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Cabinet nod for National **Quantum Mission**

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI)

government on Wednesday approved the National Quantum Mission to nurture and scale up scientific and industrial research and development in quantum technology.

The mission involves a cost to Rs 6,003.65 crore from 2023-24 to 2030-31. The National Quantum Mission (NQM), approved at a meeting of the Union Cabinet

Narendra Modi, will accelerate quantum technology-led economic growth and nurture the ecosystem in the country. "NQM is going to give India a quantum jump in this arena," Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh told reporters here. India will be the seventh country to have a dedicated quantum mission after the US, Austria, Finland, France, Canada and China

India surpasses China to become world's most populous nation

India has surpassed China to become the world's most populous nation with 142.86 crore peole, UN data showed.

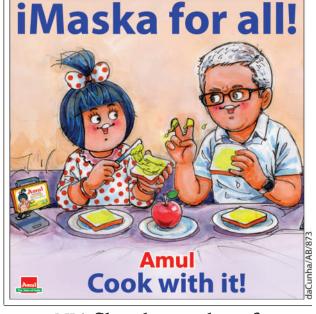
China has a population of 142.57 crore, according to the UN world population dashboard.

According to a new UNFPA report, 25 per cent of India's population is in the age group of 0-14 years, 18 per cent in the 10 to 19 age group, 26 per cent in the age bracket of 10 to 24 years, 68 per cent in 15 to 64 years age group, and 7 per cent above 65 years.

'India's population expected to rise for next three decades before starting to decline'



New Delhi: As India became the most populous country in the world, UN projections estimate that the country's population is expected to grow for the next three decades after which it will begin declining. According to experts, India has achieved the replacement level of fertility but the population will grow due to momentum phenomenon. Replacement level fertility is the level of fertility at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next. The UN analysis stated that India's population is expect-



NIA files charge sheet for organising arms training camps

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI): The National Investigation (NIA) has charge-sheeted Ibrahim Puthanathani, the national coordinator of the banned Popular Front of India (PFI), for his alleged involvement in organising arms training camps across the country, an official said on Wednesday.

The charge sheet against Puthanathani, alias Ibrahim M K, was filed in a special court here as a follow-up in the investigation in a case registered against the PFI and its leaders and cadre, a spokesperson of the NIA said.

BRIEF



National Defence Academy (NDA) entrance exam 2022 topper Anurag Sangwan at his

IEDs seized

■ Chaibasa: Five Improvised **Explosive Devices (IEDs)** were seized by security personnel in Naxal-affected West Singhbhum district in Jharkhand on Wednesday, police said. A massive anti-Naxal operation is underway in Kolhan region of Jharkhand since January 1 this year. During the operation, a team of state police and CRPF found the IEDs buried in a kuccha road between Chota Kuira and Maradiri villages in Goilkera Police

Superintendent of Police Ashutosh Shekhar said.

Kishtwar blast

Jammu: A man died and his brother was injured in a blast at their home in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district on Wednesday, police said. "Initial reports revealed that the blast occurred when the duo tried heating an abandoned object they found while collecting mushrooms in a nearby forest," a police officer said, "The blast took place in the kitchen of the house of Mohd Abass Naik in Symbol village," the officer added.

Youth booked

■ Ballia (UP): A vouth was booked for allegedly posting objectionable comments against Uttar **Pradesh Chief Minister** Yogi Aditvanath on a social networking site, a police official here said on Wednesday. The youth was identified as Mohammad Azim alias Ajju, a resident of the



BULLION GOLD 60,237 SILVER

Amit Shah to anti-narcotics agencies

'Be 'ruthless' against drug traffickers'

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said anti-narcotics agencies should be "ruthless" in dealing with drug traffickers and cartels, stressing that they are the main culprits and those consuming drugs their "victims" Citing the ill-effects of

drugs on the youth as well as the country's economy and security, he asked all states to work in close coordination and join the battle against the menace with "a whole-of-government" and "Team India" approach, keeping aside their political differences.

Addressing the first conference of the heads of Anti-Narcotics Task Forces of states and Union territo-

ries, Shah said the Ministry of Home Affairs, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has set a target to create a drug-free India by 2047 when the country attains 100th year of independence.

"Drug traders are the main culprits as the drug consumers are the victims. We have to take a ruthless approach against the drug traders and the strongest

possible action should be taken against them," he

The home minister said the Narendra Modi government is committed to eradicating the menace of drugs and a "whole of government" approach should be taken against it as it can destroy the future generations, he said. "Narcotics not only make

the young generation hollow, but along with this, there are many bad effects on the country's economy as well. Simultaneously, through narco-terror, through smuggling of narcotics, the security of the country's border can be breached.... If the 130 crore Indians fight it together, we will win this battle," he

Atiq killers sent to police custody for four days

Prayagraj (UP), Apr 19 (PTI):

The three persons accused of killing gangsterturned-politician Atiq Ahmed and his brother Mohammad Ashraf were sent to police custody for four days by the court of chief judicial magistrate here on Wednesday.

Lovelesh Tiwari, Mohit and Arun Kumar Maurya were produced in the court amid tight security on Wednesday morning as the police sought a sevenday remand.

Passing the order later, the court sent them to police custody for four days -from 2 pm on Wednesday till 5 pm on April 23, district government advocate Gulab Chandra Agrahari

Rail employee killed as goods train derails after hitting another train

Shahdol/Bilaspur, Apr 19 (PTI):

A railway employee was killed and five other personnel injured when a moving freight train hit a stationary goods train and then derailed in Madhya Pradesh's Shahdol district on Wednesday, rail officials said.

Shahdol district collector Vandana Vaidya told reporters that one of the railway personnel injured in the freight trains accident died. Two out of the five other injured are in critical condition and undergoing treatment at local government medical college, she said.

Railway sources said the deceased was the 48-yearold loco pilot of the stationary goods train.



Wreckage of two goods trains after a collision, in Shahdol district, Wednesday

The incident, which disrupted traffic on Bilaspur-Katni rail route, took place due to signal overshoot at around 6.50 am near Singhpur station, which falls under Bilaspur railway division, an official from South East Central Railway (SECR) said.

At least 10 trains operated on the route have been cancelled, he said.

Eight wagons and a loco motive of the iron oreladen moving goods train derailed in the incident, disrupting traffic on Bilaspur-Katni rail route,

SC urged to use plenary power, moral authority to ensure acceptance of same-sex marriages



New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

The petitioners seeking legal validation of samemarriage Wednesday urged the Supreme Court to use its plenary power, "prestige and moral authority" to push the society to acknowledge such a union which would ensure LGBTQIA persons lead a

"dignified" life like heterosexuals. A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud was told by senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for one of the petitioners, that "the State should come forward and provide recognition to same-sex marriage." He referred to the law on widow re-marriage, and said the society did accept it then and the "law acted with alacrity" and the social acceptance followed. "Here, this court needs to push the society to acknowledge the samesex marriage.



Ganga ghats wear a deserted look as mercury soars, in Varanasi, Wednesday.

NCW seeks probe into harassment charges against YC chief Srinivas Bv

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

Commission for Women (NCW) has asked the Assam Police to conduct an inquiry into the harassment allegations levelled against Indian Youth president Congress Srinivas B V by its Assam unit chief Angkita Dutta.

Srinivas on Tuesday issued a legal notice to Dutta, saying she was defaming him.

The NCW, in a statement, said it has come across a Twitter post enclosing screenshots of

posts made by Dutta, alleging harassment, use of derogatory language and discrimination against Srinivas.

The NCW claimed that Dutta has posted on her Twitter handle that she even raised her grievance with Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Jammu, but no action was taken on her complaint.

The Commission said it is "appalled and disappointed" and has taken cognizance of the allegations levelled by Dutta against Srinivas.

Rajnath asks Army to maintain strong vigil

UGC to universities

'Allow students to write exams in local languages even if course is in English medium' importance of teaching write the answers in local

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI)

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked universities to allow students to write exams in local languages even if the course is offered in English medium, while arranging evaluators and encouraging the translation of textbooks, according to Chairman M Jagadesh Kumar.

The Commission has also asked the universities to promote the use of local language in teaching and

learning processes as well. "Promotion and regular use of Indian languages in education is a crucial area focus in the new National Education Policy (NEP). It emphasises the

and instruction in the mother tongue and local languages "It also lays thrust on the

need to optimise communication in all Indian languages for better cognitive attainment and the development of a holistic personality of the learners,' Kumar said.

Noting that the academic ecosystem continues to be English medium-centric, the UGC chief said once the teaching, learning and assessment are done in local languages, student engagement will gradually

increase, leading to an increase in the success rate. "The Commission has requested the universities

that students be allowed to

languages in examinations even if the programme is offered in English medium, and promote translation of original writing in local languages and use local language in the teachinglearning process at universities," he said.

Asked about how students writing in local languages will be evaluated, he said, "This will be possible if the evaluators also know the local language and the University can make the effort to find the evaluators who know the local language." "The idea is to let the students write the answers in a language that will provide them the opportunity to express easily," Kumar said

along LAC as situation remains 'tense' New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Wednesday asked the Army to maintain strong vigil along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China as the situation in the northern sector remained "tense" in view of deployment of PLA troops.

In his address at the Commanders' Armv Conference, Singh, without making specific references, called upon the armed forces to take note of geopolitical changes around the world, and accordingly mould their planning and strategies, sources said. "The situation is tense due to deployment of PLA troops in the northern sector. Our armed forces, espe-



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh visits an exhibition at the Army Commanders' Conference, at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi, Wednesday.

cially the Indian Army, will have to continuously keep their vigilance in order to maintain the security of the LAC," he said, according to the sources. Singh's

comments came in the backdrop of the three-year border row in eastern Ladakh. The defence minister said the security of the country is the "topmost

that it is the whole endeavour of the government to provide the best weapons and facilities to each and every soldier posted on the border," he said at the conference in Delhi. The five-day Commanders' Conference began on Monday. It is de-

priority" for the govern-

ment. "I assure all of you

liberating on India's national security challenges along the borders with China and Pakistan and ways to boost combat capability of the force.

Referring to Jammu and Kashmir, the defence minister said it is witnessing peace and stability and there has been a significant decline in the number of terrorist activities in the Union Territory.

Four arrested for mobile tower installation fraud

Bhilai, Apr 19: Police arrested four persons of an interstate gang of fraudsters involved in cheating people in pretext of mobile tower installation. The accused worked at a call centre in West Bengal 24 Parganas. Patan Police Station arrested them in connection with a complaint of fraud filed by Teiendra Chakradhar.

The accused duped him of Rs 59460. The accused lured him to pay different amounts on assurance of providing Rs 15 lakh as advance in lieu of installing a mobile tower of Airtel company in his agricultural field. The accused further assured that the company would pay Rs 20000 rent per month after installation of the tower.

SP Dr Abhishek Pallava



informed that during investigation of this matter, they found that the accused used mobile numbers 9477122319, 9073850137, 9593522494, 8617776775. They also used the bank accounts of SBI, HDFC, Canara Bank and Bank of

Police traced the loca-

tion of the mobile numbers as well as examined the details of the bank transactions. A Police team was sent to West Bengal from where the accused were taken into custody. During interrogation, the accused confessed to duping Rs 21 lakh from a person in

lakh from a person in Dhamtari district, Rs 90000 from a person of Dhamdha and Rs 38460 from a person in Seoni in Madhya Pradesh as well as Teiendra Kumar of Patan.

The arrested accused are Barun Singh alias Mayank Singh (39) son of

Station, Patahi District, Champaran, Motihari Bihar (presently residing at Subhash Nagar, Dumdum Police Station); Asima Rai (30) daughter of Mansoor Ali a resident of Duttabad Road Bagpara, Opposite Apollo Hospital, Police Station Vidhan Nagar, CC Block, District North 24 Parganas (WB); Deepika Mandal (26) daughter of Sapan Mandal a resident of Duttabad Road, Salt Lake Kolkata, PS Vidhan Nagar Kolkata; and Sneha Pal (25) daughter of Dulalchand Pal a resident of 1/B-5 Ramlal Agarwal Lane, Opposite Meghdoot Apartment, Thana Ghoshwara Badanagar, Kolkata (WB). Police seized 44 mobiles, 22 diaries and one motorcycle

Bhilai Steel Plant organises one day free health camp at Joratarai



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 19: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant remains upfront in fulfilling its organizational social responsibility by doing several public welfare activities for the communities within which it works. The Corporate Social Responsibility Department (CSR) of Bhilai Steel Plant takes multiple initiatives towards establishing, cultur-

al unity, professional de-

velopment, environment

sports, health and wellbeing in Bhilai and adjoining areas. The CSR Department contributes actively for healthcare, through initiatives like health camps, which are organized from time to time to provide medical assistance to villagers.

In this series, a free health camp was organized by the Department in village Joratarai recently. An expert medical team from CSR, comprising of Dr Nishi Minj, Shri Gaur, Pharmacist, Rekha Dev

Examination Shambhu for Registration, conducted the camp at Joratarai. Shri Soni from the CSR Department of Bhilai Steel plant was also present in the camp, along with School Principal from the village school, village councilor represen-

A total of 32 individuals including 9 men, 11 women and 12 children, were examined in the camp and free medicines were distributed in the

RPS celebrates Tenth Foundation Day

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 19: It was a memorable day for the management, staff and Public School that runs under the aegis of Sanjay Rungta Group of Institutions, when they all celebrated their Tenth Foundation Day on April 17, 2023. The school completed its glorious journey of 9 years and stepped into the 10th year on April 09, 2023.

The journey so far has been a very rewarding one. The Chairman of SRGI, Sanjay Rungta, Director Harsha Rungta,

and Principal, Deepti Singh graced the occasion by their presence.

Celebrating this milestone achievement, a special assembly was organized by Raman House. The energy and passion of the students was visible in the performances that they put up. The day started with remembering the Almighty, God and seeking blessings for the entire school commu-

This was followed by a Thought and a Speech on Foundation Day. The students choir presented a melodious song which



merizing dance performance. After this some of the students of class XII, who have been in this school since inception, shared their experience and spoke about their wonderful journey and memories related to their school life.

Commemorating the special occasion, the cake cutting ceremony was held. All the students, teachers and other staff members cherished the moments of celebration reminiscing the incredible journey that the school has embarked in since the year 2014.

Principal,

and said that it was a collaborative effort of everyone that has made the journey of the school till now so fruitful and interesting. He advised the students to keep making steady progress in their life, to always keep their spirits high and to make every possible effort to improve and upgrade themselves.

the students and staff

He reminded them of their responsibilities towards their school, to take it higher in every sphere, for which they require to be dedicated and focussed.

The Chairman of

heart felt wishes to everyone on the completion of 9 years of the school. He recounted exceptional achievements of the past years and established faith and hope that the students will excel in every field and take the name of the institution to the pinnacle.

his address extended his

He wished that all his students will become good and responsible members of their community and good citizens of their country eventu-The ceremony ended with the joint rendition of the national

Uday Mahavidyalaya organises self defence training for students

Central Chronicle News

tance of self defence for girls, Uday Mahavidyalaya organised a special training session for the girl students. Creative Karate Academy Director Sensai Sandeep Tamrakar (Black Belt 3rd Dan, National Referee Grade A and Coach); Self Defence Expert and Trainer Sensai Anjana Rajveer Singh (Certified Female Instructor, Kata / Kumate Judge - B) conducted the training ses-

They demonstrated the self defence tricks and tactics using various items. The objective of the programme was to



make the girls aware of the anti-social elements so that they can remain cautious and defend themselves in case of any

Dr TR Sahu and Principal Dr Alipa Sahu said that they would continue organising such events in were present in the profuture as well for the safe-

Uday Group Director ty of the girls. Faculty members and BEd students Mahavidyalaya, Jamul

DAV Hudco acclaims Mahatma Hansraj

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 19: To commemorate the 159th birth anniversary Mahatama Hansraj Ji -Embodiment of Havan Yajna was organized in DAV Public School, Hudco, under the aegis of Aarya Pradeshik Pratinidhi Upsabha of CG Zone on April 19, 2023. Mahatama Hansraj, was one of the greatest Arya Samajists founder of Institutions, great compassionate soul and undoubtedly, the pillar of DAV institutions.

The program was initiated with the floral tribute to the great immortal soul Mahatama Hansraj Ji followed by the Havan Yajna by the Supervisory Heads (Senior and Junior wings), Faculty members



and the students of classes VIII - XII who actively and enthusiastically participated in the Havan, metamorphosing the ambiance full of positivity, divinity, vibration of joy and contentment.

Speaking on the occasion, Raghvendra Sahu (Senior Faculty Member, Hindi Department) enlightened students about this real scholar, a great writer and a true Vedic preacher and whose commendable contribution in the field of education has given a great height to it.

He dreamt of an educated generation, enriched with values, patri-

was an embodiment of sacrifice, kindness and mercy, who helped and served the poor and needy all through his life. The Havan concluded with the chanting of Pious Mantras, bhajans, distribution of Prasad and Shanti Path.

SAIL Chairman inaugurates Milk Distribution Scheme by BSP

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 19: Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Chairman, Soma Mondal, virtually inaugurated Milk a Distribution Scheme launched under the CSR activities of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, on April, 18, 2023. Mondal was on a day's visit to BSP, wherein she also presided over various meetings and functions at DIC Conference hall of Ispat Bhawan.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Dasgupta, Anirban Director I/c(BSP), S Mukhopadhyay, (Projects) with Additional Charge, ED

(P&A), Dr AK Panda, ED(F&A), Samir Swarup, CGM I/c (Mines & Rowghat), Smriti Singh from NDDB, TS Ahuja from Devbhog Milk, JY Sapkale, CGM (TSD&CSR), NM Padhy, (Chairman Secretariat), Anupam Bisht, GM (Mines Hq), Shivrajan, GM (CSR) and other Senior management. This welfare scheme

has been envisaged for the student beneficiaries from various villages of districts Chhattisgarh, namely Narayanpur, Kanker. Balod and Manpurmohla, under Rowghat Mines Project



of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant. An MoU was exe-Development



cuted for this scheme, in March 2023 between SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant and National Dairy Board

(NDDB), to provide nutritious flavored milk to 3,000 students, during the lunch-time in the beneficiary schools.

Addressing the gathering virtually, Chairman Mondal lauded Bhilai Steel Plant for this initiative and encouraged the

students to study and play well and fulfill their dreams. She also appreciated the teachers for their role in nation

building by educating the future of the country. I am happy to see the smiling faces of children, added Chairman, Mondal.

Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c(BSP), wished good health and happiness to the students and said that the objective is to provide nutritious and tasty milk to the students, which would ensure proper nutrition and also encourage student's participation in school education.

In his welcome address, S Mukhopadhyay, (Projects) with Charge, Additional ED(P&A) said that, as a part of BSP's CSR activities, by partnering with

NDDB, Bhilai Steel Plant will provide free nutritious and tasty flavoured milk to students, in the beneficiary schools, as a step towards promoting education and nutrition in the mines areas under Bhilai Steel Plant. Under this initiative,

by partnering with NDDB, Bhilai Steel Plant will provide free nutritious and tasty flavored milk to 3,000 students, during the lunchtime. The milk packets will be supplied by Devbhog Milk Chhattisgarh Dairy Cooperative Federation. The program was conducted by Rajni Rajak from CSR department.

Feedback, survey at different level determines eligibility for ticket: Markam

Holds review meeting of office bearers at booth-level

Raipur, Apr 19: PCC Chief Mohan Markam conducted booth review with office bearers of Raipur division here on Wednesday. In this he checked about the preparations for the election at booth-level and made a major statement in context of survey for distribution of tickets.

Mohan PCC Chief Markam said that hardly six months are left for the VS polls and the govern-



ment has got survey done for many times. Feedback is being taken at organizational level on regular basis. Prior to finalization of ticket for a candidate,

even the party High Command also gets a survey done, he added.

Head of PCC in state Mohan Markam said that we will want the tickets to be given to all the existing 71 MLAs, but as to whom the ticket is to be distributed will be finalized by the High Command. In case if there are any shortcomings then instructions are being given to sort it out at government and organizational-level. Through survey we get feedback and then necessary work is done, he added

Mohan Markam said

Sharma,

Shukla.

Housing

Village

Rajendra

Gyanesh

Board

Chhattisgarh

Chhattisgarh

Sahu,

Satyanarayan

Chhattisgarh

Board President Kuldeep

and

State Yoga Commission

Sharma were present on

Amitesh

Juneia.

Khadi

Dhanendra

Industries

Chairman

Chairman

that in today's meeting, booth works were reviewed and instructions were given to form booths where it is not existing. 90% of the booths have been formed and in the coming days, Vidhan Sabha-wise training will be imparted. About committee at booth-level, he said that a committee of 35-members is formed and we have asked the office bearers to form committee, keeping in mind representation to all sections of the society. During the elections, it will help in

moving among the voters,



Chairman Yoga Commission inaugurates 33rd regular yoga practice center

Raipur, Apr 19: Chhattisgarh Yoga Commission is starting yoga practice in Municipal Corporation area. In this Chairman Chhattisgarh Yoga Commission Mr. Gyanesh Sharma inaugurated the 33rd free regular yoga practice center in Kurud. Yoga practice center will be operated by yoga instructor Bhema Sahu daily from 6:00 am to 7:30 am at old Krishi Upaj Mandi premises. The program was presided over by Neelam Chandrakar, **President Agricultural Produce** Market Committee, Kurud,

LONG WAIT



With delay in arrival of few trains and many cancelled due to collision between two goods train, the passengers were left with no option but to wait for arrival at the railway station.

Raipur's Kota Gudhyari Marg renamed as Shri Santosh Agrawal Marg

Under Bhent-Mulagat prog at Raipur (W) Vidhan Sabha

Raipur, Apr 19: The Kota Gudhyari Marg in Raipur has been renamed as the 'Shri Santosh Agrawal Marg'. During his 'Bhent-Mulaqat' programme in Raipur West Assembly Constituency, the Chief Minister, Bhupesh Baghel, participated in the renaming ceremony of the Kota Gudhyari Marg and unveiled a plaque in the name of the former mayor. Santosh Agarwal, on the road. The organizers also honored the Chief Minister with a symbolic memento on this occasion. During the renaming



ceremony, Chief Minister Shri Baghel paid tribute to the former mayor, Shri Santosh Agrawal, by offering flowers on his portrait. He said that Shri Agrawal was a simple person with a personality that was influential enough not to be ignored. He made a significant contribution to the development of Raipur

... Parliamentary

100th episode of the radio prog 'Mann Ki Baat' will be broadcast exclusively at Raj Bhavan

A meeting was held in Raj Bhavan regarding the preparations for the prog

Raipur, Apr 19: The 100th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's radio program "Mann Ki Baat" will be exclusively broadcast at Raj Bhavans across the Governor country. Biswabhushan Harichandan will preside over this program at the Chhattisgarh Raj Bhavan. Ministry The Information Broadcasting, Government of India, will organize this program. The Secretary to Governor, Amrit Khalkho, chaired a meeting today at Raj Bhavan to review the preparation of its

complete outline and coordination. In the meeting, the private secretary to the governor, B.S. Behra, the deputy secretary, Deepak Agarwal, the deputy director of Press Information Bureau, Sunil Tiwari, the central directors Doordarshan and All India Radio, and senior officers were present.

In this regard, it was stated at the meeting that a state-level committee would be formed. Aside from that, discussions were held at the Raj Bhavan about the elaborate arrangements for the telecast of "Mann Ki Baat." A special photo exhibition related to previous "Mann Ki Baat" events will also be organized as part of the program by the Directorate of Field Publicity, Government



Now classes to be held from 7 am to 11 am, CM tweeted

Raipur, Apr 19: The state government has changed the timings of the schools in view of the scorching heat. Classes will now be held from 7 am to 11 am in the entire state including Raipur. Giving this information, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has tweeted. He has written to the parents that to take care of themselves and their children. CM Bhupesh Baghel has informed about the changes made in the timings of the schools by tweeting. Along with this,

he has written that in view of the scorching heat in the state, it has been decided to change the timing of all government/non-government schools and educational institutions in the state. All primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools operating in one shift will have to follow this order. While in schools operating in two shifts, the first shift can be opened from 7 am to 11 am and in the second shift only high-higher secondary schools can be opened from 11 am to 3 pm. This order issued by the Director of Public Instruction will be effective till April 30. After

given summer vacation from May 1 to June 15.

It may be noted that due to continous heat waves increasing in the state in the month of April itself. In such a situation, it is becoming difficult for common people to come out of their houses At the same time, even children are shying away from going to school in summer. The days have started getting hot since 11 am and mercury has crossed 35 degrees. The timings were also changed in the beginning of April. In view of the scorching heat, a partial change was also made in the opening time of the schools by the Education

Students should contribute for the progress of the country and society: Governor



Governor and Chief Minister attended the 9th convocation

Degree awarded to 12,384 students, gold medals distributed to 62 students

Raipur, Apr 19: It is a matter of pride for the students that they are the citizens of the largest democratic country in the world. Nation and society have an important contribution in their achievements. It is also the duty of the students to use their education for the progress of the nation and society. Governor Vishwabhushan Harichandan expressed the above views the 9th convocation ceremony of Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur. On this occasion Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel as chief and Agriculture Minister Mr. Ravindra Choubey and Dr. Trilochan Mahapatra, former Director General, ICAR were present as special guests. Degrees were awarded to 12,384 students in the grand and dignified convocation ceremony held at the auditorium of Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur. These include 9,908 graduates, 2096 postgraduates and 380 PhD degree holders. 62 Gold, 140 silver and 23 bronze medals were awarded to students of the merit list. Addressing the function. Governor Mr. Vishwabhushan Harichandan said that agricultural universities are playing an important role in the development of the nation by providing quality education, research and extension education. At the time of formation of Chhattisgarh state this university had only one agriculture college and at present there are 39 colleges of agriculture and allied subjects.

Private entrepreneurs should be encouraged to set up millet processing plants: CS

hensive action plan for



Review of works of Forest, Home and **Jail Department**

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain has given instructions to the officials to encourage private entrepreneurs to set up processing plants to promote the use of millets. He was reviewing the works of Home and Jail and Forest Department in Mantralaya Mahanadi here on Wednesday in order of priority schemes of the state government. DGP Mr. Ashok Juneja, PCCF Dr. Sanjay Shukla, Additional Minister Mr. Subrata Sahu and Principal Secretary of Forest, Home and Jail Department Mr. Manoj Pingua were also present in the meeting.

In the meeting, the Chief Secretary instructed to work under the compreplanting trees on the private lands of farmers and other beneficiaries under 'Mukhyamantri Vriksha Sampada Yojana i He laid special emphasis on planting trees of commercial species. He said that cooperative organisations should be encouraged in tree plantation work to promote wood and plywood based industries. He also instructed the officers to set up more and more units for making Dona Patal. Forest Department officials told in the meeting that under the Millet Mission, 52 thousand 730 quintals of millet grains have been purchased in the state in the year 2022 on the support price. In the year 2023, 38 thousand 700 quintal millet has been purchased at the support price.

In the review of the Narva development works

by the Chief Secretary, the officials said that in the year 2022-23, 1503 works of Narva development have been done, in which 2 lakh 81 thousand 879 water storage areas have been taken. In Chhattisgarh, special efforts are being made for collection, processing and industry development of minor forest produce resources.

In the meeting, the increase in forest revenue, tree plantation, loan disbursement on forest rights pattas were reviewed in detail. Similarly, in the meeting, the progress of refund of funds to chit fund victims, submission of challans in criminal cases against women and children and women helpline, crime control and control of cybercrime were reviewed in detail.

Department Home Secretary Mr. Basavaraju, Managing Director Chhattisgarh State Minor Forest Produce Association Mr. Anil Rai, Chief Executive Officer CAMPA Mr. Nivasrao and other senior officers of Home and Forest Department participated in the meeting.

'ORRA strengthens its retail footprint'



Launches a massive store in Bilaspur

Bilaspur, Apr 19: ORRA, India's leading trusted brand for diamond jewellery is expanding its presence in Bilaspur with the launch of the 1st store in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. The showroom will house the latest diamond jewellery collections. ORRA's patented 73-faceted ORRA Crown Star, the brightest diamond in India, will also be exclusively available at the new retail showroom.

At the launch, the brand is offering its patrons, 25% off on diamond jewellery (for a limited period) and at 0% interest on EMI facilities.

Speaking about the launch, Dipu Mehta, Managing Director, **ORRA**, said, "Bilaspur is an important market for us. With this launch, we aim to strengthen our brand presence and craft a lasting shopping experience for our customers. The collection at the store is thoughtfully curated. keeping in mind the overall demand for diamond jewellery and the evolving tastes and choices of

The showroom which is 2300 sq.ft has been creatively designed with comfortable seating, contemporary interiors and 1 bridal lounge to enhance the customer's shopping experience. The

trons with lifetime exchange and buyback in addition to a seven-day return policy on the brand's conflict-free diamonds. The store is opera-

tomer base with 100%

certified jewellery, which

comes with complimen-

tary insurance and as-

sured free-of-cost life-

ORRA provides its pa-

maintenance.

tional at ORRA Fine Jewellery, Opposite Sai Mandir, Near Rama Magneto .Verma Marg, Bilaspur.

new showroom has the brand's defining range of diamond jewellery that includes the ORRA Crown Star Collection, Astra Collection, Desired Collection and Platinum

Collection. ORRA takes superiority in its diamond legacy by constantly providing product innovation and offering a wide range of bridal and contemporary jewellery. With 5 global design centres in Tokyo, Hong Kong, Antwerp, Mumbai, and New York, ORRA carries a legacy of 700-year-old Belgian

craftsmanship. The renowned brand provides its loyal cuslion gazes began in 1888 before it metamorphosed into ORRA. From sculpting and manufacturing diamonds to crafting and retailing the finest diamond and gold jewellery, ORRA has come a long way since its inception. Today, ORRA is one of India's finest bridal jewellery retail chains, having spread its glow with 74Stores across 34 Cities and has consistently been at the forefront of design, leadership and product innovation with 5 global design centres in Antwerp, Hongkong, New York, Tokyo & Mumbai.

The journey of a mil-

CM Baghel inaugurates 2nd Millet Cafe of the city at Nalanda Parisar halwa, Ragi pav bhaji, etc. On the

Bhupesh Baghel today inaugurated the first millet Cafe of the city at Nalanda Parisar. Now the students preparing for competitive exams in Nalanda Parisar will have easy access to millet based food items in the premises. People of the city can also visit Millet Cafe and enjoy the food items made of Ragi kodo-kutki etc. Chief Minister inaugurated this Cafe today during his public interaction program i.e. Bhent-Mulaqat in Raipur West Assembly Constituency.

Inaugurating the second millet Cafe of capital city Raipur, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that now the students coming to Nalanda Parisar for studies will get nutritious yet delicious snacks at this cafe in the premises. Now students will no longer



have to go for junk food when hungry, while nutritious millet snacks will help them stay healthy and focus on their education. Chief Minister praised Collector Sarveshwar Bhure and the officials of the municipal cor-

poration for setting up this cafe. Occasion Chief Minister Baghel cut the cake made of Ragi and also enjoyed the taste of cheela made of Kutki, Ragi bread sandwich, Ragi vegetable cutlet, Kisi kheer, Ragi cupcake, Ragi occasion incharge Minister West Mr Ravindra Chaubey, MLA and Parliamentary Secretary Vikas Upadhyay, Mayor Ejaz Dhebar, Chairman of Yog Commission Gyanesh Sharma, Speaker **Municipal Corporation Pramod** Dubey, SSO Prashant Agrawal, Corporation Commissioner Mayank Chaturvedi, and many other public representatives were present. Healthy Traditional Food Habits

are being revived and promoted: Chief Minister said that Ragi kodo kutki and millets like these have been an important part of our daily diet for generations. However, use of these grains declined over time. These food grains are rich in nutrients. At the newly inaugurated Millet Cafe,

people will get healthy options of

the delicious snacks made of mil-Millet Cafes opened in many

promoted among women.

cities including Raigarh and Chief Minister said that

Chhattisgarh was the first state in the country to launch millet mission, and now central government as also adopted this strategy. Millet based cafes and hotels are being opened in many cities of the state including Raigarh and Jagdalpur. This cafe in Raipur has been started on the initiative of District Administration in association with Municipal Corporation. He further said that maximum of the millet cafes opened in the major cities of the state are being run by women entrepreneurs or women groups. Through these our customers.' cafes, entrepreneurship is being

Every registered worker should be kept well informed: CS

About labour dept's schemes

CS Amitabh Jain reviews works of **Labour. Tribal and SC Development** and GAD

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain conducted an in-depth review of the works of Labour. Tribal and Scheduled Caste Development Department Department in order of priority schemes of the government at Mantralaya Mahanadi Bhavan here on Tuesday. The Chief Secretary has instructed the officials of the Labour Department that every registered labourer should be benefited by informing them about the schemes being

The Chief Secretary has given instructions to the

Aat Gudhiyari

run for them.

Gogaon

Under Bhent Mulagat at Raipur West Assembly Constituency

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel today unveiled the life-size statue of Chhattisgarh Mahtari at Gudhiyari, Gogaon. An attractive stat-Chhattisgarh Mahtari has been installed here at a cost of about Rs 25 lakh. Statues of four Chhattisgarhi women worshiping and praying to Chhattisgarh Mahatri have also been installed in front of the idol, and special arrangements have been made here for attractive decorations and light combinations.

On this occasion, the Minister in charge of Raipur district Ravindra Choubey, MLA Vikas Upadhyay, Mayor Aijaz Municipal Corporation Chairman Pramod Dubey, and councliors of the corporation were present.

Protection of the culture and tra-

dition of festivals in village areas

Scheme will be implemented in

61development block communi-

6111 Village Panchayats of

Each Village Panchayat will

receive an amount of Rs. 10

thousand in two installments

Raipur, Apr 19: The 'Mukhyamantri

Chhattisgarhi Parv Samman Nidhi Yojana' is

being launched to protect the festivals, tradi-

tions, and culture of village areas in community

development blocks of the state. Chief Minister

Mr. Bhupesh Baghel will launch the scheme on

20 April. Earlier, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel had

launched the Mukhyamantri Adivasi Parab

Samman Nidhi Yojana on 13 April at the Bharosa

Sammelan held in the Bastar division headquar-

ters in Jagdalpur in the presence of Priyanka

Another aim of the scheme to be launched by the Chief Minister on 20 April through video-

ty areas



Minister Subrata Sahoo

was present in the meet-

ing. While reviewing the

schemes of the Tribal and

Development Department,

the Chief Secretary re-

viewed individual and

community forest rights

recognition letters under

the Forest Rights Act.

Officials said that the

number of approved and

accepted claims under in-

dividual forest rights is

about 4 lakh 67 thousand

569. 4 lakh 61 thousand 377

forest rights letters have

been distributed to the

Additional

officials of the Labour Department to carry out planned work for the construction of houses or purchase of new houses for the workers under the Minister's Construction Workers' Housing Assistance Scheme. In the meeting, the progress made under individual and community forest rights under the Forest Rights Act was re-The Chief viewed. Secretary has given instructions to the officials of the Scheduled Caste Department to ensure that the beneficiaries benefited from various schemes of the state government under the Forest Rights

ing, Secretary, Tribal and Scheduled Development Department, Secretary to the Chief Mr. D.D. Singh, Secretary, General Administration Department, Kamalpreet Secretary, Energy Department, Mr. Ankit Anand, Secretary, Labor Department, Mr. Amrit Kumar Khalkho and Commissioner, Tribal and Scheduled Caste **Development** Shammi Abidi, Deputy Labor Commissioner, Ms. Savita Mishra, Tribal Development Department , Labor Department and other officers of General Administration Department were present.

implementation of PCPNDT Act

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 19: Health Family Welfare Minister TS Singhdeo discussed with the representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working against gender discrimination and illegal abortion, for effective implementation of PCPNDT Act. In a meeting held at his residence office in Raipur, the Health Minister sought suggestions from non-governmental organizations for effective implementation of the PCPNDT Act and improving the male-female ratio in the state.

Women's Commission Chairperson Dr Kiranmayi Nayak, Commissioner of Health Department Dr Prasanna, Director of Health Services Bhim Singh, Director National Health Mission Bhoskar Vilas Sandipan, Joint Director of PCPNDT Prashant Srivastava and Deputy Director of Health Department Dr Mahendra



Health Minister discusses effective

Commission Chairperson Dr Kiranmayi Nayak suggested in the meeting that debate, essay and speech competitions on such topics should be organized among children in high schools and higher secondary schools to create awareness to remove gender inequality and maintain a good sex ratio. Women's Commission is campaigning for awareness on these issues through awareness chariot, she said.

NGO representatives for violation of the act

Dr Shivhare receives 'Fellowship of Research Trust of Diabetes India'

mentation of the PCPNDT Act. Adequate publicity should also be given on social media to create awareness about this act and maintain better sex ratio in the state besides preventing illegal abortions.

Dr Prashant Srivastava, Joint Director, PCPNDT Act told in the State Board of Observers meeting that 56 sonography centers in 14 districts of the state were inspected by the state level inspection team. Notices were issued to 14 centres

while recommendation was made to seal two centres and suspend one centre, after inspection, he said. He informed that the inspection teams constituted at the district level inspected 853 centers and action took against 23 centers which violated the Act Action has been taken by district level teams to issue notices to 16 centres, seal five centers and suspend Representatives of NGOs Anmol Participant.

Foundation, Pradan. Samarth and Arpan pre

age and disseminate

knowledge, education and

research to provide high

quality care to diabetes pa-

tients worldwide. Dr.

thanked

Shivhare

CM Baghel unveils life-size statue of Ch'garh Mahatari



for non-scheduled regions today

Raipur, Apr 19: Diabetes is a serious disease that affects millions of people across the world. In this, insulin is not produced in the body or insulin is not used properly. A 3-day international conference "DiabetesIndia 2023" was organized in Indore on diabetes prevention and related research, new technologies and medicines across the world, in which Dr. Raka Shivhare from Madhumeet Diabetes Hospital, Raipur also participated. During the event. Dr Raka Shivhare has received the Research Trust of Diabetes India fellowship, given to selected physicians, diabetologists and endocrinologists from across the country who are doing exemplary work to improve the life of peo ple suffering from diabetes. Dr. Raka Shivhare dedicated this honor to his seniors and thanked the entire team of Diabetes India 2023. He told that. My topic at the conference was Tattoo and Botox Therapy. He apprised the doctors who came from all over the country that the patient can get tattoos and botox if their diabetes is under control. Serious contraindications related to these two have not come to the fore. Dr. Shivhare further added that Botox therapy is likely to cause muscle hypotonia, and the drugs in this therapy paralyze the contraction of the muscles. These medicines are easily available due to which India is becoming should be a guideline at all



possibility of spreading some infections such as HIV, Hepatitis and some blood borne infections due to which the chances of getting skin infection also increases Dr Shivhare is of opinion that there

tests should be done before tattoo and botox so that the patient can avoid lifelong complications. Regarding "DiabetesIndia 2023", Dr. Shivhare said that, The objective of the conference was to share ideas, analysis of innovative, feasible and imple-

DiabetesIndia 2023, that opportunity to speak as an expert. He congratulated President DiabetesIndia, Dr. SR Arvind, Chief Advisor, Dr. Shashank Joshi, Secretary, Banshi Organizing Chairman, Dr. Sunil M. Jain, Scientific Chairman, Dr. Manoj Chawla, Organizing Secretary, Dr. Bharat Sabu and the rest of the team with whose cooperation this 13th World Diabetes Conference was success

fully completed.

GEMS observes 'House Inaugural Day'

Students apprised about different houses

Raipur, Apr 19: It was an another classical start for the new academic session (2023-24) and a red letter day for Shri Gujrati English Medium Higher Secondary School (GEMS) as 'House Inaugural Day' was observed for the very first time in the school premises along with regular school assembly. The morning assembly was organized in two phases-Class I-VIII(at Gyanoday Bhavan) and Class IX-XII at 'Dome' on the third floor. The concept of celebrating this day was the brain child of dynamic principal Dr Shailesh Sharma who after taking the reins of this institution is creating ripples by introducing new concepts for the betterment of educational institution and overall development of children. As part of the celebration principal Dr Shailesh Sharma garlanded the photograph of four great personalities



Shivaji House-Blue, Rabindranath House -Green, Tagore Vivekananda Swami Orange House-Subhash Chandra Bose.House-Red) on whose names nomenclature of four different houses have been given. Thereafter regular assembly was conducted and students of four different houses standing in a queue side by side one after the other. Further Principal in his speech explained the idea behind celebrating this day and also highlighted the purpose behind the formation of four different houses. The students were made to understand that how the students divided

into four different houses develop a sense of health competition among themselves and also carry with them a sense of responsibility and discipline. The students representatives of four different houses also expressed their views on the occasion. The faculty representatives of different houses also spoke about the importance of different houses and about personalities on whose names houses have been named. The prominent among those present on the occasion were Vice Principal Chandrasekhar, Academic Coordinator Bhaskar Sharma and host of facul-

CM inaugurates C&D plant at Hirapur Jarwai



C&D plant is important for the proper management of debris coming out of houses

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the C&D plant at Hirapur Jarwai in Raipur during Bhent-Mulaqat today. On this occasion, the Chief Minister stated that, due to a surge in construction activity in cities, C&D plants have been built to properly handle construction and demolition waste, commonly known as debris, resulting from demolition and other procedures. After the trash has been

processed, paver blocks, tiles, and drain covers will be manufactured here. Effective debris disposal through a C&D plant will reduce issues such as air quality, drain blockage, and pond water storage capacity.

When inspecting the building of a paver block plant in Jarwai's C&D facility, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel asked Aarti Dahre of Attari village, who works here, how much money she earns per day. Aarti stated that she earns 200 rupees per day. Every day, 2500 paver blocks are manufactured here, said Aarti. She told the Chief Minister that this initiative is a wonderful first step toward creating jobs. Simultaneously, the Chief Minister congratulated her.

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conferencing is to protect the tradition and culture of festivals celebrated in non-scheduled village areas of the state. It also aims to pass on these festivals to the next generation in their original form and to preserve these cultural traditions. There is special significance in local festivals, celebrations, and fairs in the villages of community areas. Each Village Panchayat will be provided an amount with the aim to preserve all these festivals and cultural traditions. The unit of the scheme will be the Village Panchavat. Each Village Panchayat will be given Rs. 10

thousand in two installments. It is noteworthy that 61 development blocks in the state fall under community areas. This amount will be provided to 6 thousand 111 Village Panchayats of the community development block areas

For the implementation of the scheme, a Village Panchayat-level governing committee will be formed. The committee will include the Sarpanch (Chairman), Pujari, Baiga member, 2 senior members of the village, two female members of the village, Gram Kotwar, Patel members, and Village Secretary.

The Additional Chief Secretary of Panchavat and Rural Development has instructed the Collector and Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat to offer guidance to the members of the Village Panchayat level governing committee at Janpad Panchayat level for the implementation of the scheme, to ensure the proper use of the money. The Village Panchayat level Governing Committee will determine the festivals or occasions on which the amount will be utilized. The monitoring of the scheme's implementation and co-ordination related work will be done by the

Janpad level governing body. **District Collectors and the Chief Executive** Officer of District Panchayat have been told to conduct widespread publicity of this scheme and to bring it to the notice of all concerned so that the village societies of all community development blocks of the state can

benefit from this scheme.

71 affected people not given jobs by Nagarnar Steel Plant In lieu of land

acquired for the plant

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Apr 19: Land was the only support for the 71 affected people of Nagarnar Steel Plant, including women. The land has been acquired, but they have not got employment till date. However, before the acquisition of the land, it was promised



that they would be given jobs in NMDC. The affected people expressed their frustration and anger towards NMDC and the

government, saying that their land was taken away with the promise of providing employment opportunities. But nothing was done in this regard. The affected families informed the media that the District Collector had also approved their demands. They disclosed that their life has been badly affected due to land acquisition, as they are not having any fixed source of income

It is notable here that the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) had acquired the land for the Nagarnar Steel Plant. In which it was promised to give jobs to those people. whose land was acquired. But even after 13 years of land acquisition, the affected people have not been given jobs. Those affected have spoken to the press about their present situation. They have shared their pain in front of media persons that

how their life has been af-

fected due to land acquisi-

tion and how they have not got any job opportunities despite promises

In this issue, the affected people are demanding accountability NMDC and the government. The Nagarnar Steel Plant project was expected to provide employment opportunities and contribute to the development of the region. The affected people are expecting redressal of their grievances from NMDC and the Government at the earliest.

Potholed roads calm the announcement of Mungeli-Setganga as tourist destination

The declaration of Mungeli-Setganga as tourist destination is still on papers as basic facilities that include drains and roads are far out of reach of the people here.

As per information, at some places, concrete drains have been constructed in the township, but due to lack of regular cleaning, they are littered with filth and Setganga being the focal point of religious faith located on the banks of river Tesua between Mungeli-Pandaria on Bilaspur-Jabalpur state road, just 22 kilometers from the district headquarters, the developmental phase is very

Due to non-availability of drains in the villages, the water from the houses and waste water fills the road.

At some places, concrete drains have been constructed in the township, but due to lack of regular cleaning, they are littered with filth, due to which the condition of the people is mis-

Where there are a large number of devotees visiting on many festivals,the largest mango market in the district also operates on Sundays, in which Kawardha, Lormi. Takhatpur, Pandatarai, Pandariya and sur-



rounding villagers come in large numbers to buy and sell the same.

Setganga has been given tourist status in the year 2010-11 and after getting the tourist status, the residents of the area including Setganga had a hope that the development here would happen at a rapid pace and due to the political war between BJP and Congress, basic facilities are not available here. For the last two years, under the Jal Jeevan Mission, spigots are being installed in every house by making plate forms, which is incomplete till date, due to which the problem of drinking water remains.

The demand for com-

Setganga, girls school, construction of market shed, beautification of stop dam temple area, rest house is years old but these demands were neither fulfilled by the BJP nor the Congress in the last four years.

Apart from the ruling party Congress and the main opposition party BJP, Jogi Dal AAP Party, Bahujan Party is also very active here, but it is a matter of misfortune that the activism of these representatives associated with various political stars is limited.

It is yet to be seen, as of how and when the phase of development starts in this state declared tourist place.

Birth anniversary of Ambedkar celebrated

The 132nd birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar was celebrated with great fanfare in Headquarters Tehsil Mainpur Nagar, and people from all walks of life participated in the grand procession.

With slogans of Jai Bhim, the procession was warmly welcomed with sharbat sweets and flower garlands and the Chief Guest Janak Dhruv, Chhattisgarh State Adivasi President of Congress. District Panchayat Vice President Sanjay Netam, Special Guest District Panchayat President Smt. President Mahendra Netam, member of Bhunjia tribe Tikam Nagvanshi, Block



While addressing the huge public meeting, State President of Tribal President of Congress, Janak Dhruv said that Baba Saheb Ambedkar dedicated his whole life for Dalit oppressed and underprivi-

leged and the constitution given by Babasaheb is the biggest strength of the people of the country. Other guest too addressed meet.Yogesh Bambode, Yuvraj Netam, Devsingh, Tribhuvan Patel, Prakash Patel Nandkishore Patel. Khilendra Pileshwar Sori, Gendu Yadav and hundreds of people from Buddhist Mahar Samaj and Sarva

Samaj were present.

Delegation from Kanker district pays courtesy call on CM



A delegation of public representatives Parliamentary Secretary Shishupal Sori paid a courtesy call on Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at his official residence here on Wednesday.

On the occasion, the public representatives of Nagar Panchayat, Janpad Panchayat, and Gram Panchayat discussed various issues concerning the development of their respective regions. The representatives also informed Chief Minister about the implementation of public welfare schemes of the government. On the occasion, Rohidas Sori, Mrs Sanju Lata Netam, Pyari Salam, Dinesh Patel, Kaushalya Sori, Lalita Sori, Mugiram Singh, Santram Markam and many other public repre-

Hundreds of villagers reached Tehsil office



Hundreds of villagers of Beltukari reached Tehsil office and kept demanding to free the land of Muktidham from encroachment. During this, the villagers present also raised slogans and informed that at the time of settlement by collusion with treachery and dishonesty, one Baliram Sahu father Fatte Lal Sahu of the village, taking advantage of his name being regis-

nipulated the revenue documents and got the said land registered secretly in his name.

In this regard, the villagers have submitted a written complaint to Collector Gariaband and Sub-Divisional Officer Rajim. Beltukri sarpanch Bhavna Ramprakash Dewangan told that this land was vacant for the last 200 years nut now is illegally occupied. Village Development Committee President Ramprakash Dewangan said that taking advantage of the wrong entry due to settlement error; attempts are being made to grab the government land by claiming it as their own.

Farmer Kamal Narayan Dewangan said that the place of Muktidham has been encroached, while villager Devnath Sahu said that there is no other place for Muktidham in our village, we will continue to fight till it is freed. They also said that during the tenure of the then Sarpanch Cheman Lal others were present.

To free **Muktidham from** encroachment

Dhivar, the government boring was excavated at the place of Muktidham which is still present but it was captured by Baliram is said to be in from the time the matter was known.

A case has been registered in the court Tehsildar Rajim and a demand has been made to free Muktidham, but due to no concrete action so far, the work of employment guarantee, beautification etc. is being affected. Kamalnarayan Dewangan, Sawant Ram Sahu, Uttam Kumar, Hiccha Ram Hirwani, Palkar Sahu, Naresh Dhivar, Ajit Kumar, Tukaram Tarak, Prem Shankar Sahu and

the collector said that

under the Godhan Nyaya

Yojana vermicompost,

conversion percentage,

packets should be made

and food should be sent to

with this, ensure the process of payment of

labor and material under

MNREGA. He also re-

viewed Gothan's infra-

structure development,

activities of RIPA, infra-

structure development.

In the meeting, the

Collector discussed with

all the departments on

time-bound cases and

gave necessary instruc-

The Collector directed

Corporation

Commissioner and the

Sub-Divisional

Magistrate to take action

along with a force to re-

move the trucks parked

Municipal

tions for redressal.

machine installation.

Korea, Apr 19: Women of activities and gave neces various Self Help Groups sary guidelines to the con-

Women livelihood

activities should begin in

Gauthans: CEO

are becoming financially prosperous by conducting various livelihood related activities in the Gauthans of the district and to take stock of these activities. Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat, Smt. Namrata Jain conducted a surprise inspection of Bodar Gauthan of development block Sonhat here. She inquired about the

purchase of cow dung in Gauthan and instructed the officials to continue the purchase regularly and also took information from the women of selfhelp groups about the livelihood activities being conducted in Gothan and encouraged them and also inspired women for new

cerned officials. During the inspection, the women of Maa Ramdaiya selfhelp group, who were manufacturing vermi compost fertilizer, told Mrs. Jain that they have sold 681.30 quintals of fertilizer so far, Malti, the president of the group, told that the work of Bari in Gauthan can also be done by the group.

Presently, they have planted chillies, tomatoes and potatoes, from the sale of which the group has got a net profit of Rs 12,000. Similarly, mushroom production is being done by the women of Aradhana and Ganga selfhelp groups in Gauthans, they informed the CEO.

the committees. Along

Branch-Shankar Nagar,

Shankar Nagar Branch (SOL54090) ,Union bank of India located at (a) 8/13, Shahid Veernarayan ward, above titan eye showroom, neaf Narrow Guage Railway Line,Shankar nagar main road Raipur-492001, and (b) First Floor, HIG-8, Sec-1, Main Road, Near Turning Poin Shankar Nagar, Raipur (erstwhile Andhra Bank) and that the Lockers will be shifted to new premises situated at Tandon Dairy, Near BTI School, Beside Indian Oil Petrol Pump Shankar Nagar, Raipur-492001 on 20.06.2023. Please note to call on us in the above new premises for operation of locker from 20.06.2023. We also request you to arrange for removal of the articles if any kept in the locker which are likely to be damaged during transit, while all care an caution will be taken by the Bank. Please also note that the Bank will not be n the locker on account of shifting of the locker cabinet. While we regret for the nconvenience which may be caused due to reallocation of Lockers, we assur

ou, the best of services and attentions.

Government of India Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) Recruitment Notice (EXTENSION OF TIME)

The last date for submission of the online applications for the post of President, ITAT has been extended till 01.05.2023. Those applicants, who have already applied for the said post, need not

apply again. For eligibility conditions, application form, terms and conditions and other details, please visit https://legalaffairs.gov.in/itatpresident/application

Under Secretary, Admn. III Section, Room No.415-C, A Wing

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Whereas, you have not cleared the dues and despite diligent and repeated follow up fo

recovery of dues you are still in default. Consequently all your rights over the hired locke stands forfeited and Bank was entitled for repossession of the locker allotted to you. Whereas, in exercise of said right of repossession Bank took possession of your said locker and decided to break open the same at your cost and consec You are hereby called upon to pay the dues within 15 days hereof (Date of publication of this notice). Please take notice that in the event of your failure to pay the above costs and take custody of the articles within 15 days hereof, Bank shall put on sale such portion of

the articles/properties as may seem necessary to satisfy the above dues, costs as we as the cost of sale. Further please take notice that the remaining articles after auction sale, if any shall be kept in safe place at an annual rent double the present rent that you are liable to pay

Women protest for 5-point demands



Apr 19: The women of the Bihaan group are on an indefinite strike regarding their 5point demands, under which the women of the Bihaan here group reached the collectorate on a foot march from Ghotia Chowk.The women were demanding their 5 point demand, however were agitated when the higher administrative officials denied to meet them. Pressing to their demand, Maheshwari Thakur said that when the top officials

of the district administration reach our village, the women of various Self Help Groups and Gauthan Livelihood activities provide with all needed information, but when they needs administrative assistance their calls are falling to deaf ears. The women of the group have demanded that they should be given appointment certificate, monthly honorarium, regularization and travel allowance from residence to work-

Collector gave instructions to increase the number of enumerator teams To speed-up socio-economic survey work

Jagdalpur, Apr 19: Kumar said that for the necessary progress in the socio-economic survey work, progress should be made in the survey work by increasing the number of enumerator teams at the development block level. The above things was said while directing the officers in the timelimit meeting organized in the 'Prerna meeting' room of the district office here on Tuesday. He also gave instructions for publicity and getting applications from the beneficiaries to give maximum benefits under the unemployment allowance scheme. On this occasion, CEO District Panchayat Prakash Sarve, Additional



Haresh Mandavi and all district level officers were present. Collector Kumar reviewed the cases of Nazul, Revenue, Diversion, Land Rent. Revenue Recovery. Demarcation works, CFRR. Reviewing the progress of caste certificates, he directed to distribute the prepared certificates through local people's representatives. He instructed the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and Tehsildars to inspect the distribution work of caste certificates in schools. The Collector instructed the Chief Medical and Health Officer to keep the ambulance constantly

children were taken on

a tour of Kotwali Police

Station, Ajak Police

Panchayat Office and

Police Office located at

Headquarters. During

the visit to the offices,

the children were given

information about the

official work and its re-

In the district pan-

Superintendent

Collector's

District

District

Station,

lation.

ready for emergency services and to direct the BMOs at the development block level for immediate medical facilities. In the meeting, discussions were held regarding the implementation of schemes related to Scheduled Tribes and the data.

Along with this, discuspermission. Narva

sions were held regarding the implementation of Sahayika, worker recruitment, status of e-KYC, Chief Minister Slum Health Scheme, map, huilding Dhanvantari, Mitan Yojana, Amrit Mission Vikas Mission, Amrit Sarovar Yojana. In the meeting,

on the main road of the NAME CHANGE NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I Nazneen Chini Wife of Mohammad Hanif Chini ward 55 Laxmi Nagar Pachpedi Naka Raipur C.G. Pin code 492001 have changed my old name Nazneen Chini Wife of Mohammad Hanif Chini so in future I should be recognize by my new name Nazneen Bano Chini Wife of Mohammad Hanif Chini in all government and other

Nazneen Bano Chini ward 55 Laxmi Nagar

Pin code 492001

documents.

It is to be informed to the

general public that i VIJENDRA RUPRELA Resident of House No. N-7, Green Land Behind Chhattisgarh Hotel, Vishal Nagar Purena (Amlidih) RAIPUR (C.G.). Have changed my Son Old Name RAJVARDHAN RUPRELA S/O VIJENDRA RUPRELA so In future he should be Recognized by his New Name that is RAJVARDHAN VIJENDRA RUPRELA S/O VIJENDRA RUPRELA in all Government and other Documents.

VIJENDRA RUPRELA

House No. N-7, Green Land Behind Chhattisgarh Hotel, Vishal Nagar Purena (Amlidih) Raipur (C.G.).

Bijapur, Apr 19: Under the 'Mawa Police Ketul' campaign here on Tuesdaythe children of Eklavya School-Awapalli and Dugai Guda Pota Cabin were taken on a tour to various offices located in the district head-In relation to 'goodtouch bad-touch' cyber fraud, cyber crime, traf-

'Mawa Police Ketul' campaign held in the district

fic rules, assistance given during road accidents etc, the children were shown through videos, presentations and symbols by displaying them

The children were informed about the arms and safety equipment by putting up an exhibition of the arms and safety equipment used by the security forces in the field. The school children

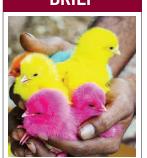
listened to the informa-

tively and also asked questions eagerly and answers were also given to the questions raised. After lunch, all the

chayat office, booklets of various schemes of Chhattisgarh government were distributed tion given very attento the school children. The children were

also taken on a tour to Pachpedi Naka Raipur C.G. the swimming pool located at Bansagar, the district headquarters.

BRIEF



chicks coloured to attract customers, in Jammu, Wednesday.

Rathore arrogant

Jaipur: Rajasthan Congress president Govind Singh Dotasra on Wednesday accused the newly appointed Leader of Opposition in the state assembly Rajendra Rathore of "roaming in arrogance" "Rajendra Rathore is roaming in arrogance that he has become god after becoming leader of the opposition," Dotasra said. Referring to the state polls due by the end of

MNS chief

months.

this year, he said

last for only eight

Rathore's tenure is to

Nashik (Maha): Maharashtra Navnirman Sena's (MNS) Nashik city unit chief Dilip Datir resigned from his post on Wednesday. While he cited personal reasons in his resignation letter to party chief Raj Thackeray, internal politics might have prompted him to quit, sources said. Nashik in north Maharashtra was once a stronghold of the party. In the letter. Datir thanked Thackeray for reposing faith in him and said though he was resigning from his post, he will remain a member of the party forever.

Vendor killed

■ Nagpur: A 59-year-old street vendor was killed and a pedestrian was injured after a speeding ambulance hit them in Nagpur city of Maharashtra, police said on Wednesday. Police have arrested the 21year-old driver of the ambulance for rash and negligent driving. The incident occurred in Sakardara area on Tuesday evening when the ambulance was shifting a body.

Explosion kills

■ Nashik: Three labourers were killed and one seriously injured after they used a lowintensity explosive to break rocks while digging a well in Maĥarashtra's Nashik district, an official said on Wednesday. The accident took place at Hirdi village in Trimbakeshwar taluka around 10 pm on Tuesday, the official said. Four workers started digging a well but they encountered rocks after a few feet. They used a lowintensity explosive to go deeper, the official said.

Sarpanch arrested

Srinagar: A sarpanch was arrested on Wednesday for allegedly raping a woman in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. Ali Mohammad was held following a complaint by the victim at the Rafiabad police station, they said. Police said a case under IPC sections 376 (rape), 506 (issue threat) and 109 have been registered against the accused.

Jharkhand bandh demanding 100pc reservation in govt jobs for locals evokes mixed response

Ranchi, Apr 19 (PTI):

Public transport was affected and schools remained closed as the 12hour shutdown by several students' organisations demanding 100 per cent reservation for locals in state government jobs evoked a mixed response Jharkhand Wednesday.

Members of different organisations under the banner of the Jharkhand State Students' Union (JSSU) took to the streets to enforce a state-wide shutdown, which began at 6pm. Several student leaders were detained across the state for blocking roads by burning tyres and creating a ruckus, police said. Long-route buses were mostly off the roads and schools remained

Jaipur, Apr 19 (PTI):

Minister Ashok Gehlot on

Congress workers not to

be distracted by politics

and to focus on helping

people get access to wel-

fare schemes. Addressing

a daylong workshop at the

Birla auditorium here,

Gehlot said party workers

should promote the gov-

schemes, particularly the

"Mehangai Rahat Camps"

or inflation relief camps

being organised across the

state from April 24. "Our

priority is to help people

affected by inflation. We

need to spread awareness

about Mehangai Rahat

Camps and ensure that

people can access its bene-

fits," Gehlot said. "We are

here to serve the people,

not to play politics. Let us

Rajasthan

Wednesday

ernment's



People from Andhra Pradesh have a meal by the side of a highway during 'Jharkhand Bandh' called over the state government's new recruitment policy, in Ramgarh district, Wednesday.

closed in many districts. However, shops, offices and business establishments were open in most of the districts, and autorickshaws operated as usual, "Over 30 bandh supporters were detained in Ranchi for trying to create

put our energy into mak-

ing sure that every eligible

person can benefit from

our welfare schemes." he

added. The chief minister

said party leaders and

workers working hard in

this regard will be reward-

ed. "Your efforts will not

go unnoticed. We will

recognise and reward

those who go the extra

mile to serve the people,"

he said. The camps are

being set up with an objec-

tive to help people fight

price rise. Information re-

garding public welfare

schemes and programmes

will be given to people

from deprived sections

and they will be linked to

the schemes based on

Gehlot also cited a sur-

their eligibility.

Raj CM Gehlot to Cong workers

'Don't be distracted by politics,

focus on helping people'

Chief

welfare

disturbance in traffic movement. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishor Kaushal said. He said the district administration made an elaborate arrangement in view of the bandh. "Situation remained normal at railway stations and bus stands in Ranchi city," Kaushal said.

Around 2,500 security personnel were deployed in the city to maintain the law and order situation, officials said. Jharkhand Academic Council (JAC) cancelled the scheduled examinations in view of the bandh. Dumka

Sahibganj districts, markets and business establishments were shut, buses were off the roads, and schools and colleges remained closed. However, government offices functioned as usual.

Normal life was largely unaffected in Dhanbad, Jamshedpur and Godda as shops and business establishments were open and auto-rickshaws plied as

Comprehensive tiger estimation report to be released in July

A comprehensive tiger estimation report of West Bengal to be released in July is expected to throw light on the "real situation" about the population of big cats in three forest reserves of north Bengal, a top wildlife official said on Wednesday. A detailed analysis will reveal if the three forest reserves -Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, Neora Valley National Park and Buxa Tiger Reserve - can be classified as tiger reserves or described as places with a floating population of big cats, Bengal's chief wildlife warden Debal Roy said. "We will give details in the comprehensive tiger estimation report of the state which will come out by July. As of now I can only say the findings at the

Bengal is encouraging. There had been indications about the presence of tigers in these areas for a long, especially in Neora Valley National Park. Now there is reason to believe it is true," Roy told PTI.

Several anti-poaching measures taken by the forest department in the last few years and a sustained public awareness campaign, involving locals, are now yielding results, the official said.

"A detailed analysis will give a comprehensive idea about the real situation," the chief wildlife warden said. Earlier tiger estimation reports had highlighted the concentration of big cats in the Sunderbans where the last census put the figure at 100 based on camera trap technique. Roy said the wide prey

habitat contributed to the sustained growth of tigers, especially in the Sunderbans.

"In Sunderbans, there is a wide and uniform distribution of deer and the forest department regularly releases deer in the Sajnekhali deer reserve area. There is also a significant significant population of wild pigs in the Sunderbans which help in creating an eco-system,' he added.

State Forest Minister Jyotipriyo Mallick had earlier voiced dissatisfaction over the non-inclusion of the number of tigers in places such as Neora Valley National Park and Buxa Tiger Reserve in the all India report, released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

Cong strongman Siddaramaiah files nomination from Varuna

Mysuru (K'taka), Apr 19 (PTI): Senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday filed nomination from Varuna constituency in this district, for the May 10 Karnataka Assembly polls, as he reiterated that this would be his last election and virtually laid out a "succession plan" of sorts.

The 75-year-old Leader of Opposition indicated his son and grandson to be his political successors. "This is my last election, after that there is Yathindra (son), Dhawan Rakesh (grand son)...", he

Siddaramaiah's younger son Dr Yathindra vey, saying the Congress Siddaramaiah is the sitting Congress MLA from will emerge victorious in Varuna. An eight time the Assembly elections

earlier won twice from Varuna, and went on to bethe Leader of Opposition after winning from here in 2008, and then became Chief Minister after 2013 Assembly polls.

The Congress legislature party leader offered prayers to his family deity Siddarameshwara at the temple in his native vil-

Siddaramanahundi, and also visited Sri Rama temple there, and held a massive roadshow before filing the nomination.

He also visited the famous Chamundeshwari temple on Chamundi hills in Mysuru, and addressed a public meeting ahead of filing papers.

Pointing out that he is the son of the soil, village Siddaramanahundi comes

last election. After contesting this polls, he will retire from electoral politics, but not from politics. Dhawan Rakesh is son

under Varuna segment, Siddaramaiah while ad-

dressing the public meet-

ing said this will be his

of Siddaramaiah's late Rakesh Siddaramaiah. Siddaramaiah took Dhwan's name the crowd started cheering.

As Dhawan was waving Siddaramaiah said, "He should be 25 years to come to politics, still eight years to go, his education is still not complete. Only after completing education, politics. Your love and affection towards him was what you had on Rakesh. who was very popular

14 govt employees suspended for unauthorised absence

Jammu, Apr 19 (PTI): As many as 14 government employees were placed under suspension and 21 others, including some gazetted officers, were served show cause notices for being absent from duty without authorisation following a surprise inspection at offices in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said on Wednesday. Deputy Commissioner, Poonch, (DC) Inder Jeet ordered the action against the erring government employees after a surprise inspection of various government offices, including Jal Shakti, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and floriculture departments in the district, they said. The official said the deputy commissioner formed a committee headed by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Tahir Mustafa Malik to conduct surprise inspections across all the government offices in a phased manner following complaints

from public and Panchayati Raj Institutions. "Those absent have neither sanctioned leave in their favour nor have maintained any movement register for field visits. Moreover, some Head of Departments holding important offices are unaware of the whereabouts of their immediate staff as well as field staff. Further some HODs are themselves found absent during office hours," the official said. He said the ADC Poonch recommended stringent action against erring employees including HODs. Acting on the recommendations of the committee, the deputy commissioner suspended 14 employees and issued show cause notices wherein HODs are directed to clear their positions within a week, the official said.

towards poor and unprofessional work culture. The general public needs not to suffer because of such erring employees," he said.

"There will be zero tolerance

Congress leader Johnny Nelloor resigns from party

scheduled later this year.

(PTI): Former MLA Johnny Nelloor, a leader of the party Kerala tive to the UDF. Congress, on Wednesday resigned from the party as well as the Congressled opposition UDF to float a "national-level" party which would work for farmers' interests.

Kerala Congress chairman P J Joseph said that his party worked to protect the interests of farmers and therefore there was some ulterior motive behind Nelloor's decision. He also said that he not received Nelloor's resignation let-

Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the State Assembly V D Satheesan downplayed the development saying that if not

Congress would send some other representa-

be a very important the BJP, or that the new ieader," Satneesan said, speaking to reporters in Kollam. He further said that only those who had an anti-communist and anti-fascist view could be part of the UDF, and anyone who answered the call of the BJP or other political parties could not be a part of either the Kerala Congress or the National Indian Congress.

Nelloor's resignation is being viewed by many as a move to join the BJP-led Democratic Alliance (NDA) and help it gain a foothold in the southern state where the

MLAs or MPs. He, however, rejected speculations regarding any such al-"He does not appear to liances, including with party would be Unristian oriented, and said it would be secular in na-

> Speaking to the media in Kochi, Nelloor said the idea behind floating a new party was to represent the farmers and raise the issues they face.

"We will work for all farmers and fishermen, not just rubber cultivators," he said.

Nelloor declined to disclose any details about the party or who all would be at its helm, apart from him, and said that everything would be made clear in a few days.

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):



BJP supporters during a roadshow of BJP National President JP Nadda, ahead of Karnataka Assembly elections, in Haveri district, Wednesday.

Veteran Atwal guits SAD on 'moral grounds' after son joins BJP

Chandigarh, Apr 19 (PTD:

Veteran leader and former Punjab Assembly Speaker Charanjit Singh Atwal on Wednesday resigned from the primary membership of the Shiromani Akali Dal, days after his son Inder Iqbal Atwal joined the BJP.

The Bharatiya Janata Party has named Inder Iqbal Singh Atwal, who quit the Akali Dal recently, as its candidate for the Lok Sabha bypoll to Jalandhar seat in Punjab.

Charanjit Singh Atwal (86), who was the deputy speaker of the Lok Sabha from 2004 to 2009 and once considered close to former Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal, said he quit the SAD on moral grounds after his son and other family members

joined the BJP.

"I have written to SAD that I have resigned from primary membership and from other responsibilities today. I did so because I feel my sons Inder Iqbal Singh and Jasjeet Singh and my nephew Sukhjinderjeet Singh have left SAD and joined the BJP," he said.

"Second thing is that my elder son Inder Iqbal Singh is fighting the Jalandhar Lok Sabha bypoll as a BJP candidate. I feel as BJP has given respect to him and fielded him from Jalandhar and besides this, some other family members have also joined the outfit, morally I feel leaving SAD was necessary," he added.

Polling Jalandhar parliamentary seat will take place on May 10 while the counting will be held on May 13.

Former Karnataka Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar, who joined the Congress this week after quitting the BJP, figures in the Congress' list of star campaigners for the Karnataka Assembly polls that also includes party chief Mallikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi, Rahul and Shashi Gandhi Tharoor. The Congress on Wednesday released a list of 40 leaders who would be the party's star campaigners for the May 10 assembly elections.

Interestingly, Shettar, who crossed over to the Congress a couple of days ago and has been given the party ticket from the Hubli-Dharwad-Central Assembly segment that he currently represents, has

been included in the list. A staunch RSS man, Shettar was part of the Jan Sangh and BJP for several decades before severing his ties with the party upon his candidature being overlooked for the May 10 election and joined Congress on Monday. The Congress' list of star campaigners has many stalwarts from Karnataka such as former chief min-Siddaramaiah, Karnataka Congress chief D K Shivakumar, Jairam Ramesh, M Veerappa Moily, M B Patil, G Parameshwara, K H and BK Muniyappa Hariprasad.

Shettar, Sonia, Tharoor in Cong's list

Others include Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh counterpart Bhupesh Baghel, Himachal Pradesh CM

of star campaigners for Karnataka polls Sukhwinder Singh Sukku, AICC in-charge Karnataka Surjewala, senior party leaders Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, K C Venugopal, P Chidambaram, Prithviraj

Chavan and Ashok Chavan. Sachin Pilot, who was on the list of star campaigners for the 2018 Karnataka polls, does not figure on the list this time. Ramalinga Reddy, Satish Jarkiholi, D K Suresh, G C

Chandrashekhar, Syed Naseer Hussain, Zameer Ahmed Khan, H M Revanna, Umashree, Revanth Reddy, Ramesh Chennithala, Srinivas B V, Raj Babbar, Mohammed Azharuddin, Spandana, Imran Pratapgarhi, Kanhaiya Kumar, Rupa Shashidhar

and Sadhukokila are also

on the list.

shoppers' spirits ahead of Eid

Inclement weather dampens

Srinagar, Apr 19 (PTI):

Incessant rainfall over the past two days in Kashmir has dampened the festive spirit of shoppers ahead of the Eid.

Eid-ul-Fitr, marking the culmination of the fasting month of Ramzan, is expected to be celebrated on Friday or Saturday, depending on the sighting of the crescent moon.

"Preparations for Eid is underway but rain has hampered and disturbed the fervour. There is no rush in the market compared to last year," Nisar

Hussain, a customer, said. He also blamed the rampant construction work going on in the city for fewer people coming out

to shop. "If you see, due to smart city construction work also people don't have a passage to walk. So, this also has adversely affected the Eid shopping," Hussain said.

Imtiaz Ahmad Bhat, a shop owner, echoed similar views.

"This year we don't see any crowds on Eid eve. First smart city works and now rain has impacted the Eid shopping,' Bhat said.

He said usually the shopkeepers would be busy attending hordes of customers ahead of Eid.

"Usually we don't have time for a breather but this year we are sitting idle. Compared to last year, this year its not even 50 per cent (business)," he

Shabir Ahmad bhat, another shop owner, said he was hopeful of better weather over the next few

Pakistan shares plan with IMF for \$3B support

Islamahad, Anr 19 (PTI):

Debt-ridden Pakistan has shared its plan with the IMF to secure an additional USD 3 billion to meet the mandatory financing assurances laid by the global lender for it to release the country's stalled bailout plan, it emerged on Wednesday.

The Washington-based global lender had asked Pakistan to arrange USD 6 billion in external financing but so far only USD 3 billion were arranged after Saudi Arabia agreed to provide USD 2 billion and the UAE pledged USD 1 billion. The USD 6 billion gaps had been worked out on the premise that Pakistan's current account deficit would remain around USD 7 billion in the current fiscal year

ending on June 30. The

reported Wednesday.

The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) led coalition government informed International Monetary Fund (IMF) about its plan to secure a USD 450 milworth second Resilient Institutions for Sustainable Economy (RISE-II) budget support loan, it said.

The government has also shared its plans to get USD 1 billion from Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and other commercial banks to materialise pledges secured at the Geneva moot.

The Geneva conference held in January this year pledged several billion dollars to help Pakistan combat the challenges of climate change. The global

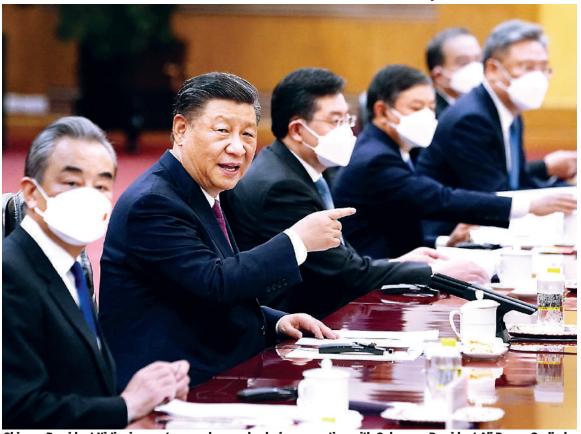
tries committed a sum exceeding USD 10 billion for 2022 devastating floods causing around USD 30 billion in infrastructure and economic damages.

Official sources said that Pakistan asked the fund to give a nod to the agreement to release USD 1.1 billion out of a USD 7billion bilateral program agreed upon in 2019, to make it easier to raise loans from the global mar-

Interestingly, all bilateral and multilateral donors and countries have also refused to provide loans to Islamabad until the IMF approved its agreement.

The IMF has put forward tough conditions during talks held in February and refused to approve a staff-level agree-

POWERFUL LEADERS MEET



at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Wednesday, April 19.

Chinese President Xi Jinping gestures as he speaks during a meeting with Gabonese President Ali Bongo Ondimba

Worried relatives appeal govt to evacuate Indians stranded in Sudan

Dubai, Apr 19 (PTI): Anxious relatives of several Indians stuck in Sudan following the fighting between the Army and paramilitary forces are eagerly waiting for information about their relatives and appealed to the government to evacuate them from the strife-torn African country as soon as possible. Fighting erupted in Sudan on Saturday, leaving at least 185 people, including an Indian, dead and more than 1,800 injured. Mansi Sheth, whose father is stuck in the country following the clashes between the Sudanese army and a rival paramilitary force, said she was worried about his safety. She said her 63-year-old father was in Sudan on a business trip and was to fly back to Mumbai on Saturday (April 15). He was at the airport when they were informed that the flight was cancelled. He along with other passengers was not allowed to leave the airport. After some hours when they were allowed to leave the airport, they had to walk towards their hotels as there was no convevance available.

North Korea's 1st spy satellite is ready for launch: Kim



Seoul, Apr 19 (AP):

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said his country has completed the development of its first military spy satellite and ordered officials to go ahead with its launch at an undisclosed date, state media reported Wednesday.

Establishing a spacebased surveillance system is one of Kim's key objectives to advance his military capability to pressure the United States to abandon what he called its hostile policies, such as its military

drills with ally South Korea and international economic sanctions on North Korea.

Previous missile and rocket tests have demonstrated North Korea can send satellites into space, but many experts question whether it has cameras sophisticated enough to use for spying from a satellite because only low-resolution images were released after past launches

During his visit to the country's aerospace agency Tuesday, Kim said that having an operational military reconnaissance satellite is

effectively use its war deter-

Kim cited what he described as serious security threats posed by "the most hostile rhetoric and explicit action" by the United States and South Korea this year, according to the official Central News

Kim said "military reconnaissance satellite No 1" had been built as of April and ordered efforts to speed up final preparations for its launch at a planned date that he didn't disclose. He said North Korea must launch several satellites to firmly establish an intelligence-gathering capability, KCNA said.

North Korea has said its ongoing torrid run of weapons tests, including its first test-launch of a solidfuelled intercontinental ballistic missile designed to strike the US mainland last week, are a response to joint military exercises between the United States and its regional allies South Korea

Pakistan requests apex court to review **Punjab Elections on May 14**

Due to security issues

Islamabad, Apr 19 (PTI):

Citing security and financial reasons, Pakistan's defence authorities and election officials have urged the Supreme Court to reconsider its order to hold elections in the politically crucial Punjab province on May 14. A three-member panel

of the court led by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial on April 4 in its judgment ruled that elections should be held in the largest province on time and asked the government to provide Rs 21 billion to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP). The government has refused to accept the ruling citing security and financial reasons as the country was facing a resurgence in militancy and a looming threat of default due to an economic meltdown. As the last deadline to release funds expired on April 17, the judges were briefed by the intelligence chiefs

its report on the non-availability of funds.

The Dawn newspaper reported that the Defence Ministry on Tuesday requested the Supreme Court to recall its April 4 order in which they fixed May 14 as the election date for the Punjab Assembly. The request was made through an application along with a report, laid before the Supreme Court in compliance with its directives to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) and other departments to furnish reports after releasing Rs 21 billion to the ECP for holding elections.

Holding provincial elections has taken centre stage in Pakistani politics as former Prime Minister Imran Khan has been pushing for snap elections in Puniab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces.

It is likely that the three-member bench would take up these reports in chambers on Wednesday and the matter is likely to be taken up in the open court for a hearing on Wednesday or

US becoming India's biggest trading partner is testament

to strong bilateral ties: Krishnamoorthi

US-China mutual suspicion not to end anytime soon: Singapore PM

Singapore, Apr 19 (PTI):

The deep mutual suspicion and fundamental distrust between the United States and China will not improve anytime soon and it will mean "big trouble" for the rest of the world, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Wednesday. Lee, who made an offi-

cial visit to Beijing earlier this month, said that the Chinese public perception of the US has deteriorated. China's leaders are convinced that the US is seeking to "contain, encircle and suppress" China, Lee said, quoting Chinese President Xi Jinping. "Even if the two powers

avoid a direct conflict... enduring enmity and bad relations between them will be very costly for both and will mean big trouble for the rest of the world," Lee said in Parliament, outlining three major geopolitical tensions that make the current global situation graver than what Singapore has faced in a



Singaporeans need to realise the gravity of the situation, he said. "We are facing not just one storm, but several," Lee said, updating Singaporeans on the global situation.

While Democrats and Republicans in the US disagree on almost everything, they are united on China. The prevailing view is that efforts to work out a cooperative relationship with Beijing have failed and its growing strength and assertiveness are becoming a grave threat to US interests and values.

Therefore, their view is that the US must go for "extreme competition" with China over technolo-

gy, including semiconduc tor chips, quantum technology, artificial intelligence, biotechnology and green technologies, Lee was quoted as saying by The Straits Times newspaper. Negative perceptions of China are prevalent among the US population too, Lee said, citing the latest survey by the Pew Research Centre, which found that over 80 per cent of adults in the US have an unfavourable view of China, while nearly 40 per cent would describe China as an enemy of the US rather than as a competitor or partner

"(The Chinese) say the East is rising, and the West is declining, and they think the time has come for China to take its rightful place in the world," he said. Lee added that they consider issues like Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet to be China's domestic matters that affect its security and integrity and see no room for discussion or compromise on these is-

China offers to facilitate Israel-Palestinian peace talks

Beijing, Apr 19 (AP):

China's foreign minister told his Israeli and Palestinian counterparts that his country is ready to help facilitate peace talks between the two sides, in its latest effort at mediation in the region.

In separate phone calls to the two officials on Monday, Qin Gang expressed China's concern over intensifying tensions between Israel Palestinians and its support for a resumption of peace talks, the Foreign Ministry said in statements issued late Monday.

Last month, Saudi Arabia and Iran reached a deal in China to restore

diplomatic ties that were cut off in 2016. It was a dramatic moment of diplomacy for China that Beijing touted as evidence of its ability to be a diplomatic player in the Middle East. Qin stressed in his talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen that Saudi Arabia and Iran have set a good example of overcoming differences through dialogue, a statement about that phone call said. He told Cohen that Beijing encourages Israel and the Palestinians to show political courage and take steps to resume peace talks. "China is willing to provide convenience for this," he was quoted as saying. Israel and the

Palestinians have not held substantive peace talks on ending the century-long conflict in over a decade. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government is committed to expanding settlements in the occupied West Bank which most of the international community considers illegal and an obstacle to peace and several of his key allies are staunchly

opposed to the creation of independent Palestinian state. Cohen expressed his country's commitment to reducing tensions, but said the problem appeared to be difficult to resolve in the short term, the Chinese Foreign Ministry statement said.

Washington, Apr 19 (PTD: The United States becoming India's largest trading partner is a testament to the strengthening of bilateral ties between Indian

the two democracies, a prominent American Congressman has said, underlining that the partnership increases both the prosperity and security of the two nations and the broader world. These remarks were made by Indian-American Congressman Raia Krishnamoorthi on Tuesday in response to recent news that the US has emerged as India's biggest

trading partner in 2022-23

on account of increasing



economic ties between the two countries

According to the provisional data of India's Commerce Ministry, the bilateral trade between India and the US has increased by 7.65 per cent to USD 128.55 billion in 2022-23 as against USD 119.5 billion in 2021-22. It was

USD 80.51 billion in 2020-21. "The rapid 2020-21. growth of trade between the United States and India is a testament to the ties between our democracies growing stronger as our partnership increases both the prosperity and the security of our nations and the broader world," Krishnamoorthi. a Democrat, said.

"Even as the United States has become India's largest trading partner, it is essential that we continue to recognise the enormous potential for growth further strengthen both of our economies and create American Krishnamoorthi said.

कार्यालय जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

-:: भर्ती हेत् विज्ञापन ::-

बिलासपुर, दिनांक 31 मार्च, 2023

दिनांक 01-05-2023 दिन सोमवार

आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि

आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत करने की प्रारंभिक तिथि दिनांक 01–04–2023 दिन शनिवार के प्रातः 11.00 बजे से

के शाम 05.00 बजे तक आवेदन पत्र जिला न्यायालय, बिलासपुर में निर्घारित ड्रॉप बाक्स के माध्यम से ही

स्वीकार किए जायेंगे। कार्यालय जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश, बिलासपुर के अंतर्गत "आकरिमकता निधि

(कलेक्टर दर)'' पर वेतन पाने वाले कर्मचारी (वाहन चालक वाटरमैन / चौकीदार / स्वीपर) के रिक्त पदों पर भर्ती हेत अर्हता प्राप्त भारत के मूल नागरिकों से निर्धारित प्रारूप में आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं।

sh.	पद का नाम एव कुल पद	वगवार पदा का विवरण
1	वाहन चालक (कुल 01 पद)	01 — अनारक्षित
2	वाटरमैन/चौकीदार/स्वीपर (कुल 15 पद)	08— अनारक्षित (महिला—02, दिव्यांग—01 पद) 02— अनुसूचित जाति (महिला—01 पद) 03— अनुसूचित जनजाति (महिला—01 पद) 02— अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग (महिला—01 पद)
	विज्ञापन के विस्तृत विवरण	हेत् जिला न्यायालय, बिलासपुर की वेबस

https://districts.ecourts.gov.in/bilaspur का अवलोकन करें।

(अध्यक्ष) चयन समिति

कार्यालय जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश, बिलासपुर छ.ग

Russian hackers aim to attack key infrastructure: UK

London, Apr 19 (AP):

Russian hackers are seeking to "disrupt or destroy" Britain's critical infrastructure and not enough is being done to stop them, UK government officials asserted Wednesday.

Britain's National Cyber Security Centre issued an official threat notice to operators of Britain's electricity, water and other critical systems, telling them to boost their defences.

"I don't think we are yet

our infrastructure from the cyber threats emerging from Russia-aligning groups," the centre's chief, Lindy Cameron, said.

Cabinet Minister Oliver Dowden said the threat comes from hackers sympathetic to Russia though not necessarily directed by the Russian state. He described them as the cyber equivalent of the Wagner Group, the private Russian company with mercenaries fighting in Ukraine. He said that while the alleged hackers age to UK systems, the threat is growing.

"Disclosing this threat is not something we do lightly," but it's necessary for "companies to understand the current risk they face, and take action to defend themselves and the country," Dowden said at a cybersecurity conference in Belfast.

"These are the companies in charge of keeping our country running. Of keeping the lights on," he said. "Our shared prosperity depends on them taking their own security

The National Cyber Security Centre, a branch of UK cyber intelligence agency GCHQ, said cyber

attackers could begin to broaden their focus from Ukraine to the wider West as the war drags on

CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER GENERATION CO. LTD (A Govt. of Chhattisgarh Undertaking) CIN: U40108CT2003SGC015821

NO.021-10/PUBLICATION/1546 Korba West, dtd. 18.04.2023
e-Bidding TENDER NOTICE No. 1218/2023. Online tenders are invited from Experienced & Prospective firms for the Laying/ Replacement of MS ERW Fire Rfx No. Fighting Water Header and Branch Pipe line with preparation of Bends/ Tees, Support Structure, Installation of Valve, Painting etc. 10.05.2023 from CW Pump House to Unit 4 of 4x210 MW, HTPS, Korba West. Hiring of Vehicle SUV (Earlier Jeep) for 12.05.2023 8100030822 HTPS, Korba West. NOTE:-1.Payment of Tender cost & EMD shall be done online through e-bidding

CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED (A GOVT OF C.G. UNDERTAKING) CIN No. U40108CT2003SGC015820 O/o Chief Engineer(HR), Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company Limited

No. 01-01/T-Veh/2023-24/TS-166/1919				Raipur, Dated: 13.04.2023		
NOTICE INVITING TENDER						
Tender Specification No.	Description	Tender Fee	EMD	Last Date & Time of Sale of Tender form from the office	Due Date & Time for submission of Tender	
01-01/T-Veh / 2023-24/ TS-166	Deployment of 01 No. New Toyota InnovaCyrsta Car or equivalent with Driver and One Additional Driver on monthly hiring basis for a period of One (1) Years.	Rs. 590/- (Inclusive of GST @18%)	Rs. 10,000/-	04.05.2023 up to 17.00 hrs	08.05.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs.	

*please see company website cspc.co.in - CSPTCL - Tender notices for any further details e.g. due date extension etc and the detailed tender document will be available on web portal i.e https://cspc.co.in/cspc/csptcl

*Tender document can also be downloaded from above official website of the company. Any amendment/corrigendum, if required, will be displayed on our website only.

***Helpline Details- In case of any problem please contact:-Tel. no.-0771-2574114betweenBussiness Hours-10:00-17:30 hrs. IST.

SAVE ELECTRICITY

\$-36675/2

\$CHIEF ENGINEER (HR)

CSPTCL, RAIPUR

portal. The tender documents can be seen from our website www.cspc.co.in e-Bidding. 2. Quantity as per tender schedule SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (C-I) S-36678/1 SAVE ENERGY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SELF & NATION O/6 THE ADDL. CE (S&P)HTPS, CSPGCL, KORBA WEST currently lack the capacity to do widespread damdoing enough to protect seriously.

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 194

Innovative Approach

ndia has taken a revolutionary step towards waste management and conservation of natural resources through its first steel slag road. The road, which was inaugurated in Surat last year, has a 32% reduced thickness but is four times stronger than conventional bituminous roads and can withstand heavy commercial traffic. The 1.2-kilometer-long, six-lane road was constructed under the guidance of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) and used 100% processed steel slag aggregates instead of natural aggregates like sand, gravel, and crushed stones. The construction cost was reported to be around 40% less. The success of this technology has raised hopes for converting industrial waste into wealth while conserving nature through the reduced use of natural resources in road construction. The demand for natural aggregates for road construction has been increasing with the push for connectivity to meet the country's strategic and development requirements, leading to the destruction of hills, while indiscriminate sand, gravel, and boulder mining has destroyed river ecologies, triggering a livelihood crisis. India's steel production has been increasing steadily, making it the world's second-largest producer after China, with over 118 million tonnes (MT) produced, of which around 20% is generated as solid waste. The government estimates that steel slag waste generated in steel plants in the country will increase from its current level of 19 MT to 45 MT by 2030. The highest consumption of steel is by the housing and construction sectors, accounting for 43%, while infrastructure sectors account for 25%, engineering and packaging for 22%, and automobiles for about 9%. India's efforts to reduce imports and become self-reliant on steel production will increase the likelihood of generating more steel slag waste in the coming decades. The trial use of steel slag in road construction is in line with the Waste to Wealth Mission of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). The mission's two key objectives are identifying and supporting the development of new technologies that can help create a cleaner and greener environment and creating circular economic models that are financially viable for waste management. The Waste to Wealth Mission has also led to the discovery of other cost-effective waste management solutions. The use of plastics in bituminous mixes in highway construction has unlocked tremendous opportunities for viable solutions for turning plastic waste into wealth. Asia's largest bio-CNG plant, set up on a municipal solid waste dumping site in Indore, has the capacity to process 550 tonnes of organic solid municipal waste to generate about 18,000 kg of bio-CNG and 100 tonnes of organic compost daily. The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India estimates that the "waste-to-energy and waste management market in India is set to be a 14-billion-dollar opportunity by the year 2025." However, scaling down these possibilities requires robust participation from all stakeholders, not just the central government. Bridging the gap between policy formulation and implementation remains a significant challenge. Due to a lack of awareness among the general public about the benefits of new technologies such as steel slag road technology or plastic road technology in conservation of nature, reducing pollution, and waste management, they fail to play any role in mounting pressure on government agencies to adopt the new technologies. Governments, as well as the private sector, need to support research and technology development with adequate financial grants for the establishment of innovation laboratories and funding technology development. This will help develop more cost-effective and sustainable technologies for better waste management. The policy of turning waste into wealth in infrastructure planning needs to be dovetailed with a clear roadmap for resource mobilization to yield better results. However, the implementation of new technologies and policies requires robust participation from all stakeholders, including governments, private sector, and the general public. Bridging the gap between policy formulation and implementation, raising awareness about the benefits of sustainable waste management solutions, and providing adequate financial grants for technology development can yield better results in creating a cleaner and greener environment while ensuring sustainable economic growth. The Waste to Wealth mission, with its focus on creating circular economic models, can play a significant role in achieving these goals.

India's Efforts to Protect Wild Tiger Population

Krishna Kumar Vepakomma ndia has made significant strides in the conservation and protection of tigers, with the number of wild tigers increasing at a rate of 6% per year, accounting for more than 70% of the world's wild tiger population. This achievement can be attributed to the cultural reverence that Indians hold towards nature, with protecting wildlife being a significant part of the country's ethos. The All-India Tiger Estimation, 2022 has revealed recently that India has made significant progress in the conservation of wild tigers, with the population increasing from 1,411 individuals in 2010 to 3,167 in the latest census. This success serves as an inspiration for other countries grappling with similar challenges of wildlife conservation. The latest tiger census estimates that India has at least 3,167 tigers, a remarkable increase since the last census in 2018, when 2,967 tigers were recorded. The Indian government has set up various initiatives, such as "Project Tiger," "IDWH," "Tiger Conservation Plan," "Strengthening of Anti-Poaching Activities," and "M-STrIPES," aimed at protecting tigers and their habitats. The Tiger Conservation Plan is a comprehensive strategy that focuses on conserving and managing tiger populations and their habitats, improving tiger conservation efforts, increasing habitat connectivity, and reducing human-tiger conflict. It also emphasizes the importance of community involvement in conservation efforts and the need for effective anti-poaching measures. M-STrIPES is a software-based monitoring system launched by the Indian government's National Tiger Conservation Authority in 2010 to strengthen patrolling and surveillance of Bengal tigers in Indian reserves. Forest guards use personal digital assistants and GPS devices to capture data on tiger sightings, deaths, wildlife crime, and ecological observations while patrolling. The data is then analyzed in a geographic information system to enhance the effectiveness and spatial coverage of patrols and evaluate human pressure and habitat change. The government's efforts have led to the establishment of protected areas, anti-poaching measures, habitat restoration, and community involvement in conservation efforts, resulting in a 75% increase in the tiger population in the last 10-12 years. However, habitat loss, human-tiger conflict, and poaching continue to be significant threats to the survival of tigers in India. India has six subspecies of tigers, out of which three are classified as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The Bengal tiger is the most populous subspecies in the country, with an estimated population of around 2,500. The Indochinese tiger, found in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam, has an estimated population of around 350 in India.Despite the success of conservation efforts, challenges remain in ensuring the long-term survival of tigers in India. The loss of habitat due to human activities such as deforestation and mining, human-tiger conflict, and poaching for tiger parts continue to be significant threats to the survival of tigers. Addressing these challenges will require continued investments in habitat protection, community involvement in conservation efforts, and stronger enforcement of wildlife laws to combat poaching and illegal trade. However, with continued efforts and collaboration between government, local communities, and conservation organizations, the future of tigers in India remains hopeful.

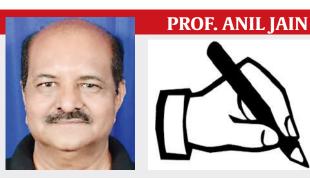
Central Chronicle invites articles, write-ups, and comments on a wide range of issues for our editorial page. Submissions should be between 800-900 words in length. In addition, we welcome letters to the editor for this page. While letters may be edited for clarity, we aim to preserve the integrity of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

TIM COOK VISITS SCHOOL



Apple CEO Tim Cook with students during and teachers his visit to an Akanksha Foundation school, in Mumbai, Wednesday, April 19.

Future in Food Industry



ve given a little thought on the economy of the world. The economy of most of the countries is based on industry. It so happens that when the utilization of some product reaches its saturation point then the industry comes at the verge of collapsing which causes economic

In the eighties television was introduced. The demand for television was so vast that it created a huge market. In a couple of decades it reached its culmination. Later in the nineties computers came into existence. It was such a great invention that it helped to further the world economy. Again most of its users acquired computers and its demand lessened. After that were introduced mobiles. The advent of computers and the internet revolutionized the globe and it played a vital role to boost the world economy for the next twenty years. It proved to be a boon to the world. Such a state of affairs shaped a vast market in the world because there were billions of consumers for that and it created millions of jobs too. Now we have laptops in every lap, mobiles in both hands and TVs in every home. Demand for all that has almost ended. That is why the news of economic depression makes headlines. So it may be concluded that until and unless some new inventions are introduced in the market there seems no possibility of any reform in the world economy in near future. For the boom in the economy there must be a demand for something.

Whole of the economy is based on two basic fundamentals. What I studied from the very beginning during my school days when economics was introduced to me that there are two basics of economics- that is, demand and supply. In earlier times there was a lot of demand for almost everything and to supply that demand the world's

economy remained balanced. The reason is that in earlier years the production was

so slow that the need for every item continued to exist but today the things are different. Today many machines are there and the production is so speedy that soon the marketplaces are filled with the produce. The production has increased at such a pace that shops are overflowing with goods. Go to any shop and mall you will find them crammed with a variety of articles and that too in bulk. Let's take an example of garments. Thousands and lakhs of outfits are there for our choice. I wonder how many of them are sold.

One more factor that any common spectator can understand is that there is loss of demand or that the consumers are reluctant. Anyone who keeps an eye on market affairs may come to the conclusion that the reason behind the present recession is not that people do not have money. Each and everyone has enough money. They have a lot of purchasing power too but they do not need anything because they have almost everything for the smooth running of day to day life. So the reason behind the present day depression is the loss of de-

Many developed countries suffer with the ailment of recession off and on even on trivial grounds because their economy is industry based. Once the demand for some particular item decreases the

country wavers and starts lamenting over its economy. But India always comes out of this disease safe and

If we go a little deeper into it we can understand that India had a considerate legacy which has come down to us from our ancestors. They seemed quite aware to take agriculture as their profession and preferred to invest in gold. We all know that these two are the fundamentals of the economy of any country. We may not have luxury items but our barns are filled with food items. That is why India never falters. The demand of anything may lessen but never for food items for the obvious

India also wants to come at par with developed countries and promote industries but it should concentrate on the food industry. It is here the seeds of India's prosperity lies. Crop growing can prosper the country and countrymen who are mostly farmers. Indians 'greed' for gold may also be a boon because even in the modern economic system gold will never lose its sheen. Thus, so long as the architects of India keep the agro economy in mind our country can always be hopeful about our future.

(Writer is a Prof. Deptt. of English Govt. PG College, DAMOH MP. Views are personal. can be contacted aniljaindamoh@gmail.com)



Sacred Marijuana

Cannabis or in Indian lingo Bhaang is a plant that finds mention in many ancient medical discourses like Sushruta Samhita where Bhaang or Cannabis is recommended as a treatment to clear excess mucus from the nose or throat, and for treating phlegm, it is also a wonder drug for the treatment of diarrhea. The ayurvedic discourses are replete with mention of bhaang as a refresher and a cure for headache and fatigue. Bhaang was revered as a sacred plant as it is one of the offerings to the Hindu God Shiva but now if one possesses Bhaang he/she would be slapped with so many legal sanctions that it would be nearly impossible for them to come out of the legal hellhole. India was never against Bhaang until 1985 when the Rajiv Gandhi government labeled Bhaang as synthetic and imposed a ban on the once sacred plant for the Hindus. It is interesting because India was not a signatory to the 1961 **Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs** but after 25 years suddenly India was against its sacred plant. It is certainly not a coincidence that the alcohol market started to boom in India in the late 1980s. Alcohol kills more than 2 lakh Indians every year but there is not a single death related to marijuana consumption. We should not be blind to this fact.

Noopur Baruah, Tezpur **Extrajudicial Killings**

Killing of gangster Atiq and his brother in UP Police custody is a cause of concern. Such extrajudicial encounters not only tarnish the reputation of the police but also highlight the nexus between criminals and opposition party politicians in UP. The Supreme Court has taken a strict stance against extrajudicial encounters, and accountability must be fixed for the same. It is also essential to conduct a credible investigation into these killings, as India has a dark history when it comes to police encounters. The interest of the state and its citizens should be a priority, and such incidents should not go unchecked. The UP Police must ensure that they abide by the law while dealing with criminals.

Macron's Soft Stance on China

The changing geopolitical equa-

MK Nair, Raipur

tions of the new world order are interesting and embarrassing to watch. However, it is alarming to see France's initiative to embrace China and undercut US efforts to rein in the country. This not only shackles India but also endangers the entire West. The complex international situation is further complicated by Russia's deep alliance with China, posing a challenge for countries like India in retaining old ties with Russia. The bonhomie between China and several erstwhile communist countries, including Germany and Britain, imperils NATO. It is crucial to understand that while changing relations may be easier for high-end countries, it is difficult for poor and traditional ones. France must reconsider its soft stance on China and prioritize the interest of the West.

Krishna Kumar Nambiar, Korba

Increasing trend of self-medication and ineffective antibiotics



Rajender Kumar Sharma

ften we get to see O iten we get to around us, at our relatives' place, where people themselves start treating every small and big disease. The basis of this treatment is the internet search engine and the medicine given by the doctor for the same disease suffered by any other family member in the past and/or the medicine prescription. We forget that every person's physical structure, his need, the effect

different. Every person's body reacts differently to a particular medicine or chemical. But today's young, educated generation, by the grace of internet, is quite aware about medical tests, treatment methods and medicines.

Having knowledge about diseases and medicines is a positive quality. The way medical services and education have become commercialized today. In such a situation, even the doctor has to be a little professional. In such circumstances, it is very important for you to have knowledge of diseases, medicines and medical tests, so that you or your patient cannot be unnecessarily exploited by the hospital and the doctors.

But it does not mean at all that you become a doctor yourself and start giving medicines to the family members. The most dangerous and worrying aspect of self-medication use is com-

of medicines on his body are ing in front of us today, according to a news last year, according to the largest study ever done about the effect of antibiotics published in the medical journal The Lancet Journal, in the year 2019 the world Worldwide, more than 1.2 million people have died, which has been attributed to anti-microbial resistance (AMR) or ineffectiveness of medicines. This makes treatment of diseases difficult and increases the risk of death. According to this research team, AMR was the direct or indirect cause of death of about 6 million people worldwide in the year 2019. This figure is much higher than the deaths due to malaria and AIDS.

The gist of the above report is that the whole world has become addicted to antibiotics to such an extent that now antibiotics have become ineffective on many bacteria / pathogens and if this rate continues, then very soon we will reach the old era. The progress of medical science may prove

On the basis of old prescriptions of doctors, patients are taking such medicines directly from medical stores. According to the age and weight of the patient, the doctor decides the dose of antibiotics and the medicine has to be taken for a certain period. Even if you have recovered, you will still have to take this medicine for the duration prescribed by the doctor. This is because it is essential for the body's immunity. But today people are joking with the medicines of antibiotics class. Whenever there is a desire, they start taking antibiotics, as soon as there is some relief, they stop taking antibiotics, which results in the microorganisms of the disease becoming resistant to the antibiotic, that is, if in the future, the same pathogen attack the body again, this an-

tibiotic will no longer be ef-

pathogens. Now more power-

fective against

ful antibiotics will have to be taken. This is the reason that earlier a very few antibiotics were there, but now more new antibiotics are being invented everyday.

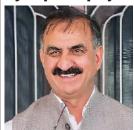
nd if this situation continues, then the human body will gradually become resistant to all antibiotics and antibiotics will not be effective on the bacteria / pathogens of the disease.

Therefore, today we have to understand that practicing and following self-medication will only have bad effects on our body. Allergy caused by medicines can take fatal form in future. Therefore, medicines should not be consumed like other food items. Medicines should be taken only on the advice of the doctor. Medical stores shouldn't sell medicines without Doctor's prescriptions.

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

BRIEF

Hydropower project



Shimla: Himachal **Pradesh Chief** Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu directed to make the 100 MW Uhl III hydropower project functional by May 2024 and instruct ed the officers to complete the tender process for setting up six green corridors by October this year. He said that charging station infrastructure would be set up for approximately 1.600 kilometres length of these corridors, which would also include the cities in the ambit of these stretches. Presiding over a meeting of the Energy Department here today, he also directed to replace the damaged penstock (a

Capital gains tax

structure that con-

the power project

trols water inflow) of

within eight months.

New Delhi: The Income Tax Department said there is no proposal before the government on capital gains tax. The department in a tweet said: "It is clarified that there is no such proposal before the Government on capital gains tax". A media report earlier in the day said India is preparing an overhaul of its direct tax law, including changes in capital gains taxes. Following the report, the equity market benchmark Sensex declined 331 during the intra-day trade. It later recovered some losses and closed 183.74 points lower at 59,727.

Appointment



New Delhi: Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd announced appointment of former Intel Foundry Services President Randhir Thakur as its Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director. Thakur, a global leader and hands-on innovator in semiconductor industry, has worked with Intel for over 5 years. He brings over 40 years of experience in the global manufacturing, research and development, the company said in a statement.

Project development

■ New Delhi: The government is planning to develop more than 250 projects with a ropeway length of over 1,200 km in five vears under Parvatmala Pariyojana, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said on Wednesday. The government is promoting the manufacturing of ropeway components under the 'Make in India' initiative, an official release quoted Gadkari as saying. The minister was addressing 'IN-TERALPIN 2023 Fair' in Austria, the

release said.

Services exports may reach USD 400 bn during 2023-24: SEPC

New Delhi, Apr 19:

Buoyed by a significant jump in exports during 2022-23, Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) on Wednesday said the healthy growth trend will continue and shipments are expected to reach up to USD 400 billion this fiscal. During 2022-23, the country's services exports rose by 42 per cent to USD 322.72 billion from USD 254 billion in 2021-22, according to provisional data from the commerce ministry. "The services sector had targeted USD 300 billion but accomplished USD 322 billion. Subject to the final data we might touch USD 350 billion in 2022-23 and based on the current trend and the continuing growth our estimate is around USD 375 billion to USD 400 billion 2023-24." SEPC Chairman Sunil H Talati told PTI. Sectors that con-

tributed to the services exports growth during the last fiscal include travel. transport, medical, and hospitality, he said. He added that the council has been working tirelessly in collaboration with the government to catapult services sector growth with business delegations, B2B meets, and market specific initiatives

"Export of IT and IT enabled services is going strong and is highly likely to maintain the growth momentum. Travel sector is catching up soon. The post-pandemic economic recovery has created increasing demand for goods and services from foreign markets, the stabilization of freight charges and the normalization of supply chains are positive developments for the transport sector," he said.

The business services such as engineering, architecture, legal and accounting services as well as research and management consulting services stand to benefit leveraging the opportunities presented by the government initiatives. He also said that as for the key export destinations, India's service exports have historically concentrated in North America and Europe, but there is also significant potential for growth in emerging markets such as Asia, Africa, and Latin America. "Diversification of export

destinations can help to re-

duce dependence on tradi-

tional markets and open

up new opportunities for

service exports," chairman said. Talati said that certain incentives are necessary to further push the growth rates. "For example, Gaming, entertainment can perform very well with the right aid by the

APPLE RETAIL STORE



An employee at the Apple retail store at Saket, during a media preview ahead of its opening, in New Delhi,

Audi India reports over two-fold jump in sales in Jan-March quarter



New Delhi, Apr 19: Luxury carmaker Audi India on Wednesday said its sales witnessed over two-fold jump at 1,950 units in the January-March quarter this year as compared with the same period last year. The company had sold 862 units in the first quarter of 2022. "Our product lineup boasts of sixteen models

and we currently have the strongest ever SUV portfolio contributing to over 60 per cent of our total sales," Audi India head Balbir Singh Dhillon said in a statement. The newly launched Q3 and Q3 Sportback are witnessing strong demand from across the country, he

"We are on a growth path and are confident of a bullish performance through the year 2023," Dhillon noted. The company said it also continues the expansion of its pre-owned car business, Audi Approved: plus, in India.

Currently operating with twentytwo outlets across all major hubs in the country, the brand is rapidly expanding and will have twentyfive-plus preowned car facilities by the end

Investor suggests 6th F-Flyover-for UP, says Goyal

Lucknow, Apr 19:

government.

Union Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday lauded the infrastructural development in Uttar Pradesh and said an investor has suggested another F - flyover - in addition to existing 5Fs. "Besides 5Fs: from Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign, an investor suggested another F which is Flyover," Goyal said. He said that in the last six years, Uttar Pradesh has seen infrastructural development in terms of airports, highways, having the best expressways, Golden Quadrilateral, better road

services and others.



Minister's vision of speed, skill and scale. In this regard, projects are monitored, there is a transparent system of governance, observation of ongoing works, officers and politicians are accountable for the deadline, all these detailing has led to a dream, a dream of achieving the

UP. The minister said when he sees Uttar Pradesh, he believes that a strong ecosystem has been developed, which will promote MSMEs and small businesses.

PLI schemes will also help the state. He urged people to shun the colonial mindset and collectively work towards making India a developed nation in the next 25 years.

Goyal was speaking at an event for the launch and signing of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) of Integrated Textile Park in 1,000 acres in Lucknow and Hardoi districts under PM Mega Integrated Textile Sector and Apparel (PM Mitra).

KDP announces winners for 5th edition of Pen to Publish contest

Mumbai. Apr 19:

Amazon's self-publishing service Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) announced the results of the fifth edition of its flagship contest:Pen to Publish. The contest received a great response from aspiring authors who submitted their eBooks to be evaluated by an esteemed panel of jury members.KDP Pen to Publish contest recognisesliterary excellence among self-published authors across genres.

Through contest,KDP recognised 11 self-published eBooks in each of the three particilanguages of English, Hindi, and Tamil. The top 3 winners received a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh each, and thefirst runners-

upwere awarded Rs 50,000 each. The second runnersup won a cash prize of Rs 30,000 each, while the remaining 8 participants from the top 11 were granted an amount of Rs10,000 each. The jury panel comprised of best-selling authors Sudeep Nagarkar and Sudha Nair for English entries, Satya Vyas and Vijay Kakwani for Hindi entries, and Naga Chokkan and Cable Sankar for Tamil entries.

This year, the contest witnessed participation spanning genressuch asliterature & fiction, romance, science fiction & fantasy, and mystery & thrillers. The entries were judged on the basis of several criteria including originality, creativity, and quality of writ-

Bookings open for the first-ever BMW X3 M40i xDrive

Limited units available for online booking only

Gurugram, Apr 19:

BMW India has opened bookings for the first-ever BMW X3 M40i xDrive from 12:30 hrs, 19 April 2023 onwards. The car will be available in limited units and can be exclusively booked at the BMW Online Shop for Rs 5,00,000. The car is scheduled to be launched in India in May

Engineered by M. the car elevates the sporty, modern BMW X3 to the realm of M. Numerous distinct M elements in the exterior and interior give birth to a commanding personality suited for high-performance circles. Under the hood, the M40i



3-litre engine, a powerhouse charged with M genes, is raring for unadulterated sheer driving pleasure. An outstanding driving experience is guaranteed together with Adaptive M Suspension, M

Sport differential, M Sport brakes and the BMW xDrive all-wheel drive. To further enhance the sporty appearance, customers can personalise their car with special M alloys. Customers can visit

https://www.bmw.in/X3M 401 and explore a 360° view of the car's exterior and interior. They will be directed to a bookings page where booking can be done through a secure online payment mechanism. Deliveries will be done on a first-come-first-serve

Introduction of the firstever BMW X3 M40i xDrive builds on the enormous success of M powered BMW M340i sedan and the growing popularity of exclusive M Editions in India. This new M interpretation of the BMW X3 takes the excitement a notch higher into the Sports Activity Vehicle

Vedanta expects to start building semiconductor plant by Oct-Dec quarter

New Delhi, Apr 19:

Vedanta group is expect-1.5 lakh crore semiconduc tor plant in October-December this year and producing electronic chips by the first half of 2027, senior company officials said. Vedanta Semiconductor and Display business, global managing director, Akarsh Hebbar and

Vedanta-Foxconn Semiconductors Limited CEO David Reed in a joint interview with PTI said the group has submitted all the technology tie-ups to the government and banks are comfortable in funding the project cost in the ratio of 70 and 30 (from the company) after adjusting subsidy. "We are plan-



ning by the fourth quarter of this year to have the first shovel ceremony. We are working on everything to have revenue by 2027. We would have this start with 5,000 wafers in the first part of 2027.

And then, we will incrementally take that up to 40,000 wafers a month," Reed said. He noted that the company will also make 28 nm wafers simul-

The government has de-

taneously as it will need the same equipment that works for 40 nm. A semiconductor plant comes out with a large semiconduc tor disc, which is then processed to make electronic chips. Vedanta will also set up OSAT (outsourced semiconductor assembly and test) plant that will process the semiconductor wafers for making them usable by automobile and electronics com-

"We are bringing in tried and tested technology - 28 nm, 40 nm, which is the best for ICT devices, automobiles, phones, which are...decently priced. With semiconductors and displays, we will be making 60 per cent of every electronic device inside India.

Stock markets fall for 3rd day on selling in IT, banking shares



Mumbai, Apr 19:

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower Wednesday, marking their third straight day of losses due to selling in IT and select banking shares and foreign fund outflows. Falling for a third day, the 30-share BSE Sensex de-

clined 159.21 points or 0.27 per cent to settle at 59,567.80. During the day, it fell 274.29 points or 0.45 per cent to 59,452.72. The broader NSE Nifty

dipped 41.40 points or 0.23 per cent to end at 17,618.75. Among the Sensex firms, Technologies, IndusInd Bank, Infosys, Wipro, NTPC, Asian Paints, Tata Consultancy Services, Tech Mahindra, State Bank of India and UltraTech Cement were the major laggards. Bharti Airtel, Mahindra & Mahindra, Axis Bank, HDFC, HDFC Bank, Bajaj Finance and Reliance Industries were among the winners. In Asian markets, Japan, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower, while Seoul ended in the

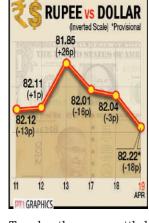
green.

Rupee falls 18 paise to close at 82.22 against US dollar

Mumbai, Apr 19:

The rupee depreciated 18 paise to close at 82.22 (provisional) against the currency Wednesday, pressured by a strong greenback overseas and a negative trend in domestic equities. Forex traders said foreign fund outflows and firm crude oil prices also dragged the local unit down. At the interbank for-

eign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 82.10 against the dollar and finally ended the session at 82.22 (provisional), down 18 paise from its previous close. During the day, the rupee witnessed a high of 82.07 and a low of 82.25 against the greenback. On



Tuesday, the rupee settled at 82.04 against the dollar. The rupee depreciated on Wednesday on weak domestic equities and a strong US dollar. FII outflows over the past two sessions also weighed on

the local unit, said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. European markets too traded in the red, with UK markets as the biggest loser amid elevated inflation.

The dollar gained on rising expectations of further tightening of monetary policy by the US Federal Reserve in its next FOMC meeting in May. Most of the Fed officials are advocating for a 25-bps rate hike in their respective speeches.

"We expect the Indian rupee to trade with a negative bias on risk aversion in global markets and a recovery in the greenback. If we see further FII outflows, it may put downside pressure on the rupee.

Govt to set up panel to work on model builder-buyer agreement: Official

Mumbai, Apr 19:

cided to set up a committee to work on a model buyer agreement to help streamline the homebuying process and protect consumers from potential abuses, among others, a top government official said on Tuesday. The committee that will draw members from judges, national and state consumer commissions, various consumer bodies, lawyers as well as from the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, is expected to be in place within

the next three months,

Consumer Affairs Ministry

Secretary Rohit Kumar

Singh told reporters here.

The official earlier ad-

dressed a round table con-



ference on 'How Effectively Redress the Grievances Pertaining to Real Estate Sector', in the city, hosted by the Department of Consumer Affairs, in association with Government of Maharashtra. The problem (dispute between the home buyers and the developer) could be resolved quite to an extent if the contract between a builder and a buyer is standardised and uniformity is brought about.

Jay Bhanushali brings out the 'Royal Andaaz' while playing **'Shivendra Barot**'

ony Entertainment Television's latest offering, 'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum' brings viewers an engrossing saga that traces the journey of Damayanti, the stern traditionalist matriarch of the royal Barot family situated in Ranakgadh, and Surilii, a lively and forward-thinking young woman. Change induces fear and the usual reactions are to either fight, or flight - it is this inherit human nature of resistance to change which the show focuses on. This close-to-life yet inspirational saga sees Kitu playing Damayanti Barot, Ťina Datta essaying the role of Surilii Ahluwalia and Jay Bhanushali portraying the character of Shivendra

Taking the legacy of the Barot family ahead is the eldest son of Damayanti Devi, Shivendra Singh Barot who is a fair and kind person. Jay Bhanushali plays the role of this prince with a very charming personality who is entirely focused on profitable deals for the Barot business empire. To authentically portray this strong character and mas-ter the royal dialect, Jay Bhanushali reveals that he has started using the royal way of communication in

Tune in to watch Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum every Monday to Friday at 9:00 PM only on Sony Entertainment Television

Vidyut Jammwal unveils dynamic poster of spy thriller 'IB 71'

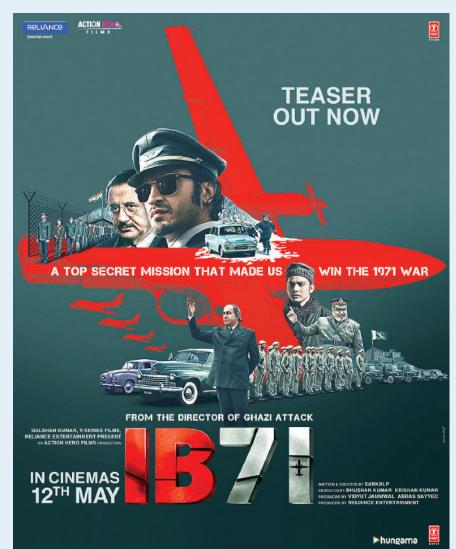
7idyut Jammwal is set to dominate the screen in the upcoming national award winner Sankalp Reddy's directorial 'IB 71'. The film marks Vidyut turning producer for the first time which elevates the film to new heights. The makers of the highly anticipated espionage thriller implemented a unique launch strategy to announce their release date with poster and teaser.

In a never seen before. hoarding innovation, a confidential envelope took over the streets of India, with a cryptic message "A secret that will shock the nation!" Providing a tantalizing glimpse of the highly classified mission that the movie talks about.

The following day, top influencers and celebs also started posting about these intriguing confidential hoardings in their city creating huge uproar among the netizens.

At a key location in Mumbai, along with fans and media, Jammwal finally unveiled the first look of IB71 putting all speculations to rest revealing the details of the envelope that read 'A top secret mission that made us win the 1971 war'.

Talking about the film, Jammwal says, "IB71 for the first time, talks about



Indian how the Intelligence Bureau con-

and outwitted the enemy which gave our armed ducted a secret mission forces the required advan-

tage to face a two-front war. I am excited to bring this project to life and

Director Sankalp Reddy adds, "Working on IB71 has been an absolute thrill ride for me. From

the very beginning, I was drawn to the film's intriguing premise and the opportunity to explore the world of undercover operations. With Vidyut Jammwal in the lead, I knew that I had an actor who not only had the physicality to pull off high-octane action scenes but also the depth and nuance to bring his character to life. I can't wait for audiences to experience

the world of IB71.' IB 71 is presented by Gulshan Kumar, T-Series Reliance Film and Entertainment. Action Hero Films production stars Vidyut Jammwal, Anupam Kher and Vishal Jethwa in pivotal roles and is produced by Bhushan Kumar, Action Hero Films and Reliance Entertainment. Produced by Jammwal & Abbas Sayyed, co-produced by Aditya Shastri, Aditya Chowksey and Shiv Chanana. The film is directed by national award winner Sankalp Reddy with the story by Aditya Shastri and the screenplay by Storyhouse Films LLP. The film is slated for a theatrical release on 12th May 2023.

Khushi Dubey shoots challenging sequence for 'Aashiqana 3' despite food poisoning

Khushi Dubey, known for her role as Chikki in the streaming series 'Aashiqana 3', was recently detected with food poisoning, but she continued to shoot for her part to meet the deadlines.

Talking about her experience, Khushi said, "I was down with food poisoning and I wasn't well. I was feeling dehydrated, uneasy and pukish the entire day. I couldn't eat anything and spent the entire day without food. Amid all this, I had to shoot for a challenging sequence where Chikki goes out of the mental



Khushi revealed that a doctor visited her on the sets of the show and gave ner certain medicines so that she could work.

"I had to scream, shout and showcase all the pain, angst and madness through my body language. In fact, the doctor came on the sets and gave me medicines so I could continue shooting this taxing sequence. In fact, the show's creator Gul mam had asked me to take rest, no matter how tight and hectic the schedule was.'

The third season of 'Aashiqana' is available for streaming on Disney+

Samantha's cryptic **Instagram note** addresses failure of **'Shaakuntalam'**



Actress Samantha Ruth
Prabhu, who was recently seen in the film 'Shaakuntalam', shared a cryptic post on her social media on Tuesday. The film was hugely anticipated by the fans of the actress but it failed to deliver and entertain the audience. After the film tanked, a Telugu film producer named Chittibabu criticized Samantha, saying that her career is 'finished'. He told a YouTube channel that the days of stardom are over for the actress and she should do whatever offers she gets from now on. But it seems Samantha is unfazed by the failure of her highly anticipated film as she took to her Instagram on Tuesday to share a picture of herself with a caption in Sanskrit quoted from Bhagavad Gita, the foundational text of Hinduism. She seemed to have addressed the underwhelming response to the film calling that she can only do her duty, and can't control the outcome

Karthi assures PS-2 will be easier for North Indian audiences to comprehend

¶amil star Karthi. who plays the victorious Chola general Mani 'Ponnivin Selvan' period drama, has said that the second part of the movie will be easier for North Indian audiences to understand.

Karthi admitted that unfamiliarity with the Chola dynasty's history made it difficult for people to comprehend the lirst part, which grossed Rs 502 crore at the Tamil box office. However, he assured that the second part would bring out the real story and be less tricky for viewers.

'Ponniyin Selvan-2', which is based on the Tamil classic 'Ponniyin Selvan' Kalki Krishnamurthy, revolves around the early life of Arulmozhi prince Varman, who went on to become the famous Rajaraja Chola I. Its prinincludes cipal cast Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Trisha, Jayam Ravi, and Sobhita



will be released on April Speaking to the media, Karthi shared how he explained the story to his friends. "I sent them a WhatsApp message with info about the story and it helped them understand the film. PS-1 has done the basic work and introduced the story. So. PS 2 won't be tricky," Karthi said. Vikram, who plays the Chola prince Aditya Karikalan, elaborated on what Karthi had said and added: "The confusion is about the names.

Kangana reminisces her friendship with **Aamir Khan before** Hrithik's legal battle

recently shared on Instagram that Bollywood be her best friend before her much-talked-about legal battle with actor Hrithik Roshan. Kangana posted a video of her conversation with Aamir on the sets of the TV show 'Satyamev Jayate', in which she talked about how the 'Dangal' star used to guide and mentor her with her choices. In the clip, Kangana also revealed how she has consciously avoidafter witnessing a young girl performing to an item number She captioned the post, 'Actually mujhe bhi kabhi kabhi woh din yaad aate hain jab Aamir sir was my best friend. jaane kahan gaye woh din.' Kangana went on to say that Aamir mentored and shaped a lot of her choices before Hrithik initiated a legal case against her. She added, "One thing is for sure that he has mentored me, appreciated me, and shaped a lot of my choices, before Hrithik did that legal case on me. Post that they made their loyalties clear - it was one woman against entire industry.'



Will Ashwin forgive his father Dilip for all his wrongdoings'

Sony SAB's marquee shows follows the inspiring story of Pushpa a single mother who strives to provide for her children while pursuing her studies. Her positive and problem-solving attitude, coupled with a charming clumsiness, makes her endearing to the audience. She for her entire life has done everything possible in her capacity to provide her children with the best

In recent episodes, viewers witness Dilip (Jayesh More) shifting in the chawl and becoming Pushpa's (Karuna Pandey) neighbour. As Dilip moves in, both Pushpa and

ushpa Impossible, one of Raashi are seen leaving for their SSC exam and due to this new catastrophe, Pushpa happens to miss her exam.

In the upcoming episodes, we will see a lot of drama taking place in the chawl. Pushpa will be left shocked on seeing Dilip turning up in front of her while she is leaving for her exam. The very next day he plans to perform a havan in the chawl to prove to everyone that he has changed and has become a pure and holy person. Ashwin enters the chawl and is disgusted at seeing Dilip pretend. In that rage, he throws Dilip's nameplate in the havan and both Dilip and Pushpa are furious at that moment.

CROSSWORD



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- 1. Infant
- 5. Picnic nuisances
- 14. Between ports 15. Jump
- 16. Major artery 17. Pinocchio, e.g.
- 18. Feeble, as an excuse 19. Havana export 20. Cleaned (clothes)
- 22. Positive

39. Bind

- 23. Ardent
- 24. Admiration 26. Use the supplier again
- 29. Eye suggestively

40. Longitude's partner

42. Coastal bird

- 30. Shade providers 31. Church instrumentalist
- 36. Least fresh
- 11. Debate 12. Fixed gaze 13. Sultan's wive 21. Father 24. Omelet ingredients

25. Mattress support

43. Catches

44. Embarrased 47. Morally pure

50. More loyal 51. Not there

56. Choose by vote 58. Still snoozing

60. Please greatly

63. Sheriff's grou

61. Apple part

64. Playthings

65. Skirt edges

2. Europe's neighb

Boyfriend

4. Money makers

6. More adjacen

8. Went fast

9. Cul-de-

10. Dampen

27. Singer

DOWN

SOLUTION 620



621

29. Crude mineral

36. Doctor's "at once!" 37. Toothpaste co

32. List entry 33. Royal title 34. Minister to

41. Ants, e.g. 42. Corrosion layer

46. Not him 47. Chick's o

48. Howdy!

49. Region

50. Forbidder

52. Agreement 53. Motionless

54. Group of players

44. Blood vessel

DC play do-or-die game vs KKR

Prithvi Shaw, Delhi Capitals' blue-eyed boy till last season, could become the first casualty of the team's floundering IPL campaign as they prepare to take on Kolkata Knight Riders here on Thursday.

The 23-year-old talented opener's spot in the playing XI has come under the scanner after the Mumbai player could managed just 34 runs in five outings this season, with a highest of

With DC having lost all five games so far this season, a rejig of the top order against KKR at the Ferozeshah Kotla in a bid to revive their fortunes could be on the cards.

Sarfaraz Khan, who has earlier been tried as a wicketkeeper-batter, could be drafted in as a specialist opener for powerplay overs, while the other option could be to promote veteran Manish Pandey.

For the David Warner-led side, this is a must-win situation as all routes to playoffs will mathematically be shut if they suffer another



Kolkata Knight Riders cricketers during a practice session.

Match starts at 3:30 PM.

defeat. KKR, on the other hand, would like to forget the loss against Sunrisers Hyderabad at home and get on with winning some games. Their skipper Nitish Rana, middle-order batter Rinku Singh and West Indian power-hitter

Andre Russell do possess the capability to hammer Delhi Capitals' bowlers, led by Anrich Nortje and Mustafizur Rahman. For KKR, Englishman Jason could replace Rahamanullah Gurbaz in the opener's slot with N. Jagadeesan keeping wickets. It will also be leg-spinner Suyash Sharma's first senior-level game at his home ground. However, all eyes will be on Nitish and Rinku, the two power-hitters who will be out to entertain the capacity crowd along with Russell and the in-form Venkatesh Iyer, who is fresh from his century against MI, albeit in losing cause. Match starts at

Dhawan's injury on Punjab Kings' mind as they take on RCB

Punjab Kings (PBKS) would be sweating over skipper Shikhar Dhawan's injury at a time when they need all their firepower against an extremely tough but luckless Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in an Indian Premier League (IPL) match here on Thursday.

Dhawan, 37, who is one of the bright spots in the PBKS team, was ruled out against Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) on April 15 in Lucknow due to a shoulder injury and England all-rounder Sam Curran marshalled the side during their two-wicket win at the Ekana Stadium.

But, RCB are a much bigger threat on paper than LSG, and Curran would know he too will need to come to the party with the bat if they are to defeat Faf du Plessis' side and earn two points at

Curran's iffy form with the bat has been a concern, as he could manage

just six runs against LSG, though his three wickets played a key role in restricting KL Rahul's side to 159/8

Punjab

Kings players

during a practice

session

Match starts at 3:30 PM

PBKS' top order looks solid when Dhawan is around, but with a question mark over his fitness, his opening partner Prabhsimran Singh will have to play sensibly and also hope his partner plays responsible knock,

against LSG. PBKS' bowling, though, has stood the sternest of tests this season with their two leftarmers -- Arshdeep Singh and Curran -- at the forefront, while South African pace spearhead Kagiso Rabada has only added to the potency

In contrast, RCB have been unlucky when it comes to eking out wins. With skipper du Plessis and Virat Kohli opening the in-

nings, they perhaps have the best opening pair in the tournament, barring, of course, Yashasvi Jaiswal and Jos Buttler for Rajasthan Royals. With Glenn Maxwell coming in at No.4 and Shahbaz Ahmed, Dinesh Karthik and Suyash Prabhudessai following the Australian. RCB bat really deep. But their biggest flaw, unfortunately, is the same as PBKS

Warner retained in Australia's touring squad for Ashes

Melbourne. Apr 19 (AP):

Veteran opener David Warner has been retained in Australia's squad for the start of the Ashes series in England and is still in the mix for the World Test Championship final against India. Speculation over the 36-year-

old left-hander's future in cricket's longest format mounted when he was injured on Australia's recent tour to India and missed the bulk of the test series before returning for the limited-overs matches.

Warner and two other candidates to open the batting Marcus Harris and Matt Renshaw were included along with incumbent opener Usman Khawaja in the 17-man squad announced Wednesday for the start of the five-test Ashes series. Cricket Australia said it would narrow a squad down to 15 on May 28 for the World



Test Championship final, which begins June 7 at the Oval in London.

Warner scored 26 runs in three innings in India, with a top score of 15, before being ruled out of the series with a concussion and an injured elbow. He has 25 career centuries and accumulated 8,158 runs at an average of almost 46 in 103 test matches, although only five of those hundreds have been in away tests and he's never reached triple figures in an Ashes match played in

Alcaraz cruises to opening victory at Barcelona Open



Barcelona, Apr 19 (AP):

Defending champion Carlos Alcaraz opened his title defense at the Barcelona Open with a comfortable 6-3, 6-1 win over Nuno Borges.

The top-seeded Spaniard, No. 2 in the world, converted five of his seven break opportunities to secure the win at the Rafa Nadal center court on Tuesday. "It's always different to play here, it's not just any other tournament for me," the 19-year-old Alcaraz said. "I'm at home, with the fans behind me. It's alwavs nice and special." A two-time winner this year, Alcaraz is making his 2023 debut on the European claycourt tour. He had not competed since Miami in March, skipping Monte Carlo because of inflammation in his left hand and back pain.

"I feel great," Alcaraz said. "Moving well, hitting the ball really well so I feel a lot of confidence playing here in Barcelona.'

Alcaraz's next opponent will be fellow Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut, the 13th-seed who defeated Bernabe Zapata Miralles 6-2, 6-2.

Fifth-seeded American Frances Tiafoe lost 6 6-7 (3), 6-4 to Emil Ruusuvuori of Finland. The 40th-ranked Ruusuvuori rallied from 3-0

Mohd Siraj reports corrupt approach to BCCI ACU

was

missing

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

which

Roval Challengers Bangalore (RCB) pacer Mohammed Siraj has reported a "corrupt approach" to BCCI's Anti Corruption Unit (ACU) from an unknown person, who wanted "inside news" about his team after "losing a lot of money" in an IPL game.

The India pacer, who is the leading wicket-taker for RCB with eight scalps, said he got a call and promptly reported the matter to ACU officials. who are attached with the teams.

RCB lost their previous match to Chennai Super Kings by eight runs at the Chinnaswamy Stadium with fortunes swinging wildly. Sri Lankan pace bowler Matheesha Parthirana bowled two crucial death overs to restrict the home team to 218/8 in the chase of 226 and earn victory for CSK.

- an inconsistent top order. Ostapenko beats Raducanu in 1st round at Stuttgart

Stuttgart, Apr 19 (AP):

Jelena Ostapenko swept past Emma Raducanu 6-2, 6-1 at the indoor clay Porsche Grand Prix for the British player's second consecutive first-round loss. In a meeting of two for-

mer Grand Slam champions on Tuesday, the 2017 French Open winner from Latvia broke Raducanu twice in the first set and ran away with the match in the second as she broke Raducanu to love in consecutive service games. Raducanu, the 2021 U.S. Open champion, was in action for the first time since her first-round loss to Bianca Andreescu in Miami. The British player's last win was in the tournament before, when she reached the fourth round at Indian Wells before losing to Iga Swiatek

Seventh-seeded Daria



Kasatkina was resounding ly beaten 6-1, 6-1 by Paula Badosa to become the first seeded player to be eliminate ed. Badosa moves on to play qualifier Cristina Bucsa in the next round. Barbora Krejcikova beat Liudmila Samsonova 6-2, 6-0 and the 2021 French Open champion will next face Aryna Australian Open champion.

Real Madrid sails into Champions League SF

LUNUUN, AUT 19 LAPJ:

Real Madrid's pursuit of a 15th European Cup marches on. Chelsea, meanwhile, does not know when it will compete on this elite stage again. Madrid's 2-0 win at Stamford Bridge completed a 4-0 aggregate victory and saw the Spanish giants advance to the Champions League semifinals for the 11th time in 13 seasons.

Rodrygo scored twice in the second half to derail a spirited Chelsea comeback that lasted the best part of an hour, but ultimately ended in a fourth straight loss under interim manager Frank Lampard.

Madrid can continue its quest for more glory in a



Real Madrid's Brazilian striker Rodrygo Goes (2R) celebrates scoring the team's second goal during the Champions League quarter-final second-leg football match between Chelsea and Real Madrid at Stamford Bridge in London.

record 14 times, with either Manchester City or Bayern

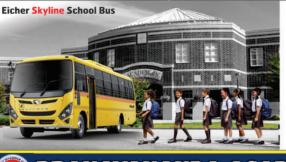
competition it has won a Munich to come in the next round. City was leading Bayern 3-0 after the first

leg of the quarterilhais. setting up a likely rematch of last year's semifinals. Madrid scored twice in added time and another in extra time at the Bernabeu last season to win 6-5 on aggregate.

Madrid is already the only team to successfully defend the Champions League in its modern guise winning it three consecutive times from 2016-18 and is still in contention to win it back-to-back again.

It is a record that no other team can compete with - and with a forward line of Vinicius Junior, Karim Benzema and Rodrygo in such daunting form, the defending champions will take some stop-

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Prannoy, Sindhu to lead Indian team at Sudirman Cup Taipei and Australia and

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

World No. 9 HS Prannoy and two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu will lead the Indian challenge at the 2023 Sudirman Cup, scheduled in Suzhou, China, from May 14-21.

The senior national selection committee, which met here on Tuesday, picked a "balanced" squad with an aim to clinch a first-ever medal in the mixed team champi-

The Indian men had created history last year by winning the prestigious Thomas Cup and hopes of a potential podium finished were raised further following the bronze winning perform-



ance in the Asian Mixed Team Championships earlier this year.

"Sudirman Cup is a prestigious tournament and the selectors have picked the best squad after studying the domestic and international re-

sults. We are confident that this team will challenge for a medal this year," said Badminton Association of India secretary Sanjay Mishra.

India have

grouped in Group C along

with Malaysia, Chinese

stage from a potentially trick group. return Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, who missed the Asian mixed team event due to injury, will bolster the men's doubles squad

their first task will be to

while the experienced Ashwini Ponnappa and new partner Tanisha Castro will provide backup to the All England semi-finalists Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly. Kidambi Srikanth and reigning senior national women's singles champion Anupama Upadhyaya will be the other singles players in the squad.

RAMADAN IFTAR



A Muslim devotee purchases fruits from a vendor for 'iftar' meal during the holy

month of Ramadan, in Kolkata, Wednesday.

Will resign if proven I dialled Shah over TMC's national status'

Kolkata, Apr 19 (PTI):

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said she will resign if it is proven that she dialled Union Home Minister Amit Shah after the Trinamool Congress lost the national party status. Banerjee, who was speaking to reporters at West Bengal's state secretariat, said that her party's name will remain the All India Trinamool Congress

"I will resign if it is proven that I called up Amit Shah over TMC's national party status," she said, rejecting Bengal's leader of opposition Suvendu Adhikari's claim that she had made the call.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses a press conference at Nabanna, in Howrah, Wednesday.

claimed that Banerjee had dialled Shah after the Election Commission revoked TMC's national party status to request him to repeal the decision. Banerjee, also the TMC supremo, said, "It was the norm to review the national party status of all par-

view should have been in 2026 But they did it in "My party's name will

remain the 'All India Trinamool Congress'. If the BJP has any problem, they can approach the Election Commission and we will approach the common people," she thundered. The ECI withdrew the national party status of the TMC, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Communist Party of India (CPI) last week. Reacting to Adhikari's assertion, TMC on Tuesday also said there is not even an iota of truth in it. "Suvendu Adhikari is a habitual liar.

We have seen how he

No question of resigning from TMC: Mukul Roy

Kolkata. Apr 19 (PTI): Veteran Trinamool Congress leader Mukul Roy, who has expressed his desire to work for the BJP in future, on Wednesday said he is a soldier of the saffron camp, and there is no question of resigning from the TMC as he was never "mentally" with the party even after rejoining it in 2021. The founding member of the TMC switched to the BJP in 2017. He won as a saffron party candidate in the 2021 West Bengal assembly election. Roy, however, returned to the TMC soon after the assembly election results, complaining of illtreatment by the saffron camp leadership. He did not resign from the House and is technically still a BJP MLA. In a telephonic interview with PTI from New Delhi, Roy said the saffron camp would do well in the upcoming panchayat polls in Bengal, and the party would easily achieve the target of winning 35 plus Lok Sabha seats in 2024 set by Amit Shah last week. "I am absolutely fit and fine. Some people are spreading rumours that I am unwell, but this is not true. I am a BJP MLA and have come here to be with the party. I want to work for my party BJP. I was never mentally with the TMC after I left it," the 69-year-old politician said. When asked about his post-2021 stint with the TMC, Roy said, "I was not well at that point of time and was never mentally part of it."

has earlier brazenly lied about several political developments. Having a national party status or not is notional it does not im pact the growth of the TMC," party spokesperson Kunal Ghosh had said.

Court discharges all accused in case registered by ED in Mumbai 15 years ago

were generated".

International,

and

Nogaja

Umesh

Mumbai, Apr 19 (PTI):

A special court here has discharged all eight accused in the first-ever case registered under the Prevention of Money Laundering (PMLA) in Mumbai by the Enforcement Directorate. Then managing director of city-based OPM International and others were discharged "in absence of a predicate offence" in the case registered in 2008. Under the PMLA, the ED can initiate a probe only when there exists a prior Information Report of a scheduled offence -- also called predicate offence -against a person or entity.

In 2008, the ED booked OPM International, its diregistered by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under the Narcotic Drugs Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. This was the first case registered in the city under the PMLA. But the accused were eventually discharged from the drug case.

On April 15, special judge M G Deshpande discharged all the accused as the 'predicate offence' did not survive. The detailed order became available on Wednesday. Omprakash Nogaja, then MD of OPM International. claimed in his discharge plea that he was neither involved in the NDPS case nor was he involved in the generation of proceeds of

As laid down by the Supreme Court, a PMLA case cannot be continued if from the predicate offence, ED attaches over Rs 39 cr argued his lawver Avaz worth assets of ex-Jharkhand Khan. Special public prosechief engineer cutor R R Yadav opposed the New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI): A plea, saying the accused

'was actively involved in farmhouse and two flats in posh areas of the national the criminal activity relatcapital, a bungalow in ing to the scheduled offence by which POC of crime Jamshedpur, and some land parcels are among the The court held that the over Rs 39 crore worth as-ED case against Nogaja can sets of a former Jharkhand rural development departnot continue in light of the SC judgement. Besides ment chief engineer that OPM have been attached under Shyam the anti-money laundering Modani, Shriniwas Modani, law, the ED said on Wednesday. A provisional Bangur. order has been issued Radhamohan Lakhotia, Shantilal Pangaria and under the provisions of the Subh Laxmi Synted Limited Prevention of Money were also discharged. OPM Laundering Act (PMLA) to seize these properties be-International used to import goods such as timber, longing to the officer --Veerendra Kumar Ram -pulses and rice. In 2008, the NCB seized 200 kg of coand his family members, caine hidden in a consignthe federal agency said in a ment allegedly ordered by statement.

News channels restrained from showing content of charge sheet

Shraddha Walkar murder case

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court Wednesday observed telecast of the recording of narco analysis conducted Poonawala, the sole accused in the Shraddha Walkar murder, will prejudice the case and restrained all news channels from displaying or playing content of the charge sheet filed in the matter. The high court also di-

rected the Centre to ensure that no news channel displays such material till disposal of the petition filed by the Delhi Police.

The order was passed on a plea by the Delhi Police for restraining media houses from publishing, printing and disseminat-

ing confidential information contained in the charge sheet and other such material collected during the course of investigation. "This is really very, very strange. What purpose will be served by showing or telecasting this narco analysis test on television? This will definitely prejudice the Justice Rajnish Bhatnagar said orally.

Special Prosecutor Amit Prasad, appearing for police, said it is obviously for TRP (television rating points) and added that airing of such content may lead to law and order problem. He submitted that Aaj Tak news channel has got access to a video of the narco

and it was restrained by the trial court from showing it or any such content till April 20. However, he said, an

order needs to be passed against all other channels also as the video might have been shared with others and, if telecast, it would prejudice the right of the accused to fair trial. The high court also is-

sued notices to and sought the response of the Centre, through the Ministry of Information Broadcasting, Aaj Tak channel news Poonawala on the Delhi police's petition and listed it for further hearing on August 3. "No media channel having access to this material shall display or play this material on their

while, Union of India shall ensure that no such material is displayed or played on any channel in whatsoever manner," Bhatnagar said.

As the judge sought to know how the video reached the news channel, Prasad said it was leaked and, if the journalist concerned makes copies of the footage and distributes them further, then there will be no control.

The prosecutor claimed the video footage was not provided to the journalist either by police or anyone from the side of the accused. He said an FIR needs to be registered to investigate as to how the sensitive content got

HP University urged

to prioritize R&D for

ecological challenges Shimla. Apr 19 (PTI): Himachal

Pradesh University should focus on research and development to

address and overcome the eco-

logical challenges causing cli-

mate change. President Droupadi

Murmu said on Wednesday.

Speaking at the 26th convocation

ceremony of Himachal Pradesh

University here, she exhorted

farmers to shift to natural farm-

ing and said the university should

become instrumental in providing

state-of-the-art technology to

farmers through research and in-

novations. She said the university

should focus on research and de-

velopment to address and over-

come the ecological challenges

causing climate change. "I am

happy to see women participa-

tion and progress as 70 per cent

of the students in higher educa-

tion in Himachal Pradesh are

girls and the same was reflected

in the number of students who

were awarded gold medals

today," she added.

UP govt issues directions ahead of festivals

'No religious event allowed on roads'

Lucknow, Apr 19 (PTI):

In view of upcoming festivals like Eid and Akshay Tritiya, the Uttar Pradesh overnment on Wednesdav issued directions regarding holding programmes in the state and ordered that no religious event be held by obstructing roads and traf-

Principal Secretary (Home) Sanjay Prasad, Director General of Police (DGP) R K Vishwakarma and other senior officials held a review meeting with all field officials posted in the state through video conferencing and issued necessary guidelines, an official release said.

There should be adequate arrangements for the security of religious places and additional police forces should be deployed in senVishwakarma said. Prasad directed all the

concerned officers posted in the field to ensure that religious programmes, worshipping, etc. take place at the designated places only. Under no circumstances should any religious event be held by obstructing roads and traffic, the release said.

"In the past, we have been able to do this through communication. This year also, we have to make the same effort," he said. According to the release,

no religious procession or any other procession should be taken out withdue permission. Permission should be given only to those religious processions that are traditional, and unnecessary permission should not be given to new events, it said.

also told the officers to be vigilant about social media and ensure immediate response to any attempt aimed to spread fake news. A senior officer should do a refutation of rumour/fake news, he said.

"The safety of every citizen in the state is the primary responsibility of all of us. The month of Ramzan is going on. Eid-ul-Fitr. Akshava Tritiva and Parshuram Jayanti are likely to be celebrated on the same day on April 22. In view of the present environment, the police will have to be extra careful," Prasad said.

"Deal sternly with those issuing mischievous statements. Strict action should be taken against the chaotic elements that try to cause harm to the peaceful atmosphere in the state,'

FISHERMEN PROTEST



Fishermen try to enter the Assembly during a protest demanding return of a temple land in Puducherry, Wednesday.

It must be embarrassing for Azad and Scindia to attack Congress: Digvijaya

Sehore (MP), Apr 19 (PTI):

Senior Congress leader Digvijaya Singh on Wednesday taunted forparty leaders Ghulam Nabi Azad and Jyotiraditya Scindia, saying that it must be embarrassing for both of them to attack the grand old party as it gave everything to them when they were in the organisation.

He also accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of using these leadattack the ers to Congress

While Scindia quit the Congress in March 2020,

Azad resigned from the grand old party in August 2022, ending his more than five decade association with it. Scindia, who was considered close to Rahul Gandhi, later joined the ruling BJP and became the Union Minister of Civil Aviation, while Azad has floated his own party named the Democratic Azad Party.

Speaking to reporters here, Singh said he agrees with Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's statement that when Ghulam Nabi Azad was in the Congress, he was completely "azad" (free), but after leaving the grand old party he has become a "ghulam"

"Congress has given everything to Azad and Scindia and both were asked to attack the party. Isn't it embarrassing for both of them? It is an embarrassment," Singh said in response to a question if the BJP was using these leaders to attack the Congress.

Singh added that in the past, if anybody wanted to join the dacoits when they were active in Bhind area of Madhya Pradesh.

the leader of the gang used to ask the new recruit to kill a particular person, and only if that task was accomplished, he could become a part of the syndicate.

"BJP has done a similar thing with Azad and Scindia by asking them to attack Congress," he said.

Both Azad and Scindia have been targeting the Congress leadership over various issues with former party president Rahul Gandhi criticising the BJP on a number of issues, including billionaire industrialist Gautam

Ram Lalla to be depicted as an archer at Ayodhya temple

Ayodhya (UP), Apr 19 (PTI):

The idol of Ram Lalla to be installed at the under-construction temple in Ayodhya will be in the form of an archer and carved out of "krishna shila" or black stone from Karnataka, the trust entrusted with the work has decided. The five-foot-tall idol will be carved by Arun Yogiraj, a

noted sculptor from Mysuru. At its two-day meeting which concluded here late Tuesday evening, the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust finalised the specifications of the idol. "The new idol of Lord Ram, in his five-yearold avatar, will be five-foot tall. The idol will be in a stand-

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ing posture armed with a bow and arrow," trust member Swami Teerth Prasannyacharya said here on Wednesday. "Arun Yogiraj will carve the idol out of मह का ना खलना

stone brought to Ayodhya from Karnataka's Karkar and Hegge Deven Kote villages.... The sculptor will finalise the stone which the idol will be carved out of." he added. Trust general secretary

Champat Rai said they selected "krishna shila" following consultations among seers, geologists, sculptors, experts of Hindu scriptures and trust office-bearers. Devotees are eagerly waiting for the new idol of Ram Lalla that is to be placed in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple on the festival of Makar Sankranti next year, he said.



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Cabinet nod for National **Quantum Mission**

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI)

government on Wednesday approved the National Quantum Mission to nurture and scale up scientific and industrial research and development in quantum technology.

The mission involves a cost to Rs 6,003.65 crore from 2023-24 to 2030-31. The National Quantum Mission (NQM), approved at a meeting of the Union Cabinet

Narendra Modi, will accelerate quantum technology-led economic growth and nurture the ecosystem in the country. "NQM is going to give India a quantum jump in this arena," Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh told reporters here. India will be the seventh country to have a dedicated quantum mission after the US, Austria, Finland, France, Canada and China

India surpasses China to become world's most populous nation

India has surpassed China to become the world's most populous nation with 142.86 crore peole, UN data showed.

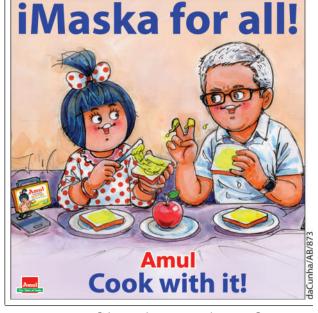
China has a population of 142.57 crore, according to the UN world population dashboard.

According to a new UNFPA report, 25 per cent of India's population is in the age group of 0-14 years, 18 per cent in the 10 to 19 age group, 26 per cent in the age bracket of 10 to 24 years, 68 per cent in 15 to 64 years age group, and 7 per cent above 65 years.

'India's population expected to rise for next three decades before starting to decline'



New Delhi: As India became the most populous country in the world, UN projections estimate that the country's population is expected to grow for the next three decades after which it will begin declining. According to experts, India has achieved the replacement level of fertility but the population will grow due to momentum phenomenon. Replacement level fertility is the level of fertility at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next. The UN analysis stated that India's population is expect-



NIA files charge sheet for organising arms training camps

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI): The National Investigation (NIA) has charge-sheeted Ibrahim Puthanathani, the national coordinator of the banned Popular Front of India (PFI), for his alleged involvement in organising arms training camps across the country, an official said on Wednesday.

The charge sheet against Puthanathani, alias Ibrahim M K, was filed in a special court here as a follow-up in the investigation in a case registered against the PFI and its leaders and cadre, a spokesperson of the NIA said.

BRIEF



National Defence Academy (NDA) entrance exam 2022 topper Anurag Sangwan at his

IEDs seized

■ Chaibasa: Five Improvised **Explosive Devices (IEDs)** were seized by security personnel in Naxal-affected West Singhbhum district in Jharkhand on Wednesday, police said. A massive anti-Naxal operation is underway in Kolhan region of Jharkhand since January 1 this year. During the operation, a team of state police and CRPF found the IEDs buried in a kuccha road between Chota Kuira and Maradiri villages in Goilkera Police

Superintendent of Police Ashutosh Shekhar said.

Kishtwar blast

Jammu: A man died and his brother was injured in a blast at their home in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district on Wednesday, police said. "Initial reports revealed that the blast occurred when the duo tried heating an abandoned object they found while collecting mushrooms in a nearby forest," a police officer said, "The blast took place in the kitchen of the house of Mohd Abass Naik in Symbol village," the officer added.

Youth booked

■ Ballia (UP): A vouth was booked for allegedly posting objectionable comments against Uttar **Pradesh Chief Minister** Yogi Aditvanath on a social networking site, a police official here said on Wednesday. The youth was identified as Mohammad Azim alias Ajju, a resident of the



GOLD 60,237

SILVER

Amit Shah to anti-narcotics agencies

'Be 'ruthless' against drug traffickers'

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said anti-narcotics agencies should be "ruthless" in dealing with drug traffickers and cartels, stressing that they are the main culprits and those consuming drugs their "victims" Citing the ill-effects of

drugs on the youth as well as the country's economy and security, he asked all states to work in close coordination and join the battle against the menace with "a whole-of-government" and "Team India" approach, keeping aside their political differences.

Addressing the first conference of the heads of Anti-Narcotics Task Forces of states and Union territo-

ries, Shah said the Ministry of Home Affairs, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has set a target to create a drug-free India by 2047 when the country attains 100th year of independence.

"Drug traders are the main culprits as the drug consumers are the victims. We have to take a ruthless approach against the drug traders and the strongest

possible action should be taken against them," he

The home minister said the Narendra Modi government is committed to eradicating the menace of drugs and a "whole of government" approach should be taken against it as it can destroy the future generations, he said. "Narcotics not only make

the young generation hollow, but along with this, there are many bad effects on the country's economy as well. Simultaneously, through narco-terror, through smuggling of narcotics, the security of the country's border can be breached.... If the 130 crore Indians fight it together, we will win this battle," he

police custody for four days

Atiq killers sent to

Prayagraj (UP), Apr 19 (PTI):

The three persons accused of killing gangsterturned-politician Atiq Ahmed and his brother Mohammad Ashraf were sent to police custody for four days by the court of chief judicial magistrate here on Wednesday.

Lovelesh Tiwari, Mohit and Arun Kumar Maurya were produced in the court amid tight security on Wednesday morning as the police sought a sevenday remand.

Passing the order later, the court sent them to police custody for four days -from 2 pm on Wednesday till 5 pm on April 23, district government advocate Gulab Chandra Agrahari

Rail employee killed as goods train derails after hitting another train

Shahdol/Bilaspur, Apr 19 (PTI):

A railway employee was killed and five other personnel injured when a moving freight train hit a stationary goods train and then derailed in Madhya Pradesh's Shahdol district on Wednesday, rail officials said.

Shahdol district collector Vandana Vaidya told reporters that one of the railway personnel injured in the freight trains accident died. Two out of the five other injured are in critical condition and undergoing treatment at local government medical college, she said.

Railway sources said the deceased was the 48-yearold loco pilot of the stationary goods train.



Wreckage of two goods trains after a collision, in Shahdol district, Wednesday

The incident, which disrupted traffic on Bilaspur-Katni rail route, took place due to signal overshoot at around 6.50 am near Singhpur station, which falls under Bilaspur railway division, an official from South East Central Railway (SECR) said.

At least 10 trains operated on the route have been cancelled, he said.

Eight wagons and a loco motive of the iron oreladen moving goods train derailed in the incident, disrupting traffic on Bilaspur-Katni rail route,

SC urged to use plenary power, moral authority to ensure acceptance of same-sex marriages



New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

The petitioners seeking legal validation of samemarriage Wednesday urged the Supreme Court to use its plenary power, "prestige and moral authority" to push the society to acknowledge such a union which would ensure LGBTQIA persons lead a

"dignified" life like heterosexuals. A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud was told by senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for one of the petitioners, that "the State should come forward and provide recognition to same-sex marriage." He referred to the law on widow re-marriage, and said the society did accept it then and the "law acted with alacrity" and the social acceptance followed. "Here, this court needs to push the society to acknowledge the samesex marriage.



Ganga ghats wear a deserted look as mercury soars, in Varanasi, Wednesday.

NCW seeks probe into harassment charges against YC chief Srinivas Bv

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

Commission for Women (NCW) has asked the Assam Police to conduct an inquiry into the harassment allegations levelled against Indian Youth president Congress Srinivas B V by its Assam unit chief Angkita Dutta.

Srinivas on Tuesday issued a legal notice to Dutta, saying she was defaming him.

The NCW, in a statement, said it has come across a Twitter post enclosing screenshots of

posts made by Dutta, alleging harassment, use of derogatory language and discrimination against Srinivas.

The NCW claimed that Dutta has posted on her Twitter handle that she even raised her grievance with Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Jammu, but no action was taken on her complaint.

The Commission said it is "appalled and disappointed" and has taken cognizance of the allegations levelled by Dutta against Srinivas.

UGC to universities

'Allow students to write exams in local languages even if course is in English medium' write the answers in local

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI)

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked universities to allow students to write exams in local languages even if the course is offered in English medium, while arranging evaluators and encouraging the translation of textbooks, according to Chairman M Jagadesh Kumar.

The Commission has also asked the universities to promote the use of local language in teaching and learning processes as well.

"Promotion and regular use of Indian languages in education is a crucial area focus in the new National Education Policy (NEP). It emphasises the

importance of teaching and instruction in the mother tongue and local languages "It also lays thrust on the

need to optimise communication in all Indian languages for better cognitive attainment and the development of a holistic personality of the learners,' Kumar said.

Noting that the academic ecosystem continues to be English medium-centric, the UGC chief said once the teaching, learning and assessment are done in local languages, student engagement will gradually increase, leading to an increase in the success rate.

"The Commission has requested the universities that students be allowed to languages in examinations even if the programme is offered in English medium, and promote translation of original writing in local languages and use local language in the teachinglearning process at universities," he said. Asked about how stu-

dents writing in local languages will be evaluated, he said, "This will be possible if the evaluators also know the local language and the University can make the effort to find the evaluators who know the local language." "The idea is to let the students write the answers in a language that will provide them the opportunity to express easily," Kumar said

Rajnath asks Army to maintain strong vigil along LAC as situation remains 'tense' priority" for the govern-

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Wednesday asked the Army to maintain strong vigil along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China as the situation in the northern sector remained "tense" in view of deployment of PLA troops.

In his address at the Commanders' Armv Conference, Singh, without making specific references, called upon the armed forces to take note of geopolitical changes around the world, and accordingly mould their planning and strategies, sources said. "The situation is tense due to deployment of PLA troops in the northern sector. Our armed forces, espe-



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh visits an exhibition at the Army Commanders' Conference, at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi, Wednesday.

cially the Indian Army, will have to continuously keep their vigilance in order to maintain the security of the LAC," he said, according to the sources. Singh's

comments came in the backdrop of the three-year border row in eastern Ladakh. The defence minister said the security of the country is the "topmost

ment. "I assure all of you that it is the whole endeavour of the government to provide the best weapons and facilities to each and every soldier posted on the border," he said at the conference in Delhi. The five-day Commanders' Conference

began on Monday. It is deliberating on India's national security challenges along the borders with China and Pakistan and ways to boost combat capability of the force.

Referring to Jammu and Kashmir, the defence minister said it is witnessing peace and stability and there has been a significant decline in the number of terrorist activities in the Union Territory.

Four arrested for mobile tower installation fraud

Bhilai, Apr 19: Police arrested four persons of an interstate gang of fraudsters involved in cheating people in pretext of mobile tower installation. The accused worked at a call centre in West Bengal 24 Parganas. Patan Police Station arrested them in connection with a complaint of fraud filed by Teiendra Chakradhar.

The accused duped him of Rs 59460. The accused lured him to pay different amounts on assurance of providing Rs 15 lakh as advance in lieu of installing a mobile tower of Airtel company in his agricultural field. The accused further assured that the company would pay Rs 20000 rent per month after installation of the tower.

SP Dr Abhishek Pallava



informed that during investigation of this matter, they found that the accused used mobile numbers 9477122319, 9073850137, 9593522494, 8617776775. They also used the bank accounts of SBI, HDFC, Canara Bank and Bank of

Police traced the loca-

tion of the mobile numbers as well as examined the details of the bank transactions. A Police team was sent to West Bengal from where the accused were taken into custody. During interrogation, the accused confessed to duping Rs 21 lakh from a person in

lakh from a person in Dhamtari district, Rs 90000 from a person of Dhamdha and Rs 38460 from a person in Seoni in Madhya Pradesh as well as Teiendra Kumar of Patan.

The arrested accused are Barun Singh alias Mayank Singh (39) son of

Station, Patahi District, Champaran, Motihari Bihar (presently residing at Subhash Nagar, Dumdum Police Station); Asima Rai (30) daughter of Mansoor Ali a resident of Duttabad Road Bagpara, Opposite Apollo Hospital, Police Station Vidhan Nagar, CC Block, District North 24 Parganas (WB); Deepika Mandal (26) daughter of Sapan Mandal a resident of Duttabad Road, Salt Lake Kolkata, PS Vidhan Nagar Kolkata; and Sneha Pal (25) daughter of Dulalchand Pal a resident of 1/B-5 Ramlal Agarwal Lane, Opposite Meghdoot Apartment, Ghoshwara Thana Badanagar, Kolkata (WB). Police seized 44 mobiles, 22 diaries and one motorcycle

Bhilai Steel Plant organises one day free health camp at Joratarai



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 19: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant remains upfront in fulfilling its organizational social responsibility by doing several public welfare activities for the communities within which it works. The Corporate Social Responsibility Department (CSR) of Bhilai Steel Plant takes multiple initiatives towards establishing, cultural unity, professional de-

velopment, environment

sports, health and wellbeing in Bhilai and adjoining areas. The CSR Department contributes actively for healthcare, through initiatives like health camps, which are organized from time to time to provide medical assistance to villagers. In this series, a free

health camp was organized by the Department in village Joratarai recently. An expert medical team from CSR, comprising of Dr Nishi Minj, Shri Gaur, Pharmacist, Rekha Dev

Examination Shambhu for Registration, conducted the camp at Joratarai. Shri Soni from the CSR Department of Bhilai Steel plant was also present in the camp, along with School Principal from the village school, village councilor represen-

A total of 32 individuals including 9 men, 11 women and 12 children, were examined in the camp and free medicines were distributed in the

RPS celebrates Tenth Foundation Day

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 19: It was a memorable day for the management, staff and Public School that runs under the aegis of Sanjay Rungta Group of Institutions, when they all celebrated their Tenth Foundation Day on April 17, 2023. The school completed its glorious journey of 9 years and stepped into the 10th year on April 09, 2023.

The journey so far has been a very rewarding one. The Chairman of SRGI, Sanjay Rungta, Director Harsha Rungta,

and Principal, Deepti Singh graced the occasion by their presence.

Celebrating this milestone achievement, a special assembly was organized by Raman House. The energy and passion of the students was visible in the performances that they put up. The day started with remembering the Almighty, God and seeking blessings for the entire school commu-

This was followed by a Thought and a Speech on Foundation Day. The students choir presented a melodious song which



merizing dance performance. After this some of the students of class XII, who have been in this school since inception, shared their experience and spoke about their wonderful journey and memories related to their school life.

Commemorating the special occasion, the cake cutting ceremony was held. All the students, teachers and other staff members cherished the moments of celebration reminiscing the incredible journey that the school has embarked in since the year 2014.

Principal,

and said that it was a collaborative effort of everyone that has made the journey of the school till now so fruitful and interesting. He advised the students to keep making steady progress in their life, to always keep their spirits high and to make every possible effort to improve and upgrade themselves.

the students and staff

He reminded them of their responsibilities towards their school, to take it higher in every sphere, for which they require to be dedicated and focussed.

The Chairman of

heart felt wishes to everyone on the completion of 9 years of the school. He recounted exceptional achievements of the past years and established faith and hope that the students will excel in every field and take the name of the institution to the pinnacle.

his address extended his

He wished that all his students will become good and responsible members of their community and good citizens of their country eventu-The ceremony ended with the joint rendition of the national

Uday Mahavidyalaya organises self defence training for students

tance of self defence for girls, Uday Mahavidyalaya organised a special training session for the girl students. Creative Karate Academy Director Sensai Sandeep Tamrakar (Black Belt 3rd Dan, National Referee Grade A and Coach); Self Defence Expert and Trainer Sensai Anjana Rajveer Singh (Certified Female Instructor, Kata / Kumate Judge - B) conducted the training ses-

They demonstrated the self defence tricks and tactics using various items. The objective of the programme was to



make the girls aware of the anti-social elements so that they can remain cautious and defend themselves in case of any

Dr TR Sahu and Principal Dr Alipa Sahu said that they would continue organising such events in were present in the profuture as well for the safe-

Uday Group Director ty of the girls. Faculty members and BEd students Mahavidyalaya, Jamul

DAV Hudco acclaims Mahatma Hansraj

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 19: To commemorate the 159th birth anniversary Mahatama Hansraj Ji -Embodiment of Havan Yajna was organized in DAV Public School, Hudco, under the aegis of Aarya Pradeshik Pratinidhi Upsabha of CG Zone on April 19, 2023. Mahatama Hansraj, was one of the greatest Arya Samajists founder of Institutions, great compassionate soul and undoubtedly, the pillar of DAV institutions.

The program was initiated with the floral tribute to the great immortal soul Mahatama Hansraj Ji followed by the Havan Yajna by the Supervisory Heads (Senior and Junior wings), Faculty members



and the students of classes VIII - XII who actively and enthusiastically participated in the Havan, metamorphosing the ambiance full of positivity, divinity, vibration of joy and contentment.

Speaking on the occasion, Raghvendra Sahu (Senior Faculty Member, Hindi Department) enlightened students about this real scholar, a great writer and a true Vedic preacher and whose commendable contribution in the field of education has

given a great height to it. He dreamt of an educated generation, enriched with values, patri-

was an embodiment of sacrifice, kindness and mercy, who helped and served the poor and needy all through his life. The Havan concluded with the chanting of Pious Mantras, bhajans, distribution of Prasad and Shanti Path.

SAIL Chairman inaugurates Milk Distribution Scheme by BSP

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 19: Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Chairman, Soma Mondal, virtually inaugurated Milk a Distribution Scheme launched under the CSR activities of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, on April, 18, 2023. Mondal was on a day's visit to BSP, wherein she also presided over various meetings and functions at DIC Conference hall of Ispat Bhawan.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Dasgupta, Anirban Director I/c(BSP), S Mukhopadhyay, (Projects) with Additional Charge, ED

(P&A), Dr AK Panda, ED(F&A), Samir Swarup, CGM I/c (Mines & Rowghat), Smriti Singh from NDDB, TS Ahuja from Devbhog Milk, JY Sapkale, CGM (TSD&CSR), NM Padhy, (Chairman Secretariat), Anupam Bisht, GM (Mines Hq), Shivrajan, GM (CSR) and other Senior management. This welfare scheme

has been envisaged for the student beneficiaries from various villages of districts Chhattisgarh, namely Narayanpur, Kanker. Balod and Manpurmohla, under Rowghat Mines Project of SAIL-Bhilai Steel

Plant. An MoU was exe-



cuted for this scheme, in March 2023 between SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant and National Dairy Development Board

(NDDB), to provide nutritious flavored milk to 3,000 students, during the lunch-time in the beneficiary schools.

Addressing the gathering virtually, Chairman Mondal lauded Bhilai Steel Plant for this initiative and encouraged the

students to study and play well and fulfill their dreams. She also appreciated the teachers for their role in nation

building by educating the future of the country. I am happy to see the smiling faces of children, added Chairman, Mondal.

Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c(BSP), wished good health and happiness to the students and said that the objective is to provide nutritious and tasty milk to the students, which would ensure proper nutrition and also encourage student's participation in school education.

In his welcome address, S Mukhopadhyay, (Projects) with Charge, Additional ED(P&A) said that, as a part of BSP's CSR activities, by partnering with

NDDB, Bhilai Steel Plant will provide free nutritious and tasty flavoured milk to students, in the beneficiary schools, as a step towards promoting education and nutrition in the mines areas under Bhilai Steel Plant. Under this initiative,

by partnering with NDDB, Bhilai Steel Plant will provide free nutritious and tasty flavored milk to 3,000 students, during the lunchtime. The milk packets will be supplied by Devbhog Milk Chhattisgarh Dairy Cooperative Federation. The program was conducted by Rajni Rajak from CSR department.

Feedback, survey at different level determines eligibility for ticket: Markam

Holds review meeting of office bearers at booth-level

Raipur, Apr 19: PCC Chief Mohan Markam conducted booth review with office bearers of Raipur division here on Wednesday. In this he checked about the preparations for the election at booth-level and made a major statement in context of survey for distribution of tickets.

Mohan PCC Chief Markam said that hardly six months are left for the VS polls and the govern-



for many times. Feedback is being taken at organizational level on regular basis. Prior to finalization of ticket for a candidate,

even the party High Command also gets a survey done, he added.

Head of PCC in state Mohan Markam said that we will want the tickets to be given to all the existing 71 MLAs, but as to whom the ticket is to be distributed will be finalized by the High Command. In case if there are any shortcomings then instructions are being given to sort it out at government and organizational-level. Through survey we get feedback and then necessary work is done, he added.

Mohan Markam said

Sharma,

Shukla.

Housing

Village

Rajendra

Gyanesh

Board

Chhattisgarh

Chhattisgarh

Board President Kuldeep

and

State Yoga Commission

Sharma were present on

Juneia.

Industries

Chairman

Chairman

Khadi

Sahu,

that in today's meeting,

booth works were reviewed and instructions were given to form booths where it is not existing. 90% of the booths have been formed and in the coming days, Vidhan Sabha-wise training will be imparted. About committee at booth-level, he said that a committee of 35-members is formed and we have asked the office bearers to form committee, keeping in mind representation to all sections of the society. During the elections, it will help in moving among the voters,



Chairman Yoga Commission inaugurates 33rd regular yoga practice center

Raipur, Apr 19: Chhattisgarh Yoga Commission is starting yoga practice in Municipal Corporation area. In this Chairman Chhattisgarh Yoga Commission Mr. Gyanesh Sharma inaugurated the 33rd free regular yoga practice center in Kurud. Yoga practice center will be operated by yoga instructor Bhema Sahu daily from 6:00 am to 7:30 am at old Krishi Upaj Mandi premises. The program was presided over by Neelam Chandrakar, **President Agricultural Produce** Market Committee, Kurud,

LONG WAIT



With delay in arrival of few trains and many cancelled due to collision between two goods train, the passengers were left with no option but to wait for arrival at the railway station.

Raipur's Kota Gudhyari Marg renamed as Shri Santosh Agrawal Marg

Under Bhent-Mulagat prog at Raipur (W) Vidhan Sabha

Raipur, Apr 19: The Kota Gudhyari Marg in Raipur has been renamed as the 'Shri Santosh Agrawal Marg'. During his 'Bhent-Mulaqat' programme in Raipur West Assembly Constituency, the Chief Minister, Bhupesh Baghel, participated in the renaming ceremony of the Kota Gudhyari Marg and unveiled a plaque in the name of the former mayor. Santosh Agarwal, on the road. The organizers also honored the Chief Minister with a symbolic memento on this occasion. During the renaming



ing flowers on his portrait. He said that Shri Agrawal was a simple person with a personality that was influential enough not to be ignored. He made a significant contribution to the development of Raipur

... Parliamentary

100th episode of the radio prog 'Mann Ki Baat' will be broadcast exclusively at Raj Bhavan

A meeting was held in Raj Bhavan regarding the preparations for the prog

Raipur, Apr 19: The 100th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's radio program "Mann Ki Baat" will be exclusively broadcast at Raj Bhavans across the country. Governor Biswabhushan Harichandan will preside over this program at the Chhattisgarh Raj Bhavan. Ministry The Information Broadcasting, Government of India, will organize this program. The Secretary to Governor, Amrit Khalkho, chaired a meeting today at Raj Bhavan to review the preparation of its

complete outline and coordination. In the meeting, the private secretary to the governor, B.S. Behra, the deputy secretary, Deepak Agarwal, the deputy director of Press Information Bureau, Sunil Tiwari, the central directors Doordarshan and All India Radio, and senior officers were present.

In this regard, it was stated at the meeting that a state-level committee would be formed. Aside from that, discussions were held at the Raj Bhavan about the elaborate arrangements for the telecast of "Mann Ki Baat." A special photo exhibition related to previous "Mann Ki Baat" events will also be organized as part of the program by the Directorate of Field Publicity, Government

'School timings changed in Raipur'



Now classes to be held from 7 am to 11 am, CM tweeted

Raipur, Apr 19: The state government has changed the timings of the schools in view of the scorching heat. Classes will now be held from 7 am to 11 am in the entire state including Raipur. Giving this information, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has tweeted. He has written to the parents that to take care of themselves and their children. CM Bhupesh Baghel has informed about the changes made in the timings of the schools by tweeting. Along with this,

he has written that in view of the scorching heat in the state, it has been decided to change the timing of all government/non-government schools and educational institutions in the state. All primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools operating in one shift will have to follow this order. While in schools operating in two shifts, the first shift can be opened from 7 am to 11 am and in the second shift only high-higher secondary schools can be opened from 11 am to 3 pm. This order issued by the Director of Public Instruction will be effective till April 30. After this, students will be

given summer vacation from May 1 to June 15.

It may be noted that due to continous heat waves increasing in the state in the month of April itself. In such a situation, it is becoming difficult for common people to come out of their houses. At the same time, even children are shying away from going to school in summer. The days have started getting hot since 11 am and mercury has crossed 35 degrees. The timings were also changed in the beginning of April. In view of the scorching heat, a partial change was also made in the opening time of the schools by the Education

Students should contribute for the progress of the country and society: Governor



Governor and Chief Minister attended the 9th convocation

Degree awarded to 12,384 students, gold medals distributed to 62 students

Raipur, Apr 19: It is a matter of pride for the students that they are the citizens of the largest democratic country in the world. Nation and society have an important contribution in their achievements. It is also the duty of the students to use their education for the progress of the nation and society. Governor Vishwabhushan Harichandan expressed the above views the 9th convocation ceremony of Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur. On this occasion Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel as chief and Agriculture Minister Mr. Ravindra Choubey and Dr. Trilochan Mahapatra, former Director General, ICAR were present as special guests. vegrees were awarded to 12,384 students in the grand and dignified convocation ceremony held at the auditorium of Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur. These include 9,908 graduates, 2096 postgraduates and 380 PhD degree holders. 62 Gold, 140 silver and 23 bronze medals were awarded to students of the merit list. Addressing the function. Governor Mr. Vishwabhushan Harichandan said that agricultural universities are playing an important role in the development of the nation by providing quality education, research and extension education. At the time of formation of Chhattisgarh state this university had only one agriculture college and at present there are 39 colleges of agriculture and allied subjects.

Private entrepreneurs should be encouraged to set up millet processing plants: CS

hensive action plan for



Review of works of Forest, Home and **Jail Department**

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain has given instructions to the officials to encourage private entrepreneurs to set up processing plants to promote the use of millets. He was reviewing the works of Home and Jail and Forest Department in Mantralaya Mahanadi here on Wednesday in order of priority schemes of the state government. DGP Mr. Ashok Juneja, PCCF Dr. Sanjay Shukla, Additional Minister Mr. Subrata Sahu and Principal Secretary of Forest, Home and Jail Department Mr. Manoj Pingua were also present in the meeting.

In the meeting, the Chief Secretary instructed to work under the compreplanting trees on the private lands of farmers and other beneficiaries under 'Mukhyamantri Vriksha Sampada Yojana i He laid special emphasis on planting trees of commercial species. He said that cooperative organisations should be encouraged in tree plantation work to promote wood and plywood based industries. He also instructed the officers to set up more and more units for making Patal. Forest Dona Department officials told in the meeting that under the Millet Mission, 52 thousand 730 quintals of millet grains have been purchased in the state in the year 2022 on the support price. In the year 2023, 38 thousand 700 quintal millet has been purchased at the support price.

In the review of the Narva development works

halwa, Ragi pav bhaji, etc. On the

officials said that in the year 2022-23, 1503 works of Narva development have been done, in which 2 lakh 81 thousand 879 water storage areas have been taken. In Chhattisgarh, special efforts are being made for collection, processing and industry development of minor forest produce resources.

In the meeting, the increase in forest revenue, tree plantation, loan disbursement on forest rights pattas were reviewed in detail. Similarly, in the meeting, the progress of refund of funds to chit fund victims, submission of challans in criminal cases against women and children and women helpline, crime control and control of cybercrime were reviewed in detail.

Home Department Secretary Mr. Basavaraju, Managing Director Chhattisgarh State Minor Forest Produce Association Mr. Anil Rai, Chief Executive Officer CAMPA Mr. Nivasrao and other senior officers of Home and Forest Department participated in the meeting.

'ORRA strengthens its retail footprint'



Launches a massive store in Bilaspur

Bilaspur, Apr 19: ORRA, India's leading trusted brand for diamond jewellery is expanding its presence in Bilaspur with the launch of the 1st store in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. The showroom will house the latest diamond jewellery collections. ORRA's patented 73-faceted ORRA Crown Star, the brightest diamond in India, will also be exclusively available at the new retail showroom.

At the launch, the brand is offering its patrons, 25% off on diamond jewellery (for a limited period) and at 0% interest on EMI facilities.

Speaking about the launch, Dipu Mehta, Managing Director, **ORRA**, said, "Bilaspur is an important market for us. With this launch, we aim to strengthen our brand presence and craft a lasting shopping experience for our customers. The collection at the store is thoughtfully curated, keeping in mind the overall demand for diamond jewellery and the evolving tastes and choices of

The showroom which is 2300 sq.ft has been creatively designed with comfortable seating, contemporary interiors and 1 bridal lounge to enhance the customer's shopping experience. The

comes with complimentary insurance and assured free-of-cost lifemaintenance. ORRA provides its patrons with lifetime exchange and buyback in addition to a seven-day return policy on the brand's conflict-free diamonds. The store is opera-

tomer base with 100%

certified jewellery, which

tional at ORRA Fine Jewellery, Opposite Sai Mandir, Near Rama Magneto .Verma Marg, Bilaspur.

new showroom has the brand's defining range of diamond jewellery that includes the ORRA Crown Star Collection, Astra Collection, Desired Collection and Platinum

Collection. ORRA takes superiority in its diamond legacy by constantly providing product innovation and offering a wide range of bridal and contemporary jewellery. With 5 global design centres in Tokyo, Hong Kong, Antwerp, Mumbai, and New York, ORRA carries a legacy of 700-year-old Belgian

craftsmanship. The renowned brand provides its loyal cuslion gazes began in 1888 before it metamorphosed into ORRA. From sculpting and manufacturing diamonds to crafting and retailing the finest diamond and gold jewellery, ORRA has come a long way since its inception. Today, ORRA is one of India's finest bridal jewellery retail chains, having spread its glow with 74Stores across 34 Cities and has consistently been at the forefront of design, leadership and product innovation with 5 global design centres in Antwerp, Hongkong, New York, Tokyo & Mumbai.

The journey of a mil-

CM Baghel inaugurates 2nd Millet Cafe of the city at Nalanda Parisar

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel today inaugurated the first millet Cafe of the city at Nalanda Parisar. Now the students preparing for competitive exams in Nalanda Parisar will have easy access to millet based food items in the premises. People of the city can also visit Millet Cafe and enjoy the food items made of Ragi kodo-kutki etc. Chief Minister inaugurated this Cafe today during his public interaction program i.e. Bhent-Mulaqat in Raipur West Assembly Constituency.

Inaugurating the second millet Cafe of capital city Raipur, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that now the students coming to Nalanda Parisar for studies will get nutritious yet delicious snacks at this cafe in the premises. Now students will no longer



have to go for junk food when hungry, while nutritious millet snacks will help them stay healthy and focus on their education. Chief Minister praised Collector Sarveshwar Bhure and the officials of the municipal cor-

poration for setting up this cafe. Occasion Chief Minister Baghel cut the cake made of Ragi and also enjoyed the taste of cheela made of Kutki, Ragi bread sandwich, Ragi vegetable cutlet, Kisi kheer, Ragi cupcake, Ragi occasion incharge Minister West Mr Ravindra Chaubey, MLA and Parliamentary Secretary Vikas Upadhyay, Mayor Ejaz Dhebar, Chairman of Yog Commission Gyanesh Sharma, Speaker Municipal Corporation Pramod Dubey, SSO Prashant Agrawal, Corporation Commissioner Mayank Chaturvedi, and many other public representatives were present. Healthy Traditional Food Habits

are being revived and promoted: Chief Minister said that Ragi kodo kutki and millets like these have been an important part of our daily diet for generations. However, use of these grains declined over time. These food grains are rich in nutrients. At the newly inaugurated Millet Cafe, people will get healthy options of the delicious snacks made of mil-Millet Cafes opened in many

promoted among women.

cities including Raigarh and Chief Minister said that

Chhattisgarh was the first state in the country to launch millet mission, and now central government as also adopted this strategy. Millet based cafes and hotels are being opened in many cities of the state including Raigarh and Jagdalpur. This cafe in Raipur has been started on the initiative of District Administration in association with Municipal Corporation. He further said that maximum of the millet cafes opened in the major cities of the state are being run by women entrepreneurs or women groups. Through these our customers.' cafes, entrepreneurship is being

Every registered worker should be kept well informed: CS

About labour dept's schemes

CS Amitabh Jain reviews works of **Labour. Tribal and SC Development** and GAD

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain conducted an in-depth review of the works of Labour. Tribal and Scheduled Caste Development Department Department in order of priority schemes of the government at Mantralaya Mahanadi Bhavan here on Tuesday. The Chief Secretary has instructed the officials of the Labour Department that every registered labourer should be benefited by informing them

The Chief Secretary has given instructions to the

run for them.

about the schemes being

Aat Gudhiyari Gogaon

Under Bhent Mulagat at Raipur West Assembly Constituency

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel today unveiled the life-size statue of Chhattisgarh Mahtari at Gudhiyari, Gogaon. An attractive stat-Chhattisgarh Mahtari has been installed here at a cost of about Rs 25 lakh. Statues of four Chhattisgarhi women worshiping and praying to Chhattisgarh Mahatri have also been installed in front of the idol, and special arrangements have been made here for attractive decorations and light combinations.

On this occasion, the Minister in charge of Raipur district Ravindra Choubey, MLA Vikas Upadhyay, Mayor Aijaz Municipal Corporation Chairman Pramod Dubey, and councliors of the corporation were present.

Protection of the culture and tra-

dition of festivals in village areas

Scheme will be implemented in

61development block communi-

6111 Village Panchayats of

Each Village Panchavat will

receive an amount of Rs. 10

thousand in two installments

Raipur, Apr 19: The 'Mukhyamantri

Chhattisgarhi Parv Samman Nidhi Yojana' is

being launched to protect the festivals, tradi-

tions, and culture of village areas in community

development blocks of the state. Chief Minister

Mr. Bhupesh Baghel will launch the scheme on

20 April. Earlier, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel had

launched the Mukhyamantri Adivasi Parab

Samman Nidhi Yojana on 13 April at the Bharosa

Sammelan held in the Bastar division headquar-

ters in Jagdalpur in the presence of Priyanka

Another aim of the scheme to be launched by the Chief Minister on 20 April through video-

ty areas



was present in the meet-

the Chief Secretary re-

been distributed to the

Additional

Scheduled

officials of the Labour Department to carry out planned work for the construction of houses or purchase of new houses for the workers under the Minister's Construction Workers' Housing Assistance Scheme. In the meeting, the progress made under individual and community forest rights under the Forest Rights Act was re-The Chief Secretary has given instructions to the officials of the Scheduled Caste Department to ensure that the beneficiaries benefited from various schemes of the state government under the Forest Rights

ing, Secretary, Tribal and Scheduled Secretary to the Chief Development Department, Minister Subrata Sahoo Mr. D.D. Singh, Secretary, General Administration ing. While reviewing the Department, schemes of the Tribal and Kamalpreet Energy Secretary, Development Department, Department, Mr. Ankit Anand, Secretary, Labor viewed individual and Department, Mr. Amrit Kumar Khalkho and community forest rights recognition letters under Commissioner, Tribal and the Forest Rights Act. Scheduled Caste Officials said that the Development Shammi Abidi, Deputy number of approved and accepted claims under in-Labor Commissioner, Ms. Savita Mishra, Tribal dividual forest rights is about 4 lakh 67 thousand Development Department 569. 4 lakh 61 thousand 377 , Labor Department and forest rights letters have other officers of General Administration Department were present.

implementation of PCPNDT Act

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 19: Health Family Minister TS Singhdeo discussed with the representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working against gender discrimination and illegal abortion, for effective implementation of PCPNDT Act. In a meeting held at his residence office in Raipur, the Health Minister sought suggestions from non-governmental organizations for effective implementation of the PCPNDT Act and improving the male-female ratio in the state.

Women's Commission Chairperson Dr Kiranmayi Nayak, Commissioner of Health Department Dr Prasanna, Director of Health Services Bhim Director Singh. National Health Mission Bhoskar Vilas Sandipan. Joint Director of PCPNDT Prashant Srivastava and Deputy Director of Health Department Dr Mahendra



Health Minister discusses effective

Women's Commission Chairperson Dr Kiranmayi Nayak suggested in the meeting that debate, essay and speech competitions on such topics should be organized among children in high schools and higher secondary schools to create awareness to remove gender inequality and maintain a good sex ratio. Women's Commission is campaigning for awareness on these issues through awareness chariot, she said.

NGO representatives for violation of the act

Dr Shivhare receives 'Fellowship of Research Trust of Diabetes India'

called for sensitizing the youth for effective implementation of the PCPNDT Act. Adequate publicity should also be given on social media to create awareness about this act and maintain better sex ratio in the state besides preventing illegal abortions.

Dr Prashant Srivastava, Joint Director, PCPNDT Act told in the State Board of Observers meeting that 56 sonography centers in 14 districts of the state were inspected by the state level inspection team. Notices were issued to 14 centres tres and suspend one centre, after inspection, he said. He informed that the inspection teams constituted at the district level in spected 853 centers and action took against 23 centers which violated the Act. Action has been taken by district level teams to issue notices to 16 centres, seal five centers and suspend Representatives of NGOs Anmol Foundation, Pradan. Participant.

while recommendation

was made to seal two cen-

Samarth and Arpan pre

age and disseminate

knowledge, education and

research to provide high

quality care to diabetes pa-

tients worldwide. Dr.

CM Baghel unveils life-size statue of Ch'garh Mahatari





to improve the life of peo ple suffering from diabetes. Dr. Raka Shivhare dedicated this honor to his seniors and thanked the entire team of Diabetes India 2023. He told that, My topic at the conference was Tattoo and Botox Therapy. He apprised the doctors who came from all over the country that the patient can get tattoos and botox if their diabetes is under control. Serious contraindications related to these two have not come to the fore. Dr. Shivhare further added that Botox therapy is likely to cause muscle hypotonia, and the drugs in this therapy paralyze the contraction of the muscles. These medicines are easily available due to which India is becoming should be a guideline at all

the center of Botox. He further added, there is a possibility of spreading some infections such as HIV, Hepatitis and some blood borne infections due to which the chances of getting skin infection also increases. Dr Shivhare is of opinion that there

these centers and some tests should be done before tattoo and botox so that the patient can avoid lifelong complications. Regarding "DiabetesIndia 2023", Dr. Shivhare said that, The objective of the conference was to share

ideas, analysis of innova-

tive, feasible and imple-

Shivhare thanked DiabetesIndia 2023, that they have given him this opportunity to speak as an expert. He congratulated President DiabetesIndia, Dr. SR Arvind, Chief Advisor, Dr. Shashank Joshi, Secretary, Banshi Organizing Chairman, Dr. Sunil M. Jain, Scientific Chairman, Dr. Manoj Chawla, Organizing Secretary, Dr. Bharat Sabu and the rest of the team with whose cooperation

this 13th World Diabetes

Conference was success-

fully completed.

GEMS observes 'House Inaugural Day'

Students apprised about different houses

Raipur, Apr 19: It was an another classical start for the new academic session (2023-24) and a red letter day for Shri Gujrati English Medium Higher Secondary School (GEMS) as 'House Inaugural Day' was observed for the very first time in the school premises along with regular school assembly. The morning assembly was organized in two phases-Class I-VIII(at Gyanoday Bhavan) and Class IX-XII at 'Dome' on the third floor. The concept of celebrating this day was the brain child of dynamic principal Dr Shailesh Sharma who after taking the reins of this institution is creating ripples by introducing new concepts for the betterment of educational institution and overall development of children. As part of the celebration principal Dr Shailesh Sharma garlanded the photograph of four great personalities

In lieu of land

plant

acquired for the

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Apr 19: Land

was the only support for

the 71 affected people of

Nagarnar Steel Plant, in-

cluding women. The land

has been acquired, but

they have not got employ-

ment till date. However,

before the acquisition of

the land, it was promised



(Chattrapati Shivaji House-Blue, Rabindranath House -Green, Tagore Vivekananda Swami Orange House-Subhash Chandra Bose.House-Red) on whose names nomenclature of four different houses have been given. Thereafter regular assembly was conducted and students of four different houses standing in a queue side by side one after the other. Further Principal in his speech explained the idea behind celebrating this day and also highlighted the purpose behind the formation of four different houses. The students were made to understand that how the students divided

that they would be given

into four different houses develop a sense of health competition among themselves and also carry with them a sense of responsibility and discipline. The students representatives of four different houses also expressed their views on the occasion. The faculty representatives of different houses also spoke about the importance of different houses and about personalities on whose names houses have been named. The prominent among those present on the occasion were Vice Principal Chandrasekhar, Academic Coordinator Bhaskar Sharma and host of facul-

CM inaugurates C&D plant at Hirapur Jarwai



C&D plant is important for the proper management of debris coming out of houses

Raipur, Apr 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the C&D plant at Hiranur Jarwai in Raipur during Bhent-Mulaqat today. On this occasion, the Chief Minister stated that, due to a surge in construction activity in cities, C&D plants have been built to properly handle construction and demolition waste, commonly known as debris, resulting from demolition and other procedures. After the trash has been

processed, paver blocks, tiles, and drain covers will be manufactured here. Effective debris disposal through a C&D plant will reduce issues such as air quality, drain blockage, and pond water storage capacity.

When inspecting the building of a paver block plant in Jarwai's C&D facility, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel asked Aarti Dahre of Attari village, who works here, how much money she earns per day. Aarti stated that she earns 200 rupees per day. Every day, 2500 paver blocks are manufactured here, said Aarti. She told the Chief Minister that this initiative is a wonderful first step toward creating jobs. Simultaneously, the Chief Minister congratulated her.

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conferencing is to protect the tradition and culture of festivals celebrated in non-scheduled village areas of the state. It also aims to pass on these festivals to the next generation in their original form and to preserve these cultural traditions. There is special significance in local festivals, celebrations, and fairs in the villages of community areas. Each Village Panchayat will be provided an amount with the aim to preserve all these festivals and cultural traditions. The unit of the scheme will be the Village Panchavat. Each Village Panchayat will be given Rs. 10

thousand in two installments. It is noteworthy that 61 development blocks in the state fall under community areas. This amount will be provided to 6 thousand 111 Village Panchayats of the community development block areas

For the implementation of the scheme, a Village Panchayat-level governing committee will be formed. The committee will include the Sarpanch (Chairman), Pujari, Baiga member, 2 senior members of the village, two female members of the village, Gram Kotwar, Patel members, and Village Secretary.

The Additional Chief Secretary of Panchavat and Rural Development has instructed the Collector and Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat to offer guidance to the members of the Village Panchayat level governing committee at Janpad Panchayat level for the implementation of the scheme, to ensure the proper use of the money. The Village Panchayat level Governing Committee will determine the festivals or occasions on which the amount will be utilized. The monitoring of the scheme's implementation and co-ordination related work will be done by the Janpad level governing body.

District Collectors and the Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat have been told to conduct widespread publicity of this scheme and to bring it to the notice of all concerned so that the village societies of all community development blocks of the state can

benefit from this scheme.

71 affected people not given jobs by Nagarnar Steel Plant government, saying that their land was taken away with the promise of providing employment opportunities. But nothing was done in this regard. The affected families informed the media that the District Collector had also approved their demands. They disclosed that their life has been badly affected due to land

> jobs in NMDC. The affected people expressed their source of income frustration and anger to-It is notable here that wards NMDC and the the National Mineral

D e v e l o p m e n t Corporation (NMDC) had acquired the land for the Nagarnar Steel Plant. In which it was promised to give jobs to those people. whose land was acquired. But even after 13 years of land acquisition, the affected people have not been given jobs. Those affected have spoken to the acquisition, as they are not having any fixed

press about their present situation. They have shared their pain in front of media persons that how their life has been af-

fected due to land acquisi-

not got any job opportunities despite promises In this issue, the affect-

tion and how they have

ed people are demanding accountability NMDC and the government. The Nagarnar Steel Plant project was expected to provide employment opportunities and contribute to the development of the region. The affected people are expecting redressal of their grievances from NMDC and the Government at the earliest.

Classifieds

CM to launch Mukhyamantri CPSNY

for non-scheduled regions today

Contact for Classified Advertisement : 94242 03139 Readers are recommended to

such advertisements.

Potholed roads calm the announcement of Mungeli-Setganga as tourist destination

The declaration of Mungeli-Setganga as tourist destination is still on papers as basic facilities that include drains and roads are far out of reach of the people here.

As per information, at some places, concrete drains have been constructed in the township, but due to lack of regular cleaning, they are littered with filth and Setganga being the focal point of religious faith located on the banks of river Tesua between Mungeli-Pandaria on Bilaspur-Jabalpur state road, just 22 kilometers from the district head-

quarters, the develop-

mental phase is very

Due to non-availability of drains in the villages, the water from the houses and waste water fills the road.

At some places, concrete drains have been constructed in the township, but due to lack of regular cleaning, they are littered with filth. due to which the condition of the people is mis-

Where there are a large number of devotees visiting on many festivals,the largest mango market in the district also operates on Sundays, in which Kawardha, Lormi. Takhatpur, Pandatarai, Pandariya and sur-



rounding villagers come in large numbers to buy and sell the same.

Setganga has been given tourist status in the year 2010-11 and after getting the tourist status, the residents of the area including Setganga had a hope that the development here would happen at a rapid pace and due to the political war between BJP and Congress, basic facilities are not available here. For the last two years, under the Jal Jeevan Mission, spigots are being installed in every house by making plate forms, which is incomplete till date, due to which the problem of drinking water remains. The demand for com-

main opposition party BJP, Jogi Dal AAP Party, Bahujan Party is also very active here, but it is a matter of misfortune that the activism of these representatives as-

Setganga, girls school,

construction of market

shed, beautification of

stop dam temple area,

rest house is years old

but these demands were

neither fulfilled by the

BJP nor the Congress in

Apart from the ruling

party Congress and the

the last four years.

It is yet to be seen, as of how and when the phase of development starts in this state declared tourist place.

sociated with various po-

litical stars is limited.

Birth anniversary of Ambedkar celebrated

The 132nd birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar was celebrated with great fanfare in Headquarters Tehsil Mainpur Nagar, and people from all walks of life participated in the grand procession. With slogans of Jai

Bhim, the procession was warmly welcomed with sharbat sweets and flower garlands and the Chief Guest Janak Dhruv, Chhattisgarh State Adivasi President of Congress. District Panchayat Vice President Sanjay Netam, Special Guest District Panchayat President Smt. President Mahendra Netam, member of Bhunjia tribe Tikam Nagvanshi, Block

Jagat, City Congress President Ramkrishna Dhruv, President of Buddhist Mahar Samaj Lalit Dahate, Khilendra Kutare were specially present.

While addressing the huge public meeting, State President of Tribal President of Congress, Janak Dhruv said that Baba Saheb Ambedkar dedicated his whole life for Dalit oppressed and underprivi-

leged and the constitution given by Babasaheb is the biggest strength of the people of the country. Other guest too addressed meet.Yogesh Bambode, Yuvraj Netam, Devsingh, Tribhuvan Patel, Prakash Patel Nandkishore Khilendra Pileshwar Sori, Gendu Yadav and hundreds of people from Buddhist Mahar Samaj and Sarva

Samaj were present.

Delegation from Kanker district pays courtesy call on CM



A delegation of public representatives Parliamentary Secretary Shishupal Sori paid a courtesy call on Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at his official residence here on Wednesday.

On the occasion, the public representatives of Nagar Panchayat, Janpad Panchavat, and Gram ous issues concerning the development of their respective regions. The representatives also informed Chief Minister about the implementation of public welfare schemes of the government. On the occasion, Rohidas Sori, Mrs Sanju Lata Netam, Pyari Salam, Dinesh Patel, Kaushalya Sori, Lalita Sori, Mugiram Singh, Santram Markam and many other public repre-

Hundreds of villagers reached Tehsil office



Hundreds of villagers of Beltukari reached Tehsil office and kept demanding to free the land of Muktidham from encroachment. During this, the villagers present also raised slogans and informed that at the time of settlement by collusion with treachery and dishonesty, one Baliram Sahu father Fatte Lal Sahu of the village, taking advantage of his name being regis-

nipulated the revenue documents and got the said land registered secretly in his name.

In this regard, the villagers have submitted a written complaint to Collector Gariaband and Sub-Divisional Officer Rajim. Beltukri sarpanch Bhavna Ramprakash Dewangan told that this land was vacant for the last 200 years nut now is illegally occupied. Village Development Committee President Ramprakash Dewangan said that taking advantage of the wrong entry due to settlement error; attempts are being made to grab the government land by claiming it as their own.

Farmer Kamal Narayan Dewangan said that the place of Muktidham has been encroached, while villager Devnath Sahu said that there is no other place for Muktidham in our village, we will continue to fight till it is freed. They also said that during the tenure of the then Sarpanch Cheman Lal others were present.

Muktidham from encroachment

Dhivar, the government boring was excavated at the place of Muktidham which is still present but it was captured by Baliram is said to be in from the time the matter was known.

A case has been registered in the court Tehsildar Rajim and a demand has been made to free Muktidham, but due to no concrete action so far. the work of employment guarantee, beautification etc. is being affected. Kamalnarayan Dewangan, Sawant Ram Sahu, Uttam Kumar, Hiccha Ram Hirwani, Palkar Sahu, Naresh Dhivar, Ajit Kumar, Tukaram Tarak, Prem Shankar Sahu and



Women livelihood

activities should begin in

Korea, Apr 19:

Women of various Self Help Groups are becoming financially prosperous by conducting various livelihood related activities in the Gauthans of the district and to take stock of these activities, Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat, Smt. Namrata Jain conducted a surprise inspection of Bodar Gauthan of development Sonhat here.

She inquired about the purchase of cow dung in Gauthan and instructed the officials to continue the purchase regularly and also took information from the women of selfhelp groups about the livelihood activities being conducted in Gothan and

also inspired women for new activities and gave necessary guidelines to the concerned officials. During the inspection

the women of Maa

self-help Ramdaiya group, who were manufacturing vermi compost fertilizer, told Mrs. Jain that they have sold 681.30 quintals of fertilizer so far, Malti, the president of the group, told that the work of Bari in Gauthan can also be done by the group. Presently, they have planted chillies, tomatoes and potatoes, from the sale of which the group has got a net profit of Rs 12,000 Similarly, mushroom production is being done by the women of Aradhana and Ganga self-help groups in Gauthans, they

'Mawa Police Ketul' campaign held in the district



Bijapur, Apr 19:

Under the 'Mawa Police Ketul' campaign here on Tuesdaythe children of Eklavya School-Awapalli and Dugai Guda Pota Cabin were taken on a tour to various offices located in the district headquarters.

In relation to 'goodtouch bad-touch' cyber fraud, cyber crime, traffic rules, assistance given during road accidents etc, the children were shown through videos, presentations and symbols by displaying them.

The children were informed about the arms and safety equipment by putting up an exhibition of the arms and safety equipment used by the security forces in the field.

The school children listened to the information given very attentively and also asked questions eagerly and answers were also given to

the questions raised. After lunch, all the children were taken on a tour of Kotwali Police Station, Ajak Police

Collector's Station, District Office, Panchayat Office and Superintendent of Police Office located at the District Headquarters. During the visit to the offices, the children were given information about the official work and its relation. In the district panchayat office, booklets of various schemes of Chhattisgarh government were distributed to the school children.

The children were also taken on a tour to the swimming pool located at Bansagar, the district headquarters.

इंडियन बैंक	Indian Bank
🛕 इलाहाबाद	ALLAHABAD
Branch	n- Raigarh
Sale Notic	ENDUM to ce for Sale of le Properties

In the auction sale notice published in Central Chronicle Bilaspur Edition on 31.03.2023 On Serial No.2 Borrower- Shr Parmanand Agarwal, property E-Auction Date- 25.05.2023 wi be read / treated as this instead o

E-Auction Date- 25.04.2023. Authorised Officer, Indian Ban

Collector gave instructions to increase the number of enumerator teams

■ To speed-up socio-economic survey work

Jagdalpur, Apr 19: said that for the necessary progress in the socio-economic survey work, progress should be made in the survey work by increasing the number of enumerator teams at the development block level. The above things was said while directing the officers in the time-limit meeting organized in the 'Prerna meeting' room of the district office here on Tuesday. He also gave instructions for publicity and getting applications from the beneficiaries to give maximum benefits under the unemployment allowance scheme. On this occasion, CEO District Panchayat Prakash Sarve, Additional Collector Haresh Mandavi and all district level officers were present. Collector Kumar reviewed the cases of Nazul, Revenue, Diversion, Land Rent, Revenue Recovery, Demarcation

FEDERAL BANK

Name

MOHSEEN KHAN

MOHSEEN KHAN

MOHSEEN KHAN

MOHSEEN KHAN

MOHSEEN KHAN

VATAN SAHU

ASHWANI KUMAR KUNJAM

ASHWANI KUMAR MAHENDRA

ASHWANI KUMAR MAHENDRA

ASHWANI KUMAR MAHENDRA

Notice is here by given that gold ornaments in the below mentioned account/s will be put to

private sale by Federal Bank Ltd, Bilaspur Branch on **29/04/2023** or any subsequent date/s at the

Account No.

16666400026779

16666400026951

16666400027041

16666400027876

16666400027959

16666100008119

16666400032348

16666400024261

16666400020871

16666400027256

branches shown below as the concerned borrowers failed to redeem the pledged items

egularise the loan account/s. Respective branches may be contacted for further information.

The Auction/Private Sale will be done on 29th of April. 2023 (11.00 am of



works, CFRR. Reviewing the progress of caste certificates, he directed to distribute the prepared certificates through local people's representatives. He instructed the Divisional Magistrate and Tehsildars to inspect the distribution work of caste certificates in schools. The Collector instructed the Chief Medical and Health Officer to keep the ambulance constantly ready for emergency services and to direct the BMOs at the development block level for immediate medical facilities. In the meeting, discussions were held regarding the implementation of schemes related to Scheduled Tribes and the data. Along with this, discussions were held regarding the implementation of Sahayika, worker recruitment, status of e-KYC,

Vyapar Vihar Main Road, Bilaspur (CG)

deralbank.co.in | bsr@federalba

PUBLIC NOTICE

Chief Minister Slum Health Scheme, map, building permission, Dhanvantari, Mitan Yojana, Amrit Mission work. Vikas Narva Mission, Amrit Sarovar Yojana. In the meeting, the collector said that under the Godhan Nyaya Yojana vermicompost, conversion percentage, packets should be made and food should be sent to the committees.

Along with this, ensure the process of payment of labor and material under MNREGA He also reviewed Gothan's infrastructure development, activities of RIPA, infrastructure development, machine installation. In the meeting, the

Collector discussed with all the departments on time-bound cases and gave necessary instructions for redressal. The Collector directed the Municipal Corporation Commissioner and the Sub-Divisional Magistrate to take action along with a force to remove the trucks parked on the main road of the city.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR AT 797-II, SHANTIKUNJ, SOUTH CIVIL LINES, JABALPUR (MP)-482001 (Area of Jurisdiction - Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh)

UCO BANK, MAIN BRANCH BILASPUR

VERSUS

Defendants : M/S. M K UDYOG & OTHERS

M/s. M.K. Udyog, Village- Chorbhatti Khurd, Kota Road, Bilaspur (CG Pin-495001

Mrs. Jasmit Kaur Hora W/o. Late Shri Jasvir Singh Hora, R/o. EWS 50 Nehru Nagar, Bilaspur (CG) pin-495001

Shri Mandip Singh Hora S/o. Late Shri Jasvir Singh Hora, R/o. EWS 50 Nehru Nagar, Bilaspur (CG) pin-495001

Mrs. Rasmeet Kaur Hora D/o. Late Shri Jasvir Singh Hora, R/o EWS-50 Nehru Nagar, Bilaspur (CG) pin-495001

as O.A. No. 920/2021 was listed before the Hon'ble Presiding Officer of Whereas the Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons / notice on the

d application under Section 19(4) of the Act (O.A.) filed against you recover of debts of Rs. 59,18,614.54/-

In accordance with Sub Section 04 of Section 19 of the Act, you th defendants are directed as under:-

To show case within thirty days of the service of the summons as to relief prayed for should not be granted.

To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties an assets specified by the applicant under Serial No. 3-A of the application. (iii) You are restrained from dealing without disposing of secured assets of such other assets and properties disclosed under Serial No. 3-A of the

Original Application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for

attachment of properties. (iv) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest created and / or other assets and properties specified or disclose under Serial No. 3A of the Original Application without the prior approval

You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with th bank of financial institutions holding security interest over such assets. You are also directed to file the Written Statement with a copy thereo

furnished to the applicant and to appear before 18.05.2023 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal this 15 day of April 2023.

By Order of Debts **RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**

(T) IDBI BANK

Branch - Jarhi (C.G.)

Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act NOTICE UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT. 2002 (the SARFAESI Act)

Name & Address of the Borrower - 1.) Shri Shushant Kumar S/o Shiv Page (Applicant) At: Ward No 1, Jangal Para, Jarhi , Surajpur Chhatisgarh Pin-497235 **2.) Mrs. Kanika Rana** W/o Shri Shushant Kumar (Co-applicant 8 Mortgagor), At: Ward No 1, Jangal Para, Jarhi, Surajpur C.G. Pin-497235

Notice is hereby given to the aforesaid Borrower(s) and Mortgagor(s) that the

aforesaid Borrower was sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 4,50,000/ Rupees Four Lakh and Fifty Thousand only) by IDBI Bank Ltd. (IDBI Bank), by vay of Term Loan for [Housing Loan]. Pursuant to the sanction of the said financia assistance, necessary loan and security documents were executed by Shri Shushant Kumar S/o Shiv Pad & Mrs. Kanika Rana W/o Shri Shushan Kumar. The said financial assistance has been secured, inter alia, by mortgage by deposit of title deeds of the properties mentioned below. As the aforesaid Borrowe has defaulted in repayment of the said financial assistance in terms of the Loar Agreement (s) dated 11.01.2016, the account of the Borrower has been classified as non-performing assets (NPA) in the books of IDBI Bank in terms of the guideline issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from time to time. In view of the default committed by the aforesaid Borrower IDBI Bank, vide it's letter bearing Ref. No 202284826158 dated 29.10.2022, has declared the financial assistance togethe with interest and other moneys aggregating Rs. 3,76,295.62 (Rupees Three Lakt Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Five and Paisa Sixty Two Only) as or 08.09.2022, to have become immediately due and payable by the Borrower an called upon the Borrower to pay to IDBI Bank the said sums together with further interest thereon with effect from 09.09.2022 till payment or realization, at the contractual rate as stated in the said letter. As on 08.09.2022 an amount of Rs 3.76.295.62 (Rupees Three Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Five and Paisa Sixty Two Only) is due and payable by Shri Shushant Kumar S/o Shiv Pad & Mrs. Kanika Rana W/o Shri Shushant Kumar to IDBI Bank, along wit further interest thereon at the contractual rate till payment/ realization.

Necessary notice was issued/served by IDBI Bank, under section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act at the respective addresses of the Borrower(s)/Mortgagor(s) by "Registered post with Acknowledgement Due" which was returned un-served wit postal remark "Door Locked". In view of the aforesaid, this public notice is issued in compliance with Proviso to Rule 3 (1) of the SARFAESI Rules.

Please note that you shall not transfer or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business) any of the Secured Assets, without prior written conser of IDBI Bank, failing which you shall be liable for an offence punishable unde

section 29 of the SARFAESI Act. We invite your attention to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in

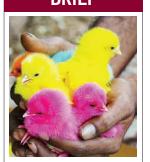
espect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. In the circumstances, Borrower (s) /Mortgagor (s) is, once again, requested to pa the aforesaid amount within sixty days from the date hereof failing which IDBI Bank

as a secured creditor shall be entitled to enforce its security interest, under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act as also under any other law as available to IDB Bank for realising its dues.

Details of the properties: All that piece and parcel of land comprised in and forming part of Plot Khasra no.- 1151/17 (area 0.024 hect.), .and situate on at village- Jarhi, Ward no.-01, Tahsil- Pratappur, District- Surajpur, Chhattisgarh and Registration District Suraipur in the State of Chhattisgarh and which is bounded as follows: East by: Road, West by: Land of R.D. Singh, South by: Land of Kamala Yadav, North by: Land of Dhiraj Kumar. together with all and singular the structure: and erections thereon, both present and future

Date: 20.04.2023, Place: Jarhi

BRIEF



chicks coloured to attract customers, in Jammu, Wednesday.

Rathore arrogant

Jaipur: Rajasthan Congress president Govind Singh Dotasra on Wednesday accused the newly appointed Leader of Opposition in the state assembly Rajendra Rathore of "roaming in arrogance" "Rajendra Rathore is roaming in arrogance that he has become god after becoming leader of the opposition," Dotasra said.

Referring to the state

this year, he said

last for only eight

polls due by the end of

Rathore's tenure is to

months.

MNS chief Nashik (Maha): Maharashtra Navnirman Sena's (MNS) Nashik city unit chief Dilip Datir resigned from his post on Wednesday. While he cited personal reasons in his resignation letter to party chief Raj Thackeray, internal politics might have prompted him to quit, sources said. Nashik in north Maharashtra was once a stronghold of the party. In the letter. Datir thanked Thackeray for reposing faith in him and said though he was resigning from his post, he will remain a member

Vendor killed

of the party forever.

■ Nagpur: A 59-year-old street vendor was killed and a pedestrian was injured after a speeding ambulance hit them in Nagpur city of Maharashtra, police said on Wednesday. Police have arrested the 21year-old driver of the ambulance for rash and negligent driving. The incident occurred in Sakardara area on Tuesday evening when the ambulance was shifting a body.

Explosion kills

■ Nashik: Three labourers were killed and one seriously injured after they used a lowintensity explosive to break rocks while digging a well in Maĥarashtra's Nashik district, an official said on Wednesday. The accident took place at Hirdi village in Trimbakeshwar taluka around 10 pm on Tuesday, the official said. Four workers started digging a well but they encountered rocks after a few feet. They used a lowintensity explosive to go deeper, the official said.

Sarpanch arrested

Srinagar: A sarpanch was arrested on Wednesday for allegedly raping a woman in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. Ali Mohammad was held following a complaint by the victim at the Rafiabad police station, they said. Police said a case under IPC sections 376 (rape), 506 (issue threat) and 109 have been registered against the accused.

Jharkhand bandh demanding 100pc reservation in govt jobs for locals evokes mixed response

Ranchi, Apr 19 (PTI):

Public transport was affected and schools remained closed as the 12hour shutdown by several students' organisations demanding 100 per cent reservation for locals in state government jobs evoked a mixed response Jharkhand Wednesday.

Members of different organisations under the banner of the Jharkhand State Students' Union (JSSU) took to the streets to enforce a state-wide shutdown, which began at 6pm. Several student leaders were detained across the state for blocking roads by burning tyres and creating a ruckus, police said. Long-route buses were mostly off the roads and schools remained

Jaipur, Apr 19 (PTI):

Minister Ashok Gehlot on

Congress workers not to

be distracted by politics

and to focus on helping

people get access to wel-

fare schemes. Addressing

a daylong workshop at the

Birla auditorium here,

Gehlot said party workers

should promote the gov-

schemes, particularly the

"Mehangai Rahat Camps"

or inflation relief camps

being organised across the

state from April 24. "Our

priority is to help people

affected by inflation. We

need to spread awareness

about Mehangai Rahat

Camps and ensure that

people can access its bene-

fits," Gehlot said. "We are

here to serve the people,

not to play politics. Let us

Rajasthan

Wednesday

ernment's



People from Andhra Pradesh have a meal by the side of a highway during 'Jharkhand Bandh' called over the state government's new recruitment policy, in Ramgarh district, Wednesday.

closed in many districts. However, shops, offices and business establishments were open in most of the districts, and autorickshaws operated as usual, "Over 30 bandh supporters were detained in Ranchi for trying to create

put our energy into mak-

ing sure that every eligible

person can benefit from

our welfare schemes." he

added. The chief minister

said party leaders and

workers working hard in

this regard will be reward-

ed. "Your efforts will not

go unnoticed. We will

recognise and reward

those who go the extra

mile to serve the people,"

he said. The camps are

being set up with an objec-

tive to help people fight

price rise. Information re-

garding public welfare

schemes and programmes

will be given to people

from deprived sections

and they will be linked to

the schemes based on

their eligibility.

Raj CM Gehlot to Cong workers

'Don't be distracted by politics,

focus on helping people'

Chief

welfare

disturbance in traffic movement. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishor Kaushal said. He said the district administration made an elaborate arrangement in view of the bandh. "Situation remained normal at railway stations and bus stands in Ranchi city," Kaushal said.

Around 2,500 security personnel were deployed in the city to maintain the law and order situation, officials said. Jharkhand Academic Council (JAC) cancelled the scheduled examinations in view of the bandh.

Dumka Sahibganj districts, markets and business establishments were shut, buses were off the roads, and schools and colleges remained closed. However, government offices functioned as usual.

Normal life was largely unaffected in Dhanbad, Jamshedpur and Godda as shops and business establishments were open and auto-rickshaws plied as

Comprehensive tiger estimation report to be released in July

A comprehensive tiger estimation report of West Bengal to be released in July is expected to throw light on the "real situation" about the population of big cats in three forest reserves of north Bengal, a top wildlife official said on Wednesday. A detailed analysis will reveal if the three forest reserves -Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, Neora Valley National Park and Buxa Tiger Reserve - can be classified as tiger reserves or described as places with a floating population of big cats, Bengal's chief wildlife warden Debal Roy said. "We will give details in the comprehensive tiger estimation report of the state which will come out by July. As of now I can only say the findings at the

Bengal is encouraging. There had been indications about the presence of tigers in these areas for a long, especially in Neora Valley National Park. Now there is reason to believe it is true," Roy told PTI.

Several anti-poaching measures taken by the forest department in the last few years and a sustained public awareness campaign, involving locals, are now yielding results, the official said.

"A detailed analysis will give a comprehensive idea about the real situation," the chief wildlife warden said. Earlier tiger estimation reports had highlighted the concentration of big cats in the Sunderbans where the last census put the figure at 100 based on camera trap technique. Roy said the wide prey

habitat contributed to the sustained growth of tigers, especially in the Sunderbans.

"In Sunderbans, there is a wide and uniform distribution of deer and the forest department regularly releases deer in the Sajnekhali deer reserve area. There is also a significant significant population of wild pigs in the Sunderbans which help in creating an eco-system,' he added.

State Forest Minister Jyotipriyo Mallick had earlier voiced dissatisfaction over the non-inclusion of the number of tigers in places such as Neora Valley National Park and Buxa Tiger Reserve in the all India report, released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

Cong strongman Siddaramaiah files nomination from Varuna

Mysuru (K'taka), Apr 19 (PTI): Senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday filed nomination from Varuna constituency in this district, for the May 10 Karnataka Assembly polls, as he reiterated that this would be his last election and virtually laid out a "succession

plan" of sorts. The 75-year-old Leader of Opposition indicated his son and grandson to be his political successors. "This is my last election, after that there is Yathindra (son), Dhawan Rakesh (grand son)...", he

Siddaramaiah's Gehlot also cited a suryounger son Dr Yathindra vey, saying the Congress Siddaramaiah is the sitting Congress MLA from will emerge victorious in Varuna. An eight time the Assembly elections scheduled later this year.

earlier won twice from Varuna, and went on to bethe Leader of Opposition after winning from here in 2008, and then became Chief Minister after 2013 Assembly polls.

The Congress legisla-ture party leader offered prayers to his family deity Siddarameshwara at the temple in his native vil-

Siddaramanahundi, and also visited Sri Rama temple there, and held a massive roadshow before filing the nomination.

He also visited the famous Chamundeshwari temple on Chamundi hills in Mysuru, and addressed a public meeting ahead of filing papers.

Pointing out that he is the son of the soil, village

Siddaramanahundi comes

under Varuna segment, Siddaramaiah while addressing the public meeting said this will be his last election. After contesting this polls, he will retire from electoral politics, but not from politics.

Dhawan Rakesh is son of Siddaramaiah's late Rakesh Siddaramaiah. Siddaramaiah took Dhwan's name the crowd started cheering.

As Dhawan was waving Siddaramaiah said, "He should be 25 years to come to politics, still eight years to go, his education is still not complete. Only after completing education, politics. Your love and affection towards him was what you had on Rakesh. who was very popular

14 govt employees suspended for unauthorised absence

Jammu, Apr 19 (PTI): As many as 14 government employees were placed under suspension and 21 others, including some gazetted officers, were served show cause notices for being absent from duty without authorisation following a surprise inspection at offices in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said on Wednesday. Deputy Commissioner, Poonch, (DC) Inder Jeet ordered the action against the erring government employees after a surprise inspection of various government offices, including Jal Shakti, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and floriculture departments in the district, they said. The official said the deputy commissioner formed a committee headed by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Tahir Mustafa Malik to conduct surprise inspections across all the government offices in a phased manner following complaints

from public and Panchayati Raj Institutions. "Those absent have neither sanctioned leave in their favour nor have maintained any movement register for field visits. Moreover, some Head of Departments holding important offices are unaware of the whereabouts of their immediate staff as well as field staff. Further some HODs are themselves found absent during office hours," the official said. He said the ADC Poonch recommended stringent action against erring employees including HODs. Acting on the recommendations of the committee, the deputy commissioner suspended 14 employees and issued show cause notices wherein HODs are directed to clear their positions within a week, the official said.

"There will be zero tolerance towards poor and unprofessional work culture. The general public needs not to suffer because of such erring employees," he said.

Congress leader Johnny Nelloor resigns from party

(PTI): Former MLA Johnny Nelloor, a leader of the party Kerala tive to the UDF. Congress, on Wednesday resigned from the party as well as the Congressled opposition UDF to float a "national-level" party which would work for farmers' interests.

Kerala Congress chairman P J Joseph said that his party worked to protect the interests of farmers and therefore there was some ulterior motive behind Nelloor's decision. He also said that he not received Nelloor's resignation let-

Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the State Assembly V D Satheesan downplayed the development saying that if not

Congress would send some other representa-

be a very important the BJP, or that the new ieader," Satneesan said, speaking to reporters in Kollam. He further said that only those who had an anti-communist and anti-fascist view could be part of the UDF, and anyone who answered the call of the BJP or other political parties could not be a part of either the Kerala Congress or the National Indian Congress.

Nelloor's resignation is being viewed by many as a move to join the BJP-led Democratic Alliance (NDA) and help it gain a foothold in the southern state where the

MLAs or MPs. He, however, rejected speculations regarding any such al-"He does not appear to liances, including with party would be Unristian oriented, and said it would be secular in na-

Speaking to the media in Kochi, Nelloor said the idea behind floating a new party was to represent the farmers and raise the issues they face.

"We will work for all farmers and fishermen, not just rubber cultivators," he said.

Nelloor declined to disclose any details about the party or who all would be at its helm, apart from him, and said that everything would be made clear in a few days.



BJP supporters during a roadshow of BJP National President JP Nadda, ahead of Karnataka Assembly elections, in Haveri district, Wednesday.

Veteran Atwal guits SAD on 'moral grounds' after son joins BJP

Chandigarh, Apr 19 (PTD:

Veteran leader and former Punjab Assembly Speaker Charanjit Singh Atwal on Wednesday resigned from the primary membership of the Shiromani Akali Dal, days after his son Inder Iqbal Atwal joined the BJP.

The Bharatiya Janata Party has named Inder Iqbal Singh Atwal, who quit the Akali Dal recently, as its candidate for the Lok Sabha bypoll to Jalandhar seat in Punjab.

Charanjit Singh Atwal (86), who was the deputy speaker of the Lok Sabha from 2004 to 2009 and once considered close to former Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal, said he quit the SAD on moral grounds after his son and other family members joined the BJP.

"I have written to SAD that I have resigned from primary membership and from other responsibilities today. I did so because I feel my sons Inder Iqbal Singh and Jasjeet Singh and my nephew Sukhjinderjeet Singh have left SAD and joined the BJP," he said.

"Second thing is that my elder son Inder Iqbal Singh is fighting the Jalandhar Lok Sabha bypoll as a BJP candidate. I feel as BJP has given respect to him and fielded him from Jalandhar and besides this, some other family members have also joined the outfit, morally I feel leaving SAD was necessary," he added.

Polling Jalandhar parliamentary seat will take place on May 10 while the counting will be held on May 13.

of star campaigners for Karnataka polls New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI): Former Karnataka Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar, who joined the Congress this week after

quitting the BJP, figures in the Congress' list of star campaigners for the Karnataka Assembly polls that also includes party chief Mallikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi, Rahul and Shashi Gandhi Tharoor. The Congress on Wednesday released a list of 40 leaders who would be the party's star campaigners for the May 10 assembly elections.

Interestingly, Shettar, who crossed over to the Congress a couple of days ago and has been given the party ticket from the Hubli-Dharwad-Central Assembly segment that he currently represents, has

been included in the list. A staunch RSS man, Shettar was part of the Jan Sangh and BJP for several decades before severing his ties with the party upon his candidature being overlooked for the May 10 election and joined Congress on Monday. The Congress' list of star campaigners has many stalwarts from Karnataka such as former chief min-Siddaramaiah, Karnataka Congress chief D K Shivakumar, Jairam Ramesh, M Veerappa Moily, M B Patil, G Parameshwara, K H and BK Muniyappa Hariprasad. Others include

Shettar, Sonia, Tharoor in Cong's list

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh counterpart Bhupesh Baghel, Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhwinder Singh Sukku, AICC in-charge Karnataka Surjewala, senior party leaders Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, K C Venugopal, P Chidambaram, Prithviraj Chavan and Ashok Chavan. Sachin Pilot, who was on the list of star campaigners for the 2018 Karnataka polls, does not

figure on the list this time. Ramalinga Reddy, Satish Jarkiholi, D K Suresh, G C Chandrashekhar, Syed Naseer Hussain, Zameer Ahmed Khan, H M Revanna, Umashree, Revanth Reddy, Ramesh Chennithala, Srinivas B V, Raj Babbar, Mohammed Azharuddin, Spandana, Imran Pratapgarhi, Kanhaiya Kumar, Rupa Shashidhar and Sadhukokila are also

on the list.

Inclement weather dampens shoppers' spirits ahead of Eid

Srinagar, Apr 19 (PTI):

Incessant rainfall over the past two days in Kashmir has dampened the festive spirit of shoppers ahead of the Eid.

Eid-ul-Fitr, marking the culmination of the fasting month of Ramzan, is expected to be celebrated on Friday or Saturday, depending on the sighting of the crescent moon.

"Preparations for Eid is underway but rain has hampered and disturbed the fervour. There is no rush in the market compared to last year," Nisar

Hussain, a customer, said. He also blamed the rampant construction work going on in the city for fewer people coming out

to shop. "If you see, due to smart city construction work also people don't have a passage to walk. So, this also has adversely affected the Eid shopping," Hussain said.

Imtiaz Ahmad Bhat, a shop owner, echoed similar views.

"This year we don't see any crowds on Eid eve. First smart city works and now rain has impacted the Eid shopping,'

Bhat said. He said usually the shopkeepers would be busy attending hordes of customers ahead of Eid.

"Usually we don't have time for a breather but this year we are sitting idle. Compared to last year, this year its not even 50 per cent (business)," he

Shabir Ahmad bhat, another shop owner, said he was hopeful of better weather over the next few

Pakistan shares plan with IMF for \$3B support

Islamabad. Apr 19 (PTI):

Debt-ridden Pakistan has shared its plan with the IMF to secure an additional USD 3 billion to meet the mandatory financing assurances laid by the global lender for it to release the country's stalled bailout plan, it emerged on Wednesday.

The Washington-based global lender had asked Pakistan to arrange USD 6 billion in external financing but so far only USD 3 billion were arranged after Saudi Arabia agreed to provide USD 2 billion and the UAE pledged USD 1 billion. The USD 6 billion gaps had been worked out on the premise that Pakistan's current account deficit would remain around USD 7 billion in the current fiscal year

ending on June 30. The

reported Wednesday.

The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) led coalition government informed International Monetary Fund (IMF) about its plan to secure a USD 450 milworth second Resilient Institutions for Sustainable Economy (RISE-II) budget support loan, it said.

The government has also shared its plans to get USD 1 billion from Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and other commercial banks to materialise pledges secured at the Geneva moot

The Geneva conference held in January this year pledged several billion dollars to help Pakistan combat the challenges of climate change. The global

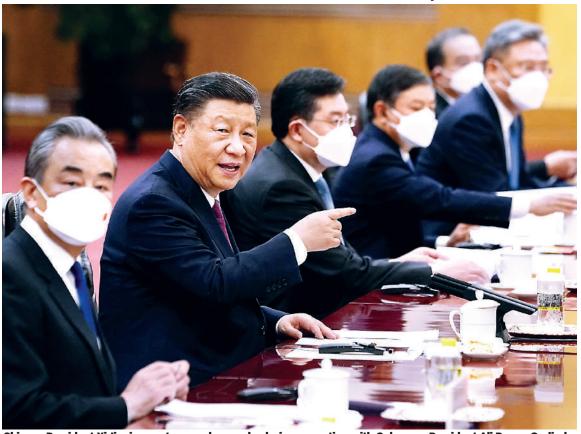
tries committed a sum exceeding USD 10 billion for 2022 devastating floods causing around USD 30 billion in infrastructure and economic damages.

Official sources said that Pakistan asked the fund to give a nod to the agreement to release USD 1.1 billion out of a USD 7 billion bilateral program agreed upon in 2019, to make it easier to raise loans from the global mar-

Interestingly, all bilateral and multilateral donors and countries have also refused to provide loans to Islamabad until the IMF approved its agreement.

The IMF has put forward tough conditions during talks held in February and refused to approve a staff-level agree-

POWERFUL LEADERS MEET



Chinese President Xi Jinping gestures as he speaks during a meeting with Gabonese President Ali Bongo Ondimba at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Wednesday, April 19.

evacuate Indians stranded in Sudan

Worried relatives

appeal govt to

Dubai, Apr 19 (PTI): Anxious relatives of several Indians stuck in Sudan following the fighting between the Army and paramilitary forces are eagerly waiting for information about their relatives and appealed to the government to evacuate them from the strife-torn African country as soon as possible. Fighting erupted in Sudan on Saturday, leaving at least 185 people, including an Indian, dead and more than 1,800 injured. Mansi Sheth, whose father is stuck in the country following the clashes between the Sudanese army and a rival paramilitary force, said she was worried about his safety. She said her 63-year-old father was in Sudan on a business trip and was to fly back to Mumbai on Saturday (April 15). He was at the airport when they were informed that the flight was cancelled. He along with other passengers was not allowed to leave the airport. After some hours when they were allowed to leave the airport, they had to walk towards their hotels as there was no conveyance available.

North Korea's 1st spy satellite is ready for launch: Kim



Seoul, Apr 19 (AP):

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said his country has completed the development of its first military spy satellite and ordered officials to go ahead with its launch at an undisclosed date, state media reported Wednesday

Establishing a spacebased surveillance system is one of Kim's key objectives to advance his military capability to pressure the United States to abandon what he called its hostile policies, such as its military

drills with ally South Korea and international economic sanctions on North Korea.

Previous missile and rocket tests have demonstrated North Korea can send satellites into space, but many experts question whether it has cameras sophisticated enough to use for spying from a satellite because only low-resolution images were released after past launches.

During his visit to the country's aerospace agency Tuesday, Kim said that having an operational military reconnaissance satellite is

crucial for North Korea to effectively use its war deter-

Kim cited what he described as serious security threats posed by "the most hostile rhetoric and explicit action" by the United States and South Korea this year, according to the official Central News

Kim said "military reconnaissance satellite No 1" had been built as of April and ordered efforts to speed up final preparations for its launch at a planned date that he didn't disclose. He said North Korea must launch several satellites to firmly establish an intelligence-gathering capability, KCNA said.

North Korea has said its ongoing torrid run of weapons tests, including its first test-launch of a solidfuelled intercontinental ballistic missile designed to strike the US mainland last week, are a response to joint military exercises between the United States and its regional allies South Korea

Pakistan requests apex court to review **Punjab Elections on May 14**

Due to security issues

Islamabad. Apr 19 (PTI):

Citing security and financial reasons, Pakistan's defence authorities and election officials have urged the Supreme Court to reconsider its order to hold elections in the politically crucial Punjab province on May 14. A three-member panel

of the court led by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial on April 4 in its judgment ruled that elections should be held in the largest province on time and asked the government to provide Rs 21 billion to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP). The government has refused to accept the ruling citing security and financial reasons as the country was facing a resurgence in militancy and a looming threat of default due to an economic meltdown. As the last deadline to release funds expired on April 17, the judges were briefed by the intelligence chiefs

its report on the non-availability of funds.

The Dawn newspaper reported that the Defence Ministry on Tuesday requested the Supreme Court to recall its April 4 order in which they fixed May 14 as the election date for the Punjab Assembly. The request was made through an application along with a report, laid before the Supreme Court in compliance with its directives to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) and other departments to furnish reports after releasing Rs 21 billion to the ECP for holding elections.

Holding provincial elections has taken centre stage in Pakistani politics as former Prime Minister Imran Khan has been pushing for snap elections in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces.

It is likely that the three-member bench would take up these reports in chambers on Wednesday and the matin the open court for a hearing on Wednesday or

US becoming India's biggest trading partner is testament

to strong bilateral ties: Krishnamoorthi

US-China mutual suspicion not to end anytime soon: Singapore PM

Singapore, Apr 19 (PTI):

The deep mutual suspicion and fundamental distrust between the United States and China will not improve anytime soon and it will mean "big trouble" for the rest of the world, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Wednesday. Lee, who made an offi-

cial visit to Beijing earlier this month, said that the Chinese public perception of the US has deteriorated. China's leaders are convinced that the US is seeking to "contain, encircle and suppress" China, Lee said, quoting Chinese President Xi Jinping. "Even if the two powers

avoid a direct conflict... enduring enmity and bad relations between them will be very costly for both and will mean big trouble for the rest of the world," Lee said in Parliament, outlining three major geopolitical tensions that make the ter is likely to be taken up — current global situation graver than what Singapore has faced in a



Singaporeans need to realise the gravity of the situation, he said. "We are facing not just one storm, but several," Lee said, updating Singaporeans on the global situation. While Democrats and

Republicans in the US disagree on almost everything, they are united on China. The prevailing view is that efforts to work out a cooperative relationship with Beijing have failed and its growing strength and assertiveness are becoming a grave threat to US interests and values.

Therefore, their view is that the US must go for "extreme competition" with China over technolo-

gy, including semiconductor chips, quantum technology, artificial intelligence, biotechnology and green technologies, Lee was quoted as saying by The Straits Times newspaper. Negative perceptions of China are prevalent among the US population too, Lee said, citing the latest survey by the Pew Research Centre, which found that over 80 per cent of adults in the US have an unfavourable view of China, while nearly 40 per cent would describe China as an enemy of the US rather than as a competitor or partner.

"(The Chinese) say the East is rising, and the West is declining, and they think the time has come for China to take its rightful place in the world," he said. Lee added that they consider issues like Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet to be China's domestic matters that affect its security and integrity and see no room for discussion or compromise on these is-

China offers to facilitate Israel-Palestinian peace talks

Beijing, Apr 19 (AP):

China's foreign minister told his Israeli and Palestinian counterparts that his country is ready to help facilitate peace talks between the two sides, in its latest effort at mediation in the region.

In separate phone calls to the two officials on Monday, Qin Gang expressed China's concern over intensifying tensions between Israel Palestinians and its support for a resumption of peace talks, the Foreign Ministry said in statements issued late Monday.

Last month, Saudi Arabia and Iran reached a deal in China to restore

stroy" Britain's critical in-

frastructure and not

enough is being done to

stop them, UK govern-

ment officials asserted

Cyber Security Centre is-

sued an official threat no-

Wednesday.

Britain's

cut off in 2016. It was a dramatic moment of diplomacy for China that Beijing touted as evidence of its ability to be a diplomatic player in the Middle East. Qin stressed in his talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen that Saudi Arabia and Iran have set a good example of overcoming differences through dialogue, a statement about that phone call said. He told Cohen that Beijing encourages Israel and the Palestinians to show political courage and take steps to resume peace talks. "China is willing to provide convenience for this," he was quoted as saying. Israel and the

diplomatic ties that were Palestinians have not held

substantive peace talks on ending the century-long conflict in over a decade. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government is committed to expanding settlements in the occupied West Bank which most of the international community considers illegal and an obstacle to peace and several of his key allies are staunchly opposed to the creation of independent Palestinian state. Cohen expressed his country's commitment to reducing tensions, but said the problem appeared to be difficult to resolve in the short



the two democracies, a prominent Indian American Congressman has said, underlining that the partnership increases both the prosperity and security of the two nations and the broader world. These remarks were made by Indian-American Congressman Raia Krishnamoorthi on Tuesday in response to recent news that the US has emerged as India's biggest

trading partner in 2022-23

on account of increasing



two countries

According to the provisional data of India's Commerce Ministry, the bilateral trade between India and the US has increased by 7.65 per cent to USD 128.55 billion in 2022-23 as against USD 119.5 billion in 2021-22. It was

USD 80.51 billion in 2020-21. "The rapid 2020-21. growth of trade between the United States and India is a testament to the ties between our democracies growing stronger as our partnership increases both the prosperity and the security of our nations and the broader world," Krishnamoorthi. a Democrat, said.

"Even as the United States has become India's largest trading partner, it is essential that we continue to recognise the enormous potential for growth further strengthen both of our economies and create American jobs,' Krishnamoorthi said.

कार्यालय जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

-:: भर्ती हेत् विज्ञापन ::-

बिलासपुर, दिनांक 31 मार्च, 2023

आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत करने की प्रारंभिक तिथि दिनांक 01–04–2023 दिन शनिवार के प्रातः 11.00 बजे से आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 01-05-2023 दिन सोमवार

के शाम 05.00 बजे तक आवेदन पत्र जिला न्यायालय, बिलासपुर में निर्घारित ड्रॉप बाक्स के माध्यम से ही स्वीकार किए जायेंगे।

कार्यालय जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश, बिलासपर के अंतर्गत "आकरिमकता निधि (कलेक्टर दर)'' पर वेतन पाने वाले कर्मचारी (वाहन चालक वाटरमैन/चौकीदार/स्वीपर) के रिक्त पदों पर भर्ती हेतु अर्हता प्राप्त भारत के मूल नागरिकों से निर्धारित प्रारूप में आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं।

क्र.	पद का नाम एवं कुल पद	वर्गवार पदों का विवरण
1	वाहन चालक (कुल 01 पद)	01 — अनारक्षित
2	वाटरमैन/चौकीदार/स्वीपर (कुल 15 पद)	08- अनारक्षित (महिला-02, दिव्यांग-01 पद) 02- अनुसूचित जाति (महिला-01 पद) 03- अनुसूचित जनजाति (महिला-01 पद) 02- अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग (महिला-01 पद)

https://districts.ecourts.gov.in/bilaspur का अवलोकन करें।

(अध्यक्ष) चयन समिति

कार्यालय जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश, बिलासपुर छ.ग

CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED (A GOVT OF C.G. UNDERTAKING) CIN No. U40108CT2003SGC015820 O/o Chief Engineer(HR), Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company Limited

No. 01-01/T-Veh/2023-24/TS-166/1919				Raipur, Dated: 13.04.2023			
	NOTICE INVITING TENDER						
Tender Specification No.	Description	Tender Fee	EMD	Last Date & Time of Sale of Tender form from the office	Due Date & Time for submission of Tender		
01-01/T-Veh / 2023-24/ TS-166	Deployment of 01 No. New Toyota InnovaCyrsta Car or equivalent with Driver and One Additional Driver on monthly hiring basis for a period of One (1) Years.	Rs. 590/- (Inclusive of GST @18%)	Rs. 10,000/-	04.05.2023 up to 17.00 hrs	08.05.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs.		

*please see company website cspc.co.in - CSPTCL - Tender notices for any further details e.g. due date extension etc and the detailed tender document will be available on web portal i.e https://cspc.co.in/cspc/csptcl

*Tender document can also be downloaded from above official website of the company. *Any amendment/corrigendum, if required, will be displayed on our website only.

***Helpline Details-In case of any problem please contact:-Tel. no.-0771-2574114betweenBussiness Hours-10:00 – 17:30 hrs. IST.

SAVE ELECTRICITY S-36675/2 CSPTCL, RAIPUR

Russian hackers aim to attack key infrastructure: UK London, Apr 19 (AP): our infrastructure from age to UK systems, the The National Cyber the cyber threats emerg-Security Centre, a branch threat is growing. Russian hackers are "Disclosing this threat ing from Russia-aligning seeking to "disrupt or degroups," the centre's chief,

Lindy Cameron, said. Cabinet Minister Oliver Dowden said the threat comes from hackers sympathetic to Russia though not necessarily directed by the Russian state. He described them as the cyber equivalent of the Wagner Group, the private Russian company with mercenaries fighting in Ukraine. He said that while the alleged hackers

currently lack the capaci-

ty to do widespread dam-

is not something we do lightly," but it's necessary for "companies to understand the current risk they face, and take action to defend themselves and the country," Dowden said at a cybersecurity conference in Belfast.

"These are the companies in charge of keeping our country running. Of keeping the lights on," he said. "Our shared prosperity depends on them taking their own security of UK cyber intelligence agency GCHQ, said cyber

attackers could begin to broaden their focus from Ukraine to the wider West as the war drags on

		Chhattisgarh Undertaking) CIN: U BLICATION/ 1546 e-Bidding TENDER NOTICE No	Korba V	est, dtd.	18.04.202
	ine tender owing Work	s are invited from Experienced & supply	& Prospe	ective fir	ms for th
S. No	Rfx No.	Particulars	Cost of tender doc.	E.M.D. (Rs.)	Last date o
1,	Rfx No. 8100030853	Laying/ Replacement of MS ERW Fire Fighting Water Header and Branch Pipe line with preparation of Bends' Tees, Support Structure, Installation of Valve, Painting etc. from CW Pump House to Unit 4 of 4x210 MW, HTPS, Korba West.	590/-	8,080/-	10.05.2023
2.	Rfx No. 8100030822	Hiring of Vehicle SUV (Earlier Jeep) for HTPS, Korba West.	590/-	12,900/-	12.05.2023

"I don't think we are yet doing enough to protect

defences.

tice to operators of Britain's electricity, water and other critical systems, telling them to boost their

National

term, the Chinese Foreign

Ministry statement said.

seriously.'

CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER GENERATION CO. LTD.

portal. The tender documents can be seen from our website www.espe.cu.iii

Bidding. 2. Quantity as per tender schedule

SUPERINTERDING ENGINEER (C.) 5-36-78

SWEENERGY FOR THE BEAUTION O/O THE ADDL. CE (S&P)HTPS, CSPGCL, KORBA WEST

hronicle

Since 1974 Volume 11 No. 20

Innovative Approach

ndia has taken a revolutionary step towards waste management and conservation of natural resources through its first steel slag road. The road, which was inaugurated in Surat last year, has a 32% reduced thickness but is four times stronger than conventional bituminous roads and can withstand heavy commercial traffic. The 1.2-kilometer-long, six-lane road was constructed under the guidance of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) and used 100% processed steel slag aggregates instead of natural aggregates like sand, gravel, and crushed stones. The construction cost was reported to be around 40% less. The success of this technology has raised hopes for converting industrial waste into wealth while conserving nature through the reduced use of natural resources in road construction. The demand for natural aggregates for road construction has been increasing with the push for connectivity to meet the country's strategic and development requirements, leading to the destruction of hills, while indiscriminate sand, gravel, and boulder mining has destroyed river ecologies, triggering a livelihood crisis. India's steel production has been increasing steadily, making it the world's second-largest producer after China, with over 118 million tonnes (MT) produced, of which around 20% is generated as solid waste. The government estimates that steel slag waste generated in steel plants in the country will increase from its current level of 19 MT to 45 MT by 2030. The highest consumption of steel is by the housing and construction sectors, accounting for 43%, while infrastructure sectors account for 25%, engineering and packaging for 22%, and automobiles for about 9%. India's efforts to reduce imports and become self-reliant on steel production will increase the likelihood of generating more steel slag waste in the coming decades. The trial use of steel slag in road construction is in line with the Waste to Wealth Mission of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). The mission's two key objectives are identifying and supporting the development of new technologies that can help create a cleaner and greener environment and creating circular economic models that are financially viable for waste management. The Waste to Wealth Mission has also led to the discovery of other cost-effective waste management solutions. The use of plastics in bituminous mixes in highway construction has unlocked tremendous opportunities for viable solutions for turning plastic waste into wealth. Asia's largest bio-CNG plant, set up on a municipal solid waste dumping site in Indore, has the capacity to process 550 tonnes of organic solid municipal waste to generate about 18,000 kg of bio-CNG and 100 tonnes of organic compost daily. The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India estimates that the "waste-to-energy and waste management market in India is set to be a 14-billion-dollar opportunity by the year 2025." However, scaling down these possibilities requires robust participation from all stakeholders, not just the central government. Bridging the gap between policy formulation and implementation remains a significant challenge. Due to a lack of awareness among the general public about the benefits of new technologies such as steel slag road technology or plastic road technology in conservation of nature, reducing pollution, and waste management, they fail to play any role in mounting pressure on government agencies to adopt the new technologies. Governments, as well as the private sector, need to support research and technology development with adequate financial grants for the establishment of innovation laboratories and funding technology development. This will help develop more cost-effective and sustainable technologies for better waste management. The policy of turning waste into wealth in infrastructure planning needs to be dovetailed with a clear roadmap for resource mobilization to yield better results. However, the implementation of new technologies and policies requires robust participation from all stakeholders, including governments, private sector, and the general public. Bridging the gap between policy formulation and implementation, raising awareness about the benefits of sustainable waste management solutions, and providing adequate financial grants for technology development can yield better results in creating a cleaner and greener environment while ensuring sustainable economic growth. The Waste to Wealth mission, with its focus on creating circular economic models, can play a significant role in achieving these goals.

India's Efforts to Protect Wild Tiger Population

Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

ndia has made significant strides in the conservation and protection of tigers, with the number of wild tigers increasing at a rate of 6% per year, accounting for more than 70% of the world's wild tiger population. This achievement can be attributed to the cultural reverence that Indians hold towards nature, with protecting wildlife being a significant part of the country's ethos. The All-India Tiger Estimation, 2022 has revealed recently that India has made significant progress in the conservation of wild tigers, with the population increasing from 1,411 individuals in 2010 to 3,167 in the latest census. This success serves as an inspiration for other countries grappling with similar challenges of wildlife conservation. The latest tiger census estimates that India has at least 3,167 tigers, a remarkable increase since the last census in 2018, when 2,967 tigers were recorded. The Indian government has set up various initiatives, such as "Project Tiger," "IDWH," "Tiger Conservation Plan," "Strengthening of Anti-Poaching Activities," and "M-STrIPES," aimed at protecting tigers and their habitats. The Tiger Conservation Plan is a comprehensive strategy that focuses on conserving and managing tiger populations and their habitats, improving tiger conservation efforts, increasing habitat connectivity, and reducing human-tiger conflict. It also emphasizes the importance of community involvement in conservation efforts and the need for effective anti-poaching measures. M-STrIPES is a software-based monitoring system launched by the Indian government's National Tiger Conservation Authority in 2010 to strengthen patrolling and surveillance of Bengal tigers in Indian reserves. Forest guards use personal digital assistants and GPS devices to capture data on tiger sightings, deaths, wildlife crime, and ecological observations while patrolling. The data is then analyzed in a geographic information system to enhance the effectiveness and spatial coverage of patrols and evaluate human pressure and habitat change. The government's efforts have led to the establishment of protected areas, anti-poaching measures, habitat restoration, and community involvement in conservation efforts, resulting in a 75% increase in the tiger population in the last 10-12 years. However, habitat loss, human-tiger conflict, and poaching continue to be significant threats to the survival of tigers in India. India has six subspecies of tigers, out of which three are classified as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The Bengal tiger is the most populous subspecies in the country, with an estimated population of around 2,500. The Indochinese tiger, found in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam, has an estimated population of around 350 in India.Despite the success of conservation efforts, challenges remain in ensuring the long-term survival of tigers in India. The loss of habitat due to human activities such as deforestation and mining, human-tiger conflict, and poaching for tiger parts continue to be significant threats to the survival of tigers. Addressing these challenges will require continued investments in habitat protection, community involvement in conservation efforts, and stronger enforcement of wildlife laws to combat poaching and illegal trade. However, with continued efforts and collaboration between government, local communities, and conservation organizations, the future of tigers in India remains hopeful.

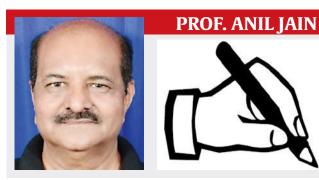
Central Chronicle invites articles, write-ups, and comments on a wide range of issues for our editorial page. Submissions should be between 800-900 words in length. In addition, we welcome letters to the editor for this page. While letters may be edited for clarity, we aim to preserve the integrity of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

TIM COOK VISITS SCHOOL



Apple CEO Tim Cook with students during and teachers his visit to an Akanksha Foundation school, in Mumbai, Wednesday, April 19.

Future in Food Industry



ve given a little thought on the economy of the world. The economy of most of the countries is based on industry. It so happens that when the utilization of some product reaches its saturation point then the industry comes at the verge of collapsing which causes economic

In the eighties television was introduced. The demand for television was so vast that it created a huge market. In a couple of decades it reached its culmination. Later in the nineties computers came into existence. It was such a great invention that it helped to further the world economy. Again most of its users acquired computers and its demand lessened. After that were introduced mobiles. The advent of computers and the internet revolutionized the globe and it played a vital role to boost the world economy for the next twenty years. It proved to be a boon to the world. Such a state of affairs shaped a vast market in the world because there were billions of consumers for that and it created millions of jobs too. Now we have laptops in every lap, mobiles in both hands and TVs in every home. Demand for all that has almost ended. That is why the news of economic depression makes headlines. So it may be concluded that until and unless some new inventions are introduced in the market there seems no possibility of any reform in the world economy in near future. For the boom in the economy there must be a demand for something.

Whole of the economy is based on two basic fundamentals. What I studied from the very beginning during my school days when economics was introduced to me that there are two basics of economics- that is, demand and supply. In earlier times there was a lot of demand for almost everything and to supply that demand the world's

economy remained balanced. The reason is that in earlier years the production was

so slow that the need for every item continued to exist but today the things are different. Today many machines are there and the production is so speedy that soon the marketplaces are filled with the produce. The production has increased at such a pace that shops are overflowing with goods. Go to any shop and mall you will find them crammed with a variety of articles and that too in bulk. Let's take an example of garments. Thousands and lakhs of outfits are there for our choice. I wonder how many of them are sold. One more factor that any

common spectator can understand is that there is loss of demand or that the consumers are reluctant. Anyone who keeps an eye on market affairs may come to the conclusion that the reason behind the present recession is not that people do not have money. Each and everyone has enough money. They have a lot of purchasing power too but they do not need anything because they have almost everything for the smooth running of day to day life. So the reason behind the present day depression is the loss of de-

Many developed countries suffer with the ailment of recession off and on even on trivial grounds because their economy is industry based. Once the demand for some particular item decreases the

country wavers and starts lamenting over its economy. But India always comes out of this disease safe and

If we go a little deeper into it we can understand that India had a considerate legacy which has come down to us from our ancestors. They seemed quite aware to take agriculture as their profession and preferred to invest in gold. We all know that these two are the fundamentals of the economy of any country. We may not have luxury items but our barns are filled with food items. That is why India never falters. The demand of anything may lessen but never for food items for the obvious

India also wants to come at par with developed countries and promote industries but it should concentrate on the food industry. It is here the seeds of India's prosperity lies. Crop growing can prosper the country and countrymen who are mostly farmers. Indians 'greed' for gold may also be a boon because even in the modern economic system gold will never lose its sheen. Thus, so long as the architects of India keep the agro economy in mind our country can always be hopeful about our future.

(Writer is a Prof. Deptt. of English Govt. PG College, DAMOH MP. Views are personal. can be contacted aniljaindamoh@gmail.com)



Sacred Marijuana

Cannabis or in Indian lingo Bhaang is a plant that finds mention in many ancient medical discourses like Sushruta Samhita where Bhaang or Cannabis is recommended as a treatment to clear excess mucus from the nose or throat, and for treating phlegm, it is also a wonder drug for the treatment of diarrhea. The ayurvedic discourses are replete with mention of bhaang as a refresher and a cure for headache and fatigue. Bhaang was revered as a sacred plant as it is one of the offerings to the Hindu God Shiva but now if one possesses Bhaang he/she would be slapped with so many legal sanctions that it would be nearly impossible for them to come out of the legal hellhole. India was never against Bhaang until 1985 when the Rajiv Gandhi government labeled Bhaang as synthetic and imposed a ban on the once sacred plant for the Hindus. It is interesting because India was not a signatory to the 1961 **Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs** but after 25 years suddenly India was against its sacred plant. It is certainly not a coincidence that the alcohol market started to boom in India in the late 1980s. Alcohol kills more than 2 lakh Indians every year but there is not a single death related to marijuana consumption. We should not be blind to this fact.

Noopur Baruah, Tezpur

Extrajudicial Killings Killing of gangster Atiq and his brother in UP Police custody is a cause of concern. Such extrajudicial encounters not only tarnish the reputation of the police but also highlight the nexus between criminals and opposition party politicians in UP. The Supreme Court has taken a strict stance against extrajudicial encounters, and accountability must be fixed for the same. It is also essential to conduct a credible investigation into these killings, as India has a dark history when it comes to police encounters. The interest of the state and its citizens should be a priority, and such incidents should not go unchecked. The UP Police must ensure that they abide by the law while dealing with criminals.

MK Nair, Raipur Macron's Soft

Stance on China The changing geopolitical equations of the new world order are in-

teresting and embarrassing to watch. However, it is alarming to see France's initiative to embrace China and undercut US efforts to rein in the country. This not only shackles India but also endangers the entire West. The complex international situation is further complicated by Russia's deep alliance with China, posing a challenge for countries like India in retaining old ties with Russia. The bonhomie between China and several erstwhile communist countries, including Germany and Britain, imperils NATO. It is crucial to understand that while changing relations may be easier for high-end countries, it is difficult for poor and traditional ones. France must reconsider its soft stance on China and prioritize the interest of the West.

Krishna Kumar Nambiar, Korba

Increasing trend of self-medication and ineffective antibiotics



Rajender Kumar Sharma

ften we get to see O iten we get to around us, at our relatives' place, where people themselves start treating every small and big disease. The basis of this treatment is the internet search engine and the medicine given by the doctor for the same disease suffered by any other family member in the past and/or the medicine prescription. We forget that every person's physical structure, his need, the effect

different. Every person's body reacts differently to a particular medicine or chemical. But today's young, educated generation, by the grace of internet, is quite aware about medical tests, treatment methods and medicines.

Having knowledge about diseases and medicines is a positive quality. The way medical services and education have become commercialized today. In such a situation, even the doctor has to be a little professional. In such circumstances, it is very important for you to have knowledge of diseases, medicines and medical tests, so that you or your patient cannot be unnecessarily exploited by the hospital and the doctors.

But it does not mean at all that you become a doctor yourself and start giving medicines to the family members. The most dangerous and worrying aspect of self-medication use is com-

of medicines on his body are ing in front of us today, according to a news last year, according to the largest study ever done about the effect of antibiotics published in the medical journal The Lancet Journal, in the year 2019 the world Worldwide, more than 1.2 million people have died, which has been attributed to anti-microbial resistance (AMR) or ineffectiveness of medicines. This makes treatment of diseases difficult and increases the risk of death. According to this research team, AMR was the direct or indirect cause of death of about 6 million people worldwide in the year 2019. This figure is much higher than the deaths due to malaria and AIDS.

The gist of the above report is that the whole world has become addicted to antibiotics to such an extent that now antibiotics have become ineffective on many bacteria / pathogens and if this rate continues, then very soon we will reach the old era. The progress of medical science may prove

On the basis of old prescriptions of doctors, patients are taking such medicines directly from medical stores. According to the age and weight of the patient, the doctor decides the dose of antibiotics and the medicine has to be taken for a certain period. Even if you have recovered, you will still have to take this medicine for the duration prescribed by the doctor. This is because it is essential for the body's immunity. But today people are joking with the medicines of antibiotics class. Whenever there is a desire, they start taking antibiotics, as soon as there is some relief, they stop taking antibiotics, which results in the microorganisms of the disease becoming resistant to the antibiotic, that is, if in the future, the same pathogen attack the body again, this antibiotic will no longer be effective against

pathogens. Now more power-

ful antibiotics will have to be taken. This is the reason that earlier a very few antibiotics were there, but now more new antibiotics are being invented everyday.

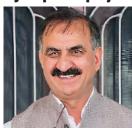
nd if this situation continues, then the human body will gradually become resistant to all antibiotics and antibiotics will not be effective on the bacteria / pathogens of the disease.

Therefore, today we have to understand that practicing and following self-medication will only have bad effects on our body. Allergy caused by medicines can take fatal form in future. Therefore, medicines should not be consumed like other food items. Medicines should be taken only on the advice of the doctor. Medical stores shouldn't sell medicines without Doctor's prescriptions.

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

BRIEF

Hydropower project



Shimla: Himachal **Pradesh Chief** Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu directed to make the 100 MW Uhl III hydropower project functional by May 2024 and instruct ed the officers to complete the tender process for setting up six green corridors by October this year. He said that charging station infrastructure would be set up for approximately 1.600 kilometres length of these corridors, which would also include the cities in the ambit of these stretches. Presiding over a meeting of the Energy Department here today, he also directed to replace the damaged penstock (a

Capital gains tax

structure that con-

the power project

trols water inflow) of

within eight months.

New Delhi: The Income Tax Department said there is no proposal before the government on capital gains tax. The department in a tweet said: "It is clarified that there is no such proposal before the Government on capital gains tax". A media report earlier in the day said India is preparing an overhaul of its direct tax law, including changes in capital gains taxes. Following the report, the equity market benchmark Sensex declined 331 during the intra-day trade. It later recovered some losses and closed 183.74 points lower

Appointment

at 59,727.



New Delhi: Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd announced appointment of former Intel Foundry Services President Randhir Thakur as its Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director. Thakur, a global leader and hands-on innovator in semiconductor industry, has worked with Intel for over 5 years. He brings over 40 years of experience in the global manufacturing, research and development, the company said in a statement.

Project development

■ New Delhi: The government is planning to develop more than 250 projects with a ropeway length of over 1,200 km in five vears under Parvatmala Pariyojana, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said on Wednesday. The government is promoting the manufacturing of ropeway components under the 'Make in India' initiative, an official release quoted Gadkari as saying. The minister was addressing 'IN-TERALPIN 2023 Fair' in Austria, the

release said.

Services exports may reach USD 400 bn during 2023-24: SEPC

New Delhi, Apr 19:

Buoyed by a significant jump in exports during 2022-23, Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) on Wednesday said the healthy growth trend will continue and shipments are expected to reach up to USD 400 billion this fiscal. During 2022-23, the country's services exports rose by 42 per cent to USD 322.72 billion from USD 254 billion in 2021-22, according to provisional data from the commerce ministry. "The services sector had targeted USD 300 billion but accomplished USD 322 billion. Subject to the final data we might touch USD 350 billion in 2022-23 and based on the current trend and the continuing growth our estimate is around USD 375 billion to USD 400 billion 2023-24." SEPC Chairman Sunil H Talati told PTI. Sectors that con-

tributed to the services exports growth during the last fiscal include travel. transport, medical, and hospitality, he said. He added that the council has been working tirelessly in collaboration with the government to catapult services sector growth with business delegations, B2B meets, and market specific initiatives

"Export of IT and IT enabled services is going strong and is highly likely to maintain the growth momentum. Travel sector is catching up soon. The post-pandemic economic recovery has created increasing demand for goods and services from foreign markets, the stabilization of freight charges and the normalization of supply chains are positive developments for the transport sector," he said.

The business services such as engineering, architecture, legal and accounting services as well as research and management consulting services stand to benefit leveraging the opportunities presented by the government initiatives. He also said that as for the key export destinations, India's service exports have historically concentrated in North America and Europe, but there is also significant potential for growth in emerging markets such as Asia, Africa, and Latin America. "Diversification of export

service exports," chairman said. Talati said that certain incentives are necessary to further push the growth rates. "For example, Gaming, entertainment can perform very well

with the right aid by the

destinations can help to re-

duce dependence on tradi-

tional markets and open

up new opportunities for

APPLE RETAIL STORE



An employee at the Apple retail store at Saket, during a media preview ahead of its opening, in New Delhi,

Audi India reports over two-fold jump in sales in Jan-March quarter



New Delhi, Apr 19: Luxury carmaker Audi India on Wednesday said its sales witnessed over two-fold jump at 1,950 units in the January-March quarter this year as compared with the same period last year. The company had sold 862 units in the first quarter of 2022. "Our product lineup boasts of sixteen models

and we currently have the strongest ever SUV portfolio contributing to over 60 per cent of our total sales," Audi India head Balbir Singh Dhillon said in a statement. The newly launched Q3 and Q3 Sportback are witnessing strong demand from across the country, he

"We are on a growth path and are confident of a bullish performance through the year 2023," Dhillon noted. The company said it also continues the expansion of its pre-owned car business, Audi Approved: plus, in India.

Currently operating with twentytwo outlets across all major hubs in the country, the brand is rapidly expanding and will have twentyfive-plus preowned car facilities by the end

Investor suggests 6th F-Flyover-for UP, says Goyal

Lucknow, Apr 19:

government.

Union Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday lauded the infrastructural development in Uttar Pradesh and said an investor has suggested another F - flyover - in addition to existing 5Fs. "Besides 5Fs: from Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign, an investor suggested another F which is Flyover," Goyal said. He said that in the last six years, Uttar Pradesh has seen infrastructural development in terms of airports, highways, having the best expressways, Golden Quadrilateral, better road

services and others.



Minister's vision of speed, skill and scale. In this regard, projects are monitored, there is a transparent system of governance, observation of ongoing works, officers and politicians are accountable for the deadline, all these detailing has led to a dream, a dream of achieving the

UP. The minister said when he sees Uttar Pradesh, he believes that a strong ecosystem has been developed, which will promote MSMEs and small businesses.

PLI schemes will also help the state. He urged people to shun the colonial mindset and collectively work towards making India a developed nation in the next 25 years.

Goyal was speaking at an event for the launch and signing of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) of Integrated Textile Park in 1,000 acres in Lucknow and Hardoi districts under PM Mega Integrated Textile Sector and Apparel (PM Mitra).

KDP announces winners for 5th edition of Pen to Publish contest

Mumbai. Apr 19:

Amazon's self-publishing service Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) announced the results of the fifth edition of its flagship contest:Pen to Publish. The contest received a great response from aspiring authors who submitted their eBooks to be evaluated by an esteemed panel of jury members.KDP Pen to Publish contest recognisesliterary excellence among self-published authors across genres.

Through contest,KDP recognised 11 self-published eBooks in each of the three particilanguages of English, Hindi, and Tamil. The top 3 winners received a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh each, and thefirst runners-

upwere awarded Rs 50,000 each. The second runnersup won a cash prize of Rs 30,000 each, while the remaining 8 participants from the top 11 were granted an amount of Rs10,000 each. The jury panel comprised of best-selling authors Sudeep Nagarkar and Sudha Nair for English entries, Satya Vyas and Vijay Kakwani for Hindi entries, and Naga Chokkan and Cable Sankar for Tamil entries.

This year, the contest witnessed participation spanning genressuch asliterature & fiction, romance, science fiction & fantasy, and mystery & thrillers. The entries were judged on the basis of several criteria including originality, creativity, and quality of writ-

Bookings open for the first-ever BMW X3 M40i xDrive

Limited units available for online booking only

Gurugram, Apr 19:

BMW India has opened bookings for the first-ever BMW X3 M40i xDrive from 12:30 hrs, 19 April 2023 onwards. The car will be available in limited units and can be exclusively booked at the BMW Online Shop for Rs 5,00,000. The car is scheduled to be launched in India in May

Engineered by M. the car elevates the sporty, modern BMW X3 to the realm of M. Numerous distinct M elements in the exterior and interior give birth to a commanding personality suited for high-performance circles. Under the hood, the M40i

3-litre engine, a powerhouse charged with M genes, is raring for unadulterated sheer driving pleasure. An outstanding driving experience is guaranteed together with Adaptive M Suspension, M

Sport differential, M Sport brakes and the BMW xDrive all-wheel drive. To further enhance the sporty appearance, customers can personalise their car with special M alloys. Customers can visit

https://www.bmw.in/X3M 401 and explore a 360° view of the car's exterior and interior. They will be directed to a bookings page where booking can be done through a secure online payment mechanism. Deliveries will be done on a first-come-first-serve

Introduction of the firstever BMW X3 M40i xDrive builds on the enormous success of M powered BMW M340i sedan and the growing popularity of exclusive M Editions in India. This new M interpretation of the BMW X3 takes the excitement a notch higher into the Sports Activity Vehicle

Vedanta expects to start building semiconductor plant by Oct-Dec quarter

New Delhi, Apr 19:

Vedanta group is expect-1.5 lakh crore semiconduc tor plant in October-December this year and producing electronic chips by the first half of 2027, senior company officials said. Vedanta Semiconductor and Display business, global managing director, Akarsh Hebbar and

Vedanta-Foxconn Semiconductors Limited CEO David Reed in a joint interview with PTI said the group has submitted all the technology tie-ups to the government and banks are comfortable in funding the project cost in the ratio of 70 and 30 (from the company) after adjusting subsidy. "We are plan-

ning by the fourth quarter of this year to have the first shovel ceremony. We are working on everything to have revenue by 2027. We would have this start with 5,000 wafers in the first part of 2027.

And then, we will incrementally take that up to 40,000 wafers a month," Reed said. He noted that the company will also make 28 nm wafers simul-

taneously as it will need the same equipment that works for 40 nm. A semiconductor plant comes out with a large semiconduc tor disc, which is then processed to make electronic chips. Vedanta will also set up OSAT (outsourced semiconductor assembly and test) plant that will process the semiconductor wafers for making them usable by automobile and electronics com-

"We are bringing in tried and tested technology - 28 nm, 40 nm, which is the best for ICT devices, automobiles, phones, which are...decently priced. With semiconductors and displays, we will be making 60 per cent of every electronic device inside India.

Stock markets fall for 3rd day Rupee falls 18 paise to Govt to set up panel to work on model builder-buyer on selling in IT, banking shares close at 82.22 against US dollar

Mumbai, Apr 19:

The rupee depreciated 18 paise to close at 82.22 (provisional) against the currency Wednesday, pressured by a strong greenback overseas and a negative trend in domestic equities. Forex traders said foreign fund outflows and firm crude oil prices also dragged the local unit down. At the interbank for-

eign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 82.10 against the dollar and finally ended the session at 82.22 (provisional), down 18 paise from its previous close. During the day, the rupee witnessed a high of 82.07 and a low of 82.25 against the greenback. On **RUPEE vs DOLLAR**

at 82.04 against the dollar. The rupee depreciated on Wednesday on weak domestic equities and a strong US dollar. FII outflows over the past two

the local unit, said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. European markets too traded in the red, with UK markets as the biggest loser amid elevated inflation.

The dollar gained on rising expectations of further tightening of monetary policy by the US Federal Reserve in its next FOMC meeting in May. Most of the Fed officials are advocating for a 25-bps rate hike in their respective speeches.

"We expect the Indian rupee to trade with a negative bias on risk aversion in global markets and a recovery in the greenback. If we see further FII outflows, it may put downside pressure on the rupee.

agreement: Official

Mumbai, Apr 19:

cided to set up a committee to work on a model buyer agreement to help streamline the homebuying process and protect consumers from potential abuses, among others, a top government official said on Tuesday. The committee that will draw members from judges, national and state consumer commissions, various consumer bodies, lawyers as well as from the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, is expected to be in place within the next three months,

Consumer Affairs Ministry

Secretary Rohit Kumar

Singh told reporters here.

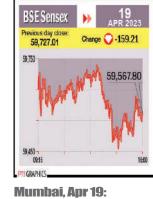
The official earlier ad-

dressed a round table con-

The government has de-



Effectively Redress the Grievances Pertaining to Real Estate Sector', in the city, hosted by the Department of Consumer Affairs, in association with Government of Maharashtra. The problem (dispute between the home buyers and the developer) could be resolved quite to an extent if the contract between a builder and a buyer is standardised and uniformity is brought about.



Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower Wednesday, marking their third straight day of losses due to selling in IT and select banking shares and foreign fund outflows. Falling for a third day, the 30-share BSE Sensex de-

clined 159.21 points or 0.27 per cent to settle at 59,567.80. During the day, it fell 274.29 points or 0.45 per cent to 59,452.72.

The broader NSE Nifty dipped 41.40 points or 0.23 per cent to end at 17,618.75. Among the Sensex firms, Technologies, IndusInd Bank, Infosys, Wipro, NTPC, Asian Paints, Tata Consultancy Services, Tech Mahindra, State Bank of India and UltraTech Cement were the major laggards. Bharti Airtel, Mahindra & Mahindra, Axis Bank, HDFC, HDFC Bank, Bajaj Finance and Reliance Industries were among the winners. In Asian markets, Japan, Shanghai and

Hong Kong settled lower,

while Seoul ended in the

green.

Tuesday, the rupee settled sessions also weighed on

Jay Bhanushali brings out the 'Royal Andaaz' while playing **'Shivendra Barot**'

ony Entertainment Television's latest offering, 'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum' brings viewers an engrossing saga that traces the journey of Damayanti, the stern traditionalist matriarch of the royal Barot family situated in Ranakgadh, and Surilii, a lively and forward-thinking young woman. Change induces fear and the usual reactions are to either fight, or flight - it is this inherit human nature of resistance to change which the show focuses on. This close-to-life yet inspirational saga sees Kitu playing Damayanti Barot, Ťina Datta essaying the role of Surilii Ahluwalia and Jay Bhanushali portraying the character of Shivendra

Taking the legacy of the Barot family ahead is the eldest son of Damayanti Devi, Shivendra Singh Barot who is a fair and kind person. Jay Bhanushali plays the role of this prince with a very charming personality who is entirely focused on profitable deals for the Barot business empire. To authentically portray this strong character and mas-ter the royal dialect, Jay Bhanushali reveals that he has started using the royal way of communication in

Tune in to watch Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum every Monday to Friday at 9:00 PM only on Sony Entertainment Television

Vidyut Jammwal unveils dynamic poster of spy thriller 'IB 71'

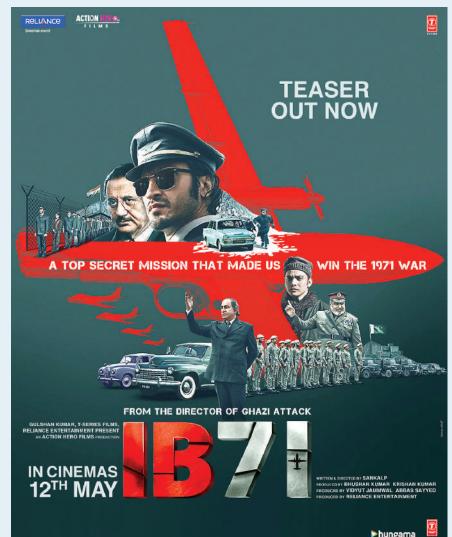
7idyut Jammwal is set to dominate the screen in the upcoming national award winner Sankalp Reddy's directorial 'IB 71'. The film marks Vidyut turning producer for the first time which elevates the film to new heights. The makers of the highly anticipated espionage thriller implemented a unique launch strategy to announce their release date with poster and teaser.

In a never seen before. hoarding innovation, a confidential envelope took over the streets of India, with a cryptic message "A secret that will shock the nation!" Providing a tantalizing glimpse of the highly classified mission that the movie talks about.

The following day, top influencers and celebs also started posting about these intriguing confidential hoardings in their city creating huge uproar among the netizens.

At a key location in Mumbai, along with fans and media, Jammwal finally unveiled the first look of IB71 putting all speculations to rest revealing the details of the envelope that read 'A top secret mission that made us win the 1971 war'.

Talking about the film, Jammwal says, "IB71 for the first time, talks about



Indian how the Intelligence Bureau con-

and outwitted the enemy which gave our armed ducted a secret mission forces the required advan-

tage to face a two-front war. I am excited to bring this project to life and

Director Sankalp Reddy adds, "Working on IB71 has been an absolute thrill ride for me. From

the very beginning, I was drawn to the film's intriguing premise and the opportunity to explore the world of undercover operations. With Vidyut Jammwal in the lead, I knew that I had an actor who not only had the physicality to pull off high-octane action scenes but also the depth and nuance to bring his character to life. I can't wait for audiences to experience

the world of IB71.'

IB 71 is presented by Gulshan Kumar, T-Series Reliance Film and Entertainment. Action Hero Films production stars Vidyut Jammwal, Anupam Kher and Vishal Jethwa in pivotal roles and is produced by Bhushan Kumar, Action Hero Films and Reliance Entertainment. Produced by Jammwal & Abbas Sayyed, co-produced by Aditya Shastri, Aditya Chowksey and Shiv Chanana. The film is directed by national award winner Sankalp Reddy with the story by Aditya Shastri and the screenplay by Storyhouse Films LLP. The film is slated for a theatrical release on 12th May 2023.

Khushi Dubey shoots challenging sequence for 'Aashiqana 3' despite food poisoning

Khushi Dubey, known for her role as Chikki in the streaming series 'Aashiqana 3', was recently detected with food poisoning, but she continued to shoot for her part to meet the deadlines.

Talking about her experience, Khushi said, "I was down with food poisoning and I wasn't well. I was feeling dehydrated, uneasy and pukish the entire day. I couldn't eat anything and spent the entire day without food. Amid all this, I had to shoot for a challenging sequence where Chikki goes out of the mental



Khushi revealed that a doctor visited her on the sets of the show and gave ner certain medicines so that she could work.

"I had to scream, shout and showcase all the pain, angst and madness through my body language. In fact, the doctor came on the sets and gave me medicines so I could continue shooting this taxing sequence. In fact, the show's creator Gul mam had asked me to take rest, no matter how tight and hectic the schedule was.'

The third season of 'Aashiqana' is available for streaming on Disney+

Samantha's cryptic **Instagram note** addresses failure of **'Shaakuntalam'**



Actress Samantha Ruth
Prabhu, who was recently seen in the film 'Shaakuntalam', shared a cryptic post on her social media on Tuesday. The film was hugely anticipated by the fans of the actress but it failed to deliver and entertain the audience. After the film tanked, a Telugu film producer named Chittibabu criticized Samantha, saying that her career is 'finished'. He told a YouTube channel that the days of stardom are over for the actress and she should do whatever offers she gets from now on. But it seems Samantha is unfazed by the failure of her highly anticipated film as she took to her Instagram on Tuesday to share a picture of herself with a caption in Sanskrit quoted from Bhagavad Gita, the foundational text of Hinduism. She seemed to have addressed the underwhelming response to the film calling that she can only do her duty, and can't control the outcome

Karthi assures PS-2 will be easier for North Indian audiences to comprehend

¶amil star Karthi. who plays the victorious Chola general Mani 'Ponnivin Selvan' period drama, has said that the second part of the movie will be easier for North Indian audiences to understand.

Karthi admitted that unfamiliarity with the Chola dynasty's history made it difficult for people to comprehend the lirst part, which grossed Rs 502 crore at the Tamil box office. However, he assured that the second part would bring out the real story and be less tricky for viewers.

'Ponniyin Selvan-2', which is based on the Tamil classic 'Ponniyin Selvan' Kalki Krishnamurthy, revolves around the early life of Arulmozhi prince Varman, who went on to become the famous Rajaraja Chola I. Its prinincludes cipal cast Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Trisha, Jayam Ravi, and Sobhita



will be released on April Speaking to the media, Karthi shared how he explained the story to his friends. "I sent them a WhatsApp message with info about the story and it helped them understand the film. PS-1 has done the basic work and introduced the story. So. PS 2 won't be tricky," Karthi said. Vikram, who plays the Chola prince Aditya Karikalan, elaborated on what Karthi had said and added: "The confusion is about the names.

Kangana reminisces her friendship with **Aamir Khan before** Hrithik's legal battle

recently shared on Instagram that Bollywood be her best friend before her much-talked-about legal battle with actor Hrithik Roshan. Kangana posted a video of her conversation with Aamir on the sets of the TV show 'Satyamev Jayate', in which she talked about how the 'Dangal' star used to guide and mentor her with her choices. In the clip, Kangana also revealed how she has consciously avoidafter witnessing a young girl performing to an item number She captioned the post, 'Actually mujhe bhi kabhi kabhi woh din yaad aate hain jab Aamir sir was my best friend. jaane kahan gaye woh din.' Kangana went on to say that Aamir mentored and shaped a lot of her choices before Hrithik initiated a legal case against her. She added, "One thing is for sure that he has mentored me, appreciated me, and shaped a lot of my choices, before Hrithik did that legal case on me. Post that they made their loyalties clear - it was one woman against entire industry.'



Will Ashwin forgive his father Dilip for all his wrongdoings'

Sony SAB's marquee shows follows the inspiring story of Pushpa a single mother who strives to provide for her children while pursuing her studies. Her positive and problem-solving attitude, coupled with a charming clumsiness, makes her endearing to the audience. She for her entire life has done everything possible in her capacity to provide her children with the best

In recent episodes, viewers witness Dilip (Jayesh More) shifting in the chawl and becoming Pushpa's (Karuna Pandey) neighbour. As Dilip moves in, both Pushpa and

ushpa Impossible, one of Raashi are seen leaving for their SSC exam and due to this new catastrophe, Pushpa happens to miss her exam.

In the upcoming episodes, we will see a lot of drama taking place in the chawl. Pushpa will be left shocked on seeing Dilip turning up in front of her while she is leaving for her exam. The very next day he plans to perform a havan in the chawl to prove to everyone that he has changed and has become a pure and holy person. Ashwin enters the chawl and is disgusted at seeing Dilip pretend. In that rage, he throws Dilip's nameplate in the havan and both Dilip and Pushpa are furious at that moment.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Infant
- 5. Picnic nuisances
- 14. Between ports 15. Jump
- 16. Major artery 17. Pinocchio, e.g.
- 18. Feeble, as an excuse 19. Havana export 20. Cleaned (clothes)
- 22. Positive
- 23. Ardent 24. Admiration
- 26. Use the supplier again
- 29. Eye suggestively
- 30. Shade providers 31. Church instrumentalist

42. Coastal bird

36. Least fresh 39. Bind 40. Longitude's partner

- 43. Catches 44. Embarrased
- 47. Morally pure 50. More loyal 51. Not there
- 56. Choose by vote
- 58. Still snoozing 60. Please greatly
- 61. Apple part 63. Sheriff's grou
- 64. Playthings 65. Skirt edges

DOWN

- 2. Europe's neighb Boyfriend 4. Money makers 6. More adjacen
- 8. Went fast
- 9. Cul-de-10. Dampen
- 11. Debate 12. Fixed gaze
- 13. Sultan's wive 21. Father 24. Omelet ingredients 25. Mattress support

27. Singer



621

29. Crude mineral

36. Doctor's "at once!" 37. Toothpaste co

32. List entry 33. Royal title 34. Minister to

41. Ants, e.g. 42. Corrosion layer

46. Not him 47. Chick's o

48. Howdy!

49. Region

50. Forbidder

52. Agreement 53. Motionless

54. Group of players

44. Blood vessel

SPORTS

DC play do-or-die game vs KKR

Prithvi Shaw, Delhi Capitals' blue-eyed boy till last season, could become the first casualty of the team's floundering IPL campaign as they prepare to take on Kolkata Knight Riders here on Thursday.

The 23-year-old talented opener's spot in the playing XI has come under the scanner after the Mumbai player could managed just 34 runs in five outings this season, with a highest of

With DC having lost all five games so far this season, a rejig of the top order against KKR at the Ferozeshah Kotla in a bid to revive their fortunes could be on the cards.

Sarfaraz Khan, who has earlier been tried as a wicketkeeper-batter, could be drafted in as a specialist opener for powerplay overs, while the other option could be to promote veteran Manish Pandey.

For the David Warner-led side, this is a must-win situation as all routes to playoffs will mathematically be shut if they suffer another



Kolkata Knight Riders cricketers during a practice session.

Match starts at 3:30 PM.

defeat. KKR, on the other hand, would like to forget the loss against Sunrisers Hyderabad at home and get on with winning some games. Their skipper Nitish Rana, middle-order batter Rinku Singh and West Indian power-hitter

Andre Russell do possess the capability to hammer Delhi Capitals' bowlers, led by Anrich Nortje and Mustafizur Rahman. For KKR, Englishman Jason could replace Rahamanullah Gurbaz in the opener's slot with N. Jagadeesan keeping wickets. It will also be leg-spinner Suyash Sharma's first

senior-level game at his home ground. However, all eyes will be on Nitish and Rinku, the two power-hitters who will be out to entertain the capacity crowd along with Russell and the in-form Venkatesh Iyer, who is fresh from his century against MI, albeit in losing cause. Match starts at

Dhawan's injury on Punjab Kings' mind as they take on RCB

Punjab Kings (PBKS) would be sweating over skipper Shikhar Dhawan's injury at a time when they need all their firepower against an extremely tough but luckless Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in an Indian Premier League (IPL) match here on Thursday.

Dhawan, 37, who is one of the bright spots in the PBKS team, was ruled out against Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) on April 15 in Lucknow due to a shoulder injury and England all-rounder Sam Curran marshalled the side during their two-wicket win at the Ekana Stadium.

But, RCB are a much bigger threat on paper than LSG, and Curran would know he too will need to come to the party with the bat if they are to defeat Faf du Plessis' side and earn two points at

Curran's iffy form with the bat has been a concern, as he could manage

just six runs against LSG, though his three wickets played a key role in restricting KL Rahul's side to 159/8

Punjab

Kings players

during a practice

session

Match starts at 3:30 PM

PBKS' top order looks solid when Dhawan is around, but with a question mark over his fitness, his opening partner Prabhsimran Singh will have to play sensibly and also hope his partner plays responsible knock, which was missing

against LSG. PBKS' bowling, though, has stood the sternest of tests this season with their two leftarmers -- Arshdeep Singh and Curran -- at the forefront, while South African pace spearhead Kagiso Rabada has only added to the potency

In contrast, RCB have been unlucky when it comes to eking out wins. With skipper du Plessis and Virat Kohli opening the in-

nings, they perhaps have the best opening pair in the tournament, barring, of course, Yashasvi Jaiswal and Jos Buttler for Rajasthan Royals. With Glenn Maxwell coming in at No.4 and Shahbaz Ahmed, Dinesh Karthik and Suyash Prabhudessai following the Australian. RCB bat really deep. But their biggest flaw, unfortunately, is the same as PBKS

Warner retained in Australia's touring squad for Ashes

Melbourne. Apr 19 (AP):

Veteran opener David Warner has been retained in Australia's squad for the start of the Ashes series in England and is still in the mix for the World Test Championship final against India. Speculation over the 36-year-

old left-hander's future in cricket's longest format mounted when he was injured on Australia's recent tour to India and missed the bulk of the test series before returning for the limited-overs matches.

Warner and two other candidates to open the batting Marcus Harris and Matt Renshaw were included along with incumbent opener Usman Khawaja in the 17-man squad announced Wednesday for the start of the five-test Ashes series. Cricket Australia said it would narrow a squad down to 15 on May 28 for the World



Test Championship final, which begins June 7 at the Oval in London.

Warner scored 26 runs in three innings in India, with a top score of 15, before being ruled out of the series with a concussion and an injured elbow. He has 25 career centuries and accumulated 8,158 runs at an average of almost 46 in 103 test matches, although only five of those hundreds have been in away tests and he's never reached triple figures in an Ashes match played in

Alcaraz cruises to opening victory at Barcelona Open



Barcelona, Apr 19 (AP):

Defending champion Carlos Alcaraz opened his title defense at the Barcelona Open with a comfortable 6-3, 6-1 win over Nuno Borges.

The top-seeded Spaniard, No. 2 in the world, converted five of his seven break opportunities to secure the win at the Rafa Nadal center court on Tuesday. "It's always different to play here, it's not just any other tournament for me," the 19-year-old Alcaraz said. "I'm at home, with the fans behind me. It's alwavs nice and special." A two-time winner this year, Alcaraz is making his 2023 debut on the European claycourt tour. He had not competed since Miami in March, skipping Monte Carlo because of inflammation in his left hand and back pain.

"I feel great," Alcaraz said. "Moving well, hitting the ball really well so I feel a lot of confidence playing here in Barcelona.'

Alcaraz's next opponent will be fellow Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut, the 13th-seed who defeated Bernabe Zapata Miralles 6-2, 6-2.

Fifth-seeded American Frances Tiafoe lost 6 6-7 (3), 6-4 to Emil Ruusuvuori of Finland. The 40th-ranked Ruusuvuori rallied from 3-0

Mohd Siraj reports corrupt approach to BCCI ACU

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

Roval Challengers Bangalore (RCB) pacer Mohammed Siraj has reported a "corrupt approach" to BCCI's Anti Corruption Unit (ACU) from an unknown person, who wanted "inside news" about his team after "losing a lot of money" in an IPL game.

The India pacer, who is the leading wicket-taker for RCB with eight scalps, said he got a call and promptly reported the matter to ACU officials. who are attached with the teams.

RCB lost their previous match to Chennai Super Kings by eight runs at the Chinnaswamy Stadium with fortunes swinging wildly. Sri Lankan pace bowler Matheesha Parthirana bowled two crucial death overs to restrict the home team to 218/8 in the chase of 226 and earn victory for CSK.

- an inconsistent top order. Ostapenko beats Raducanu in 1st round at Stuttgart

Stuttgart, Apr 19 (AP):

Jelena Ostapenko swept past Emma Raducanu 6-2, 6-1 at the indoor clay Porsche Grand Prix for the British player's second consecutive first-round loss. In a meeting of two for-

mer Grand Slam champions on Tuesday, the 2017 French Open winner from Latvia broke Raducanu twice in the first set and ran away with the match in the second as she broke Raducanu to love in consecutive service games. Raducanu, the 2021 U.S. Open champion, was in action for the first time since her first-round loss to Bianca Andreescu in Miami. The British player's last win was in the tournament before, when she reached the fourth round at Indian Wells before losing to Iga Swiatek

Seventh-seeded Daria



Kasatkina was resounding ly beaten 6-1, 6-1 by Paula Badosa to become the first seeded player to be eliminate ed. Badosa moves on to play qualifier Cristina Bucsa in the next round. Barbora Krejcikova beat Liudmila Samsonova 6-2, 6-0 and the 2021 French Open champion will next face Aryna Australian Open champion.

Real Madrid sails into Champions League SF

LUNUUN, AUT 19 LAPJ:

Real Madrid's pursuit of a 15th European Cup marches on. Chelsea, meanwhile, does not know when it will compete on this elite stage again. Madrid's 2-0 win at Stamford Bridge completed a 4-0 aggregate victory and saw the Spanish giants advance to the Champions League semifinals for the 11th time in 13 seasons.

Rodrygo scored twice in the second half to derail a spirited Chelsea comeback that lasted the best part of an hour, but ultimately ended in a fourth straight loss under interim manager Frank Lampard.

Madrid can continue its quest for more glory in a



Real Madrid's Brazilian striker Rodrygo Goes (2R) celebrates scoring the team's second goal during the Champions League quarter-final second-leg football match between Chelsea and Real Madrid at Stamford Bridge in London.

record 14 times, with either Manchester City or Bayern

competition it has won a Munich to come in the next round. City was leading Bayern 3-0 after the first

leg of the quarterilhais. setting up a likely rematch of last year's semifinals. Madrid scored twice in added time and another in extra time at the Bernabeu last season to win 6-5 on aggregate.

Madrid is already the only team to successfully defend the Champions League in its modern guise winning it three consecutive times from 2016-18 and is still in contention to win it back-to-back again.

It is a record that no other team can compete with - and with a forward line of Vinicius Junior, Karim Benzema and Rodrygo in such daunting form, the defending champions will take some stop-





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Prannoy, Sindhu to lead Indian team at Sudirman Cup Taipei and Australia and

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

World No. 9 HS Prannoy and two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu will lead the Indian challenge at the 2023 Sudirman Cup, scheduled in Suzhou, China, from May 14-21.

The senior national selection committee, which met here on Tuesday, picked a "balanced" squad with an aim to clinch a first-ever medal in the mixed team champi-

The Indian men had created history last year by winning the prestigious Thomas Cup and hopes of a potential podium finished were raised further following the bronze winning perform-



ance in the Asian Mixed Team Championships earlier this year.

"Sudirman Cup is a prestigious tournament and the selectors have picked the best squad after studying the domestic and international re-

sults. We are confident that this team will challenge for a medal this year," said Badminton Association of India sec-

grouped in Group C along

with Malaysia, Chinese

retary Sanjay Mishra. India have

their first task will be to make it to the knock-out stage from a potentially trick group. return Satwiksairaj Rankireddy,

who missed the Asian mixed team event due to injury, will bolster the men's doubles squad while the experienced Ashwini Ponnappa and new partner Tanisha Castro will provide backup to the All England semi-finalists Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly. Kidambi Srikanth and reigning senior national women's singles champion Anupama Upadhyaya will be the other singles players in the squad.

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RAMADAN IFTAR



A Muslim devotee purchases fruits from a vendor for 'iftar' meal during the holy

month of Ramadan, in Kolkata, Wednesday.

Will resign if proven I dialled Shah over TMC's national status'

Kolkata, Apr 19 (PTI):

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said she will resign if it is proven that she dialled Union Home Minister Amit Shah after the Trinamool Congress lost the national party status. Banerjee, who was speaking to reporters at West Bengal's state secretariat, said that her party's name will remain the All India Trinamool Congress

"I will resign if it is proven that I called up Amit Shah over TMC's national party status," she said, rejecting Bengal's leader of opposition Suvendu Adhikari's claim that she had made the call.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses a press conference at Nabanna, in Howrah, Wednesday.

claimed that Banerjee had dialled Shah after the Election Commission revoked TMC's national party status to request him to repeal the decision. Banerjee, also the TMC supremo, said, "It was the norm to review the national party status of all par-

view should have been in 2026 But they did it in "My party's name will

remain the 'All India Trinamool Congress'. If the BJP has any problem, they can approach the Election Commission and we will approach the common people," she thundered. The ECI withdrew the national party status of the TMC, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Communist Party of India (CPI) last week. Reacting to Adhikari's assertion, TMC on Tuesday also said there is not even an iota of truth in it. "Suvendu Adhikari is a habitual liar.

We have seen how he

No question of resigning from TMC: Mukul Roy

Kolkata. Apr 19 (PTI): Veteran Trinamool Congress leader Mukul Roy, who has expressed his desire to work for the BJP in future, on Wednesday said he is a soldier of the saffron camp, and there is no question of resigning from the TMC as he was never "mentally" with the party even after rejoining it in 2021. The founding member of the TMC switched to the BJP in 2017. He won as a saffron party candidate in the 2021 West Bengal assembly election. Roy, however, returned to the TMC soon after the assembly election results, complaining of illtreatment by the saffron camp leadership. He did not resign from the House and is technically still a BJP MLA. In a telephonic interview with PTI from New Delhi, Roy said the saffron camp would do well in the upcoming panchayat polls in Bengal, and the party would easily achieve the target of winning 35 plus Lok Sabha seats in 2024 set by Amit Shah last week. "I am absolutely fit and fine. Some people are spreading rumours that I am unwell, but this is not true. I am a BJP MLA and have come here to be with the party. I want to work for my party BJP. I was never mentally with the TMC after I left it," the 69-year-old politician said. When asked about his post-2021 stint with the TMC, Roy said, "I was not well at that point of time and was never mentally part of it."

has earlier brazenly lied about several political developments. Having a national party status or not is

notional it does not im pact the growth of the TMC," party spokesperson Kunal Ghosh had said.

Court discharges all accused in case registered by ED in Mumbai 15 years ago

Mumbai, Apr 19 (PTI):

A special court

here has discharged all eight accused in the first-ever case registered under the Prevention of Money Laundering (PMLA) in Mumbai by the Enforcement Directorate. Then managing director of city-based OPM International and others were discharged "in absence of a predicate offence" in the case registered in 2008. Under the PMLA, the ED can initiate a probe only when there exists a prior Information Report of a scheduled offence -- also called predicate offence -against a person or entity.

In 2008, the ED booked OPM International, its diregistered by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under the Narcotic Drugs Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. This was the first case registered in the city under the PMLA. But the accused were eventually discharged from the drug case.

On April 15, special judge M G Deshpande discharged all the accused as the 'predicate offence' did not survive. The detailed order became available on Wednesday. Omprakash Nogaja, then MD of OPM International. claimed in his discharge plea that he was neither involved in the NDPS case nor was he involved in the generation of proceeds of

As laid down by the Supreme Court, a PMLA case cannot be continued if from the predicate offence, argued his lawver Avaz Khan. Special public prosecutor R R Yadav opposed the plea, saying the accused 'was actively involved in the criminal activity relat-

were generated". The court held that the ED case against Nogaja can not continue in light of the SC judgement. Besides Nogaja and OPM Shyam International, Modani, Shriniwas Modani, Umesh Bangur. Radhamohan Lakhotia, Shantilal Pangaria and Subh Laxmi Synted Limited were also discharged. OPM International used to import goods such as timber, pulses and rice. In 2008, the NCB seized 200 kg of cocaine hidden in a consignment allegedly ordered by

ing to the scheduled offence

by which POC of crime

ED attaches over Rs 39 cr worth assets of ex-Jharkhand chief engineer

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI): A

farmhouse and two flats in posh areas of the national capital, a bungalow in Jamshedpur, and some land parcels are among the over Rs 39 crore worth assets of a former Jharkhand rural development department chief engineer that have been attached under the anti-money laundering law, the ED said on Wednesday. A provisional order has been issued under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to seize these properties belonging to the officer --Veerendra Kumar Ram -and his family members, the federal agency said in a statement.

Shraddha Walkar murder case

News channels restrained from showing content of charge sheet

New Delhi, Apr 19 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court Wednesday observed telecast of the recording of narco analysis conducted Poonawala, the sole accused in the Shraddha Walkar murder, will prejudice the case and restrained all news channels from displaying or playing content of the charge sheet filed in the matter. The high court also di-

rected the Centre to ensure that no news channel displays such material till disposal of the petition filed by the Delhi Police.

The order was passed on a plea by the Delhi Police for restraining media houses from publishing, printing and disseminat-

ing confidential information contained in the charge sheet and other such material collected during the course of investigation. "This is really very, very strange. What purpose will be served by showing or telecasting this narco analysis test on television? This will definitely prejudice the Justice Rajnish Bhatnagar said orally.

Special Prosecutor Amit Prasad, appearing for police, said it is obviously for TRP (television rating points) and added that airing of such content may lead to law and order problem. He submitted that Aaj Tak news channel has got access to a video of the narco

and it was restrained by the trial court from showing it or any such content till April 20. However, he said, an

order needs to be passed against all other channels also as the video might have been shared with others and, if telecast, it would prejudice the right of the accused to fair trial. The high court also is-

sued notices to and sought the response of the Centre, through the Ministry of Information Broadcasting, Aaj Tak channel news Poonawala on the Delhi police's petition and listed it for further hearing on August 3. "No media channel having access to this material shall display or play this material on their

while, Union of India shall ensure that no such material is displayed or played on any channel in whatsoever manner," Bhatnagar said.

As the judge sought to know how the video reached the news channel, Prasad said it was leaked and, if the journalist concerned makes copies of the footage and distributes them further, then there will be no control.

The prosecutor claimed the video footage was not provided to the journalist either by police or anyone from the side of the accused. He said an FIR needs to be registered to investigate as to how the sensitive content got

HP University urged

to prioritize R&D for

ecological challenges

Shimla. Apr 19 (PTI): Himachal Pradesh University should focus on research and development to address and overcome the ecological challenges causing climate change. President Droupadi Murmu said on Wednesday. Speaking at the 26th convocation ceremony of Himachal Pradesh University here, she exhorted farmers to shift to natural farming and said the university should become instrumental in providing state-of-the-art technology to farmers through research and innovations. She said the university should focus on research and development to address and overcome the ecological challenges causing climate change. "I am happy to see women participation and progress as 70 per cent of the students in higher education in Himachal Pradesh are girls and the same was reflected in the number of students who were awarded gold medals today," she added.

UP govt issues directions ahead of festivals

'No religious event allowed on roads'

Lucknow, Apr 19 (PTI):

In view of upcoming festivals like Eid and Akshay Tritiya, the Uttar Pradesh overnment on Wednesdav issued directions regarding holding programmes in the state and ordered that no religious event be held by obstructing roads and traf-

Principal Secretary (Home) Sanjay Prasad, Director General of Police (DGP) R K Vishwakarma and other senior officials held a review meeting with all field officials posted in the state through video conferencing and issued necessary guidelines, an official release said.

There should be adequate arrangements for the security of religious places and additional police forces should be deployed in senVishwakarma said. Prasad directed all the

concerned officers posted in the field to ensure that religious programmes, worshipping, etc. take place at the designated places only. Under no circumstances should any religious event be held by obstructing roads and traffic, the release said.

"In the past, we have been able to do this through communication. This year also, we have to make the same effort," he said.

According to the release, no religious procession or any other procession should be taken out withdue permission. Permission should be given only to those religious processions that are traditional, and unnecessary permission should not be given to new events, it said.

also told the officers to be vigilant about social media and ensure immediate response to any attempt aimed to spread fake news. A senior officer should do a refutation of rumour/fake news, he said.

"The safety of every citizen in the state is the primary responsibility of all of us. The month of Ramzan is going on. Eid-ul-Fitr. Akshava Tritiva and Parshuram Jayanti are likely to be celebrated on the same day on April 22. In view of the present environment, the police will have to be extra careful," Prasad said.

"Deal sternly with those issuing mischievous statements. Strict action should be taken against the chaotic elements that try to cause harm to the peaceful atmosphere in the state,'



FISHERMEN PROTEST

Fishermen try to enter the Assembly during a protest demanding return of a temple land in Puducherry, Wednesday.

It must be embarrassing for Azad and Scindia to attack Congress: Digvijaya

Sehore (MP), Apr 19 (PTI):

Senior Congress leader Digvijaya Singh on Wednesday taunted forparty leaders Ghulam Nabi Azad and Jyotiraditya Scindia, saying that it must be embarrassing for both of them to attack the grand old party as it gave everything to them when they were in the organisation.

He also accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of using these leadattack the to Congress

While Scindia quit the Congress in March 2020,

Azad resigned from the grand old party in August 2022, ending his more than five decade association with it. Scindia, who was considered close to Rahul Gandhi, later joined the ruling BJP and became the Union Minister of Civil Aviation, while Azad has floated his own party named the Democratic Azad Party.

Speaking to reporters here, Singh said he agrees with Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's statement that when Ghulam Nabi Azad was in the Congress, he was completely "azad" (free), but after leaving the grand old party he has become a "ghulam"

"Congress has given everything to Azad and Scindia and both were asked to attack the party. Isn't it embarrassing for both of them? It is an embarrassment," Singh said in response to a question if the BJP was using these leaders to attack the Congress.

Singh added that in the past, if anybody wanted to join the dacoits when they were active in Bhind area of Madhya Pradesh,

the leader of the gang used to ask the new recruit to kill a particular person, and only if that task was accomplished, he could become a part of the syndicate.

"BJP has done a similar thing with Azad and Scindia by asking them to attack Congress," he said.

Both Azad and Scindia have been targeting the Congress leadership over various issues with former party president Rahul Gandhi criticising the BJP on a number of issues, including billionaire industrialist Gautam

Ram Lalla to be depicted as an archer at Ayodhya temple torum of the temple on the fes-

Ayodhya (UP), Apr 19 (PTI):

The idol of Ram Lalla to be installed at the under-construction temple in Ayodhya will be in the form of an archer and carved out of "krishna shila" or black stone from Karnataka, the trust entrusted with the work has decided. The five-foot-tall idol will be carved by Arun Yogiraj, a

noted sculptor from Mysuru. At its two-day meeting which concluded here late Tuesday evening, the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust finalised the specifications of the idol. "The new idol of Lord Ram, in his five-yearold avatar, will be five-foot tall. The idol will be in a standing posture armed with a bow tival of Makar Sankranti next and arrow," trust member Swami Teerth Prasannyacharya said here on Wednesday. "Arun Yogiraj will carve the idol out of पान, तंबाकू सेवन के कारण मुंह का stone brought to Ayodhya from Karnataka's Karkar and ना खुलना एक्सीडेंट में चोट या अन्य

Hegge Deven Kote villages.... The sculptor will finalise the stone which the idol will be carved out of." he added. Trust general secretary Champat Rai said they selected "krishna shila" following consultations among seers, geologists, sculptors, experts

of Hindu scriptures and trust

office-bearers. Devotees are

eagerly waiting for the new

idol of Ram Lalla that is to be

placed in the sanctum sanc-

year, he said. मह का ना खलना





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