years. What is most important is safety of all personnel in our Plants and sustainable development of SAIL while being committed to be a carbon-neutral entity in future. Directors In-charge of other plants and other senior officers of SAIL congratulated the new entrants and shared their insights and experiences in the organisation. Calling upon them to contribute wholeheartedly towards the progress of SAIL, they said that they would get better opportunities to grow and learn in this organization. Director (Commercial) Director Finance, Director (Tech), Proj & Raw Materials) and CVO of SAIL also joined the programme virtually from different locations. Congratulating the MTTs on joining SAIL, they wished them the very best for their future. At the outset, welcoming the MTTs, Sanjeev Kumar, ED (HRD) stated that SAIL is a cradle of different cultures with an



amalgamation of Russian, German and British collaboration. We must innovate to take our organization to greater heights by moving from individual excellence to team excellence, he said. The MT(T)s are undergoing their 11-day long central Induction which will go on till April 06, 2023. The programme is being conducted by faculties from Bhilai Steel Plant, after which the MT(T)s will join the respective Steel Plants where they have been posted. Amulya Priyadarshi, GM (HRD) conducted the proceedings while Nisha Soni, CGM (HRD & BE) proposed the Vote of



CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 10 No. 356

Rahul Gandhi's Political Future

The recent court verdict against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has sparked a debate on his political future. Some argue that he is finished, while others believe that he is in a win-win position. However, it is too early to predict the outcome of this evolving story. The BJP claims that Rahul is politically finished, but Congress argues that he is in a good position. If a higher court stays or overturns the verdict, it will be advantageous for him. If it does not, Rahul is prepared to pay 'any price' and even go to jail, which might give him more political mileage. The court convicted Rahul for criminal defamation over his remarks about the "Modi community" during a campaign rally in Karnataka in 2019. The BJP politician Purnesh Modi filed a complaint against him, accusing him of defaming the community. The court pronounced a two-year imprisonment, but Rahul was granted bail immediately and suspended the sentence for a month, allowing him time to appeal in a higher court against the punishment. Rahul's conviction also means that he will be unable to contest the Lok Sabha elections for the next eight years apart from losing his present membership in the lower house. The membership of an MP or MLA sentenced for two years or more ends immediately after the court convicts them. The Lok Sabha promptly announced Rahul's dismissal the next day. To come out of this situation, Rahul needs the strong backing of the united party, the united opposition, and the support of the public. The judgment has united the opposition against the ruling dispensation. Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal and other opposition leaders, like Tamil Nadu chief minister M.K. Stalin, former U.P. chief minister Akhilesh Yadav, and former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray joined the condemnation of the act. West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee was the first to condemn the action while she has been opposing Congress all these days. Congress responded that the conviction was to divert the Adani issue in Parliament as Congress has demanded a joint parliamentary probe into the Adani-Henderson report. Rahul Gandhi said he would not "back down" from asking questions on the Adani stocks issue or be intimidated by threats, disqualifications, and prison sentences. Refusing to apologize for the remark, Rahul said: "My name is not Savarkar, my name is Gandhi. Gandhis don't apologize to anyone." The complete response of the public to Rahul's conviction is yet to come. Congress is yet to take it to the streets to involve the people in the coming days. Even though the conviction was a psychological blow to Rahul, his party, and the entire opposition, it all depends on how it is communicated to the people, handle the situation, translate it into public sympathy, and sustain it until the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Critics are skeptical about Rahul's ability to translate this into public sympathy, given the BJP's increasing popularity, tight control over the media, and winning spree. But Gandhi will still be news. In the coming months, before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, Congress will face its first significant test in Karnataka followed by Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh, where there will be a direct contest with the BJP. If the party wins the elections in these states, it will cheer the opposition. If the party loses, it will be a setback before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and reconcile to Modi performing the hat trick. Rahul's success depends on many ifs and buts. This includes whether he will get a higher court order to stay his verdict and how the public reacts. Congress must also change the poll narrative for the 2024 polls. In short, BJP cannot wish away Rahul. No politician is finished until he is finished. Rahul can be no exception. The BJP probably realizes the adage never to bring your opponent into the limelight. The moral of the story is that politicians, whatever high positions they occupy, should have tight control over their tongues. But at the same time, it is essential to ensure that legitimate criticism and opposition to the ruling party are not stifled using archaic laws.

AMRUT 2.0

Towards a Water-Secure and Self-Reliant India

Access to clean water and sanitation is a basic human right, and the importance of this cannot be overstated. The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) was launched in 2015 with the aim of providing basic infrastructure and services in 500 cities across the country. The mission was focused on ensuring universal coverage of water supply and sewerage management, as well as improving urban infrastructure and amenities. Now, with the launch of AMRUT 2.0 in October 2021, the objective has been expanded to cover all statutory towns in the country. The new mission is a five-year plan, spanning from Financial Year 2021-22 to 2025-26, and has a reform agenda that focuses on financial sustainability, ease of living for citizens, and water sector reforms. AMRUT 2.0 aims to make cities "self-reliant" and "water-secure" by providing universal coverage of sewerage and septage management in 500 cities. The mission has received State Water Action Plans (SWAPs) from all States and Union Territories (UTs) and has approved 6,527 projects costing Rs 1,29,636 crore (including Operation and Maintenance Cost). The plan is ambitious, with 148 lakh new tap connections and 33.42 lakh new sewer connections planned to be provided through these projects. The mission also proposes adding or augmenting 8,435 Million Liters per Day (MLD) water treatment plant capacity and 2,795 MLD sewage treatment plant capacity. In addition, 2,102 water bodies rejuvenation projects worth Rs 3,664 crore have been approved under SWAPs and a special tranche of SWAP to give impetus to 'Amrit Sarovar' under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. While the progress made under AMRUT 2.0 is commendable, there are still challenges to overcome. The biggest challenge is to ensure the financial sustainability of the mission. To address this issue, AMRUT 2.0 has adopted a number of measures, including the introduction of user charges, improving the efficiency of the water supply and sanitation systems, and increasing the use of technology to reduce water loss. The mission also aims to promote public-private partnerships to leverage private sector resources and expertise to achieve its objectives. One of the other challenges that need to be addressed is the lack of skilled manpower to manage and operate the water and sanitation systems. AMRUT 2.0 recognizes this and has included a focus on capacity building and training programs for the staff and officials involved in the implementation of the mission. These programs aim to improve the technical skills and knowledge of the personnel involved in the water and sanitation sector, thereby improving the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the systems. It is heartening to note that progress has already been made under the mission. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has approved Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for 2,058 projects worth Rs 36,481.47 crore. Notice Inviting Tender have been issued for 1,025 projects worth Rs 19,157.55 crore, works have awarded for 608 projects worth Rs 5,422.82 crore and 29 projects worth Rs 102.99 crore have been completed. However, it is important to note that AMRUT 2.0 is still in its early stages, and more needs to be done to ensure that the objectives are achieved. In addition, AMRUT 2.0 also has a strong focus on reforms related to financial sustainability, ease of living for citizens, and water sector reforms. This is a positive step towards ensuring that urban areas in India are able to meet the growing demands for basic infrastructure and services, while also becoming more self-reliant and sustainable in the long run.

Central Chronicle invites articles, write-ups, and comments on a wide range of issues for our editorial page. Submissions should be between 800-900 words in length. In addition, we welcome letters to the editor for this page. While letters may be edited for clarity, we aim to preserve the integrity of the original message, and ask that they be kept to around 50-60 words. Submissions can be sent via email to editor@centralchronicle@gmail.com.

ASHTAMI



Women devotees offer prayers while immersing 'shaakh' at Har Ki Pouri in Tawi river on the occasion of Ashtami, in Jammu, Wednesday, March 29.

Significance of Lord Shri Ram

Ram Navami is the birthday of Maryada Purushottam Prabhu Sri Ram, which falls on the 9th day of the Indian new year Chaitra Shukla Paksha of Vikrami Samvat. Ram is the seventh and most popular Avtar (incarnation) of Lord Vishnu Dashavatar and has taken birth on earth in TretaYug to destroy the evil forces. The nine-day auspicious Chaitra Navratra festival also concludes on this day. Lord Surya is the ancestor of Ram, so devotees start this auspicious day by "Jal Arpan" (offering water) to the supreme God Surya in the morning. In TretaYug, not only Prabhu Ram, but other personalities were also incarnations of Gods and Goddesses who played their specific role as ordinary human beings. Goddess Lakshmi has incarnated as Mother Sita, Sheshnag as Lakshman, God of Sudarshan Chakra as Bharat, God of PanchjanyaShankh as Shatrudhan. The entire Leela of God's Avtar was for the victory of goodness over evil forces and the establishment of Dharma on earth after the removal of Adharma.

Yash pal Ralhan, Jalandhar



ER. PRABHAT KISHORE

Beloved by the people, admired by his Gurus and by the Rishis-Munis, Lord Ram is the epitome of courtesy and virtues. Lord Vishnu has incarnated on earth to demonstrate how an ideal human being should follow the path of Dharma. Prabhu Ram symbolizes a devoted son, an ideal husband, an ideal brother, a loyal friend, an ideal warrior and above all an ideal king. That is why an ideal and utopian democratic system in all age-old earth has been termed as "Ram Rajya". Ram Rajya is known as the period of happiness, peace, duty, justice and prosperity. Shri Ram's life is full of struggle and even in the toughest circumstances he

did not deviate from the path of righteousness, compassion and wisdom. He set the highest standards of conduct and upheld the greatest of virtues and ethics in every walk of life. He was savior for the weak & the oppressed and was ruthless in penalizing the vicious forces. The teachings of his life is guiding light for all sections of the society. The name & fame, wealth, physical charming all fade up with time, but the noble character, boundless compassion and magnanimous deeds endure for all the times. Some special characteristics of Ram- Being dutiful, Courageous, Intelligent, Justice, Kindheartedness, Obedience, Patience,



Popularity, & Universal love are the torch bearer for the human world. The story of Prabhu Ram has been scripted in various languages and by various authors in their own ways. Of these epics, "Ramayana" in Sanskrit by Maharshi Valmiki and "Ram CharitManas" in Hindi by GoswamiTulsidas are most popular among devotees. Prabhu Shri Ram has special significance in other sects originating from Sanatan Dharma, particularly in Sikhism. In the Holy scripture of Sikhs Shri Guru GranthSahibji, the name of Prabhu "Ram" have been chanted 2533 times. Prabhu Ram is Nirgun as well as Shagun. His personality and teachings are not lim-

ited to a particular sect, belief or space, rather he is ideal for all human beings. He is present in soul of everyone and available each and every particle of the universe (KanKanmeinPrabhu Shri Ram). Ramnavami is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion by people all over the world with special prayer, pujas, and processions of Ram, Sita, Lakshman and Hanuman. Fasting on this day can help purify the body and mind and brings blessings and good fortune. Shri Ram creates the path to the devotees to reach the zones of liberation and immortality. (Author is a technocrat & academican.)

Advantages of Open Forge Software

As a citizen of Chhattisgarh, I was pleased to learn about the state's efforts to promote e-governance with the use of Open Forge software. This platform will allow government departments to easily acquire software for monitoring their programs and schemes, and for expanding their reach to the people. By providing access to numerous software applications, the platform will bring uniformity to various schemes being run across the country, while also saving valuable time and money for the government. During the state-level training-cum-workshop, officers from various departments were trained on the use of this platform. The National eGovernance Division (NeGD) will provide technical training for two days, further ensuring the successful implementation of this software. I commend the Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotion Society (CHIPS) for taking this initiative to provide citizens with the advantages of the latest information technology sector technologies. Let us hope that this effort will result in more efficient and effective governance for the people of Chhattisgarh. Rajesh Sharma, Korba

They don't make like him any more

Kajal Chatterjee

It is perhaps "in-thing" to say that the politicians have devastated the society and the nation, as if they have descended from an alien planet and are imposing themselves upon us. But the fact remains that they are part and parcel of this very society only and get elected to Assemblies, Parliament and Governance through free will of the electorate only. So if the politicians are indeed so "rogue", then the finger of blame should be directed at the voters or common people only. However, despite a lot of filth in politics, all leaders are definitely neither corrupt nor devils. But how do we treat those exceptional personalities. Perhaps it would not be out of context if the life and deeds of late A.K.Roy get highlighted. Born in Rajshahi (present day Bangladesh) in a family

of freedom fighters, Arun Kumar Roy went on to earn a degree in Chemical Engineering from Kolkata University and also pursued higher education in Germany. Returning to India, Roy joins Sindi fertilizer factory near Dhanbad (then in Bihar, presently in Jharkhand) obviously in a high post. But witnessing the exploitation of the laborers and poverty of the downtrodden, he resigned from the economically lucrative glamorous job to join a Communist outfit and started his fight on behalf of the vulnerable. Despite strong opposition from the coal mafia and vested interests; he went on to become MLA as well as MP from Dhanbad totalling 6 terms with occasional defeats also (in 1970s and 80s). Thanks to his immense personal sacrifice in the career front so as to fight for the exploited lot and due to his im-

peccable honesty and simplicity, AK Roy was nothing but a living legend in the Dhanbad coal belt. Without entering into a matrimonial bond, Roy used to live in a tiny room within the party office. The salary which he used to receive as MP/MLA were spent for the welfare of the poor. No Bank Account, only two sets of shirts and trousers, travel in general class compartments. So when I became eligible to vote during the 1989 Lok Sabha polls, obviously my first vote of life had been cast in favor of Roy. He had won, but that was the last electoral win of his career. In 1991 general polls, he was defeated by BJP's Rita Verma - wife of a Dhanbad police officer who was killed by bank robbers in early 1991. Not only did she get the advantage of a huge sympathy vote, the Ayodhya "movement" was also the hot talk of the town and society. Moreover in "eco-

nomically liberalised" India, all traits of sacrifice honesty principles pro-poor attitude were fast losing its earlier values and relevance in the society. Religion started becoming the electoral trump card with selfish consumerism and money-making by hook or by crook gaining social acceptance - promoting it to be perhaps the only goal of life. Despite being politically marginalized, Roy continued to work in his own way silently among the downtrodden. He didn't view politics as a means of garnering wealth and prosperity, but as an avenue to award selfless service to the society. So the handsome pension, of which he was entitled to as an ex-MP, again used to get redirected towards the President's Welfare Fund. And as innumerable poor in this country is bereft of electricity, Roy voluntarily used to stay in an electricity-less room till his

last days. This highly exceptional personality, aged 84, breathed his last on 21st July 2019 unsung, far far away from the limelight. Barring a few lines here and there, his passing away elicited not even a single ripple also in the Indian society. It was not Roy's loss, rather it is the tragedy of the nation. Indeed they don't make personalities like AK Roy any more. And also it proves that traits of honesty, simplicity, humility and selfless service to humanity do not capture the imagination of the society any more. Yes, currently only religion, caste and audacious vulgar bankrupt violent talks sell like hot cakes in the current electoral environment. So common people have simply forfeited all moral right to accuse politicians behind the mess prevalent in the society. No wonder why it gets stated "People get the government/leaders they deserve".

Jacqueline Fernandez wraps up 1st schedule of 'Fateh' in Amritsar



Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez, who recently was feted with at the Annual Los Angeles Festival of Film, Fashion, and Art for her international film, 'Tell It Like a Woman', has wrapped up the first schedule of her next film 'Fateh'. Jacqueline was shooting for her part in Amritsar and seemed to have a great time with the film's team in the city. As she was shooting in Amritsar, the actress brought some glimpses of her amazing time in the city for her fans. She took to her Instagram to share her memories from the north Indian city as she shared many things from receiving a sketch of herself from a fan, enjoying the lassi to eating delicious Punjabi food. She wrote in the caption, "Thank you Amritsar #fateh @sonu_sood @zeestudioofficial @vaibhavisra23 @fateh_4bharat @ilcondor @shaanmu @marcepdrozo @sam_debroy @gopikagulwadi" Jacqueline had the best of her time while shooting for 'Fateh' which also stars Sonu Sood. The actress also visited the Golden Temple with Sonu. Apart from 'Fateh' alongside Sonu Sood, Jacqueline also has 'Crack' alongside Vidhut Jammwal and Arjun Rampal in the pipeline.

It's triple celebration for Vidisha Srivastava!



& TV's cult-comedy show Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai recently completed eight years and 2000 episodes. We caught up with Vidisha Srivastava aka 'Gori Mem' Anita Bhabi on her incredible journey in the show as she also completes one year of playing Anita Bhabi in the show. **Excerpts from the interview:**
It is a triple celebration for you. How does it feel to complete a year as Anita while your show Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai has turned eight years and completed 2000 episodes?
I feel fortunate to be a part of such an immensely popular show. Last year, when I was approached to play Anita, I was a bit skeptical. Before me, two actresses played this character beautifully. After a year of being associated with the show, I feel blessed for being accepted and appreciated for portraying Anita Bhabi. Very few shows continue to enjoy a loyal fan base and the completion of eight years, and 2000 episodes testifies the popularity of our show. I would like to thank the channel,

our producers, my co-stars, and most importantly, our viewers, for believing in me and supporting me throughout.
How does it feel when fans address you as Gori Mem or Anita Bhabi?
People in social media and friend circle have started addressing me by my character's name. A recent incident made me emotional. I was in my hometown, Varanasi, during Maha Shivratri. In the lanes where I have spent my childhood, people kept asking me 'Anita Bhabi kaisi hain aap'? I feel it is the biggest compliment for any actor when you get recognised for the role you play on-screen.
Do you have plans to sign Bollywood movies?
Honestly, I have been offered Hindi movies even before I did films in the South. However, I did not accept the roles as it did not excite me. As an actor, I look forward to meaty and challenging roles. I love to portray characters that add value to the overall concept of the show. Anita Bhabi is an excellent opportunity for me to showcase my acting prowess and I am looking forward to achieving more milestones being a part of Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai.
Watch Vidisha Srivastava as Anita Bhabi in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 PM every Monday to Friday!



Reena Kapoor is set to astound audience with her character transformation

Reena Kapoor's outstanding presentation on Star Bharat's "Aashao Ka Saver...Dheere Dheere" Se has captured the attention of people. The narrative emphasizes the difficulties faced by individual women, particularly widows who struggle to forge their own identities in society following the passing of their husbands. Reena Kapoor will surprise as she unveils her character makeover for the forthcoming track in Star Bharat's "Aashao Ka Saver...Dheere Dheere Se."
She says "My character as 'Bhawana', started off as a very calm, vulnerable, and soft-spoken character who was required to adhere to patriarchal society's norms imposed by her family. She was also frequently ignored and excluded from family simply because she is a widow, which caused her to change and eventually decide to stand up for herself while adamantly conveying a powerful message to the audience that one needs to be their own hero as your happiness is in your own hands.
Stay tuned to watch 'Aashao Ka Saver...Dheere Dheere Se' every Monday to Friday at 9:30 pm only on Star Bharat.

Nani: I would love to work with Deepika Padukone

Telugu superstar Nani, who is travelling to different cities to promote his film, 'Dasara', said that he would love to share screen space with Bollywood actress Deepika Padukone and will also explore an opportunity to work with Aamir Khan.
"I would love to work with Deepika Padukone as she is a marvellous actress and definitely if I get an opportunity and a right story, I would just love to be cast opposite her, Nani said."
Nani is known for his work in Telugu films like 'Ashta Chamma', 'Ride', 'Bheemili Kabaddi Jattu', 'Ala Modalaindi', 'Pilla Zamindar', 'Eega', 'Yeto Vellipoyindhi Manasu', 'Yevade Subramanya', and many more. He also hosted the second season of 'Bigg Boss Telugu', and got a lot of appreciation in the movie 'Jersey'.
As the actor talked about his special love for Bollywood, he shared that he wants to be part of a Rajkumar Hirani project.
He added: "The one Bollywood director I really



want to work with will be Rajkumar Hirani. I am just fond of the kind of movies he makes."
Asked about his favourite Bollywood star with whom he would like to work, he said: "I just wish to work with Aamir (Khan)sir. I enjoy watching his movies," adding that he will also watch Ajay Devgn's 'Bhola'.
Moving ahead, Nani talked about his wife Anjana, and said that she is fond of his movies. "She just loves watching my films and always goes for the morning show on the release date. She loves watching the film with the crowd." Nani spoke about his untitled project and said: "My next film will be completely opposite of 'Dasara'. I will be playing a father of a 6-year-old girl. There will be a completely different set up and my character is also going to be completely different from what I am playing in this movie."

Rapper Badshah: I always love shocking people

It wouldn't be wrong to call him number one as all his songs from 'Genda Phool', 'Paani', 'Jugnu' to his latest 'Sanak' among many others have been chartbuster hits. Rapper Badshah says he loves to shock people and wants to bring madness into their life with his hip-swaying numbers.
You've already made it big by being the number one musical artist, moving ahead where does Badshah see himself?
Badshah, who has even collaborated with "Prince of Reggaeton" J. Balvin with the song 'Voodoo', said: "Adding Madness to people's life. I always love shocking people."
"Right when you think, this is it and you just raise the bar. That's what I love and that's what I'm always

looking towards." Too much swag is synonymous to Badshah, whose real name is Aditya Prateek Singh Sisodia.
Does it ever get tiring to put up an act?
"I have to be really convinced before putting a song out. That is why, even if it is tiring, I put all my energy and creativity into it. And before every show, I always Hug my team before going on stage," added the rapper, who is considered one of the highest-paid artists in the country.
Badshah, who is a big fan of



Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan and coined his stage name from the actor's 1999 film 'Badshah', started his career in 2006. Since then he has belted out hits such as 'DJ Waley Babu', 'Kar Gayi Chull', 'Genda Phool' and 'Players' to name a few.
Asked if the creative satisfaction ever gets lost in the numbers game, Badshah said: "Sometimes, yes. It's actually a benchmark where you are right now. But they should not define your music making process. "They should not affect your thinking process as an artist. But of course, it helps you to know where you stand, not the numbers, but there are other stats as well," added the rapper, who was seen performing in Bhubaneswar for Seagram's Royal Stag Boombox, a first-of-its-kind musical experience.
"Like I love Bhubaneswar because I get a lot of love from this place. This is a fact that I came to know because of these stats. You use them to your advantage probably," said Badshah, who has appeared in Forbes India's Celebrity 100 in 2017, 2018 and 2019 as one of the highest-paid celebrities in India and as the only rapper in the list.

Shilpa Agnihotri joins 'Tere Ishq Mein Ghayal'

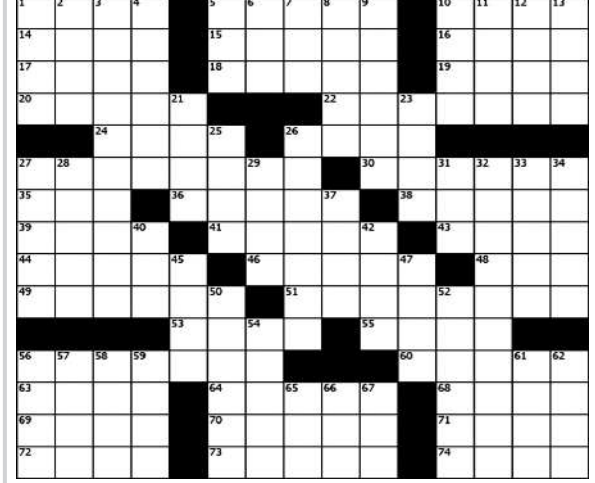


Actress Shilpa Agnihotri, who was last seen in the show 'Vish Ya Amrit: Sitara', makes her return to TV with the show, 'Tere Ishq Mein Ghayal'. She plays the role of Sudha, who is the wife of Sameer (Nikhil Arya) and she talks about the show and her character.
"The title of Tere Ishq, makes me think of wounded love, something very deep. I think the VFX of the show is its USP. Characters have been well-etched and have the right tune in with each other. Also, the way it's being shot beautifully. There is a method to this madness which makes the entire concept and presentation amazing, stylish." Shilpa says that initially she does not know much about her character. "I think in time, I will know

much more. We have just started and there is a way to go," she shares. She recalls her first day on the sets and says: "When you see the poster you only know of the three brilliant actors that are there in the show as the leads. But once I reached the set, I got to know about the remaining fabulous cast. And, I was very glad to work with them."
"Any show that involves VFX and that too this well is bound to stand ahead in the race. Everything here is being done on a much larger scale." She adds that the trend of thriller and mystery shows will always be there and people are fond of watching it. "These genres have a niche audience that always comes back for shows like these. My hus-

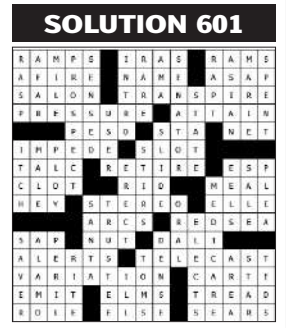
band (Apurva Agnihotri, actor) is also a fan and watches a lot of international shows belonging to these genres. Such shows have a charm of their own and keep the interest level going till the end," shares the actress.
So who is her greatest critic? "I hoped that my husband would be my greatest critic, but he is my biggest admirer (smiles). So I guess I'm lucky in that aspect," she adds.
Showering more praise on him and how together they stay positive, she adds: "Apurva and I celebrate life every single day by thanking God for being there for us. We also say thanks for every single breath that we take, being healthy and happy. Life is a celebration for us every day."

CROSSWORD 602



- ACROSS**
1. Corn cores
5. Guinness and Baldwin
10. Baseball glove
14. Egg on
15. Jeweler's measure
16. Farm unit
17. Suffer defeat
18. Informed
19. Acute
20. Iron or lead
22. Commanded
24. Snow toy
26. Appeal
27. More formal
30. Speech-maker
35. Snaky swimmer
36. Stitched together
38. Not these
39. _____ Fitzgerald of jazz
41. Truckers' vehicles
43. Circle segments
44. Cinders
46. Goes up

48. Make a doily
49. Narrow waterway
51. Disperses
53. Warsaw native
55. Dinner or lunch
56. Stalemate
60. Aviator
63. Cash drawer
64. Astronomer Carl _____
68. Peruvian capital
69. Applaud
70. Elude
71. Small bills
72. Egg layers
73. Railroad station
74. Ice arena
DOWN
1. Serene
2. Band instrument
3. Popular book
4. Shoplifts
5. Alias abbr.
6. Regulation
7. Memorable time
8. Holiday song
9. Hi-fi system
10. Create
11. Cake decorator
12. Family chart
13. Care for
21. Smaller amount
23. Small arrow
25. Expires
26. Assumption
27. Feats
28. Lease again
29. Water vessel
31. Exclamation of triumph
32. Meat-filled pasta
33. Felix's roommate
34. _____ jockey
40. Medical group (abbr.)
42. Garment juncture
45. Small tastes
47. Ladder rung
50. Flung
52. Clothing maker
54. Take off
56. Longing
57. Distance measure
58. Strategy
59. Swiss mountains
61. Harbinger
62. Assigned job
65. Space
66. Upward
67. Fish trap



I know how to deal with people's expectations: Rohit Sharma

Mumbai, Mar 29 (PTI):

Rohit Sharma knows a thing or two about winning IPL trophies and having been there and done that on five occasions for Mumbai Indians, public expectation is the last thing to make him wary. The most successful captain in the history of IPL with five championships, Sharma knows that Mumbai Indians as one of the title contenders comes enters any tourney with a baggage of hype and hoopla. And that's what a protective skipper wants to shield the youngsters in his side from as one can easily get overawed by the sense of occasion. "Expectations will always be there whenever we go out to play, not just in the IPL. Having played for so many years it does not bother me and I am not worried about what the people are expecting me

to do," Sharma said at the season opening media conference organised by MI. "We know that we have to do our best and win the trophy. To keep thinking about it all the time is to put pressure on yourself," the skipper said. Dewald Brevis, Tilak Verma will all be playing their second season but for young Cameron Green with a multi-million dollar deal, IPL will be a different beast altogether. "I don't want to put too much pressure on them (youngsters) right now. Closer to our first game, we will give them that specific roles. Obviously leading up that first game, guys pretty much know what we are expecting from them," Sharma explained. Play like you play first-class cricket The one tip that MI skipper always offers to the new players in the set-

up is to think the platform as an extension of domestic cricket and do exactly what got them success over there. "I will try to tell them to replicate what they did in first-class or club cricket. I know the IPL is a different ball game but I tell them to bring that mindset. At the end of the day, the battle is between bat and ball," he added. Sharma said while his side will miss Jasprit Bumrah but to compensate his absence, MI will have Jofra Archer ready to unleash his 145 plus thunderbolts. Mumbai Indians are also expected to announce a replacement for Bumrah, the captain confirmed.

"It will be a big miss but it is an opportunity for someone else. There are a couple of guys who have been with this team for the last two years and they are very much ready to step up. Hopefully we will bleed a few youngsters," Sharma said. "Jofra (Archer) was part of the team last year, but he was injured. Obviously we all know the quality of Jofra. It is



will bleed a few youngsters," Sharma said. "Jofra (Archer) was part of the team last year, but he was injured. Obviously we all know the quality of Jofra. It is

lot of young players will get an opportunity and this is a platform for them to come out and express themselves," he said. Impact Player would depend on team dynamics Talking about the new rule of "Impact Player", Sharma said there will be more clarity on the change after a first few matches. "There's no doubt that the captains would use it. But, again, like I said, it depends on all the team dynamics. What the other teams have as an 'Impact Player' who is sitting outside. "We will not be worried about what the other teams are doing. We will see what we can do and how we can strengthen our team on that particular day. "We'll get some idea (about how to use the rule) in the first couple of

games and obviously, we've had a good chat around this new rule as well," Sharma said. Nine players are sorted, you need to discuss about a couple The 'Impact Player' allows 12 players to take active part in the game and hence the skipper said that team combinations will remain fluid although at least nine slots out of 12 being sorted. Sharma said it was too early for him to discuss team combination. "Obviously, (it is) too early to talk about the combination. You want to try and cover all bases. You are playing against RCB and we know how they play. We want to field our best eleven rather than 12 now," he said. "These practice games that we play will give us a fair bit of an idea about what we want to do as a team. In terms of combination, it's pretty tough

to reveal anything right now. Your nine of the players are sorted, it's just that one or two slots that we need to have more chats around. Otherwise, our squad is pretty much settled." Would love to grow as player with inputs from Boucher Mahela Jayawardene for some years and is equally hopeful that he will develop a fine rapport with new head coach Mark Boucher. For the record, Jayawardene is now the Global Head of all the MI franchises. "It's always been my philosophy. I like to learn and grow as a cricketer. I have heard so many good things from the South African players about Mark about how he is taken the SA team through in the last couple of years," the skipper waxed eloquent.

TEAM JERSEY LAUNCH EVENT



Royal Challengers Bangalore players Virat Kohli, Harshal Patel, Captain Faf Du Plessis, Mohd Siraj, Dinesh Karthik, Mahipal Lomror with KEI management during an event to launch the team jersey in Bengaluru, Wednesday, March 29.

Pandit hoping that Iyer is back 'very soon'



Kolkata: Kolkata Knight Riders head coach Chandrakant Pandit is hoping that their full time skipper Shreyas Iyer will return to action "very soon" and until then, he expects Nitish Rana to do well in the high-pressure leadership role. A recurring back injury is likely to keep Iyer out of action for the first half of the IPL. He had also missed the first and fourth Test against Australia due to the persistent back issues. "Whatever little cricket I have played or coached, I have never gone back over things like squad unavailability. Shreyas' absence will make a difference since he is important, but this is truly unfortunate.

Joseph's 5-40 gives West Indies T20 series win in SA

Johannesburg, Mar 29 (AP):

Fast bowler Alzarri Joseph finished off South Africa with three wickets in the 19th over as West Indies won the third Twenty20 by seven runs and took the series 2-1. Joseph collected 5-40 after



his late burst, which ensured South Africa fell short of West Indies' challenging total of 220-8. South Africa threatened for a moment, mainly because of Reeza Hendricks' 83 from 44 balls, but ultimately only managed 213-6 in its 20 overs. Hendricks fell to Joseph off the first

ball of that 19th over for the crucial breakthrough when he was caught at long on looking for his third six. Hendricks had earlier been dropped a couple of times on the boundary but West Indies captain Rovman Powell held on

this time. South Africa needed 35 runs off the last two overs and was up against it already, but Joseph then had Heinrich Klaassen caught two balls after Hendricks' departure and sent a delivery smashing into Wayne Parnell's stumps two balls after that to set up the victory.

Elena Rybakina hits 10 aces in Miami for 12th straight win

Miami Gardens, Mar 29 (AP):

Reigning Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina extended her winning streak to 12 matches by delivering 10 aces her fourth consecutive outing with at least that many in a 6-3, 6-0 victory over 25th-seeded Martina Trevisan in the Miami Open quarterfinals. Rybakina has 46 aces through four matches at the hard-court tournament in Florida and a WTA-leading 201 this season. The 23-year-old, who represents Kazakhstan, improved to 20-4 in 2023, including a run to the Australian Open final in January and a title at Indian Wells, California, last week. She is trying to become only the fifth player to win the women's trophies at Indian Wells and Miami in the same season. Top-ranked Iga Swiatek did it a year ago; she withdrew from Miami this time because of a rib injury. "Of course it would be amazing to achieve something like that," the 10th-seeded Rybakina said about the prospect of completing what's known as the Sunshine Double, "but it's still far away."



Lionel Messi surpasses 100 career goals for Argentina

Santiago Del Estero, Mar 29 (AP): Lionel Messi scored a hat trick and surpassed 100 career goals for Argentina with three in the first half of Tuesday's international friendly against Curacao. The World Cup winners beat the Caribbean side 7-0 in their second match since clinching the trophy in December. The 35-year-old Messi opened the scoring against Curacao in the 20th minute with a right-foot shot from the edge of the box to reach the 100-goal milestone. Nico Gonzalez added another three minutes later with a header from close range. Messi then scored his 101st for Argentina in the 33rd minute with a crossed shot to the right of the goalkeeper and his 102nd in the 37th after an easy run to score. Two minutes earlier he had assisted Enzo



Fernandez' blast from the edge of the box.

Will try to be unpredictable for bowlers: Joe Root

Jaipur, Mar 29 (PTI):

Ahead of his maiden IPL stint, Rajasthan Royals' star English recruit Joe Root says he will try to "get the best out of myself" and "be unpredictable for bowlers" in the tournament beginning March 31. "I'll try and be unpredictable for bowlers. I am sure I will smile and enjoy it, and will try to get the best out of myself," Root said in a team release.

Ahead of a practice session here, the 32-year-old spoke about his new team. "Everyone seems to want to create that feel around things that it's more than just performances on the field. They said they were delighted to get me in the auction..."

England's ex-Test cricket captain is looking forward to the season. "It's an experience that you can't replicate anywhere else in the world. I've never experienced it before so it's all going to be very new to me, which, for an experienced player in that's played a lot of international cricket, is really exciting."

"I've heard a lot of things. And I'm really looking forward to living it now." Sharing his thoughts on the Royals' team, Root said; "Last year was an exceptional year for the franchise and I've always enjoyed



watching Sanju (Samson) play. I think he's a hell of a talent and seems to keep growing every year as a player and as a leader."

The stylish batter also spoke about how he is preparing himself for the format. "I'm just trying to be as consistent as I can be. You can always work on things slowly and in the background but ultimately you are trying to make sure that your strengths are as good as they possibly can be."

"And that you know you're switched on and ready for any situation and scenario that you find yourself in and you have that clarity under pressure."

Captaining Dhoni was a little bit daunting: Steve Smith



New Delhi, Mar 29 (PTI): Australian star Steve Smith says captaining MS Dhoni in the 2017 IPL was "a little bit daunting" but he also learned to be calm and level-headed by spending time with the Indian great. In that season, Smith led

the Rising Pune Super Giants squad that also featured Dhoni season, as Chennai Super Kings were serving a two-year ban from the competition. Smith, who will part of the commentary team in the upcoming season, led the franchise to the finals of the tournament in 2017, narrowly missing out on the title by just one run. Recalling his experiences of captaining the RPS and how Dhoni played a big role in that season, Smith told Star Sports, "When I got the call to say that they wanted me to captain, it was a little bit daunting. But that season, MSD was just wonderful.

ADMISSION Open

Contact for Advertising 96302 59335

MODEL ENGLISH HR. SEC. SCHOOL

"Education makes future better"

Special Discount on Admission fees before 31st March 50%

Admission Open Nursery to 12th (Biology, Maths, Commerce) Register Now at www.mesraipur.com

Highlight: Spoken English & Personality Development Classes, Transport & Surveillance Facility, Monthly Seminar & Discussion, Personal attention on each students

Civil lines, Katora Talab Road, Raipur (C.G.) Contact:- 07771-4000123

ROYAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Play Group Nursery, Pre Primary, Class I to XII (Science, Commerce, Bio, Arts)

Special Discount on Admission fees before 31st March 50%

Salient Features: Extra curricular activities, Personal attention to each student Limited student in each class, Music, dance, personality development classes, Conveyance facilities scholarship to all first class students, Yoga & Meditation, Well equipped lab, Computer Lab, A large playground

Mathporena, Chourasiya Colony, Raipur, (C.G.) Mo.: 9589085558, 9329621221, Email:- rpsraipur123@gmail.com

ASSURANCE OF SUPERIOR SAFETY

RELIABLE AND STRONG, NEXT GEN FEATURES, BENCHMARK OF SAFETY, COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

GK Automotive Pvt Ltd Opp. Kabir Nagar, Sondongri, Ring Road No.-2, Raipur (C.G.) Mo.: 98422 00097

