





# Our forefathers knew the importance of time and education: Bhupesh Baghel

## CM had lunch at house of farmer in village Purai

- CM unveiled the statues of Mahatma Gandhi and Dau Late Pyarelal Belchandani
- Announces Swami Atmanand English Medium School in Tirga

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 02:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel visited the Durg Rural Assembly Constituency under the Bhent Mulaqat program on Sunday. The Chief Minister started the Bhent Mulaqat program in Durg Rural Assembly Constituency by unveiling the statue of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi in Village Tirga. The Chief Minister also unveiled the statue of popular Gandhian leader and former MLA Dau Late Pyarelal Belchandani and conducted the



Bhumipoojan of Community House in Kurmipara.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister also released a folder based on the biography of Dau Late Pyarelal Belchandani. He made the announcement of opening Swami Atmanand English Medium School in Tirga village and also announced the approval of Rs 25 lakh for the development of the region at the request of the local

Sarpanch. Chief Minister also praised the local farmer Tarakeshwar, who donated Rs 7000 to Mukhyamantri Sahayata Kosh, out of the amount obtained by selling paddy under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that today he has got the opportunity to unveil the statues of Gandhi Ji and Dau Ji in Tirga. Dau Pyarelal Belchandani used to con-



tinuously tour all the day, was quite disciplined, and had his own identity. There have been many big leaders, and everyone had unique identities and similarities. Dau Ji was punctual as well. He was dedicated to farmers, fought for the protection of their interests, and used to preserve all letters. Baghel said that Dau Ji used to greet everyone, regardless of whether they were young or old, it was his virtue, and he had started

a new tradition.

The Chief Minister said that he has named the Higher Secondary School and Kharkhara Mohandipat Irrigation Scheme in Tirga after Dau Ji to preserve his memories.

Baghel said that 20 quintals of paddy per acre of land will be purchased while keeping the interests of farmers in mind. He said that the Government has worked towards increasing the in-

come of cattle farmers, because of which about 3.5 lakh families are being benefitted. We are continuously committed to increasing the income of people. We started the Unemployment Allowance Scheme for the youth on 1 April. Moreover, they will also be trained so that they are provided with employment opportunities. We have also started a socio-economic survey, the work under this started on Saturday. A portal was launched in Sargaon on 25 March and has also started operating from 1 April. On this occasion, local MLA and Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Minister-in-charge of Durg Mohd Akbar, former MLA of the region Pratima Chandrakar, Senior Congress leader Pradeep Chaubey, family members of Dau Late Pyarelal Belchandani, public representatives, and local people were present.



◆ Relishes 'Aam ke Noonchara Achar' and 'Alsi ke Bhurke'\*

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 02:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had his lunch with the joint family of farmer Devnath Sahu in Purai village of Durg Rural Assembly Constituency area. All the 24 members of the joint family welcomed the Chief Minister in a traditional manner.

The family members served home-made Satvik food to the Chief Minister and other guests. The 'Aam ke Noonchara Achar' and

'Alsi ke Bhurke' in the Thali especially attracted the Chief Minister's attention and he enjoyed these dishes with pleasure.

On this occasion, Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Chairman of District Co-operative Central Bank Rajendra Sahu, and other guests were also present. The guests were served Bijauri, Papad, Kadhi, Chech Bhaji, Munga, Aloo Chana Sabzi, rice, roti, dal, and Sevai and Anarsa as sweet dishes on a brass plate. The family member Surendra Kumar Sahu said that his entire family is delighted to have the Chief Minister amongst them.

## SAIL achieves all-time best annual production in FY 2022-23



Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 02:** Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) - a Maharatna public sector unit under the Ministry of Steel, has achieved the best ever annual production during the financial year 2022-23 ending on 31 March 2023. During the period, the com-

pany recorded 19.409 Million Tonnes (MT) of hot metal and 18.289 MT crude steel production with a growth of 3.6% and 5.3% respectively over the previous best. The company is continuously ramping up its production over the years with a focus on more value added and special steel production.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 02:** The first "State Level Vrihad Jail Lok Adalat" of the year 2023 was inaugurated at Central Jail in Durg on Sunday. As per the instructions of State Legal Services Authority, the Jail Lok Adalat in Durg was organised under the guidance of District and Sessions Judge Sanjay Kumar Jaiswal (Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Durg). Santosh Kumar Thakur (Chief Judicial Magistrate, Durg) and the presiding judicial officers of both the benches - Tajuddin Asif (Judicial Magistrate First Class, Durg) and Umesh Kumar Upadhyay (Judicial Magistrate First Class, Durg) were present during



the inauguration function. Ashish Dahriya (Secretary District Legal Services Authority, Durg), Shyamal Thakur (Incharge Jail Superintendent), Devdas Tonder (Assistant Jail Superintendent), Ashok Kumar Sao (Assistant Jail Superintendent), Rahul Gargale (Assistant Jail Superintendent) and other employees/staff of the jail were present.

The Judicial Officers

and DLSA Secretary informed the prisoners of Plea Bargaining, Under Trial Review Committee and many legal aspects for the easy disposal of the cases of the under trial prisoners, and detained prisoners. The District Legal Services Authority is always ready and committed to assist the prisoners according to the law.

Plead Guilty, Plea-bargaining and compound-

able cases of prisoners pending in the court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/Judicial Magistrate First Class were disposed of in the State Level Vrihad Jail Lok Adalat. 02 Benches in District Court and 01 Bench of Revenue Court was constituted. A total of 06 cases were disposed of in these benches including 02 cases of the Revenue Court.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 02:** The Sessions Court in Durg sentenced a man to life imprisonment for killing his wife. Sessions Judge Sanjay Kumar Jaiswal convicted 44-year-old Adesh Bansod of Naya Amapara, Durg on Friday. Suspecting her fidelity, he hammered his wife to death.

Public Prosecutor Balmukund Chandrakar informed that the accused Adesh Bansod was married to Sujata Bansod about 12 years ago. Adesh worked at an eye glass shop. Suspecting her fidelity, he often quarrelled with his wife. On September 20, 2020, he had dinner with the family members and then moved to his room. Around midnight, he again quarrelled with his wife and later came out of the

room. He met his mother in the hall of his house and informed her that he had injured Sujata with a hammer.

Shocked mother started screaming after which other members of the family woke up and Sujata was rushed to the hospital. Meanwhile, Adesh escaped from the spot. On the other hand, Sujata was referred to Raipur for better treatment where he succumbed on September 21. The family lodged an FIR at Mohan Nagar Police Station.

After trial, the Sessions Court found the accused guilty and awarded jail term for section 302 of IPC under which the accused was tried. He was sentenced to life imprisonment and Rs 5000 fine under section 302 of IPC, informed Public Prosecutor Balmukund Chandrakar.

## State govt consistently promoting the culture of Chhattisgarh: CM

- Baghel attends the Nacha Mahotsava at Nikum

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 02:** On Sunday, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel reached village Nikumbh of Durg Rural Assembly Constituency under his state wide 'Bhent-Mulaqat Abhiyan'. Baghel attended the state-level Nacha Gammat Festival which was organised to commemorate Late Dau Ramchandra Deshmukh.

It was the last day of the three-day dance festival. Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu and Forest Minister Mohammad



Akbar were also present.

CM said that the theme based on 'lack of education' was presented very beautifully. Congratulating the organizing committee, he said that Late Dr Ramchandra Deshmukh revived the culture of the state. He said that Deshmukh promoted the state's culture throughout the country and abroad

by participating in cultural programs and training. Consistent efforts are being made by the state government to promote the culture of Chhattisgarh.

Local holidays have been announced for festivals like Hareli, World Tribal Day, Karma Jayanti, Chherchera etc. Chhattisgarhiya Olympic Games were also



organized in which 26 lakh contestants participated. A provision of Rs 25 crore has also been made for prize distribution to the participants.

The Chief Minister also announced an incentive of Rs 10,000 each to the dance committees and said a discussion should be held to improve their economic

condition. He said that farmers are 'Annadata' for us. Chhattisgarh is the only state in the country where farmers are being provided the 'highest price' for paddy including input subsidy and support price. Paddy procurement capacity on support price is being increased from 15 quintals to 20 quintals from the next procure-

ment season. He also discussed other schemes like Bhumiheen Krishi Majdoor Nyay Yojana. On this occasion, he honored Padma Shri awardee Domar Singh Kunwar and Deepak Taram with mementos and also released the book named "Chet Karo Tan Ke".

Local MLA and state's Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister for the remarkable work done for the development of the area. Durg District Guardian Minister Mohammad Akbar, former MLA Pratima Chandrakar, office bearers of Chhattisgarh Nacha Gammat Samiti, public representatives and local people were present.

## BSP concludes 2022 23 with record breaking performances



Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 02:** Bhilai Steel Plant concluded the fiscal year 2022-23 with best ever Finished Steel production and best ever production and loading of Saleable Steel. The Plant's Rolling Mills together produced 4.43 million tonnes (MT) of Finished Steel in 22-23, surpassing previous best production of 3.78 MT recorded FY 2021-22, thereby registering a growth of around 18.2% over last FY. The Plant recorded its best ever Saleable Steel production of 4.82 MT and best ever loading of 4.77 MT of saleable steel in 22-23, surpassing previous best figures of 4.66 MT and 4.70 MT, respectively, in last FY 21-22.

Blast Furnace 8 recorded its highest production of 2.53 MT of hot metal as against previous best of 2.47 MT in FY 21-22. While Sinter Plant 3 has recorded its best ever figure of 5.43 MT of sinter, surpassing its previous best record of 5.26 MT, the two sinter plants together have surpassed best ever financial year record of 7.89 MT recorded in previous FY 2021-22 by cumulatively producing 8.02 MT in FY 22-23. Steel Melting Shop 3 surpassed its best ever financial year crude steel production of 2.72 MT recorded in previous FY 2021-22 by recording cumulative

cast steel production of 3.06 million tonnes. This included best ever cast billet production of 1.87 MT and cast blooms production of 1.18 MT.

In the crucial area of rails production, Universal Rail Mill and Rail & Structural Mill combined to produce 1.2 MT of prime rails. Total prime rail production by URM at 7.94 lakh tonnes has been the best ever as against previous best of 6.29 lakh tonnes in 20-21. While long rail production of 7.56 lakh tonnes by URM is the best ever, the Rail & Strl Mill too has surpassed its best ever long rail dispatch record of 1,45,867 T in FY 2016-17.

The long rail component of production by both URM and Rail & Strl Mill has also increased substantially with total long rail production at 9.10 lakh tonnes and total long rail loading at 9.38 lakh tonnes, as against previous best figures of 7.0 lakh tonnes and 7.36 lakh tonnes, respectively in FY 2020-21. The Plant dispatched as many as 1000 rakes of long rails to Indian Railways in FY 22-23. Bar & Rod Mill recorded its best ever production of 8.38 lakh tonnes, surpassing previous best record of 7.18 lakh tonnes in FY 21-22. RMP 3 recorded its best ever production of 4.95 lakh tonnes, surpassing the previous best record of 4.04 lakh tonnes in FY 21-22.

## Baghel announces SAGES, Colleges, ITI, PHC, Sports Academy, etc for Durg Rural

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Apr 02:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel reached village Purai in Durg district on Sunday as part of his state wide Bhent Mulaqat campaign. He inaugurated and performed Bhumi-poojan of various development works worth Rs 78 crore. He also distributed materials to the beneficiaries through various schemes of the government. He also announced Rs 5 lakh for the installation of the statue of Martyr Lokesh Sahu.

Chief Minister Baghel said that all sections are getting benefits from government schemes. Through the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, the government is giving bonus to the farmers along with purchasing their produce at a fair price. He garlanded and lit the lamps in front of the portrait of Chhattisgarh Mahatma after which the programme commenced with Raigee. During interaction with the Chief Minister, a villager Urvasi Chandrakar of Risama said that she has half an acre of land and her agricultural loan of Rs 20000

has been waived off under the loan waiver scheme. Ramesh Kumar Gajpal said that till now he has sold paddy worth Rs 1.25 lakh and bought a harvester. Farmer Toshani Kumar Sahu said that he has sold 120 quintals of paddy and his loan of Rs 26,000 was waived off. He informed the Chief Minister that now by selling 20 quintals of paddy per acre, he would get an additional profit of Rs 5000. Thaneshwar Sahu narrated his self-composed poem to the Chief Minister. Thaneshwar thanked the Chief Minister for installing the statue in the name of Martyr Mukesh Sahu.

Devendra Kumar Vaishnav of village Rasmada said that Rasmada is an industrial area and there is no agricultural land. He added that the industrial groups are not giving them jobs. Chief Minister Baghel took information in this regard from the Collector and the officer of the District Trade and Industry Center. Officials informed the Chief Minister that so far 1037 people have got employment in the district. A beneficiary Nomin Sahu said



that there are 5 members in his house and they are getting rice, sugar and salt through Ration Card. Advitiya Nirankari, a Class 10 student of Swami Atmanand English Medium School, thanked the Chief Minister for opening SAGES and said that his family got relief from expensive school fees as they had to earlier pay Rs 80000 as school fees.

When the CM asked about the Hatbazar Clinic scheme, Rashi Banjare of village Utai said that she has got health benefits from this scheme. A girl Shashi informed the Chief Minister that her brother has been selected in Ambikapur through the NEET exam. She said that their



financial condition is not good and they need financial assistance for her brother's studies. Praising Shashi, the Chief Minister announced financial assistance of Rs 2.5 lakh. The Chief Minister directed the concerned officer to provide benefits of government schemes to the disabled girl Hansika. On being asked about Chief Minister Suposhan Yojana, Saraswati said that her son Lakshya was physically challenged. Under the Suposhan Yojana, both mother and child are now healthy due to regular availability of hot milk, bananas and nutritious food items in Anganwadi.

During the programme, the Chief

Minister made announcements for a new college for arts, commerce and science faculty and upgradation of primary health center from 30 beds to 50 beds in village Nagpura. New ITI will be started in the village Rasmada. Primary health center will be opened in village Anjora (B). Sports academy (including swimming and khokho) will be opened in village Purai. 08 additional rooms will be constructed in Government College Utai.

Government High Schools of Maroda, Kuthrel, Birejhar and Hanoda will be upgraded to Government Higher Secondary Schools. New Higher Secondary

Schools will be opened in village-Khopli and village- Mundera. Sanction will be given for construction work in high school building village Ruda. Swami Atmanand English medium school will be opened in village Puren and village Katro. Swami Atmanand Hindi medium school will be started in Powwara village.

Government Higher Secondary School building will be constructed in Matwari and Umarpoti villages. Manglik Bhavan will be constructed for all the samajs. New school building will be constructed for Government Higher Secondary School, Purai. One kilometer road widening will be done from Anganwadi center number one to Pauha Talab. The road will be widened from Anganwadi center number one to Powwara turn or a bypass road will be constructed. Commercial complex will be constructed in the old panchayat building complex. New veterinary dispensaries will be opened in villages Puraina, Rasmada, Machandur, Kolihapuri and Katro.



# Cong to organize series of programmes under 'Jai Bharat Satyagraha'

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Apr 02:** Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress in-charge Kumari Selja held a meeting of the monitoring committee of 'Jai Bharat Satyagraha' at Rajiv Bhavan in Raipur on Sunday. PCC Chief Mohan Markam, in-charge secretary Chandan Yadav and joint secretary Vijay Jangid were present at the meeting.

'Jai Bharat Satyagraha' has been launched by AICC and a committee of experienced people has been formed to monitor programmes to be organized under it, she said. The programmes to be organized in the entire state through the committee have to be closely monitored, she said.



In case of any shortcoming, steps should be taken to overcome it, she said, adding that focus should be laid on making the programmes successful. It has to be ensured that work is done everywhere, in every area, block and district, she emphasised.

The committee must have the list of responsible office bearers of all districts and blocks, she said,

adding that the treatment meted out to Rahul Gandhi is strangulation of democracy.

Instructing the committee, Kumari Selja said that campaign should be run against Modi Government's 'dictatorial' policies through press conferences, 'mashal rallies' and Nukkad Sabha (street corner meetings) in villages and towns under Jai

Bharat Satyagraha. It should be promoted through social media and social campaign should also be launched. She also asked to start 'daro-mat-concert'. On April 14, she asked to observe 'Savidhan Bachao diwas' and in April end would organised state-level rally and hold 'fast' on one-day before Gandhi's statue in all district.

In this state-level Jai Satyagrah Andolan, monitoring committee meeting, MLA Satyanarayan Sharma, general secy Ravi Ghosh, coordinator-Gurumukh Singh Hora, members- Rajendra Tiwari, Sumitra Dhritlahare, Su Suhil Anand Shukla, Ajay Sahu, control room co-ordinator Mahendra Chabda, Salam Rizvi were present.

## WALK-FOR-CAUSE



A 'walk for cause' was organised for 'zero tolerance crime against women' from Telibandha Chowk (Marie Drive) to Jaistambh Chowk and was participated by women and men in large number.

## Two nabbed in three theft incidents



**Raipur, Apr 02:** In three theft incidents in Khamtarai area last month, the Khamtarai police managed to nab two accused including a minor for stealing household goods, food items and electrical goods from abandoned houses last month. Three persons lodged complaint in Khamtarai thana last month including Roopnarayan Burman of Urukura Khamtarai of theft in his house on March 5 and stealing of LED TV, Indane Gas cylinders, Tata Sky set-top box etc cash and jewellery. Another by Girwar Sahu of

Mathpara-Urukura, Khamtarai for theft on Feb 19 and he came to know about it on his return on March 21 and items like Ceiling Fan, TV, induction and 2 Indane LPG cylinders and another by Hemlata Sahu of Mathpara Urukura, Khamtarai on March 22 with stolen household goods and food items from her house.

Khamtarai police checked all CCTV footage and with tips from informer nabbed one Mohan Gaharwal along with 2 other minors involved in the crime and accepted his crime.

## State govt patronising those looting money of poor: Sao

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Apr 03:** Chhattisgarh BJP state president Arun Sao has made a scathing attack on Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. If Bhupesh is there, then the corrupt have the confidence of being saved, he said adding that this slogan is for the corrupt. Addressing a press conference held at BJP State Office in Ekatma Parisar here today he charged the state government with patronising those looting the money of the poor people.

According to reports, the ED has written a letter to the state government in the past, asking it to take action against the officers close to CM Baghel including Soumya Chaurasia and IAS Sameer Vishnoi, he said, adding that Soumya Chaurasia, who is in jail on serious charges, is still the Deputy Secretary



in the Chief Minister's Secretariat. 'If you look at the website of CMO Chhattisgarh, Soumya is Deputy Secretary in it', he said.

'At the same time, quoting government sources, it was published long ago that all the accused including Soumya and Vishnoi have been suspended. Today ED has to write a letter for action, but what is the compulsion that Bhupesh is not able to muster the courage to suspend those facing charges, what is the secret that the CM is

afraid of getting exposed?' he said.

Questioning the Chief Minister, he asked him to clarify whether Soumya Chaurasia has been suspended or she continues in her post even today.

As seen in CMO's portal? If she continues in this post even today and it was published from government sources that the accused have been suspended, then it is straight 'Breach of Trust'. The Congress government has created a 'trust deficit', he said adding that Chief Minister has betrayed and violated the 'oath' taken for the Constitution.

'Chief Minister should tell what action has been taken so far against the accused officers who are in jail due to the action of ED / IT / CBI.

If you haven't taken action then why? What action was taken in such cases, which defamed

Chhattisgarh across the country, how many SITs were formed?' he asked'.

Sao said that Rs 5 thousand crore were seized by the ED during the UPA regime, while Rs 1 lakh 10 thousand crore were recovered during the NDA rule and not even 5% of that belonged to political people. It is wrong to allege that the ED only takes action against the opposition, he said.

A total of 5,906 cases are currently registered under money laundering, out of which only 176 i.e. only 2.98 percent cases are against people associated with politics and 97.02 percent of the cases are such that they are not related to the leaders, he said.

BJP state general secretary Kedar Kashyap, state media in-charge Amit Chimmani and state spokesman Deepak Mahaske were present at the press conference.

## RMC collects over Rs 2 cr in a single day

**Raipur, Apr 02:** The online mode of payment of property tax has become popular among the residents given the collection of property tax amounting to Rs 2 crore 20 lakh 97 thousand 334 from taxpayers in a single day on March 31, at the end of the financial year of Raipur Municipal Corporation.

According to RMC officials two years ago 1600 receipt books were printed for tax and the tax slip used to have 200 pages in the form of acknowledgment and office copy. Wherein, two years back, 3 lakh 20 thousand receipts were printed. Two years back the POS machine was given to the revenue department of the RMC. Tax is being deposited by entering the details of the taxpayer in the POS machine. A small receipt is being given. The facility of paying tax is also available through online portal and



Mor Raipur app.

Last year some citizens demanded offline receipts. This year there was no demand for it. Out of 300 receipt books left two years ago, not even one was needed this year. People do not have to stand in long queues to make online payments. Payment is done just by swiping from the POS machine. Because of this people's precious time is also saved. At the same time, there is no need to go to the zone with the old receipt.

## No bigger donation than organ or body donation: PJF



### ● PJF organises discussion to create awareness

**Raipur, Apr 02:** In a discussion on organ and body donation organised by Param Jeevan Foundation (PJF) at 'Param Jeevanam' in Kamal Vihar, the objective was to apprise more and more people about the importance of body and organ donation, so that people get motivated for it. Delivering lecture on

importance of body donation in medical education, Dr Manisha Sinha informed that from a body donated to medical college, about 50 students learn about the anatomy and it helps in making them well-qualified and learned doctors. Dr Vinay Rathore, Nephrologist (AIIMS) giving information about Kidney donation informed that there is need for Kidney donation of about 2 lakh every year in India, but unfortunately only



5000 Kidney donation is made every year for Kidney transplant. The main reason behind it is lack of awareness, he added.

Ophthalmologist Dr Anil Gupta giving important information about eye donation informed that donation of eye can be made by a dead person only and other organs can be donated remaining alive as well. He said that eye-sight and view-point are both important for a happy life and in

this the most important and necessity is eye-donation.

Founder of Param Jeevanam Dr HP Sinha gave a logical explanation and rumours related to body and organ donation and also highlighted on the spiritual aspect. Dr Sinha further said that if any person makes a commitment to donate body, then from spiritual point of views he attains the very outcome which he probably might achieve after hard 'tapasya'. This is because this will is indicative of the fact that the person has achieved different experience from his own body and which is a long-jump in the spiritual journey. On this occasion Ajanta Choudhary, Indu Surana, Surendra Pal smartly conducted the programme and made it a grand success.

## Bhupesh targets Centre, says we will not give up

**Raipur, Apr 02:** Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress is staging 'Bharat Satyagraha' across the state in protest against Modi Government's 'anti people' and 'undemocratic' policies. Under this Satyagraha, Loktantra Bachao Mashal Shanti March' (save democracy torch peace march) was taken out from Old Congress Bhavan to Azad Chowk in the capital Raipur on Saturday.

Thousands of Congressmen reached near the Gandhi statue holding torches in their hands. Slogans were raised against the Modi government at the Center.

Congress state in-charge Kumari Selja said that Rahul Gandhi is the voice of the people. This is the first time in the coun-



try that it has become a crime to raise voice against the corrupt, dishonest and those who harm the property of the country, she said, adding that this is a fight to save the country.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that Congress is running campaign to save democracy. When the entire opposi-

tion is demanding an inquiry into 'Adani scam', why is the Modi government afraid of the inquiry and what is the fear of revelations from the investigation?, he asked. He alleged that Modi Government was trying to muzzle opposition voice.

PCC Chief Mohan Markam said that disqualification of Rahul

Gandhi's membership from parliament would neither cover Adani's scams nor would the Modi government be saved from the crime of patronizing fugitives like Nirav Modi, Lalit Modi, Mehul Chokse, Vijay Mallya. 'We are taking out torch rally to save democracy and we will continue to protest', he said.

## Three more state hospitals have received the NQCS certificate

### ● Sitapur CHC, Komakhan PHC, and Gopalpur UPHC have received NQCS certification from the Union Health Ministry

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Apr 02:** The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has awarded three more health centers in the state with National Quality Assurance Standard (NQAS - National Quality Assurance Standard) certificates for providing excellent healthcare and better treatment to patients. In the last month

of February, a team from the Union Health Ministry inspected these three hospitals and tested the quality of services available to patients. In this regard, the team took feedback from patients.

The Union Health Ministry has awarded the National Quality Assurance Standard Certificate to Sitapur Community Health Center in Surguja district, Komakhan Primary Health Center in Mahasamund and Gopalpur Urban Primary Health Center in Korba. Gopalpur Urban Primary Health Center got 89 percent, Komakhan Primary Health Center 85 percent

and Sitapur Community Health Center got 84 percent marks in the evaluation of the Health Ministry team.

It is worth noting that the hospital's services and satisfaction level are tested on various parameters by an expert team before being awarded the National Quality Assurance Standard Certificate. These parameters include available services, patient rights, inputs, support services, clinical services, infection control, quality management, and outcomes. The Union Health Ministry only issues quality certificates to hospitals that meet these stringent standards.

**Raipur, Apr 02:** Indian Institute of Management Raipur has witnessed emphatic success in the placements of 2023. With a batch size of 255 students in the second year, the institute secured 100% placements and the average CTC stood at Rs 21.04 LPA with a 19% increase from the previous year. A total of 107 companies visited among which 32 are new recruiters. The highest CTC was Rs 67.60 LPA with a 60% increase from the previous year. The median CTC was Rs 20.00 LPA with an 18% increase from last year. The top 10% had an average of Rs 34.64 LPA, the top 25% had Rs 28.25 LPA and the top 50% had Rs 24.77 LPA as the average CTC. The highest

number of students (32%) were recruited in Banking Financial Service and Insurance (BFSI) sector with an average CTC and maximum CTC of Rs 21.02 LPA and Rs 32.50 LPA, respectively. IT/ITES was the second-highest (23%) recruiting sector with Rs 21.29 LPA as average and a maximum CTC offered at Rs 43.43 LPA, followed by Strategy & Consulting (14%) recruited, Average of Rs 19.64 LPA and Highest Rs 32.21 LPA), FMCG/FMCD sector (12%) recruited, Average of Rs 21.78 LPA and Highest Rs 67.60 LPA), Manufacturing (12%) recruited, Average of Rs 22.39 LPA and Highest Rs 62.00 LPA), and Miscellaneous (7% recruit-

ed, Average of Rs 19.55 LPA and Highest Rs 25.50 LPA). The domain of Sales and Marketing had the highest (29%) number of students placed with an average CTC of 20.98 LPA and Highest CTC of Rs 67.60 LPA, followed by Analytics and Consulting (28%) recruited, Average of Rs 19.09 LPA and Highest of Rs 32.21 LPA), Operations and IT (20%) recruited, Average of Rs 23.00 LPA and Highest of Rs 43.43 LPA), Financial Management (12%) recruited, Average of Rs 20.87 LPA and Highest of Rs 32.50 LPA), General Management (11%) recruited, Average of Rs 22.94 LPA and Highest of Rs 62.00 LPA). The summer internship

placements also recorded new heights with an increase of 16% in the average stipend which stood at Rs 1.39 lakhs, and the highest stipend was Rs 3.50 lakhs. A total of 109 companies visited for summer placements and the batch of 328 first-year students received 100% placements. The median stipend was Rs 1.50 lakhs with a 50% increase from last year. The top 10% of students had an average stipend of Rs 2.79 lakhs, the top 25% had an average stipend of Rs 2.43 lakhs and the top 50% had Rs 2.11 lakhs as the average stipend.

Prof. Ram Kumar Kakani, the Director, said, "We are thrilled with the success of our students in

the placements, which is a testament to their hard work and the quality of education we provide. We will continue to strive towards excellence and prepare our students to become leaders in their respective fields". Prof. Parikshit Charan, Chairperson (Placements), said, "Our highlights reflect the dedication of our faculty, students, alumni, employers, and stakeholders at large who help create leaders who are prepared and energized to transform the business".

IIM Raipur is ranked 14th in NIRF (7th among IIMs) and one of the best new-generation IIMs set up in 2010. The institute is also the sole knowledge partner of Youth 20, 2023.



# CM praises works of Maharashtra Mandal in the field of social service

**Inaugurates its newly constructed building**

**Approves Rs 25 lakh for the expansion of facilities in the building**

**Raipur, Apr 02:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel today dedicated the newly built Maharashtra Mandal building in Raipur Choubey Colony. On the request of the Maharashtra Mandal office bearers, the Chief Minister also sanctioned Rs 25 lakh for the expansion of the building's facilities. The program began with a state song. Meanwhile, the Chief



Minister praised the work of Maharashtra Mandal in the field of social service, saying that it is recognized as an old organization working for public interest in Raipur. It has been in operation for 87 years. In the past, there was only the Maharashtra Mandal

social building in Raipur, which was used for a variety of events, including religious, cultural, and family gatherings, and is still remembered by many people.

He stated that Maharashtra's language, customs, and culture bene-

fit the entire country. Maharashtrian society contributes significantly in many fields, including cooperation, freedom movement, music, singing, and sports.

Member of Parliament from Raipur Lok Sabha constituency Sunil Soni, while addressing the program, praised the work being done in the field of social service and also approved Rs.5 lakh from the MP fund. MLA of Raipur South and former minister Brijmohan Agarwal, President of Maharashtra Mandal Ajay Kale and office bearers addressed the program. Office bearers and members of Maharashtra Mandal were present on the occasion.

**Birth anniv of Emperor Ashoka celebrated**



**Kondagaon, Apr 02:** Baba Saheb Seva Sanstha (BSSS) Kondagaon celebrates Emperor Ashoka's birth anniversary every year. On this occasion, Baba Saheb Sewa Sanstha garlanded the portrait of Emperor Ashoka and lighted the traditional lamp. The members of the Sanstha shed light on his biography and through the office bearers expressed their thoughts on renowned Emperor Ashoka for human society and world peace during his reign. The noble works done for public welfare were remembered.

On this occasion, the organization, President, K.P. Godane, Secretary Markandey, Ramesh Poyam, Devanand Chaur, Hitendra Kumar Srivas and other members were present.

## First Lady of state inaugurates health camp



**Organised on the occasion of 'Utkal Diwas'**

**Raipur, Apr 02:** First Lady of the state Suprabha Harichandan today inaugurated the health check-up camp at Shri Jagannath Temple premise Gayatri Nagar. This health camp was organized under the joint aegis of Shri Jagannath Seva Samiti and Utkal Cultural Council on the occasion of Utkal Diwas. On the occasion, the first lady

S. Harichandan visited Mahaprabhu Jagannath, offered prayers and extended the greetings of Utkal Diwas to the people present in the premises. She also appreciated this pious initiative of Shri Jagannath Seva Samiti. At the inaugural program, first lady Mrs. Suprabha Harichandan honored the doctors certificates and mementos for their services at the free health camp.

It is noteworthy that specialist doctors from Chhattisgarh and Odisha are rendering their services

at this health camp organized on the occasion of Utkal Diwas. In the camp, mainly Gynaecology, Kidney, Department of Medicine, Dental, Bone and many specialist doctors including nose, ear, throat will provide free tests and consultations. On this occasion, Shri Purandar Mishra of Shri Jagannath Seva Samiti and President of Utkal Cultural Council, Dr K.K. Bhoi urged maximum number of people to take advantage of the free health camp.

## Yuva Congress take out torch rally



**Against the policies of central govt**

**Kondagaon, Apr 02:** A torch rally was organized in Shaam Nagar on Friday against the central government's dictatorial attitude. It started from Congress Bhawan and reached Jaistambh Chowk. While addressing the media, Youth Congress district president Pitambar Nag charged the

BJP government and the Modi-led government at the Centre of trying to suppress the voice of democracy. Rahul Gandhi's Lok Sabha membership was cancelled due to exposing the relationship between PM Modi and Adani. DCC President Zumuk Lal Dewan, District Panchayat President Devchand Matlam, City President Tarun Golchha, Block President Bharat Devangan, Tabassum

Bano State Secretary Sukbati Markam State Secretary Media Incharge Ritesh Patel, Kapil Chopra Spokesperson Shilpa Devangan, Hema Devangan City Women's Congress Chairman Kondagaon Municipality Chairman, Varsha Yadav Councillor, Shanti Pandey Lalita Netam, Pritibhadoria City Spokesperson Gunamati Nayak East Councillor Kondagaon Assembly President Ritesh Gupta, Keshkal Assembly President Sanjay Markam, District Vice President Aman Sagar, Vice President Priyansh Chauhan, Pratiksha Sajal, Geetesh Baghel, Rakesh Kunjam, Dayashankar Markam, Sunil Korram, Dinesh Netam and a large number of DCC and YC members were present.

## Hawan ceremony held at DAVPS Bacheli



**Bacheli, Apr 02:** The Hawan ceremony was conducted in DAV Public School Bacheli, on April 2 to seek the grace and choicest blessings of God for the new academic session 2023-2024.

The Hawan was performed religiously under the divine fervour and spirituality. Hawan in-charge Bivash Paul conveyed the message that, "Hawan is performed for

the serenity of the soul and for the pious environment". Teachers and students participated in the Hawan with utmost devotion and respect. Principal Dr Chetna Sharma showered her blessings on the students and guided them to work with dedication and determination and grab the bright future that awaits them. Panchamrit was distributed to all those present.

## CCSC becomes 'The First Choice Of Students'

**Bilaspur, Apr 02:** Chouksey College Of Science And Commerce (CCSC) remains the first choice for the students for undergraduate courses after the completion of Chhattisgarh board of secondary education and C.B.S.E. Examinations. Chouksey College Of Science And Commerce Bilaspur is affiliated to Atal Bihari Vajpayee University, Bilaspur.

Chouksey College Of Science And Commerce has a glorious past. This college is running 23 years successfully, under the Chouksey Group of Colleges, which has been making concerted efforts for the bright future of the students for last 5 years. not only its luxurious building but also the high education quality has been exemplified by

the students. The courses offered in the college are B.A., B.Com., (Computer Application), B.Sc. (Bio), B.Sc. (Biotechnology), M.Sc. (Botany), & PGDCA are also being run from the very beginning in the college, attention is being given to the all-round development of the student with basic facilities under which employment-oriented courses for career building, dual courses are being provided to that students can establish new records in higher education as well as in the field of sports.

For the last 5 years in the college the result of students has been 100 percent, in which Khushi Tiwari got 87.17% in B.Com 1st Year, J.Vijay Kumar got 86.83% in B.Com. 2nd year & Anushka Sing Chouhan

got first position with 89.67% in B.Com Final year.

Students who are studying in the college are achieving new heights in the field of education as well as sports, in which mainly Fiza Bano, in B.Com represented at the international level in karate competition, as well as Ujjwal Singh, R.K.Venella, Shashank Giri Goswami, Apoorva Singh Thakur, Y Balvardhan, Nazir Hussain, Nida Fatima, Upasna Chaurasia, Akanksha Gupta. Nancy Nilima etc. have made the college proud by showing their phenomenal sports talent at college and university level.

PSC Coaching is provided by the college to all the students various workshops, seminars, we-

binars and cultural programs are organized from time to time in the institution for the overall development of the students. Along with education by the organization, NSS and NCC students are motivated to serve the country and society through the unit of NSS. The qualities of social concern are developed through the camp. for the higher intellectual development of students, various environment camps and placements of multinational companies, the students of the college have achieved new heights daily and are doing jobs in various international companies

Chouksey College Of Science And Commerce is the only degree college in Bilaspur division which provides campus place-

ment facility to its students. Last year and this year more than 30 students were selected in various national and international companies through campus placements in which mainly Md.Rafiq In Just dial, Disha Sahu in HDFC Life, Panap Kumar in HDFC Life, Shriram Pandey in HDFC Life, Harsh kurrey (B.Com), Savi Jaiswal, Deepak Sahu and Amit Maurya (PGDCA) in HDFC Life, Suruchi Mishra and Anjali Sahu (B.Sc.) have been selected in HDFC Bank & ICICI. Keeping in view the demand of the students and the need of the current curriculum, new courses are being started in the college so that students can make themselves successful in the current scenario.

## Collector awards certificates to children

**Of Navodaya Vidyalaya**

**Kondagaon, Apr 02:** Collector Deepak Soni on Friday inspected the local Navodaya Vidyalaya and reviewed the arrangements and directed to complete the necessary repair work in the building including the construction of the building's boundary wall as soon as possible. During this time he met the children of class 9th and asked about their studies and other constructive activities and said that they will go to class 10th next year and participate in the Board examination. He asked them to focus keeping the same in their mind. During this the Principal of Navodaya Vidyalaya Sanjay Kumar Singh welcomed the present mem-



bers and presented the school report. At the same time, he informed about the requirements of the school.

During this time, the meritorious students of the school, along with the children who achieved remarkable achievements in sports and other creative activities, were encouraged by giving them mementos and certificates.

Deputy Collector Ankit Chauhan, Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. RK Singh, District Punishment Officer Ashok Patel, Executive Engineer Rural Mechanical Service Arun Sharma along with Public Works, Municipal Council Officers and School Management Committee members were present in the meeting.

## Termination of 11 medical officers for prolonged absence

**Absence period of 5 medical officers declared as dies non**

**Two medical officers get chance to give clarification within 15 days**

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Apr 02:** The Health Department has taken action to terminate the services of 11 medical officers who were absent for more than three years. Two medical officers have been given the last opportunity to give clarification within 15 days.

Departmental inquiry was initiated against a total of 24 medical offi-

cers who were unauthorizedly absent. The absence period of five medical officers who were unauthorizedly absent was declared as dies non. A separate departmental order has been issued by the department on last February 7, terminating the service of six medical officers and disposing of their absence period under Basic Rule 17 'A' and Rule 27 of the Pension Rules, 1976.

The hearing of the case was fixed on December 1, 2022, giving a reasonable opportunity to the remaining 13 medical officers to explain the reasons for their absence by the department. But none of these 13 medical officers appeared in the hearing nor was any represen-

tation made by them. Out of these Medical Officers, 11 Medical Officers are absent for more than three years and two Medical Officers for less than three years. It has been decided by the State Government to terminate the service against 11 absent medical officers for being absent for more than three years and to institute departmental inquiry on those absent for less than three years and to extend the period if they are under probation.

Among 11 medical officers whose services have been terminated are Dr Sumit Solanki, Medical Officer, 10-bed hospital Nava Raipur, Dr Dharemdra Kumar, Medical Officer, District

Hospital Kabirdham, Dr Riddhi Arora, Medical Officer, District Hospital Durg, Dr Surendra Kumar Sistu, Medical Officer, District Hospital Durg, Dr Chhavi Jangde, Medical Officer, District Hospital Bemetara, Dr Parul Jogi, Medical Officer, Community Health Centre Masturi, Dr Tanya Mishra, Medical Officer, 50-bed MCH, Dr Sharda Parihar, Medical Officer, District Hospital Mungeli, Dr Shaba Parvin, Medical Officer, District Hospital Surajpur, Dr Dhananjay Prasad Sahu, Medical Officer Community Health Centre Sonhat and Dr Kamal Kumar Dahire, Medical Officer, Community Health Centre, Farsabhar.

## Socio-economic survey 2023 started in the district

**Bemetara, Apr 02:** After the announcement of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, the Chhattisgarh Socio-Economic Survey-2023 has started in the rural areas of Chhattisgarh including Bemetara district from Saturday 1 April. Collector Padum Singh Elma inspected the survey work being done in Amora, Bijabhat and Jewri villages of the district. During the inspection, the Collector discussed with the enumerator teams and observed the form prescribed for the survey. He instructed the enumerator teams to conduct error-free survey with utmost seriousness.

Mitanin and the supervisor doing the survey during the survey informed the Collector about the problems being faced in the survey. On which the Collector gave guidance regarding house

numbering, family number more than four; age in Aadhaar card and present age and ration card. He gave necessary instructions regarding the responsibility of ward panchs for the survey, numbering of houses, process of survey, mobile app, online entry in the portal and manual entry. He also appealed to the villagers to cooperate in the survey work. Government officials/employees having technical knowledge are included in the survey team. For this, training of enumerators and supervisors of Chhattisgarh Socio-Economic Survey 2023 has also been given. For this, all the preparations had already been completed by the district administration. For this, teams have gone door-to-door and engaged in survey work and are collecting data.

The Collector asked the

survey team to inform people about the usefulness of this survey campaign that the data obtained will be used for better implementation of schemes and formulation of new schemes in the coming days and the beneficiaries who have been deprived of benefits due to any reasons will be covered. Such beneficiaries will get full benefits of schemes according to their eligibility.

For the Socio-Economic Survey 2023 in the district, 145 supervisors, 1021 enumeration teams have been formed in 694 villages of 429 gram panchayats of four district panchayats. For whose inspection, co-ordination and supervision, a total of 22 district level supervisors and 49 cluster coordinators have been appointed. After their training the survey work was started from today. District level trouble shooter has been appointed

ed for proper solution of the difficulties faced in the survey app.

On the first day of the survey in the district, District Panchayat CEO and Deputy Director Panchayat inspected the socio-economic survey work in village Bijabhat, Jewri of Janpad Panchayat Bemetara. During the inspection, enumerators were given observation and advice regarding house number marking, inspection for survey, discussion with family, filling of survey form from survey process app, etc. District Panchayat CEO Leena Mandavi, Deputy Collector Bhupendra Joshi, Heera Governa, Pinky Manhar, Tehsildar Bemetara Roshan Sahu along with Mitani, Amba workers, supervisors and members of the enumeration team were present during the inspection



# Spl backward tribe Kamar inhabited villages dig river bed for drinking water

# Massive 'Shobha Yatra' marks Ramnavami

- Walk several kms for drinking water
- No water sources in village

Sheikh Hasan Khan / Ramakrishna Dhruva

**Mainpur, Apr 02:** 75 years of independence have been completed and the whole country is still celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav of independence, but who would believe that there is acute drinking water crisis in about a dozen Paratola villages on top of the hill in Gariaband district's tribal development block Mainpur area.

For this the villagers have to travel miles on foot and moreover, due to the non-installation of handpumps in these villages, the villagers can be seen arranging water drop by drop from the dried up river bed and struggling for water the whole day. It is not that the



Villagers digging river bed in search of water.

concerned officials of PHE are not aware about this water crisis.

Every time when they hear about this problem from the villagers they assure of making available water by digging borewells but all these remain hollow promises. In 1985 then PM Late Rajiv Gandhi had reached Kulhadighat and all these villages in discussion fall under the jurisdiction of Kulhadighat Village Panchayat. The crisis continues even today with no

solution to this problem.

In March itself, a severe problem of drinking water has arisen in the villages of the tribal development block Mainpur area of Gariaband district, about 30 km from Tehsil headquarter Mainpur. Rural chiefs living in far away villages, Sukaduram Kamar, Suklal Kamar, Dharamsingh Kamar, Puneet Ram Soori, Lilaram, Charan Singh, Paan Singh, Piluram Soori, Amarsingh,



Villagers walking kms to fetch water.

Dhansingh, Chaitibai, Itwarin, Phoolbati, Rambai, Chandni Bai, Sanobai told that there is a serious problem of drinking water in the village.

**Even after 75 years of independence, a hand pump could not be installed in Dadipani**

Even after 75 years of independence, a hand pump could not be installed in Dadipani, a dependent village of Dabnai Gram Panchayat of Mainpur development block, Tarajhar,

Kurvapani, Matal, a dependent village of Kulhadighat. The villagers here arrange for water by digging a water source on the river bed of Baroh Maah river from one and a half kilometers away.

Many a times they have tired of giving applications to officers in problem solving camps, district level camps, but the villagers are bearing the brunt of the apathetic attitude of the responsible officers of the Public Health Engineering Department.

## What officials say

BS Yadav, Sub Engineer PHE Gariabandh said that survey has been done by the department to provide drinking water in hilly villages like Tarajhar, Kurwapani, Dadipani in Mainpur development block, but due to lack of budget, there is a problem in digging of hand pump.

## What does sarpanch say

Gram Panchayat Kulhadighat Sarpanch Dhanmati Sori said that these days there is a serious problem of drinking water in villages Tarajhar, Matal, Kurwapani, situated on top of the hill. The villagers are digging dry river bed to get water. Have informed the officials of the department about this problem.

- Tableau of Lord Shri Ram taken out; slogans raised in favour of 'Jai Shri Ram'



Central Chronicle News

**Birkoni, Apr 02:** On occasion of Ramnavami in Gram Birkoni, a massive Shobha Yatra was taken out from the Ramjanaki Mandir.

Prior to this Yatra, Acharya Laxminarayan Vaishnav offered 'Shahi Snan' to idol of Lord Shri Ram and paid obolations.

After this the idol of Lord Shri Ram was seated in a tableau and the Shobha Yatra was started from the Ram Mandir Chowk.

It passed through Sahu para, Chandi gate, Babaspur road to Bhatapara, Gouri-Goura Chowk, Saraswati Chowk, Subhash Chowk, Bazar Chowk amidst beating of religious tunes by the band and raising of slogans by the people in favour of 'Jai Shri Ram' and 'Hindu Ekta ki Jai'.

In this 'Shobha Yatra', the children, youth, women took part in large number. The tableau of Lord Shri Ram was the centre of attraction and during this the devotees carried Saffron coloured flag in their hand while walking.

This Shobha Yatra was welcomed at different places and the people offered prayers and busted fire-crackers as well. The Shobha Yatra concluded by flashing a massive saffron coloured flag at Ram Janaki Mandir.

# CLSA comes to rescue of lost woman

- Runites her with family members

Central Chronicle News

**Bilaspur/Raipur, Apr 02:** Motibai, a woman who lived in Ramnagar, Una district, Somanath, Gujarat and was around 55 years old, left her home a month or two ago to attend a wedding of an acquaintance. She ended up getting lost and wandered 1761 kilometers away to Kanker district in Chhattisgarh.

The Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority received information about her arrival in Kanker; and directed the authority to safely send her back to her home. The Chhattisgarh State Legal Services

Authority (CLSA), on the instructions of the Secretary, Anand Prakash Wariyal, contacted the woman who was staying at the Sakhi one Stop Center in Kanker and found out her address and son's mobile number. The Kanker district administration was also instructed to assist the Sakhi Center in providing necessary care for the woman.

The State Legal Services Authority had a telephonic conversation with the son of the woman in question. She informed that she drives an auto-rickshaw while her father works as a daily wage laborer. Due to financial constraints, they are unable to make the journey to fetch Motibai by changing trains twice and traveling by bus, and also



confirmed that her mother was missing and was believed to be in Kanker, Chhattisgarh.

The State Legal Services Authority instructed the woman police constable to be made available to facilitate the police inspector of

Kanker to bring the woman back to her home. On the request of the District Judge Yogesh Parik of Kanker, the woman was safely brought to Raipur.

Where she was provided with food and accommodation on the directions of

District Judge Santosh Sharma of Raipur by the District Legal Services Authority. The woman was then escorted with the constables by a reserved train from Raipur to Ahmedabad and then from Ahmedabad to Somnath, after which she was safely taken to her home in the village of Una, where her husband, son, and family members had arrived to receive her.

The family was overjoyed on Motibai's safe arrival. In this way, with the joint efforts of the State Legal Services Authority, the District Legal Services Authority of Kanker and Raipur, the woman was reunited with her family.

Anand Prakash Wariyal, the Member Secretary of the Chhattisgarh State

Legal Services Authority in Bilaspur, had a telephone conversation with Motibai, her husband, and son. He instructed them to take care of Motibai. He informed Executive Chairman that Moti Bai has safely reached her home.

The Executive Chairman, Justice Gautam Bhaduri, expressed his satisfaction and directed the Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority to continue with their efforts to reach out to the separated and missing people, and reunite with their families. Under the "Campaign Umeed" initiative, the Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority has so far provided shelter to 50 missing persons.

# ABVP burns effigy of Congress

**Jagdalpur, Apr 02:** A torch rally was organized by Congressmen on March 31 at Bastar district headquarters. In which a large number of minor children of educational campuses were included in the rally for Congress leaders in their show of strength. Varun Sahni, District Convener of ABVP Bastar said that in Congress's torch rally, the minor students studying in class 9th and 11th living in Nehru

Hostel of Jagdalpur were included in the torch rally. Spirit and other chemicals were being used to light the torch in the torch rally, during which the faces and bodies of two children got badly burnt due to the explosion of the chemical. Presently the examination of those injured students is also going on. In such a situation, who will take responsibility for the future of those injured students?

<b>RELIANCE</b> Asset Reconstruction	<b>Reliance Asset Reconstruction Co. Ltd.</b> Regd. Office: 11th Floor, North Side, R-Tech Park, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East), Mumbai 400 083.
<b>DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002</b>	
The below mentioned borrowers availed various credit facilities from Indian Overseas Bank. As borrowers have failed to maintain the financial discipline, the loan account has been classified as non-performing assets (NPA) by Indian Overseas Bank on 31.03.2017 for both loan accounts in accordance with the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India. Indian Bank vide Assignment Agreement dated 30.03.2022 assigned the financial assets of following borrowers along with all its right, title and interest together with all underlying security interests in favor of Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company Limited trustee of RARC 068 Trust.	
Pursuant to said assignment the undersigned authorized officer in exercise of powers conferred u/s 13(2) of the said Act r/w Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had sent the demand notices dated 06.03.2023 through registered post, thereby calling upon the borrowers to repay the entire outstanding mentioned in said notices with further interest thereon within a period of 60 days from the date of Notice. However, as demand notices could not be served some of the parties mentioned below, the same is hereby served upon the borrowers by way of alternative mode of service.	
<b>Details are as follows: -</b>	
<b>Name &amp; Add of Borrower/ Guarantors/Mortgagors etc.</b>	<b>Amount Outstanding (Rs.)</b>
<b>1.Mr Karan Enterprises (Borrower)</b> At JM Sharma Complex, Station Road, Tilda, P.O- Neora, District- Raipur-493114	Rs.10,56,572.17 (In Words Rupees Ten Lakhs Fifty-Six Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-Two and Paise Seventeen Only) For Loan Account No 232303381500002 & Rs. 19,61,456.83 (In Words Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Sixty-One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Six and Paise Eighty-Three Only) For Loan Account No 232302000001006
<b>2.Mr Sachin Sharma (Proprietor &amp; Mortgagor)</b> At House No 70, Ward No 4, Gurugrhast Das Ward, Tilda, Neora, Raipur-493114	outstanding as on 28.02.2023 with future interest at the rate of 10.85% p.a. thereon till the date of realization, within a period of sixty (60) days from the date of this notice.
<b>Details of Secured Movable/Immovable Properties: Primary Security-</b> Hypothecation of stock & Book debts stored of to be stored from time to time at the premises of Mr Karan Enterprises at JM Sharma Complex, Station Road, Tilda, P.O- Neora, District- Raipur-493114.	
<b>Collateral Security :</b> All that part and parcel of divert land area admeasuring 3371 Square Feet at Ward No 16, Shitala Mata Ward, P.H No 18, Sheet No 2, Khasra No 146/11 (Part) Tehsil Tilda, District Raipur and owned by Mr Sachin Sharma.	
<b>Boundaries :</b> On or towards the East Open Road, On or towards the West Open Road, On or towards the North House of Bauram Nishad, On or towards the South Land of the seller	
In case of failure to repay the aforesaid entire outstanding amount within a period of 60 days, the undersigned shall be constrained to enforce the above secured assets under the provisions of SARFAESI Act.	
Please note that as per Section 13 (13) of the said Act, you are restrained from dealing with or transferring any of the secured assets referred to herewith, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise. Any contravention of this provision is an offence and punishable under SARFAESI Act.	
Place: Raipur Date: 03-04-2023	Sd/- Authorized Officer Reliance Asset Reconstruction Co. Ltd.

# 'Kanya Bhoj' and 'Jwara Visarjan' celebrated with great fanfare

- At Maa Satbaniya Dai temple

Central Chronicle News

**Bilaspur, Apr 02:** In the 100 year old temple located in Chandi Chowk Kududand Bilaspur, both the festivals of Sharadiya Navratri and Chaitra Navratri were celebrated with great pomp. On the auspicious occasion of Ram Navami and Durga Navami, small (Durga Swaroop) children were offered a feast in the temple after worshipping the girl according to the rules and regulations. Mass feast was also organized in this temple in which a large number of people from the locality and surrounding areas received prasad.

At 5 pm 'Jwaras' were immersed in Mahamaya Pond Sakri after starting from



Maa Satbaniyan Temple with 'Jas songs'. For the whole nine days, morning and evening worship was done in the temple by the priest of the temple, Pt. Badri Prasad Mishra.

Host were Pawan Soni and Jamuna Soni. Jyot-Jwara was served for nine days by Panda Bhogi Ram Yadav and Radhe Marathi. Ishwar Soni managed the mike for nine days. Surit Ram Kashyap, Kailash Soni, Chhedhi Mishra, Ashok Shrivass gave special

support. The temple is operated by the Women's Service Committee in which Mrs. Jamuna Soni, Sushila Soni, Indrani Gehlot, Ghasneen Yadav, RB Soni, Rajkumari Kashyap, Kishori Vasing, Sahodra Soni, Sarita Vasing, Madhu Manikpur, Kajal Kashyap, Gangotri Nirmalkar, Santoshi Vishwakarma, Shiv Kumari Pathak, Shyama Upadhyay, Shubhra Wasing, Rita Wasing, Asha Dubey, Shivani

Kashyap, Sushma Maratha, Santoshi Yadav, Jamuna Todekar, Annapurna Kashyap, Geeta Chandravanshi, Guleshwari Soni, Kalyani Soni, Indrani Soni, Karuna Soni, Gauri Soni, Sunita Soni, Sushmita Soni, Girja Soni, Krishna Mali, Phoolbai, Dev Kumari Yadav, Manisha Dhumal, Nandani Thakur, Anju Rajak, Usha Shrivass, Divendra Kala Dubey, Nandani Kashyap, Satrupa and Sushma Yadav

<b>P</b>	<b>POONAWALLA HOUSING FINANCE</b> <i>Apna Ghar, Apni Pehchan</i>	<b>POONAWALLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED</b> (FORMERLY, MAGMA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED) REGISTERED OFFICE: 602, 6th FLOOR, ZERO ONE IT PARK, SR. No. 79/1, GHORPADI, MUNDHWA ROAD, PUNE - 411035	<b>DEMAND NOTICE</b> SECTION 13(2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002	
	<p>You the below mentioned Borrowers/ Co-borrowers /Guarantors have availed Home loans/Loans against Property facility (ies) by mortgaging your immovable properties from Magma Housing Finance Ltd "MHFL" now renamed as <b>Poonawalla Housing Finance Ltd "PHFL"</b>. You defaulted in repayment and therefore, your loans was classified as Non-Performing Assets. A Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 for the recovery of the outstanding dues sent on last known addresses however the same have returned un-served. Hence the contents of which are being published herewith as per Section 13(2) of the Act read with Rule 3(1) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 as and by way of Alternate Service upon you.</p> <p>Details of the Borrowers, Co-borrowers, Guarantors, Securities, Outstanding Dues, Demand Notice sent under Section 13(2) and Amount claimed there under are given as under:</p>			
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Borrower, Co-Borrower, Guarantor and Loan Amount</b>	<b>Details of the Secured Asset</b>	<b>Demand Notice Date</b>	<b>Amount Due in Rs.</b>
1.	<b>SANTOSH KUMAR SONI, UMA SONI</b> Loan Amount: Rs.1475000/- Loan No: HF/0022/H/19/100075	All That Piece And Parcel Of Part Of Old Kh. No. 136/11, New Kh. No. 136/33, Area 0.018 Hect. Situated At Village/Ghat, P.C. No. 17, R.C. Tilda, Tehsil Tilda, Dist. Raipur (C.G.) Boundaries As Per Sale Deed. North: Seller Sold To Nitu Soni south: House Of Surendra Verma East: Road west: Land Sold By Purnanotam Agrawala The Property Falling Under Rera? It Yes, Whether Registered With Rera? Also Mention Resanumber: If Registered Under Rera? Na	9-Jan-23	Rs. 1295636.13 (Rupees Twelve Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Six Paise Thirteen Only) together with further interest @ 14.75% p.a till repayment.
2.	<b>GANESH VERMA, RANI VARMA, SHREE GANESH CONSTRUCTIONS</b> Loan Amount: Rs.3650000/- Loan No: HL/0022/H/13/100085	All That Piece And Parcel Of Khata No. 895, Diverted Kh No. 803, 615, 638, 642 Ka Part Area 4000 Sq.Ft. Situated At Movia, Mahatma Gandhi Ward No. 25, R.L.C. - Raipur-1, Raipur (C.G.) Boundaries East: Open Land, West: Road. North: Land Of Jayant Khan. South: Aarson Motors Boundary Wall	8-Jan-23	Rs. 2644388.63 (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Fourty Four Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Eight Paise Sixty Three Only) together with further interest @ 14.05% p.a till repayment.
<p>You the Borrowers and Co-Borrowers/Guarantors are therefore called upon to make payment of the above-mentioned demanded amount with further interest as mentioned hereinabove in full within 60 Days of this Notice failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to take action under the act to enforce the above mentioned securities/ies. Please Note that as per Section 13(13) of The said Act, You are in the meanwhile, restrained from transferring the above-referred securities by way of sale, lease or otherwise without our consent.</p> <p>Place: Chhattisgarh Date: 03.04.2023</p>				
<p>FOR POONAWALLA HOUSING FINANCE LTD (Formerly Known as Magma Housing Finance Ltd) Authorised Officer</p>				

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK

(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

Branch Office: Krishna Complex, Opp. Aurobindo Netralaya, Main Road, Sadar Bazar, Raipur-492001.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower/s, Co-Borrower/s, Guarantor/s and Mortgagors have availed loans from Jana Small Finance Bank Limited, by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as Non Performing Asset, whereas Jana Small Finance Bank Limited being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand notice calling upon the Borrower/s/ Co-Borrower/s/ Guarantor/s/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) Mr. Mahesh Singh Lahre, S/o. Gopal Singh Lahre, 2) Mrs. Sapna Singh, W/o. Mahesh Singh Lahre	Loan Account Nos. 45099430000200, 45099430000249 & 45099420002380 Loan Amount Rs.32,26,632/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Diverted land bearing Survey No.461/3, total admeasuring area of 10900 Sq.ft., together with construction thereon, Situated at P.H. No.18, Village Samdli, R.N.M. Takhatpur, Tehsil Takhatpur & District Bilaspur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: House of Mr. Mahesh, West by: House of Mr. Naresh, North by: Canal and South by: Road.	03-03-2023 & 27-03-2023	Rs.30,88,527.28 (Rupees Thirty Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Seven and Twenty Eight Paise Only) as on 15-03-2023

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within 60 days of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No.6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to Jana Small Finance Bank Limited against the Borrower/s/ Co-Borrower/s/ Guarantor/s/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 03.04.2023, Place: Bilaspur (C.G.)

Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited



## BRIEF



**AAP convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal being presented an Assamese japi as Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann looks on during the party's 'Samkalpa Sabha', in Guwahati, Sunday.**

## Drown

■ **Nagpur:** A three-and-half-year-old girl drowned in a pond near a brick factory in Nagpur on Saturday afternoon, a police official said. Neelam Rajak died in Kothwa village, the Koradi police station official said. "Her parents were out at a work in the brick factory when the incident took place. She slipped into the pond while playing."

## Palm Sunday

■ **Aizawl:** Palm Sunday was celebrated in Mizoram with religious fervour as children carrying palm leaves and chanting 'Hosanna' took out processions in state capital Aizawl and other towns and villages on the occasion. Special prayer services were held by churches of various denominations across the state on Palm Sunday, which is called 'Tumkau Ni' in Mizo.

## Mild tremor

■ **Jabalpur:** A mild tremor of 3.6 magnitude was experienced in Madhya Pradesh's Jabalpur district on Sunday, officials said. There was no report of any casualty or property damage, they said. The tremor was recorded by the National Centre for Seismology at 11 am, with its epicentre near Jabalpur at a depth of 23 kilometres, India Meteorological Centre (Jabalpur) in-charge Biju J Joseph told PTI.

## Surprise check

■ **Mangaluru:** The Mangaluru city police carried out a surprise inspection inside the Dakshina Kannada district prison here on Sunday. More than 250 police personnel led by City Police Commissioner Kuldeep Kumar R Jain and other officials carried out the raid. The Commissioner later told reporters that the raid was part of a routine inspection.

## Road crash

■ **Hoshiarpur:** Three members of a family were killed when an unidentified vehicle hit their scooter in this district on Sunday, police said. The accident occurred near village Simbli, about 23 km from here, in the afternoon when a man and his parents were travelling to Phagwara on a scooter, they said.

## Blast

■ **Srinagar:** A blast took place in the back of a car near Dal Lake here on Sunday with police suspecting equipment failure to be the reason behind it, officials said. The blast took place near ghat no. 21 on Boulevard Road when thousands of locals and tourists were visiting the tulip garden.

# HP to collaborate with Centre to promote lavender cultivation

Shimla, Apr 02 (PTI)

The Himachal Pradesh government is all set to collaborate with the Union government on the "Aroma Mission", a lavender cultivation initiative that has proven to be a boon for farmers in Jammu and Kashmir.

With the climatic conditions of several regions in Himachal Pradesh, including Chamba, being similar to those of Jammu and Kashmir, the state government aims to replicate the success of this initiative in Himachal Pradesh in a big way.

This initiative will boost the economy of farmers as well as the state in a big way, a statement issued here on Sunday said.

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu had a discussion with Union Minister of State for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Jitendra Singh and the latter assured the state of providing technical support to farmers for the project.

The Chief Minister said that the initiative has the potential to transform the lives of farmers and with the collaboration of the

state and Union government, the "Aroma Mission" could prove to be a game-changer for the farming sector in the region.

Chief Secretary Prabodh Saxena has been directed to take up this matter with the concerned Ministry and expedite the process of implementing the project on the ground.

The state government is planning to adopt modern scientific methods of farming by replacing traditional practices.

To accomplish this, the state government is seek-

ing technical support from the Union government.

The Union government would also organize orientation programs, training camps and provide technical support to farmers and horticulturists of the state, enabling them to familiarize themselves with new innovative technologies in the farming sector, improve the quality of their produce and generate more income.

Lavender cultivation, also known as the purple revolution, could prove to be a lucrative option for the farmers of the state.

## RELIGIOUS PROCESSION



Devotees take part in a religious procession to celebrate Ram Navami, in Kolkata, Sunday.

## Fact-finding team visits site of broken bridge

● In Hamirpur

Hamirpur (HP), Apr 02 (PTI)

A four-member fact-finding team of the public works department (PWD), formed to probe the reasons behind the collapse of a slab of an under-construction bridge near Jahu in Hamirpur district of Himachal Pradesh, inspected the spot till late evening on Saturday.

The quality control team of the department gathered evidence throughout the day and noted down the statements of officers and people involved in the construction work, but the debris of the broken bridge was missing from the site.

Several officers, including the chief engineer of Hamirpur, were present on the spot.

Vijay Chowdhary, one of the senior engineers working at Hamirpur, informed that the quality control team returned to Shimla after its investigation.

The slab of the bridge over the Sunaihal khad between Jahoo and Kot to be constructed at a cost of Rs 2.4 crore, which collapsed last week, raised questions over the working of the PWD and the agency entrusted with the construction work.

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has taken note of the incident and directed the PWD to submit a detailed report on it.

## Army vehicle damaged as shooting stones disrupts traffic

● On Jammu-Srinagar NH

Banihal/Jammu, Apr 02 (PTI)

An army vehicle suffered damage in shooting of stones from a hillock near the recently opened T-5 tunnel on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway on Sunday but no personnel were injured, officials said. Deputy Commissioner Mussarat Islam took serious note of the matter and asked the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to get the vulnerable zone technically assessed so that immediate protection measures are taken to protect the lives of passengers travelling on the 270 km highway the only all-weather road

linking Kashmir with rest of the country. The 880-metre T-5 tunnel was thrown open for traffic on March 16, providing much needed relief to commuters as it bypassed the most vulnerable stretch of Panthyal which was infamous for the frequent shooting of stones from the hillock.

The officials said an Army convoy was moving through the tunnel when the rocks started coming down from the hillock, resulting in damage to one of the luxury vehicles. However, all its occupants escaped unhurt.

The shooting stones continued on both sides of the tunnel for quite some time, resulting in disruption of the traffic, they said, adding no one was injured in the in-

cident. In a communication to the NHAI, the Ramban deputy commissioner said the massive shooting stone activity near the mouth of South Portal of Tunnel T-5 (Tube 1) poses a grave risk to the commuters if no remedial measures are immediately taken.

"You are advised to get the vulnerable zone technically assessed so that immediate protection measures are taken to protect the lives of passengers travelling on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (now NH-44) as well as Tunnel T-5," Islam said. He said the Panthyal stretch on NH-44 has brought huge respite to the travellers and also helped in better regulation of traffic in absence of jams.

## 'Govt to launch two mega tourism trails in Himalaya, Ganga'

Siliguri, Apr 02 (PTI)

The government is planning to launch two mega adventure tourism trails in the Himalaya and the Ganga this year, Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy said on Sunday. Addressing a session at the G-20 tourism working group meeting, Reddy said the trails are expected to be launched this year. "The ministry will work with states and industries for development of two adventure mega trails in 2023 — the Ganga trail and northwestern Himalayan trails," he said. A senior official said the government is starting with these two trails but will be launching other trails in future too. "There will be Narmada trail from Amarkantank to Arabian

sea, Kaveri river trail, West coast trail from Kutch to Kanyakumari, east coast trail from West Bengal to Kanyakumari," the official said.

The government is giving a major push to adventure tourism and promoting it at the second G-20 tourism working group meeting being held in Siliguri and Darjeeling. Reddy said India's topography provides for an ideal destination for sustainable adventure tourism. "We have a 7,000-km coastline, 70 per cent of the Himalayas, about 700 kilometres of rivers, sand desert and cold desert in Ladakh...all of which provide opportunities for a variety of adventure activities for both domestic and foreign tourists," Reddy said on Saturday.



G Kishan Reddy

## NEED CARE AND AFFECTION



Underprivileged women and children study at a pavement during a campaign by social activists aiming at their right to education, at Esplanade area in Kolkata, Sunday.

## J&K to adopt Kerala's 'Nadakkavu' model of modernising govt schools

**Thiruvananthapuram, Apr 02 (PTI)** The Jammu and Kashmir government will soon adopt Kerala's 'Nadakkavu model' of modernising the government schools in the union territory.

The J&K government has signed an MoU with Kozhikode-based Faizal and Shabana Foundation, which had introduced the Nadakkavu model.

Over 1,200 government schools, mainly in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, have adopted the model within 10 years since its inception. The model has also been introduced in a few schools in West Africa.

"It will be first introduced in the Government Higher Secondary School for Girls in Kothibagh, Srinagar. The objective is to establish the school as a

centre of educational excellence that can serve as a blueprint for other schools throughout Jammu & Kashmir," the Foundation said in a release on Sunday.

Under the agreement, the Foundation will provide funding for the project and assume responsibility for its implementation including the holistic development of the school.

"The goal is to bring about excellence at all levels, providing equitable education especially for those from the bottom of the pyramid so that each child can come up to the potential they are capable of."

The Foundation will also collaborate with esteemed Indian and international institutions to conduct training pro-

grammes for the school's teaching staff and students," global head of the Foundation, Joseph Sebastian said.

The Faizal and Shabana Foundation was founded in 2007 by a UAE-based Keralite industrialist couple, Faizal E Kottikollon and his wife Shabana Faizal.

With the aim of promoting ordinary schools to international standards through multiple interventions, the couple modernised the infrastructure and uplifted the educational standard of the 130-year old Government Vocational Higher Secondary School for Girls at Nadakkavu in Kozhikode district in 2013, spending Rs 20 crore.

Tassaduq Hussain Mir,

the Director of School Education of Jammu and Kashmir, said once this model is established, it is the endeavour of the government to replicate this across the northernmost state.

"We are confident that this collaboration between the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and the Faizal and Shabana Foundation will create a brighter future for the students of Kashmir and contribute to the development of a robust educational system," Mir said.

The foundation has also taken initiative in building leadership qualities among teachers and skill development among students, community enhancement and linking students to Centres of Academic Excellence.

## Rice eating tusker's fate capture's Kerala media's attention

Idukki (Kerala), Apr 02 (PTI)

Arikkomban, a bull elephant fond of eating rice, which also earned him the moniker, lazily forages in a thicket along with his herd in Chinnakanal area of this high range district.

He is oblivious to the media frenzy that has been created in the state which is divided between keeping him in captivity or relocating him deep into some other forest area. There are differences of opinion regarding the fate of the tusker with animal lovers advocating for his relocation, while local residents are demanding that he be captured and removed from the area or kept in captivity. Angels Nair, general secretary of NGO Animal Legal Force Integration, said, "The state government has no power to capture elephants and keep them in captivity. They also have no powers to train them into kumki elephants." "Moreover, if they ensure a source of food for the elephant, it

would not foray into the residential and inhabited areas," he told PTI.

On the other hand, protesting residents of Santhapara, Chinnakanal and neighbouring grama panchayats, bordering the famous hill station Munnar in Kerala's Idukki district, are fed up with the antics of the tusker and want him removed from the area. One such resident, a woman, said, "I live alone with my mother. One night the elephant came there and damaged our house. Several others have faced this problem. Is human life more important than the freedom of one tusker? He is a nuisance now." Even politicians have joined the cause espoused by the local residents. Congress MP from Idukki, Dean Kuriakose, said, "The Kerala High Court was misled by the petitioners into staying capture of the elephant. People are scared of coming out of their homes. There is no solution but to capture Arikkomban and

remove him from the area." Media attention was initially drawn to the tusker when visuals of it breaking into homes and ration shops went viral on social media. However, it was the intervention of the Kerala High Court — which has for now allowed Arikkomban to stroll around freely for a few more days — that focused the media glare on the issue. The High Court in a late night sitting on March 23 stomped the brakes on the government's move to dart and cage Arikkomban in an elephant kraal on March 26. The stay has been extended till April 5 by when a court appointed expert committee has to decide the fate of the tusker.

Thereafter, every move, from the lazy foraging of the tusker, to the locals protesting for his capture and removal from the area and the subsequent developments in the High Court, is being keenly watched and reported by the media in this southern state. It is the lack of judicial inter-

vention in the case of capture of two other tuskers — PT7 and PM2 — from Palakkad and Wayanad districts of the state, respectively, that everyone forgot about them after they were sent into captivity for being trained as 'kumki' elephants — used to trap and capture other pachyderms. There are news reports that one of the two tuskers, PM2, might be released into the wild by the forest department. The development comes while there are two pleas, one of them by Nair, pending in the High Court seeking release of PM2 and PT7. The bench's denial for any temporary capture of the tusker was interpreted by the locals of the affected areas — around 10 panchayats in around Chinnakanal — as an indifference towards their lives and livelihoods both of which were under threat not just by Arikkomban, but also a couple of other elephants. Aggrieved by the court's order and angry at the animal welfare or-

ganisations whose plea was responsible for it, the locals, including even school going children, decided to protest against the same by coming on to the roads and blocking traffic and the same received and continues to receive media coverage. One child was seen telling media how kids were scared to go to school or even buy groceries, afraid they might land before one of the tuskers who are frequently roaming through the area.

He said that he had exams, but did not go to school as he was afraid that the bus that he would take might encounter an elephant on the way.

As the protestors continued to block roads, news media actively covered the developments which also included a complaint against Vivek K Viswanathan — the managing trustee of Walking Eye Foundation for Animal Advocacy, one of the petitioner organisations which has opposed Arikkomban's capture.

## Bhopal-New Delhi Vande Bharat Express breaches expected speed limit

● Of 160 kmph

New Delhi, Apr 02 (PTI)

The maximum speed of the Bhopal-New Delhi Vande Bharat Express reached 161 kilometres per hour during its launch run on Saturday, breaching its expected speed limit of 160 kmph, officials said. The train that cuts the travel time between Bhopal and New Delhi by an hour, touched the speed of 161 kmph between Raja ki Mandi in Agra and Mathura, they added.

A small stretch of the track between the Agra Cantonment and Nizamuddin railway stations has been designed in a manner to fit the speed limit.

Earlier, the Ministry of Railways had said in an order that the Rani Kamalapati-New Delhi Vande Bharat Express train can run up to a maximum speed of 160 kmph over the Agra Cantonment-Tuglakabad section.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the 11th Vande Bharat Express train on Saturday.

The semi-high speed train was flagged off from the Rani Kamalapati railway station in Bhopal in the afternoon in the presence of Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.



# Bajwa put pressure on me to develop friendly ties with India, claims Imran Khan

Lahore, Apr 02 (PTI):

Pakistan's ousted prime minister Imran Khan has claimed that the then Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa had put pressure on him to develop friendly ties with India.

Relations between India and Pakistan have often been strained over the Kashmir issue and cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan. However, their ties nosedived after India abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution, revoking the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcating the State into two Union Territories on August 5, 2019.

"Gen Bajwa wanted me to develop friendly ties with India. He put pressure on me for this and it



was one of the reasons our relationship deteriorated," Khan claimed during an interaction with social media journalists at his Lahore's Zaman Park residence on Saturday evening.

He, however, reiterated his stance that Pakistan should only hold peace talks with India provided New Delhi restores the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

India has repeatedly told Pakistan that it desires normal neighbourly

relations with Islamabad in an environment free of terror, hostility and violence.

The 70-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman further said what Gen (retd.) Bajwa did to Pakistan even an enemy couldn't do. "Bajwa should be held accountable by the army," he said.

Khan in the past accused Bajwa of not only toppling his country that laid a foundation of economic disaster but also committing atrocities against him, his party members and journalists. "Bajwa wanted me killed," Khan alleged.

Khan has been at loggerheads with Gen (retd.) Bajwa ever since his ouster from power in April last year by a no-confidence motion.

Gen (retd) Bajwa retired

on November 29 last year after two consecutive three-year terms.

Regarding the PML-N led federal government's assertion that it would not accept the verdict of a three-member bench of Supreme Court headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial in polls in two provinces, Khan said: "I know what kind of benefits this cabal of corrupts would get by delaying the elections in Punjab and Kyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces. They are just delaying elections hoping to crush the PTI or finish Imran Khan."

Khan asked the ruling alliance to explain the reasons for postponing polls till October, 2023. "If elections are not held within 90 days in two provinces Pakistan will be without a constitution," he said.



Pope Francis arrives to celebrate the Palm Sunday's mass in St. Peter's Square at The Vatican Sunday, April 2 a day after being discharged from the Agostino Gemelli University Hospital in Rome, where he has been treated for bronchitis, The Vatican said.

## Japan protests China's detention of citizen, maritime action

Tokyo, Apr 02 (AP):

Japan's Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi protested in a meeting on Sunday with his Chinese counterpart the detention of a Japanese national in Beijing and raised "strong concern" about China's escalating military activity near Taiwan and around Japan.

Hayashi is making a two-day visit in China, becoming Japan's first diplomat to make the trip in more than three years as frictions grow between the countries. He was also due to meet Chinese Premier Li Qiang and top diplomat Wang Yi later on Sunday.

During his talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang, Hayashi demanded an early release of an employee of the Japanese pharmaceutical company Astellas Pharma, who was detained in Beijing last month over what the Chinese Foreign Ministry described as spying allegations. Neither side has of-



Yoshimasa Hayashi

ferred further details about the man or the allegations against him.

Hayashi told reporters he also raised "serious concern" about China's increasingly assertive maritime activity in the East and South China seas, and stressed the importance of peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

Hayashi said he told Qin that their countries have the possibility of improved cooperation in economic, cultural and people exchanges, but also face "many problems and serious concerns" and that "Japan-China relations are currently at an extremely important phase".

The two ministers agreed to work together in achieving "a constructive and stable relationship" as agreed between their leaders in November, Hayashi said.

The sides agreed to improve communication in regional security, and welcomed the establishment of a defense hotline last week and the resumption of defense talks, Hayashi said.

Despite close economic and business ties between the two Asian powers, Tokyo and Beijing have been increasingly at odds in recent years as Japan considers China's growing influence in the region a threat to its security and economy.

Qin meanwhile warned against Japanese involvement in issues related to Taiwan, the self-ruled island that China claims as its own, saying Tokyo should not interfere and "undermine China's sovereignty in any way", according to a statement from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## 2 dead in hot air balloon accident outside of Mexico City

Mexico City, Apr 02 (AP): Two people died and a girl was injured after the hot air balloon they were riding in caught fire near Mexico City, authorities said Saturday.

Officials in the state of Mexico, which borders the capital, said the girl suffered burns and a broken arm. According to a video of the incident posted on social media, the occupants of the balloon appeared to have fallen or jumped from the craft. The dead were listed as a male, 50, and a woman, 38.

The accident occurred near the pre-Hispanic ruin site of

Teotihuacan, just north of Mexico City. The area is a popular location for balloon rides. The cause of the accident was under investigation.

Teotihuacan, best known for its twin Temples of the Sun and Moon, was once a large city that housed over 100,000 inhabitants and covered around 8 square miles (20 square kilometres).

The still-mysterious city was one of the largest in the world at its apex between 100 BC and AD 750. But it was abandoned before the rise of the Aztecs in the 14th century. (AP)

## 3 killed, 3 injured in shooting at Oklahoma City bar

Oklahoma City (US), Apr 02 (AP): At least three people were killed and another three were injured during a shooting inside an Oklahoma City bar Saturday night, according to a report.

Police said one person was in critical condition and two others suffered non-life-threatening injuries in the shooting around 9 pm at Whiskey Barrel

Saloon near Newcastle Road and South Roff Avenue in southwest Oklahoma City, KOCO-TV reported.

The Oklahoma City Police Department tweeted that investigators were at the scene of a "significant incident" in the 4100 block of Newcastle Road. Police did not have a suspect in custody Saturday, KOCO reported.

## Four Pak soldiers killed in terror attack along Iran border

Islamabad, Apr 02 (PTI):

At least four Pakistan Army soldiers were killed on Saturday in a terror attack along the Pakistan-Iran border in Balochistan's Kech district, according to the military's media wing.

"On April 1, 2023, a group of terrorists operating from the Iranian side attacked a routine border patrol of Pakistani security forces along the Pakistan-Iran Border in Jalgai Sector, district Kech," an Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) statement said.

The ISPR said that "nec-

essary contact" with the Iranian side was being made for "effective action against terrorists" on their territory and to prevent such incidents in the future.

No group has so far claimed responsibility for the attack which resembled past onslaughts by Baloch nationalists who have been involved in a low-level insurgency.

Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah condemned the attack and paid tribute to those killed.

"The sons of the country are laying down their lives to protect their land, the whole nation salutes

them, the nation is united in the war against terrorism," he tweeted, adding that "this scourge will be eradicated".

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who also expressed grief over the incident, said in a statement: "The sons of the soil are laying down their lives for the defence and protection of the country", and that ridding the country of terrorism was the national agenda.

In January, four security personnel were killed during "terrorist activity" from across the Pakistan-Iran border in Balochistan's Panjgur district.

## Presidents of Taiwan, Guatemala visit Mayan pyramid

Guatemala City, Apr 02 (AP):

Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen and the Guatemalan President Alejandro Giammattei toured the archaeological site of Tikal during a trip by Tsai that aims to shore up the self-governing island's ties with its remaining allies in Central America.

The Taiwanese leader will visit Guatemala and Belize, the island's only two remaining allies in Central America, where Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Panama and Costa Rica have all switched their support to China. Honduras broke relations with Taipei a

week ago. Under a blazing sun Saturday, Tsai and Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario B caro, representing Giammattei — who suffers from multiple sclerosis climbed one of the Mayans' most important pyramids: Temple II, also called Temple of the Masks. With incense, a Mayan invocation ceremony, a Mayan ball game and an exchange of gifts, Tsai and Giammattei talked as they enjoyed the central square of Tikal archaeological park. The day before, in a joint message, the leaders spoke of unity, solidarity and the values shared by Guatemala



Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen (L) and Guatemala's President Alejandro Giammattei (R) posing for a picture at the Tikal archaeological site in Peten, Guatemala.

and Taiwan. Tsai thanked Guatemala's government for its support, calling it an ally

and partner. She has framed the trip as a chance to show Taiwan's commitment to demo-

ments with Russia had been reached and Pakistan would place an order next month.

"However, it will take some time for the oil to reach Pakistan nearly 26 to 27 days," he stated, revealing that the commodity would arrive in the country via sea.

Malik also clarified that Russia had assured the government that it was giving Pakistan a discount as much as any other neighbouring country was receiving.

Talking about the government's decision regarding separate gas tariffs for the rich and the poor, the minister said that the mechanism was devised on the orders of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz supremo Nawaz Sharif.

"So we divided the country into the population of the rich and the poor so if a poor woman is using a unit of gas she will give one-fourth of the bills that a woman in F-7 or Gulberg is paying," he said.

cratic values globally. On Sunday, Tsai is scheduled to visit a hospital in the western department of Chimaltenango that was built with the help of a Taiwanese donation. Before arriving in Guatemala, the Taiwanese president visited the United States. She will culminate her visit to Central America with a stop in Belize, before returning to the U.S.

The trip also is aimed to solidifying ties in Latin America as China funnels money into the region and pressures its countries to break off relations with the self-governed democratic island.

## At least 21 dead after tornadoes rake US Midwest, South

Wynne (US), Apr 02 (AP):

Storms that dropped possibly dozens of tornadoes killed at least 21 people in small towns and big cities across the South and Midwest, tearing a path through the Arkansas capital, collapsing the roof of a packed concert venue in Illinois, and stunning people throughout the region Saturday with the damage's scope.

Confirmed or suspected tornadoes in at least eight states destroyed homes and businesses, splintered trees, and lay waste to neighborhoods across a broad swath of the country. The dead included seven in one



Chad Mills tries to recover as much as he can while using a compact track loader at what used to be his home along Hwy 15 in Ponotoc, Miss. Storms that dropped possibly dozens of tornadoes killed multiple people in small towns and big cities across the South and Midwest, tearing a path through the Arkansas capital, collapsing the roof of a packed concert venue in Illinois, and stunning people throughout the region Saturday with the damage's scope.

Tennessee county, four in the small town of Wynne,

Arkansas, four in Illinois, and three in nearby

Sullivan, Indiana. Other deaths from the storms that hit Friday night into Saturday were reported in Alabama and Mississippi, along with one near Little Rock, Arkansas, where the mayor said more than 2,000 buildings were in a tornado's path.

Stunned residents of Wynne, a community of about 8,000 people 50 miles (80 kilometers) west of Memphis, Tennessee, woke Saturday to find the high school's roof shredded and its windows blown out. Huge trees lay on the ground, their stumps reduced to nubs. Broken walls, windows and roofs pocked homes and business-

es.

Debris and memories of regular life lay scattered inside the damaged shells of homes and strewn on lawns: clothing, insulation, roofing paper, toys, splintered furniture, a pickup truck with its windows shattered. "I'm sad that my town has been hit so hard," said Heidi Jenkins, a salon owner. "Our school is gone, my church is gone. I'm sad for all the people who lost their homes." Recovery was underway, with workers using chain saws to cut fallen trees and bulldozers moving material from shattered structures. Utility trucks worked to restore power, and volunteers set out to help.

## Nepal seeks to sign 25-year electricity deal with India

● During PM Prachanda's visit

Kathmandu, Apr 02 (PTI):

Nepal is keen to sign a 25-year agreement with India on selling its surplus power to the neighbouring country during Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda's expected visit to New Delhi.

Though the official date of Prachanda's visit to India is yet to be announced, the Kathmandu Post newspaper, quoting Nepali officials, reported on Sunday that the prime minister is likely to travel to New Delhi after the second week of April.

However, the two sides have yet to announce the dates, it said. "We are preparing a proposal for the Indian side on the 25-year agreement. But a lot also depends on whether the Indian side agrees to include our proposal in the agenda," the report quoted a senior official at the energy ministry as saying.

Dinesh Ghimire, secretary at the ministry, said the issue of the long-term inter-governmental agreement was under discussion at the ministry but was yet to be forwarded to Nepal's foreign ministry to make it an agenda item ahead of the prime minister's trip.

He said such an agreement can be signed only if the Indian side gives its nod at the bureaucratic level before Prachanda reaches New Delhi, the report said.

Nepal proposed such a deal during the 10th secretary-level meeting of the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) on Energy Cooperation in India in late February.

"During the meeting, it was decided that Nepal would make a proposal which India would examine," said Prabal Adhikari, power trade director at the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), who was also in the Nepali delegation.





## CENTRAL Chronicle

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### Cybercrime: A Growing Concern

India has witnessed a rapid increase in cyber crimes in recent times, causing serious concern for individuals and the government alike. Despite being a global leader in digital transactions, the country faces a significant challenge in securing its digital infrastructure against cyber attacks. The situation is further compounded by the lack of awareness among the general public about modern techniques employed by hackers and fraudsters. This knowledge gap makes users vulnerable to scams and attacks, resulting in monetary losses and data breaches. The Indian government has taken steps to address the issue, such as establishing the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) and the Cyber Forensic Laboratory. These initiatives aim to provide a robust framework to investigate and prosecute cyber criminals. In addition, the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has been set up to respond to cyber security incidents and protect government websites. However, these measures are not sufficient to address the scale and complexity of cyber crimes in India. There is a need for greater public awareness campaigns to educate people about cyber threats and preventive measures. The government should also promote the development of indigenous digital platforms to reduce dependence on foreign applications that may compromise national security. One of the biggest challenges in combating cyber crimes in India is the lack of a specific way to report them, particularly in rural areas. There is a need to establish a robust reporting mechanism that is easily accessible to all citizens. In addition, the government must encourage private companies to invest in cyber security measures to safeguard their digital infrastructure. China is known to be a major source of cyber attacks on India, with spyware software embedded in mobile phones and other devices. As a precautionary measure, many organizations have banned the use of Chinese mobile phones, and restrictions have been placed on the use of Chinese desktops and laptops in government organizations, including the military. India must continue to be vigilant and take proactive steps to protect its digital infrastructure against cyber attacks. Cyber crime is a growing concern in India, and urgent action is required to address this issue. The government must take the lead in promoting public awareness, investing in cyber security measures, and developing indigenous digital platforms. The private sector must also play an active role in safeguarding their digital infrastructure. A collaborative effort is required to ensure that India's digital landscape remains secure and resilient in the face of emerging cyber threats.

### AI tool helps remove atmospheric 'blur' from cosmos images

Scientists have adapted a well-known computer-vision algorithm, which works faster and produces more realistic images, and applied it to astronomical images from ground-based telescopes. This innovation of the researchers of Northwestern University, US, and Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, could help remove errors and solve the "blur" in astronomical images, they said. The research is published in the journal Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society. "Astronomical images are used for science. By cleaning up images in the right way, we can get more accurate data. The algorithm removes the atmosphere computationally, enabling physicists to obtain better scientific measurements. "At the end of the day, the images do look better as well," said Northwestern's Emma Alexander, the study's senior author. The blur, caused by the Earth's atmosphere through which the light coming from distant objects passes, becomes an issue when astrophysicists analyze images to extract cosmological data. Studying the apparent shapes of galaxies helps astronomers in detecting large-scale cosmological structures' gravitational effects. However, the atmospheric blur smears the image in a way that can distort the shapes of galaxies and make them appear rounder or more stretched than they are. Removing the blur enables scientists to collect accurate shape data. "If you look at an image from a ground-based telescope, a shape might be warped. It's hard to know if that's because of a gravitational effect or the atmosphere," said Alexander. To tackle this challenge, Alexander's team combined an optimization algorithm with a deep-learning network trained on astronomical images, that included simulated data matching Vera C. Rubin Observatory's (currently under construction in Chile) expected imaging parameters. The resulting tool produced images with 38.6 per cent less error compared to classic methods for removing blur and 7.4 per cent less error compared to modern methods. "Now we pass off this tool, putting it into the hands of astronomy experts," Alexander said. "We think this could be a valuable resource for sky surveys to obtain the most realistic data possible." For astronomers interested in using the tool, the open-source, user-friendly code and accompanying tutorials are available online.

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.

### ANNUAL CAR FESTIVAL



Devotees in large numbers attend the annual car festival of Lord Srikanteshwara at the temple town of Nanjangud near Mysuru, Sunday, April 2.

### Jainism and PETA: Compassion for Animals

PROF. ANIL JAIN



One can well understand what the followers of PETA experienced which was felt by some progressive people around twenty five hundred years in the past. The acronym PETA which stands for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals shows mercy and compassion towards animals and it works in four areas -- in laboratories, in the food industry, in the clothing trade, and in the entertainment business. After studying the tenets of Jainism one can realize that Jainism for thousands of years has been functioning in the same direction following the path of ahimsa or non violence.

PETA opposes speciesism (a newly coined word which means the assumption of human superiority leading to the exploitation of animals) a human-supremacist worldview, and focuses its attention on the four areas in which the largest numbers of animals suffer the most intensely for the longest periods of time: in laboratories, in the food industry, in the clothing trade, and

in the entertainment business. PETA also works on a variety of other issues, including the cruel killing of rodents, birds, and other animals who are often considered "pests" as well as cruelty to domesticated animals.

PETA is the reactionary group which has arisen when it witnessed cruelty on animals. It is the same reaction as we can imagine that might have occurred around twenty-five hundred years ago from which the concept of ahimsa or non-violence came into existence. It was the time when animals were being killed in the name of religious blood rituals. So a great soul like Mahavir stood out against this cruelty and absolutely opposed it. It was for the first time that with other tenets of religion Mahavir added ahimsa to it. A Jain (originally jin) is one who has won over or controlled his sense organs. Lord Mahavir understood that our desires or hunger were the cause of sins and violence. A man kills others to satisfy his hunger for sensuous pleasure and if this hunger is controlled then killing automatically stops.

With this enlightenment of mind Mahavir started teaching the tenets of Jainism. Mahavir became so one with all living organisms and animals, to which he called jeeva, that he thought them as one with his own self. He could feel cruelty on them as if cruelty

on himself. His consciousness became one with each and every living animal and even with microorganisms. He thought that every animal big or small feels the same pain when it is treated cruelly. That is why Mahavir, even when he walked, thought that not a single creature should come under his foot and be killed. In short, he believed in living and letting others live. His tenets gave rise to Jainism.

I have reason to believe Jainism is more sophisticated in terms of its tenets than PETA. Whereas PETA works through public education, investigative newsgathering and reporting, research, animal rescue, legislation, special events, celebrity involvement, and protest campaigns, Jainism spreads its tenets among its followers who pursue them as their obligation and bring it in their practice and behaviour. The Jain munis and sadhus (monks and ascetics) spread awareness about ahimsa among its followers. Jains take into consideration even microbes and organisms along with large animals and practice it by way of Jain customs and habits.

The supporters of Jainism never eat animals and are selective about vegetables too. They do not eat after sunset because many microbes and insects are born in the absence of sunlight. They drink water which is filtered. The filtering of water has its own

process. After filtering the water from a piece of cloth they flip the cloth into the well so that the organism could go back to its source and survive. Jains do not use anything made out of animal skin or bones. They avoid using leather shoes and belts. They remember that they should not use anything which causes pain or killing.

All the tenets of Jainism are so accurate and true on the principles of science that no one can deny its righteousness. Today there are many organizations who are preaching kindness and compassion like PETA but Jainism's principle of ahimsa has been saving the lives of billions for centuries.

Today when we see violence all around us the principles of both- Jainism and PETA are very appropriate. The Google page states PETA is the largest animal rights organization in the world, and its entities have more than 9 million (90 lakh) members and supporters globally. If both- Jainism and PETA- come together since both are moving towards welfare of all- the movement can become a larger one. That way they will be able to make the world more compassionate and violence free.

(Prof. Anil Jain, Deptt. of English, Govt. PG College, DAMOH MP, aniljaindamoh@gmail.com)



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Hate Speech and Our Vitiating Polity

I am deeply concerned about the growing menace of hate speech in our country, and the failure of our leaders and institutions to address this issue. The Supreme Court has repeatedly expressed serious concern over the complicity of politics in hate-mongering, and has called for the segregation of religion from politics. However, despite the court's directions, state authorities have not set up proactive institutional mechanisms to curb hate speech. The prevailing ambiguity in the definition of hate speech makes it difficult to convict perpetrators. In such a vitiated polity, the four pillars of democracy must come together to restore integrity, morality, and ethics. As a citizen of this country, I urge our leaders and institutions to take immediate action to curb hate speech and promote scientific temper and humanism, as mandated by our Constitution.

MKN, Raipur

#### Human Activities and Shrinking Glaciers

I would like to express my concern about the issue of shrinking glaciers, and how human activities are contributing to this environmental crisis. While the formation of a dedicated hazard and research institute is a welcome recommendation, it is important to acknowledge the role that human interference is playing in the fast-receding glaciers. Mass destruction of forests, large-scale use of fossil fuels, and construction of large dams on rivers are some of the major contributors to this problem. It is imperative that we take immediate action to switch to green energy sources and decrease our dependency on machines emitting greenhouse gases. An integrated approach from various ministries to provide real-time data can help in fighting the threat of shrinking glaciers. As responsible citizens, it is our duty to prioritize the protection of our environment. Let us work together towards a sustainable future.

Deepak Chandrakar, Raipur

#### Chinese Spy ships

China regularly sending its navy ships to the Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean, and Arabian Sea in order to capitalise on these seas and oceans in the future. A Chinese "spy ship," Hai Yang Shi You, was spotted close to the Indian coast - nearly 150 nautical miles off the coast of Paradip in Orissa last week which is clearly appears to be highly suspicious one. The ship was found roughly northeast of the port of Paradip and is now in the Bay of Bengal. Even though the "research vessel" was tasked with gathering surface-level information such as depth and salinity in parts of the Bay of Bengal, one can easily say that it is closely monitoring Indian navy's and other activities. Therefore Indian defence and regime has to swiftly take necessary actions to regulate these miscreants activities carried out by Chinese in the name of research in seas and oceans.

Vijaykumar H K, Raichur, Karnataka

### Inculcating a Reading Habit in Children



Dr Krishnakumar Vepakomma

International World Book Day is a worldwide event celebrated annually on April 2nd in more than 100 countries, which aims to promote reading for pleasure and support literacy for children worldwide. The event seeks to ensure that every child and young person has access to a book of their own, regardless of their circumstances. The importance of reading for children cannot be overstated.

Books provide children with a sense of escapism from their mundane realities and allow them to discover stories on their own terms in a language they understand. Reading books helps children learn and develop, but this can be challenging in some parts of the world due to deprivation. International World Book Day seeks to provide resources for children in need through various events in schools and communities.

Reading is not only an essential tool for learning but also a way for children to explore their imaginations, expand their knowledge, and develop their cognitive skills. It can improve their vocabulary, language, and communication skills. Research has shown that children who read frequently develop empathy, emotional intelligence, and critical thinking skills.

Inculcating a reading habit in children is crucial, and it is

the responsibility of parents and educators to encourage and foster it. Children who grow up with books are more likely to become lifelong readers, and this habit can benefit them in multiple ways. Parents play a critical role in fostering a reading habit in their children, especially in the early years. They can start by reading to their children, even before they can read themselves.

This not only provides quality time with their child but also introduces them to books and the habit of reading. As children grow older, parents can encourage them to read by providing them with books that match their interests and abilities. Teachers also play an essential role in providing children with the ability to read, comprehend, and utilize what they learn through books

and reading.

They can create a reading-friendly environment in the classroom by setting up a reading corner or a library corner and by selecting books that match their students' interests and abilities. Teachers can also organize book clubs and reading challenges to motivate children to read more. In addition to parents and teachers, the community can also play a significant role in promoting a reading habit in children.

Local libraries, bookstores, and community centers can organize reading events and book fairs to make books more accessible to children. These events can be a fun and engaging way to introduce children to books and reading. To foster a reading habit in children, it is essential to make reading enjoyable and fun. Encouraging

children to read for pleasure and supporting their autonomy in book choice can help create a positive association with books and reading.

Providing a variety of reading materials, including magazines, comics, and graphic novels, can also help children develop a love of reading. International World Book Day encourages literacy and motivates youngsters to read with each other and adults. The event provides an excellent opportunity to focus on reading for fun, supporting children's autonomy in book choice, and embedding a habit of reading that brings a wide range of benefits. Parents, educators, and communities can work together to foster a reading habit in children and create a love of books that will benefit them throughout their lives.



## BRIEF

## IL&amp;FS Group

■ **Mumbai:** The IL&FS Group has so far paid back Rs 29,000 crore to the secured creditors, with the latest being an interim pay-out of Rs 920 crore for the Chenani Nashri Tunnelway, a subsidiary of IL&FS Transportation Network. Chenani Nashri Tunnelway (CNTL) had a secured debt of around Rs 5,500 crore and the interim payout takes the total to Rs 6,019 crore in fiscal 2023.

## Amul revenue up

■ **New Delhi:** GCMMF, which sells dairy products under the Amul brand, on Sunday said its revenue grew by 18.5 per cent last fiscal to Rs 55,055 crore on better demand. In a statement, the Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (GCMMF) said it has registered a provisional turnover of Rs 55,055 crore for the financial year 2022-23. The turnover growth of 18.5 per cent is largely due to demand for branded consumer products, it added.

## CCL

■ **Ranchi:** Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), a Coal India subsidiary, has posted a record output of 76.09 million tonne (MT) in 2022-23 fiscal, registering 11 per cent growth over the previous fiscal's production of 68.85 million tonne. The target for the fiscal, which ended on Friday, had been fixed at 76 mt. "This is for the first time since 2018-19 when target was not only achieved but it surpassed too," said CCL chairman-cum-managing director PM Prasad. Speaking to media persons here on Saturday, he said that the production target for the current fiscal of 2023-24 is 84 million tonne.

## Haier

■ **New Delhi:** Consumer durables firm Haier India aims for a 33 per cent growth in turnover to Rs 8,000 crore in 2023, helped by the expansion of its product portfolio and sales network and premiumisation, said its President Satish NS. Haier India is investing Rs 1,500 crore in the second phase of expansion at its Greater Noida facility, mostly on the backward integration and is expected to complete by 2025, which will in turn help it increase the localisation of the components.

## Kia India

■ **New Delhi:** Automaker Kia India aims to garner 40 per cent of its overall sales this year from cars with an intelligent manual transmission (iMT) as demand for automatic vehicles continues to grow in the domestic market, according to a senior company official. The automaker is replacing manual transmission with intelligent manual transmission (iMT) in turbo petrol and diesel trims of Seltos, Carens and Sonet. The entry-level trims of the models, which come with a 1.5-litre petrol engine, would however continue to feature the manual transmission in order to cater to the price-conscious customer.

## India's foreign trade set to cross US\$ 1.6 trillion mark this fiscal

New Delhi, Apr 02 (PTI):

India's foreign trade is expected to cross the USD 1.6 trillion mark this fiscal despite global economic uncertainties, economic think tank GTRI said in a report. The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said the USD 1.6 trillion would be about 48 per cent of India's nominal GDP of USD 3.4 trillion for the fiscal year ending March 2023.

The higher trade-to-GDP ratio also speaks of high trade openness which the country practices, GTRI co-founder Ajay Srivastava said. According to their analysis of the data by the think tank, the growth rate in the exports of services would be higher than that of goods. Higher growth rate in services exports compared to the outbound shipments of goods has improved overall performance of India's exports, he said. India's overall ex-

ports of goods and services during April-March 2023 are estimated to reach USD 755 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 11.6 per cent over the same period last year (April-March 2022).

The report said that India's merchandise exports during the fiscal are likely to increase by about 5 per cent to USD 442 billion. Similarly, services exports are estimated to grow by 22.6 per cent to USD 311.9 billion in 2022-23.

"India's foreign trade (exports and imports of merchandise and services) is estimated to cross USD 1.6 trillion or 48 per cent of India's nominal GDP of USD 3.4 trillion for the fiscal year ending March 2023," it added. In 2021-22, India's foreign trade stood at USD 1.43 trillion. Despite sectoral weaknesses, high trade figures underline the emergence of trade as an important com-

ponent of the Indian economy, it said. Key sectors which are expected to register healthy growth include basic and processed agriculture products; fish, meat, dairy; petroleum items, chemicals, diamonds, machinery and automobiles. The top export destinations include the US, UAE, the Netherlands, China, Bangladesh, Singapore, the UK and Germany. On the outlook for exports during the next fiscal, Srivastava said that 2023 will make most countries turn inward to stay safe from the global headwinds, not of their creation.

"Indian exports will be moderately impacted by weak global demand and recession in large economies but will gain as the domestic economy looks resilient and exports from high growth sectors like electronics are picking up almost for the first time," he added.

## Adani Ports completes acquisition of Karaikal Port

New Delhi, Apr 02 (PTI):

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) on Saturday said it has completed the acquisition of Karaikal Port Pvt Ltd (KPPL) pursuant to National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) approval.

Earlier, APSEZ was declared a successful resolution applicant under the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) of KPPL.

Karaikal Port is an all-weather deep-water port in Puducherry with five operational berths, three railway sidings, total land area of over 600 hectares and a built-in cargo handling capacity of 21.5 MMT.

"Acquisition consideration of Rs 1,485 crores implies an EV/EBITDA multiple of 8x on the FY23 estimated numbers," APSEZ said in a statement.

According to the statement, the port is in proximity to the containerised cargo-originating industrial centres of Tamil Nadu, and the upcoming 9 MMTPA CPCL refinery.

APSEZ CEO and whole-time director Karan Adani said, "With the acquisition of Karaikal port APSEZ now operates 14 ports in India.

APSEZ will spend further Rs 850 crores over time to upgrade infrastructure in order to reduce the logistics cost for the customers.

## RBI likely to hike benchmark interest rate by 25 bps on Apr 6

Mumbai, Apr 02 (PTI):

Under pressure to bring down retail inflation and keep pace with global peers, the Reserve Bank may go in for 25 basis points hike in benchmark interest rate, probably the last in the current monetary tightening cycle that began in May 2022, at the bi-monthly policy to be unveiled on Thursday.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank will be meeting for three days on April 3, 5 and 6 to take into account various domestic and global factors before coming out with the first bi-monthly monetary policy for fiscal 2023-24.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has already in-



A general view of the gallery of cars at the global headquarters of Japanese automaker Nissan Motor in Yokohama, Kanagawa prefecture.

## Axis Bank launches 'MicroPay'

New Delhi, Apr 02:

Axis Bank, have launched the revolutionary PIN on Mobile solution for accepting digital payments, in the Indian market, along with Ezetap by Razorpay&MyPinpad as the technical solution partners. 'MicroPay' is a revolutionary 'PIN on Mobile' solution that converts a merchant's smartphone into a Point-of-Sale (POS) terminal, thereby simplifying digital payments and delivering a unique customer experience.

It will be a true game-changer for businesses across India, especially for the retail and kirana shops in Tier-2 and 3 cities that operate on limited working capital and would prefer cost-effective payment solutions. This pocket-sized device is a small low-cost card

reader which supports "insert" and "tap" options for debit and credit cards. This secure card reader is connected to the merchant's smartphone through Bluetooth and allows customers to punch in their PIN directly on the merchant's smartphone. The security of the PIN is ensured by being compliant with PCI standards for Software-based PIN Entry on COTS (SPoC) phones.

Commenting on the announcement, Sanjeev Moghe, President & Head - Cards & Payments, Axis Bank, said, "We have been working on innovative & affordable POS solutions for the merchant community to help them adopt digital payments at scale, by providing a lower cost but secure payment acceptance device."

## Royal Enfield plans assembly operations in Nepal, Bangladesh: CEO B Govindarajan

To strengthen international presence

New Delhi, Apr 02 (PTI):

Motorcycle maker Royal Enfield plans to strengthen its international presence, including setting up of assembly operations in Nepal and Bangladesh, to expand its global footprints, riding on the back of record exports last fiscal, according to CEO B Govindarajan. The company, which is present in over 40 countries in the middleweight motorcycle category of 250cc to 750cc, is banking on its existing products and "a slew of new products lined up" to enhance its share in the markets and segments it is present. "We feel there's a huge potential for Royal Enfield to gain market share more



and more in all the markets where we are present," Govindarajan told PTI. In the North American region, where the company started its journey with its own subsidiary in the last couple of years, it has gained a market share of almost about 8.1 per cent, he said adding in the APAC region it was mostly about

9 per cent and EMEA (Europe, the Middle East and Africa) region it almost touched about 10 per cent. He said the gain in market share has been on the back of the company's J-Series "super-refined engine" which first came in the 'Meteor' and subsequently in Classic and then in Hunter models.

Mumbai, Apr 02 (PTI):

Two-wheeler maker Suzuki Motorcycle India has posted a 49 per cent jump in its vehicle sales at 97,584 units in March over the same month of 2022, the company said on Sunday.

The company sold 73,069 units in the domestic market and exported 24,515 units in the previous month, Suzuki Motorcycle India Pvt Ltd (SIMPL) said in the statement.

SMIPL sold a total of 65,495 vehicles in March 2022.

For the full fiscal 2022-23, the total sales were up 24.3 per cent at 9,38,371 units from 754,938 units



retailed in the financial year that ended March 31, 2022, the company said.

"Suzuki Motorcycle India was able to attain a remarkable sales achieve-

ment in March by registering the highest ever monthly sales of 97,584 units. This translated to a year-on-year growth of 49 per cent as compared to

March 2022," said Devashish Handa, Executive Vice President for sales, marketing and after-sales at Suzuki Motorcycle India Pvt Ltd.

For the fiscal year 2023, the company registered a double digit sales growth of 24.3 per cent as compared to the last financial year, he said, and added that, "this sales growth indicates the growing popularity of Suzuki's two-wheeler products in the domestic and overseas markets."

The company said the previous fiscal was a significant year for it as the company made its entry in the 250-cc adventure sports segment with the launch of V-Strom SX.

## Leadership makes one feel lonely on top, I have gone through it: Narayana Murthy



Narayana Murthy, co-founder of Infosys along with Madan Mohanka and Anjana Dutt releases a book in Ahmedabad, Sunday, April 2.

Ahmedabad, Apr 02 (PTI):

Infosys co-founder N R Narayana Murthy on Sunday said leadership makes one feel completely lonely at the top and he

has gone through it. Addressing a gathering after releasing a book titled 'I Did What I Had to Do', a biography of industrialist Madan Mohanka authored by

Anjana Dutt, Murthy said leadership is also about doing the right thing and raising the confidence of hundreds and thousands of people who look up to you for guidance.

"As they say, leadership feels completely lonely at the top. I've been through that, and I can feel it in both Madan (Mohanka) and now of course Mehul (Mohanka's son) when I heard from Madan yesterday that leadership is very, very lonely," he said.

Madan Mohanka founded Tega Industries Limited in 1976 and serves as its Chairman and Executive Director. His son Mehul is the Managing Director and Group CEO of the company.

## Untimely rains, hailstorm hit wheat crop over 5.23 lakh hectare

**New Delhi / Chandigarh / Bhopal / Jaipur, Apr 02 (PTI):** Untimely rains, hailstorm and strong winds have impacted wheat crop across more than 5.23 lakh hectare in three states, triggering fears of huge yield loss for farmers and harvesting challenges.

India is one of the major producers of wheat, a key staple for a significant population, and the crop damage scenario also comes against the backdrop of persisting high inflation and food security woes globally amid geopolitical uncertainties.

Around 5.23 lakh hectare of wheat crop is estimated to have been damaged in three states — Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh — due to the in-



Farmer checks the damages of his wheat crop after heavy rain with high speed winds lashed the area on the outskirts of Gurugram, Sunday, April 2.

clement weather, according to officials. The assessment of wheat crop damage in Punjab and Haryana is underway, they said. This year, the wheat sown area is around 34 million hectare. The government is esti-

mating a record 112.2 million tonne wheat output in the ongoing 2022-23 crop year (July-June), the officials said.

Union Agriculture Secretary Manoj Ahuja told PTI the government on Monday will review

along with state governments the extent of damage caused to wheat and other rabi crops because of the fresh spell of untimely rains received in the last two to three days.

Wheat is a major rabi (winter) crop. Rains have come at a time when the crop was almost ready for harvesting. In some parts of Madhya Pradesh, the government procurement at minimum support price has begun.

Since the last two weeks, major wheat growing states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have received unseasonal rains accompanied by thunderstorm, hailstorm and gusty wind due to the western disturbances. The untimely rains are expected to continue for a few more days.



## Khushi Dubey performs an action sequence in a single take for 'Aashiqana 3'

**K**hushi Dubey has been part of a number of popular TV shows such as 'Naagin', 'Kaisa Yeh Pyar Hai', 'Baa Bahoo Aur Baby', 'Kasamh Se', among others and currently she is seen as Chikki in 'Aashiqana 3'. While the actress is enjoying being part of the show, she also shared her excitement about performing an action sequence in just one take. She shared: "For a fight sequence I had with the maskman, Siddharth (Siddharth Karnik) and Yash (Zayn Malik) were running to find me and I ended up meeting the mask man. I rehearsed once, and in one take I was able to pull through it. It was very surprising because I remember asking sir, if I can rehearse again, but we were supposed to wrap and I couldn't rehearse again." The 'Rakhi, Atot Rishitey Ki Dor' actress elaborated more about the entire sequence that she performed with her co-actors and said that although she was a bit scared initially while doing the stunt, at last everyone praised her for her performance. "The maskman had a dagger in his hand and Chikki had to bluff and dodge through his dagger. And I was very scared because sometimes there is a risk of the dagger going into your eyes or accidentally just hurting yourself. I did the scene in one take and everybody clapped. My action director, Amin Khatib, was really happy and he said by the end of the season Chikki will become a fight master," she concluded. **Directed by Gul Khan, 'Aashiqana 3' is streaming on Disney+ Hotstar.**

## Gopi Puthran starts new OTT show, 'Mandala Murders'



**Y**ash Raj Films (YRF) has ambitions to produce some of the best content on digital that India has ever seen. Under the banner YRF Entertainment, the company announces its second OTT show, a gritty crime thriller titled **Mandala Murders!** Created & directed by Gopi Puthran of Mardaani 2 fame, the edge of the seat entertainer will star Vaani Kapoor as the lead, with Vaibhav Raj Gupta (of the hugely acclaimed show Gullak fame) co-starring. He has been cast as the leading man for the first time after his brilliant performance in Gullak! Manan Rawat, who has previously worked as an Associate Director on many YRF films, will be

the co-director of the series.

Gopi will shoot **Mandala Murders** for about a month in Uttar Pradesh starting tomorrow, before heading to Delhi & then Mumbai to finish the filming process. In UP, the team will shoot in the picturesque Prayagraj, Lucknow & Varanasi. The big budget show will thus boast of a huge canvas and a grand scale with it being shot across 5 different cities of India!

Vaani Kapoor, who won hearts for her brilliant and sensitive performance as a transgender girl in Abhishek Kapoor's Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui, is again set to shine in this show which marks her foray into OTT. Surveen Chawla and Jameel Khan (again of Gullak fame) have also been cast in prominent roles in **Mandala Murders**.

This multi-season show is a part of YRF's ambitious OTT slate that already comprises the much-awaited **The Railway Men** based on the deadly 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy. This series features R Madhavan, Kay Kay Menon, Divyendu and Babil Khan in the lead roles and is a tribute to the brave railway workers who saved scores of lives at this ill-fated night of devastation and horror.

## Ajay Devgn-starrer 'Bholaa' mints Rs 30.70 crore three days



**B**ollywood star **Ajay Devgn's** latest release '**Bholaa**', which released on March 30, has raked in Rs. 30.70 in just three days.

According to a statement, the film, which also stars **Tabu** and **Deepak Dobriyal**, collected Rs 11.20 crore on Thursday, Rs. 7.40 crore on Friday and on Saturday it minted Rs 12.10 crore making a

total of Rs. 30.70 crore. The word of mouth for **Ajay's 'Bholaa'** has resulted in great footfall on its first Saturday. The film saw an upward trend on Saturday earning 12.10 crore and a grand total of 30.70 crore in three days, the statement read.

'**Bholaa**', directed by **Ajay Devgn** is a remake of the 2019 Tamil film '**Kaithi**'.

The film stars **Devgn** in the titular role alongside **Tabu**, **Deepak Dobriyal**, **Sanjay Mishra**, **Gajraj Rao** and **Vineet Kumar**.

The film follows an ex-convict who battles criminals while transporting a truck full of poisoned cops to the hospital in exchange for meeting his daughter after ten years of imprisonment.

## Back to work: NTR Jr begins shooting for upcoming film

**T**ollywood actor **NTR Jr** has begun shooting for his upcoming project '**NTR 30**', directed by **Koratala Siva**. The film also marks **Janhvi Kapoor's** Telugu debut.

In a video shared on Twitter, the actor offered a brief glimpse of him arriving on the '**NTR 30**' sets and chatting with his director. The actor captioned the video with the words: "Great to be on sets again with **Koratala Siva**!"

The video begins with the actor voicing the words: "Aa Raha Hoon Main (I am coming)."

'**NTR 30**' is a high-octane action drama directed by **Koratala Siva** set in the forgotten coastal parts of India. It will see the coming together of top technicians from the industry.

The film is being produced by **Hari Krishna K.** of **NTR Arts** and **Sudhakar Mikkilineni** of **Yuvasudha Arts** and will hit the screens on April 5, 2024.



## Mandeep moves to Dilpreet's house after twenty-five years

**S**ony SAB's **Dil Diyaan Gallaan** showcases how communication gaps led to differences in the three generations of **Brar** family. Audiences have resonated with the story of a family torn apart by misinterpreted situations, wounded sentiments, and intrinsic beliefs. The upcoming episodes will further showcase how such differences between the father-son duo **Dilpreet** (**Pankaj Berry**) and **Mandeep** (**Sandeep Baswana**) deal with each other's presence around.

With **Mandeep** buying **Dilpreet's** house, things have worsened between them. **Dilpreet** is extremely angry and upset that he has to now share the house with a son like **Mandeep**, who left him twenty-five years ago. For **Dilpreet**, **Mandeep** buying the house closest to his heart was the last straw. He decides to leave the house with his belongings as he can't,



under any circumstances, share the same house with his estranged son.

**What will happen to the Brar family now? Will Dilpreet leave the house, or will Mandeep find a way?**

**Mandeep Baswana**, who portrays the character of **Sandeep**, said, "Mandeep has now started realizing how minor misunderstandings in life take a very sour turn if left unattended to. So this time, he is taking charge and ensuring that **Dilpreet** has no option but to talk to him and sort out their old differences. Watching how **Dilpreet** and **Mandeep** figure their way out through this challenge will be interesting. Will **Dilpreet** leave the house, or will a new day bring new sunshine to their life?"

**Keep watching Dil Diyaan Gallaan every Monday to Saturday at 7:30 PM only on Sony SAB.**

## &TV characters will try to win over situations



**I**n &TV's **Doosri Maa, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan** and **Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai**, the characters will try to win over situations. About &TV's **Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai** track, **Vibhuti Narayan Mishra** shares, "After learning that the government is distributing plots of land to fishermen, everyone in **Modern Colony** decide to dress up as fishermen and fisherwomen to reap the benefits. Meanwhile, a Municipality officer arrives and explain the rules and regulations and informs them that they must get a

**Machlikaran** certificate by **Machlendra**, the head of the fishermen's association. Without the certificate, no one will get a piece of land. **Prem** (**Vishwajeet Soni**) tells everyone about **Machlendra** and how **Maachuri** has broken his heart. They all decide to make **Anokhe Lal Saxena** (**Saanand Verma**) **Maachuri**!"

**Watch Doosri Maa at 8:00 pm, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan at 10:00 pm, and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 pm, airing every Monday to Friday only on &TV!**

## Rashmika, Alia set the stage on fire as they dance to 'Naatu Naatu'

**A** video of actresses **Rashmika Mandanna** and **Alia Bhatt** grooving to the Oscar winning track '**Naatu Naatu**' from the film '**RRR**' has taken over the Internet.

A clip doing the rounds on social media, shows **Alia** is dressed in an all-white outfit and **Rashmika** in a metallic ivory saree.

The two are on stage as they dance on the Hindi version of the track titled '**Naacho Naacho**'. **Alia** twirls **Rashmika** around before they perform the famous hook step. The actresses had danced to the number at the launch of **Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre**. '**Naatu Naatu**' picturised on **Ram Charan** and **NTR Jr** from



the film '**RRR**' made India proud as it won the Best Original Song at the 95th Academy Awards.

Leaving behind names such as **Lady Gaga**, **Diane**

**Warren** and **Rihanna**, '**Naatu Naatu**' made history after contending against songs such as '**Applause**' from '**Tell It Like a Woman**', '**Hold My Hand**' from '**Top Gun**:'

**Maverick**, '**Lift Me Up**' from '**Black Panther**:' **Wakanda Forever**' and '**This Is a Life**' from '**Everything Everywhere All at Once**'.

'**Naatu Naatu**' has already won a **Golden Globe** and a **Critics Choice Award** this year.

'**RRR**' stars **NTR Jr.**, **Ram Charan**, **Ajay Devgn**, **Alia Bhatt** and **Shriya Saran** and tells the fictional story of two real-life Indian revolutionaries, **Alluri Sitarama Raju** and **Komaram Bheem** and their fight against the **British Raj**.

Set in the 1920s, the plot explores the undocumented period in their lives when both the revolutionaries chose to go into obscurity before they began the fight for their country.

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- Fortas and Lincoln
- Yachting
- Box
- Liquid rock
- Fly
- Of the moon
- Too early
- Beginning part
- Deary
- Bellow
- Map parts

- Deer's horn
- Forwarded
- Vietnam's continent
- Zodiac sign
- Pot covers
- Narrow opening
- Comes closer
- Spring bloom
- Seoul's country
- Hygiene
- Antoinette
- Listen to

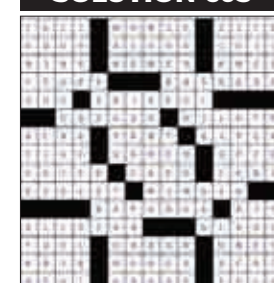
- Mexican coin
- TV attachment
- Foal's mom
- Mediocre (hyph.)
- Straw hat
- Trip to the store, e.g.
- Morsels
- Gang
- String instrument
- Open to suggestions
- Church leader
- Operator
- Single thing
- Actress Della
- Garden plots
- Leaves

### DOWN

- First Greek letter
- Red (fighter pilot)
- Occasion
- America's Uncle
- Starlike symbol
- Inner being
- British noblemen
- How you?
- Hillary Rodham
- Baseball scores
- Poker word
- Sour in taste
- Greek deity
- Favorable votes
- "Murder, "
- TV pooch
- Self
- Honolulu greetings
- Unlock again

- Trim
- Levin and Gershwin
- Norwegian capital
- South American capital
- Persia, now
- Grime
- Intense anger
- Certain connectors
- Catch
- Silent assent
- Grating sound
- Chubby
- acid (protein component)
- "Men in Black", e.g.
- Helps a crook
- Happily after
- Work up
- Took a cab
- Pub drinks
- Cooled
- Chafe
- Harbor vessel

### SOLUTION 605





# Rajasthan Royals secure big win vs SRH

Hyderabad, Apr 02 (PTI):

Rajasthan Royals made a rousing start to the IPL-16, thrashing Sunrisers Hyderabad by 72 runs, here on Sunday.

Put in to bat, last season's runners-up RR got off to a flier with T20 World Cup-winning England skipper Jos Buttler smacking 54 off 22 balls (7x4, 3x6).

Promising uncapped Indian Yashasvi Jaiswal made an identical 54 (37b; 9x4), while skipper Sanju Samson top-scored with 55 (32b; 3x4, 4x6) as RR posted season's highest total of 203 for 5. In reply, the home side managed 131 for 8 in the stipulated 20 overs.

For Sunrisers Hyderabad, T Natarajan (3-0-23-2) was the pick of the bowler and dragged the Royals back in a tidy penultimate over where he dismissed Samson and



**Yashasvi Jaiswal and Jos Buttler of Rajasthan Royals gave an electric start to their opening game against**

gave away just seven runs. Left-arm Afghan pacer Fazalhaq Farooqi returned with 2 for 41 from his four overs.

In reply, the home side lost two wickets without opening the account with Trent Boult inflicting the double blow in the first over en route his splendid figures of 4-1-21-2.

Thereafter, Indian wrist spinner Yuzvendra Chahal made hay in his 4-0-17-4 to have them reeling at 95 for 8.

Just when they looked to fold inside 100 runs, the Jammu and Kashmir duo of Adul Samad (32 not out; 32b) and Umran Malik (19 not out; 8b) produced some late fireworks to take them to a respectable 131 for 8.

## Brief Scores:

Rajasthan Royals: 203 for 5 in 20 overs (Sanju Samson 55, Yashasvi Jaiswal 54, Jos Buttler 54; T Natarajan 2/23, Fazalhaq Farooqi 2/41) beat Sunrisers Hyderabad: 131 for 8 in 20 overs (Abdul Samad 32 not out; Yuzvendra Chahal 4/17, Trent Boult 2/21) by 72 runs.

# Back in their den, CSK eye first win against LSG

Chennai, Apr 02 (PTI):

After losing their opening match, Chennai Super Kings will return to their den — the MA Chidambaram stadium — for the first home match of the season against Lucknow Super Giants here on Monday and aim to pick up a win.

When Mahendra Singh Dhoni leads his team here, the four-time champion will, without a doubt, receive a rapturous welcome as CSK return to the Chepauk after nearly four years.

Despite a superb knock from the classy Ruturaj Gaikwad, the rest of the batters could not capitalise and help CSK post a big total. The team's fans will be hoping that the strong batting line-up rises to the occasion.

Gaikwad toyed with the Gujarat Titans bowlers and made batting look easy. His exit slowed things down and CSK could only make a modest score, which was chased down by the defending champions. England superstar Ben Stokes, bought for Rs 16.25 crore,



would be eager to show his worth in the team's opening home game and set the pace for the long season ahead.

If the batters' inability to force the pace in the middle overs is a cause for concern, the bowling could be a bigger problem.

The Titans batting line-up could not be restricted and skipper Dhoni would be expecting an improved

show from the bowlers.

Dhoni, who uncorked a couple of big hits against Josh Little in Ahmedabad, would be hoping the batters do better and don't leave much for him at the fag end.

He would be looking to open the points tally in front of an adoring Chepauk crowd but that would require a hugely improved performance. The comforting factor for

CSK would be the return to familiar conditions at the Chidambaram stadium, where the spinners are expected to have a big say as seen in the India-Australia third ODI played here 10 days ago.

Ravindra Jadeja and Mitchell Santner did not have much of an impact in the season opener, and they will be hoping to step up in Monday's game.

Up against the four-time champions are the KL Rahul-led LSG, who must have been buoyed by the comprehensive win over Delhi Capitals on Saturday night.

Kyle Mayers launched a furious assault at the top for the Super Giants and his performance would be crucial on a wicket not so conducive for over-the-top aggression. Skipper Rahul, who has been under scrutiny in recent times for an extended run of below-par scores, Nicholas Pooras and Marcus Stoinis would be the other key batters for LSG.

The pacey Mark Wood, who dented Delhi's hopes with his triple strike, will be the one CSK batters would be wary of. His searing pace could cause a few problems for the home team's strong batting unit.

That apart, LSG spinners Ravi Bishnoi and K Gowtham would have a big role to play if the team hopes to keep the opposition batters in check.

**Match starts 7:30 p.m.**

# Sindhu loses in Madrid Spain Masters final



**Gregoria Mariska Tunjung**

Madrid, Apr 02 (PTI):

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu of India was completely routed by Indonesia's Gregoria Mariska Tunjung in a lop-sided women's singles title clash at the Madrid Spain Masters Super 300 badminton tournament here on a mistake-filled Sunday.

Sindhu, who had slipped out of the elite top 10 after a series of early exits following her return from a five-month long in-

jury lay-off, looked completely clueless during her 8-21 8-21 demolition at the hands of world number 12 Tunjung at Centro Deportivo Municipal Gallur.

Despite coming into the finals with a dominating 7-0 lead over the 23-year-old Indonesian, Sindhu looked a pale shadow of her old self as an opportunity to seal her first crown in eight months slipped out of her hands. Nevertheless, the final finish will give her some con-

fidence in a crucial year which will see the Paris Olympic qualification process start next month.

Sindhu, a former world champion, last won a title at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in August 2022, while her last world tour crown came at the Singapore Open in July last year.

The 27-year-old from Hyderabad, who currently trains under Vidhi Chaudhary following the exit of Korea's Park Tae Sang, entered the final after coming into the tournament following a failed bid to defend her title at the Swiss Open.

During the week the Indian showed flashes of her brilliance as she didn't drop a game en route to the final.

However, on Sunday Sindhu couldn't match the tactical acumen and sharpness of Tunjung, a former junior world champion, who was part of the Indonesian women's team which won the 2022 Asia Team Championships.

# Kane Williamson ruled out of IPL, Gujarat Titans confirm



Gujarat Titans' Kane Williamson (C) is helped by teammates back to Pavilion after he was injured during the Indian Premier League (IPL) Twenty20 cricket match between Gujarat Titans and Chennai Super Kings.

Ahmedabad, Apr 02 (PTI):

Kane Williamson, the Gujarat Titans batter, has been ruled out of the Indian Premier League owing to a knee injury, the franchise said on Sunday.

The New Zealand batting mainstay sustained the injury during the season opener against Chennai Super Kings here last Friday.

Williamson sustained the injury to his right knee while attempting a catch during the opening match at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

"It is sad to lose Kane to injury so early in the tournament. We wish him a speedy recovery, with the hope of seeing him in action very soon,"

said GT's director of cricket, Vikram Solanki, in a press release. Williamson will now head home to New Zealand for further assessment, the defending champions said in the press release.

Gujarat Titans will finalise a replacement for the right-handed batter and an announcement will be made in due course.

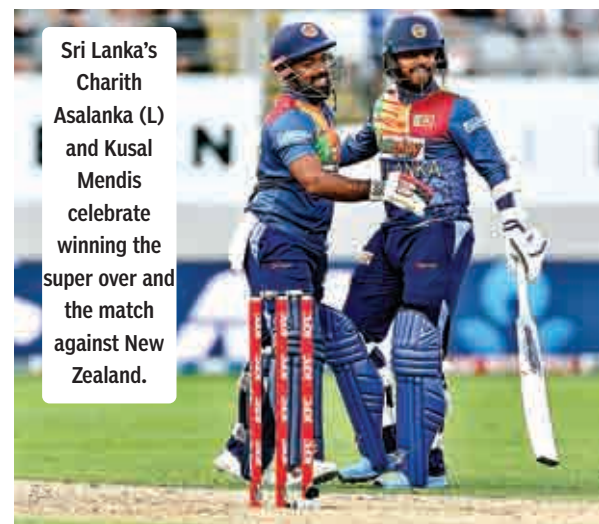
The 32-year-old got injured following a nasty fall while fielding on the boundary during the CSK innings. He had limped off the field in the 13th over.

Williamson, who was making his Gujarat Titans debut, intercepted a ball headed for a possible six off CSK opener Ruturaj Gaikwad's bat.

Auckland, Apr 02 (AP):

Sri Lanka won the first Twenty20 cricket international in a Super Over on Sunday after New Zealand tailender Ish Sodhi hit a six from the last ball of the 20th over to send the match into a tiebreaker. The Sri Lankans made an imposing 196-5 batting first and New Zealand came to the last regular over needing 13 runs to win, six to tie.

Sodhi averages 9.6 in T20 internationals and had the huge responsibility of facing the last ball from Sri Lanka captain Dasun Shanaka, who had bowled an outstanding over. The delivery was full and angled into leg stump; Sodhi, with a swooping motion of bat, hoisted it over mid-wicket and into the stand for six, lifting New Zealand to 196-8 and sending the match to the Super Over. New Zealand chose Daryl Mitchell, its top-scorer with 66, Jimmy Neesham and Mark Chapman as its batters while Sri Lanka called on Maheesh Theekshana to bowl. Neesham was also one of



Sri Lanka's Charith Asalanka (L) and Kusal Mendis celebrate winning the super over and the match against New Zealand.

its chosen batters when it lost to England in the World Cup final at Lord's four years ago.

Mitchell took a single from the first ball, the second was a wide and Neesham was out to the third ball. Chapman hit a two, then a four and was bowled from the last ball as New Zealand managed only 8-2. Kusal Mendis and Charith Asalanka were Sri Lanka's champions, chosen to bat and Jimmy Neesham to bowl.

Asalanka was its top scorer with 67 from 41 balls which included six sixes, making him the ideal man for the Super Over.

Mendis took a single from the first ball, then Asalanka clubbed a six which passed through Chapman's hands on the boundary. Asalanka ramped the next ball as Sri Lanka reached 11-0 to clinch the a thrilling win. In an additional dramatic note, the match ended in light rain.

# Kvitova upends Rybakina for women's Miami Open title



**Petra Kvitova of Czech Republic poses with the Butch Buchholz Trophy after defeating Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan.**

Miami Gardens (Florida), Apr 02 (AP): Twelfth-seeded Petra Kvitova won the Miami Open in her 13th appearance, beating seventh-seeded Elena Rybakina with a marathon tiebreaker in a 7-6 (14), 6-2 victory Saturday.

The 33-year-old Kvitova, 10 years older than her opponent, snapped Rybakina's 13-match winning streak

and halted her bid to win the Sunshine Double (Indian Wells and Miami Open).

In winning with will, stalwart defense and one sensational forehand winner on the dead run that electrified the crowd in the second set, the lefty Kvitova captured her 30th WTA singles title and first one since 2018 in Madrid.

After Rybakina hit a forehand long on match point, Kvitova raised her arms and put her hands to her head. She was broken just once in the match.

It was her 41st career WTA Finals appearance but first final in Miami. She also will vault into the Top 10. "I take it as a positive I can still play with the best," said Kvitova who earned a 1.26 million first prize. "I take pride, even at my age, I could win big tournaments."

Kvitova, who is from the Czech Republic, disagreed with the announcement Wimbledon would accept Russian players this year. Rybakina, the reigning Wimbledon champion, is from Moscow but represents Kazakhstan.

# Lewandowski nets 2, Barcelona goes 15 points clear of Madrid



Barcelona's Polish forward Robert Lewandowski (C) celebrates with Barcelona's Spanish midfielder Gavi (L) and Barcelona's French defender Jules Kounde scoring his team's third goal.

Barcelona, Apr 02 (AP):

Robert Lewandowski scored twice in Barcelona's 4-0 win at last-place Elche on Saturday as the Catalan club opened up a 15-point lead atop the standings in pursuit of its first Spanish league title in four years.

Lewandowski opened the scoring in the 20th minute and added Barcelona's third goal in the 66th to take his league-leading tally to 17 goals in his first season in Spain.

Ansu Fati doubled the lead in the 56th and Ferran Torres rounded off one of Barcelona's most comfortable victories of the campaign in the 70th.

Barcelona picked right up where it left off before last week's international

break when it beat Madrid 2-1 in the league to deal what is looking like a decisive blow to its rival's title defense. Second-place Madrid plays Real Valladolid on Sunday.

Barcelona will try to beat Madrid again on Wednesday in the second leg of their Copa del Rey semifinal match. Barcelona won the first leg 1-0 in the capital.

The goals ended scoring droughts for all three of Barcelona's forwards. Lewandowski hadn't scored in five games three with Barcelona and two with Poland since his goal against Manchester United in a 2-0 loss in the Europa League on Feb. 23.

Ansu, who struck from outside the area, hadn't scored since Jan.

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# Kapil Mishra targets Rahul Gandhi over surname, Savarkar remark

Jaipur, Apr 02 (PTI):

Targeting former Congress president Rahul Gandhi for his 'I am not Savarkar' remark, BJP leader Kapil Mishra on Sunday said that he can never be like the freedom fighter who was a patriot. Mishra also said that Congress leaders once questioned the existence of Lord Ram while living in big houses but today when Lord Ram's magnificent temple is ready, they "are losing their bungalow".

"The biggest lie was told just a few days back that 'I am Gandhi and not Savarkar'. ...You are not even a real Gandhi and you cannot be Savarkar because the first condition of being a Gandhi is to be a patriot and to have unshak-

able faith in the nation of 'A k h a n d S a n a t a n B h a r a t', " Mishra said. "Just as a trader based in Moradabad puts up a board saying 'Agra ka petha is made here', a board in the name of 'Gandhi' has been put so that their business keeps on running," the BJP leader said. He was speaking at a session on Sanatan Sanskriti and Hindutva organised by Navonmesh Foundation here.

Responding to a query in a press conference on repeated calls by the BJP asking him to apologise over various issues, Rahul Gandhi



Kapil Mishra

had said a few days back, "My name is not Savarkar, my name is Gandhi and Gandhi does not offer an apology to anyone." He was referring to Hindutva ideology.

Damodar Savarkar, who had courted controversy for allegedly making inflammatory speeches ahead of the 2020 Northeast Delhi riots, also targeted the Congress over the Ayodhya Ram temple. "Now I want to ask Congress leaders whether Ram exists or not. Ramlala used to live in tents and they used to live in big bun-

galows and then used to say that Ram is not there, Ram is imaginary. The grand temple of Ramlala is ready and you will not have a house to live in," the former MLA from Delhi said, without naming anyone.

In September 2007, the then UPA government withdrew from the Supreme Court two affidavits, including the controversial one claiming that there was no historical or scientific evidence to establish the existence of Lord Ram and Ram Setu as a man-made bridge. After being disqualified from Lok Sabha following his conviction in a criminal defamation case by a Surat court recently, Rahul Gandhi got a notice from the Lok Sabha secretariat to evict his official bungalow.

## PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES



Women wearing masks amid rise in COVID-19 cases, cross a road at the Connaught Place, in New Delhi, Sunday.

## 'Barring Modi, no other PM has spoken about building toilets'

New Delhi, Apr 02 (PTI):

Former president Ram Nath Kovind on Sunday said barring Narendra Modi, who spoke about building toilets from the ramparts of the Red Fort, no other prime minister had laid stress on the subject. Kovind was speaking at the National Conference on Sociology of Sanitation where Modi's message was also read out.

The prime minister's message said: "Making people aware of the transformational outcomes of sanitation and cleanliness will also help in preparing domain-specific professionals and generate more opportunities for employment and self-employment."

Speaking at the event, Kovind recalled the words of Mahatma Gandhi, who had always prioritised cleanliness. "Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi

used to say cleanliness is next to godliness. Just like when the heart is not pure, one cannot gain god's blessings, in the same way, if our body is not clean, we cannot gain god's blessings.

"How can one's body be clean when one is staying in an unclean place?" he asked. The former president lauded Modi's nationwide campaign for building toilets and igniting the mind of the masses towards sanitation.

"Gandhiji had this belief that more than independence, cleanliness is necessary. At one point, he was asked that he was involved in the missions for independence and cleanliness, but if he had to prioritise one, which one would he choose? He had said the country will eventually become independent, but the focus on cleanliness should be given from today itself because it is in our hands.



Ram Nath Kovind

"After that, if someone has understood the importance of cleanliness, it is Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It has been highlighted several times that he is the first prime minister to talk about building toilets from the ramparts of the Red Fort. No prime minister has spoken about it. Some people also made fun of it, saying now, the prime minister has only this job to do," Kovind said. The three-day

national conference that began on Sunday is being attended by vice-chancellors and professors from different universities. The conference is being organised by the Sulabh International School of Action Sociology, a sister institution of the Delhi-based Sulabh International. At the conference, Kovind urged academicians to formulate strategies to promote issues relating to sanitation and its studies, while describing the study of sanitation as a tool of social change.

He also praised the efforts of Bindeshwar Pathak, the founder of Sulabh International, for his role in the fields of sanitation and social services. Kovind appreciated Pathak's campaign for the uplift of the downtrodden sections of the society by eradicating manual scavenging from the country. The prime minister wished

the conference a grand success. In his message, Modi said, "The holistic efforts of Sulabh International in furthering cleanliness, providing access to safe sanitation, promoting health and hygiene by building toilets, establishing biogas plants and building model villages are exemplary.

It is in this context that this conference assumes a special significance, since it is being spearheaded by an organisation with a track record of working in this domain." Addressing the conference, former chief justice of India Tirath Singh Thakur called upon scholars to give an extra push to the study of the sociology of sanitation in universities. Praising the efforts of Sulabh International, he said it is the only organisation that has never come in the bad books of the judiciary or others over incidents of fraud.

## VP's spouse awarded PhD

For work on ground water conservation

New Delhi, Apr 02 (PTI):

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar's wife Sudesh Dhankhar was on Sunday awarded a PhD in Economics for her work on sustainable development and ground water conservation in Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan. The doctorate degree on "Sustainable Development - Assessment of Sustainability of Groundwater Resource and Irrigated Agriculture in Jhunjhunu District, Rajasthan" was awarded to Sudesh Dhankhar at a convocation ceremony at the Banasthali Vidyapith.

The degree was handed over by Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra, sources close to the Dhankhar family said. A native of water-stressed



Sudesh Dhankhar, wife of Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, is awarded with Ph.D (Economics) for her work on ground water conservation in Jhunjhunu district, at a convocation ceremony at Banasthali Vidyapith, in Tonk, Sunday.

Rajasthan, she has been actively involved in the field of water conservation, apart from working on other social issues such as women empowerment

and minimising food wastage. She enrolled for PhD at the Banasthali Vidyapith in September, 2013, and completed it on March 14, 2022.

## TOURISTS' PARADISE



Tourists visit near North Portal of Atal Tunnel after fresh snowfall, in Rohtang, Sunday.

## Kalimpong's famed 'Dalle Khursani' under threat as peacocks wreak havoc on fields

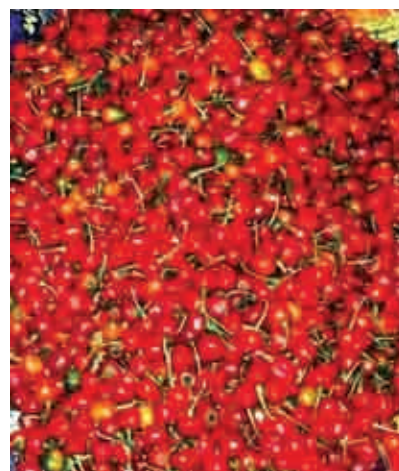
Kalimpong (WB), Apr 02 (PTI):

Dhan Bahadur Tamang got up midway from his lunch and briskly walked down the hills towards his fields as he heard the familiar jarring sound of peacock calls. The 54-year-old man carried a catapult and some pebbles, hoping to shoo away a muster of peafowls who have descended on his farm, to protect his dalle khursani' (pepper chilli variety grown in the hills) crop, from destruction.

The acreage under red hot pepper chilli which is one of the spiciest chillis is as a consequence may start shrinking, warned locals. The chilli, a favourite of many chefs, earned a geographical indicator tag two years back for the Darjeeling, Kalimpong and

Sikkim hills. The 'dalle' which has a range of 1,00,000 to 3,50,000 Scoville Heat Units (which measures spiciness of a chilli) as many locals call it fetch around Rs 500 a kg and hence is a favourite with farmers. Tamang is among hundreds of farmers in rural areas of Kalimpong district of West Bengal who need to protect their crops and yet not harm the national bird, which is protected by law.

In several parts of Kalimpong, where rice, chillies, vegetables, millet,



Kalimpong's famed 'Dalle Khursani', a pepper chilli variety grown in the hills of West Bengal and Sikkim.

flowers and fruits grow in abundance, peacocks have come to be a headache for most farmers, many of whom have incurred losses

and shifted to crops like maize that do not attract the colourful bird as much. Others have taken to building temporary huts in the fields where they spend the night to protect the crops from peacocks and peahens who usually come to the farms in the early hours of the morning.

"When a peacock comes to a field, it causes massive destruction. It eats little, but destroys crops more. Peacocks would place their beaks angularly and pull out the stalks of planted crops, eating some and throwing the rest on the ground," Tamang said, after successfully shooing away the birds.

The peacocks generally live on big trees in the forests and adjoining fields and venture into the farmlands mostly during the March to June period, Maya Yonzon, another farmer and Tamang's neighbour in Rangul village, said.

"The terror of peacocks is such that many people have stopped growing pulses and dalle khursani", the bird's favourite crops," she said.

## 'For SP, it is impossible to defeat BJP'

Lucknow, Apr 02 (PTI):

Ahead of the Uttar Pradesh urban local body polls, Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati on Sunday launched a scathing attack on the Samajwadi Party and asked her party workers to remain cautious about the propaganda that its support among Dalits was weakening.

Having been deceived repeatedly, people have now realised that it is "not difficult but impossible" for the SP to defeat the BJP, she charged. "To defeat the BJP, BSP is necessary," she asserted.

At a special meeting of party office-bearers and

district unit chiefs, Mayawati accused rival political parties of running a propaganda to weaken the BSP.

It was decided in the meeting that the BSP will go it alone in the urban local body polls, likely to be held soon.

In a statement issued here, she said, "Rival political parties hatch conspiracies to weaken the BSP in the state, misguide the Dalits and also try to isolate them from the party's movement. And through the media, news about cracks in the Dalit vote banks are publicised. There is not an iota of truth in these."

The Dalit community



BSP supremo Mayawati holds a meeting with district coordinators at the party office in Lucknow, Sunday.

should remain cautious about such propaganda and tricks and also make others aware about these,

she said.

Sharpening her attack on the Samajwadi Party, the BSP chief said, "SP's

dirty politics of deceit and manipulation is not going to work. Dalits and Most Backward Classes are already highly cautious about the SP. And, now the Muslim community is also not going to fall prey to their (SP) trickery and bluff. After repeatedly being deceived, they have understood that defeating the BJP using the SP is not difficult but impossible. Hence, to defeat the BJP, BSP is necessary."

She also trained her gun on the ruling BJP. The BJP's claims of development are getting exposed, she said.

"Most of the cities are devoid of any facilities. But they are called smart

cities in statements and announcements. Owing to price rise, poverty and unemployment, the condition of villages is very bad," she said.

"...under this government, if there has been any development, it has been of a handful of people in power, who are above the law, and for them, the discipline of rule of law does not hold any meaning, and this is known to all. However, it is important to change this sorry state of affairs, otherwise crores of people will suffer under price rise, poverty, unemployment and anarchy," she said.

"The BJP and its gov-

ernment are in the dock over the reservation for OBC in the urban local bodies elections, unemployment, farming problems...their condition is very dicey. The Samajwadi Party is completely on the back foot over its uncertain policies and deceitful approach as far as the interests of Dalits, Most Backward Classes and Muslim community are concerned," she alleged.

She charged that the SP was now trying to politically use the name of BSP founder Kanshi Ram even though the party has a long history of being ungrateful to him as well as B R Ambedkar.

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