

### BRIEF



Commuters use scarves to shield themselves from the heat on a hot summer day, in New Delhi, Saturday afternoon.

### Watery grave

**Kota:** Two teen boys drowned in a pond allegedly dug up for illegal mining near a newly developed housing colony here with their families blaming authorities for the water crisis in the area, officials said on Saturday. The incident happened near the Devnarayan Housing Scheme colony under Ranpur police station area on Friday, they said.

### Snow clearance

**Jammu:** The snow clearance operation on the Mughal road is likely to be completed next week, officials said on Saturday, as demands grew louder for its opening around the "Eid-ul-Fitr" festival. The road, an alternate link connecting the twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu region with south Kashmir's Shopian, was closed for winter months in January owing to heavy snowfall in the upper reaches, including at Pir Ki Gali.

### Death sentence

**Nagpur:** A court in Maharashtra's Nagpur on Saturday sentenced a man to death for killing five members of his family over a property dispute. Additional sessions judge R S Pawaskar convicted the accused Vivek Gulab Palatkar (35) of charges under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced him to death. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 on him.

### Recover

**Guwahati:** A rhino horn horn believed to have been extracted by miscreants last month has been seized by the Assam Police in Nagaon but the suspected poacher managed to escape from custody, a top officer said on Saturday. The suspected poaching of a one-horned rhinoceros in Kaziranga National Park was the first such incident in the park in over a year.

### Defuse

**Jammu:** A rusted mortar shell was found in a forest area on the outskirts of Jammu on Saturday, officials said, adding it was defused by the bomb disposal squad. Special Police Officer Sunil Kumar noticed the mortar shell lying in Shivalikpuram forest area near Janipur Colony and informed the local police station about it, the officials said.

### Welcome

**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Saturday said he 'wholeheartedly' welcomed the decision by the Ministry of Home Affairs to conduct the examinations for recruitment of constables in the Central Armed Police Force in state languages.

**Weather**  
High 39 Low 26

### HEART-RENDING INCIDENT

# 13 dead, 29 injured after bus falls into gorge

**On old Mumbai-Pune highway**

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Thirteen persons, including at least five minors, were killed and 29 others injured after a bus carrying young male and female members of a traditional music troupe fell into a gorge on the old Mumbai-Pune highway in Raigad district of Maharashtra early on Saturday, police said.

The private bus with 42 persons on board was going from Pune to Mumbai when it plunged into the 300-feet deep gorge in the Bor Ghat mountain pass section, better known as Khandala Ghat, around 4.50 am. The accident occurred near Khopoli town in the



Wrecked remains of a bus that fell into a gorge leaving at least 12 persons dead and 27 others injured on Mumbai-Pune highway, in Raigad district, Saturday.

district, around 70 km from Mumbai, a senior police official said.

According to police, the deceased included a six-year-old boy and a girl aged 15, while of the total number of injured, at least six are minors. Most of the music troupe members

were in their twenties or teenagers, who were heading back to Mumbai after taking part in an event in Pimpri Chinchwad near Pune city. Expressing grief over the incident, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announced an ex-gratia of Rs

five lakh to the kin of each deceased. He said the condition of five of the injured is critical.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah expressed sorrow and spoke to CM Shinde and his deputy Devendra Fadnis about the accident.

"The bus was carrying 42 members of 'Baji Prabhu Zanj Pathak' based in Mumbai's Goregaon. They were returning to Goregaon after taking part in an event in Pimpri Chinchwad area in Pune district. The bus, which had left the venue around 1 am on Saturday, fell into the gorge on the highway near Shingroba temple after its driver lost control," the police official said, adding that 13 of them died in the incident, which left 29 others injured.

### Father recalls last conversation.....

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD)**

Deepak Sawant spoke to his daughter Jui when she reached Pune safely for an event, but little did he know it would be his last conversation with the 18-year-old who died along with 12 others when their bus plunged into a gorge on the old Mumbai-Pune highway in Maharashtra early on Saturday. "While leaving for Pune, Jui told me she will telephone me when she reached the city, which she did. That was my last conversation with my daughter," said a distraught Sawant, who is employed as a security guard. Jui had just appeared for her Class 11 examination, he said.

"Around 7 am, we got a phone call from the police informing us about the accident. We immediately reached the site and found several people dead and injured," he said. The victims were part of a traditional dhol-tasha (drums and percussion) troupe, based out of Goregaon in north-west Mumbai, who had travelled to Pune's Pimpri-Chinchwad area to take part in an event.

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# Amritpal aide Joga Singh arrested

**Had helped him hide in Pilibhit**

**Chandigarh, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Police have arrested a key aide of radical preacher Amritpal Singh for allegedly providing shelter and other assistance to the absconding Khalistan sympathiser in Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh.



Joga Singh, who is a resident of Ludhiana and is managing a 'dera' in Pilibhit, was coming to Punjab from Haryana, a senior police official said on Saturday, adding the police were on his trail.

"Joga Singh was in direct contact with Amritpal Singh. He arranged shelter and vehicles for Amritpal Singh. He arranged for him to stay in Pilibhit and then return to Punjab," Deputy Inspector General (Border Range) Narinder Bhargav said at a press conference.

### IIT BOMBAY STUDENT'S DEATH

# Hostel mate remanded in judicial custody till Apr 29

**Files bail plea**

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

IIT Bombay student Arman Khatri, arrested for allegedly abetting the suicide of fellow student Darshan Solanki, on Saturday filed his bail plea before a special court, which remanded him in judicial custody till April 29.

Khatri was arrested on April 9 by the city crime branch's special investigation team (SIT) and was booked under Indian Penal Code sections that deal with the abetment of suicide and criminal intimidation, as well as under the

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

As Khatri's police custody ended on Saturday, the SIT sought to extend it by claiming that they had recovered certain messages sent by Solanki to Khatri a day before he allegedly killed himself.

Solanki, who hailed from Ahmedabad and was a first-year student of the B Tech (Chemical) course, died allegedly by jumping off the seventh floor of a hostel building on the IITB campus in suburban Powai on February 12.

According to police, two

days before his death, Solanki had allegedly made a communal remark in a conversation with Khatri following which the 19-year-old threatened Solanki with a paper cutter. Solanki was visibly scared by this incident and had suffered from a fever that night, police claimed.

In their remand application submitted to the court on Saturday seeking further custody of Khatri, police said that Solanki had sent WhatsApp messages to Khatri apologising for the remark and saying that he was going back home and leaving Mumbai.

# Cong targets PM on Malik's Pulwama attack revelations



Congress leaders Jai Ram Ramesh and Supriya Shrinete during a press conference at party headquarters, in New Delhi, Saturday.

**New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTD):**

The Congress on Saturday demanded answers from the Centre on the outcome of the probe into the 2019 Pulwama incident in which 40 CRPF jawans were killed, asking why were the CRPF personnel denied aircraft and were made to commute via road despite terror attack threat. Congress general secretary Jai Ram Ramesh accused

the BJP-led Union government of "minimum governance and maximum silence" and asked it to comment on the reported revelations made by former Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satyapal Malik on the incident. "The government believes in the principle of minimum governance and maximum silence. It is the government's responsibility to answer questions raised by the op-

### Baghel targets Centre

**Raipur:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Saturday said the BJP-led Central government must respond to claims made by former Jammu and Kashmir governor Satyapal Malik on the 2019 Pulwama incident in which 40 CRPF jawans were killed. Asked about Malik's reported revelations, Baghel told reporters here, "Allegations have been levelled against Bharatiya Janata Party and Centre. The matter is linked to the security of the nation and martyrdom of jawans. If the then governor has made such statements and accusations, then the Centre must reply to it." In a media interview, Malik, who was the governor of J&K during the Pulwama terror attack, alleged that the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) had asked for an aircraft ahead of the incident but the request was denied by the Union Home Ministry. Malik also claimed that he was instructed to remain silent on the issue. On February 14, 2019, terrorists targeted a CRPF convoy at Pulwama in Jammu and Kashmir in which 40 jawans were killed and several others injured.

position," he said, adding that the Congress will continue to raise questions on the issue that concerns national security. Addressing a joint press conference along with party leaders Pawan Khera and Supriya Shrinete, he said the gov-

ernment has created buildings as symbols of democracy but democracy is missing. "Vishwaguru was creating a new model of democracy where there are symbols and buildings of democracy but the soil of democracy is now missing," he said.

### SHETTAR'S ULTIMATUM TO BJP

# 'Denying me ticket can cost 20-25 seats'

**Hubballi, Apr 15 (PTD):**

In a rebellious tone, former Karnataka chief minister Jagadish Shettar has said denying him a ticket to the Hubli-Dharwad Central constituency for the Assembly polls will have a bearing on at least 20 to 25 seats even as Union Minister Pralhad Joshi met him here on Saturday with an assurance that the party would take an appropriate decision on his candidature. Shettar is the sitting MLA from Hubli-Dharwad Central

and the BJP high command had earlier in the week asked him to drop his name for the election that left the former CM upset.

The BJP has not yet released the list of candidates for 12 constituencies, including Hubli-Dharwad Central. As 16 Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation council-

ors offered to tender their resignation with BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel today, the senior leader said he was grateful to them for showing their affection towards him.



### BEATING THE HEAT



A girl cools off under a tubewell water on a hot summer day on the outskirts of Amritsar, Saturday.

### SYLLABUS RATIONALISATION

# 'NCERT consulted 25 external experts, 16 CBSE teachers'

**New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTD):**

The NCERT consulted 25 external experts and 16 CBSE teachers to carry out its syllabus rationalisation exercise as part of which portions on the Mughals, Mahatma Gandhi, his assassin Nathuram Godse, reference to Hindu extremists and the 2002 Gujarat riots were dropped from school textbooks, according to the education ministry.

Dropping several topics and portions from the NCERT textbooks has triggered a controversy with the Opposition blaming the Centre of "whitewash-

ing with vengeance".

At the heart of the row is the fact that while the changes made as part of the rationalisation exercise were notified, some of these controversial deletions weren't mentioned in them. This has led to allegations about a bid to delete these portions surreptitiously.

The NCERT has described the omissions as a possible oversight but refused to undo the deletions, saying they were based on the recommendations of experts. It has also said the textbooks are anyway headed for revision in 2024 when the National

Curriculum Framework kicks in.

"Aside from NCERT in-house experts, NCERT sought the expertise of subject experts from Universities/Organisations and practising teachers in all its activities related to Research, Development, Training and Extension for wider consultation," the ministry had said in response to a written question in Lok Sabha.

Among the most contested deletions are from history and political science textbooks for which the NCERT consulted five and two external experts respectively.

### UGC drops cap on contractual faculty

**For autonomous colleges**

**New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Autonomous colleges will no longer be required to ensure that the number of contractual faculty is not more than 10 per cent of the total sanctioned faculty positions, according to revised UGC norms.

The affiliated and constituent colleges will also be able to directly approach the University Grants Commission (UGC) to get academic and administrative autonomy anytime during the year, without going through the parent university. The commission has notified the new rules under UGC (Conferment of Autonomous Status upon Colleges and Measures for Maintenance of Standards in Autonomous Colleges) Regulations, 2023.

### SHAH ON CONG RIFT

# 'Gehlot filling Cong coffers with corruption money'

**Pilot's number will not come**

**Bharatpur (Raj), Apr 15 (PTD):**

In a swipe at the Congress in Rajasthan over infighting, Union home minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the party prefers Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot over his former deputy Sachin Pilot as his contribution in filling its coffers with the "corruption" money from the state is higher.

He said that Gehlot and Pilot are fighting unnecessarily as the BJP will form the next government in



Rajasthan. "Pilot sits on dharna on any pretext... his contribution may be higher on the ground but

his number will not come because his contribution in filling the coffers of Congress party is less and Gehlot's contribution is higher," Shah said while addressing booth-level party workers meeting in Bharatpur.

The two Congress leaders are at loggerheads since 2020 after Pilot revolted against Gehlot's leadership. Pilot recently observed a one-day fast against his own government alleging inaction on corruption charges against the previous Vasundhara Raje-led BJP government.



## 'Follow Babasaheb to strengthen democracy'

## Accused of loan fraud arrested from Bihar

### Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel reached Budh Vihar Sector 6 Bhilai on Friday on the occasion of the 132nd birth anniversary of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar. In his address, Baghel said that following the path shown by Babasaheb



Bhimrao Ambedkar, we all have to continuously work for strengthening the democratic system. Very few are able to struggle like him, but we all can try to follow his values and work to strengthen our democracy. Baghel further said that there were differences of opinion among people during the freedom struggle but they used to respect disagreement too. Everyone was heard in the constitution that Baba Saheb Ambedkar made in India by including the best ideals. Baba Saheb Ambedkar spent his whole

life in the service of the country and gave us the Constitution. He ensured that the voice of the last person is also heard and it has its effect. Very few people have the ability to struggle like him but at least we can follow the path shown by him. We can strengthen the country by following the mantra given by Babasaheb. Babasaheb always insisted on getting united and educated. He used to say that only an educated nation moves towards greatness. At the same time, he gave the message of wisdom and compassion.

When compassion and wisdom awakens within a person, he rises for greater causes. The British policy in India was divide and rule. Baba Saheb understood this policy and gave a message to the society to get organized and united. The independent India grew with this aim and reforms were introduced in agriculture and industrial scenarios. Immediately after independence, big industrial initiatives were made in Chhattisgarh and other states. Citing the example of Bhilai Steel Plant, he said that no one can deny this contribution. If we deny it, we will be insulting our forefathers who built this industrial temple. The Chief Minister said that it is the responsibility of our generation to work continuously to strengthen the democratic system. Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu also addressed the gathering. He said that Babasaheb as the framer of the Constitution has given an ideal Constitution to the country. Bhilai MLA Devendra Yadav, Mayor Neeraj Pal, DCC Bank Chairman Rajendra Sahu, Antyavasai Corporation Vice

### Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** Police have arrested a fraudster from Bihar who cheated a villager in pretext of business loan. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that Anjora Police Station had received a complaint from Jhumman Lal Nishad of village Changori.



He needed a loan to open a grocery shop and came in contact with a person after watching a facebook advertisement. The person introduced himself as Sanjeev Kumar, an employee of Bajaj Finance and asked him to send the Aadhaar card, Pan card and bank account details and assured that the loan will be approved within twenty four hours.

Later, he convinced the victim to pay almost Rs 80000 as processing charge, insurance charge, income tax charge, etc. Police lodged the FIR under Section 420 of IPC. Taking the incident into serious consideration, a

joint team of ACCU, CSP Durg / Chhawani Squad and Chowki Anjora was formed for investigation.

During the investigation, the team examined the mobile number and bank details of the accused and found the addresses of village Maikhera, Police Station Warsaliganj, District Nawada, Bihar.

A special team was sent to Village Maikhera and came to know that the fraud was committed by local resident Radheshyam Kumar. With the help of local police, Radheshyam Kumar was arrested.

During sustained interrogation, he confessed to publishing an advertisement on Facebook to trap people and cheat them in pretext of providing a loan. He even made them fill certain online forms to win their trust. Police have recovered the mobile handset and mobile number used in the crime.

The accused Radheshyam Kumar (30) son of Girja Singh a resident of village Maikhera, Police Station Warsaliganj, District Nawada, Bihar has been booked under the provisions mentioned in section 420 of IPC.

## Two arrested for stealing Rs 4.22 lakh from a man via Anydesk app

### Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** Police arrested two fraudsters from Jharkhand on charges of fraudulently withdrawing Rs 4.22 lakh from a man's bank account after making him install AnyDesk app on his mobile phone. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that they had received a complaint from Harish Kumar Tandon (41) of Hanoda regarding this fraud.



AnyDesk, the victim lost over Rs 4.22 lakh in different instalments. Police lodged a complaint under section 420 of IPC and investigations were launched.

Police examined the mobile number and bank account used by the accused and found that the location of the accused was in Karmatar of District Jamtara in Jharkhand. A special team was sent to Jamtara Jharkhand. Police collected information regarding the accused and found that a local resident Arjun Mandal had committed this crime.

With the help of local police, the team arrested Arjun Mandal and his associate Nakul Kumar Mandal. During interrogation, they confessed to committing the fraud. The accused revealed that they had registered the company in the name of Delivery Courier by paying an amount of Rs1000 on Google Ad.

When any person searched Delivery Courier on Google browser, the mobile number of the accused was flashed. When any person contacted them on this number, they tricked the caller by sending a link on their phone and asking to fill the form and get bank related information like bank account number, CVV number, card expiry date, pin code number and OTP.

The accused convinced them to download AnyDesk App and got access to the mobile phone of the victim. Thereafter, the accused used to fraudulently withdraw money from the bank account of the victims by using AnyDesk App. Police recovered 14 mobile phones of different companies from the accused.

The arrested accused are Arjun Mandal (28) son of Dashrath Mandal a resident of village Pindari, district Jamtara, Jharkhand and Nakul Kumar Mandal (22) son of Dashrath Mandal a resident of village Pindari, District Jamtara, Jharkhand. Further action is being taken from Padmanabhpur police station.

## NAAC team inspects PSSOU's regional and study centers

### Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** A team of experts from NAAC inspected various departments, regional and study centers of Pt Sunder Lal Sharma Open University for the first time for evaluation and accreditation of the university. The inspection was conducted from April 11 to 13. NAAC Team members Professor Dr Hema Sundar Naidu Gonugunta (Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore) and Professor Dr Vijay Jaiswal (Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut) conducted inspection at Regional Center Durg located in Nehru Nagar as well as the study centers in Government VYT Post Graduate College, Durg and Mansa Education College, Kurur.



On behalf of the regional center, Dr RN Singh welcomed the team and briefed about the achievements of the Regional Centre. Dr DN Sharma gave a PowerPoint

presentation regarding the role, structure, activities and progress of the regional centre in the last five years. The team members asked for administrative and academic information and made an in-depth observation of available facilities and maintenance of documents and records.

Expressing happiness over the remarkable number of 311 students (including 30 students who secured first position in merit list) who appeared in the merit list of the regional

center in the last five years, the team members also suggested tracking these students.

Government VYT Post Graduate College Principal Dr RN Singh gave a Power Point presentation regarding works of the last five years and shared the details of counseling-contact classes organized for the students of Science Faculty. Along with the available documents, the team members also inspected the facilities, laboratories etc available in the

college. Principal Dr Smita Saxena in Mansa Education College shared details of contact programs, counseling services and facilities available in the study center. The team oversaw the records, teaching aids etc in the study center.

The team members expressed their satisfaction with the activities, academic progress and maintenance of documents, facilities and services being provided at the Regional Center and Study Centers.

## BPNI certificate of Breastfeeding-Friendly Hospital to JLNHRC

### Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's JLN Hospital & Research Centre (JLNHRC), Sector-09, a leading healthcare provider in the state, has been recognized for its exceptional maternity and neonatal care.

JLNHRC has received the prestigious accreditation certificate of Breastfeeding-Friendly Hospital from the Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI), which is first amongst the SAIL hospitals and the second in the state of Chhattisgarh.

The 'Breastfeeding - Friendly Hospital' accreditation recognizes hospitals that have implemented policies and procedures that promote and support breastfeeding. The BPNI is a non-governmental organization that works to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding in India.

The Breastfeeding - friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) is a global effort launched by WHO and UNICEF to implement practices that protect, promote and support breastfeeding. This recognition is a testament



to JLNHRC's commitment to providing quality healthcare services to new mothers and their babies. The neonatal ICU of JLNHRC has a mortality rate of 4 per 1000 deliveries, which is comparable with the premium health institutes in India.

The Paediatric Department is equipped with all modern facilities and has well-trained doctors and paramedical staff, ensuring best possible care to the patients. The Obstetrics & Gynaecology Department actively participate in ensuring safe delivery of babies and comply to BFHI Standards.

BFHI accreditation will promote mother-infant

bonding immediately after birth. It also augments connection among nursing mothers and lactation support groups. Mother and infants will receive greater care consistently.

As part of the Digital India Mission, mothers are being digitally trained in the neonatal ICU, making it easier for them to learn about proper breastfeeding techniques and take care of their new-born.

"We are proud to receive this accreditation certificate from the BPNI," said Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M&HS), JLNHRC. He further said that, it is a testament to our team work of ONG Dept,

Paediatric Dept, and Neonatal ICU in providing quality care to new mothers and their infants and we are committed to promoting and supporting breastfeeding and ensure that all our patients receive the best possible care, added Dr Ravindranath.

Chief Medical Officers, Dr Pramod Binayake, Dr Rajeev Pal, Dr Vinita Dwivedi, Dr Kaushalendra Thakur, and other Doctors and paramedical staff of the Department of Paediatrics and Obstetrics & Gynaecology, along with the Medical Maintenance Department played a crucial role in achieving this milestone.

## MWORM soar to new heights with team work

### Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** Two of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's older finishing Mills, the Merchant Mill (MM) and Wire Rod Mill (WRM) that have sustained their performances throughout the last fiscal, often making records and rolling out new & customized grades during the year in collaboration with Quality Department, ended 2022-23 with Merchant Mill registering growth of around 12.8% and WRM growth of 16.9%, over previous FY 21-22.

It needs a mention that MM rolls out a wide variety of TMT bars with different sections, angles and channels while WRM rolls out both plain and ribbed (TMT) wire rod coils of different sections. MM began the new FY 23-24 with several day & shift records being made in quick succession while operating two out of three reheating furnaces in operation.

On April 10, 2023, both the Mills made records with MM producing record volume of 1977 Tonnes of TMT 25 mm, surpassing previous best of 1972 T, on April 08.



WRM too broke its previous day record of 1618 T produced on February 14, 2023 by registering production of 1632 T of TMT 10 mm coils on April 10, 2023.

MK Goyal, CGM-MWORM (Merchant Wire Rod Mill) of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant shared that the shop personnel have tightened up to face challenging tasks and they are ready to fulfill new targets and work in cohesion with each other, he asserted.

SR Shambarkar, AGM (MWORM) revealed that the working environment in MWORM is congenial where all employ-

ees with management's support, perform in team-work and execute innovative ideas for yielding good production results. PK Barua, AGM (MWORM) feels that monitoring of Entry/Exit boxes of the stands is crucial for smooth functioning of the Mill.

N Hari Narayan, Chief Master Operator (MWORM) stated that the rolling rate and production rate is on a surge due to change in technology. The modernised mills help in increasing mill speed and with preventive measures we are able to roll out different grades of products like

EQR and HCR. ML Verma, Chief Master Technician (MWORM) said that proper inspection and improved maintenance has led to better results. Sushil Kumar Gupta, Chief Master Operator (MWORM) feels that the procurement of new stands, rollers, proper maintenance and good coordination help in smooth roll and pass changes.

Systematic coordination, better maintenance, proper house-keeping and Safety practices along with cohesive team work has led MWORM to reach new heights.



## Bengali community's contribution valuable in state's devp: CM

**Baghel participates in the Bengali New Year celebration and Bengali Association's centenary celebration**

**CM offers prayer to Maa Kali and prays for the prosperity of Chhattisgarh's people\***



Raipur, Apr 15: Bengali community has an important contribution in the development of Chhattisgarh. The Bengali community has been alert and aware since the beginning. The land of Bengal has been the land of revolutionaries and social reformers. Without them, the freedom of the country cannot be imagined. The contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Subhash Chandra Bose cannot be forgotten. Saint Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Swami Vivekananda are the best gifts of Bengal to the world. Saints of Bengal have also contributed significantly in the Bhakti

movement of the country. Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel was addressing the centenary celebrations of Bengali New Year and Bilaspur Bengali Association organized at Kalibari Maidan in Bilaspur on Saturday. The Chief Minister prayed for the happiness and prosperity of the people of the state by offering prayer to Maa Kali in Kalibari. Food and Culture Minister Amarjeet Bhagat presided over the programme. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel instructed the Collector to take action for

allocating 7,000 and 5,000 square feet of land in Mopka and Tifra to the Bengali community respectively. Addressing the program, Chief Minister Baghel said, "Durga Puja and Ganesh Puja have become our cultural identity. Chhattisgarh has cultural relations with Bengal. Their culture also travels along with the people. Chhattisgarh has imbibed the culture of Bengal". He also talked about the visits of Swami Vivekananda and Rabindranath Tagore to Chhattisgarh. He said that Swami

Vivekananda spent maximum time in Chhattisgarh after Bengal. Vivekanand ji spent two years in Chhattisgarh. The airport in Chhattisgarh has been named after Swami Vivekananda. The contribution made by Mr. Rabindranath Tagore to society cannot be forgotten. Mr. Rabindranath Tagore has also spent time in Chhattisgarh. Devashish Laltu Ghosh, general secretary of Bilaspur's Bengali Association, gave the welcome speech in the programme.

At the function, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel honoured the great personalities of Chhattisgarh with the 'Chhattisgarh Ratna Award'. These include Padma Vibhushan Pandwani singer Teejan Bai, Justice Kishore Bhaduri, a former member of NITI Aayog and economist Pranav Kumar Chatterjee, Parliamentary Secretary Rashmi Singh, MLA Shailesh Pandey, Mayor of Municipal Corporation Bilaspur Ramsharan Yadav, President of Chhattisgarh Tourism Board Atal Srivastava, President of District Cooperative Bank Bilaspur Pramod Nayak, Vice President of Arpa Development Authority Abhay Narayan Rai, Vijay Kesharwani, Vijay Pandey, Ramakrishna Mission Koni's saint Sewavratmand Maharaj, Ravi Ghosh, officials of the Bengali Association and a large number of people of the community were present at the centenary celebrations. Cultural performances were also presented by the children at the function.

### DIGGING OF ROADS



The digging of roads in different parts of capital city is common site for laying of new pipeline and other such works of RMC.

### Unique initiative of the women of Saddu

Raipur, Apr 15: Sujata and Chandni, two ladies from the capital city have started a unique initiative "Lit Club" for children where children will get to read interesting books every Friday between 7 to 8 pm. After the commencement of summer vacations, the academic activities of the children stop. That's why Sujata and Chandni informed all the children and parents of the colony on the day of



Ambedkar Jayanti. By decorating the courtyard of the house itself, 300 books

and magazines were kept in a cupboard and preparations were made for the evening. About 35 children and 15 parents enjoyed Dr. Jawahar's stories and then started reading by choosing books according to their interest. This excellent effort will continue and more books will be added to this club from time to time to increase children's interest towards books, newspapers and magazines and to increase knowledge during holidays.

### Speech Competition on 'Contributions of Dr Ambedkar to Indian Education' held

Raipur, Apr 15: Team National Service Scheme (NSS) of National Institute of Technology Raipur conducted a speech competition on 14th April 2023 on the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar. The topic of the competition was "Contributions of Dr B.R. Ambedkar to Indian Education". The Chief Guest of the event was Dr. Debashis Sanyal, Dean Faculty Welfare. Dr. Nitin Jain, Dean Student Welfare was the Guest of Honour.



Dr. Govardhan Bhatt addressed the audience and highlighted the struggles and inspiring stories of Dr. Ambedkar in his speech. Dr. Debashis Sanyal spoke about the contributions of Dr. Ambedkar in the field of education and other domains of the society. Dr. Nitin Jain expressed his good wishes and asked the audience to take in-

spiration from the great leader. "There is no substitute for Hardwork", he said. The speech competition commenced with participants presenting speeches with great zeal and enthusiasm. They highlighted Dr. Ambedkar's diverse contributions to Indian education and outlined his philosophies and quotes in their speeches.

After the fierce competition, Dr. Sharda Nandan Raw, addressed the audience and congratulated the participants for their excellent performances. Dr. Raw along with Dr. Meena Murmu announced the winners of the competition. The first position was awarded to Rishabh Jain, 1st Year, Biotechnology. The second position was presented to Aditya Tiwari, 4th Year, Metallurgy & Materials Engineering. The third position was bagged by Shivani Gupta, 2nd Year, Master in Computer Applications (M.C.A.).

### Police issue notices to eight BJP functionaries

● For 'hateful' social media posts

Raipur, Apr 15: The Chhattisgarh police has issued notices to eight Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) functionaries in the Congress-ruled state for allegedly posting hateful content on social media, and asked them to appear before it, an official said. The notices were issued on Friday, he said. "In the notices, these BJP functionaries have

been asked to appear before the police and present factual statements related to such posts," Raipur Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal said on Friday. The eight functionaries comprise BJP spokesperson Sanjay Shrivastava, IT cell in-charge of BJP Chhattisgarh's Twitter handle Sunil Pillai, treasurer Nandan Jain, BJP trade cell president Kedarnath Gupta, BJP Yuva Morcha Mandal president Yogi Sahu, divi-

sional Yuva Morcha coordinator Kamal Sharma, DD Nagar BJP Yuva Morcha member Shubhankar and party worker Bittu Panigrahi. The Congress had, on April 12, filed a complaint with the Raipur police claiming that their social media posts were spreading hate. As per the police notice, these posts by the BJP members allegedly used derogatory terms for Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in connection with the

communal violence in Biranpur in the state's Bemetara district. The notices were issued as per a Supreme Court order dated October 21 last year directing action against hate speeches, police said. After a fight among schoolchildren, violence rocked Biranpur village, some 100 kilometres from state capital Raipur on April 8, leading to the death of 22-year-old Bhuneshwar Sahu and injuries to three policemen.

### Gold prices touch record high before 'Akshaya Tritiya'

● Crossed Rs 60,000 in Raipur

Raipur, Apr 15: Before Akshaya Tritiya, gold is touching new heights due to the influence of the international market. On Friday, gold crossed Rs 60,500 to Rs 60,300 per ten gram (standard) in Raipur bullion market. Similarly, silver became Rs 71000 per kg. In four months, the prices of both gold and silver have increased by Rs 4000. Bullion experts said that looking at the condition of the international market, gold can reach the level of Rs 64 to 65 thousand per ten grams in the next two months. They said that at present it is a good time to buy jewellery. In view of Akshaya Tritiya, a new range of jewellery has come in bullion institu-



tions. Collection of new fashionable jewellery is available along with traditional jewellery. Along with this, there is also a new range of lightweight jewellery. Former president of Raipur Sarafa Association, Harakh Malu said that considering the international market, gold may become more expensive, considering that this is a good time to buy. Gold reached its record level of Rs 58,000 in August 2020, followed by

Rs 59,000 per ten grams in January 2023. At present, on April 14, gold has crossed Rs 60,500 in Raipur. In the last 11 years, the price of gold has increased by Rs 31,000. In the year 2012, at the time of Akshaya Tritiya, gold in Raipur was at the level of Rs 29,000 per ten grams, whereas this year Akshaya Tritiya is about to come and gold has reached Rs 60,500 per ten grams.

### CM pays tribute to Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharya

On his birth anniversary

Raipur, Apr 15: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel paid tribute to the founder of Pushtimarg, Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharya, on the occasion of his birth anniversary, which falls on April 16. Baghel said that Vallabhacharya was born in Champaran of Chhattisgarh on the Ekadashi of Krishna Paksha of Vaishakh month. He had a deep connection with the land of Chhattisgarh. Vallabhacharyaji was the prime saint of Shri Krishna Bhakti branch and was a devotee of Shrinathji. He composed many texts describing Lord Shri Krishna's 'lila' and his nature. He showed the path of devotion full of love and affection to Shri Krishna as Pushtimarg. Many people were influenced by the Bhakti branch and adopted Pushtimarg. His famous disciple Surdasji carried forward his legacy and wrote many famous compositions with the theme of Krishna's love. Baghel said that the land of Chhattisgarh has also been blessed by the birth of a legend like Vallabhacharya.

### Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 15: The newly constructed building of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank's (CRGB) Corporate Office at Naya Raipur was inaugurated by Dinesh Kumar Khara, Chairman, State Bank of India. On this occasion, Dinesh Kumar Khara, Chairman, State Bank of India said that 'I had the privilege of inaugurating the Corporate Office of CRGB. Being the first among RRBs to have its own Corporate Office is a milestone to celebrate. My heartfelt congratulations to the CRGB team and I wish CRGB to achieve many more firsts in terms of business profitability and efficiency standards'. Bank needs to focus on managing liquidity risk,



ALM risk while ensuring excellent credit quality, he added. Addressing the function IK Gohil, Chairman, Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank informed the Chief Guest about the goals and achievements made by CRGB. Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank, Chairman,

IK Gohil said that CRGB will try its best to live up to the expectations of the honorable chief guest. In this program CGM NABARD Dr. Gyanendra Mani, CGM SBI Mihir Narayan Mishra, CGM SBI Vinod Kumar Mishra, Surendra Babu, GM NABARD Mohan Rawat, DGM NABARD, Shelly

Jamrui, DGM, NABARD, Shiv Kumar, GM, SBI, Neeraj Prasad, Naveen Rawat, DGM SBI, Sanjay Tiwari, Devendra Upadhyay, Rakesh Kumar Yadav, DGM SBI, Gajendra Sahu, AGM, RBI and Sheetal Saraswat Verma, Govt. of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank Vijay Agarwal, Atulya Behera, Ajay Kumar Nirala, Arvind Mittal and Assistant General Manager GN Murthy, Satish Kashyap and a large number of CRGB officials and employees were present on the occasion. State Bank Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara awarded regional managers and officers for their excellent work.

### '8125 vehicles sold in Auto-Expo 2023 till date'

Govt's decision of 50% rebate received huge response

Senior officers of Automobile co's terms the decision as icon for automobile sector



Raipur, Apr 15: The Auto Expo-2023 in Chhattisgarh received tremendous response due to positive approach by the Chhattisgarh government offering 50% rebate in road tax on purchase of any automobile and of which the people of the state have drawn full bene-

fit. On getting this rebate of 50% in the road tax, this Auto Expo in Chhattisgarh is going to establish new record in the country, as it is not only benefitting the purchasers, but also provided boost to the Automobile sector in the state. The

senior officers of Automobile companies who have come in the Auto-Expo 2023 had also accepted that this big decision by the Chhattisgarh government would prove to be icon for automobile sector all over the country. Members of Raipur

Automobile Dealers' Association (RADA) said that this very issue of 50% rebate in the road tax in all the vehicles in the Auto-Expo has become talk of the country and the growth to this Automobile sector after the important decision by the state gov-

ernment would be visible in the coming days. President RADA Vivek Garge and Secretary Kailash Khemani informed that the rebate in road tax for two-wheeler is 4% and for 4-wheelers it is 4.5 to 5% and this benefit is being passed onto the customers. In this the vehicle purchasers are getting benefit from Rs 3000 to Rs 10 lakh, depending upon the cost of the vehicles. In the year 2022 from March 24 to April 14, 800 vehicles were sold, but this year during this period, 3000 cars have been sold this year. In this Auto-Expo 2023, a total of 8125 vehicles have been sold till date, duo added.

### CM Baghel inquires about health of PHE Minister

Raipur, Apr 15: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Saturday spoke with Public Health Engineering Minister Guru Rudrakumar over telephone to inquire about his health and wished him a speedy recovery. It is notable here that Guru Rudrakumar faced some problems and was admitted in a local hospital and later it was learnt that with complications increasing he was airlifted to Hyderabad for further treatment.

### Bilaspur takes lead against Mahasamund in Sr Cricket tourney

Raipur, Apr 15: Abhishek Sahura (49 runs) and Imtiyaz Khan (41 runs) provided lead to Bilaspur in the first innings against Mahasamund after Ashutosh Singh had consolidated the position in the Senior Inter District Cricket Tournament being organised under the aegis of Chhattisgarh State Cricket Sangh (SCSC) here. At close of play on day two, Mahasamund had scored 65 runs for 2 in 16 overs of play in second innings. Shashank Chandrakr scored a quick-fire 36 runs from 37 balls whereas Tushar Chandrakar was unbeaten on 21 runs.





## Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar's 132nd birthday celebrated



● At SECR Raipur Division

**Raipur, Apr 15:** The 132nd birthday of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar was celebrated with full devotion on 14 April 2023 in Raipur Division of South East Central Railway (SECR).

Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Sanjeev Kumar garlanded the statue of Bharat Ratna Baba

Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar by lighting a lamp in the program organized in South East Central Railway Raipur Division.

Addressing this program, the DRM Sanjeev Kumar said that even today Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar is remembered as the messiah of Dalits, women, poor and helpless. In the pages of history, he is remembered as the chief architect of the Constitution, said the

DRM adding that Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar was in favor of democracy in every sphere of life - social, economic and political. The DRM also called for a resolve to serve the country through railway services with full dedication, goodwill, loyalty and honesty. Representatives of employee organizations, office bearers of All India SC ST Association, all officers and employees were present.



## Special drive to check stone-pelting of trains

● By RPF, Raipur Division

**Raipur, Apr 15:** Railway Protection Force (RPF) Raipur Division has launched a special drive to check stone pelting of trains and stop incidents of illegal crossing. Under special drive, people are being made aware of those grazing cattle on the sides of railway track.

The special drive is being carried out from April 11 to 17 in Durg, Bhilai, BMY, Raipur, Tilda, Bhatapara, Mandir Hasaud etc. Awareness is being created among the people of settlements, villages and students studying in the schools built on the sides of the railway

line. With creation of awareness people were asked to prevent movement of cattle on the side of the railway track to avoid train accident and loss of life and property. People were also advised to stay away from the railway track. The speed of all superfast, mail, express etc. trains including Vande Bharat is very high, due to which people do not even get the opportunity to recover. Passengers can get hurt by stone pelting on trains, due to which lives, goods and railway property are damaged. Railways is a national asset. Strict action is being taken under the Railway Act against anti-social elements who pelt stones on trains.

## Vijay Kumar Sahu takes charge as AGM SECR



**Bilaspur/Raipur, Apr 15:** Vijay Kumar Sahu is an IRSE 1988 batch officer joined railways in 1990 as Probationer. He did his BE in civil Engg & M.Tech in Structures. He has vast experience of having worked in Civil infrastructure like Track planning, Track maintenance, its modernization, bridge and bridge design. He had also experience in civil safety and survey wings. Before becoming AGM/SECR, he was Chief Engineer/Planning/Central Railway, Mumbai for about six months and before that DRM/CKP for about three years.

He was trained on different subjects like Bridge maintenance, track machine and their management system, management development course and Arch bridges in different institutes like IRICEN, Pune, INSEAD, Singapore, ICLIP, Malaysia, NAIR/Baroda.

## Tatibandh flyover be made ready at earliest: Collector



**Raipur, Apr 15:** Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure recently inspected the under-construction overbridge at Tatibandh Chowk. He expressed displeasure over the delay in the flyover construction work.

The Collector also discussed with the officials about the measures to remove the present traffic problem in Tatibandh Chowk, and smooth traffic flow after the construction of the bridge. The Collector asked the departmental officers to work in coordination.

He told the officials of the Electricity Department

to continuously observe the work of removing the poles. The Collector told traffic police to streamline traffic and take measures to solve problem of traffic jam besides taking measures to check accidents. He also discussed regarding load testing on the bridge. Representatives of the construction agency, NHAI, traffic, transport department officials were present on the occasion. Collector Dr Bhure asked the National Highway Authority officials, contractors and all concerned officials to complete the quality work within the time limit.

## Free Martial Arts and Yoga training camp underway



● At Shri Gujarati School

**Raipur, Apr 15:** Under the aegis of Raipur city's renowned organization Shree Gujarati Shikshan Sangh Raipur free summer training camp of Martial Arts and Yoga is presently underway at Shri Gujarati School, Sector -4, Devendra Nagar, Raipur from April 11 and will continue till June 15, 2023. The timings of the camp is from 06.30 am to 07.45 am.

The aim of the camp is to increase the immunity level of the students along with their physical and mental efficiency after the study period of the past academic year, to make pre-preparations for the upcoming

### Information about martial arts camp running at different places in Raipur

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 01) Ganj School Beside Guru Nanak Chowk Lions Club 30 to 8 pm<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Harsh Sharma, Ku Tikeswari Sahu, Jageshwar Dadsena | 04) Raheja Towers, Fafadih 7.30 to 8.30 pm<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Aman Yadav, Vinay Yadav                           | 07) WRS Ground Morning - 6 to 7.00<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Vishal Hiyal, Ku Annudevi Kanwar  |
| 02) Shree Gujarati School, Devendra Nagar Raipur 6.15 am to 7.45 am<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Ku Tikeswari Sahu, Ku Jharna Yadav           | 05) Anugraha Residency, Gondwara Road 6.30 to 8.00 pm ( Mon, Wed, Friday only )<br><b>Coach :-</b> Harsh Sharma * | 08) Netaji Subhash Stadium, Raipur 08 to 09 in the morning, 06 to 07 in the evening<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Anees Memon, Suraj Verma |
| 03) Garba Maidan, Devendra Nagar From 7 to 8 pm   | 06) Pragati Maidan, Pandri Morning, evening 5.30 to 7.00  |   |

competitions and to make good use of the summer vacation. In the camp, various disciplines of martial arts like Karate, Judo, Muay-Thai, Kudo, Thai Boxing, Kalaripayattu,

Jujutsu including Yoga etc. will be given training so that the player can perform better in the upcoming competitions. On Saturday 47 students took advantage of the camp. Students willing to par-

ticipate in the said training can get registered by contacting Assistant Teacher Sports Ku Tikeswari Sahu in Shri Gujarati School premises during the training period. Training will be imparted by Miss Tikeswari Sahu, Harsh Sharma, Jageshwar Dadsena, Miss Jharna Yadav under the direction of international player,

## Aayush plans to take up the sport professionally

● After winning bronze at National Poker Series

**Raipur, Apr 15:** In a bid to excel further in Poker, 26-year-old Aayush Solanki from Durg, Chattisgarh has been able to stamp his authority on the national Poker circuit and is planning to take up the sport full time after winning a bronze medal at one of the key tournaments at the 3rd edition of the National Poker Series India hosted on POKERBAAZI.COM.

While it has been a challenging experience, Aayush's elder brother has taught him the tricks of the trade as he continues to hone his skills. "I am inspired to take up the sport as a full-time career as I have showcased my skills at the national level. My brother has been playing poker for several years



and played the role of a guide by sharing his knowledge and experience with me. He has been coaching me and helping me. I've found his guidance and feedback incredibly helpful towards developing my skills and strategy," an excited Aayush

said after his winning exploits at the National Poker Series. Even though he wants to take up Poker as a full-time career, he understands that it is not "as widely accepted or celebrated as in some other countries". However, he believes, "National Poker Series India, as a platform, is trying to bridge this gap by creating more excitement and acceptance towards the sport".

With a keen eye for understanding the math behind Poker, Aayush's journey has been challenging yet enriching that has helped him greatly in leveraging the experience in assessing his own strengths and weaknesses in his professional life.

While he believes his winning exploits will inspire more people from his hometown to pursue poker, his advice to bud-

ding Poker players has been to remain patient and disciplined to reap the rewards, as he said, "Learn the game, start small, make a solid bankroll, play with discipline and most importantly be patient."

The XX-year-old from Durg, Chattisgarh, is all geared up to make a mark in the competition and eventually bask in the glory at the National Poker Series India Awards Night in Delhi on 6th May which would be graced by celebrities such as comedian Anubhav Singh Bassi and musician Ritviz,

"My future plans in poker are to continue developing my skills and strategy both online and in live tournaments. I'm committed to learning and growing as a player and always looking for new opportunities to challenge myself and improve my gameplay," he signed off.

## Ambedkar Jayanti, Baisakhi celebrated at APS

**Bemetara, Apr 15:** Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Jayanti and the Golden nature-cultural heritage, and Baisakhi was celebrated at Allons on Friday. The programme started with the lighting of lamp in front of the portrait of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and garlanding it by Dr. Satyajit Hota, Principal and teachers. The festival of the Baisakhi was also celebrated simultaneously.

The Ambedkar Jayanti is an annual festival celebrated in India to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar. Ambedkar Jayanti is celebrated in India every year on the April 14 to pay respect to Dr. Baba Saheb aAmbedkar. India is commemorating the 132nd-birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Rao Ambedkar on April 14.

The significance of the Baisakhi as Sikh religious festival started after the execution of Guru Tegh Bahadur for refusing to convert to Islam under the orders of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. This



triggered the ascension of Guru Govind Singh, the tenth Guru of Sikhism, who subsequently inaugurated the Khalsa on Vaisakhi of 1699 with a Mantra of 'DehShiva bar Mohe Shubhkar mantek-abhunarado'. Dr. Satyajit Hota, Principal told the students that the Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar was a statesman, politician, economist, Indian jurist, social reformer and the chief architect of the Indian constitution. Baba Saheb belonged to the Mehar caste and converted to Buddhism on 14th October, 1956 to empower Dalit with scientific religion for peace and in-

equality. He has given ideas as the founder of RBI and played a crucial role in promoting gender equality, fraternity and sovereignty. He measured the progress of a community by the degree of progression of women's achievements. He also told that we are not able to free from this social evil. We need the real freedom in our mindset with democracy, socialism and secularism. He told that if we want to give the religious value in education, we should teach the students fraternity, equality and liberty with patriotism.

He has told the teachers and students to read his seminal documents, and

annihilation of castes. At the end, the teachers and all the students took a pledge with him to honour the sacrifices of Dr. Ambedkar by remembering his remarkable contributions with the spirit of self-confidence, fight for justice against oppression to empower every Indian with self-respect to fight against discrimination and inequality. He blessed the students on this occasion and inspired them to follow the teachings of the Baisakhi and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar.

Vaibhavi, Lorina, Durga Netam, Tannu Banjare, Manshi Maravi and Navpreet Kour Ubeja from Class-IX, Riya, Shradha and Sakshi from class-X and Rupanshu Kumar Anand from class-XII gave their speeches on the Vaisakhi and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar. The students also danced on this occasion and recited Shabad.

Kamaljeet Arora, Chairman, Pushkal Arora, Director, Sunil Sharma, Administrator, teachers and students were present on this occasion.

## Collector-SP hold Peace Committee meeting

Central Chronicle News

**Kondagaon, Apr 15:** Collector Deepak Soni and SP Divyang Patel convened a meeting of Peace-Safety Committee at Panchvati located in Keshkal.

Representatives of all religions, communities and special tribes participated in the meeting. In this meeting, the Collector said that Keshkal has always been a symbol of mutual harmony and harmony of all religions and sects.

In this way, we have to make this tradition. If any person tries to create differences between com-



munities or create misunderstandings among people in any way, then it is necessary for the seniors and representatives of all communities to make people aware of such people in order to ensure peace. Seniors and people's representatives need to make people aware of such people and maintain mutual brotherhood in order to create peace.

Apart from this, he said that if social harmony and peace is maintained in any area, then its overall development can take place. Therefore, it is necessary that minor issues should be resolved by the seniors with mutual understanding and the heads of each family should take care of their family members and prevent the youth from going astray and being misguided. He appealed to the people

and said that it is the moral duty of all of us to resolve any social issue with mutual harmony and good faith. Nobody wants to face problems and inconveniences. Thus, it is our moral duty to maintain peace and harmony with each other while contributing to the development of the region.

He told the community leaders that they should neither give any statement nor allow others to give any statement that causes pain or hurt the sentiments of anyone and if anyone does such an act then give him an explanation otherwise legal action will be taken against him.

DFO N Gurunathan, SDM Shankarlal Sinha, Janpad Panchayat Keshkal President Mahendra Netam, Nagar Panchayat President Roshan Jamir Khan, SDOP Bhupat Singh along with heads of all societies, businessmen and senior citizens of the city were present on this occasion.

## Classifieds

**REQUIREMENT**  
रियल स्टेट ऑफिस में कार्य हेतु डेलीकोलर मार्केटिंग स्टाफ युवक, युवती की आवश्यकता है. रियल स्टेट कार्य के अनुभव को प्राथमिकता देतेन योग्यतानुसार संपर्क करें 6268686330

रोजगार का अवसर हमारे पास नौकरी के लिए निम्नलिखित आवश्यकताएं हैं, नौकरी का अनुभव 2 वर्ष, पर्यवेक्षक (सुपरवाइजर) एंगल/चैनल/जॉइंट लोडिंग के लिए नौकरी स्थान-टाटोडंब, रायपुर बायोडाटा 9861772226 पर काटवसप करें।

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## Gram Panchayats not getting benefits of public welfare schemes

Central Chronicle News

**Mungeli, Apr 14:** The facilities of the city are not available in the Gram Panchayats situated near the city, nor are they getting the benefits of the public welfare schemes of the Gram Panchayats. Villagers are not getting the benefit of various schemes including Pradhan Mantri Awas to Saraswati Cycle Yojana, due to non-preparation of survey list of 2011.

In village Karahi, village Ramgarh and village Surighat, the beneficiaries are still deprived of taking advantage of the schemes run by the government. District headquarter's Gram Panchayat Karhi where various depart-



ments including collectorate are being operated people are still to get access to various schemes.

Former village panchayat sarpanch Sanjay Soni said that due to its proximity to the city, the then district panchayat officials did not conduct the survey of 2011 in Ramgarh as part

of expansion in the urban limits.

He spoke in this regard from the high officials of the district to the ministers of the state government, but the list has not been received, due to which about 485 families in the village have not been able to get the benefit

of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

In this regard, Additional Collector Teerthraj Agarwal said that the residents of these villages will get the benefit of government schemes from the ongoing socio-economic survey.

### What officer says

"Necessary correspondence will be done regarding the matters related to the survey list in the gram panchayats adjacent to the city, so that the benefit of the scheme can be given to the villagers."

Rahul Dev, Collector Mungeli.

## Villagers benefit from medical camp

Organised in Gram Korja of Gourela

Central Chronicle News

**Gourela, Pendra, Marwahi, Apr 15:** A medical camp was organised in Gram Korja of Gourela and in this villagers in large number availed maximum benefit. They cited the problems being faced by them to the doctors in the camp and likewise treatment was offered.

Few days back, Samarpan Hospital, Raipur; Pinaki Hospital Gourela and Siddhi Vinayak Clinic jointly along with Sankalp Samajik Sanstha and LInesh Club Sanskriti organised a medical camp in Ayurveda Gram Korja under guidance of Sarpanch and Dy. Sarpanch Korja.



In this the patients were examined for the seasonal diseases, pains in joints, oral problems, gynecological problems and offered proper guidance and treatment. Some of the general diseases were also checked.

There was lot of enthusiasm among the villagers for this medical camp and

they took part in it in large number and got themselves examined. On this occasion senior Doctor Diliip Guha, Dr Pawan Singh, Dr Yogendra Khare, Dr Adarsh along with Sarpanch and Dy. Sarpanch of Village Somvati Kol, Abhay Verma, Sankalp Sansthan's president

Tapas Sharam, LInesh Club Sanskriti President Jyoti Dubey, Prachi Shrivastava, Vinati Sahu, Moni Chattopadhyay, Jyoti Tiwari, Payal Mitra, Bharti Nathani, Roshani Dhakariya, former Sarpanch Sahasram Kolk, medical staff of the hospitals and villagers and panchayat reps were present.

## 'Vaishnavjans' offer prayers, seek blessings

In various programme and rituals organised on occasion of Shri Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharyaji's 'Janmotsav'

Central Chronicle News

**Navapara-Rajim, Apr 15:** The 546th 'Janmotsav' of Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharyaji is being celebrated with fervour and enthusiasm. During the corona pandemic, though there were programmes held, but in short form. But this year hundreds of 'Vaishnavjans' from all over the country, viz.

Baroda, Jamnagar, Surat, Ahmedabad, Guajrat, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh had come to 'Champanan' and this sacred place of Ch'garh is echoing with the slogans of 'Jai Shri Krishna' by the pilgrims, 'Vaishnavjans' and devotees from across the country and abroad.

'Champanan Dhaam' which is the 'Prakatyadhara' of Mahaprabhu



Shri Vallabhacharya, also has idols of Shri Champeshwar Mahadev, Mata Parvati, Ganeshji and Lord Shri Ramchandrajji.

The 'Prakatyotsav' of Mahaprabhu has started from April 13 and daily hundreds of devotees are offering obeisance to Shri Mahaprabhuji at 'Pragatya Baithakji' and in the

Baithak of 'Chattiji'.

On April 14, hundreds of 'Vaishnavjans', offered 'upras snan' at 'Nij mandir' of 'Shrimulprakaty baithakji' and paid oblations to Mahaprabhuji. On this occasion hundreds of devotees are drawing benefit of discourse by Shri Vallabh Kulbhushan Go. Shri Dwarkeshlalji.

In this Kusum Ben from Chennai performed 'Manorath'. On this occasion all the 'Vaishnavjans' with 'Jaighosh', honoured all those present at 'Chunari Mangal Manorath Mukhayaji' and organised 'Chunari Mandal'.

On this occasion Dwarkeshlalji, Purshottamlalji, Anugrahi and others were present. After the



In the morning hundreds of 'Vaishnavjans' witnessed 'Mangala Sringar', 'Rajyoga', 'Nandotsav', 'Uthapan', 'Sandhya Shyan' in the temple. Prior to the 'Janmotsav', ritual of 'Chunari Manorath' was organised.

In this Kusum Ben from Chennai performed 'Manorath'. On this occasion all the 'Vaishnavjans' with 'Jaighosh', honoured all those present at 'Chunari Mangal Manorath Mukhayaji' and organised 'Chunari Mandal'.

On this occasion Dwarkeshlalji, Purshottamlalji, Anugrahi and others were present. After the

'Mahaprasadi', at 6:00 pm, the 'Vaishnavjans' enjoyed the scene of 'Manorath in Nao' at Shri Yamunaghat.

After 'Bhajan-kirtan' at Baithakji Mandir, all came out raising 'jaikara' and 'jaighosh' to 'Yamunaghat' and seated 'Mahaprabhuji' on a boat in 'Yamunaji'. Here prayers were offered to the Lord in all new clothes and during this the 'Pujariji' and other 'Purohiths' recited 'mantras' and performed 'Bal Krida' as well.

Hundreds of 'Vaishnavjans' took a Holy dip in Yamunaji and saw live the rituals of taking the new clothes to other side of 'Yamunaji'. During this the devotees obtained blessings of Shri Dwarkeshlalji, Shri Purshottamlalji and Shri Anugrahi family.

## SYVSS observe Sant Asharam Bapu b'day



Central Chronicle News

**Dongargaon, Apr 15:** Shri Yoga Vedanta Sewa Samiti (SYVSS) observed the 87th birthday of Sant Asharam Bapu in Dongargaon and during this cold beverages were distributed by his devotees and followers. On this occasion seeing the rise in temperature, the denizens passing

from nearby were offered chilled curd-water and the 'Lok Kalyan Setu' and Rishi Prasad of the Ashram was distributed. In this service work, SYVSS head Mannulal Yadu, Umashankar Kunwar, Prakash Sen, Prem Patel, Bharat Sahu, Bharat Nishad, Ramadhin, Jeevan Shandilya, Puranik Sahu, Ashwini Nishad and others were present.

### Important Notice

All the esteemed members of the Society are hereby informed that as per the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, dated 29.03.2023, an order has been issued to transfer INR 5000 crores from the Sahara-Sebi account to the Central Registrar, Co-operative Societies, New Delhi, so that the complaints from the esteemed depositors could be resolved. In this context, we wish to inform you all the members, that you must seek your repayment only through the due process specified by the Central Registrar, Co-operative Societies, New Delhi. Kindly do not attempt to secure your repayment through any middlemen or mediator. This may lead to cheating/frauds and you could even end up losing your money. Any loss thus incurred shall not be the responsibility of the management of the Society. Therefore, we again request you, all of our esteemed members, to seek repayment only and only through the process specified by the Central Registrar.

Thank you - Sahara India Pariwar

## Child marriage stopped due to efforts of DLSA



Central Chronicle News

**Korba, Apr 14:** For the prevention of child marriage, awareness campaigns are being run continuously by many organizations and administration. Under the same District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) halted the wedding of a minor girl on April 12, 2023, whose secret information was given to the legal organisation after which under the direction and guidance of Mr. D.L. Katakwar, President and District Judge, District Court, Korba, Mrs. Sheetal Nikunj, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, took immediate action.

Seema Thakur, Women's Child Development Supervision Officer, Ganesh Jaiswal Child Line Office, Nirmala Tanwar, Mahila Rakshak Thana Bango and Sarpanch of Salihabhatha Village Panchayat, Mr. Sobran Singh and Paralegal Volunteers of District Legal Services Authority, Mr. Ravi Shankar Sagar, Mrs. Vijay Laxmi Soni, Mr. Talveer Singh and Mrs. Aarti Mangeshkar's played a pivotal role in

stopping the marriage. The team informed that there is a provision of imprisonment and fine up to one lakh rupees and also told about the disadvantages of child marriage, after which the parents agreed to stay off the wedding.

### NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I, BASANT KUMAR KASHYAP S/O BADRI PRASAD KASHYAP resident of 145, CHAKLADHAR WARD NEAR DURGA MANDIR MOHADA (CG) 493221 have changed my old name BASANT KUMAR KASHYAP S/O BADRI PRASAD KASHYAP, so in future I should be recognized by my new name that is BASANT KASHYAP S/O BADRI PRASAD KASHYAP in all Government and other documents. BASANT KASHYAP 145, CHAKLADHAR WARD NEAR DURGA MANDIR MOHADA (C.G) 493221

## RAC meeting chaired by Collector

Penalty amount derived at Rs 1487454 on 58 cases

**Koriya, Apr 14:** Under the chairmanship of Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh, a total of 58 cases were resolved in the meeting of the Regularization Authority Committee (RAC) of Chhattisgarh Unauthorized

Development and Construction, held in the District Collectorate meeting here. A total of 36 cases of urban areas and 36 non-residential cases were resolved in the residential category and 3 cases were resolved in the urban area of the class, 1 in the rural area. The total penalty amount was calculated at Rs 1487454 on

58 cases. Member Secretary and Assistant Director Sanjula Singh presented detailed details on the basis of discussion on all the cases before the committee, in which a total of 18 cases have been approved free of cost under 120 sqm. The Collector took detailed information on the cases of investment sector and

the rules of regularization and gave necessary guidelines, in which residential cases of Municipal Council Baikunthpur were 09, 04 cases of Shivpur Charcha of investment area, similarly 04 cases of Baikunthpur and 01 case of Shivpur Charcha were approved under non-residential.



Regional Office: Netaji Marg, Nr. Mithakhali Six Roads, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-6. Phone: +91-79-26421671-75

### SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer issued demand notice on the date mentioned against the account stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice. The borrower(s), having failed to repay the amount notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules 2002 on the date mentioned against the loan account. The borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank for the amounts, interest, costs and charges thereon. The borrowers'/borrowers' attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

Name of borrower(s) & Loan Account No.	Description of property mortgaged (Secured Asset)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Symbolic Possession Notice	Outstanding Amt. as on Date of Demand Notice
Mr. Mohd. Kazrul Mrs. Mamta Kazrul 20008610001447	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property admeasuring 752 sq. ft., situated at House No. 29, KH No. 261/21 PHN-49, Ward No. 24, Janjiri Kumari- 490026, Durg (CG) and bounded by: North: 30 feet road, East: Plot no. 30, West: Plot no. 28 Sinha, South: Land of Agarwal	22.11.2022	10.04.2023	Rs.26,49,862.40
Mr. Rajesh Chouhan Mrs. Kavita Chouhan 20008610000863	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property admeasuring 1000 sq. ft., situated at KH No. Part of 663/11 Village Dhнора PH No. 28/39, RNM Anda- 49001 and bounded by: North: Road, East:Open land, West: Open land, South: Open land	21.11.2022	10.04.2023	Rs.9,97,866.99
Mr. R Mohan Mrs. Sreelatha Mohan 20008610000556	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property admeasuring 750 sq. ft., situated at 74/1 and 74/2, Flat No. 115, Rajmahal Town Kailash Nagar, Jamul Bhilai- 490026 and bounded by: North: Road, East: Owner land, West: Owner land, South: Owner land	21.11.2022	10.04.2023	Rs.11,14,967.45
Mr. Rakesh Shrivastav Mrs. Jyoti Shrivastav 20008610000691	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property admeasuring about 1087 sq. ft., situated at Flat No. 404, 3rd floor, Rajmahal Town, Swapnil Builders, Kailash Nagar Jamul, Bhilai- 490026 and bounded by: North: Road, East: Owner land, West: Owner land, South: Owner land	21.11.2022	10.04.2023	Rs.7,01,276.88
Mr. Shekh Abdula Mr. Imran Khan 20008610001463 & 20008610001581	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property admeasuring 542.30 sq. ft., situated at House No. 120, Ahmed Nagar Camp-2, Ward No. 26, Bhilai, Durg- 490001 and bounded by: North: Md. Murad, East: Public Toilet, West: Road, South: Saieed	21.11.2022	10.04.2023	Rs.9,39,069.04 for loan a/c no. 861/1463 & Rs.2,86,119.62 for loan a/c no. 861/1581 aggregating to Rs.12,25,188.66
Mr. Rameshwar Prasad Nirmal Mrs. Chitreka Nirmal 20008610000729 & 20008610001162	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property admeasuring 5062.36 sq. ft., situated at KH No. 216/31/11 Plot No. 171 PHN 25 Village Pandar Tehsil, Patan, Durg and bounded by: North: Thagia, East: Road, West: Keja Bai House, South: Rada Bai House	21.11.2022	10.04.2023	Rs.8,70,410.6 for loan a/c no. 861/729 & Rs.1,21,491.47 for loan a/c no. 861/1162 aggregating to Rs.9,91,902.07

Place: Durg-Bhilai  
Date: 16/04/2023

Authorised Officer  
Bandhan Bank Limited



**BRIEF**



Passengers of Bharat Gaurav tourist train visit 'Bhim Janam Bhoomi', the birth place of Bhim Rao Ambedkar, during 'Baba Saheb Ambedkar Yatra', in Mhow, Saturday.

**CBI raids**

**Kolkata:** CBI sleuths Saturday raided the houses of TMC law-makers Jibankrishna Saha and Bibhas Adhikari in Murshidabad and Birbhum districts of West Bengal respectively in connection with the school job recruitment scandal. A CBI official said a team accompanied by CRPF personnel raided Saha's residence at Burwan in Murshidabad district and seized a bag full of documents suspected to be linked to the scam. The bag was found from a jungle near Saha's house, the official said.

**Spurious liquor**

**Patna:** At least four people have died after allegedly consuming spurious liquor in East Champaran district of dry Bihar in the intervening night of Friday and Saturday, the police said. The deaths took place in areas under Turkauliya and Paharpur police stations of East Champaran, the police said. Seven persons have so far been detained by the police as part of the investigation into the incident, a Bihar police headquarters statement said here.

**Held**

**Jammu:** Police intercepted three vehicles loaded with 'Khair' wood in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district and arrested five alleged timber smugglers, officials said on Saturday. The vehicles were intercepted near Supwal along the Jammu-Pathankot highway on the intervening night of Friday and Saturday, a police spokesperson said.

**Awards**

**Shimla:** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Saturday conferred the Himachal Gaurav Samman award to people who made unique contributions towards the society. The award was given during the 76th Himachal Day function at Kaza in Lahaul and Spiti, according to an official statement. Lakesh Chandel, a Junior Basic Training (JBT) teacher in Chatt Primary School in Bilaspur district's Ghumarwin, was conferred the award for saving the life of 36 children during a landslide on the school building.

**Mishap**

**Shahjahanpur:** At least six people were killed when the tractor trolley they were travelling in fell from the bridge here on Saturday, police said. The people were on their way to fetch water from Garra river for 'Bhagwat katha', they said, adding that around 30 people were in the vehicle.

**AMIT SHAH TO WB BJP**

## 'Unmask corruption, misrule by TMC'

**Kolkata, April 15 (PTD):**

Union Home Minister and top BJP leader Amit Shah has asked the party's Bengal unit to unitedly fight against the ruling TMC and unmask corruption and misrule by it, a senior party leader said on Saturday.

He also asked the BJP state unit to strengthen its organisation, he said.

Shah, who is on a two-day visit to the state, held two rounds of closed-door organisational meetings with the state-level leaders of the party during his visit. He held one meeting on Friday night and another on Saturday morning.

"Amit Shah Ji has said that the party needs to be strengthened at the grass-root level and will grow only on the strength of its organisation. He has said when a party is in the opposition, it has to face many challenges. It has to emerge victorious after facing those challenges," the BJP leader said on condition of anonymity.

According to sources in the party, Shah set the target of winning 35 plus seats from the eastern state in the 2024 Lok Sabha poll. He asked party leaders to put up a united fight against the misrule of the TMC and unmask the "corruption and atrocities" of the ruling party.

the recent by-poll in Sagardighi Assembly seat in which the BJP slipped to the third position, Shah asked the party's state unit to ensure that the slide in its vote share is "checked without fail".

During the internal meeting, several state BJP leaders demanded deployment of central forces during the upcoming panchayat polls. Shah advised the state unit to strengthen the organisation first. "He (Shah) said if the state election commission demands central forces, there is no harm in providing it. But he said first we must strengthen our organisation," the BJP leader said.

the recent by-poll in Sagardighi Assembly seat in which the BJP slipped to the third position, Shah asked the party's state unit to ensure that the slide in its vote share is "checked without fail".

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**COMMUNAL HARMONY**

## After 'sneha yatra' on Easter, BJP leaders host breakfast

**For Christian priests on Vishu**

**Thiruvananthapuram, Apr 15 (PTD):** After organising 'sneha yatra' to Christian homes on Easter day, the BJP leaders in Kerala continued to woo the prominent minority community with its leaders hosting breakfast for its members on the occasion of Vishu celebration on Saturday.

Former union minister and the party's Kerala in-charge Prakash Javadekar took part in the breakfast

meeting organised at party's district president V V Rajesh's house here.

He received two invited priests of a prominent Christian denomination by draping a shawl and served them breakfast.

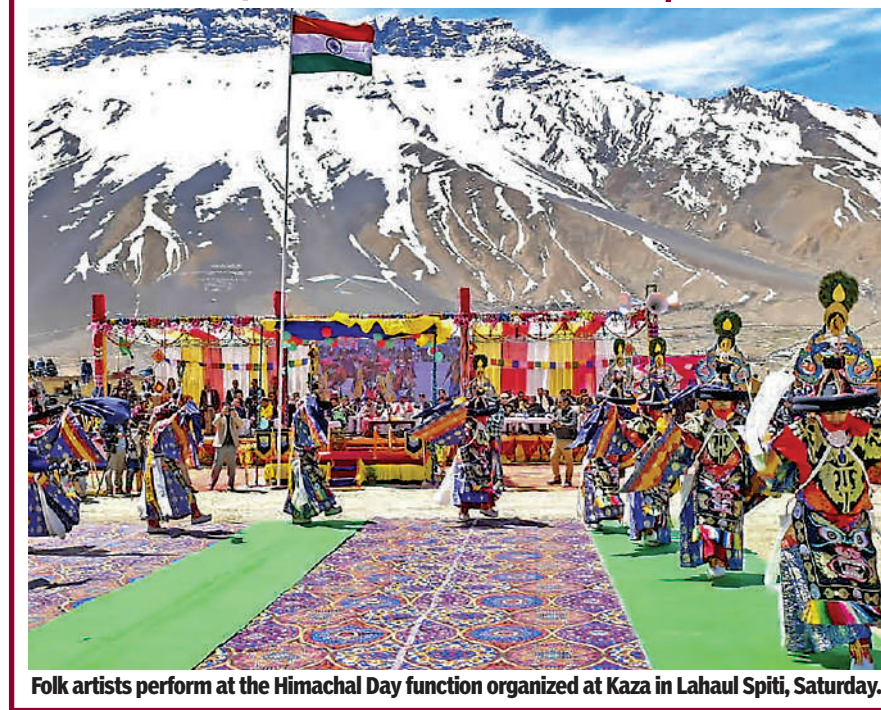
Similar breakfast programmes were arranged in other districts also under the aegis of local leadership of the saffron party, sources said.

The move was seen as a further attempt by the saffron party to forge close ties with the Christian community as part of efforts to woo them ahead of the 2024 general elections.

Javadekar later said that India is land of diversity and the country's ethos is live and let live.

"On the earth, this is one of the few countries where all people and all religions live together and festivals are celebrated by all. So, today is Vishu and we all are here," he told reporters. Stating that the BJP leaders and activists had visited several houses extending wishes on Easter, he said they called all Christian and Muslim friends and neighbours to the house of the party functionaries on the day of Vishu.

**HIMACHAL DAY**



Folk artists perform at the Himachal Day function organized at Kaza in Lahaul Spiti, Saturday.

## Kolkata Raj Bhavan door opens for all on Bengali NY

**Kolkata, Apr 15 (PTD):**

West Bengal Governor Dr CV Ananda Bose on Saturday, the Bengali New Year, opened the doors of the palatial 220-year-old Raj Bhavan here to the common people giving them a chance to visit the heritage building which was once the seat of the British colonial power.

Bose inaugurated a heritage walk, in collaboration with the Indian Museum, at Raj Bhavan on Saturday morning in which students of Calcutta University besides underprivileged children and representatives of several other states participated. This three-sto-

**HERITAGE WALK**

ried building with a magnificent central area consisting of large halls has curved corridors on all four sides radiating to detached wings, each constituting a house in itself. Built between 1799 and 1803 when Marquis Wellesley was the Governor General, this magnificent building was designed on the lines of Kedleston Hall in Derbyshire, the ancestral house of Lord Curzon who later lived here as the Viceroy and the Governor General 100 years after Wellesley. During the Heritage Walk, people can

see items such as the Royal Coat of Arms, a Chinese Canon, Grand Stairs, North Marble Hall, Central Marble Hall, South Marble Hall, Asia's first elevator and the library, besides the garden, two lakes and a bridge on the 27-acre compound of the magnificent monument. A total of 30 people including one representative each from Tripura, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal and university students took part in Saturday's Paila Baisakh Heritage Walk'. Paila Baisakh is the first day of the Bengali calendar.

The Heritage Walk will be hosted every Saturday afternoon from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm, an official said.

"For the first few weeks, only invitees will be allowed to enter the Raj Bhavan. Later, they will have to book online from the Raj Bhavan website. Around 30 to 35 people can participate in each Heritage Walk," he said.

Wishing the people of the state on the occasion of 'Paila Baisakh', Bose said the Heritage Walk "has been organised to establish peace. Please bring peace to the world. Please bring peace to Bengal. Please bring peace to the country. Bengal will regain all its glory."

## Sharddha Walkar's father moves court for her body parts

**To perform final rites**

**New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Sharddha's Walkar's father Saturday moved an application in a city court seeking the remains of her daughter for cremation, saying tradition and culture required performance of her last rites.

Shradha was allegedly strangled by her live-in partner Aaftab Amin Poonawala on May 18 last year, following which he sawed her body into pieces and kept them in a fridge for almost three weeks at his residence in South Delhi's Mehrauli. He scattered them at different places in the national capital to avoid being caught.

During the court proceedings, the Delhi Police informed Additional Sessions Judge Manisha

Khurana Kakkar that a reply will be filed on April 29.

The application moved by Advocate Seema Kushwaha on behalf of Vikas Madan Walkar said according to custom, the last rites had to be performed within a year and the last date for cremation based on the Hindu calendar is May 8.

Underlining that more than 10 months have gone by since her death, the application requested for conducting the proceedings fast so the bones and other body parts of the deceased could be exhibited and handed over to her family.

"The traditional belief in our country is that unless the last rites are performed, the soul of the deceased shall not rest in peace and this belief is deeply rooted...It also has

an emotional and sentimental aspect. Hence, the family members of the deceased victim should not be deprived of the right to perform the last rites," the application said.

It said not providing a chance to perform the last rites would violate the fundamental rights of the deceased under Articles 21 (right to life) and 25 (freedom of free conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion) of the Constitution.

The application referred to a 2009 judgment of the Allahabad High Court, according to which the word 'person' in Article 21 of the Constitution included a dead person in a limited sense and the right to life with dignity should be extended in such a manner that the dead body is given respect, which the person would have deserved, on

being alive, subject to the professed tradition, culture and the religion and that the society should not be permitted to show any disrespect to the deceased.

"Right to a decent funeral can also be traced in Article 25 of the Constitution of India which provides for freedom of conscience and free profession, practice, and propagation of religion subject to public order, morality and health and to the other fundamental rights," the application said.

**Bharatpur, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje on Saturday said the fight between Sachin Pilot and Ashok Gehlot is a fight for chair and the people of the state are suffering because of it. Referring to the tussle between Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot, Raje said Gehlot accuses BJP of taking over other governments, but the truth is that the governments he formed in 2008 and 2018 were also formed by manipulation.



Vasundhara Raje

The Gehlot government was in minority then and it is in minority now, she said. "The MLAs of his party are

against him, his ministers keep talking about something or the other in protest every day," said the BJP leader while addressing the 'Booth Maha Sammelan' in Bharatpur in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Corruption is rampant and atrocities on Dalits and women are high in the state, and so is unemployment, Raje said. Pilot recently held a daylong fast demanding action from the Gehlot government in the alleged corruption cases that took place in the former BJP government led by Raje.

## TN Governor flags off first train heading for 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam'

**Chennai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

The first train carrying delegates from Tamil Nadu to Saurashtra region in Gujarat aimed at strengthening ties between the two states as part of the upcoming 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' was flagged off here by Governor R N Ravi on Saturday.

The train departed in the early hours from Chennai Egmore Railway Station and will reach Veraval in Gujarat after a 36-hour journey, Southern Railway officials said.

On the lines of the recently concluded Kashi-Tamil Sangamam, the Centre has organised Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam under the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' initiative spearheaded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam is another unique exercise with the objective of enhanced and continuous mutual interaction between people of varied regions and ways of life, the official

website of the campaign said.

It would be a unique example to showcase the oneness of India to the world that the Saurashtra Tamils have assimilated with traditions of Tamil Nadu and as well as preserved their language and traditions, the website stated.

Saurashtra Tamils have actively participated in the freedom movement and also contributed to the art, trade and industry of Tamil Nadu that has earned the GI tag for the sarees and fabrics that they have produced with excellent skills, it said.

"Several thousand brothers and sisters of Tamil Nadu are on cultural pilgrimage to Saurashtra to refresh and strengthen their thousand years connect," the Raj Bhavan said in its official Twitter account.

"First enthusiastic batch flagged off at Chennai Egmore Railway Station. Hearty thanks to visionary Prime Minister Modi for Saurashtra Tamil

Sangamam, a sequel to Kashi-Tamil Sangamam demonstrating the organic cultural unity of Bharat," it said.

Southern Railway officials said Veraval in Gujarat is the nearest railway station to the famous Somnath Temple.

Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who was in Chennai last month to announce the 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' programme, termed it to as a 'milestone' event in the ties between Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

The forthcoming Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam would be the very first "largest and holistic reunion" of the two states after several centuries, Mandaviya, who hails from Gujarat, had said then.

The 10-day event is scheduled to commence from April 17 and would be held in multiple locations in Gujarat in the Saurashtra region.

The conference is aimed at rediscovering and celebrating the 1,000-year old contribution of Saurashtrian Tamils.

# CHRONICLE MATRIMONIAL

**ब्राह्मण**

**वधु चाहिये**

वधु चाहिए- सरवृषारी ब्राह्मण- 32'5"10", छत्तीसगढ़ शासन में क्लास-2 अधिकारी (पीएससी सलेक्टेड) हेतु डॉक्टर / प्रोफेसर/ शासकीय सेवार्त वधु चाहिए. मो.- 9302382870 (मैरिज ब्यूरो धमा). (251622)

**सामान्य**

**वधु चाहिये**

श्रीवास्तव वधु चाहिए-सत्येन्द्र कुमार श्रीवास्तव पिता एसके श्रीवास्तव जन्म 31/7/1991 (12.07 ए.एम.) हाईट 5' 7" सीजी स्टे ट पावर कंपनी में जेई पद हेतु श्रीवास्तव वधु चाहिए। छत्तीसगढ़ वालों को ग्रथम प्राथमिकता। फोन.नं.- 9981443811, 9981995908. (NB58282)

**वर चाहिये**

वर चाहिए- उम 20/01/1994, कद- 5'4", शिक्षा एम.ए. कम्युनिकेशन, फेयर कलर, जाति कान्यकुब्ज सर्व ब्राह्मण स्वीकार्य, मंगलिक नहीं, संपर्क करें- मोबाईल नंबर- 7747050760. (54525)

**साहू**

**वर चाहिये**

साहू वर चाहिए - झेरिया साहू गंगबोईर, गोरी, सुंदर, 29 वर्ष, बी.कॉम, एम.कॉम, पीजीडीसीए कन्या हेतु स्वजातीय वर चाहिए. सम्पर्क करें - 9826127284. (251595)

**मैरिज ब्यूरो**

जूड़ने रिश्ते- पहले खर्चा आपका- गारन्टी- हम शादी जोड़ेंगे- सभी आयु- जाति- विधवा /विधुर/ अविवाहित / तलाकशुदा- जीवन साथी हेतु- विमर्ण, फोटो पहले व्हाट्सएप करें फिर फोन-सार्थक एजेंसी, 07587396914.

**वर चाहिये**

वर चाहिए-वधु वय 50, शिक्षण एम कॉम, गव्हमेंट जॉब, सैलरी 89000/- स्वतःचे घर, गाड़ी, शेती, लॉकर, आंतर जातीय लग्न / रिलेशनशिप चालेल. संपर्क- 9049095450 आर, 7030037290 एन.

**वर चाहिये**

वधु 50, ऊंचाई 5' 2", एम.कॉम, गवमेंट बैंक 80000/- पगार, 10 एकड़ खेती, घर गाड़ी, स्वयं की, सुन्दर /विडी, तलाक, अनमैरिड, घर जमाई, बच्चे मान्य, नौकरीपेशा, रिटायर्ड शौच संपर्क- 7898410145, 6262910297. (54539)

जाति बंधन नहीं- वर चाहिए- उम 52/5'7", पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट एम.कॉम, सरकारी बैंक /स्टील बिजनेस सालाना आय 50लाख /विधवा महिला, सुन्दर /विडी, तलाक, अनमैरिड, घर जमाई, बच्चे मान्य, नौकरीपेशा, रिटायर्ड शौच संपर्क- 7898410145, 6262910297. (54539)

**नावभारत वैवाहिकी**

जोड़ियां स्वर्ग में बनाई जाती है...

अब इनको दुंदुना और भी आसान नवभारत वैवाहिकी के साथ...

**NAVABHARAT METRIMONIAL Rate Card**

	One Sunday	Two Sunday	Three Sunday	Four Sunday
All C.G.+Odisha	500/-	900/-	1200/-	1400/-
All C.G.+Odisha+MP/MH	800/-	1500/-	2000/-	2400/-
All C.G.+Odisha+MP+MH	1000/-	1800/-	2600/-	3000/-

**Contact: 0771-3000139, 7389094574**

**आवश्यक सूचना**

पाठकों को परामर्श दिया जाता है कि वे किसी भी विज्ञापन के अनुसार, कार्य करने से पूर्व समुचित जांच कर लें. वर-वधु के स्तर, आयु, आय संबंधी विवरण के संबंध में विज्ञापनदाताओं द्वारा किये गये दावों और वर्णनों के लिये यह समाचार पत्र समर्थक अथवा उत्तरदायी नहीं है.



# Japanese PM unhurt after blast shakes port he was visiting

Tokyo, Apr 15 (AP):

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida was evacuated unhurt after an explosion at a western port on Saturday, NHK television reported, and a suspect was apprehended for allegedly throwing the explosive. Kishida was visiting the Saikazaki port in Wakayama prefecture to cheer his ruling party's candidate in a local election. The explosion occurred just before he was to begin his speech, NHK said.



A man believed to be a suspect, center on the ground, is caught by police after he allegedly threw a explosive object, as Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida visited Saikazaki port for an election campaign event in Wakayama, western Japan Saturday, April 15.

pressing him to the ground and dragging him to the side.

The suspect, identified only as a young male, allegedly threw the explosive, NHK said.

One witness told NHK she was among the crowd and saw something come flying from behind and that there was a sudden loud noise and she fled with her children.

Another witness said people were screaming and that he saw someone being apprehended right before the explosion occurred.

Saturday's attack comes ahead of nationwide local elections, including a by-election for a vacated seat in the lower house of the Parliament, with voting scheduled for April 23.

In Abe's assassination, the attacker allegedly shot Abe with a homemade gun as the former leader was making a campaign speech.

The assassination shocked the nation and a subsequent investigation found holes in Abe's security and led to reinforcement of Japan's police security measures.

The latest attack also comes as a series of Group of Seven ministerial meetings begins this

weekend ahead of the May 19-21 summit that Kishida will host in Hiroshima.

A man believed to be a suspect was arrested at the scene on Saturday. NHK footage showed several uniformed and plain-clothes police officers gathered around the man,

# Army chief is the most powerful person in Pakistan: Imran Khan

Lahore, Apr 15 (PTI):

The Army chief is the most powerful person in Pakistan's politics and everyone follows his decisions, ousted prime minister Imran Khan has said, slamming the military establishment for siding with the country's "corrupt mafias" to ensure that he should not return to power.

Addressing Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party supporters from his Zaman Park residence here on Friday evening, Khan urged the people to stand with the Supreme Court at the time when the "imported government" is trying to bring it down.

"The Army chief is the most powerful person in Pakistan's politics. All follow his decisions. The military establishment is siding with the corrupt mafia - Sharifs and Zardaris - only to ensure that I must not return to power," he said.



The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz-led coalition government has imposed an "undeclared ban" on the broadcast of the PTI chief's speeches by the country's electronic media.

Expressing his serious concerns over the division in the country's Supreme Court, Khan said it will be a great tragedy for the country.

"Division in the Supreme Court will be a great tragedy. I appeal to the nation to stand with the apex court at a time when this imported government is making an all-out effort to bring it disrepute. "Let me tell you...

democracy in Pakistan is now hanging by a thread called Supreme Court and all those, who want democracy in the country, should stand with it," the 70-year-old cricketer-turned-politician said.

The PTI chief said if the government does not stop conspiring against the apex court and continues defying the implementation of its decision to hold elections in Punjab on May 14, the nation must get ready to take to the streets after Eid. "I will lead this drive from the front," he

declared. Khan also reminded the military establishment that it should keep in mind that it can no longer be able to force the nation to accept "corrupt rulers".

"The establishment should be mindful of the fact that when a nation rises, the violent tactics do not work. Torture and excesses were earlier committed against my party leaders and workers to silence them but that did not work. And it is not going to work again...I want to tell them," he said.

# Massive fire guts popular shopping centre in Bangladesh capital



Dhaka, Apr 15 (PTI):

A massive pre-dawn fire gutted thousands of shops at a shopping centre here on Saturday, forcing the country's military to make frantic attempts to douse the raging inferno, days after a popular clothing market was partially destroyed.

The fire started at the second floor of New SuperMarket, a shopping centre between the popular Newmarket and Dhaka College at 5.45 am and quickly spread to other floors. Newmarket Police Station chief Shafiqul Gani Sabu, was quoted as saying by news portal bd-news24.com.

Teams from the Army, the Navy and the Air Force battled to douse the raging inferno.

The Bangladesh government deployed 12 platoons of the Border Guard Bangladesh, a paramilitary force, to help bring the fire under control,

local media reports said. As many as 28 units of the fire service are also battling the blaze.

The cause of the fire was not immediately known, and no casualties were reported so far, Shahjahan Sikder, assistant deputy director of the fire service told bd-news24.com.

Shop owners rushed to the market after hearing the news of the fire, trying to salvage as many goods as they could, according to Dhaka Tribune newspaper.

Many of them burst into tears upon seeing their shops go up in flames, it said.

Saturday's incident comes days after another major fire gutted thousands of shops at a popular clothing market here.

Building fires and explosions caused by leaking gas cylinders, faulty air conditioners and bad electrical wiring are frequent in Bangladesh.

# China protests US sanctioning of firms dealing with Russia

Beijing, Apr 15 (AP):

Beijing on Saturday protested US sanctions against additional Chinese companies over their alleged attempts to evade US export controls on Russia, calling it an illegal move that endangers global supply chains.

The US Commerce Department on Wednesday put five firms based in mainland China and Hong Kong on its "entity list", barring them from trading with any US firms without gaining a nearly unobtainable special license.

Washington has been tightening up enforcement of sanctions against foreign firms it sees as providing assistance to Russia in its war against Ukraine, forcing them to choose between trading with Moscow or with the US. A total of 28 entities from countries ranging from Malta to Turkey to Singapore were added to the list. A statement from China's Commerce

Ministry said the US action "has no basis in international law and is not authorized by the United Nations Security Council".

"It is a typical unilateral sanction and a form of long-arm jurisdiction" which seriously damages the legitimate rights and interests of enterprises and affects the security and stability of the global supply chain. China firmly opposes this," the statement said.

"The US should immediately correct its wrongdoing and stop its unreasonable suppression of Chinese companies. China will resolutely safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese companies," it added.

The latest sanctions were levelled against Allparts Trading Co., Ltd.; Avtex Semiconductor Limited; ETC Electronics Ltd.; Maxtron International Co., Ltd.; and STK Electronics Co., Ltd., registered in Hong Kong.

**बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India BOI** RAIPUR ZONAL OFFICE, G.D. SHESH NILAYAM, TATYAPARA CHOWK, KANKALIPARA ROAD, RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH

**E-Auction Date and Time : 25.05.2023, Time - 11.00AM. to 5.00 P.M.**

THE PROPERTIES MENTIONED BELOW ARE TO BE SOLD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SARFAESI ACT 2002 ON 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS'

Sl. No.	Branch & Borrower/ Guarantor & Address	Description of the Mortgaged Property	Reserve Price (in Lakhs)	A) Demand Notice Date
1.	Kawardha Branch :- M/s. Amerika Agro Industries Prop. Mrs. Pushpa Chandravanshi	Land and Building:- Equitable Mortgage of Immovable Property of Freehold Diverted Land and Building Situated at Khasara No. 473/4 and 474/4, P.H.No. 13, Situated at Chanta Post Pipariya, Teh. Kawardha, District-Kabirdham, Pin-491995, State-C.G., Admeasuring Area 9472 Sq.ft. belongs to in the name of Mrs. Pushpa Chandravanshi W/o. Shekhar Chandravanshi. Boundaries :- Survey No. 473/4 and 474/4, North :- Other's Plot, South :- Road, East :- Other's Plot, West :- Other's Plot. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 3.50 ₹ 0.35 ₹ 0.10	A) 14.10.2022 B) 02.02.2023 C) ₹ 12.45
2.	Kawardha Branch :- M/s. Ayush Gud Udyog Prop. Mr. Ramsharan Chandravanshi	Land and Building:- Equitable Mortgage of Immovable Property of Leasehold Diverted Land and Building Situated at Khasara No. 161/2, P.H.No. 07 Situated at Singhari Post Bajajpur Teh. Bodla, District Kabirdham, Pin 491995, State-C.G., Admeasuring Area 0.198 hect. belongs to in the name of M/s. Ayush Gud Udyog proprietor Mr. Ramsharan Chandravanshi. Boundaries :- North-Road, South-Property of Paragya, East-Property of Sohan, West-Property of Laxman. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 4.40 ₹ 0.44 ₹ 0.10	A) 14.10.2022 B) 17.02.2023 C) ₹ 14.39
3.	Kawardha Branch :- M/s. Maa Sharda Gud Udyog Prop. Mr. Dilip Kumar Meravi.	Land and Building:- Equitable Mortgage of Immovable Property of Freehold Diverted Land and Building Situated at Khasara No. 20/4, P.H.No. 24 Situated at Jhriya Khurd, Teh. Pandariya, District Kabirdham, Pin 491995, State-C.G., Admeasuring Area 0.547 hect. belongs to in the name of Mr. Dilip Kumar Meravi. Boundaries :- North-Road, South-Property of Ramu, East-Property of Anta, West-Property of Arawat Mohan. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 18.00 ₹ 0.18 ₹ 0.25	A) 14.10.2022 B) 23.02.2023 C) ₹ 11.92
4.	Kawardha Branch :- M/s. Pravin Krishi Kendra Proprietor :- Mr. Vinod Kumar Kaushik S/o. Mr. Awadh Ram Kaushik	Residential House:- Equitable Mortgage of Immovable Property of Freehold Diverted Land and Residential Building Situated at Khasara No. 145/1 & Khasara No. 145/2, P.H.No. 28, at Village Mirmiti Post Jhironi- Teh. Kawardha, Dist-Kabirdham (C.G.), Admeasuring 5227 Sq.ft. standing in the name of Mr. Vinod Kumar Kaushik S/o. Awadhram Kaushik. Boundaries Serve No. 145/1, :- North : Road, South : Property of Shri Guharam Jaiswal, East : Property of Shri Faguram Jaiswal, West : Nistari Road. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 5.48 ₹ 0.54 ₹ 0.10	A) 12.07.2021 B) 29.10.2021 C) ₹ 12.46
5.	Raigarh Branch :- Mr. Ram Kumar Naik & Mrs. Parwati Naik	Open Land :- All that Part and Parcel of Land and Building Situated at EMQ of Land Situated at Kh. No. 431/3 & 455/4, 455/5 P.H.No. 42 Ward No.10, Lendhara Road, Area 0.197 Hect. Village Baramkela, Raigarh (C.G.) in the name of Mr. Ram Kumar Naik. Boundary :- North - Land of Mr. Balmukund South - Open Land of Others, East - Road, West - Land of Prem Prakash. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 40.43 ₹ 4.04 ₹ 0.25	A) 10.03.2022 B) 11.07.2022 C) ₹ 22.52
6.	Raigarh Branch :- Mr. Balmukund Naik & Mr. Prem Prakash Naik	Open Land :- Land Situated at Kh. No. 431/4 & 455/4 P.H.No. 42, Ward No.10, Lendhara Road Area 0.114 Hect. Village Baramkela, Raigarh (C.G.) in the name of Mr. Balmukund Naik. Boundary :- North - Land of Sakher Ram Naik, South - Open Land Of Mr. Ram Kumar, East - Road, West - Land of Mr. Vidyadhhar. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 21.51 ₹ 1.15 ₹ 0.25	A) 10.03.2022 B) 11.07.2022 C) ₹ 16.02
7.	Tildaneora Branch :- Mrs. Gyaneshwari Verma W/o. Lalit Verma	Land and Building:- Part and Parcel of the Freehold Property consisting of Land and Building, Shed and Structures erected, Plant and Machinery installed Situated at Kh. No. 128/186, 128/187 Village Tulsi Ph. No. 17, RNM Tilda Dist Raipur Admeasuring Area 1500 Sq.ft. in the name of Mrs. Gyaneshwari Verma W/o. Mr. Lalit Kumar Verma. Boundaries :- North: Road, South :- Land of Usha Agrawal, East :- Land of Naresh Agrawal, West :- Road. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 25.20 ₹ 2.52 ₹ 0.25	A) 26.04.2022 B) 06.10.2022 C) ₹ 42.11
8.	Tildaneora Branch :- M/s. Shri Gajanan Polymer, Prop. Mr. Shubham Umbarkar	(A) Commercial Land:- All that Part and Parcel of the Leasehold Property Situated at Plot No. 10, Industrial Development Area Village Bartoni, Tehsil - Tilda, District - Raipur (Chhattisgarh) Area 1125 Sq.mt. in the name of Shri Shubham Umbarkar, Boundaries: North:CSIDC Road, South :- Boundary of Industrial Area, East :- Plot No. 11, West :- Plot No. 09, (Symbolic Possession) (B) Plant and Machinery :- (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 32.85 ₹ 3.28 ₹ 0.25 ₹ 25.58 ₹ 2.55 ₹ 0.25	A) 08.06.2021 B) 13.08.2021 C) ₹ 113.17
9.	Kosmanda Branch :- Shri Bholanath Pal S/o. Shri Bhashan Chandra Pal & Smt. Namita Pal W/o. Shri Bholanath Pal.	Residential Land & Shop :- All that Part and Parcel of the Property Consisting of Shop/HN/Flat No. in Survey No./City or Town Survey No. Khasara No. 1822/4, P.H. No. 04, Near-Manjhali Talab, Ward No.-19, Tehsil-Champa, RNM Champa, District-Janjgir Champa, State-Chhattisgarh, Admeasuring 1417 Sq.ft., belonging to Smt. Namita Pal W/o Shri Bholanath Pal. Boundaries:-North-Seller's Plot, South-Land of Shri Radhakrishna, East-Talab, West-Road. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 11.70 ₹ 1.17 ₹ 0.25	A) 28.10.2021 B) 25.01.2022 C) ₹ 6.51
10.	Dhamtari Branch :- Borrower :- M/s Sanskar Rice Industries, Prop. Mr. Pintu Daga, Guarantor: 1. Mr. Avanti Golchha S/o. Mr. Lunakaran Jain 2. Mrs. Rani Jain W/o. Mr. Avanti Golchha	Diverted Land - K.H.No. 684/3, 684/6, P.H.No. 14, Village-Chitod, Teh. Gaur and Dist. Balod, having Total admeasuring area 19150 Sq.ft. in the name of Mr. Avanti Golchha S/o. Mr. Lunakaran Jain. Boundaries: North: Road, South- Land of Golcha and Singh, East: Land of Pawan Goyal, West: Other Land (Physical Possession)	₹ 22.06 ₹ 2.20 ₹ 0.25	A) 29/01/2018 B) 11/05/2018 C) ₹ 408.58
11.	Yyapar Vihar Branch (Bilaspur) :- Mr. Vishwas Dixit S/o. Sohan Lal Dixit and Mrs. Sweta Dixit W/o. Mr. Vishwas Dixit	Residential Building:- Situated at Khasra No. 993/2/Ka/3 (Part), P.H.No.19, Panchwati Colony, Mouza Gram Panchayat Mopka, Rajkishor, Block Belha, RNM Teh. + Dist Bilaspur, Area 2400 Sqft. in the Name of Mrs. Nirmala Dixit W/o. Sohan Lal Dixit (Guarantee) - Boundaries :- North :- House of Ghosh Ji, South House of B.B.Singh, East:- House of Vishwas Dixit, West :- Road. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 40.50 ₹ 4.05 ₹ 0.25	A) 30.11.2019 B) 10.01.2022 C) ₹ 46.00
12.	Yyapar Vihar Branch :- Mrs. Versha Mishra W/o. Rajesh Mishra & Mr. Rajesh Mishra S/o. Mr. Devi Prasad Mishra.	Residential House :- EQM Freehold Diverted Land Situated at Kh. No. 993/2K/4 (Part), Block No. 10, Sheet No. 56, P.H.No. 19, Panchwati Colony, Behind Shani Temple, Rajkishor Nagar, Bilaspur, The D. Dist-Bilaspur (C.G.), in the name of Mrs. Versha Mishra W/o. Mr. Rajesh Mishra, Admeasuring-1800 Sqft., Boundaries :- North:House of S.K.Singh, South :- House of Awadesh Singh, East :- Road, West :- House of Nirmala Dixit. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 17.00 ₹ 1.70 ₹ 0.25	A) 02.03.2020 B) 10.01.2022 C) ₹ 18.60
13.	Yyapar Vihar Branch :- 1. Mrs. Sweta Dixit W/o. Mr. Vishwas Dixit 2. Mrs. Nirmala Dixit W/o. Mr. Sohan Lal Dixit	EQM Freehold Diverted Land Situated at Kh. No. 535/1 (Part), Plot No. AS-41, P.H.No. 28/03, Vastu Vihar Colony, Near Bus Stand, Mouza- Vill-Sipat, Block- Masturi, R.N.M. Sipat, Teh. Masturi, Dist.- Bilaspur, in the name of Mrs. Nirmala Dixit W/o. Mr. Sohan Lal Dixit, Area- 2600 Sqft. Boundaries :- North :- 20' Wide W.B.M. Road, South Plot No. AS-42 of Sweta Dixit, East :- 20' Wide W.B.M. Road, West :- Plot No. AS-51. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 9.75 ₹ 0.97 ₹ 0.10	A) 01.01.2020 B) 11.03.2022 C) ₹ 9.48
	B) Open Plot :- EQM Freehold Diverted Land Situated at Kh. No. 535/1 (Part), Plot No. AS-42, P.H.No. 28/04, Vastu Vihar Colony, Near Bus Stand, Mouza- Vill-Sipat, Block- Masturi, R.N.M. Sipat, Teh. Masturi, Dist.- Bilaspur, in the name of Mrs. Nirmala Dixit W/o. Mr. Sohan Lal Dixit, Area- 2600 Sqft. Boundaries :- North: Plot No. AS-41 of Nirmala Dixit, South Plot No. AS-43, East :-20' Wide W.B.M. Road, West :- Plot No. AS-52. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 9.75 ₹ 0.97 ₹ 0.10		
14.	Yyapar Vihar Branch :- M/s. SHYAM STEEL & DEVELOPERS PVT. LTD. and/or Shri Akhilesh Jaiswal S/o. Shri Ishwar Prasad Jaiswal and/or Shri Mayank Jaiswal S/o. Shri Ishwar Prasad Jaiswal Guarantor :- Shri Suresh Pandey S/o. Shri Jawahar Pandey	Open Plot :- Khasra No.-206, P.H.No.- 28, Purani Basti, Mouza - Seepat, Block & Tehsil - Masturi, District - Bilaspur (C.G.) Area : 8284 Sq.ft. in the name of Shri Akhilesh Jaiswal S/o. Shri Ishwar Prasad Jaiswal (Director/Guarantor). Boundaries :- North :- 30 ft. Road, South :- House of Akhilesh, East :- House of Gopal, West :- Badi of Dinesh Jaiswal, (Symbolic Possession) (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 12.75 ₹ 1.27 ₹ 0.25	A) 30.06.2013 B) 26.02.2014 C) ₹ 28.19
15.	Rakhi Branch :- Borrower: Mrs. Anjoo Manikpuri W/o. Mr. Devdas Manikpuri & Devdas Manikpuri S/o. Mr. Dhiraj Das Manikpuri.	Flat:-All that part and parcel of the Property Residential Property of Built up Area 402.85 Sqft. Situated at Plot No. GF/103, Bl.-02, EWS Flats G+3, CG Housing Board, Atal Vihar Yojna, Naya Raipur, District Raipur, Chhattisgarh in the name of Mrs. Anjoo Manikpuri W/o Mr. Devdas Manikpuri. Boundaries: North: Open Space, South:EWS Flat No. 104, East : Open Space, West : Passage and staircase (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 3.10 ₹ 0.31 ₹ 0.10	A) 30.08.2022 B) 30.11.2022 C) ₹ 3.39
16.	Bhilai Branch :- M/s. Himani Tyres Prop. Mr. Moloy Kumar Baugh and Mr. Moloy Kumar Baugh S/o. Mr. M. J. Baugh	Shop :- All the Piece of Leasehold Commercial Land with Buildings, Shed and Structure, Situated at Plot No. 14 Block-C Village-Supeia, Dakshin Gangotri, RIC-Durg-1, Block/Tehsil/Dist/Durg (C.G.) in the name of Mrs. Leela Baugh w/o Mr. M. J. Baugh admeasuring area 40.5 sq mtr. Boundaries: North-G.E. Road, South -Plot No 05/C, East -Plot No 15/C, West-Plot No 13/C. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 48.38 ₹ 4.83 ₹ 0.25	A) 05.03.2022 B) 27.05.2022 C) ₹ 47.74
17.	Bhilai Branch :- M/s Ansh Steel Industries Prop. Mrs. Niranjana Bansod W/o Mr. Vinod Bansod and Mrs. Niranjana Bansod W/o Mr. Vinod Bansod	Land and Building :- EQM of Leasehold industrial land & building situated at Plot No 203, Engineering Park, Heavy Industrial Area, Hathkhaj, Bhilai, Tehsil & District Durg, Chhattisgarh in the name of M/s Ansh Steel Industries. Boundaries: North-Plot No-172, South-Road, East-Plot No-202, West-Plot No-204. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 9.99 ₹ 0.99 ₹ 0.10	A) 29.08.2022 B) 31.10.2022 C) ₹ 44.66
18.	Raipur Branch :- Goyal Cattle Feed Industries, Mr. Rajendra Prasad Agrawal	Commercial Land & Building:- Freehold Industrial diverted Land and Building situated at KH No. 1147/2, 1151/2, 1141/1, 1147/1, 1151/1, 1152/2, 1142/1, 1140/1, 1153, 1154, 1141/2 & 1138/1/Jh, PH No. 107, Vill. Chandra Haddi Godown, Shukrawari Bazar, Gudiyari, Teh. Raipur, Distt. Raipur (C.G.) Area 15803 Sq.ft. in the name of Mr. Rajendra Prasad Agrawal. Boundaries :- North: Other's Land, South : Other's Land, East: Land of Daga, West: Road (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 249.45 ₹ 24.94 ₹ 0.50	A) 12.12.2018 B) 13.06.2019 C) ₹ 587.03
19.	Raipur Branch :- M/s. Goyal Pulses, Prop. Mr. Rajendra Prasad Agrawal	Commercial Land & Building:- Freehold Industrial diverted Land and Building situated at KH No. 1147/2, 1151/2, 1153, 1154, PH No. 107, Vill. Chandra Haddi Godown, Shukrawari Bazar, Gudiyari, Teh. Raipur, Distt. Raipur (C.G.) Area 0.125 Hect. in the Name of Mr. Rajendra Prasad Agrawal. Boundaries :- North: Other's Land, South : Other's Land, East: Land of Daga, West: Road (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 178.60 ₹ 17.86 ₹ 0.50	A) 08.04.2019 B) 13.06.2019 C) ₹ 104.85
20.	Raipur Branch :- Mrs. Sadmati Yadav W/o. Mr. Ghansi Ram Yadav & Mr. Anil Yadav S/o. Mr. Ghansi Ram Yadav	Residential House: Equitable Mortgage of immovable property of House Situated at Plot No. 308, 3rd Floor, Block No. B, Nagar Vikas Yojna-04, Kamal Vihar, Sec-1, District-Raipur (C.G.), Built up Area: 740.44 Sq.ft. standing in the name of Mrs. Sadmati Yadav W/o. Mr. Ghansi Ram Yadav. Boundaries:-North:NA, South: NA, East: NA, West: NA. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 6.82 ₹ 0.68 ₹ 0.10	A) 01.07.2021 B) 09.05.2022 C) ₹ 3.18
21.	Raipur Branch :- Mrs. Meena Bai Sahu W/o. Mr. Purshotam Sahu	Residential House: Equitable Mortgage of immovable property of House building situated at Block-A, House No. 227, EWS-II, 2 BHK Raipur Development Authority, Boriyakhurd, District-Raipur (C.G.), admeasuring 618.27 sq.ft. standing in the name of Mrs. Meena Bai Sahu W/o. Mr. Purshotam Sahu. Boundaries :- North: The construction of the property is being carried on by a government body, South: Raipur Development Authority and the project is presently under. East: Construction, Hence the current boundaries are not known) West :- N/A. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 3.17 ₹ 0.31 ₹ 0.10	A) 07.06.2022 B) 22.08.2022 C) ₹ 1.52
22.	Raipur Branch :- Borrower :- Mrs. Abha Agrawal W/o. Mr. Pramod Agrawal, Co-Borrower :- Mr. Pramod Agrawal S/o. Mr. Ramlalji Agrawal & Mr. Ashish Agrawal S/o. Mr. Pramod Agrawal	Residential House: Equitable Mortgage of Immovable Property Free hold Residential Diverted Situated at Plot No. 01, P.H.No. 40, Kh.No. 1159/19 & 1190/15 (Part) Khamardih, Shankarnagar, Raipur (C.G.) admeasuring 1860 Sq.ft. standing in the name of Mrs. Abha Agrawal W/o. Pramod Kumar Agrawal. Boundaries :- North: Plot No. 02, South: Road, East: Road, West :- Nala. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 56.65 ₹ 5.66 ₹ 0.25	A) 27.05.2022 B) 01.08.2022 C) ₹ 70.49
23.	Raipur Branch :- M/s. Delcor Trade & Services. Prop. Mr. Aleemuddin Shaikh.	(1) Diverted Commercial Land :-Equitable Mortgage of immovable property of freehold diverted land situated at Kh. No. 354/2, P.H.No. 41, Village Kushgarh, Tehsil-Kasdol, RNM Gidhouri, Dist.-Baloda Bazar(C.G.), Admeasuring 0.701 Hect. or 75455 Sqft standing in the name of Mrs. Shamim Parveen Sheikh W/o. Aleemuddin Shaikh. Boundaries: North - Agri Land of Janakram Sahu, South - Shakra to Girodhpur, East- Agri Land of Surat Ram, West - Agri Land of Ghadsiyia. (Symbolic Possession) (2) Diverted Commercial Land: Equitable Mortgage of immovable property of freehold diverted land situated at Kh. No. 94/1(Part) Kh. No. 94/11, P.H.No. 41/26, Village Kushgarh, Tehsil-Kasdol, RNM Gidhouri, Dist.-Baloda Bazar(C.G.), Admeasuring 1.251 Hect. or 134656 Sqft standing in the name of Mr. Shaikh Jamiluddin S/o Mr. Shaikh Naziruddin. Boundaries: North - Road, South - Agri Land of Mr. Shaikh Naimuddin, East - Agri Land of Bhroosa, West - Agri Land of Mr. Shaikh Naimuddin. (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 58.19 ₹ 5.81 ₹ 0.25	A) 02.12.2021 B) 17.02.2022 C) ₹ 300.90

Date & Time of E-Auction 25.05.2023 from 11.00 am to 05.00 pm with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each. Inspection date & time of the property - from 17.04.2023 to 24.05.2023 Time-11.00 am to 3.00 p.m. (Official working day)

Note:- Any bidder/Interset Party can bid for Plant & Machinery Independently, but for bids regarding Land & Building, bidder has to compulsorily bid for Plant & Machinery and in no circumstances Land & Building can be bided Independently.

15 / 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE TO THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS/MORTGAGORS

The above mentioned Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned in Section 13(2) Notice along with interest & charges before the date of Auction failing which the property will be auctioned and balance due, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost from you.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: Kawardha Branch - Mr. Narendra Kumar-725906792, Raigarh Branch - Mr. Rohit Kurrey 9691011075, Tilda Branch - Mr. Sanjay Agrawal-7974355534, Kosmanda Branch - Mr. Premdeep Kurrey-6260507170, Dhamtari Branch - Mr. Santosh Barve-9713367034, Yyapar Vihar Branch - Mr. Sanni Kandara Sai-9113361788, Rakhi Branch - Mr. Virendra Pratap Rai - 7052992069, Bhilai Branch - Mr. Saroj Mishra, 9827767818, Raipur Branch - Mr. Dilawar Singh Ranthia - 6260311594, EMD related Auction Portal Related Information- Mr. Shubham Agrawal, Ph. : 0771-4212412.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF E-AUCTION-1. The Auction Sale bidding will be online through the website https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auction/home/ibap/index.jsp. 2. Bidder may visit https://www.ibap.in, for Guidelines. 3. The Bid Amount should be higher than the Reserve Price. 4. The highest successful bidders shall deposit 25% of bid/ purchase money adjusting the earnest money already paid immediately on the same day or next working day, after acceptance of the bid, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited. 5. The balance 75% of purchase price shall be payable on or before 15 days of confirmation of the sale by the Authorized officer or such period as agreed upon in writing solely at the discretion of the Authorized officer. In case of failure to deposit the balance amount within the prescribed period, the amount deposited shall be forfeited and the Authorized officer/bank will be at liberty to cancel the auction and conduct fresh auction. 6. The EMD of the unsuccessful bidder will be returned on the closure of the e-auction sale proceedings. The EMD shall not carry any interest. 7. The Property is sold in "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IT IS BASIS" and "WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS". The intending bidders should make their own enquiries regarding any sort of liabilities & The undersigned has the absolute rights and discretion to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale/modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice and assigning any reason.9. The purchaser shall bear all subsequent charges. 10. The amount due is exclusive of interest and other charges. 11. Further any corrigendum will not be publish in newspaper. Interested advised to refer above website regularly. 12. The Employee's of Bank of India are barred from participation of e-auction. 13. Interested Bidders need to create their user id and password by own and it will take minimum time of 2 days therefore it is requested to the bidder to kindly create his/her user id before the last date. 14. In case of sole bidder, the bid amount quoted in his bid from must be improved by at least one bid incremental value, lest the sale shall be cancelled/deferred.

Place: Raipur, Date: 16.04.2023

Authorized Officer & Chief Manager  
BANK OF INDIA





## CENTRAL Chronicle

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### Indo-Bhutan Relations

#### A Need for Caution

Mutual mistrust now pervades the bilateral relationship between India and Bhutan. Despite their Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, Bhutan's Prime Minister, Lotay Tsering, has suggested handling the Doklam issue with China as equal partners. This departure from the Treaty is cause for concern. Equally worrying is Tsering's denial of any Chinese intrusion into the Doklam plateau, which contradicts satellite images and media reports. The Doklam plateau has significant strategic importance in South Asia. It is an integral part of Bhutan, located on the eastern side of the Chumbi Valley. This Valley is an arrow-like protrusion of southern Tibet that separates Bhutan from the Indian state of Sikkim. The Chumbi Valley is close to the Siliguri corridor, India's only gateway to its northeastern part. If China were to push down the Chumbi Valley and control the Siliguri corridor, it would cut off all northeastern states of India and threaten the city of Kolkata. The Chumbi Valley is an ideal launch pad for China's invasion into India. Beijing finds it more advantageous than the Pangong Tso lake area or the Daulat Beg Oldi sector of Ladakh. However, the Chumbi Valley's strategic drawback is that it is only 30 miles wide in its narrowest stretch, making any military manoeuvre difficult. If the abutting Doklam plateau, or a large part of it, can be incorporated into the Chumbi Valley, then the problem is solved. China is attempting to achieve this goal in the area. China has been upping its ante over the eastern Himalayas recently. It has renamed eleven more places in India's Arunachal Pradesh, which always links to its Bhutan policy. Beijing has staked claims to Bhutan's Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary, which adjoins the West Kameng and Tawang districts of Arunachal Pradesh. The Tawang monastery of Arunachal Pradesh, situated on the northeast side of this sanctuary, is only second in importance for Tibetan Buddhism after the monastery of Lhasa. In the past, China had never claimed the Sakteng sanctuary as a disputed area. Its recent claim over it might be a ploy to arm-twist Bhutan into agreeing to its demand in the western sector, which includes Doklam and other strategic areas like Charithang, Sinchulima, and the Dramana pasture lands. More significant things have happened in Tibet, casting their shadows on Doklam. China has strengthened the Lhasa Gonggar airport, a base of the PLAAF, with an upgraded apron for accommodating more fighter aircraft. To protect these aircraft from enemy missiles and bombs, their shelters have been strengthened. India can no longer take Bhutan's closeness to New Delhi for granted. Former Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj once tried to secure a verbal commitment from Bhutan on this issue, only to be indirectly rebuffed by her Bhutanese counterpart. In the first decade of the present century, Bhutan's official map did not show Kulakangri, the highest mountain peak of the country, indicating that the area had already been ceded to China. In 1966, Bhutan protested over alleged Chinese intrusions into the Doklam and sought help from New Delhi. As the current Bhutanese Prime Minister speaks of China as an equal partner in handling the Doklam issue, India should be wary of future developments.

### Selective Treatment of Disabled in Courts

Yash Pal Raihan

The recent incident in the Supreme Court where a lawyer brought his paralyzed and wheelchair-bound client to court without any mandate to do so has raised concerns about the selective treatment of disabled individuals in courts. While the court reprimanded the lawyer for his actions, the incident brings to light the question of whether such kindness and consideration are shown to all disabled individuals in the judicial system, or is it a selective approach. The judiciary and society at large should appreciate the efforts of differently-abled individuals. However, the treatment of the disabled in courts is not always equal. Disabled individuals often face numerous barriers in accessing justice. Physical barriers in courtrooms, lack of access to assistive technology, and inadequate training of legal professionals on disability issues all hinder equal participation in the judicial process. The Supreme Court has taken some steps to make the judicial system more accessible to the disabled. In 2018, the Court issued guidelines to make courtrooms more accessible to people with disabilities. The guidelines include measures such as installing ramps, handrails, and audio-visual aids, among others. The Court has also directed High Courts to identify cases involving disabled persons and accord priority to them in the hearing. However, these steps are not enough, and much more needs to be done to ensure the equal treatment of the disabled in the judicial system. While the Supreme Court guidelines are helpful, they are not always followed, and many disabled individuals still face significant barriers in accessing justice. In many cases, disabled individuals are not provided with the necessary accommodations, such as sign language interpretation, assistive technology, or even a simple ramp to access the courtroom. Furthermore, disabled individuals are often not taken seriously in the judicial system. Judges and lawyers may assume that disabled individuals lack the capacity to understand legal proceedings or may be dismissive of their claims. This attitude reflects a lack of understanding of disability issues and perpetuates discrimination against the disabled. In my personal experience, I have faced numerous challenges in accessing justice due to my disability. I have been denied access to courtrooms due to the lack of ramps, and I have not been provided with necessary accommodations such as sign language interpretation. In some cases, lawyers and judges have dismissed my claims or assumed that I lack the capacity to understand legal proceedings. The treatment of disabled individuals in the judicial system must be a priority for the legal profession, the judiciary, and society at large. All stakeholders must work together to ensure that disabled individuals have equal access to justice and are treated with respect and dignity.

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](mailto:email.to.editor@centralchronicle@gmail.com).

### DOON GARVOTSAV

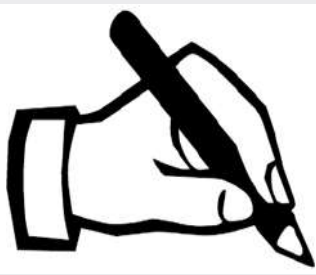


People from the LGBT community take part in the Doon Garvotsav pride parade, in Dehradun, Saturday, April 15.

## India and Bhutan: Evidence of age-old friendship



PRIYANKA SAURABH



India as a friendly and helpful neighbour has been responsive to the needs of Bhutan. Bhutan plays a very important role in India's foreign policy and is strategically important to India. Relations between India and Bhutan are based on the pillars of trust, goodwill, and mutual understanding. The two neighbors share close civilizational, cultural, and economic ties that go back centuries. Bhutan regards India as the Gyagar, or Holy Land because Buddhism originated in India, which is the religion practiced by the majority of Bhutanese. Both countries are proud of their relationship which is based on trust, shared cultural values, mutual respect, and partnership in sustainable development.

Relations between India and Bhutan are based on the pillars of trust, goodwill, and mutual understanding. The two neighbors share close civilizational, cultural, and economic ties that go back centuries. The basic framework of India-Bhutan relations is the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed between the two countries in 1949, which was renewed in 2007. India and Bhutan have multi-sectoral cooperation, India is Bhutan's largest trading partner in trade and economic relations and remains a major source of investment in Bhutan. In 2021, India formalized the opening of seven new trade routes for Bhutan's bilateral and transit trade with India. New market access was also granted to allow the formal export of 12 agri-products from Bhutan to India. In recent times digital cooperation and col-

laboration have taken place in new areas beyond the traditional scope of cooperation. For example the setting up of digital infrastructure such as the 3rd International Internet Gateway. In addition, the integration of Bhutan's Drukren with India's National Knowledge Network is a significant collaboration in the field of e-learning. India is not only Bhutan's largest development partner but also its most important trading partner, both as a source and market for its trade in goods and services. India not only provides a transit route to land-locked Bhutan but is also the largest market for many of Bhutan's exports, including hydropower, semi-finished products, ferrosilicon, and dolomite. Under Financial Cooperation/Integration, the first phase of the RuPay project was launched in Bhutan. India's Bharat

Interface for Money was also launched in Bhutan in 2021. Space cooperation is a new and promising area of bilateral cooperation. Both the Prime Ministers of India and Nepal jointly inaugurated the ground earth station of the South Asia Satellite in Thimphu in 2019, which was built in collaboration with ISRO. In addition, the India-Bhutan SAT is slated to be launched into space by ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle in 2022.

Mutually beneficial hydropower cooperation with Bhutan is the core of bilateral economic cooperation. 4 Hydro Electric Projects (HEP) including Mangdechhu are already operational in Bhutan and supplying electricity to India. India and Bhutan have close bilateral cooperation in the educational and cultural fields for educational, cultural cooperation, and people-to-people exchanges. More than 950 scholarships are awarded annually by the Government of India for Bhutanese students to study in India in various disciplines including medicine, engineering, etc. Many Bhutanese pilgrims visit Bodh Gaya, Rajgir, Nalanda, Sikkim, Udayagiri, and other Buddhist sites in India.

Strengthening the strategic relationship, India stationed its Military Training Team in Bhutan in 1961 to train Bhutanese security forces has since been responsible for training Bhutanese security forces. Several activities relating to security and border management issues, threat perception, coordination of India-Bhutan border entry/exit points, and real-time information sharing among other aspects are being regularly undertaken by the two countries. Over time relations between India and Bhutan have matured into a comprehensive partnership and cooperation on a wide range of issues including energy security, trade and business, security and intelligence sharing, digitization, space technology, and conservation biology sectors. India has always stood by Bhutan in times of adversi-

ty and challenges past and Bhutan has acknowledged this. As a friendly and helpful neighbor, India has been responsive to Bhutan's needs, exemplified by the support extended to Bhutan from time to time, supplying essential goods and services and whatever is required.

Harmonious and sustainable relations between India and Bhutan require addressing certain issues such as the China factor. The country's geo-strategic location makes Bhutan very important in India's perception of national security. The possibility of a boundary settlement between China and Bhutan should be seen in the light of its implications for India's strategic interests in the region. One of the issues pointed out by experts is India's paternalistic attitude towards Bhutan. A crisis in India-Bhutan relations erupted in 2013 over India's alleged attempt to thwart the Bhutanese bid to diversify its foreign policy. Interference in internal politics Critics argue that there has been interference from India in Bhutan's internal politics at times. Experts argue that the economic benefits of cooperation on hydroelectric projects reduce Has come Interest rates have risen and profits per unit of electricity have plummeted, leading to a large increase in Bhutan's debt.

Relations between India and Bhutan are based on the pillars of trust, goodwill, and mutual understanding. The two neighbors share close civilizational, cultural, and economic ties that go back centuries. Bhutan regards India as the Gyagar, or Holy Land because Buddhism originated in India, which is the religion practiced by the majority of Bhutanese. India as a friendly and helpful neighbor has been responsive to the needs of Bhutan. Bhutan plays a very important role in India's foreign policy and is strategically important to India. Therefore, further steps should be taken to maintain a lasting relationship while addressing the above issues.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Unbiased History Curriculum

History is often written from the perspective of those in power, leaving us unsure of whether we are learning facts or a biased interpretation of events. This is why it is crucial to have an unbiased history curriculum that presents all perspectives, including those of marginalized communities. Unfortunately, our history curriculum has been subject to changes based on the political party in power. Singh rightly notes that this can be detrimental to students, who may be learning a different set of "facts" with each change. Instead of constantly revising the curriculum, we should strive for a balanced approach that presents a comprehensive understanding of history. Deleting or downplaying certain historical facts can create fractures in society and prevent us from fully understanding our past.

MKN Raipur

#### Environmental Responsibility

The recent decision to withhold leased lands from farmers engaging in straw burning is a commendable effort. However, we must do more to prevent environmental damage. The government should mandate that all government and panchayat lands be used to cultivate crops other than wheat and rice, such as millets or oil-seeds, or be converted into orchards or social forestry. This approach will diversify crops and help preserve soil fertility, water retention, and biodiversity. Additionally, we suggest that incentives not be provided to farmers who engage in straw burning, as this practice has negative consequences for the environment and human health. By taking bold measures, we can protect our environment for generations to come.

Rajesh Sharma, Korba

#### Reforms Needed: A Call to Action

The recent actions of the Taliban in banishing women from restaurants have sparked outrage among many, but it's important to remember that they are following the teachings of their religion. Criticism from non-Muslims is unlikely to be effective in bringing about change; instead, reform must come from within the Islamic community. In India, reforms for women's rights in the Hindu community came from within, led by people like Raja Ram Mohan Roy. Similarly, Muslims themselves must recognize that 7th-century Sharia laws are not relevant in the 21st century. Initiatives for reform must be taken up by the Islamic community, and leaders must be willing to challenge outdated traditions and beliefs. It's time for Muslims to stand up for the rights of their sisters, mothers, and daughters. Only then can we hope to see true progress and equality for Muslim women.

Navneet Nair, Raipur

## Empowering women in India's journey towards national development



Rajendra Kumar Sharma

Swami Vivekananda once said, "It is impossible to think of the welfare of the world until the condition of women is improved. We have to realize the real place and value of women in society. In public bodies and government jobs, women can demonstrate greater efficiency than men, especially in the areas of management and planning. Socially, the current

situation is that men are income earners and women are the ones who manage the household with this income. It is believed, and according to economics, the management of that income is more important than earning income, which women do with full efficiency and skill. The Finance Minister of the country, Honorable Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman, is a live example of this statement.

If we look at the various schemes made for women, such as free rides for women in buses, trains, and metro, reservation in metro coaches for women, baby feeding rooms for women at train and metro stations, diaper changing facilities, and vanity cum changing rooms, we will find that even after so many schemes, women are not getting as many rights and freedoms as expected.

All these facilities have increased the mobility of girls and working women, but they are only available during a fixed daily period, usually from 8 in the morning

to 5 or 6 in the evening. After 9 pm, hardly any woman would like to travel for a job or education. Much of our public transport infrastructure is designed around male-led travel, which is the biggest barrier to women's mobility. Along with free travel, it is also necessary for public transport and public places to be safe for women.

Based on a detailed study of the travel patterns of daily commuters traveling in suburban trains, the Mumbai Railway Development Corporation, working with the World Bank, has made stations and trains women-friendly, prioritizing the issue of women's safety, according to a news release. A plan to make it more secure is being worked on, under which emphasis has been laid on the need to work on other facilities besides women special trains and buses. One meaningful initiative can be the appointment of more women employees in public means of transport like buses, suburban trains, metros, etc.

Kochi Metro is a classic example of women's empowerment. 80% of the employees working in the Kochi Metro Rail are women employees. Participation of women employees has been ensured in ground staff, operators, and loco drivers. Out of 39 loco pilots, 7 are women loco pilots.

Women and girls are unable to contribute to employment, education, and care services. The main reason for this is the lack of security in our means of public transport and public places. Studies show that the worry about moving safely outside a certain time period is the biggest barrier for girls and women to attend school, college, and work. The threat of sexual harassment makes women think twice before stepping out. It has been observed that women are able to use public transport only as long as there are few crowds in them. Late at night, when the number of passengers in public transport is negligible, the safety of women remains a major issue that prevents them

from venturing out.

Under the Nirbhaya Fund, the center is providing financial assistance to the states to enhance the safety of women. If women's participation in national development is to be ensured, two main barriers have to be removed: first, by increasing the number of women security staff at public places, making them safe for women, and secondly, by appointing more women staff in the operation of public transport systems and by appointing women security staff inside buses and trains to make them safe for women. These measures can ensure that women and girls can work longer hours in offices, study in good educational institutions, and have wider opportunities for entrepreneurship. Such initiatives can play an important role in ensuring women's participation in making India's economy more robust.

(Writer is a Columnist & Sr. Educator, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Views are personal)



**BRIEF**

**Elanpro**

**New Delhi:** Elanpro Group, which sells commercial refrigeration products, has posted a 74 per cent growth in its revenue at record Rs 220 crore during the last fiscal on better demand. Its revenue stood at Rs 125.80 crore in the previous financial year. Elanpro has refrigeration products catering to hotels, restaurants, cafes, supermarkets, QSRs and pharma industries. The total sales stood at 72,000 units in FY23, Elanpro said in a statement. "We delivered record net sales of Rs 220 crore amidst rocky market conditions," said Shashank Joshi, Director, Elanpro.

**Wonderchef**

**Mumbai:** Kitchenware brand Wonderchef is expecting to clock a Rs 725 crore revenue this fiscal on the back of retail expansion and greater penetration into e-commerce. The company, founded by celebrity chef Sanjeev Kapoor and food entrepreneur Ravi Saxena in 2009, has closed FY23 with a Rs 560 crore revenue, lower than the target of Rs 600 crore, due to the lower-than-expected sales, which grew only 22 per cent.

**JW Marriott**

**Mumbai:** JW Marriott, part of Marriott Bonvoy's global portfolio of 30 hotel brands, on Friday announced its debut in Goa, with the opening of JW Marriott Goa. This opening marks a milestone for Marriott International's 150th opening in South Asia, the global hospitality brand said in a statement. "JW Marriott is at the forefront of the evolution of luxury, blending a legacy of extraordinary hospitality with a contemporary commitment to mindfulness and well-being that continues to be a priority for today's luxury traveller," JW Marriott Global Brand Leader Bruce Rohr said.

**JioCinema**

**Mumbai:** Reliance-owned JioCinema, which has live streaming rights for the ongoing Tata IPL, would set up Fan Parks in over 35 cities for viewing matches live as part of its initiative to take cricket to every internet user and every community. Extending its digital-first offerings, JioCinema plans to make out-of-home sports viewing omnipresent across 13 states for the first time on digital, according to a statement.

**Godrej Interio**

**Mumbai:** Leading furniture solutions brand Godrej Interio on Friday said it has partnered with IIT-Bombay. The partnership aims to provide state-of-the-art facilities, empower research-based education and revolutionize learning practices for students. Some of the unique innovative furniture solutions like modular furniture, fume hood, lab storage, MEP services & turnkey projects form a core part of the lab's revamping. Godrej Interio is currently executing similar projects for state medical colleges, research institutes and government institutes across India.

## Crypto issue requires immediate attention: Sitharaman

Washington, Apr 15 (PTI):

Issues related to crypto assets require immediate attention and the response of the G20 has to ensure that they do not lose any potential benefits while protecting economies from harm, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said.

Sitharaman was part of a brainstorming session on "Macrofinancial Implications of Crypto Assets" with G20 finance ministers and central bank governors at the IMF's headquarters here on Friday. India currently holds the rotating annual presidency of G20 countries.

Issues related to crypto have emerged as a major



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during a session on "Macrofinancial Implications of Crypto Assets" with G20 Finance Ministers and Governors at the IMF Headquarters, in Washington DC, Saturday, April 15.

point of discussion among G20 countries and there is unanimity among member nations about the urgency to regulate this sector. The brainstorming session was attended by global experts on this issue.

In her remarks, Sitharaman said the G20 acknowledges the work of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Financial Stability Board (FSB) in bringing out key elements of policy and regulatory frame-

work. She also said a synthesis paper, which would integrate macroeconomic and regulatory perspectives of crypto assets, is required.

The minister noted that there was consensus among G20 members to have a globally coordinated policy response on crypto assets that takes into consideration the full range of risks, including those specific to emerging markets and developing economies.

Earlier this week, Sitharaman had said that India's G20 Presidency aims to develop a common framework for all countries to deal with risks associated with cryptocurrencies in the wake of the recent shocks witnessed in the crypto market.

## India, Spain agree to boost cooperation in energy, shipping, defence

New Delhi Apr 15 (PTI):

India and Spain have agreed to increase cooperation in the field of renewable energy, shipping, ports, tourism, infrastructure, food processing, pharmaceuticals and the defence sector, the commerce ministry said on Friday.

The issue was discussed in a meeting between Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal and Xiana Mendez, Secretary of State for Trade, Government of Spain. Both co-chaired the 12th Session of the India-

Spain Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation (JCEC) on April 13 here.

The two sides also discussed various market access issues faced by their exporters and agreed to resolve the same through bilateral discussions, the ministry said.

"India and Spain are looking forward to considerable progress in the ongoing India-EU free trade agreement negotiations during the upcoming Spanish Presidency of EU from July to December 2023," it added.

## Ashok Leyland takes digital route to tap used vehicle biz

Chennai, Apr 15 (PTI):

Hinduja Group flagship company Ashok Leyland has rolled out an e-marketplace 'Re-AL' for used commercial vehicles segment, the automajor said on Saturday.

The e-marketplace facility would help customers to exchange their existing vehicles and upgrade to a truck or a bus offered by Ashok Leyland.

"The used commercial vehicle industry is ripe for disruption. Leveraging our digital platform, there are many opportunities

for us to provide customer centric solutions," Ashok Leyland MD and CEO Shenu Agarwal said.

The city-based heavy commercial vehicle maker, in a statement, said it hopes to increase transparency in the otherwise disorganised used vehicle ecosystem.

The digital service would offer customers with a range of features allowing them to select preferred vehicles of their choice along with validated documents.

"This used vehicle e-marketplace solution

## Credai ties up with IGBC to help realtors in development of green buildings

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTI):

Realtors' apex body Credai on Saturday said it has partnered Indian Green Building Council to facilitate its members to develop certified environmental-friendly housing projects.

The association has pledged the development of 1,000 green-certified projects in the next 2 years and 4,000 projects by 2030.

The Confederation of Real Estate Developers Association of India (Credai) has entered into a partnership with Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) to achieve this target. "Through this tie-up, we will encourage and guide our more than 13,000 members on the construction of green buildings," said Boman Irani, who is set to become Credai National President, on Saturday evening. "There

will be uniformity on various norms to be followed for the development of certified green buildings," he added.

Under the association with IGBC, Credai seeks to spearhead the green building movement. It pledges to build over 1,000 certified green projects in the next two years and 4,000 projects by 2030, through the adoption of IGBC Green & Net Zero building ratings.

"This will mean an addition of over 4,00,000 housing units in the green development category across the country," the association said. These projects will be certified by IGBC.

Credai's partnership with IGBC will allow the necessary know-how and strengthen the capabilities of Credai developers to 'build better'. Irani said the focus of Credai would be on "G.R.O.W.T.H.". He said this means green construc-

tion, reform, opportunity to build a New India, women empowerment, transparency and housing for all. "Indian real estate stands at a cusp of a revolution, and we at Credai are extremely focused to facilitate growth for all stakeholders involved," Irani said.

Commenting on the partnership, Signature Global Chairman Pradeep Aggarwal said the environmental impact of any development is a crucial consideration. This will lead to sustainable development in the real estate industry, which is the need of the hour, he added. Mohit Jain, Managing Director, Krisumi Corporation, said, "Sustainability has emerged as a new paradigm in the Indian real estate sector, as it translates to lower energy costs, a greener environment and healthier living".

## Truecaller introduces 'Live Caller ID' for iPhone

Mumbai, Apr 15:

Truecaller, the world's leading global communications platform, has announced the introduction of a major update of its product on iPhone. The update brings in new, exciting features which will provide an improved and more secure communication experience for iPhone users worldwide. The complete Live Caller ID experience is now on iPhone for the first time ever, which uses a simple Siri shortcut to tell you who is calling. Speaking about the new

update, Rishit Jhunjhunwala, Managing Director, India at Truecaller said, "We are witnessing strong adoption on iPhones and we are constantly innovating within the platform. Our team applied a lot of creativity to build this Siri powered Live Caller ID experience. Finally our community can get to experience Live Caller ID during an incoming call by saying 'Hey Siri, Search Truecaller'. We are very excited with this global release and will continue to innovate on the iOS platform."



Models pose for pictures as a jewellery exhibition at Himayathnagar in Hyderabad, Saturday, April 15.

## RNLIC unveils 'Nishchit Bhavishya' plan

Mumbai, Apr 15:

Reliance Nippon Life Insurance Company Limited (RNLIC), one of India's most trusted and leading private life insurers, announced the launch of their brand-new plan, Reliance Nippon Life Nishchit Bhavishya, a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings life insurance plan which offers, guaranteed tax-free returns with an increasing income benefit. This product structure finds its origins in the company's internal research that highlights a heightened understanding of inflation amongst households. The income design responds well to this sentiment and solves the need for long-term increasing income. This solution serves diverse needs of various segments, including those looking to plan for retirement, small business owners, and young salaried customers seeking a steady income stream to overcome the volatility in business incomes or employment cycles.

## Himachal govt to launch Rs 500-crore Him Ganga scheme: Chandan Kumar

To promote dairy business

Dharamshala, Apr 15 (PTI):

The Himachal Pradesh government will launch a Rs 500-crore Him Ganga scheme to promote dairy business in the state, agriculture and animal husbandry minister Chandra Kumar said on Saturday.

Kumar, who was the chief guest at a district level function organised at Dharamshala in Kangra district on Himachal Day, said that Him Ganga scheme is being started to develop the system of milk-based business in the state.

Through this scheme, quality improvement will be done in the system of milk procurement, processing, and marketing. The government will buy cow milk from farmers at Rs 80

per kilogramme and buffalo milk at Rs 100 per kg for the production of different milk products, the minister said. He said that the government is working to change the structure of agriculture and animal husbandry to strengthen the farmers' community.

"It is our endeavour to encourage organic farming by reducing the use of chemicals in crops," he said. Kumar said that a tourism development scheme is also being started in the state with the help of Asian Development Bank at a cost of Rs 1,311 crore.

This will give new wings to tourism in the state, he said, adding that chief minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu has announced plans to develop Kangra district as tourism capital.

Work is being done to develop tourism facilities like zoo park, golf course in Kangra, he added.

## HDFC Bank post 20 pc jump in Q4 net profit

Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTI):

Largest private sector lender HDFC Bank on Saturday reported a 20.6 per cent jump in its consolidated net profit to Rs 12,594.5 crore for the March 2023 quarter, driven by a healthy core performance. For the entire fiscal, it reported a 20.9 per cent increase in the net profit at Rs 45,997.1 crore.

The city-headquartered lender, which is in the middle of merging its mortgage lending parent HDFC, reported a 19.8 per cent growth in the post-tax profit on a standalone basis at Rs 12,047.5 crore. Its core net interest income rose 23.7 per cent to Rs 23,351.8 crore on the back of a 16.9 per cent jump in advances and the net interest margin being maintained at 4.1 per cent. The other income increased to Rs 8,731.2 crore



for the reporting quarter from Rs 7,637.1 crore in the year-ago period. All the components under this line showed an improvement, except trading and mark-to-market, where it reported losses of Rs 37.7 crore compared to a gain of Rs 47.6 crore in the year-ago period.

Amid the 'war for deposits' in the system, the lender has ducked the system-wide trend by reporting a 20.8 per cent growth in its base. Share of the low-cost current and savings ac-

count deposits stood at 44.4 per cent as of March 31, 2023. Retail loans grew by 19.3 per cent, corporate and wholesale banking loans rose by a slower 12.6 per cent, while the nearly 30 per cent rise in commercial and rural banking advances, helping it report the overall loan growth number.

Retail and corporate advances are now evenly placed in the overall loan pie, having a 38 per cent share, while commercial and rural banking occupies the remaining 24 per cent.

## Mangalore Port welcomes first direct main-line container service

Expected to boost exports

Mangaluru, Apr 15 (PTI):

The first direct main-line vessel, MV HONG AN, has called at the New Mangalore Port (NMP) after the port's dedicated container terminal became operational.

The regular service vessel will ply between the westbound rotation of Chittagong-Colombo-Mangalore-Nhava Sheva-Mundra and the east-bound leg to Jebel Ali-Khalifa Port. It is the only direct service for Indian exporters to Jebel Ali and Abu Dhabi with seamless connections to USA, Europe, Southeast Asia and Africa, a release from



NMP said here on Friday.

New Mangalore Port Authority (NMPA) chairman A V Ramana inaugurated the first direct main-line service from New Mangalore Port by flagging off the container discharging from the vessel in the presence of NMPA officials and port users.

The main-line service began primarily as a re-

sult of the use of various productivity measures to free up berth time for new services through the establishment of a fixed-window berthing policy and the extension of additional inducements in the form of commercial rebates on vessel-related costs. "The mainline service will be a game changer in how our shippers take

their exports to the global markets in the fastest and most efficient ways. It will not only lead to more sea route options, but it can also seamlessly connect cargoes for air transfers from Dubai to destinations in Europe and USA," the release said.

The advantages include the transit time which will get reduced to half. The transit time to Jebel Ali earlier was 13-15 days. With direct service, it will get reduced by seven days.

The mainline service will avoid transshipment, which will result in better ocean freight cost for shipments. The new service will also give a major boost to export from Karnataka, particularly agricultural products, the release added.



## Poorti Arya returns to acting after break for health and self-discovery

Poorti Arya, a popular actress known for her roles in various TV shows and films, has recently made a comeback to acting after taking a break for health and self-discovery. Poorti, who was last seen in the TV show 'Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 2', had been missing from screens for a year, but now she is back and ready to take on new challenges.

In an interview, Poorti revealed that she took a break from acting to prioritize her health, which had been suffering from some issues that needed attention. She also shared that she needed to take time to figure out the kind of project and character she wanted

to do in the future. Poorti took a conscious decision to step back from work and focus on herself, hoping to come back with a fresh perspective.

Now that she has returned to the work front, Poorti is determined to pick projects that challenge her and leave a mark on the audience. She wants to play strong and prominent characters, similar to the ones she has played in the past. Despite having numerous opportunities, she is careful and selective about the projects she chooses.

Poorti has acted in various TV shows and films, including 'Jalebi', 'Internet Wala Love', 'Life Sahi Hai', 'Ashoka Samrat', and 'Pyaar Tune Kya Kiya'. With her talent and dedication, she is sure to leave a lasting impression on the industry.

## Geeta Kapur goes gaga over contestant Shubham's inventive lyrical performance

Sony Entertainment Television's home-grown dance reality show 'India's Best Dancer Season 3' has thrilled viewers as it premiered its Audition Rounds on 8th April. In the upcoming weekend, the superlative dance talent will continue to surprise everybody with some exceptional performances. Taking charge of picking the best of the best, judges Sonali Bendre, Geeta Kapur and Terence Lewis, the E.E.N.T specialists would be assessing the contestants as they put their best foot forward. Getting the groove on would be Maharashtra's very own Shubham Revankar whose beautiful translation of the song 'Summ Ri



Sakhi' would make judge Geeta Kapur's heart flutter!

Right after the magical performance, judge Geeta Kapur will say, "I want someone to love like this! There are performances that you feel at peace watching, there is 'sukoon'. This was a 'sukoon wali' act, I loved watching it. You took me on a journey. I feel very happy when dancers come on stage and I become a part of their journey. It was a beautiful journey where I felt like I was in a garden."

Surprising the judges, Shubham shares that he is a self-taught dancer, and the performance was his own choreography. The talented dancer will also reveal that he has

performed previously for reality shows and competitions because of his father who was his biggest supporter. Talking about him, Shubham will add, "Mummy would say study first and dance later, dad would say passion first and then studies." On being asked where his father is, the judges would be in for an emotional shock as he lost his father a year and a half ago.

Will Shubham be able to make his place in the mega auditions and win the competition for his father? To watch Shubham Revankar's mesmerising performance, tune in to India's Best Dancer Season 3, this weekend at 8:00 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television.

## &TV shows will entertain viewers with gripping tracks



TV's **Dusri Maa**, **Happu Ki Ultan Paltan** and **Bhabhi Ghar Par Hai** will entertain viewers with gripping tracks. About **Dusri Maa** track, Varun Sharma shares, "Arvind (Mayank Mishra) returns from Haridwar and informs everyone that Ashok (Mohit Dagg) will only return once Krishna (Aayudh Bhanushali)

leaves the house. Arvind also shows a letter written by Ashok as evidence. Yashoda (Neha Joshi) confronts Arvind, and he admits the letter was written by Ashok. Later, Varun (Micckie Dudaaney) arrives to take Krishna away, but Yashoda instructs Varun to undergo DNA test to find out Krishna's real father."

## Taylor Swift makes triumphant return to stage in Florida after split from Joe Alwyn

Taylor Swift, the renowned singer-songwriter, made a stunning return to the stage in Tampa, Florida, after news broke that she and her long-time boyfriend, Joe Alwyn, had split up after six years of dating. The 'Anti-Hero' singer, who is 33 years old, performed at the Raymond James Stadium as part of her sold-out Eras Tour, and the audience welcomed her with open arms. Despite the recent heartbreak, Swift was in high spirits as she kicked off an expected three-hour-long show, entertaining the audience with her music and charismatic personality. In between songs, she acknowledged the crowd, saying, "We have a lot to catch up on." The show was a triumphant return to the spotlight for Swift, who has been taking some time off after the breakup.



## Saiee Manjrekar talks about her journey in the film industry

Saiee Manjrekar, the young actress who made her debut in Bollywood alongside Salman Khan in "Dabangg 3", has been making waves in the film industry. After acting in two Tollywood projects, "Ghani" and "Major," she is now back in Tollywood for her third project, "Agent," starring Akkineni scion Akhil.

Saiee describes "Agent" as an exciting project that she got involved with quickly. The story and cast were so compelling that they started shooting just a few days after the narration. She feels fortunate to work with such experienced actors and to be back in Hyderabad and shooting. She is excited to see how this project will turn out. Regarding the fascination for Bollywood imports in Tollywood and other South film industries, Saiee believes that both glamour and talent matter in the film industry.

She thinks that the selection of actors for a role depends on the role and the character's demands and who can fit into it seamlessly. Saiee fondly looks back on her experience working with Salman Khan in "Dabangg 3." Despite being just 17 years old at the time, she had a surreal experience and felt grateful for the opportunity to watch Salman Khan work and work with him.

As the daughter of noted director and actor Mahesh Manjrekar, Saiee responds to the "nepokids" question with maturity beyond her age. She acknowledges that she has had the privilege of getting a break so young and fast and feels grateful for it. She strives to work hard and honestly to prove herself deserving of it and leaves the rest to the audience.



## WATCHO presents 'MANGHADANT' A nail-biting murder mystery

Watcho, one of India's fastest-growing OTT platforms, is proud to announce the premiere of "Manghadant", a thrilling murder mystery that will leave viewers spellbound. The series is packed with thrill, suspense, commitment with betrayal, and love with anger. It will take viewers on a gripping journey of emotional turnarounds and unveils deadly consequences that will keep them hooked till the very end. Directed by Sanjiv Chadha and produced by Sixth Sense Entertainment & Shaushaa Entertainment, this 8-episode web series



in the Hindi language is set to premiere exclusively on the Watcho OTT platform on 14 April 23.

The tale revolves around the murder of Rachna Bakshi, the wife

of the renowned movie writer, Madhav Bakshi. Captivating performance by Inspector Parth, the police officer, and the intriguing storyline is sure to keep the viewers

hooked to their screens. The exemplary weaving of characters and twists will take viewers through strange and jaw-dropping scenarios with every episode.

Manghadant, a powerful character-driven series, boasts a powerful ensemble cast including Prince Rodde, Raju Kher, Ribbu Mehra, Dolly Chawla, Satyamvada Singh, Raunakk Bhinder, Sangeeta Odwani, Anand Ajay, Shwet Sinha, Awez Khan, Ram Prasad Mishra, Samridhi Chadha, Ankur Malhotra, and Praveen Baba, each bringing their own unique character to the forefront.

## Alia Bhatt shares throwback pictures with Ranbir Kapoor to celebrate their first wedding anniversary

Alia Bhatt, the Bollywood actress, is celebrating her first wedding anniversary with actor Ranbir Kapoor on Friday. To commemorate the occasion, the 'Gangubai Kathiawadi' star took to her Instagram to post a few throwback photographs of her with Ranbir and captioned it "Happy Day".

After she shared the photos, her industry friends flooded the comments section with wishes. Actor-director Riteish Deshmukh wrote, "Happy 1st." Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar responded with heart emojis, while 'Brahmastra' co-star Mouni Roy wrote, "Happy



first you both." Actress Bipasha Basu, who recently became a mother, said, "Happy anniversary

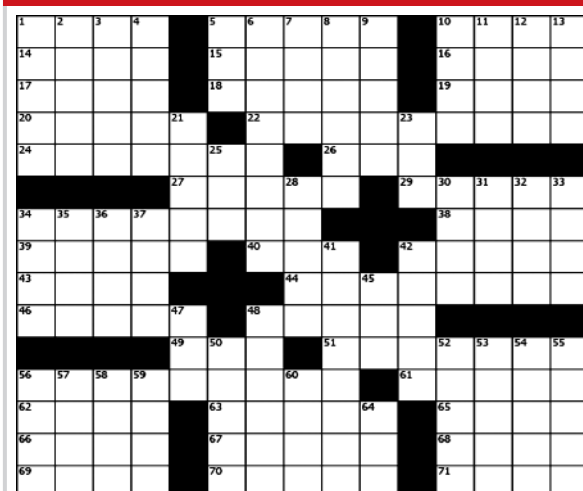
to both you cuties." Alia and Ranbir got married on April 13, 2022, at Ranbir's residence

'Vastu' in Mumbai's Pali Hill area. They fell in love on the sets of their upcoming movie 'Brahmastra' and decided to tie the knot in an intimate ceremony. In November 2022, the couple welcomed their daughter Raha, adding more joy to their lives.

The talented actress has several upcoming projects lined up, including 'RRR,' 'Darlings,' and 'Gangubai Kathiawadi Part 2.' Meanwhile, Ranbir Kapoor will be seen in Ayan Mukerji's 'Brahmastra' alongside Alia. The couple's fans are eagerly awaiting their next on-screen collaboration.

## CROSSWORD

617



### ACROSS

- Marina sight
- Fathered
- Bothers
- Emerald
- Love (Ital.)
- Work hard
- Memo letters
- Wave
- Jazz singer \_\_\_\_\_ Fitzgerald
- "Star Wars", e.g.

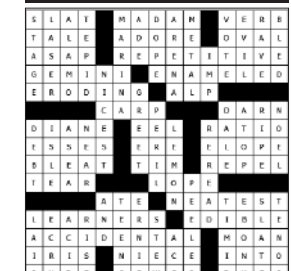
### DOWN

- Bible division
- Summer drink (2 wds.)
- Water, to Jacques
- Despised
- Festive occasions
- "Alien Vs. \_\_\_\_\_"
- Annoy
- Sophia
- Singer \_\_\_\_\_ Stewart
- Witherspoon of "Sweet Home Alabama"

- Stratford-on-\_\_\_\_\_
- Local
- Outward behavior
- Cozy retreats
- Praline nut
- Compass dir.
- Go back over
- Citrus preserve
- Beauty shop
- Mexican water
- Shaquille \_\_\_\_\_
- Deep mud
- Pre-Easter season
- Oklahoma city
- Roof support
- Advantage
- Pigs' homes
- Exclusively

- Corrode
- Property right
- Likewise
- Clairvoyant person
- Scheme
- Ramble
- Love god
- Fender damage
- Lessen
- Leases
- Bombshell \_\_\_\_\_ West
- Adriatic, e.g.
- Goober
- Notches
- Stallone role
- Foreign
- Atoll material
- Opponent
- Gender
- Mellowed
- Ladder step
- Spouse
- Sub shop
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vegas, Nevada

### SOLUTION 616





## Vyshak, Kohli script comeback win for RCB

**DC campaign in tatters with fifth loss on trot**

**Bengaluru, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Local lad Vijaykumar Vyshak claimed three wickets on debut to complement Virat Kohli's imperious fifty as Royal Challengers Bangalore returned to winning ways with a dominant 23-run victory over Delhi Capitals in the Indian Premier League here on Saturday.

Kohli (50 off 34 balls) slammed his third fifty in four innings - with the help of six boundaries and a six - before left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav (4-1-23-2) led Delhi Capitals' charge in the middle overs to restrict RCB to 174/6 after David Warner opted to bowl.

The bottom-placed Delhi side, who came into the match after four losses on the trot, then made a mockery of the 175-run chase as they were restricted to 151/9 in the stipulated 20 overs.

Delhi lost four wickets in the powerplay, including that of skipper Warner (19 off 13 balls), and they were 2 runs for 3 wickets at one stage. Yet to open their ac-



Royal Challengers Bangalore bowler Harshal Patel celebrates with teammate Virat Kohli after the wicket of Delhi Capitals batter Abhishek Porel.

count after five matches, time is running out for the Ricky Ponting-coached side. They now have the difficult task of winning eight

out of their remaining nine matches to secure a play-off berth. RCB, on the other hand, got their campaign back on track after back-to-

### Brief Scores

**Royal Challengers Bangalore:** 174 for 6 in 20 overs (Virat Kohli 50; Mitchell Marsh 2/18, Kuldeep Yadav 2/23).  
**Delhi Capitals:** 151 for 9 in 20 overs (Manish Pandey 50; Vijaykumar Vyshak 3/20).

back losses as they have four points from as many matches.

Vyshak, who was handed his debut in place of Karn Sharma, got his maiden wicket in the form of Warner with a slower delivery, en route to his memorable haul of 3/20.

The 26-year-old varied his pace and mixed his length well to trouble the batters as he went on to take two more wickets - that of Axar Patel and Lalit Yadav - as DC were reduced to 110/8 inside 16 overs.

After Warner (19 off 13 balls) got out cheaply, Manish Pandey waged a lone battle with a 37-ball 50, his 22nd fifty of the tournament. But the wily Sri Lankan spinner Wanindu Hasaranga de Silva trapped Pandey, following a smart review, and it was all but over for DC. Continuing his horror run, Shaw (0) got out

for his fifth single-digit score from eight IPL innings when he became victim of a terrific run-out by Impact Player sub Anuj Rawat.

Prithvi was always slow with his running, and he showed a clear lack of intent opening with Warner.

Shaw started off the blocks tentatively and Rawat was just pin-point with his throw from extra-cover. Shaw now has 34 runs, including two ducks, from five innings in this IPL.

Earlier, DC bowlers did well to restrict RCB to 174 for 6. RCB were 110 for 2 in 12 overs but they managed to add just 64 runs for the loss of four wickets in the last eight overs.

RCB were going all guns blazing with Kohli and Glenn Maxwell (24 off 14 balls) who was in a six-hitting spree.

But the DC spin trio of Kuldeep, Axar Patel (3-0-25-1) and Lalit Yadav (4-0-29-1) seized the momentum.

Mitchell Marsh (2/18 from two overs), who re-joined the team after his wedding, also made a significant contribution with wickets of RCB captain Faf Du Plessis and Mahipal Lomror.

## Suryakumar hits nets ahead of MI's clash against KKR

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

It has been a tough time for the world No 1 T20I batter Suryakumar Yadav who has scores of 15, 1 and 0 since the start of IPL, adding more to his woes, as he entered the tournament following three consecutive first-ball ducks against Australia in the ODI series in March.

With Mumbai Indians managing just one win in three matches so far, the home side and their batting mainstay Suryakumar will hope for better returns, especially after captain Rohit Sharma walked the talk, scoring a match-winning 65 against Delhi Capitals a few days ago.

Rohit had admitted that Mumbai Indians, a side full of young players post the 2022 mega auction, would need their senior players to shoulder the responsibility and in the batting department, Suryakumar is the next name that comes up after the skipper.

The focus has also been on Suryakumar every time he has walked out to bat in this IPL and even in media



conferences, but luck has not favoured the batter who has a grand total of 16 runs in three outings. Against Chennai Super Kings, he was caught on a delivery down the leg side, and against Delhi, he was caught off a short ball at fine leg an area he used to clear the ropes with ease when in his pomp. On Saturday, the right-handed

batter had a lengthy nets session against throw-down specialists in the Mumbai Indians' camp but by the look of it, he certainly did not hit the right gears. If some of Suryakumar's hits fell inside the boundary ropes, Cameron Green batting next to him in the second nets sent the ball flying easily into the stands.

## Titans have history on their side, Royals want to break jinx



Rajasthan Royals players Jos Buttler and R Ashwin during a practice session.

**Ahmedabad, Apr 15 (PTD):**

**Match time: 7:30 PM IST**

Gujarat Titans, coming off a tough away clash against Punjab Kings in Mohali, would be aiming to climb to the top of the table when they take on leaders Rajasthan Royals in an Indian Premier League (IPL) match here on Sunday.

History is on Hardik Pandya's side as the team has won all three games against the Royals so far, and that would certainly play on the minds of the Sanju Samson-led Rajasthan outfit at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

Who can forget the Titans' seven-wicket victory in the IPL 2022 final in only their first year, with Pandya's side making it a one-sided contest, winning with 11 balls to spare.

The Titans' victories in the league phase too were an affirmation of the class and commitment of the team, which is currently placed third on the points table with six points - same as Lucknow Super Giants and the Royals, with only net run rate (NRR) separating the sides.

While both the sides are equally matched on the batting and bowling fronts, the psychological edge the Titans enjoy by virtue of the three wins last year could play a huge role in the contest.

While on the other hand, Samson's side would be keen to break the jinx and show past results don't matter much.

With the core of the

two sides almost the same, match-ups would have been well researched and the team that is able to withstand the pressure better at the gigantic Narendra Modi Stadium should emerge as the winner.

The Royals' top order has been one of the most devastating this season with the likes of Yashasvi Jaiswal, Jos Buttler and Sanju Samson helping the side to the highest average powerplay score of 66.8 among 10 teams in IPL 2023.

Besides, Buttler's powerplay strike rate of 196.6 is the best among batters, not to forget that he has scored a whopping 114 runs in those crucial six overs so far.

Also Jaiswal's 92 at a strike rate of 184 in the powerplay overs so far is something the Titan's won't take lightly.

With matches being won and lost on the basis of how teams fare in powerplays, another cracking start for Royals on Sunday could earn them their first win against the defending champions.

With the likes of Devdutt Padikkal, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shimron Hetmyer and West Indian all-rounder Jason Holder in the middle order, the Royals bat really deep.

On the bowling front too, the Royals have the second-best economy rate of 7.3 thus far, just behind Royal Challengers Bangalore (6.3).

## Pain-free Bumrah begins rehab

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Premier Indian pacer Jasprit Bumrah is "pain free" and has begun his rehab at the National Cricket Academy in Bangalore following a successful surgery on his lower back in New Zealand, the BCCI said on Saturday. The BCCI also gave an update on Shreyas Iyer and said the batter would undergo surgery for his lower back issue next week. Out of action since September 2022, Bumrah missed the Asia Cup and the T20 World Cup and it remains to be seen if he will be fit for India's World Test Championship final against Australia at The Oval in two months' time. "Bumrah underwent surgery in New Zealand on his lower back, which was successful and he remains pain-free," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a statement.

## Mumbai Indians face uphill task against KKR

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Mumbai Indians will face an uphill task against the firepower of Kolkata Knight Riders batters when the teams clash here on Sunday in their IPL contest, with both former champions looking to put their campaigns back on track.

While Mumbai Indians were able to break their winless streak in their last game against Delhi Capitals, Kolkata Knight Riders went down fighting on Friday night against Sunrisers Hyderabad in a high-scoring contest at the Eden Gardens.

However, despite winning the previous game, the most successful IPL

team, Mumbai Indians, will be under added pressure at the Wankhede Stadium, for they have not been able to harness their potential so far in IPL 2023.

With two wins and as many defeats, KKR have had their share of highs and lows and are placed fourth on the points table with a good net run rate (0.711) as compared to Mumbai Indians who are ninth with two points and an NRR of -0.879.

Rohit Sharma made a match-winning 65 against Delhi Capitals but the challenge for the MI captain will be to attain consistency, especially when the other senior, Suryakumar Yadav, is going through a lean



patch. Mumbai Indians are likely to be without their ace pacer Jofra Archer, who has been side-

**Match time: 3:30PM IST**

lined by fresh elbow trouble post his appearance in the first match of the season. Jason Behrendorff and Riley Meredith will have to shoulder the responsibility in the fast-bowling department, while Piyush Chawla will be expected to carry forward his form from the previous game where he took 3/22.

KKR have shown incred-

**Mumbai Indians' Sachin Tendulkar with team coach Mark Boucher during a practice session ahead of the IPL 2023 cricket match against Kolkata Knight Riders.**

ible fight right till the end to pull off a stunning win against Gujarat Titans, and fight till the last ball against SRH. Rinku Singh will be the biggest threat with the bat for MI since the left-hander has smacked an unbeaten 48 and 58 in his last two outings batting at No 7. Besides, skipper Nitish Rana, Venkatesh Iyer, Rahmanullah Gurbaz and Shardul Thakur have been among runs for KKR, which indicates MI will have to be at their best in all departments.

However, KKR have some concerns too in the form of their all-rounder Andre Russell, who has struggled with the bat in this IPL.

## Pakistan thump New Zealand in captain Babar's 100th T20

**Lahore, Apr 15 (AP):**

Pakistan celebrated the 100th Twenty20 of its all-format captain Babar Azam with a thumping 88-run win over a weakened New Zealand in the first game of their five-match series here.

Fast bowler Haris Rauf's career-best figures of 4-18 on Friday night upstaged Matt Henry's earlier hat trick as New Zealand got bowled out for 94 with more than four overs to spare - losing its last five wickets for only six runs.

Rapidly improving young batter Saim Ayub

and Fakhar Zaman made 47 runs each before New Zealand struck in the latter half of the innings on the back of Henry's hat trick and got Pakistan bowled out for 182 in the final over. "I still remember the journey of starting off here as a ball-boy on the sidelines and to now be here, it is a huge honour," Babar said. Pakistan got to its full strength for the series against the Kiwis after losing to Afghanistan 2-1 in the United Arab Emirates in a series where four frontline players, including Rauf and Babar, were rested.

## Maxwell hopes friends from Aus will give him motivation to put RCB back on track



**Bengaluru, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) all-rounder Glenn Maxwell could have added motivation to steady his team's floundering campaign in IPL 2023,

with four of his childhood friends flying down from Australia to cheer their mate in the ongoing tournament. RCB have eked out just one win in three outings - against Mumbai Indians - and are placed eighth with two points.

Maxwell scored an unbeaten 12 against MI, five against KKR, which the Bengaluru outfit lost by 81 runs, and 59 against Lucknow Super Giants in a losing cause. The 34-year-old has bowled just one over so far as RCB have relied more on their pace bowlers.

With an unflattering performance so far this season, the presence of his friends could boost Maxwell's morale, which would then put RCB back on track.

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## Atiq Ahmed's son buried amid tight security

Prayagraj (UP), Apr 15 (PTI):

The last rites of Asad Ahmad, son of gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad, were performed at Kasari Masari graveyard here on Saturday amid heavy police security, with only a few distant relatives and locals present inside the burial ground. The burial lasted for an hour, police said. Asad and his accomplice Ghulam, both wanted in the Umesh Pal murder case, were shot dead in an exchange of fire with the Uttar Pradesh Police near Jhansi on Thursday.

Asad was the third of the five sons of Atiq Ahmad and was absconding since the Umesh Pal murder



The mortal remains of gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmed's son Asad Ahmad being brought for the last rites, who was killed in an encounter in Jhansi, at the Kasari-Masari graveyard in Prayagraj, Saturday.

case. Ghulam's burial took place at a graveyard under the Shivkuti police station area. Incidentally, Atiq Ahmad and his brother Ashraf were being ques-

tioned by the Uttar Pradesh Police in the Dhoomanganj police station, around 3 km from the burial venue. When asked by reporters to comment

on Asad's death, his uncle Ashraf said, "Allah had taken back what belonged to him." "The last rites of Asad Ahmad have been completed, and it went for an hour. A few distant relatives of Atiq and some people of the locality were allowed to go to the graveyard. This was necessary from the security point of view," Joint Commissioner of Police, Prayagraj, Akash Kulhari told PTI.

He added that the burial of Ghulam took place at a graveyard under Shivkuti police station area. Earlier, Asad's uncle, Usman, reached the graveyard with the body of his nephew.

## K'taka CM Basavaraj Bommai files nomination

From Shiggaon

Haveri (K'taka), Apr 15 (PTI):

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Saturday filed his nominations as BJP's candidate from Shiggaon segment here for the May 10 Assembly polls and expressed confidence of getting elected again with the highest number of votes.

Bommai was accompanied by Public Works Minister C C Patil, Haveri-Gadag MP Shivakumar Udasi, and son Bharath Bommai among others as he submitted his papers to the Returning Officer. Bommai, son of former

Karnataka chief minister and Janata Parivar veteran late S R Bommai, has represented Shiggaon thrice since 2008. With a saffron shawl on his shoulder, the 63-year-old Chief Minister visited Shiggaon's 'Dyamavva Devi' temple, before filing his nomination.

"I have filed my nomination today. People of my Shiggaon constituency have supported me tremendously in the past and this time too, I'm confident of breaking all the records and getting elected with the highest number of votes. People here are aware voters and they vote for development," Bommai said after filing his nomination.

Pointing out that he had submitted his nomination papers as there was a good muhurta (time) today, Bommai added that he will be filing nomination once again on April 19 in the presence of BJP national President J P Nadda and other senior leaders.

To a question that Congress was planning to field a strong candidate against him, the Chief Minister said, "Opponent is an opponent whether strong or weak, I will take everyone equally. If there are opponents, only then there will be a contest. I'm confident in the people of my constituency, who have supported me."

## APF constable exam to be held in 15 languages

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTI):

In a landmark decision, the home ministry has approved the conduct of constable (general duty) examination for Central Armed Police Forces in 13 regional languages, in addition to Hindi and English. The historic decision was taken at the initiative of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to give impetus to the participation of local youths in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and encourage regional languages, an official statement said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the decision "parthbreaking". In a tweet, he said, "A path-breaking decision, which

will give wings to the aspirations of our youth! This is a part of our various efforts to ensure language is not seen as a barrier in fulfilling one's dreams."

The CAPFs are the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and the National Security Guard (NSG). "In a landmark decision under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, (the) Ministry of Home Affairs has approved conducting constable (general duty) examination for CAPFs in 13 regional lan-

guages, in addition to Hindi and English," the statement said.

In addition to Hindi and English, the question paper will be set in Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Marathi, Malayalam, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Odia, Urdu, Punjabi, Manipuri and Konkani. The announcement comes days after Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin wrote to Shah, urging him to include Tamil as a language for the written exam in the recruitment for CRPF personnel.

In his letter, Stalin said that in the notification for the CRPF recruitment written exam, it was mentioned that the test could be taken

in English and Hindi. The Ministry of Home Affairs said the decision will result in lakhs of aspirants taking the examination in their mother tongue or regional language and improve their selection prospects.

The ministry and the Staff Selection Commission will sign an addendum to the existing Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the conduct of the examination in multiple Indian languages, the statement said. Constable (general duty) is one of the flagship examinations conducted by the commission and attracts lakhs of candidates from across the country.

## 'Super thief kept police running after him'



New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTI):

Long before Devender Singh gained notoriety as "Bunty Chor", the super thief honed his skills as a private detective in Vasant Vihar in Delhi. However, he did not find the job challenging enough to hold his interest and he decided to try his hands at opening tricky locks. His exploits soon became the talk of the town. Police officials began looking for the "smooth operator" who was interested in stealing crystal vases, ceramic dolls and even dogs, particularly pomeranians.

Bunty worked with such ease and dressed so smartly that he could walk into a 5-star hotel or a wedding party and walk out with someone else's laptop without being noticed, say officials. In 2002, he broke into a businessman's house in Saket and stole several items, including a framed picture of the businessman's wife and daughter. He hung the photoframe at his apartment in Mayur Vihar and told visitors they were his "family" to avoid suspicion.

But it's not something that police officials remember about him the most. They say Bunty would often find a way to escape from their custody and his escapes were as interesting as his legendary stealing methods.

## WORLD ART DAY



People participate in a rally to celebrate 'World Art Day', in Kolkata, Saturday.

## 'Did not get invite for Ambedkar statue inauguration'

Hyderabad, Apr 15 (PTI):

Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan on Saturday said she did not get invitation for the inauguration of a giant statue of B R Ambedkar here on the latter's 132nd birth anniversary. Ambedkar spoke about women empowerment but there was no invitation for a woman Governor, she claimed.

"...it was a big event. There was no any invitation for me. If I would have got the invitation, I would have come and participated, in the great personality of our honourable Ambedkar ji. Not only, he is the father of our Constitution, but he has put forth his words for development of the country, for women empowerment



Tamilisai Soundararajan

particularly," she told news channels here.

"I also felt very bad.... I paid my floral tributes to Ambedkar ji yesterday," she said. The State government on Friday unveiled 125-ft tall statue of Ambedkar at the Hussain Sagar lake here on the occasion of Ambedkar's birth anniversary.

Relations between Raj Bhavan and the TRS gov-

ernment have not been on the best of terms and Soundararajan had earlier complained of protocol not being followed during her visits to the districts.

## 'Democracy suffering, every tenet of Constitution stands compromised'

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTI):

A day before his appearance before the CBI, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday wrote to his Tamil Nadu counterpart M K Stalin, saying democracy in India is being dealt blows every single day and the country's federal structure is in grave danger. In his reply to a letter from Tamil Nadu chief minister, Kejriwal also noted that "every tenet" of the India's Constitution stands compromised, be it liberty, equality, secularism, or fraternity.

He said the interface of the state governments and their Governors or Lt Governors has effectively become "a battlefield where a silent war is being waged by the Union government." The governors and Lt Governors are "wilfully" undermining democratically elected state governments and obstructing administra-



Arvind Kejriwal

tion as per their "whims and fancies", the Delhi chief minister charged.

Kejriwal also commended Tamil Nadu Assembly for passing a resolution seeking a time-frame for governors to approve bills passed by the state legislatures, and said his government will also bring a similar resolution in Delhi Assembly in the next session.

The Tamil Nadu chief minister had recently written to his counterparts in

non-BJP ruled states, urging them to pass a resolution in their respective assemblies, seeking the Centre to fix a time limit for the governors to approve bills passed by the state legislatures.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has summoned the AAP leader in connection with the excise policy case on Sunday. He has been asked to be present at the agency headquarters at 11 am to answer queries of the investigating

team, officials said. The central probe agency has already arrested former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia in connection with the case.

It is alleged that the Delhi government's excise policy for 2021-22 to grant licences to liquor traders favoured certain dealers who had allegedly paid bribes for it, a charge strongly refuted by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). The policy was later scrapped. "It is a foregone conclusion that democracy in India is suffering from blows every single day," Kejriwal noted in his letter.

"Every tenet of our glorious constitution stands compromised - be it liberty, equality, secularism, or fraternity. It is also beyond doubt that our federal structure, which enfranchised people in the most remote corners, is in grave danger from forces that seek to illegitimately cen-

tralise all power," he added. He said the country's federal polity and clearly laid out roles and responsibilities of the Union and state governments in the Constitution have resulted in a united nation and a cohesive society "despite all apprehensions of fragmentation that arose when we achieved independence from colonial rule."

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### BRIEF



Commuters use scarves to shield themselves from the heat on a hot summer day, in New Delhi, Saturday afternoon.

### Watery grave

**Kota:** Two teen boys drowned in a pond allegedly dug up for illegal mining near a newly developed housing colony here with their families blaming authorities for the water crisis in the area, officials said on Saturday. The incident happened near the Devnarayan Housing Scheme colony under Ranpur police station area on Friday, they said.

### Snow clearance

**Jammu:** The snow clearance operation on the Mughal road is likely to be completed next week, officials said on Saturday, as demands grew louder for its opening around the "Eid-ul-Fitr" festival. The road, an alternate link connecting the twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu region with south Kashmir's Shopian, was closed for winter months in January owing to heavy snowfall in the upper reaches, including at Pir Ki Gali.

### Death sentence

**Nagpur:** A court in Maharashtra's Nagpur on Saturday sentenced a man to death for killing five members of his family over a property dispute. Additional sessions judge R S Pawaskar convicted the accused Vivek Gulab Palatkar (35) of charges under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced him to death. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 on him.

### Recover

**Guwahati:** A rhino horn horn believed to have been extracted by miscreants last month has been seized by the Assam Police in Nagaon but the suspected poacher managed to escape from custody, a top officer said on Saturday. The suspected poaching of a one-horned rhinoceros in Kaziranga National Park was the first such incident in the park in over a year.

### Defuse

**Jammu:** A rusted mortar shell was found in a forest area on the outskirts of Jammu on Saturday, officials said, adding it was defused by the bomb disposal squad. Special Police Officer Sunil Kumar noticed the mortar shell lying in Shivalikpuram forest area near Janipur Colony and informed the local police station about it, the officials said.

### Welcome

**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Saturday said he 'wholeheartedly' welcomed the decision by the Ministry of Home Affairs to conduct the examinations for recruitment of constables in the Central Armed Police Force in state languages.

**Weather**  
High 39 Low 26

### HEART-RENDING INCIDENT

# 13 dead, 29 injured after bus falls into gorge

■ On old Mumbai-Pune highway

Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):

Thirteen persons, including at least five minors, were killed and 29 others injured after a bus carrying young male and female members of a traditional music troupe fell into a gorge on the old Mumbai-Pune highway in Raigad district of Maharashtra early on Saturday, police said.

The private bus with 42 persons on board was going from Pune to Mumbai when it plunged into the 300-feet deep gorge in the Bor Ghat mountain pass section, better known as Khandala Ghat, around 4.50 am. The accident occurred near Khopoli town in the



Wrecked remains of a bus that fell into a gorge leaving at least 12 persons dead and 27 others injured on Mumbai-Pune highway, in Raigad district, Saturday.

district, around 70 km from Mumbai, a senior police official said.

According to police, the deceased included a six-year-old boy and a girl aged 15, while of the total number of injured, at least six are minors. Most of the music troupe members

were in their twenties or teenagers, who were heading back to Mumbai after taking part in an event in Pimpri Chinchwad near Pune city. Expressing grief over the incident, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announced an ex-gratia of Rs

five lakh to the kin of each deceased. He said the condition of five of the injured is critical.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah expressed sorrow and spoke to CM Shinde and his deputy Devendra Fadnis about the accident.

"The bus was carrying 42 members of 'Baji Prabhu Zanj Pathak' based in Mumbai's Goregaon. They were returning to Goregaon after taking part in an event in Pimpri Chinchwad area in Pune district. The bus, which had left the venue around 1 am on Saturday, fell into the gorge on the highway near Shingroba temple after its driver lost control," the police official said, adding that 13 of them died in the incident, which left 29 others injured.

### Father recalls last conversation.....

Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD)

Deepak Sawant spoke to his daughter Jui when she reached Pune safely for an event, but little did he know it would be his last conversation with the 18-year-old who died along with 12 others when their bus plunged into a gorge on the old Mumbai-Pune highway in Maharashtra early on Saturday. "While leaving for Pune, Jui told me she will telephone me when she reached the city, which she did. That was my last conversation with my daughter," said a distraught Sawant, who is employed as a security guard. Jui had just appeared for her Class 11 examination, he said.

"Around 7 am, we got a phone call from the police informing us about the accident. We immediately reached the site and found several people dead and injured," he said. The victims were part of a traditional dhol-tasha (drums and percussion) troupe, based out of Goregaon in north-west Mumbai, who had travelled to Pune's Pimpri-Chinchwad area to take part in an event.

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# Amritpal aide Joga Singh arrested

■ Had helped him hide in Pilibhit

Chandigarh, Apr 15 (PTD):

Police have arrested a key aide of radical preacher Amritpal Singh for allegedly providing shelter and other assistance to the absconding Khalistan sympathiser in Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh.



Joga Singh was coming to Punjab from Haryana, a senior police official said on Saturday, adding the police were on his trail.

"Joga Singh was in direct contact with Amritpal Singh. He arranged shelter and vehicles for Amritpal Singh. He arranged for him to stay in Pilibhit and then return to Punjab," Deputy Inspector General (Border Range) Narinder Bhargav said at a press conference.

### IIT BOMBAY STUDENT'S DEATH

# Hostel mate remanded in judicial custody till Apr 29

■ Files bail plea

Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):

IIT Bombay student Arman Khatri, arrested for allegedly abetting the suicide of fellow student Darshan Solanki, on Saturday filed his bail plea before a special court, which remanded him in judicial custody till April 29.

Khatri was arrested on April 9 by the city crime branch's special investigation team (SIT) and was booked under Indian Penal Code sections that deal with the abetment of suicide and criminal intimidation, as well as under the

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

As Khatri's police custody ended on Saturday, the SIT sought to extend it by claiming that they had recovered certain messages sent by Solanki to Khatri a day before he allegedly killed himself.

Solanki, who hailed from Ahmedabad and was a first-year student of the B Tech (Chemical) course, died allegedly by jumping off the seventh floor of a hostel building on the IITB campus in suburban Powai on February 12.

According to police, two

days before his death, Solanki had allegedly made a communal remark in a conversation with Khatri following which the 19-year-old threatened Solanki with a paper cutter. Solanki was visibly scared by this incident and had suffered from a fever that night, police claimed.

In their remand application submitted to the court on Saturday seeking further custody of Khatri, police said that Solanki had sent WhatsApp messages to Khatri apologising for the remark and saying that he was going back home and leaving Mumbai.

# Cong targets PM on Malik's Pulwama attack revelations



Congress leaders Jai Ram Ramesh and Supriya Shrinete during a press conference at party headquarters, in New Delhi, Saturday.

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTD):

The Congress on Saturday demanded answers from the Centre on the outcome of the probe into the 2019 Pulwama incident in which 40 CRPF jawans were killed, asking why were the CRPF personnel denied aircraft and were made to commute via road despite terror attack threat. Congress general secretary Jai Ram Ramesh accused

the BJP-led Union government of "minimum governance and maximum silence" and asked it to comment on the reported revelations made by former Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satyapal Malik on the incident. "The government believes in the principle of minimum governance and maximum silence. It is the government's responsibility to answer questions raised by the op-

### Baghel targets Centre

**Raipur:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Saturday said the BJP-led Central government must respond to claims made by former Jammu and Kashmir governor Satyapal Malik on the 2019 Pulwama incident in which 40 CRPF jawans were killed. Asked about Malik's reported revelations, Baghel told reporters here, "Allegations have been levelled against Bharatiya Janata Party and Centre. The matter is linked to the security of the nation and martyrdom of jawans. If the then governor has made such statements and accusations, then the Centre must reply to it." In a media interview, Malik, who was the governor of J&K during the Pulwama terror attack, alleged that the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) had asked for an aircraft ahead of the incident but the request was denied by the Union Home Ministry. Malik also claimed that he was instructed to remain silent on the issue. On February 14, 2019, terrorists targeted a CRPF convoy at Pulwama in Jammu and Kashmir in which 40 jawans were killed and several others injured.

position," he said, adding that the Congress will continue to raise questions on the issue that concerns national security. Addressing a joint press conference along with party leaders Pawan Khera and Supriya Shrinete, he said the gov-

ernment has created buildings as symbols of democracy but democracy is missing. "Vishwaguru was creating a new model of democracy where there are symbols and buildings of democracy but the soil of democracy is now missing," he said.

### SHETTAR'S ULTIMATUM TO BJP

# 'Denying me ticket can cost 20-25 seats'

Hubballi, Apr 15 (PTD):

In a rebellious tone, former Karnataka chief minister Jagadish Shettar has said denying him a ticket to the Hubli-Dharwad Central constituency for the Assembly polls will have a bearing on at least 20 to 25 seats even as Union Minister Pralhad Joshi met him here on Saturday with an assurance that the party would take an appropriate decision on his candidature. Shettar is the sitting MLA from Hubli-Dharwad Central



and the BJP high command had earlier in the week asked him to drop his name for the election that left the former CM upset.

The BJP has not yet released the list of candidates for 12 constituencies, including Hubli-Dharwad Central. As 16 Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation council-

ors offered to tender their resignation with BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel today, the senior leader said he was grateful to them for showing their affection towards him.

### BEATING THE HEAT



A girl cools off under a tubewell water on a hot summer day on the outskirts of Amritsar, Saturday.

### SYLLABUS RATIONALISATION

# 'NCERT consulted 25 external experts, 16 CBSE teachers'

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTD):

The NCERT consulted 25 external experts and 16 CBSE teachers to carry out its syllabus rationalisation exercise as part of which portions on the Mughals, Mahatma Gandhi, his assassin Nathuram Godse, reference to Hindu extremists and the 2002 Gujarat riots were dropped from school textbooks, according to the education ministry.

Dropping several topics and portions from the NCERT textbooks has triggered a controversy with the Opposition blaming the Centre of "whitewash-

ing with vengeance".

At the heart of the row is the fact that while the changes made as part of the rationalisation exercise were notified, some of these controversial deletions weren't mentioned in them. This has led to allegations about a bid to delete these portions surreptitiously.

The NCERT has described the omissions as a possible oversight but refused to undo the deletions, saying they were based on the recommendations of experts. It has also said the textbooks are anyway headed for revision in 2024 when the National

Curriculum Framework kicks in.

"Aside from NCERT in-house experts, NCERT sought the expertise of subject experts from Universities/Organisations and practising teachers in all its activities related to Research, Development, Training and Extension for wider consultation," the ministry had said in response to a written question in Lok Sabha.

Among the most contested deletions are from history and political science textbooks for which the NCERT consulted five and two external experts respectively.

### UGC drops cap on contractual faculty

■ For autonomous colleges

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTD):

Autonomous colleges will no longer be required to ensure that the number of contractual faculty is not more than 10 per cent of the total sanctioned faculty positions, according to revised UGC norms. The affiliated and constituent colleges will also be able to directly approach the University Grants Commission (UGC) to get academic and administrative autonomy anytime during the year, without going through the parent university. The commission has notified the new rules under UGC (Conferment of Autonomous Status upon Colleges and Measures for Maintenance of Standards in Autonomous Colleges) Regulations, 2023.

### SHAH ON CONG RIFT

# 'Gehlot filling Cong coffers with corruption money'

■ Pilot's number will not come

Bharatpur (Raj), Apr 15 (PTD):

In a swipe at the Congress in Rajasthan over infighting, Union home minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the party prefers Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot over his former deputy Sachin Pilot as his contribution in filling its coffers with the "corruption" money from the state is higher.

He said that Gehlot and Pilot are fighting unnecessarily as the BJP will form the next government in



Rajasthan. "Pilot sits on dharna on any pretext... his contribution may be higher on the ground but

his number will not come because his contribution in filling the coffers of Congress party is less and Gehlot's contribution is higher," Shah said while addressing booth-level party workers meeting in Bharatpur.

The two Congress leaders are at loggerheads since 2020 after Pilot revolted against Gehlot's leadership. Pilot recently observed a one-day fast against his own government alleging inaction on corruption charges against the previous Vasundhara Raje-led BJP government.



## 'Follow Babasaheb to strengthen democracy'

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel reached Budh Vihar Sector 6 Bhilai on Friday on the occasion of the 132nd birth anniversary of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar. In his address, Baghel said that following the path shown by Babasaheb



Bhimrao Ambedkar, we all have to continuously work for strengthening the democratic system. Very few are able to struggle like him, but we all can try to follow his values and work to strengthen our democracy. Baghel further said that there were differences of opinion among people during the freedom struggle but they used to respect disagreement too. Everyone was heard in the constitution that Baba Saheb Ambedkar made in India by including the best ideals. Baba Saheb Ambedkar spent his whole

life in the service of the country and gave us the Constitution. He ensured that the voice of the last person is also heard and it has its effect. Very few people have the ability to struggle like him but at least we can follow the path shown by him. We can strengthen the country by following the mantra given by Babasaheb. Babasaheb always insisted on getting united and educated. He used to say that only an educated nation moves towards greatness. At the same time, he gave the message of wisdom and compassion.

When compassion and wisdom awakens within a person, he rises for greater causes. The British policy in India was divide and rule. Baba Saheb understood this policy and gave a message to the society to get organized and united. The independent India grew with this aim and reforms were introduced in agriculture and industrial scenarios. Immediately after independence, big industrial initiatives were made in Chhattisgarh and other states. Citing the example of Bhilai Steel Plant, he said that no one can deny this contribution. If we deny it, we will be insulting our forefathers who built this industrial temple. The Chief Minister said that it is the responsibility of our generation to work continuously to strengthen the democratic system. Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu also addressed the gathering. He said that Babasaheb as the framer of the Constitution has given an ideal Constitution to the country. Bhilai MLA Devendra Yadav, Mayor Neeraj Pal, DCC Bank Chairman Rajendra Sahu, Antyavasai Corporation Vice

## Accused of loan fraud arrested from Bihar

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** Police have arrested a fraudster from Bihar who cheated a villager in pretext of business loan. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that Anjora Police Station had received a complaint from Jhumman Lal Nishad of village Changori.



He needed a loan to open a grocery shop and came in contact with a person after watching a facebook advertisement. The person introduced himself as Sanjeev Kumar, an employee of Bajaj Finance and asked him to send the Aadhaar card, Pan card and bank account details and assured that the loan will be approved within twenty four hours.

Later, he convinced the victim to pay almost Rs 80000 as processing charge, insurance charge, income tax charge, etc. Police lodged the FIR under Section 420 of IPC. Taking the incident into serious consideration, a

joint team of ACCU, CSP Durg / Chhawani Squad and Chowki Anjora was formed for investigation.

During the investigation, the team examined the mobile number and bank details of the accused and found the addresses of village Maikhera, Police Station Warsaliganj, District Nawada, Bihar.

A special team was sent to Village Maikhera and came to know that the fraud was committed by local resident Radheshyam Kumar. With the help of local police, Radheshyam Kumar was arrested.

During sustained interrogation, he confessed to publishing an advertisement on Facebook to trap people and cheat them in pretext of providing a loan. He even made them fill certain online forms to win their trust. Police have recovered the mobile handset and mobile number used in the crime.

The accused Radheshyam Kumar (30) son of Girja Singh a resident of village Maikhera, Police Station Warsaliganj, District Nawada, Bihar has been booked under the provisions mentioned in section 420 of IPC.

## Two arrested for stealing Rs 4.22 lakh from a man via Anydesk app

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** Police arrested two fraudsters from Jharkhand on charges of fraudulently withdrawing Rs 4.22 lakh from a man's bank account after making him install AnyDesk app on his mobile phone. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that they had received a complaint from Harish Kumar Tandon (41) of Hanoda regarding this fraud.



AnyDesk, the victim lost over Rs 4.22 lakh in different instalments. Police lodged a complaint under section 420 of IPC and investigations were launched.

Police examined the mobile number and bank account used by the accused and found that the location of the accused was in Karmatar of District Jamtara in Jharkhand. A special team was sent to Jamtara Jharkhand. Police collected information regarding the accused and found that a local resident Arjun Mandal had committed this crime.

With the help of local police, the team arrested Arjun Mandal and his associate Nakul Kumar Mandal. During interrogation, they confessed to committing the fraud. The accused revealed that they had registered the company in the name of Delivery Courier by paying an amount of Rs1000 on Google Ad.

When any person searched Delivery Courier on Google browser, the mobile number of the accused was flashed. When any person contacted them on this

number, they tricked the caller by sending a link on their phone and asking to fill the form and get bank related information like bank account number, CVV number, card expiry date, pin code number and OTP.

The accused convinced them to download AnyDesk App and got access to the mobile phone of the victim. Thereafter, the accused used to fraudulently withdraw money from the bank account of the victims by using AnyDesk App. Police recovered 14 mobile phones of different companies from the accused.

The arrested accused are Arjun Mandal (28) son of Dashrath Mandal a resident of village Pindari, district Jamtara, Jharkhand and Nakul Kumar Mandal (22) son of Dashrath Mandal a resident of village Pindari, District Jamtara, Jharkhand. Further action is being taken from Padmanabhpur police station.

On behalf of the regional center, Dr RN Singh welcomed the team and briefed about the achievements of the Regional Centre. Dr DN Sharma gave a PowerPoint

## NAAC team inspects PSSOU's regional and study centers

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** A team of experts from NAAC inspected various departments, regional and study centers of Pt Sunder Lal Sharma Open University for the first time for evaluation and accreditation of the university. The inspection was conducted from April 11 to 13. NAAC Team members Professor Dr Hema Sundar Naidu Gonugunta (Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore) and Professor Dr Vijay Jaiswal (Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut) conducted inspection at Regional Center Durg located in Nehru Nagar as well as the study centers in Government VYT Post Graduate College, Durg and Mansa Education College, Kurur.

On behalf of the regional center, Dr RN Singh welcomed the team and briefed about the achievements of the Regional Centre. Dr DN Sharma gave a PowerPoint



presentation regarding the role, structure, activities and progress of the regional centre in the last five years. The team members asked for administrative and academic information and made an in-depth observation of available facilities and maintenance of documents and records.

Expressing happiness over the remarkable number of 311 students (including 30 students who secured first position in merit list) who appeared in the merit list of the regional

center in the last five years, the team members also suggested tracking these students.

Government VYT Post Graduate College Principal Dr RN Singh gave a Power Point presentation regarding works of the last five years and shared the details of counseling-contact classes organized for the students of Science Faculty. Along with the available documents, the team members also inspected the facilities, laboratories etc available in the

college. Principal Dr Smita Saxena in Mansa Education College shared details of contact programs, counseling services and facilities available in the study center. The team oversaw the records, teaching aids etc in the study center.

The team members expressed their satisfaction with the activities, academic progress and maintenance of documents, facilities and services being provided at the Regional Center and Study Centers.

## BPNI certificate of Breastfeeding-Friendly Hospital to JLNHRC

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's JLN Hospital & Research Centre (JLNHRC), Sector-09, a leading healthcare provider in the state, has been recognized for its exceptional maternity and neonatal care.

JLNHRC has received the prestigious accreditation certificate of Breastfeeding-Friendly Hospital from the Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI), which is first amongst the SAIL hospitals and the second in the state of Chhattisgarh.

The 'Breastfeeding - Friendly Hospital' accreditation recognizes hospitals that have implemented policies and procedures that promote and support breastfeeding. The BPNI is a non-governmental organization that works to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding in India.

The Breastfeeding - friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) is a global effort launched by WHO and UNICEF to implement practices that protect, promote and support breastfeeding. This recognition is a testament



to JLNHRC's commitment to providing quality healthcare services to new mothers and their babies. The neonatal ICU of JLNHRC has a mortality rate of 4 per 1000 deliveries, which is comparable with the premium health institutes in India.

The Paediatric Department is equipped with all modern facilities and has well-trained doctors and paramedical staff, ensuring best possible care to the patients. The Obstetrics & Gynaecology Department actively participate in ensuring safe delivery of babies and comply to BFHI Standards.

BFHI accreditation will promote mother-infant

bonding immediately after birth. It also augments connection among nursing mothers and lactation support groups. Mother and infants will receive greater care consistently.

As part of the Digital India Mission, mothers are being digitally trained in the neonatal ICU, making it easier for them to learn about proper breastfeeding techniques and take care of their new-born.

"We are proud to receive this accreditation certificate from the BPNI," said Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M&HS), JLNHRC. He further said that, it is a testament to our team work of ONG Dept,

Paediatric Dept, and Neonatal ICU in providing quality care to new mothers and their infants and we are committed to promoting and supporting breastfeeding and ensure that all our patients receive the best possible care, added Dr Ravindranath.

Chief Medical Officers, Dr Pramod Binayake, Dr Rajeev Pal, Dr Vinita Dwivedi, Dr Kaushalendra Thakur, and other Doctors and paramedical staff of the Department of Paediatrics and Obstetrics & Gynaecology, along with the Medical Maintenance Department played a crucial role in achieving this milestone.

## MWORM soar to new heights with team work

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 15:** Two of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's older finishing Mills, the Merchant Mill (MM) and Wire Rod Mill (WRM) that have sustained their performances throughout the last fiscal, often making records and rolling out new & customized grades during the year in collaboration with Quality Department, ended 2022-23 with Merchant Mill registering growth of around 12.8% and WRM growth of 16.9%, over previous FY 21-22.

It needs a mention that MM rolls out a wide variety of TMT bars with different sections, angles and channels while WRM rolls out both plain and ribbed (TMT) wire rod coils of different sections. MM began the new FY 23-24 with several day & shift records being made in quick succession while operating two out of three reheating furnaces in operation.

On April 10, 2023, both the Mills made records with MM producing record volume of 1977 Tonnes of TMT 25 mm, surpassing previous best of 1972 T, on April 08.



WRM too broke its previous day record of 1618 T produced on February 14, 2023 by registering production of 1632 T of TMT 10 mm coils on April 10, 2023.

MK Goyal, CGM-MWORM (Merchant Wire Rod Mill) of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant shared that the shop personnel have tightened up to face challenging tasks and they are ready to fulfill new targets and work in cohesion with each other, he asserted.

SR Shambarkar, AGM (MWORM) revealed that the working environment in MWORM is congenial where all employ-

ees with management's support, perform in team-work and execute innovative ideas for yielding good production results. PK Barua, AGM (MWORM) feels that monitoring of Entry/Exit boxes of the stands is crucial for smooth functioning of the Mill.

N Hari Narayan, Chief Master Operator (MWORM) stated that the rolling rate and production rate is on a surge due to change in technology. The modernised mills help in increasing mill speed and with preventive measures we are able to roll out different grades of products like

EQR and HCR. ML Verma, Chief Master Technician (MWORM) said that proper inspection and improved maintenance has led to better results. Sushil Kumar Gupta, Chief Master Operator (MWORM) feels that the procurement of new stands, rollers, proper maintenance and good coordination help in smooth roll and pass changes.

Systematic coordination, better maintenance, proper house-keeping and Safety practices along with cohesive team work has led MWORM to reach new heights.



## Bengali community's contribution valuable in state's devp: CM

**Baghel participates in the Bengali New Year celebration and Bengali Association's centenary celebration**

**CM offers prayer to Maa Kali and prays for the prosperity of Chhattisgarh's people\***



Raipur, Apr 15: Bengali community has an important contribution in the development of Chhattisgarh. The Bengali community has been alert and aware since the beginning. The land of Bengal has been the land of revolutionaries and social reformers. Without them, the freedom of the country cannot be imagined. The contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Subhash Chandra Bose cannot be forgotten. Saint Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Swami Vivekananda are the best gifts of Bengal to the world. Saints of Bengal have also contributed significantly in the Bhakti

movement of the country. Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel was addressing the centenary celebrations of Bengali New Year and Bilaspur Bengali Association organized at Kalibari Maidan in Bilaspur on Saturday. The Chief Minister prayed for the happiness and prosperity of the people of the state by offering prayer to Maa Kali in Kalibari. Food and Culture Minister Amarjeet Bhagat presided over the programme. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel instructed the Collector to take action for

allocating 7,000 and 5,000 square feet of land in Mopka and Tifra to the Bengali community respectively. Addressing the program, Chief Minister Baghel said, "Durga Puja and Ganesh Puja have become our cultural identity. Chhattisgarh has cultural relations with Bengal. Their culture also travels along with the people. Chhattisgarh has imbibed the culture of Bengal". He also talked about the visits of Swami Vivekananda and Rabindranath Tagore to Chhattisgarh. He said that Swami

Vivekananda spent maximum time in Chhattisgarh after Bengal. Vivekanand ji spent two years in Chhattisgarh. The airport in Chhattisgarh has been named after Swami Vivekananda. The contribution made by Mr. Rabindranath Tagore to society cannot be forgotten. Mr. Rabindranath Tagore has also spent time in Chhattisgarh. Devashish Laltu Ghosh, general secretary of Bilaspur's Bengali Association, gave the welcome speech in the programme.

At the function, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel honoured the great personalities of Chhattisgarh with the 'Chhattisgarh Ratna Award'. These include Padma Vibhushan Pandwani singer Teejan Bai, Justice Kishore Bhaduri, a former member of NITI Aayog and economist Pranav Kumar Chatterjee. Parliamentary Secretary Rashmi Singh, MLA Shailesh Pandey, Mayor of Municipal Corporation Bilaspur Ramsharan Yadav, President of Chhattisgarh Tourism Board Atal Srivastava, President of District Cooperative Bank Bilaspur Pramod Nayak, Vice President of Arpa Development Authority Abhay Narayan Rai, Vijay Kesharwani, Vijay Pandey, Ramakrishna Mission Koni's saint Sewavratmand Maharaj, Ravi Ghosh, officials of the Bengali Association and a large number of people of the community were present at the centenary celebrations. Cultural performances were also presented by the children at the function.

## DIGGING OF ROADS



The digging of roads in different parts of capital city is common site for laying of new pipeline and other such works of RMC.

## Unique initiative of the women of Saddu

Raipur, Apr 15: Sujata and Chandni, two ladies from the capital city have started a unique initiative "Lit Club" for children where children will get to read interesting books every Friday between 7 to 8 pm. After the commencement of summer vacations, the academic activities of the children stop. That's why Sujata and Chandni informed all the children and parents of the colony on the day of



Ambedkar Jayanti. By decorating the courtyard of the house itself, 300 books

and magazines were kept in a cupboard and preparations were made for the evening. About 35 children and 15 parents enjoyed Dr. Jawahar's stories and then started reading by choosing books according to their interest. This excellent effort will continue and more books will be added to this club from time to time to increase children's interest towards books, newspapers and magazines and to increase knowledge during holidays.

## Speech Competition on 'Contributions of Dr Ambedkar to Indian Education' held

Raipur, Apr 15: Team National Service Scheme (NSS) of National Institute of Technology Raipur conducted a speech competition on 14th April 2023 on the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The topic of the competition was "Contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to Indian Education". The Chief Guest of the event was Dr. Debashis Sanyal, Dean Faculty Welfare. Dr. Nitin Jain, Dean Student Welfare was the Guest of Honour.



Dr. Govardhan Bhatt addressed the audience and highlighted the struggles and inspiring stories of Dr. Ambedkar in his speech. Dr. Debashis Sanyal spoke about the contributions of Dr. Ambedkar in the field of education and other domains of the society. Dr. Nitin Jain expressed his good wishes and asked the audience to take in-

spiration from the great leader. "There is no substitute for Hardwork", he said. The speech competition commenced with participants presenting speeches with great zeal and enthusiasm. They highlighted Dr. Ambedkar's diverse contributions to Indian education and outlined his philosophies and quotes in their speeches.

After the fierce competition, Dr. Sharda Nandan Raw, addressed the audience and congratulated the participants for their excellent performances. Dr. Raw along with Dr. Meena Murmu announced the winners of the competition. The first position was awarded to Rishabh Jain, 1st Year, Biotechnology. The second position was presented to Aditya Tiwari, 4th Year, Metallurgy & Materials Engineering. The third position was bagged by Shivani Gupta, 2nd Year, Master in Computer Applications (M.C.A.).

## Police issue notices to eight BJP functionaries

● For 'hateful' social media posts

Raipur, Apr 15: The Chhattisgarh police has issued notices to eight Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) functionaries in the Congress-ruled state for allegedly posting hateful content on social media, and asked them to appear before it, an official said. The notices were issued on Friday, he said. "In the notices, these BJP functionaries have

been asked to appear before the police and present factual statements related to such posts," Raipur Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal said on Friday. The eight functionaries comprise BJP spokesperson Sanjay Shrivastava, IT cell in-charge of BJP Chhattisgarh's Twitter handle Sunil Pillai, treasurer Nandan Jain, BJP trade cell president Kedarnath Gupta, BJP Yuva Morcha Mandal president Yogi Sahu, divi-

sional Yuva Morcha coordinator Kamal Sharma, DD Nagar BJP Yuva Morcha member Shubhankar and party worker Bittu Panigrahi. The Congress had, on April 12, filed a complaint with the Raipur police claiming that their social media posts were spreading hate. As per the police notice, these posts by the BJP members allegedly used derogatory terms for Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in connection with the

communal violence in Biranpur in the state's Bemetara district. The notices were issued as per a Supreme Court order dated October 21 last year directing action against hate speeches, police said. After a fight among schoolchildren, violence rocked Biranpur village, some 100 kilometres from state capital Raipur on April 8, leading to the death of 22-year-old Bhuneshwar Sahu and injuries to three policemen.

## Gold prices touch record high before 'Akshaya Tritiya'

● Crossed Rs 60,000 in Raipur

Raipur, Apr 15: Before Akshaya Tritiya, gold is touching new heights due to the influence of the international market. On Friday, gold crossed Rs 60,500 to Rs 60,300 per ten gram (standard) in Raipur bullion market. Similarly, silver became Rs 71000 per kg. In four months, the prices of both gold and silver have increased by Rs 4000. Bullion experts said that looking at the condition of the international market, gold can reach the level of Rs 64 to 65 thousand per ten grams in the next two months. They said that at present it is a good time to buy jewellery. In view of Akshaya Tritiya, a new range of jewellery has come in bullion institu-



tions. Collection of new fashionable jewellery is available along with traditional jewellery. Former president of Raipur Sarafa Association, Harakh Malu said that considering the international market, gold may become more expensive, considering that this is a good time to buy. Gold reached its record level of Rs 58,000 in August 2020, followed by

Rs 59,000 per ten grams in January 2023. At present, on April 14, gold has crossed Rs 60,500 in Raipur. In the last 11 years, the price of gold has increased by Rs 31,000. In the year 2012, at the time of Akshaya Tritiya, gold in Raipur was at the level of Rs 29,000 per ten grams, whereas this year Akshaya Tritiya is about to come and gold has reached Rs 60,500 per ten grams.

## CM pays tribute to Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharya

On his birth anniversary

Raipur, Apr 15: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel paid tribute to the founder of Pushtimarg, Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharya, on the occasion of his birth anniversary, which falls on April 16. Baghel said that Vallabhacharya was born in Champaran of Chhattisgarh on the Ekadashi of Krishna Paksha of Vaishakh month. He had a deep connection with the land of Chhattisgarh. Vallabhacharyaji was the prime saint of Shri Krishna Bhakti branch and was a devotee of Shrinathji. He composed many texts describing Lord Shri Krishna's 'lila' and his nature. He showed the path of devotion full of love and affection to Shri Krishna as Pushtimarg. Many people were influenced by the Bhakti branch and adopted Pushtimarg. His famous disciple Surdasji carried forward his legacy and wrote many famous compositions with the theme of Krishna's love. Baghel said that the land of Chhattisgarh has also been blessed by the birth of a legend like Vallabhacharya.

## Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 15: The newly constructed building of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank's (CRGB) Corporate Office at Naya Raipur was inaugurated by Dinesh Kumar Khara, Chairman, State Bank of India. On this occasion, Dinesh Kumar Khara, Chairman, State Bank of India said that 'I had the privilege of inaugurating the Corporate Office of CRGB. Being the first among RRBs to have its own Corporate Office is a milestone to celebrate. My heartfelt congratulations to the CRGB team and I wish CRGB to achieve many more firsts in terms of business profitability and efficiency standards'. Bank needs to focus on managing liquidity risk,



ALM risk while ensuring excellent credit quality, he added. Addressing the function IK Gohil, Chairman, Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank informed the Chief Guest about the goals and achievements made by CRGB. Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank, Chairman,

IK Gohil said that CRGB will try its best to live up to the expectations of the honorable chief guest. In this program CGM NABARD Dr. Gyanendra Mani, CGM SBI Mihir Narayan Mishra, CGM SBI Vinod Kumar Mishra, Surendra Babu, GM NABARD Mohan Rawat, DGM NABARD, Shelly

Jamvar, DGM, NABARD, Shiv Kumar, GM, SBI, Neeraj Prasad, Naveen Rawat, DGM SBI, Sanjay Tiwari, Devendra Upadhyay, Rakesh Kumar Yadav, DGM SBI, Gajendra Sahu, AGM, RBI and Sheetal Saraswat Verma, Govt. of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank Vijay Agarwal, Atulya Behera, Ajay Kumar Nirala, Arvind Mittal and Assistant General Manager GN Murthy, Satish Kashyap and a large number of CRGB officials and employees were present on the occasion. State Bank Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara awarded regional managers and officers for their excellent work.

## '8125 vehicles sold in Auto-Expo 2023 till date'

Govt's decision of 50% rebate received huge response

Senior officers of Automobile co's terms the decision as icon for automobile sector



Raipur, Apr 15: The Auto Expo-2023 in Chhattisgarh received tremendous response due to positive approach by the Chhattisgarh government offering 50% rebate in road tax on purchase of any automobile and of which the people of the state have drawn full bene-

fit. On getting this rebate of 50% in the road tax, this Auto Expo in Chhattisgarh is going to establish new record in the country, as it is not only benefitting the purchasers, but also provided boost to the Automobile sector in the state. The

senior officers of Automobile companies who have come in the Auto-Expo 2023 had also accepted that this big decision by the Chhattisgarh government would prove to be icon for automobile sector all over the country. Members of Raipur

Automobile Dealers' Association (RADA) said that this very issue of 50% rebate in the road tax in all the vehicles in the Auto-Expo has become talk of the country and the growth to this Automobile sector after the important decision by the state gov-

ernment would be visible in the coming days. President RADA Vivek Garge and Secretary Kailash Khemani informed that the rebate in road tax for two-wheeler is 4% and for 4-wheelers it is 4.5 to 5% and this benefit is being passed onto the customers. In this the vehicle purchasers are getting benefit from Rs 3000 to Rs 10 lakh, depending upon the cost of the vehicles. In the year 2022 from March 24 to April 14, 800 vehicles were sold, but this year during this period, 3000 cars have been sold this year. In this Auto-Expo 2023, a total of 8125 vehicles have been sold till date, duo added.

## CM Baghel inquires about health of PHE Minister

Raipur, Apr 15: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Saturday spoke with Public Health Engineering Minister Guru Rudrakumar over telephone to inquire about his health and wished him a speedy recovery. It is notable here that Guru Rudrakumar faced some problems and was admitted in a local hospital and later it was learnt that with complications increasing he was airlifted to Hyderabad for further treatment.

## Bilaspur takes lead against Mahasamund in Sr Cricket tourney

Raipur, Apr 15: Abhishek Sahura (49 runs) and Imtiyaz Khan (41 runs) provided lead to Bilaspur in the first innings against Mahasamund after Ashutosh Singh had consolidated the position in the Senior Inter District Cricket Tournament being organised under the aegis of Chhattisgarh State Cricket Sangh (SCSC) here. At close of play on day two, Mahasamund had scored 65 runs for 2 in 16 overs of play in second innings. Shashank Chandrak scored a quick-fire 36 runs from 37 balls whereas Tushar Chandrakar was unbeaten on 21 runs.





## Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar's 132nd birthday celebrated



● At SECR Raipur Division

Raipur, Apr 15: The 132nd birthday of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar was celebrated with full devotion on 14 April 2023 in Raipur Division of South East Central Railway (SECR).

Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Sanjeev Kumar garlanded the statue of Bharat Ratna Baba

Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar by lighting a lamp in the program organized in South East Central Railway Raipur Division.

Addressing this program, the DRM Sanjeev Kumar said that even today Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar is remembered as the messiah of Dalits, women, poor and helpless. In the pages of history, he is remembered as the chief architect of the Constitution, said the

DRM adding that Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar was in favor of democracy in every sphere of life - social, economic and political. The DRM also called for a resolve to serve the country through railway services with full dedication, goodwill, loyalty and honesty. Representatives of employee organizations, office bearers of All India SC ST Association, all officers and employees were present.



## Special drive to check stone-pelting of trains

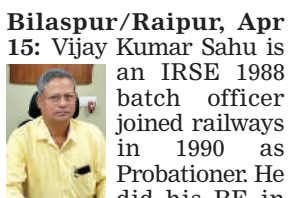
● By RPF, Raipur Division

Raipur, Apr 15: Railway Protection Force (RPF) Raipur Division has launched a special drive to check stone pelting of trains and stop incidents of illegal crossing. Under special drive, people are being made aware of those grazing cattle on the sides of railway track.

The special drive is being carried out from April 11 to 17 in Durg, Bhilai, BMY, Raipur, Tilda, Bhatapara, Mandir Hasaud etc. Awareness is being created among the people of settlements, villages and students studying in the schools built on the sides of the railway

line. With creation of awareness people were asked to prevent movement of cattle on the side of the railway track to avoid train accident and loss of life and property. People were also advised to stay away from the railway track. The speed of all superfast, mail, express etc. trains including Vande Bharat is very high, due to which people do not even get the opportunity to recover. Passengers can get hurt by stone pelting on trains, due to which lives, goods and railway property are damaged. Railways is a national asset. Strict action is being taken under the Railway Act against anti-social elements who pelt stones on trains.

## Vijay Kumar Sahu takes charge as AGM SECR



Bilaspur/Raipur, Apr 15: Vijay Kumar Sahu is an IRSE 1988 batch officer joined railways in 1990 as Probationer. He did his BE in civil Engg & M.Tech in Structures. He has vast experience of having worked in Civil infrastructure like Track planning, Track maintenance, its modernization, bridge and bridge design. He had also experience in civil safety and survey wings. Before becoming AGM/SECR, he was Chief Engineer/Planning/Central Railway, Mumbai for about six months and before that DRM/CKP for about three years.

He was trained on different subjects like Bridge maintenance, track machine and their management system, management development course and Arch bridges in different institutes like IRICEN, Pune, INSEAD, Singapore, ICLIP, Malaysia, NAIR/Baroda.

## Tatibandh flyover be made ready at earliest: Collector



Raipur, Apr 15: Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure recently inspected the under-construction overbridge at Tatibandh Chowk. He expressed displeasure over the delay in the flyover construction work.

The Collector also discussed with the officials about the measures to remove the present traffic problem in Tatibandh Chowk, and smooth traffic flow after the construction of the bridge. The Collector asked the departmental officers to work in coordination.

He told the officials of the Electricity Department

to continuously observe the work of removing the poles. The Collector told traffic police to streamline traffic and take measures to solve problem of traffic jam besides taking measures to check accidents. He also discussed regarding load testing on the bridge. Representatives of the construction agency, NHAI, traffic, transport department officials were present on the occasion. Collector Dr Bhure asked the National Highway Authority officials, contractors and all concerned officials to complete the quality work within the time limit.

## Free Martial Arts and Yoga training camp underway



● At Shri Gujarati School

Raipur, Apr 15: Under the aegis of Raipur city's renowned organization Shree Gujarati Shikshan Sangh Raipur free summer training camp of Martial Arts and Yoga is presently underway at Shri Gujarati School, Sector -4, Devendra Nagar, Raipur from April 11 and will continue till June 15, 2023. The timings of the camp is from 06.30 am to 07.45 am.

The aim of the camp is to increase the immunity level of the students along with their physical and mental efficiency after the study period of the past academic year, to make pre-preparations for the upcoming

### Information about martial arts camp running at different places in Raipur

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 01) Ganj School Beside Guru Nanak Chowk Lions Club 30 to 8 pm<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Harsh Sharma, Ku Tikeswari Sahu, Jageshwar Dadsena | 04) Raheja Towers, Fafadih 7.30 to 8.30 pm<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Aman Yadav, Vinay Yadav                           | 07) WRS Ground Morning - 6 to 7.00<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Vishal Hiyal, Ku Annudevi Kanwar  |
| 02) Shree Gujarati School, Devendra Nagar Raipur 6.15 am to 7.45 am<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Ku Tikeswari Sahu, Ku Jharna Yadav           | 05) Anugraha Residency, Gondwara Road 6.30 to 8.00 pm ( Mon, Wed, Friday only )<br><b>Coach :-</b> Harsh Sharma * | 08) Netaji Subhash Stadium, Raipur 08 to 09 in the morning, 06 to 07 in the evening<br><b>Coaches :-</b> Anees Memon, Suraj Verma |
| 03) Garba Maidan, Devendra Nagar From 7 to 8 pm   | 06) Pragati Maidan, Pandri Morning, evening 5.30 to 7.00  |   |

competitions and to make good use of the summer vacation. In the camp, various disciplines of martial arts like Karate, Judo, Muay-Thai, Kudo, Thai Boxing, Kalaripayattu,

Jujutsu including Yoga etc. will be given training so that the player can perform better in the upcoming competitions. On Saturday 47 students took advantage of the camp. Students willing to par-

ticipate in the said training can get registered by contacting Assistant Teacher Sports Ku Tikeswari Sahu in Shri Gujarati School premises during the training period. Training will be imparted by Miss Tikeswari Sahu, Harsh Sharma, Jageshwar Dadsena, Miss Jharna Yadav under the direction of international player,

## Aayush plans to take up the sport professionally

● After winning bronze at National Poker Series

Raipur, Apr 15: In a bid to excel further in Poker, 26-year-old Aayush Solanki from Durg, Chattisgarh has been able to stamp his authority on the national Poker circuit and is planning to take up the sport full time after winning a bronze medal at one of the key tournaments at the 3rd edition of the National Poker Series India hosted on POKERBAAZI.COM.

While it has been a challenging experience, Aayush's elder brother has taught him the tricks of the trade as he continues to hone his skills. "I am inspired to take up the sport as a full-time career as I have showcased my skills at the national level. My brother has been playing poker for several years



and played the role of a guide by sharing his knowledge and experience with me. He has been coaching me and helping me. I've found his guidance and feedback incredibly helpful towards developing my skills and strategy," an excited Aayush

said after his winning exploits at the National Poker Series.

Even though he wants to take up Poker as a full-time career, he understands that it is not "as widely accepted or celebrated as in some other countries". However, he believes, "National Poker Series India, as a platform, is trying to bridge this gap by creating more excitement and acceptance towards the sport".

With a keen eye for understanding the math behind Poker, Aayush's journey has been challenging yet enriching that has helped him greatly in leveraging the experience in assessing his own strengths and weaknesses in his professional life.

While he believes his winning exploits will inspire more people from his hometown to pursue poker, his advice to bud-

ding Poker players has been to remain patient and disciplined to reap the rewards, as he said, "Learn the game, start small, make a solid bankroll, play with discipline and most importantly be patient."

The XX-year-old from Durg, Chattisgarh, is all geared up to make a mark in the competition and eventually bask in the glory at the National Poker Series India Awards Night in Delhi on 6th May which would be graced by celebrities such as comedian Anubhav Singh Bassi and musician Ritviz,

"My future plans in poker are to continue developing my skills and strategy both online and in live tournaments. I'm committed to learning and growing as a player and always looking for new opportunities to challenge myself and improve my gameplay," he signed off.

## Collector-SP hold Peace Committee meeting

Central Chronicle News

Kondagaon, Apr 15: Collector Deepak Soni and SP Divyang Patel convened a meeting of Peace-Safety Committee at Panchvati located in Keshkal.

Representatives of all religions, communities and special tribes participated in the meeting. In this meeting, the Collector said that Keshkal has always been a symbol of mutual harmony and harmony of all religions and sects.

In this way, we have to make this tradition. If any person tries to create differences between com-



munities or create misunderstandings among people in any way, then it is necessary for the seniors and representatives of all communities to make people aware of such people in order to ensure peace. Seniors and people's representatives need to make people aware of such people and maintain mutual brotherhood in order to create peace.

Apart from this, he said that if social harmony and peace is maintained in any area, then its overall development can take place. Therefore, it is necessary that minor issues should be resolved by the seniors with mutual understanding and the heads of each family should take care of their family members and prevent the youth from going astray and being misguided. He appealed to the people

and said that it is the moral duty of all of us to resolve any social issue with mutual harmony and good faith. Nobody wants to face problems and inconveniences. Thus, it is our moral duty to maintain peace and harmony with each other while contributing to the development of the region.

He told the community leaders that they should neither give any statement nor allow others to give any statement that causes pain or hurt the sentiments of anyone and if anyone does such an act then give him an explanation otherwise legal action will be taken against him.

DFO N Gurunathan, SDM Shankarlal Sinha, Janpad Panchayat Keshkal President Mahendra Netam, Nagar Panchayat President Roshan Jamir Khan, SDOP Bhupat Singh along with heads of all societies, businessmen and senior citizens of the city were present on this occasion.

## Ambedkar Jayanti, Baisakhi celebrated at APS

Bemetara, Apr 15: Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Jayanti and the Golden nature-cultural heritage, and Baisakhi was celebrated at Allons on Friday. The programme started with the lighting of lamp in front of the portrait of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and garlanding it by Dr. Satyajit Hota, Principal and teachers. The festival of the Baisakhi was also celebrated simultaneously.

The Ambedkar Jayanti is an annual festival celebrated in India to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar. Ambedkar Jayanti is celebrated in India every year on the April 14 to pay respect to Dr. Baba Saheb aAmbedkar. India is commemorating the 132nd-birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Rao Ambedkar on April 14.

The significance of the Baisakhi as Sikh religious festival started after the execution of Guru Tegh Bahadur for refusing to convert to Islam under the orders of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. This



triggered the ascension of Guru Govind Singh, the tenth Guru of Sikhism, who subsequently inaugurated the Khalsa on Vaisakhi of 1699 with a Mantra of 'DehShiva bar Mohe Shubbkar mantek-abhumadaro'.

Dr. Satyajit Hota, Principal told the students that the Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar was a statesman, politician, economist, Indian jurist, social reformer and the chief architect of the Indian constitution. Baba Saheb belonged to the Mehar caste and converted to Buddhism on 14th October, 1956 to empower Dalit with scientific religion for peace and in-

equality. He has given ideas as the founder of RBI and played a crucial role in promoting gender equality, fraternity and sovereignty. He measured the progress of a community by the degree of progression of women's achievements. He also told that we are not able to free from this social evil. We need the real freedom in our mindset with democracy, socialism and secularism. He told that if we want to give the religious value in education, we should teach the students fraternity, equality and liberty with patriotism.

He has told the teachers and students to read his seminal documents, and

annihilation of castes. At the end, the teachers and all the students took a pledge with him to honour the sacrifices of Dr. Ambedkar by remembering his remarkable contributions with the spirit of self-confidence, fight for justice against oppression to empower every Indian with self-respect to fight against discrimination and inequality. He blessed the students on this occasion and inspired them to follow the teachings of the Baisakhi and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar.

Vaibhavi, Lorina, Durga Netam, Tannu Banjare, Manshi Maravi and Navpreet Kour Ubeja from Class-IX, Riya, Shradha and Sakshi from class-X and Rupanshu Kumar Anand from class-XII gave their speeches on the Vaisakhi and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar. The students also danced on this occasion and recited Shabad.

Kamaljeet Arora, Chairaman, Pushkal Arora, Director, Sunil Sharma, Administrator, teachers and students were present on this occasion.

## Safeguarding interest of tribals is first priority of govt: CM

● Delegation of SBST Bhunjia and Kamar Samaj meet CM

Raipur, Apr 15: A delegation of Special Backward Scheduled Tribes (SBST) Bhunjia and Kamar of Gariaband, Mahasamund and Dhamtari districts met with Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at his official residence here on



Friday. The Chief Minister said that safeguarding the interests of tribals is the first priority of the state government. In the

last 4 years, the state government has taken several decisions in the interests of the Scheduled Tribes.

Tribal Welfare Minister Dr. Premsai Singh Tekam, Parliamentary Secretary Vinod Sevan Lal Chandrakar, Secretary of General Administration Department Dr. Kamalpreet Singh, representatives of the community Navtu Ram, Gunjal Kamar were present during the meeting. The Chief Minister resolved the queries of the youth regarding direct recruitment.

## Classifieds

**REQUIREMENT**  
रियल स्टेट ऑफिस में कार्य हेतु टेलीफोन मार्केटिंग स्टाफ युवक, युवती की आवश्यकता है. रियल स्टेट कार्य के अनुभव को प्राथमिकता देते न योग्यतानुसार संपर्क करें 6268686330

रोजगार का अवसर हमारे पास नौकरी के लिए निम्नलिखित आवश्यकताएं हैं, नौकरी का अनुभव 2 वर्ष, पर्यवेक्षक (सुपरवाइजर) एंगल/चैनल/जॉइंट लोडिंग के लिए नौकरी स्थान-टाटोडंब, रायपुर बायोडाटा 9861772226 पर काटटप करें।



# Gram Panchayats not getting benefits of public welfare schemes

Central Chronicle News

**Mungeli, Apr 14:** The facilities of the city are not available in the Gram Panchayats situated near the city, nor are they getting the benefits of the public welfare schemes of the Gram Panchayats. Villagers are not getting the benefit of various schemes including Pradhan Mantri Awas to Saraswati Cycle Yojana, due to non-preparation of survey list of 2011.

In village Karahi, village Ramgarh and village Surighat, the beneficiaries are still deprived of taking advantage of the schemes run by the government. District headquarter's Gram Panchayat Karhi where various depart-



ments including collectorate are being operated people are still to get access to various schemes.

Former village panchayat sarpanch Sanjay Soni said that due to its proximity to the city, the then district panchayat officials did not conduct the survey of 2011 in Ramgarh as part

of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

In this regard, Additional Collector Teerthraj Agarwal said that the residents of these villages will get the benefit of government schemes from the ongoing socio-economic survey.

### What officer says

"Necessary correspondence will be done regarding the matters related to the survey list in the gram panchayats adjacent to the city, so that the benefit of the scheme can be given to the villagers."

Rahul Dev, Collector Mungeli.

# Villagers benefit from medical camp

Organised in Gram Korja of Gourela

Central Chronicle News

**Gourela, Pendra, Marwahi, Apr 15:** A medical camp was organised in Gram Korja of Gourela and in this villagers in large number availed maximum benefit. They cited the problems being faced by them to the doctors in the camp and likewise treatment was offered.

Few days back, Samarpan Hospital, Raipur; Pinaki Hospital Gourela and Siddhi Vinayak Clinic jointly along with Sankalp Samajik Sanstha and LInesh Club Sanskriti organised a medical camp in Ayurveda Gram Korja under guidance of Sarpanch and Dy. Sarpanch Korja.



In this the patients were examined for the seasonal diseases, pains in joints, oral problems, gynecological problems and offered proper guidance and treatment. Some of the general diseases were also checked.

There was lot of enthusiasm among the villagers for this medical camp and

they took part in it in large number and got themselves examined. On this occasion senior Doctor Dilliip Guha, Dr Pawan Singh, Dr Yogendra Khare, Dr Adarsh along with Sarpanch and Dy. Sarpanch of Village Somvati Kol, Abhay Verma, Sankalp Sansthan's president

Tapas Sharam, LInesh Club Sanskriti President Jyoti Dubey, Prachi Shrivastava, Vinati Sahu, Moni Chattopadhyay, Jyoti Tiwari, Payal Mitra, Dhakariya, former Sarpanch Sahasram Kolk, medical staff of the hospitals and villagers and panchayat reps were present.

# 'Vaishnavjans' offer prayers, seek blessings

In various programme and rituals organised on occasion of Shri Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharyaji's 'Janmotsav'

Central Chronicle News

**Navapara-Rajim, Apr 15:** The 546th 'Janmotsav' of Mahaprabhu Vallabhacharyaji is being celebrated with fervour and enthusiasm. During the corona pandemic, though there were programmes held, but in short form. But this year hundreds of 'Vaishnavjans' from all over the country, viz.

Baroda, Jamnagar, Surat, Ahmedabad, Guajrat, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh had come to 'Champaran' and this sacred place of Ch'garh is echoing with the slogans of 'Jai Shri Krishna' by the pilgrims, 'Vaishnavjans' and devotees from across the country and abroad.

'Champaran Dhaam' which is the 'Prakatyadhara' of Mahaprabhu



Shri Vallabhacharya, also has idols of Shri Champeshwar Mahadev, Mata Parvati, Ganeshji and Lord Shri Ramchandrajai.

The 'Prakatyotsav' of Mahaprabhu has started from April 13 and daily hundreds of devotees are offering obeisance to Shri Mahaprabhuji at 'Pragatya Baithakji' and in the

Baithak of 'Chattiji'.

On April 14, hundreds of 'Vaishnavjans', offered 'upras snan' at 'Nij mandir' of 'Shrimulprakaty baithakji' and paid oblations to Mahaprabhuji. On this occasion hundreds of devotees are drawing benefit of discourse by Shri Vallabh Kulbhushan Go. Shri Dwarakeshlaji.

In this Kusum Ben from Chennai performed 'Manorath'. On this occasion



In the morning hundreds of 'Vaishnavjans' witnessed 'Mangala Sringar', 'Rajyoga', 'Nandotsav', 'Uthapan', 'Sandhya Shyan' in the temple. Prior to the 'Janmotsav', ritual of 'Chunari Manorath' was organised.

In this Kusum Ben from Chennai performed 'Manorath'. On this occasion

of the 'Vaishnavjans' with 'Jaighosh', honoured all those present at 'Chunari Mangal Manorath Mukhayaji' and organised 'Chunari Mandal'.

On this occasion Dwarakeshlaji, Purshottamlalji, Anugrahi and others were present. After the

'Mahaprasadi', at 6:00 pm, the 'Vaishnavjans' enjoyed the scene of 'Manorath in Nao' at Shri Yamunaghat.

After 'Bhajan-kirtan' at Baithakji Mandir, all came out raising 'jaikara' and 'jaighosh' to 'Yamunaghat' and seated 'Mahaprabhuji' on a boat in 'Yamunaji'. Here prayers were offered to the Lord in all new clothes and during this the 'Pujariji' and other 'Purohiths' recited 'mantras' and performed 'Bal Krida' as well.

Hundreds of 'Vaishnavjans' took a Holy dip in Yamunaji and saw live the rituals of taking the new clothes to other side of 'Yamunaji'. During this the devotees obtained blessings of Shri Dwarakeshlaji, Shri Purshottamlalji and Shri Anugrahi family.

# SYVSS observe Sant Asharam Bapu b'day



Central Chronicle News

**Dongargaon, Apr 15:** Shri Yoga Vedanta Sewa Samiti (SYVSS) observed the 87th birthday of Sant Asharam Bapu in Dongargaon and during this cold beverages were distributed by his devotees and followers.

On this occasion seeing the rise in temperature, the denizens passing from

nearby were offered chilled curd-water and the 'Lok Kalyan Setu' and Rishi Prasad of the Ashram was distributed. In this service work, SYVSS head Mannul Yadu, Umashankar Kunwar, Prakash Sen, Prem Patel, Bharat Sahu, Bharat Nishad, Ramadhin, Jeevan Shandilya, Puranik Sahu, Ashwini Nishad and others were present.

# CTB, CBCC delegates promotes social harmony & unity

Among members of Sahu Samaj during two-day tour to Bastar region

Central Chronicle News

**Kondagaon, Apr 15:** Chhattisgarh Tourism Board (CTB) Vice President Chitrarekha Sahu (Minister of State status) and Chairman of Backward Classes Commission (CBCC) Thaneshwar Sahu (Minister of State status) and Chairman Milk Federation arrived here on two-day tour to Bastar on Wednesday.

The office bearers of Jila Sahu Sangh (JSS) and Nagar Sahu Sangh (NSS) accorded warm welcome



to the officials.

On this occasion, District General Secretary Basant Kumar Sahu, District Media In-charge Pawan Sahu and NSS President Pradeep Sahu informed the guests about the organization and social activities of the dis-

trict and Nagar Sahu Samaj and held an organizational discussion with the guests in the tribal majority area.

Social harmony and unity and organization of the society and inspired the social brothers to work in the interest of the socie-

ty and the nation. After that, the social relatives present offered rich tributes to Bhai Bhuneshwar Sahu, who was martyred in the Kaindal Jalakar Biranpur incident.

On this occasion, District General Secretary Basant Kumar Sahu, District Media Incharge Pawan Sahu, Vice President Kamlesh Sahu, Tehsil Vice President Umesh Sahu, City President Pradeep Sahu, Officer-Employee Cell Organization Secretary Ashok Sahu, Madan Sonnevora, Santosh Sahu, Dinesh Sahu, Pradeep Sahu, Shivcharan Sahu, Ashwani Kumar Sahu, CL Gangber, Mahendra Sahu, Amarica Ganjeer etc. were present.

Central Chronicle News

**Korba, Apr 14:** For the prevention of child marriage, awareness campaigns are being run continuously by many organizations and administration. Under the same District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) halted the wedding of a minor girl on April 12, 2023, whose secret information was given to the legal organisation after which under the direction and guidance of Mr. D.L. Katakwar, President and District Judge, District Court, Korba, Mrs. Sheetal Nikunj, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, took immediate action.

Seema Thakur, Women's Child



Development Supervision Officer, Ganesh Jaiswal Child Line Office, Nirmala Tanwar, Mahila Rakshak Thana Bango and Sarpanch of Salihabhatha Village Panchayat, Mr. Sobran Singh and Paralegal Volunteers of District Legal Services Authority, Mr. Ravi Shankar Sagar, Mrs. Vijay Laxmi Soni, Mr. Talveer Singh and Mrs. Aarti Mangeshkar played a pivotal role in stopping the marriage.

The team informed that there is a provision of imprisonment and fine up to one lakh rupees and also told about the disadvantages of child marriage, after which the parents agreed to stay off the wedding.

# Discussions held for National Lok Adalat



To be held on May 13

Central Chronicle News

**Kondagaon, Apr 15:** National Lok Adalat is to be organized on May 13 as per the directives of National Legal Services Authority (NLSA) New Delhi and State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) Bilaspur in

Kondagaon District. Under the guidance and presence of District and Sessions Judge and President DLSA Uttara Kumar Kashyap and under the leadership of Secretary DLSA Amba Shah, one-day meeting of advocates was organized at the office of DLSA, Kondagaon.

In the meeting discussions were held about

the National Lok Adalat to be held on May 13, which will settle more and more cases of criminal cases, motor accidental claim cases through mutual consent with insurance companies and parties in all the courts of Kondagaon.

It was discussed how to make the National Lok Adalat successful and easy

# RAC meeting chaired by Collector

Penalty amount derived at Rs 1487454 on 58 cases

**Koriya, Apr 14:** Under the chairmanship of Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh, a total of 58 cases were resolved in the meeting of the Regularization Authority Committee (RAC) of Chhattisgarh Unauthorized Development and Construction, held in the District Collectorate meeting here. A total of 36 cases of urban areas and 36 non-residential cases were resolved in the residential category and 3 cases were resolved in the urban area of the class, 1 in the rural area. The total penalty amount was calculated at Rs 1487454 on 58 cases.

Member Secretary and Assistant Director Sanjula Singh presented detailed details on the basis of discussion on all the cases before the committee, in which a total of 18 cases have been approved free of cost under 120 sqm. The Collector took detailed information on the cases of investment sector and the rules of regularization and gave necessary guidelines, in which residential cases of Municipal Council Baikunthpur were 09, 04 cases of Shivpur Charcha of investment area, similarly 04 cases of Baikunthpur and 01 case of Shivpur Charcha were approved under non-residential.

Central Chronicle News

**Koriya, Apr 14:** In the complaint of corruption in the work of land leveling under the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNGREGA) in Gram Panchayat Sargawan of District Panchayat Sonhat the Lokpal has imposed 1-1 thousand fines on Sarpanch and Secretary and 25-25 thousand rupees as compensation amount in the State Employment Guarantee Fund for 60 days.

As per information, the complaint was made to Lokpal by Sunil Kumar, a resident of village Karri, on March 12, 2019, against Sarpanch Sargawan Sukhray Sonpakar, and Secretary Praveen Kumar Pandey, and Employment Assistant Anamika Singh.

In the investigation, Lokpal found that there is no land in

the village in the name of Sonkunwar's father Devlal, a resident of village Karri, but government funds have been misused by doing land leveling work at a cost of 1 lakh 27 thousand on another's land in the name of Sonkunwar.

After which the sarpanch, secretary and employment assistant were summoned by Lokpal to submit their reply while issuing notices. Along with this, during the investigation, the Lokpal observed the revenue records and found that the land Khasra 123, 124/1 rakba in Patwari Halka No. 08 in Karri respectively 1.73, 1.24 hectares of land is registered in the name of Dilbasia husband Devlal, and in the name of Sonkunwar land was not found in the revenue records, after which the Lokpal has passed a decision against the

sarpanch and the secretary in the case of misuse of govern-

ment funds, exonerating the employment assistant.

### Important Notice

All the esteemed members of the Society are hereby informed that as per the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, dated 29.03.2023, an order has been issued to transfer INR 5000 crores from the Sahara-Sebi account to the Central Registrar, Co-operative Societies, New Delhi, so that the complaints from the esteemed depositors could be resolved. In this context, we wish to inform you all the members, that you must seek your repayment only through the due process specified by the Central Registrar, Co-operative Societies, New Delhi. Kindly do not attempt to secure your repayment through any middlemen or mediator. This may lead to cheating/frauds and you could even end up losing your money. Any loss thus incurred shall not be the responsibility of the management of the Society. Therefore, we again request you, all of our esteemed members, to seek repayment only and only through the process specified by the Central Registrar.

Thank you

- Sahara India Pariwar



## BRIEF



Passengers of Bharat Gaurav tourist train visit 'Bhim Janam Bhoomi', the birth place of Bhim Rao Ambedkar, during 'Baba Saheb Ambedkar Yatra', in Mhow, Saturday.

## CBI raids

**Kolkata:** CBI sleuths Saturday raided the houses of TMC law-makers Jibankrishna Saha and Bibhas Adhikari in Murshidabad and Birbhum districts of West Bengal respectively in connection with the school job recruitment scandal. A CBI official said a team accompanied by CRPF personnel raided Saha's residence at Burwan in Murshidabad district and seized a bag full of documents suspected to be linked to the scam. The bag was found from a jungle near Saha's house, the official said.

## Spurious liquor

**Patna:** At least four people have died after allegedly consuming spurious liquor in East Champaran district of dry Bihar in the intervening night of Friday and Saturday, the police said. The deaths took place in areas under Turkauliya and Paharpur police stations of East Champaran, the police said. Seven persons have so far been detained by the police as part of the investigation into the incident, a Bihar police headquarters statement said here.

## Held

**Jammu:** Police intercepted three vehicles loaded with 'Khair' wood in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district and arrested five alleged timber smugglers, officials said on Saturday. The vehicles were intercepted near Supwal along the Jammu-Pathankot highway on the intervening night of Friday and Saturday, a police spokesperson said.

## Awards

**Shimla:** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Saturday conferred the Himachal Gaurav Samman award to people who made unique contributions towards the society. The award was given during the 76th Himachal Day function at Kaza in Lahaul and Spiti, according to an official statement. Lakesh Chandel, a Junior Basic Training (JBT) teacher in Chatt Primary School in Bilaspur district's Ghumarwin, was conferred the award for saving the life of 36 children during a landslide on the school building.

## Mishap

**Shahjahanpur:** At least six people were killed when the tractor trolley they were travelling in fell from the bridge here on Saturday, police said. The people were on their way to fetch water from Garra river for 'Bhagwat katha', they said, adding that around 30 people were in the vehicle.

## AMIT SHAH TO WB BJP

# 'Unmask corruption, misrule by TMC'

Kolkata, April 15 (PTD):

Union Home Minister and top BJP leader Amit Shah has asked the party's Bengal unit to unitedly fight against the ruling TMC and unmask corruption and misrule by it, a senior party leader said on Saturday. He also asked the BJP state unit to strengthen its organisation, he said. Shah, who is on a two-day visit to the state, held two rounds of closed-door organisational meetings with the state-level leaders of the party during his visit. He held one meeting on Friday night and another on Saturday morning.

"Amit Shah Ji has said that the party needs to be strengthened at the grass-root level and will grow only on the strength of its organisation. He has said when a party is in the opposition, it has to face many challenges. It has to emerge victorious after facing those challenges," the BJP leader said on condition of anonymity. According to sources in the party, Shah set the target of winning 35 plus seats from the eastern state in the 2024 Lok Sabha poll. He asked party leaders to put up a united fight against the misrule of the TMC and unmask the "corruption and atrocities" of the ruling party.

"Amit Shah Ji said that we must ensure that the party wins at least 35 of the total 42 seats in the state in the next Lok Sabha poll and from now on our focus and energy must be directed towards achieving the goal. He said we must work hard to strengthen the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the next general election," the saffron party leader said. Shah had spoken of the target on Friday while addressing a rally in Birbhum and claimed that if it is achieved the Mamata Banerjee government in Bengal will not survive beyond 2025. Referring to

the recent by-poll in Sagardighi Assembly seat in which the BJP slipped to the third position, Shah asked the party's state unit to ensure that the slide in its vote share is "checked without fail". During the internal meeting, several state BJP leaders demanded deployment of central forces during the upcoming panchayat polls. Shah advised the state unit to strengthen the organisation first. "He (Shah) said if the state election commission demands central forces, there is no harm in providing it. But he said first we must strengthen our organisation," the BJP leader said.

## COMMUNAL HARMONY

# After 'sneha yatra' on Easter, BJP leaders host breakfast

● For Christian priests on Vishu

**Thiruvananthapuram, Apr 15 (PTD):** After organising 'sneha yatra' to Christian homes on Easter day, the BJP leaders in Kerala continued to woo the prominent minority community with its leaders hosting breakfast for its members on the occasion of Vishu celebration on Saturday. Former union minister and the party's Kerala in-charge Prakash Javadekar took part in the breakfast

meeting organised at party's district president V V Rajesh's house here. He received two invited priests of a prominent Christian denomination by draping a shawl and served them breakfast. Similar breakfast programmes were arranged in other districts also under the aegis of local leadership of the saffron party, sources said. The move was seen as a further attempt by the saffron party to forge close ties with the Christian community as part of efforts to woo them ahead of the 2024 gen-

eral elections. Javadekar later said that India is land of diversity and the country's ethos is live and let live. "On the earth, this is one of the few countries where all people and all religions live together and festivals are celebrated by all. So, today is Vishu and we all are here," he told reporters. Stating that the BJP leaders and activists had visited several houses extending wishes on Easter, he said they called all Christian and Muslim friends and neighbours to the house of the party functionaries on the day of Vishu.

# Sharddha Walkar's father moves court for her body parts

● To perform final rites

**New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTD):** Sharddha's Walkar's father Saturday moved an application in a city court seeking the remains of her daughter for cremation, saying tradition and culture required performance of her last rites. Shradha was allegedly strangled by her live-in partner Aaftab Amin Poonawala on May 18 last year, following which he sawed her body into pieces and kept them in a fridge for almost three weeks at his residence in South Delhi's Mehrauli. He scattered them at different places in the national capital to avoid being caught. During the court proceedings, the Delhi Police informed Additional Sessions Judge Manisha

Khurana Kakkhar that a reply will be filed on April 29. The application moved by Advocate Seema Kushwaha on behalf of Vikas Madan Walkar said according to custom, the last rites had to be performed within a year and the last date for cremation based on the Hindu calendar is May 8. Underlining that more than 10 months have gone by since her death, the application requested for conducting the proceedings fast so the bones and other body parts of the deceased could be exhibited and handed over to her family. "The traditional belief in our country is that unless the last rites are performed, the soul of the deceased shall not rest in peace and this belief is deeply rooted...It also has

an emotional and sentimental aspect. Hence, the family members of the deceased victim should not be deprived of the right to perform the last rites," the application said. It said not providing a chance to perform the last rites would violate the fundamental rights of the deceased under Articles 21 (right to life) and 25 (freedom of free conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion) of the Constitution. The application referred to a 2009 judgment of the Allahabad High Court, according to which the word 'person' in Article 21 of the Constitution included a dead person in a limited sense and the right to life with dignity should be extended in such a manner that the dead body is given respect, which the person would have deserved, on

# Kolkata Raj Bhavan door opens for all on Bengali NY

Kolkata, Apr 15 (PTD):

West Bengal Governor Dr CV Ananda Bose on Saturday, the Bengali New Year, opened the doors of the palatial 220-year-old Raj Bhavan here to the common people giving them a chance to visit the heritage building which was once the seat of the British colonial power. Bose inaugurated a heritage walk, in collaboration with the Indian Museum, at Raj Bhavan on Saturday morning in which students of Calcutta University besides underprivileged children and representatives of several other states participated. This three-sto-

## HERITAGE WALK

ried building with a magnificent central area consisting of large halls has curved corridors on all four sides radiating to detached wings, each constituting a house in itself. Built between 1799 and 1803 when Marquis Wellesley was the Governor General, this magnificent building was designed on the lines of Kedleston Hall in Derbyshire, the ancestral house of Lord Curzon who later lived here as the Viceroy and the Governor General 100 years after Wellesley. During the Heritage Walk, people can

see items such as the Royal Coat of Arms, a Chinese Canon, Grand Stairs, North Marble Hall, Central Marble Hall, South Marble Hall, Asia's first elevator and the library, besides the garden, two lakes and a bridge on the 27-acre compound of the magnificent monument. A total of 30 people including one representative each from Tripura, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal and university students took part in Saturday's Paila Baisakh Heritage Walk'. Paila Baisakh is the first day of the Bengali calendar.

The Heritage Walk will be hosted every Saturday afternoon from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm, an official said. "For the first few weeks, only invitees will be allowed to enter the Raj Bhavan. Later, they will have to book online from the Raj Bhavan website. Around 30 to 35 people can participate in each Heritage Walk," he said. Wishing the people of the state on the occasion of 'Paila Baisakh', Bose said the Heritage Walk "has been organised to establish peace. Please bring peace to the world. Please bring peace to Bengal. Please bring peace to the country. Bengal will regain all its glory."

# 'Congress in-fight in Raj a fight for chair'

Bharatpur, Apr 15 (PTD):

Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje on Saturday said the fight between Sachin Pilot and Ashok Gehlot is a fight for chair and the people of the state are suffering because of it. Referring to the tussle between Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot, Raje said Gehlot accuses BJP of taking over other governments, but the truth is that the governments he formed in 2008 and 2018 were also formed by manipulation.



Vasundhara Raje

The Gehlot government was in minority then and it is in minority now, she said. "The MLAs of his party are

against him, his ministers keep talking about something or the other in protest every day," said the BJP leader while addressing the 'Booth Maha Sammelan' in Bharatpur in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Corruption is rampant and atrocities on Dalits and women are high in the state, and so is unemployment, Raje said. Pilot recently held a daylong fast demanding action from the Gehlot government in the alleged corruption cases that took place in the former BJP government led by Raje.

# TN Governor flags off first train heading for 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam'

Chennai, Apr 15 (PTD):

The first train carrying delegates from Tamil Nadu to Saurashtra region in Gujarat aimed at strengthening ties between the two states as part of the upcoming 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' was flagged off here by Governor R N Ravi on Saturday. The train departed in the early hours from Chennai Egmore Railway Station and will reach Veraval in Gujarat after a 36-hour journey, Southern Railway officials said. On the lines of the recently concluded Kashi-Tamil Sangamam, the Centre has organised Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam under the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' initiative spearheaded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam is another unique exercise with the objective of enhanced and continuous mutual interaction between people of varied regions and ways of life, the official

website of the campaign said. It would be a unique example to showcase the oneness of India to the world that the Saurashtra Tamils have assimilated with traditions of Tamil Nadu and as well as preserved their language and traditions, the website stated. Saurashtra Tamils have actively participated in the freedom movement and also contributed to the art, trade and industry of Tamil Nadu that has earned the GI tag for the sarees and fabrics that they have produced with excellent skills, it said. "Several thousand brothers and sisters of Tamil Nadu are on cultural pilgrimage to Saurashtra to refresh and strengthen their thousand years connect," the Raj Bhavan said in its official Twitter account. "First enthusiastic batch flagged off at Chennai Egmore Railway Station. Hearty thanks to visionary Prime Minister Modi for Saurashtra Tamil

Sangamam, a sequel to Kashi-Tamil Sangamam demonstrating the organic cultural unity of Bharat," it said. Southern Railway officials said Veraval in Gujarat is the nearest railway station to the famous Somnath Temple. Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who was in Chennai last month to announce the 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' programme, termed it to as a 'milestone' event in the ties between Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. The forthcoming Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam would be the very first "largest and holistic reunion" of the two states after several centuries, Mandaviya, who hails from Gujarat, had said then. The 10-day event is scheduled to commence from April 17 and would be held in multiple locations in Gujarat in the Saurashtra region. The conference is aimed at rediscovering and celebrating the 1,000-year old contribution of Saurashtrian Tamils.

## MATRIMONIAL

<b>ब्राह्मण</b>	<b>सामान्य</b>
<b>वधु चाहिये</b>	<b>वधु चाहिये</b>
वधु चाहिए- सरवृषारी ब्राह्मण- 32'5"10", छत्तीसगढ़ शासन में क्लास-2 अधिकारी (पीएससी सलेक्टेड) हेतु डॉक्टर / प्रोफेसर/ शासकीय सेवारत वधु चाहिए. मो.- 9302382870 (मैरिज ब्यूरो धमा). (251622)	श्रीवास्तव वधु चाहिए-सत्येन्द्र कुमार श्रीवास्तव पिता एसके श्रीवास्तव जन्म 31/7/1991 (12.07 ए.एम.) हाईट 5' 7" सीजी स्टे ट पावर कंपनी में जेई पद हेतु श्रीवास्तव वधु चाहिए। छत्तीसगढ़ वालों को प्रथम प्राथमिकता। फोन.नं.- 9981443811, 9981995908. (NB58282)
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<b>मैरिज ब्यूरो</b>	<b>आवश्यक सूचना</b>
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### नावभारत मैट्रिमोनल Rate Card

	One Sunday	Two Sunday	Three Sunday	Four Sunday
All C.G.+Odisha	500/-	900/-	1200/-	1400/-
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# Japanese PM unhurt after blast shakes port he was visiting

Tokyo, Apr 15 (AP):

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida was evacuated unharmed after an explosion at a western port on Saturday, NHK television reported, and a suspect was apprehended for allegedly throwing the explosive. Kishida was visiting the Saikazaki port in Wakayama prefecture to cheer his ruling party's candidate in a local election. The explosion occurred just before he was to begin his speech, NHK said.



A man believed to be a suspect, center on the ground, is caught by police after he allegedly threw a suspicious object, as Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida visited Saikazaki port for an election campaign event in Wakayama, western Japan Saturday, April 15.

No injuries were reported in the incident and Kishida was taken to Wakayama prefectural police headquarters, it added. The incident comes only nine months after former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe was assassinated while delivering a campaign speech in the western city of Nara.

The assassination shocked the nation and a subsequent investigation found holes in Abe's security and led to reinforcement of Japan's police security measures.

The latest attack also comes as a series of Group of Seven ministerial meetings begins this

pressing him to the ground and dragging him to the side.

The suspect, identified only as a young male, allegedly threw the explosive, NHK said.

One witness told NHK she was among the crowd and saw something come flying from behind and that there was a sudden loud noise and she fled with her children.

Another witness said people were screaming and that he saw someone being apprehended right before the explosion occurred.

Saturday's attack comes ahead of nationwide local elections, including a by-election for a vacated seat in the lower house of the Parliament, with voting scheduled for April 23.

In Abe's assassination, the attacker allegedly shot Abe with a homemade gun as the former leader was making a campaign speech.

weekend ahead of the May 19-21 summit that Kishida will host in Hiroshima.

A man believed to be a suspect was arrested at the scene on Saturday. NHK footage showed several uniformed and plain-clothes police officers gathered around the man,

# Army chief is the most powerful person in Pakistan: Imran Khan

Lahore, Apr 15 (PTI):

The Army chief is the most powerful person in Pakistan's politics and everyone follows his decisions, ousted prime minister Imran Khan has said, slamming the military establishment for siding with the country's "corrupt mafias" to ensure that he should not return to power.

Addressing Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party supporters from his Zaman Park residence here on Friday evening, Khan urged the people to stand with the Supreme Court at the time when the "imported government" is trying to bring it down.

"The Army chief is the most powerful person in Pakistan's politics. All follow his decisions. The military establishment is siding with the corrupt mafia-Sharifs and Zardaris - only to ensure that I must not return to power," he said.



The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz-led coalition government has imposed an "undeclared ban" on the broadcast of the PTI chief's speeches by the country's electronic media.

Expressing his serious concerns over the division in the country's Supreme Court, Khan said it will be a great tragedy for the country. "Division in the Supreme Court will be a great tragedy. I appeal to the nation to stand with the apex court at a time when this imported government is making an all-out effort to bring it disrepute. "Let me tell you...

democracy in Pakistan is now hanging by a thread called Supreme Court and all those, who want democracy in the country, should stand with it," the 70-year-old cricketer-turned-politician said.

The PTI chief said if the government does not stop conspiring against the apex court and continues defying the implementation of its decision to hold elections in Punjab on May 14, the nation must get ready to take to the streets after Eid. "I will lead this drive from the front," he

declared. Khan also reminded the military establishment that it should keep in mind that it can no longer be able to force the nation to accept "corrupt rulers".

"The establishment should be mindful of the fact that when a nation rises, the violent tactics do not work. Torture and excesses were earlier committed against my party leaders and workers to silence them but that did not work. And it is not going to work again...I want to tell them," he said.

# Massive fire guts popular shopping centre in Bangladesh capital



Dhaka, Apr 15 (PTI):

A massive pre-dawn fire gutted thousands of shops at a shopping centre here on Saturday, forcing the country's military to make frantic attempts to douse the raging inferno, days after a popular clothing market was partially destroyed.

The fire started at the second floor of New SuperMarket, a shopping centre between the popular Newmarket and Dhaka College at 5.45 am and quickly spread to other floors. Newmarket Police Station chief Shafiqul Gani Sabu, was quoted as saying by news portal bd-news24.com.

Teams from the Army, the Navy and the Air Force battled to douse the raging inferno.

The Bangladesh government deployed 12 platoons of the Border Guard Bangladesh, a paramilitary force, to help bring the fire under control,

local media reports said. As many as 28 units of the fire service are also battling the blaze.

The cause of the fire was not immediately known, and no casualties were reported so far, Shahjahan Sikder, assistant deputy director of the fire service told bd-news24.com.

Shop owners rushed to the market after hearing the news of the fire, trying to salvage as many goods as they could, according to Dhaka Tribune newspaper.

Many of them burst into tears upon seeing their shops go up in flames, it said.

Saturday's incident comes days after another major fire gutted thousands of shops at a popular clothing market here.

Building fires and explosions caused by leaking gas cylinders, faulty air conditioners and bad electrical wiring are frequent in Bangladesh.

RAIPUR ZONAL OFFICE, G.D. SHESH NILAYAM, TATYAPARA CHOWK, KANKALIPARA ROAD, RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH MEGA E-AUCTION INFORMATION E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTIES UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

E-Auction Date and Time : 25.05.2023, Time - 11.00AM. to 5.00 P.M. THE PROPERTIES MENTIONED BELOW ARE TO BE SOLD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SARFAESI ACT 2002 ON 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS'

Table with columns: Sl. No., Branch & Borrower/Guarantor & Address, Description of the Mortgaged Property, Reserve Price (in Lakhs), Demand Notice Date, and Auction Details (A, B, C).

# China protests US sanctioning of firms dealing with Russia

Beijing, Apr 15 (AP):

Beijing on Saturday protested US sanctions against additional Chinese companies over their alleged attempts to evade US export controls on Russia, calling it an illegal move that endangers global supply chains.

The US Commerce Department on Wednesday put five firms based in mainland China and Hong Kong on its "entity list", barring them from trading with any US firms without gaining a nearly unobtainable special license.

Washington has been tightening up enforcement of sanctions against foreign firms it sees as providing assistance to Russia in its war against Ukraine, forcing them to choose between trading with Moscow or with the US. A total of 28 entities from countries ranging from Malta to Turkey to Singapore were added to the list. A statement from China's Commerce

Ministry said the US action "has no basis in international law and is not authorized by the United Nations Security Council".

"It is a typical unilateral sanction and a form of long-arm jurisdiction" which seriously damages the legitimate rights and interests of enterprises and affects the security and stability of the global supply chain. China firmly opposes this," the statement said.

"The US should immediately correct its wrongdoing and stop its unreasonable suppression of Chinese companies. China will resolutely safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese companies," it added.

The latest sanctions were levelled against Allparts Trading Co., Ltd.; Avtex Semiconductor Limited; ETC Electronics Ltd.; Maxtron International Co., Ltd.; and STK Electronics Co., Ltd., registered in Hong Kong.

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (जोन क्र.02) ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

Table with columns: Sl. No., Description of the Mortgaged Property, Reserve Price (in Lakhs), Demand Notice Date, and Auction Details (A, B, C).





## CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 11 No. 16

### Indo-Bhutan Relations

#### A Need for Caution

Mutual mistrust now pervades the bilateral relationship between India and Bhutan. Despite their Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, Bhutan's Prime Minister, Lotay Tsering, has suggested handling the Doklam issue with China as equal partners. This departure from the Treaty is cause for concern. Equally worrying is Tsering's denial of any Chinese intrusion into the Doklam plateau, which contradicts satellite images and media reports. The Doklam plateau has significant strategic importance in South Asia. It is an integral part of Bhutan, located on the eastern side of the Chumbi Valley. This Valley is an arrow-like protrusion of southern Tibet that separates Bhutan from the Indian state of Sikkim. The Chumbi Valley is close to the Siliguri corridor, India's only gateway to its northeastern part. If China were to push down the Chumbi Valley and control the Siliguri corridor, it would cut off all northeastern states of India and threaten the city of Kolkata. The Chumbi Valley is an ideal launch pad for China's invasion into India. Beijing finds it more advantageous than the Pangong Tso lake area or the Daulat Beg Oldi sector of Ladakh. However, the Chumbi Valley's strategic drawback is that it is only 30 miles wide in its narrowest stretch, making any military manoeuvre difficult. If the abutting Doklam plateau, or a large part of it, can be incorporated into the Chumbi Valley, then the problem is solved. China is attempting to achieve this goal in the area. China has been upping its ante over the eastern Himalayas recently. It has renamed eleven more places in India's Arunachal Pradesh, which always links to its Bhutan policy. Beijing has staked claims to Bhutan's Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary, which adjoins the West Kameng and Tawang districts of Arunachal Pradesh. The Tawang monastery of Arunachal Pradesh, situated on the northeast side of this sanctuary, is only second in importance for Tibetan Buddhism after the monastery of Lhasa. In the past, China had never claimed the Sakteng sanctuary as a disputed area. Its recent claim over it might be a ploy to arm-twist Bhutan into agreeing to its demand in the western sector, which includes Doklam and other strategic areas like Charithang, Sinchulima, and the Dramana pasture lands. More significant things have happened in Tibet, casting their shadows on Doklam. China has strengthened the Lhasa Gonggar airport, a base of the PLAAF, with an upgraded apron for accommodating more fighter aircraft. To protect these aircraft from enemy missiles and bombs, their shelters have been strengthened. India can no longer take Bhutan's closeness to New Delhi for granted. Former Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj once tried to secure a verbal commitment from Bhutan on this issue, only to be indirectly rebuffed by her Bhutanese counterpart. In the first decade of the present century, Bhutan's official map did not show Kulakangri, the highest mountain peak of the country, indicating that the area had already been ceded to China. In 1966, Bhutan protested over alleged Chinese intrusions into the Doklam and sought help from New Delhi. As the current Bhutanese Prime Minister speaks of China as an equal partner in handling the Doklam issue, India should be wary of future developments.

### Selective Treatment of Disabled in Courts

Yash Pal Raihan

The recent incident in the Supreme Court where a lawyer brought his paralyzed and wheelchair-bound client to court without any mandate to do so has raised concerns about the selective treatment of disabled individuals in courts. While the court reprimanded the lawyer for his actions, the incident brings to light the question of whether such kindness and consideration are shown to all disabled individuals in the judicial system, or is it a selective approach. The judiciary and society at large should appreciate the efforts of differently-abled individuals. However, the treatment of the disabled in courts is not always equal. Disabled individuals often face numerous barriers in accessing justice. Physical barriers in courtrooms, lack of access to assistive technology, and inadequate training of legal professionals on disability issues all hinder equal participation in the judicial process. The Supreme Court has taken some steps to make the judicial system more accessible to the disabled. In 2018, the Court issued guidelines to make courtrooms more accessible to people with disabilities. The guidelines include measures such as installing ramps, handrails, and audio-visual aids, among others. The Court has also directed High Courts to identify cases involving disabled persons and accord priority to them in the hearing. However, these steps are not enough, and much more needs to be done to ensure the equal treatment of the disabled in the judicial system. While the Supreme Court guidelines are helpful, they are not always followed, and many disabled individuals still face significant barriers in accessing justice. In many cases, disabled individuals are not provided with the necessary accommodations, such as sign language interpretation, assistive technology, or even a simple ramp to access the courtroom. Furthermore, disabled individuals are often not taken seriously in the judicial system. Judges and lawyers may assume that disabled individuals lack the capacity to understand legal proceedings or may be dismissive of their claims. This attitude reflects a lack of understanding of disability issues and perpetuates discrimination against the disabled. In my personal experience, I have faced numerous challenges in accessing justice due to my disability. I have been denied access to courtrooms due to the lack of ramps, and I have not been provided with necessary accommodations such as sign language interpretation. In some cases, lawyers and judges have dismissed my claims or assumed that I lack the capacity to understand legal proceedings. The treatment of disabled individuals in the judicial system must be a priority for the legal profession, the judiciary, and society at large. All stakeholders must work together to ensure that disabled individuals have equal access to justice and are treated with respect and dignity.

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@editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:email@editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com).

### DOON GARVOTSAV

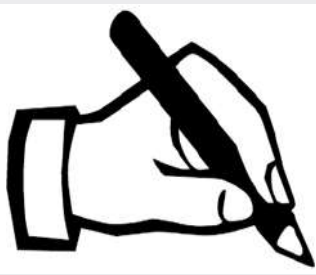


People from the LGBT community take part in the Doon Garvotsav pride parade, in Dehradun, Saturday, April 15.

## India and Bhutan: Evidence of age-old friendship



PRIYANKA SAURABH



India as a friendly and helpful neighbour has been responsive to the needs of Bhutan. Bhutan plays a very important role in India's foreign policy and is strategically important to India. Relations between India and Bhutan are based on the pillars of trust, goodwill, and mutual understanding. The two neighbors share close civilizational, cultural, and economic ties that go back centuries. Bhutan regards India as the Gyagar, or Holy Land because Buddhism originated in India, which is the religion practiced by the majority of Bhutanese. Both countries are proud of their relationship which is based on trust, shared cultural values, mutual respect, and partnership in sustainable development.

Relations between India and Bhutan are based on the pillars of trust, goodwill, and mutual understanding. The two neighbors share close civilizational, cultural, and economic ties that go back centuries. The basic framework of India-Bhutan relations is the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed between the two countries in 1949, which was renewed in 2007. India and Bhutan have multi-sectoral cooperation, India is Bhutan's largest trading partner in trade and economic relations and remains a major source of investment in Bhutan. In 2021, India formalized the opening of seven new trade routes for Bhutan's bilateral and transit trade with India. New market access was also granted to allow the formal export of 12 agri-products from Bhutan to India. In recent times digital cooperation and col-

laboration have taken place in new areas beyond the traditional scope of cooperation. For example the setting up of digital infrastructure such as the 3rd International Internet Gateway. In addition, the integration of Bhutan's Drukren with India's National Knowledge Network is a significant collaboration in the field of e-learning. India is not only Bhutan's largest development partner but also its most important trading partner, both as a source and market for its trade in goods and services. India not only provides a transit route to land-locked Bhutan but is also the largest market for many of Bhutan's exports, including hydropower, semi-finished products, ferrosilicon, and dolomite. Under Financial Cooperation/Integration, the first phase of the RuPay project was launched in Bhutan. India's Bharat

Interface for Money was also launched in Bhutan in 2021. Space cooperation is a new and promising area of bilateral cooperation. Both the Prime Ministers of India and Nepal jointly inaugurated the ground earth station of the South Asia Satellite in Thimphu in 2019, which was built in collaboration with ISRO. In addition, the India-Bhutan SAT is slated to be launched into space by ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle in 2022.

Mutually beneficial hydropower cooperation with Bhutan is the core of bilateral economic cooperation. 4 Hydro Electric Projects (HEP) including Mangdechhu are already operational in Bhutan and supplying electricity to India. India and Bhutan have close bilateral cooperation in the educational and cultural fields for educational, cultural cooperation, and people-to-people exchanges. More than 950 scholarships are awarded annually by the Government of India for Bhutanese students to study in India in various disciplines including medicine, engineering, etc. Many Bhutanese pilgrims visit Bodh Gaya, Rajgir, Nalanda, Sikkim, Udayagiri, and other Buddhist sites in India.

Strengthening the strategic relationship, India stationed its Military Training Team in Bhutan in 1961 to train Bhutanese security forces has since been responsible for training Bhutanese security forces. Several activities relating to security and border management issues, threat perception, coordination of India-Bhutan border entry/exit points, and real-time information sharing among other aspects are being regularly undertaken by the two countries. Over time relations between India and Bhutan have matured into a comprehensive partnership and cooperation on a wide range of issues including energy security, trade and business, security and intelligence sharing, digitization, space technology, and conservation biology sectors. India has always stood by Bhutan in times of adversi-

ty and challenges past and Bhutan has acknowledged this. As a friendly and helpful neighbor, India has been responsive to Bhutan's needs, exemplified by the support extended to Bhutan from time to time, supplying essential goods and services and whatever is required.

Harmonious and sustainable relations between India and Bhutan require addressing certain issues such as the China factor. The country's geo-strategic location makes Bhutan very important in India's perception of national security. The possibility of a boundary settlement between China and Bhutan should be seen in the light of its implications for India's strategic interests in the region. One of the issues pointed out by experts is India's paternalistic attitude towards Bhutan. A crisis in India-Bhutan relations erupted in 2013 over India's alleged attempt to thwart the Bhutanese bid to diversify its foreign policy. Interference in internal politics Critics argue that there has been interference from India in Bhutan's internal politics at times. Experts argue that the economic benefits of cooperation on hydroelectric projects reduce Has come Interest rates have risen and profits per unit of electricity have plummeted, leading to a large increase in Bhutan's debt.

Relations between India and Bhutan are based on the pillars of trust, goodwill, and mutual understanding. The two neighbors share close civilizational, cultural, and economic ties that go back centuries. Bhutan regards India as the Gyagar, or Holy Land because Buddhism originated in India, which is the religion practiced by the majority of Bhutanese. India as a friendly and helpful neighbor has been responsive to the needs of Bhutan. Bhutan plays a very important role in India's foreign policy and is strategically important to India. Therefore, further steps should be taken to maintain a lasting relationship while addressing the above issues.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Unbiased History Curriculum

History is often written from the perspective of those in power, leaving us unsure of whether we are learning facts or a biased interpretation of events. This is why it is crucial to have an unbiased history curriculum that presents all perspectives, including those of marginalized communities. Unfortunately, our history curriculum has been subject to changes based on the political party in power. Singh rightly notes that this can be detrimental to students, who may be learning a different set of "facts" with each change. Instead of constantly revising the curriculum, we should strive for a balanced approach that presents a comprehensive understanding of history. Deleting or downplaying certain historical facts can create fractures in society and prevent us from fully understanding our past.

MKN Rajpur

#### Environmental Responsibility

The recent decision to withhold leased lands from farmers engaging in straw burning is a commendable effort. However, we must do more to prevent environmental damage. The government should mandate that all government and panchayat lands be used to cultivate crops other than wheat and rice, such as millets or oil-seeds, or be converted into orchards or social forestry. This approach will diversify crops and help preserve soil fertility, water retention, and biodiversity. Additionally, we suggest that incentives not be provided to farmers who engage in straw burning, as this practice has negative consequences for the environment and human health. By taking bold measures, we can protect our environment for generations to come.

Rajesh Sharma, Korba

#### Reforms Needed: A Call to Action

The recent actions of the Taliban in banishing women from restaurants have sparked outrage among many, but it's important to remember that they are following the teachings of their religion. Criticism from non-Muslims is unlikely to be effective in bringing about change; instead, reform must come from within the Islamic community. In India, reforms for women's rights in the Hindu community came from within, led by people like Raja Ram Mohan Roy. Similarly, Muslims themselves must recognize that 7th-century Sharia laws are not relevant in the 21st century. Initiatives for reform must be taken up by the Islamic community, and leaders must be willing to challenge outdated traditions and beliefs. It's time for Muslims to stand up for the rights of their sisters, mothers, and daughters. Only then can we hope to see true progress and equality for Muslim women.

Navneet Nair, Raipur

## Empowering women in India's journey towards national development



Rajendra Kumar Sharma

Swami Vivekananda once said, "It is impossible to think of the welfare of the world until the condition of women is improved. We have to realize the real place and value of women in society. In public bodies and government jobs, women can demonstrate greater efficiency than men, especially in the areas of management and planning. Socially, the current

situation is that men are income earners and women are the ones who manage the household with this income. It is believed, and according to economics, the management of that income is more important than earning income, which women do with full efficiency and skill. The Finance Minister of the country, Honorable Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman, is a live example of this statement.

If we look at the various schemes made for women, such as free rides for women in buses, trains, and metro, reservation in metro coaches for women, baby feeding rooms for women at train and metro stations, diaper changing facilities, and vanity cum changing rooms, we will find that even after so many schemes, women are not getting as many rights and freedoms as expected.

All these facilities have increased the mobility of girls and working women, but they are only available during a fixed daily period, usually from 8 in the morning

to 5 or 6 in the evening. After 9 pm, hardly any woman would like to travel for a job or education. Much of our public transport infrastructure is designed around male-led travel, which is the biggest barrier to women's mobility. Along with free travel, it is also necessary for public transport and public places to be safe for women.

Based on a detailed study of the travel patterns of daily commuters traveling in suburban trains, the Mumbai Railway Development Corporation, working with the World Bank, has made stations and trains women-friendly, prioritizing the issue of women's safety, according to a news release. A plan to make it more secure is being worked on, under which emphasis has been laid on the need to work on other facilities besides women special trains and buses. One meaningful initiative can be the appointment of more women employees in public means of transport like buses, suburban trains, metros, etc.

Kochi Metro is a classic example of women's empowerment. 80% of the employees working in the Kochi Metro Rail are women employees. Participation of women employees has been ensured in ground staff, operators, and loco drivers. Out of 39 loco pilots, 7 are women loco pilots.

Women and girls are unable to contribute to employment, education, and care services. The main reason for this is the lack of security in our means of public transport and public places. Studies show that the worry about moving safely outside a certain time period is the biggest barrier for girls and women to attend school, college, and work. The threat of sexual harassment makes women think twice before stepping out. It has been observed that women are able to use public transport only as long as there are few crowds in them. Late at night, when the number of passengers in public transport is negligible, the safety of women remains a major issue that prevents them

from venturing out.

Under the Nirbhaya Fund, the center is providing financial assistance to the states to enhance the safety of women. If women's participation in national development is to be ensured, two main barriers have to be removed: first, by increasing the number of women security staff at public places, making them safe for women, and secondly, by appointing more women staff in the operation of public transport systems and by appointing women security staff inside buses and trains to make them safe for women. These measures can ensure that women and girls can work longer hours in offices, study in good educational institutions, and have wider opportunities for entrepreneurship. Such initiatives can play an important role in ensuring women's participation in making India's economy more robust.

(Writer is a Columnist & Sr. Educator, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Views are personal)



**BRIEF**

**Elanpro**

**New Delhi:** Elanpro Group, which sells commercial refrigeration products, has posted a 74 per cent growth in its revenue at record Rs 220 crore during the last fiscal on better demand. Its revenue stood at Rs 125.80 crore in the previous financial year. Elanpro has refrigeration products catering to hotels, restaurants, cafes, supermarkets, QSRs and pharma industries. The total sales stood at 72,000 units in FY23, Elanpro said in a statement. "We delivered record net sales of Rs 220 crore amidst rocky market conditions," said Shashank Joshi, Director, Elanpro.

**Wonderchef**

**Mumbai:** Kitchenware brand Wonderchef is expecting to clock a Rs 725 crore revenue this fiscal on the back of retail expansion and greater penetration into e-commerce. The company, founded by celebrity chef Sanjeev Kapoor and food entrepreneur Ravi Saxena in 2009, has closed FY23 with a Rs 560 crore revenue, lower than the target of Rs 600 crore, due to the lower-than-expected sales, which grew only 22 per cent.

**JW Marriott**

**Mumbai:** JW Marriott, part of Marriott Bonvoy's global portfolio of 30 hotel brands, on Friday announced its debut in Goa, with the opening of JW Marriott Goa. This opening marks a milestone for Marriott International's 150th opening in South Asia, the global hospitality brand said in a statement. "JW Marriott is at the forefront of the evolution of luxury, blending a legacy of extraordinary hospitality with a contemporary commitment to mindfulness and well-being that continues to be a priority for today's luxury traveller," JW Marriott Global Brand Leader Bruce Rohr said.

**JioCinema**

**Mumbai:** Reliance-owned JioCinema, which has live streaming right for the ongoing Tata IPL, would set up Fan Parks in over 35 cities for viewing matches live as part of its initiative to take cricket to every internet user and every community. Extending its digital-first offerings, JioCinema plans to make out-of-home sports viewing omnipresent across 13 states for the first time on digital, according to a statement.

**Godrej Interio**

**Mumbai:** Leading furniture solutions brand Godrej Interio on Friday said it has partnered with IIT-Bombay. The partnership aims to provide state-of-the-art facilities, empower research-based education and revolutionize learning practices for students. Some of the unique innovative furniture solutions like modular furniture, fume hood, lab storage, MEP services & turnkey projects form a core part of the lab's revamping. Godrej Interio is currently executing similar projects for state medical colleges, research institutes and government institutes across India.

## Crypto issue requires immediate attention: Sitharaman

Washington, Apr 15 (PTI):

Issues related to crypto assets require immediate attention and the response of the G20 has to ensure that they do not lose any potential benefits while protecting economies from harm, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said.

Sitharaman was part of a brainstorming session on "Macroeconomic Implications of Crypto Assets" with G20 finance ministers and central bank governors at the IMF's headquarters here on Friday. India currently holds the rotating annual presidency of G20 countries.

Issues related to crypto have emerged as a major



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during a session on "Macroeconomic Implications of Crypto Assets" with G20 Finance Ministers and Governors at the IMF Headquarters, in Washington DC, Saturday, April 15.

point of discussion among G20 countries and there is unanimity among member nations about the urgency to regulate this sector. The brainstorming session was attended by global experts on this issue.

In her remarks, Sitharaman said the G20 acknowledges the work of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Financial Stability Board (FSB) in bringing out key elements of policy and regulatory frame-

work. She also said a synthesis paper, which would integrate macroeconomic and regulatory perspectives of crypto assets, is required.

The minister noted that there was consensus among G20 members to have a globally coordinated policy response on crypto assets that takes into consideration the full range of risks, including those specific to emerging markets and developing economies.

Earlier this week, Sitharaman had said that India's G20 Presidency aims to develop a common framework for all countries to deal with risks associated with cryptocurrencies in the wake of the recent shocks witnessed in the crypto market.

## India, Spain agree to boost cooperation in energy, shipping, defence

New Delhi Apr 15 (PTI):

India and Spain have agreed to increase cooperation in the field of renewable energy, shipping, ports, tourism, infrastructure, food processing, pharmaceuticals and the defence sector, the commerce ministry said on Friday.

The issue was discussed in a meeting between Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal and Xiana Mendez, Secretary of State for Trade, Government of Spain. Both co-chaired the 12th Session of the India-

Spain Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation (JCEC) on April 13 here.

The two sides also discussed various market access issues faced by their exporters and agreed to resolve the same through bilateral discussions, the ministry said.

"India and Spain are looking forward to considerable progress in the ongoing India-EU free trade agreement negotiations during the upcoming Spanish Presidency of EU from July to December 2023," it added.

## Ashok Leyland takes digital route to tap used vehicle biz

Chennai, Apr 15 (PTI):

Hinduja Group flagship company Ashok Leyland has rolled out an e-marketplace 'Re-AL' for used commercial vehicles segment, the automajor said on Saturday.

The e-marketplace facility would help customers to exchange their existing vehicles and upgrade to a truck or a bus offered by Ashok Leyland.

"The used commercial vehicle industry is ripe for disruption. Leveraging our digital platform, there are many opportunities

for us to provide customer centric solutions," Ashok Leyland MD and CEO Shenu Agarwal said.

The city-based heavy commercial vehicle maker, in a statement, said it hopes to increase transparency in the otherwise disorganised used vehicle ecosystem.

The digital service would offer customers with a range of features allowing them to select preferred vehicles of their choice along with validated documents.

"This used vehicle e-marketplace solution

## Credai ties up with IGBC to help realtors in development of green buildings

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTI):

Realtors' apex body Credai on Saturday said it has partnered Indian Green Building Council to facilitate its members to develop certified environmental-friendly housing projects.

The association has pledged the development of 1,000 green-certified projects in the next 2 years and 4,000 projects by 2030.

The Confederation of Real Estate Developers Association of India (Credai) has entered into a partnership with Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) to achieve this target. "Through this tie-up, we will encourage and guide our more than 13,000 members on the construction of green buildings," said Boman Irani, who is set to become Credai National President, on Saturday evening. "There

will be uniformity on various norms to be followed for the development of certified green buildings," he added.

Under the association with IGBC, Credai seeks to spearhead the green building movement. It pledges to build over 1,000 certified green projects in the next two years and 4,000 projects by 2030, through the adoption of IGBC Green & Net Zero building ratings.

"This will mean an addition of over 4,00,000 housing units in the green development category across the country," the association said. These projects will be certified by IGBC.

Credai's partnership with IGBC will allow the necessary know-how and strengthen the capabilities of Credai developers to 'build better'. Irani said the focus of Credai would be on "G.R.O.W.T.H.". He said this means green construc-

tion, reform, opportunity to build a New India, women empowerment, transparency and housing for all. "Indian real estate stands at a cusp of a revolution, and we at Credai are extremely focused to facilitate growth for all stakeholders involved," Irani said.

Commenting on the partnership, Signature Global Chairman Pradeep Aggarwal said the environmental impact of any development is a crucial consideration. This will lead to sustainable development in the real estate industry, which is the need of the hour, he added. Mohit Jain, Managing Director, Krisumi Corporation, said, "Sustainability has emerged as a new paradigm in the Indian real estate sector, as it translates to lower energy costs, a greener environment and healthier living".

## Truecaller introduces 'Live Caller ID' for iPhone

Mumbai, Apr 15:

Truecaller, the world's leading global communications platform, has announced the introduction of a major update of its product on iPhone. The update brings in new, exciting features which will provide an improved and more secure communication experience for iPhone users worldwide. The complete Live Caller ID experience is now on iPhone for the first time ever, which uses a simple Siri shortcut to tell you who is calling. Speaking about the new

update, Rishit Jhunjhunwala, Managing Director, India at Truecaller said, "We are witnessing strong adoption on iPhones and we are constantly innovating within the platform. Our team applied a lot of creativity to build this Siri powered Live Caller ID experience. Finally our community can get to experience Live Caller ID during an incoming call by saying 'Hey Siri, Search Truecaller'. We are very excited with this global release and will continue to innovate on the iOS platform."



Models pose for pictures as a jewellery exhibition at Himayathnagar in Hyderabad, Saturday, April 15.

## RNLIC unveils 'Nishchit Bhavishya' plan

Mumbai, Apr 15:

Reliance Nippon Life Insurance Company Limited (RNLIC), one of India's most trusted and leading private life insurers, announced the launch of their brand-new plan, Reliance Nippon Life Nishchit Bhavishya, a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings life insurance plan which offers, guaranteed tax-free returns with an increasing income benefit. This product structure finds its origins in the company's internal research that highlights a heightened understanding of inflation amongst households. The income design responds well to this sentiment and solves the need for long-term increasing income. This solution serves diverse needs of various segments, including those looking to plan for retirement, small business owners, and young salaried customers seeking a steady income stream to overcome the volatility in business incomes or employment cycles.

## Himachal govt to launch Rs 500-crore Him Ganga scheme: Chandan Kumar

To promote dairy business

Dharamshala, Apr 15 (PTI):

The Himachal Pradesh government will launch a Rs 500-crore Him Ganga scheme to promote dairy business in the state, agriculture and animal husbandry minister Chandra Kumar said on Saturday.

Kumar, who was the chief guest at a district level function organised at Dharamshala in Kangra district on Himachal Day, said that Him Ganga scheme is being started to develop the system of milk-based business in the state.

Through this scheme, quality improvement will be done in the system of milk procurement, processing, and marketing. The government will buy cow milk from farmers at Rs 80

per kilogramme and buffalo milk at Rs 100 per kg for the production of different milk products, the minister said. He said that the government is working to change the structure of agriculture and animal husbandry to strengthen the farmers' community.

"It is our endeavour to encourage organic farming by reducing the use of chemicals in crops," he said. Kumar said that a tourism development scheme is also being started in the state with the help of Asian Development Bank at a cost of Rs 1,311 crore.

This will give new wings to tourism in the state, he said, adding that chief minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu has announced plans to develop Kangra district as tourism capital.

Work is being done to develop tourism facilities like zoo park, golf course in Kangra, he added.

## HDFC Bank post 20 pc jump in Q4 net profit

Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTI):

Largest private sector lender HDFC Bank on Saturday reported a 20.6 per cent jump in its consolidated net profit to Rs 12,594.5 crore for the March 2023 quarter, driven by a healthy core performance. For the entire fiscal, it reported a 20.9 per cent increase in the net profit at Rs 45,997.1 crore.

The city-headquartered lender, which is in the middle of merging its mortgage lending parent HDFC, reported a 19.8 per cent growth in the post-tax profit on a standalone basis at Rs 12,047.5 crore. Its core net interest income rose 23.7 per cent to Rs 23,351.8 crore on the back of a 16.9 per cent jump in advances and the net interest margin being maintained at 4.1 per cent. The other income increased to Rs 8,731.2 crore



for the reporting quarter from Rs 7,637.1 crore in the year-ago period. All the components under this line showed an improvement, except trading and mark-to-market, where it reported losses of Rs 37.7 crore compared to a gain of Rs 47.6 crore in the year-ago period.

Amid the 'war for deposits' in the system, the lender has ducked the system-wide trend by reporting a 20.8 per cent growth in its base. Share of the low-cost current and savings ac-

count deposits stood at 44.4 per cent as of March 31, 2023. Retail loans grew by 19.3 per cent, corporate and wholesale banking loans rose by a slower 12.6 per cent, while the nearly 30 per cent rise in commercial and rural banking advances, helping it report the overall loan growth number.

Retail and corporate advances are now evenly placed in the overall loan pie, having a 38 per cent share, while commercial and rural banking occupies the remaining 24 per cent.

## Mangalore Port welcomes first direct main-line container service

Expected to boost exports

Mangaluru, Apr 15 (PTI):

The first direct main-line vessel, MV HONG AN, has called at the New Mangalore Port (NMP) after the port's dedicated container terminal became operational.

The regular service vessel will ply between the westbound rotation of Chittagong-Colombo-Mangalore-Nhava Sheva-Mundra and the east-bound leg to Jebel Ali-Khalifa Port. It is the only direct service for Indian exporters to Jebel Ali and Abu Dhabi with seamless connections to USA, Europe, Southeast Asia and Africa, a release from



NMP said here on Friday. New Mangalore Port Authority (NMPA) chairman A V Ramana inaugurated the first direct main-line service from New Mangalore Port by flagging off the container discharging from the vessel in the presence of NMPA officials and port users.

The main-line service began primarily as a re-

sult of the use of various productivity measures to free up berth time for new services through the establishment of a fixed-window berthing policy and the extension of additional inducements in the form of commercial rebates on vessel-related costs. "The mainline service will be a game changer in how our shippers take

their exports to the global markets in the fastest and most efficient ways. It will not only lead to more sea route options, but it can also seamlessly connect cargoes for air transfers from Dubai to destinations in Europe and USA," the release said.

The advantages include the transit time which will get reduced to half. The transit time to Jebel Ali earlier was 13-15 days. With direct service, it will get reduced by seven days.

The mainline service will avoid transshipment, which will result in better ocean freight cost for shipments. The new service will also give a major boost to export from Karnataka, particularly agricultural products, the release added.



## Poorti Arya returns to acting after break for health and self-discovery

Poorti Arya, a popular actress known for her roles in various TV shows and films, has recently made a comeback to acting after taking a break for health and self-discovery. Poorti, who was last seen in the TV show 'Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 2', had been missing from screens for a year, but now she is back and ready to take on new challenges.

In an interview, Poorti revealed that she took a break from acting to prioritize her health, which had been suffering from some issues that needed attention. She also shared that she needed to take time to figure out the kind of project and character she wanted

to do in the future. Poorti took a conscious decision to step back from work and focus on herself, hoping to come back with a fresh perspective.

Now that she has returned to the work front, Poorti is determined to pick projects that challenge her and leave a mark on the audience. She wants to play strong and prominent characters, similar to the ones she has played in the past. Despite having numerous opportunities, she is careful and selective about the projects she chooses.

Poorti has acted in various TV shows and films, including 'Jalebi', 'Internet Wala Love', 'Life Sahi Hai', 'Ashoka Samrat', and 'Pyaar Tune Kya Kiya'. With her talent and dedication, she is sure to leave a lasting impression on the industry.

## Geeta Kapur goes gaga over contestant Shubham's inventive lyrical performance

Sony Entertainment Television's home-grown dance reality show 'India's Best Dancer Season 3' has thrilled viewers as it premiered its Audition Rounds on 8th April. In the upcoming weekend, the superlative dance talent will continue to surprise everybody with some exceptional performances. Taking charge of picking the best of the best, judges Sonali Bendre, Geeta Kapur and Terence Lewis, the E.E.N.T specialists would be assessing the contestants as they put their best foot forward. Getting the groove on would be Maharashtra's very own Shubham Revankar whose beautiful translation of the song 'Sunn Ri



Sakhi' would make judge Geeta Kapur's heart flutter!

Right after the magical performance, judge Geeta Kapur will say, "I want someone to love like this! There are performances that you feel at peace watching, there is 'sukoon'. This was a 'sukoon wali' act, I loved watching it. You took me on a journey. I feel very happy when dancers come on stage and I become a part of their journey. It was a beautiful journey where I felt like I was in a garden."

Surprising the judges, Shubham shares that he is a self-taught dancer, and the performance was his own choreography. The talented dancer will also reveal that he has

performed previously for reality shows and competitions because of his father who was his biggest supporter. Talking about him, Shubham will add, "Mummy would say study first and dance later, dad would say passion first and then studies." On being asked where his father is, the judges would be in for an emotional shock as he lost his father a year and a half ago.

Will Shubham be able to make his place in the mega auditions and win the competition for his father? To watch Shubham Revankar's mesmerising performance, tune in to India's Best Dancer Season 3, this weekend at 8:00 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television.

## &TV shows will entertain viewers with gripping tracks



TV's **Dusri Maa**, **Happu Ki Ultan Paltan** and **Bhabhi Ghar Par Hai** will entertain viewers with gripping tracks. About **Dusri Maa** track, Varun Sharma shares, "Arvind (Mayank Mishra) returns from Haridwar and informs everyone that Ashok (Mohit Dagg) will only return once Krishna (Aayudh Bhanushali)

leaves the house. Arvind also shows a letter written by Ashok as evidence. Yashoda (Neha Joshi) confronts Arvind, and he admits the letter was written by Ashok. Later, Varun (Micckie Dudaaney) arrives to take Krishna away, but Yashoda instructs Varun to undergo DNA test to find out Krishna's real father."

## Taylor Swift makes triumphant return to stage in Florida after split from Joe Alwyn

Taylor Swift, the renowned singer-songwriter, made a stunning return to the stage in Tampa, Florida, after news broke that she and her long-time boyfriend, Joe Alwyn, had split up after six years of dating. The 'Anti-Hero' singer, who is 33 years old, performed at the Raymond James Stadium as part of her sold-out Eras Tour, and the audience welcomed her with open arms. Despite the recent heartbreak, Swift was in high spirits as she kicked off an expected three-hour-long show, entertaining the audience with her music and charismatic personality. In between songs, she acknowledged the crowd, saying, "We have a lot to catch up on." The show was a triumphant return to the spotlight for Swift, who has been taking some time off after the breakup.



## Saiee Manjrekar talks about her journey in the film industry

Saiee Manjrekar, the young actress who made her debut in Bollywood alongside Salman Khan in "Dabangg 3", has been making waves in the film industry. After acting in two Tollywood projects, "Ghani" and "Major," she is now back in Tollywood for her third project, "Agent," starring Akkineni scion Akhil.

Saiee describes "Agent" as an exciting project that she got involved with quickly. The story and cast were so compelling that they started shooting just a few days after the narration. She feels fortunate to work with such experienced actors and to be back in Hyderabad and shooting. She is excited to see how this project will turn out. Regarding the fascination for Bollywood imports in Tollywood and other South film industries, Saiee believes that both glamour and talent matter in the film industry.

She thinks that the selection of actors for a role depends on the role and the character's demands and who can fit into it seamlessly. Saiee fondly looks back on her experience working with Salman Khan in "Dabangg 3." Despite being just 17 years old at the time, she had a surreal experience and felt grateful for the opportunity to watch Salman Khan work and work with him.

As the daughter of noted director and actor Mahesh Manjrekar, Saiee responds to the "nepokids" question with maturity beyond her age. She acknowledges that she has had the privilege of getting a break so young and fast and feels grateful for it. She strives to work hard and honestly to prove herself deserving of it and leaves the rest to the audience.



## WATCHO presents 'MANGHADANT' A nail-biting murder mystery

Watcho, one of India's fastest-growing OTT platforms, is proud to announce the premiere of "Manghadant", a thrilling murder mystery that will leave viewers spellbound. The series is packed with thrill, suspense, commitment with betrayal, and love with anger. It will take viewers on a gripping journey of emotional turnarounds and unveils deadly consequences that will keep them hooked till the very end. Directed by Sanjiv Chadha and produced by Sixth Sense Entertainment & Shaushaa Entertainment, this 8-episode web series



in the Hindi language is set to premiere exclusively on the Watcho OTT platform on 14 April 23.

The tale revolves around the murder of Rachna Bakshi, the wife

of the renowned movie writer, Madhav Bakshi. Captivating performance by Inspector Parth, the police officer, and the intriguing storyline is sure to keep the viewers

hooked to their screens. The exemplary weaving of characters and twists will take viewers through strange and jaw-dropping scenarios with every episode.

Manghadant, a powerful character-driven series, boasts a powerful ensemble cast including Prince Rodde, Raju Kher, Ribbu Mehra, Dolly Chawla, Satyamvada Singh, Raunakk Bhinder, Sangeeta Odwani, Anand Ajay, Shwet Sinha, Awez Khan, Ram Prasad Mishra, Samridhi Chadha, Ankur Malhotra, and Praveen Baba, each bringing their own unique character to the forefront.

## Alia Bhatt shares throwback pictures with Ranbir Kapoor to celebrate their first wedding anniversary

Alia Bhatt, the Bollywood actress, is celebrating her first wedding anniversary with actor Ranbir Kapoor on Friday. To commemorate the occasion, the 'Gangubai Kathiawadi' star took to her Instagram to post a few throwback photographs of her with Ranbir and captioned it "Happy Day".

After she shared the photos, her industry friends flooded the comments section with wishes. Actor-director Riteish Deshmukh wrote, "Happy 1st." Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar responded with heart emojis, while 'Brahmastra' co-star Mouni Roy wrote, "Happy



first you both." Actress Bipasha Basu, who recently became a mother, said, "Happy anniversary

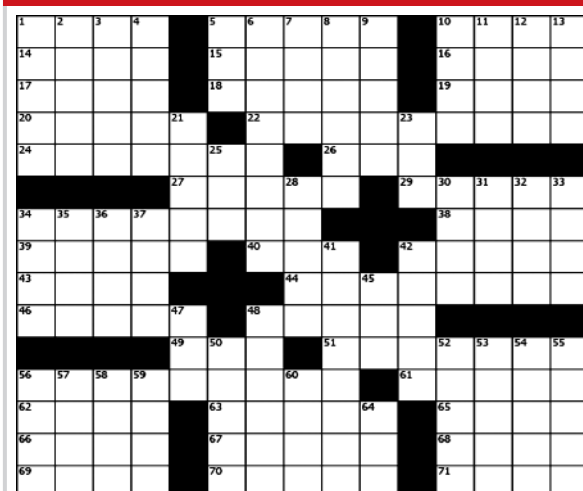
to both you cuties." Alia and Ranbir got married on April 13, 2022, at Ranbir's residence

'Vastu' in Mumbai's Pali Hill area. They fell in love on the sets of their upcoming movie 'Brahmastra' and decided to tie the knot in an intimate ceremony. In November 2022, the couple welcomed their daughter Raha, adding more joy to their lives.

The talented actress has several upcoming projects lined up, including 'RRR,' 'Darlings,' and 'Gangubai Kathiawadi Part 2.' Meanwhile, Ranbir Kapoor will be seen in Ayan Mukerji's 'Brahmastra' alongside Alia. The couple's fans are eagerly awaiting their next on-screen collaboration.

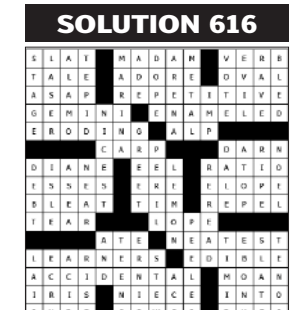
## CROSSWORD

617



- ACROSS**
- Marina sight
  - Fathered
  - Bothers
  - Emerald
  - Love (Ital.)
  - Work hard
  - Memo letters
  - Wave
  - Jazz singer \_\_\_\_\_ Fitzgerald
  - Star Wars, e.g.
  - Bible division
  - Summer drink (2 wds.)
  - Water, to Jacques
  - Despised
  - Festive occasions
  - "Alien Vs. \_\_\_\_\_"
  - Annoy
  - Sophia
  - Singer \_\_\_\_\_ Stewart
  - Witherspoon of "Sweet Home Alabama"

- DOWN**
- Florida City
  - Civic group (abbr.)
  - Work hard
  - Moderately warm
  - Made a lap
  - Copycat
  - Took a bus
  - Deleted
  - Letter before epsilon
  - Gossip bit
  - Function
  - Potter's oven
  - Bed board
  - Revolutionary \_\_\_\_\_ Allen
  - Calendar abbr.
  - Have supper
  - Corrode
  - Locale
  - Property right
  - Likewise
  - Clairvoyant person
  - Scheme
  - Ramble
  - Love god
  - Fender damage
  - Lessen
  - Leases
  - Bombshell \_\_\_\_\_ West
  - Adriatic, e.g.
  - Goober
  - Notches
  - Stallone role
  - Foreign
  - Atoll material
  - Opponent
  - Gender
  - Mellowed
  - Ladder step
  - Spouse
  - Sub shop
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Vegas, Nevada





## Vyshak, Kohli script comeback win for RCB

**DC campaign in tatters with fifth loss on trot**

**Bengaluru, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Local lad Vijaykumar Vyshak claimed three wickets on debut to complement Virat Kohli's imperious fifty as Royal Challengers Bangalore returned to winning ways with a dominant 23-run victory over Delhi Capitals in the Indian Premier League here on Saturday.

Kohli (50 off 34 balls) slammed his third fifty in four innings - with the help of six boundaries and a six - before left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav (4-1-23-2) led Delhi Capitals' charge in the middle overs to restrict RCB to 174/6 after David Warner opted to bowl.

The bottom-placed Delhi side, who came into the match after four losses on the trot, then made a mockery of the 175-run chase as they were restricted to 151/9 in the stipulated 20 overs.

Delhi lost four wickets in the powerplay, including that of skipper Warner (19 off 13 balls), and they were 2 runs for 3 wickets at one stage. Yet to open their ac-



Royal Challengers Bangalore bowler Harshal Patel celebrates with teammate Virat Kohli after the wicket of Delhi Capitals batter Abhishek Porel.

count after five matches, time is running out for the Ricky Ponting-coached side. They now have the difficult task of winning eight

out of their remaining nine matches to secure a play-off berth. RCB, on the other hand, got their campaign back on track after back-to-

### Brief Scores

**Royal Challengers Bangalore:** 174 for 6 in 20 overs (Virat Kohli 50; Mitchell Marsh 2/18, Kuldeep Yadav 2/23).  
**Delhi Capitals:** 151 for 9 in 20 overs (Manish Pandey 50; Vijaykumar Vyshak 3/20).

back losses as they have four points from as many matches.

Vyshak, who was handed his debut in place of Karn Sharma, got his maiden wicket in the form of Warner with a slower delivery, en route to his memorable haul of 3/20.

The 26-year-old varied his pace and mixed his length well to trouble the batters as he went on to take two more wickets - that of Axar Patel and Lalit Yadav - as DC were reduced to 110/8 inside 16 overs.

After Warner (19 off 13 balls) got out cheaply, Manish Pandey waged a lone battle with a 37-ball 50, his 22nd fifty of the tournament. But the wily Sri Lankan spinner Wanindu Hasaranga de Silva trapped Pandey, following a smart review, and it was all but over for DC. Continuing his horror run, Shaw (0) got out

for his fifth single-digit score from eight IPL innings when he became victim of a terrific run-out by Impact Player sub Anuj Rawat.

Prithvi was always slow with his running, and he showed a clear lack of intent opening with Warner.

Shaw started off the blocks tentatively and Rawat was just pin-point with his throw from extra-cover. Shaw now has 34 runs, including two ducks, from five innings in this IPL.

Earlier, DC bowlers did well to restrict RCB to 174 for 6. RCB were 110 for 2 in 12 overs but they managed to add just 64 runs for the loss of four wickets in the last eight overs.

RCB were going all guns blazing with Kohli and Glenn Maxwell (24 off 14 balls) who was in a six-hitting spree.

But the DC spin trio of Kuldeep, Axar Patel (3-0-25-1) and Lalit Yadav (4-0-29-1) seized the momentum.

Mitchell Marsh (2/18 from two overs), who re-joined the team after his wedding, also made a significant contribution with wickets of RCB captain Faf Du Plessis and Mahipal Lomror.

## Suryakumar hits nets ahead of MI's clash against KKR

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

It has been a tough time for the world No 1 T20I batter Suryakumar Yadav who has scores of 15, 1 and 0 since the start of IPL, adding more to his woes, as he entered the tournament following three consecutive first-ball ducks against Australia in the ODI series in March.

With Mumbai Indians managing just one win in three matches so far, the home side and their batting mainstay Suryakumar will hope for better returns, especially after captain Rohit Sharma walked the talk, scoring a match-winning 65 against Delhi Capitals a few days ago.

Rohit had admitted that Mumbai Indians, a side full of young players post the 2022 mega auction, would need their senior players to shoulder the responsibility and in the batting department, Suryakumar is the next name that comes up after the skipper.

The focus has also been on Suryakumar every time he has walked out to bat in this IPL and even in media



conferences, but luck has not favoured the batter who has a grand total of 16 runs in three outings. Against Chennai Super Kings, he was caught on a delivery down the leg side, and against Delhi, he was caught off a short ball at fine leg an area he used to clear the ropes with ease when in his pomp. On Saturday, the right-handed

batter had a lengthy nets session against throw-down specialists in the Mumbai Indians' camp but by the look of it, he certainly did not hit the right gears. If some of Suryakumar's hits fell inside the boundary ropes, Cameron Green batting next to him in the second nets sent the ball flying easily into the stands.

## Titans have history on their side, Royals want to break jinx



Rajasthan Royals players Jos Buttler and R Ashwin during a practice session.

**Ahmedabad, Apr 15 (PTD):**

**Match time: 7:30 PM IST**

Gujarat Titans, coming off a tough away clash against Punjab Kings in Mohali, would be aiming to climb to the top of the table when they take on leaders Rajasthan Royals in an Indian Premier League (IPL) match here on Sunday.

History is on Hardik Pandya's side as the team has won all three games against the Royals so far, and that would certainly play on the minds of the Sanju Samson-led Rajasthan outfit at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

Who can forget the Titans' seven-wicket victory in the IPL 2022 final in only their first year, with Pandya's side making it a one-sided contest, winning with 11 balls to spare.

The Titans' victories in the league phase too were an affirmation of the class and commitment of the team, which is currently placed third on the points table with six points - same as Lucknow Super Giants and the Royals, with only net run rate (NRR) separating the sides.

While both the sides are equally matched on the batting and bowling fronts, the psychological edge the Titans enjoy by virtue of the three wins last year could play a huge role in the contest.

While on the other hand, Samson's side would be keen to break the jinx and show past results don't matter much.

With the core of the

two sides almost the same, match-ups would have been well researched and the team that is able to withstand the pressure better at the gigantic Narendra Modi Stadium should emerge as the winner.

The Royals' top order has been one of the most devastating this season with the likes of Yashasvi Jaiswal, Jos Buttler and Sanju Samson helping the side to the highest average powerplay score of 66.8 among 10 teams in IPL 2023.

Besides, Buttler's powerplay strike rate of 196.6 is the best among batters, not to forget that he has scored a whopping 114 runs in those crucial six overs so far.

Also Jaiswal's 92 at a strike rate of 184 in the powerplay overs so far is something the Titan's won't take lightly.

With matches being won and lost on the basis of how teams fare in powerplays, another cracking start for Royals on Sunday could earn them their first win against the defending champions.

With the likes of Devdutt Padikkal, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shimron Hetmyer and West Indian all-rounder Jason Holder in the middle order, the Royals bat really deep.

On the bowling front too, the Royals have the second-best economy rate of 7.3 thus far, just behind Royal Challengers Bangalore (6.3).

## Pain-free Bumrah begins rehab

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Premier Indian pacer Jasprit Bumrah is "pain free" and has begun his rehab at the National Cricket Academy in Bangalore following a successful surgery on his lower back in New Zealand, the BCCI said on Saturday. The BCCI also gave an update on Shreyas Iyer and said the batter would undergo surgery for his lower back issue next week. Out of action since September 2022, Bumrah missed the Asia Cup and the T20 World Cup and it remains to be seen if he will be fit for India's World Test Championship final against Australia at The Oval in two months' time. "Bumrah underwent surgery in New Zealand on his lower back, which was successful and he remains pain-free," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a statement.

## Mumbai Indians face uphill task against KKR

**Mumbai, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Mumbai Indians will face an uphill task against the firepower of Kolkata Knight Riders batters when the teams clash here on Sunday in their IPL contest, with both former champions looking to put their campaigns back on track.

While Mumbai Indians were able to break their winless streak in their last game against Delhi Capitals, Kolkata Knight Riders went down fighting on Friday night against Sunrisers Hyderabad in a high-scoring contest at the Eden Gardens.

However, despite winning the previous game, the most successful IPL

team, Mumbai Indians, will be under added pressure at the Wankhede Stadium, for they have not been able to harness their potential so far in IPL 2023.

With two wins and as many defeats, KKR have had their share of highs and lows and are placed fourth on the points table with a good net run rate (0.711) as compared to Mumbai Indians who are ninth with two points and an NRR of -0.879.

Rohit Sharma made a match-winning 65 against Delhi Capitals but the challenge for the MI captain will be to attain consistency, especially when the other senior, Suryakumar Yadav, is going through a lean



Mumbai Indians' Sachin Tendulkar with team coach Mark Boucher during a practice session ahead of the IPL 2023 cricket match against Kolkata Knight Riders.

**Match time: 3:30PM IST**

lined by fresh elbow trouble post his appearance in the first match of the season. Jason Behrendorff and Riley Meredith will have to shoulder the responsibility in the fast-bowling department, while Piyush Chawla will be expected to carry forward his form from the previous game where he took 3/22.

KKR have shown incred-

ible fight right till the end to pull off a stunning win against Gujarat Titans, and fight till the last ball against SRH. Rinku Singh will be the biggest threat with the bat for MI since the left-hander has smacked an unbeaten 48 and 58 in his last two outings batting at No 7. Besides, skipper Nitish Rana, Venkatesh Iyer, Rahmanullah Gurbaz and Shardul Thakur have been among runs for KKR, which indicates MI will have to be at their best in all departments.

However, KKR have some concerns too in the form of their all-rounder Andre Russell, who has struggled with the bat in this IPL.

## Pakistan thump New Zealand in captain Babar's 100th T20

**Lahore, Apr 15 (AP):**

Pakistan celebrated the 100th Twenty20 of its all-format captain Babar Azam with a thumping 88-run win over a weakened New Zealand in the first game of their five-match series here.

Fast bowler Haris Rauf's career-best figures of 4-18 on Friday night upstaged Matt Henry's earlier hat trick as New Zealand got bowled out for 94 with more than four overs to spare - losing its last five wickets for only six runs.

Rapidly improving young batter Saim Ayub

and Fakhar Zaman made 47 runs each before New Zealand struck in the latter half of the innings on the back of Henry's hat trick and got Pakistan bowled out for 182 in the final over. "I still remember the journey of starting off here as a ball-boy on the sidelines and to now be here, it is a huge honour," Babar said. Pakistan got to its full strength for the series against the Kiwis after losing to Afghanistan 2-1 in the United Arab Emirates in a series where four frontline players, including Rauf and Babar, were rested.

## Maxwell hopes friends from Aus will give him motivation to put RCB back on track



**Bengaluru, Apr 15 (PTD):**

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) all-rounder Glenn Maxwell could have added motivation to steady his team's floundering campaign in IPL 2023,

with four of his childhood friends flying down from Australia to cheer their mate in the ongoing tournament. RCB have eked out just one win in three outings - against Mumbai Indians - and are placed eighth with two points.

Maxwell scored an unbeaten 12 against MI, five against KKR, which the Bengaluru outfit lost by 81 runs, and 59 against Lucknow Super Giants in a losing cause. The 34-year-old has bowled just one over so far as RCB have relied more on their pace bowlers.

With an unflattering performance so far this season, the presence of his friends could boost Maxwell's morale, which would then put RCB back on track.

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## Atiq Ahmed's son buried amid tight security

Prayagraj (UP), Apr 15 (PTI):

The last rites of Asad Ahmad, son of gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad, were performed at Kasari Masari graveyard here on Saturday amid heavy police security, with only a few distant relatives and locals present inside the burial ground. The burial lasted for an hour, police said. Asad and his accomplice Ghulam, both wanted in the Umesh Pal murder case, were shot dead in an exchange of fire with the Uttar Pradesh Police near Jhansi on Thursday.

Asad was the third of the five sons of Atiq Ahmad and was absconding since the Umesh Pal murder



The mortal remains of gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmed's son Asad Ahmad being brought for the last rites, who was killed in an encounter in Jhansi, at the Kasari-Masari graveyard in Prayagraj, Saturday.

case. Ghulam's burial took place at a graveyard under the Shivkuti police station area. Incidentally, Atiq Ahmad and his brother Ashraf were being ques-

tioned by the Uttar Pradesh Police in the Dhoomanganj police station, around 3 km from the burial venue. When asked by reporters to comment

on Asad's death, his uncle Ashraf said, "Allah had taken back what belonged to him." "The last rites of Asad Ahmad have been completed, and it went for an hour. A few distant relatives of Atiq and some people of the locality were allowed to go to the graveyard. This was necessary from the security point of view," Joint Commissioner of Police, Prayagraj, Akash Kulhari told PTI.

He added that the burial of Ghulam took place at a graveyard under Shivkuti police station area. Earlier, Asad's uncle, Usman, reached the graveyard with the body of his nephew.

## BENGALI NY CELEBRATIONS



A priest marks a ledger book with holy symbols during Bengali New Year celebrations, in Kolkata, Saturday.

## LANDMARK DECISION

### APF constable exam to be held in 15 languages

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTI):

In a landmark decision, the home ministry has approved the conduct of constable (general duty) examination for Central Armed Police Forces in 13 regional languages, in addition to Hindi and English. The historic decision was taken at the initiative of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to give impetus to the participation of local youths in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and encourage regional languages, an official statement said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the decision "parthbreaking". In a tweet, he said, "A path-breaking decision, which

will give wings to the aspirations of our youth! This is a part of our various efforts to ensure language is not seen as a barrier in fulfilling one's dreams."

The CAPFs are the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and the National Security Guard (NSG). "In a landmark decision under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, (the) Ministry of Home Affairs has approved conducting constable (general duty) examination for CAPFs in 13 regional lan-

guages, in addition to Hindi and English," the statement said.

In addition to Hindi and English, the question paper will be set in Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Marathi, Malayalam, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Odia, Urdu, Punjabi, Manipuri and Konkani. The announcement comes days after Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin wrote to Shah, urging him to include Tamil as a language for the written exam in the recruitment for CRPF personnel.

In his letter, Stalin said that in the notification for the CRPF recruitment written exam, it was mentioned that the test could be taken

in English and Hindi. The Ministry of Home Affairs said the decision will result in lakhs of aspirants taking the examination in their mother tongue or regional language and improve their selection prospects.

The ministry and the Staff Selection Commission will sign an addendum to the existing Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the conduct of the examination in multiple Indian languages, the statement said. Constable (general duty) is one of the flagship examinations conducted by the commission and attracts lakhs of candidates from across the country.

### 'Super thief kept police running after him'



New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTI): Long before Devender Singh gained notoriety as "Bunty Chor", the super thief honed his skills as a private detective in Vasant Vihar in Delhi. However, he did not find the job challenging enough to hold his interest and he decided to try his hands at opening tricky locks. His exploits soon became the talk of the town. Police officials began looking for the "smooth operator" who was interested in stealing crystal vases, ceramic dolls and even dogs, particularly pomeranians.

Bunty worked with such ease and dressed so smartly that he could walk into a 5-star hotel or a wedding party and walk out with someone else's laptop without being noticed, say officials. In 2002, he broke into a businessman's house in Saket and stole several items, including a framed picture of the businessman's wife and daughter. He hung the photoframe at his apartment in Mayur Vihar and told visitors they were his "family" to avoid suspicion.

But it's not something that police officials remember about him the most. They say Bunty would often find a way to escape from their custody and his escapes were as interesting as his legendary stealing methods.

## K'taka CM Basavaraj Bommai files nomination

From Shiggaon

Haveri (K'taka), Apr 15 (PTI):

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Saturday filed his nominations as BJP's candidate from Shiggaon segment here for the May 10 Assembly polls and expressed confidence of getting elected again with the highest number of votes.

Bommai was accompanied by Public Works Minister C C Patil, Haveri-Gadag MP Shivakumar Udasi, and son Bharath Bommai among others as he submitted his papers to the Returning Officer. Bommai, son of former

Karnataka chief minister and Janata Parivar veteran late S R Bommai, has represented Shiggaon thrice since 2008. With a saffron shawl on his shoulder, the 63-year-old Chief Minister visited Shiggaon's 'Dyamavva Devi' temple, before filing his nomination.

"I have filed my nomination today. People of my Shiggaon constituency have supported me tremendously in the past and this time too, I'm confident of breaking all the records and getting elected with the highest number of votes. People here are aware voters and they vote for development," Bommai said after filing his nomination.

Pointing out that he had submitted his nomination papers as there was a good muhurta (time) today, Bommai added that he will be filing nomination once again on April 19 in the presence of BJP national President J P Nadda and other senior leaders.

To a question that Congress was planning to field a strong candidate against him, the Chief Minister said, "Opponent is an opponent whether strong or weak, I will take everyone equally. If there are opponents, only then there will be a contest. I'm confident in the people of my constituency, who have supported me."

## WORLD ART DAY



People participate in a rally to celebrate 'World Art Day', in Kolkata, Saturday.

## 'Did not get invite for Ambedkar statue inauguration'

Hyderabad, Apr 15 (PTI):

Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan on Saturday said she did not get invitation for the inauguration of a giant statue of B R Ambedkar here on the latter's 132nd birth anniversary. Ambedkar spoke about women empowerment but there was no invitation for a woman Governor, she claimed.

"...it was a big event. There was no any invitation for me. If I would have got the invitation, I would have come and participated, in the great personality of our honourable Ambedkar ji. Not only, he is the father of our Constitution, but he has put forth his words for development of the country, for women empowerment



Tamilisai Soundararajan

particularly," she told news channels here.

"I also felt very bad.... I paid my floral tributes to Ambedkar ji yesterday," she said. The State government on Friday unveiled 125-ft tall statue of Ambedkar at the Hussain Sagar lake here on the occasion of Ambedkar's birth anniversary.

Relations between Raj Bhavan and the TRS gov-

ernment have not been on the best of terms and Soundararajan had earlier complained of protocol not being followed during her visits to the districts.

## 'Democracy suffering, every tenet of Constitution stands compromised'

New Delhi, Apr 15 (PTI):

A day before his appearance before the CBI, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday wrote to his Tamil Nadu counterpart M K Stalin, saying democracy in India is being dealt blows every single day and the country's federal structure is in grave danger. In his reply to a letter from Tamil Nadu chief minister, Kejriwal also noted that "every tenet" of the India's Constitution stands compromised, be it liberty, equality, secularism, or fraternity.

He said the interface of the state governments and their Governors or Lt Governors has effectively become "a battlefield where a silent war is being waged by the Union government." The governors and Lt Governors are "willfully" undermining democratically elected state governments and obstructing administra-



Arvind Kejriwal

tion as per their "whims and fancies", the Delhi chief minister charged.

Kejriwal also commended Tamil Nadu Assembly for passing a resolution seeking a time-frame for governors to approve bills passed by the state legislatures, and said his government will also bring a similar resolution in Delhi Assembly in the next session.

The Tamil Nadu chief minister had recently written to his counterparts in

non-BJP ruled states, urging them to pass a resolution in their respective assemblies, seeking the Centre to fix a time limit for the governors to approve bills passed by the state legislatures.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has summoned the AAP leader in connection with the excise policy case on Sunday. He has been asked to be present at the agency headquarters at 11 am to answer queries of the investigating

team, officials said. The central probe agency has already arrested former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia in connection with the case.

It is alleged that the Delhi government's excise policy for 2021-22 to grant licences to liquor traders favoured certain dealers who had allegedly paid bribes for it, a charge strongly refuted by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). The policy was later scrapped. "It is a foregone conclusion that democracy in India is suffering from blows every single day," Kejriwal noted in his letter.

"Every tenet of our glorious constitution stands compromised - be it liberty, equality, secularism, or fraternity. It is also beyond doubt that our federal structure, which enfranchised people in the most remote corners, is in grave danger from forces that seek to illegitimately cen-

tralise all power," he added.

He said the country's federal polity and clearly laid out roles and responsibilities of the Union and state governments in the Constitution have resulted in a united nation and a cohesive society "despite all apprehensions of fragmentation that arose when we achieved independence from colonial rule."

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