



BRIEF



Rescue operation being carried out after almost 14 trekkers trapped following an avalanche, in Bageshwar, Sunday.

Roadblock

■ **Shillong:** mplementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission in many parts of Meghalaya is facing hurdles due to drying up of water sources in the northeastern state, PHE Minister Marcuise N Marak said on Sunday. Jal Jeevan Mission aims to provide potable water at every doorstep in the country by 2024. "I have received reports that there are Jal Jeevan Mission projects that are already completed by the department but because of drying up of the water sources, there is no water at intake points," the minister told PTI.

Mishap

■ **Rudraprayag:** An official of the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) died on Sunday after being hit by the tail rotor of a helicopter in Kedarnath. The incident occurred at the Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam (GMVN) helipad in Kedarnath, Rudraprayag Superintendent of Police (SP) Vishakha Ashok Bhadane said.

Orders

■ **Kaliaganj:** Prohibitory orders under Section 144 of CrPC were clamped in parts of Kaliaganj in West Bengal's Uttar Dinajpur district on Sunday following clashes between police and locals over the death of a 17-year-old girl, an official said. The prohibitory orders were imposed hours before the visit of a team of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) led by its chairperson Priyank Kanoongo to meet the family of the deceased girl.

Hospitalised

■ **Bengaluru:** JD(S) leader H D Kumarswamy, who has been hospitalised with symptoms of exhaustion and general weakness, is "medically stable and is recuperating", the hospital treating him said on Sunday. The former Karnataka Chief Minister's office said the 63-year old leader, who had been touring tirelessly, was suffering from fever and was advised by doctors to rest.

Arrest

■ **Kochi:** Kerala police on Sunday arrested a man who allegedly sent a letter threatening a suicide bomb attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi who will be visiting the state on April 24 and 25 to take part in various programmes. Kochi resident Xavier, who runs a business in the city, was arrested by police for allegedly writing the threatening letter in the name of another person.

Weather

High 33 Low 23

Amritpal Singh arrested

■ **Sent to Assam jail**

Chandigarh, Apr 23 (PTI):

The Punjab police arrested Amritpal Singh in Moga's Rode village early Sunday, ending an over a month-long manhunt against the radical preacher who styled himself after slain Khalistani militant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale.

The preacher was taken into custody at 6.45 am as he came out - in the traditional attire that included a sheathed sword - of the gurdwara in Rode, Bhindranwale's native village and also the place where he himself took over last year as the chief of Waris Punjab De.

The 29-year-old was detained under the stringent National Security Act and flown to Assam on a special flight to be lodged at the Dibrugarh Central



'Waris Punjab De' chief Amritpal Singh being brought to Dibrugarh Central Jail following his arrest from Punjab's Moga, in Dibrugarh, Sunday.

'Those try to disturb peace, harmony will face action'

Those who try to disturb peace and harmony will face action as per law, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said on Sunday, hours after radical preacher Amritpal Singh was arrested. Mann also thanked the people of Punjab for maintaining peace in the state during an over 30-day-long hunt for Amritpal. "Those who try to disturb peace and harmony and break the law of the country will face action as per law," he said, adding "We will not trouble any innocent person. We do not do vendetta politics." "I thank 3.5 crore Punjabis for maintaining peace and harmony during these 35 days," the chief minister said.

Jail, where nine other associates picked up over the

past several weeks are kept.

'Cat-and-mouse' chase comes to end

Over-a-month long "cat-and-mouse" chase finally came to an end on Sunday with police arresting radical preacher and Khalistan sympathiser Amritpal Singh from Punjab's Moga district. Amritpal managed to evade arrest for more than a month, which was proving to be a major embarrassment for the Punjab Police that had launched a crackdown against the radical preacher and his aides on March 18. Police launched the crackdown last month after Amritpal and his supporters, some of them brandishing swords and guns, broke through barricades and barged into the Ajnala police station on the outskirts of Amritsar city on February 23 and clashed with police personnel, demanding the release of Lovepreet Singh Toofan, one of his aides.

Massive crowds join Rahul on his road show

Vijayapura , Apr 23 (PTI):

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday held a massive road show here, ahead of the May 10 Karnataka Assembly polls, waving at a large, enthusiastic crowd that had lined up on both sides of the route. Standing on top of a specially designed vehicle, Gandhi constantly waved at the people gathered in the streets and on nearby buildings, many of whom were seen chanting 'Rahul, Rahul' slogans and shouting loud cheers.

He began the road show after garlanding the statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

People holding Congress flags moved along as the vehicle carrying Gandhi and other Congress leaders passed through the streets from Shivaji Circle and Kanakadasa Circle, amid the sound of drum beats.

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MEA ON EVACUATION OF INDIANS

'Govt making all out efforts to ensure safety and security'

■ **Of its nationals stranded in Sudan**

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

India has put two C-130J military transport aircraft on standby in Jeddah while an Indian Navy ship reached a key port in the region as part of the government's plans to evacuate stranded Indians from violence-hit Sudan.

Giving out the details, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said contingency plans for the evacuation of Indians have been put in place but any movement on the ground would depend on the security situation.

It said the security situation in Sudan continues to be "volatile" with reports of fierce fighting coming from various locations in the country's capital Khartoum.

The MEA said India is making all-out efforts to ensure the safety and security of Indians stranded in Sudan. "We are closely monitoring the complex and evolving security situation in Sudan," it said.

"We are also coordinat-

ing closely with various partners for the safe movement of those Indians who are stranded in Sudan and would like to be evacuated," the MEA said.

Apart from the Sudanese authorities, the MEA and the Indian embassy in Sudan are also in regular touch with the UN, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt, and the US among others.

"As part of our preparations and in order to move swiftly, the Government of India is pursuing multiple options," the MEA said.

"Two Indian Air Force C-130J are currently positioned on standby in Jeddah. And, INS Sumedha has reached Port Sudan," it said.

"Contingency plans are in place but any movement on the ground would depend on the security situation, which continues to be volatile with reports of fierce fighting at various locations in Khartoum," the MEA said.

It said the Sudanese airspace currently remained closed for all foreign aircraft and overland movement also has risks and logistical challenges.

BAD WEATHER

Registration for Kedarnath yatra suspended

■ **Till Apr 30**

Rishikesh, Apr 23 (PTI):

The registration of pilgrims for the Kedarnath yatra was on Sunday suspended till April 30 in Rishikesh and Haridwar.

The government will review the weather conditions in the coming days and accordingly take a decision in the interest of the pilgrims, he said.

Due to incessant rain and snowfall in the upper reaches of the Garhwal Himalayas, the mercury in the region has dropped significantly and authorities are facing problems in clearing the snow that keeps accumulating on footpaths.

Singh Kaviriyal said that in view of the bad weather and heavy snowfall, the registration of pilgrims for the Kedarnath yatra has been suspended till April 30 in Rishikesh and Haridwar.

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Three Naxalites arrested in Narayanpur

Narayanpur, Apr 23:

Three Naxalites, allegedly involved in separate incidents of murder and planting improvised explosive devices (IEDs) to target security personnel, were arrested in Narayanpur district, police said on Sunday.

While two Naxalites were nabbed near Turushmeta village under the Chhotedongar police station area, another was arrested from the Orchha police station limits on Saturday evening, an official here said.

Joint teams of District Reserve Guard (DRG), Chhattisgarh Armed Force (CAF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and district force that had launched anti-Naxal operations from Chhotedongar

About the arrest

While two Naxalites were nabbed near Turushmeta village under the Chhotedongar police station area, another was arrested from the Orchha police station limits on Saturday evening. The trio was identified as Sandip Korram (27), who was active as Jan militia commander of Maoists, and Shankar Darro (35) and Sitaram Sori (27), the Jan militia members. The three were active under the Nelnar area committee of Maoists and allegedly involved in incidents of murder, planting IEDs, and blocking roads by felling trees.

and Orchha, were involved in nabbing three Naxalites, he added. The trio was identified

Mali community's quota stir enters third day in Raj

Bharatpur , Apr 23 (PTI):

Mobile internet service remained suspended in parts of Bharatpur as members of the Mali community continued to block the Jaipur-Agra National Highway here for the third consecutive day demanding a separate 12 per cent reservation in government jobs and educational institutions. On Sunday, a large number of demonstrators started gathering at the protest site and demanded the release of their leader Murari Lal Saini, who along with six other people was detained ahead of the agitation, police said. President of Phule Aarakshan Sangarsh Samiti CP Saini said if the state government fails to fulfil their demands, they will block the Jaipur-Delhi highway. "We can also do a 'Chakka Jam' in the entire state," he said.

Terrorists used steel bullets in Poonch attack

Srinagar, Apr 23:

The terrorists who ambushed an Army truck in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch used steel core bullets, capable of piercing an armoured shield, and decamped with the soldiers' weapons, officials said on Sunday, amid intensified efforts to trace and neutralise the perpetrators. They said a sniper is believed to have targeted the truck from the front before the other terrorists sprayed bullets and lobbed grenades on it.

Five soldiers were killed and one injured after the terrorists attacked the lone Army truck, which was carrying eatables for iftar to a nearby village, in the dense forest area of Bhata Dhurian late on Thursday afternoon and the vehicle caught fire. The soldiers were from a Rashtriya Rifles unit deployed for counter-terror operations. Experts from various agencies, including the National Security Guard and the National Investigation Agency, have visited the site of the attack over the past two days and have managed to get a clear picture of the deadly ambush which was laid by the terrorists, the officials said.

They said a sniper is believed to have targeted the vehicle from the front before his associates show-

ered bullets and lobbed grenades on the vehicle from opposite sides, apparently giving the troops no time to retaliate.

The terrorists used steel core bullets that can penetrate an armoured shield, they said.

Before fleeing, the terrorists stole the soldiers' arms and ammunition, they added.

Though the area where the attack took place is considered terrorism-free for long, the Bhata Dhurian forest area remains a notorious infiltration route for terrorists attempting to sneak into India by crossing the Line of Control due to its topography, dense forest cover and natural caves.

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SC TO TECHIE COUPLE SEEKING DIVORCE

'One works at day and other at night, where is time for marriage'

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

The Supreme Court has told a couple, who are software engineers seeking divorce, why don't they give a second chance to the marriage as both of them were not able to devote time to their union.

A bench of Justices K M Joseph and B V Nagarathna said, "Where is the time for marriage. Both of you are software engineers posted in Bengaluru. One goes to duty in the day and the other in the night. You have no regret for divorce but have regret for marriage. Why don't you give a second chance to the marriage." Justice Nagarathna said that

Bengaluru is not a place where divorces take place so frequently and the couple may give a chance towards their union. However, the counsels for both the husband and wife told the bench that during the pendency of this petition the parties were referred to the Supreme Court Mediation Centre in order to explore the possibility of a settlement between them.

The bench was informed that both husband and wife have agreed upon a settlement agreement in which they have decided to dissolve their marriage by a decree of divorce by mutual consent under Section 13B of the Hindu Marriage Act,

1955 on certain terms and conditions. The counsels informed the bench that one of the terms being that the husband would pay a total sum of Rs 12.51 lakh towards full and final settlement of all monetary claims of the wife as a permanent alimony. The bench noted in its order dated April 18, "When queried by this Court, the parties stated that they have indeed agreed to settle their disputes amicably by parting ways and seeking divorce by mutual consent. They also state that the terms of settlement would be adhered to by them and hence the marriage may be dissolved by a decree of divorce by mutual consent."

Mass marriage event sees pregnancy tests on some

Dindori, Apr 23 (PTI):

A mass marriage scheme of the Madhya Pradesh government stirred a controversy after some of the would-be brides were found to be pregnant and the opposition Congress sought to know under what guidelines these women were subjected to medical tests. The issue is related to the marriage of 219 couples in Gadasarai town in Dindori district under the 'Mukhya Mantri Kanya Vivah Yojana' on Saturday to mark Akshaya Tritaya, an official said on Sunday.

Calling such testing an insult to the poor, Congress legislator Omkar Singh Marmam said, "The state government must clarify

Insult of poor: Cong

Calling such testing an insult to the poor, Congress legislator Omkar Singh Marmam said, "The state government must clarify what are the guidelines or rules for such pregnancy tests." Opposition Congress sought to know under what guidelines these women were subjected to medical tests.

What Collector says....

Defending the administration, Dindori Collector Vikas Mishra told PTI directives were issued during the mass marriage event for detection of sickle cell ailment among those taking part. During medical examination, some brides spoke of period issues after which doctors at the site took a decision to conduct pregnancy tests on those with such complaints, Mishra informed. "There was no directive from the administration to conduct pregnancy tests. The four women who were found to be pregnant were not allowed to take part in the mass marriage," he added.

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during the mass marriage event for detection of sickle cell ailment among those taking part. During medical examination, some brides spoke of period issues after which doctors at the site took a decision to conduct pregnancy tests on those with such complaints, Mishra informed.

"There was no directive from the administration to conduct pregnancy tests. The four women who were found to be pregnant were not allowed to take part in the mass marriage," he added.

Under the 'Mukhya Mantri Kanya Vivah Yojana', the state government provides Rs 56,000 as financial assistance to eligible couples.

Four arrested for mass chain snatching at public events

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 23: With the arrest of a man and three women, police claimed to have solved the three cases of chain snatching which occurred at village Gatapar during an event of Sahu Samaj on Saturday. There was a huge crowd in this programme due to the presence of the Chief Minister, Home Minister and other political leaders.

The arrested accused followed the modus operandi of targeting the women in social, religious and marriage programs. The joint team of ACCU and Jamgaon (R) Police Station recovered gold chains and artificial jewellery from the accused.

SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that Jamgaon Police Station received



complaints of chain snatching from Rama Bai Sahu of Gatapar, Uma Bai Sahu of Gatapar and Savana Bai Nirmalkar of village Gatapar. All the three victims had gone to attend the Karma Jayanti program and mass marriage program of Sahu Samaj in the village. In all the cases, the incident occurred between 02.30 to 03.00 pm at the programme venue. Police lodged com-

plaints under section 379 of IPC and took the matter into consideration.

Under the supervision of ASP (Rural) Anant Sahu; ASP (City) Sanjay Dhruv; DSP (Crime) Rajeev Sharma and SDOP (Patan) Devansh Singh Rathore, a special team was constituted under the leadership of ACCU I/c Inspector Santosh Mishra and Jamgaon SHO Sub Inspector Radhey Shyam

Juri. The team collected CCTV footage of the surrounding areas to find the suspects. The network of informers was also activated. The criminals recently released from jail were also quizzed. Meanwhile, police received specific information about four suspects.

Police team swung into action and arrested the suspects identified as Surendra Purhole (29) son of Fulgiri a resident of Piprasakti, Akaltara; Sarla Sahu (35) wife of Bajrang Sahu a resident of Amapara Raipur; Raniya Purhole (24) wife of Surendra a resident of Piprasakti, Akaltara; and Sant Kumari Nayak (33) wife of Narendra Nayak a resident of Jhalmala, Palmgarh, Janjgir Champa. During sustained interrogation, they con-

fessed to chain snatchings at public events. Gold chain and artificial jewelry worth about Rs 70000 were recovered from the accused. Police also seized the car used in the incident. Further action against the accused is being done from Police Station Jamgaon (R).

ASI Shamit Mishra, ASI Purna Bahadur, ASI Rajesh Pandey, ASI Chandrashekhar Soni, Head Constable Ruman Sonwani, Constable Pankaj Chaturvedi, Rajkumar Chandra, Anup Sharma from ACCU and ASI Jitendra Chandrakar, Constable Jai Prakash Sahu, Rajeev Dubey, Shrawan Sahu, Mahendra Banjare, Pramod Mandavi and female constable Kiran Sonkar from PS Jamgaon played vital role in arresting the accused.

Thief nabbed; stolen truck recovered

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 23: Police have arrested a ruffian on charges of stealing a multi-axle truck trailer. The stolen vehicle has also been recovered. The accused had cut the ignition switch wire to steal the vehicle. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that on April 21, they received a complaint from Sunil Kumar Dongre, who works as a driver in a transport company.

He had parked his truck trailer near the pond in front of Baikunthdham temple and went to sleep at home. Next morning, he found that the truck was stolen. Police lodged a complaint under section 379 of IPC. A joint team led by ACCU in-charge Inspector Santosh Mishra and SHO Chhawani Inspector Navi Monika Pandey investigated



the matter.

After collecting the necessary information by inspecting the crime scene, the team collected the CCTV footage of nearby places. A suspect was seen in the CCTV footage and later a person of similar appearance was caught from Shirdapara area.

During interrogation, the suspect Golu Yadav confessed to have stolen the truck. The accused informed that he cut the ignition switch wire to start the truck without keys and took it to Link Road

market. He concealed the truck at Link Road Market and escaped from the spot. Further action is being taken from the Chhawani Police Station.

Sub Inspector Naresh Sarwa from Police Station Chhawani and ASI Shamit Mishra; Head Constable Satyendra Mandhariya, Constable Arvind Mishra, Amit Dubey, Bhavesh Patel, Rinku Soni, Rakesh Chaudhary, Rakesh Anna, D Prakash and Nitin Singh from ACCU played a vital role in arresting the accused.

CM attends mass marriage program of Sahu Samaj at Gatapar

Announces Rs 50 lakh for community building and pond beautification

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 23: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel attended the mass marriage programme, Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti Mahotsav and Bhamashah Jayanti programme organized at village Gatapar of Patan development block on Saturday.

On this occasion, he blessed 16 newly married couples who tied nuptial knots at the mass marriage programme. The Chief Minister also announced Rs 50 lakh for the community building of Sahu Samaj in Patan and beautification of Gatapar Talab. In the program organized by Sahu Samaj, 1007 lamps were lit and Maha Aarti of Maa Karma was performed. Cultural programmes were also staged.

Addressing the programme, the Chief



Minister said that Shahu Samaj is a progressive samaj. Due to social awareness and organization power, this Samaj is progressing rapidly. Mass marriages have been organized by Sahu Samaj for the last 20 years which is an example of their progressiveness.

He said that 55 acres of land has been allotted in Rajim for Rajim Maghi Punni Mela. Construction of approach roads, Dharamshala for saints, dome sheds and other



construction works are being done in a planned manner.

Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu asked the office bearers of the Samaj to take every decision in the interests of the Samaj. District Panchayat Vice President Ashok Sahu, former MLA Dr Dayaram Sahu and other public representatives and office bearers of Sahu Samaj were present in the programme.

The Chief Minister also inaugurated and performed bhoomipujan of

works worth Rs 57 lakhs in the programme. The dedicated works include water tank at Gatapar at a cost of Rs 25 lakh, community building at a cost of Rs 6.50 lakh, public toilet at a cost of Rs 3.50 lakh, stage at a cost of Rs 3 lakh, renovation of Karma Bhawan at a cost of Rs 2 lakh, stage at Umarpoti at a cost of Rs 2 lakh, government fair price shop and godown at a cost of Rs 10 lakh and restoration work in Sheela temple premises at a cost of Rs 5 lakh.

VC, registrar, gold medalists & PhD awardees participate in grand rehearsal

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 23: The first convocation ceremony and the 8th foundation day celebration of Hemchand Yadav University is scheduled on April 24, 2023 from 15:00 hrs onwards at Auditorium, Bhilai Institute of Technology (BIT), Durg. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will be the chief guest of the ceremony, while Governor of Chhattisgarh and Chancellor of Hemchand Yadav University will preside over. S w a m i Nikhileshwarananda, Chairman, Ramkrishna Ashram, Rajkot, Gujarat will deliver the convocation address. Among other distinguished guests are Tamradhwaj Sahu, Minister of Home, Public Works Department, Jail and Tourism, Dharmava and Culture; Ravindra Choubey,



Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Law and Legal Affairs, Agriculture and Biotechnology, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Water Resources; Mohammad Akbar, Minister of Transport, Forest, Housing, Environment, Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection; Guru Rudra Kumar, Minister of Public Health & Engineering and Village Industries; Umesh Patel, Minister of Higher Education, Technical Education, Science and Technology; Saroj Pandey, Member of Rajya Sabha; Vijay Baghel, Member of Lok Sabha; Arun Vora, MLA Durg (urban) and President of Chhattisgarh Ware House Corporation;

Devendra Yadav, MLA Bhilai Nagar; and Vidya Ratan Bhasin, MLA Vaishalinagar. Information on this account was given by Registrar, Bhupendra Kuldeep. A grand rehearsal of this convocation was conducted on Sunday in the auditorium of BIT, Durg. The Vice Chancellor of the University, Dr Aruna Palta, Registrar Bhupendra Kuldeep and all the officers of the University, along with 128 gold medalist students and 13 research scholars who will be conferred with PhD degrees during the convocation ceremony, were involved in this rehearsal. Giving this information, the Vice-Chancellor, Student Welfare, Dr Prashant Srivastava said that white color kurta-pajama for the

students attending the convocation ceremony and any colour saree for girl students were prescribed as dress code. The students wearing turbans in these costumes were looking extremely cheerful. All the gold medalists and Ph D degree holders were given turbans and university badges free of cost by the university administration before the rehearsal.

During the rehearsal of the convocation, the anthem of the university and the state anthem of Chhattisgarh were also presented. The Vice-Chancellor Dr Aruna Palta practiced giving the convocation address to the students. The program was conducted by Dr Preeta Lal and the various phases of the convocation ceremony and the vote of thanks were conducted by the Registrar Bhupendra Kuldeep. The students also rehearsed from which side they should enter and leave the auditorium while receiving the gold medal or PhD degree. Apart from this, rehearsals were also done for online zoom link and live broadcast on YouTube.

Mata Karma is the goddess of service, sacrifice, devotion and dedication: CM

Kumhari Bazar Chowk to be named Mata Karma Chowk



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 23: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel attended the Mata Karma Jayanti Mahotsav organised by Kumhari Nagar Unit of Sahu Sangh. He said that Mata Karma is the goddess of service, sacrifice, devotion and dedication. Devoted to Lord Krishna, Mata Karma devoted her entire life to social and religious work. That's why today the birth anniversary of Mata Karma is celebrated with devotion and enthusiasm by the people of the state. On this occasion, the Chief Minister also announced the renaming of Kumhari Bazar Chowk as Mata Karma Chowk.

He said that for unity in a

quintals of paddy per acre from November 1 this year. Millet Mission is also being continuously promoted in the state. With these initiatives, the farmers of the state will leave their mark at the international level.

On this occasion, Nandlal Sahu of District Sahu Sangh, Rajeshwar Sonkar (President, Kumhari Municipal Council), Deepak Tarachand Sahu (Former President, Handicraft Board), Rajendra Sahu (President, District Cooperative Central Bank), Ashwani Sahu (President, Krishi Upaj Mandi), Shyam Lal Sahu (Tehsil Sahu Sangh, Dhamdha), Shubham Sahu (Chhattisgarh Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board), Murari Lal Sahu (Executive President, Tehsil Sahu Sangh, Dhamdha), Krishna Kumar Sahu (Vice President, District Sahu Sangh), Divya Kalihari (Vice President, District Sahu Sangh), Jeevan Lal Sahu (Organization Secretary, District Sahu Sangh), Vijay Laxmi Sahu (Tehsil Sahu Sangh Dhamdha), Devendra Kumar Sahu (Organization Secretary Tehsil Sahu Sangh Dhamdha), Pramod Singh Rajput (President Block Congress Committee Kumhari), Manharan Yadav (PWD Incharge), Feku Ram Sahu (Vice President, Sahu Samaj), Bhujbal Sahu (Advisor Sahu Samaj), Bhuneshwar Sahu (Vice President, Sahu Samaj), Ratan Sahu (Organization Secretary), Rakesh Sahu (Kumhari Municipal Council), Ashok Sahu (Alderman), Raju Sahu (Youth Cell Kumhari) were present.

Samaj, it is important to have positive thoughts and only education can give positive thoughts. He asked the people to give special emphasis on education for social progress.

Further, he mentioned the plans of the government and detailed the positive steps being taken by the government to promote young entrepreneurs through RIPA. He said that RIPA would play an important role in realizing Mahatma Gandhi's dream of self-reliant and self-reliant villages and would provide employment to the youth. Along with this, the state government is committed to respect the hard work of farmers and therefore it has been decided to purchase 20



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 23: CA National Conference "ACHIEVE-2023" was organised at CA Bhawan, Civic Centre by Professional Development Committee of Bhilai CA Branch under the joint auspices of Raipur and Bilaspur CA Branch. Anirban Dasgupta, Director-in-Charge of Bhilai Steel Plant attended the programme as the chief guest while Dr Ashok Panda (ED Finance) was present as the special guest. CA Dr Girish Ahuja (Delhi), CA Pankaj Shah (Indore), CA Ruchi Gupta (Jaipur) joined as speakers.

The program began with traditional lamp lighting ceremony before the oil painting of Maa Saraswati. Thereafter, the Chief Guest Anirban Dasgupta addressed the gathering. He said that all the chartered accountants of the institution can bring reform in practice and work in a professional and independent

manner.

He said that the CA should always work like a leading indicator by moving forward and not by remaining behind. Also, work should have input of knowledge, learning and networking. Today India is developing with advanced economy and efforts to solve many problems should be initiated from now only to bring value in business.

The keynote speaker of the program CA Dr Girish Ahuja spoke on "Stable Returns - Volatile World". He said that times have changed now. Therefore, not only chartered accountants, but tax payers also have to change with time. He said that as of today, the Income Tax Department has more information than the taxpayer.

Taxpayers must understand that all the new provisions are making income tax more transparent. Dr Ahuja said that Chartered Accountants now need to find opportunities to serve

in new fields. He said that the country is changing now, in this the role of Chartered Accountants has increased further.

He advocated that CA has to be updated with the new technology. CA Kishore Bardia, Vice President, Central India Regional Council said that under ICAI Career Counselling, we must conduct career counseling by visiting 5000 schools at the state level so that children can get guidance about their personality and career in future.

It is necessary for all of us to take initiative for the bright future of the coming generation. CA Abhay Chhajed congratulated Bhilai, Raipur and Bilaspur team for this event. He appreciated the experience of senior CA Girish Ahuja. He spoke on India's vision of G-20, One Earth-One Family-One Future.

Along with giving information about the works being done by the govern-

ment on green energy, he said that it is the best and cheapest energy option for our daily life. In the program, CA Pankaj Shah spoke on bankruptcy, valuation, accounting and law, as well as informed about the important points of business restructuring. In this sequence, CA Ruchi Gupta gave information about the benefits and rules of the labor law.

Special guest ED Finance Ashok Panda said that the biggest challenge before us today is the digital world. We have to move ahead facing this challenge, it has become necessary for us to learn new rules, new laws and new work skills. For example, today it is a big challenge to work with big changes by taking advantage of Artificial Intelligence (AI), block chain, cyber security. Self-development with time is very necessary, otherwise we will be left behind.

CA Mangesh Pandurang, Vice Chairman, ICAI said that professional develop-

ment means moving ahead with various skills, only then we will be able to become professional CAs. Further, he gave his views about the future changes and the benefits that would come from it. He said that CA is not just limited to CA Practitioners or Auditors, today new challenges are emerging in front of them in which we should work with the new changes developed by us.

Today the demand for multitasking CA profession is increasing in every big organization. Today GST itself is moving towards automation. We have to work towards improving our skills. Branch Chairperson CA Payal Naveen Jain, Secretary CA Anshel Sinha, Former Chairman CA Pradeep Pal, Program Convenor CA Harsh Jain, Secretary CA Naveen Jain, Former Chairman CA JL Jain, CA SC Lekhwani including former Chairman and more than 300 members participated in the program.

Need to save jungle, in order to save Earth: Prem Kumar

Raipur, Apr 24: The Secretary Forest and Environment department Prem Kumar hailing the Brahmakumari institution said that it is purely dedicated for entire humanity and therefore it attracts attention of people not only on spirituality, but on the moral needs of the society. If we need to save the planet Earth, then the jungles will have to be saved. The temperature on planet Earth is increasing continuously and if it crosses even 4 Degrees, then the Earth will not be a place to live. Now we need to bring carbon emission to zero and it will be possible only when the amount of Carbon we emit is absorbed by trees and for this we need to plant more and more trees. In the same way the water too needs to be conserved and for this the rivers be allowed to flow freely and the pollut-



ed water from factories and cities should not be released in it, he added. Prem Kumar was speaking at the seminar organised by Gram Vikas cell of Prajapita Brahmakumari Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya (PBIV) on occasion of World Earth's Day here on Sunday. Prem Kumar informed that recently the work of bringing Leopards from other countries to India is being carried out and along with this the

golden jubilee year of Tiger Project was also observed. Actually for the environment, it is necessary for the wild animals like Lion, Tiger, Leopard and others to stay alive. Here in Chhattisgarh, the state's Wild Animal 'Wild Bison' was brought from Assam and protected here. In the same way the government by putting ban on plastic is doing good job and even the preparation of paint using

cow-dung is appreciable, he added. Chief Conservator of Forest (CCF) Bhanu Pratap Singh said that Environment is not a problem, but it is the humans who are problem-makers. Every person will have to understand his or her responsibility. One should not waste water by opening the water tab, rather should always try to save water. When we take lunch, many a person leaves half the food in the plates and this cause loss of grains and food. World Earth day is not something to be observed for one day, but it needs to be observed throughout the year. No one should try to cause damage to the environment, he added. Director PBIV Raipur centre Savita Didi said that it a question as to why we need to observe World Earth Day? There was a time when entire atmosphere and nature was

in pristine form. The water in the rivers was potable and the nature was fulfilling all our needs, but it is for selfish interest, we are polluting them. These days, PBIV is working hard on taking up agriculture without any chemical fertilizers and doing organic farming. When the farmers associated with our institute started organic farming, their production increased many times per acre. Prior to this Brahmakumari Diksha Didi informed that to keep the planet Earth free from pollution and make it safe, the World Earth Day was started way back in 1970 in USA. One should use the planet earth as the gift by the God, then its exploitation and misuse will also stop. In the end the Brahmakumari Aditi didi made other practice 'Rajyoga'.

SHOBHA YATRA



All the different Brahmin organizations in the state took out a massive 'Shobha Yatra' on occasion of Parshuram Jayanti starting from Dharna venue in Budhatalab and passed through main thoroughfares of city.

Anyone speaking against Modi, Adani will face action: CM

Raipur, Apr 23: CM Bhupesh Baghel commenting over vacating of bungalow by AICC ex-President Rahul Gandhi said that if anyone speaks against Adani or Modi in the country, then they will have to pay for it. In case of Rahul Gandhi, his membership in the Lok Sabha was cancelled and he was asked to vacate the government bungalow. From this it is aptly clear that whosoever will speak against Modi or Adani, will face action.



This is not the first incident of its type, earlier also such incidents have taken place, he added. It is notable here that on cancellation of Rahul Gandhi's membership, he was asked to vacate the government bungalow and handed over the key to the officer present saying that 'I have paid the price for speaking the truth'.

wherein he was living for last 19 yrs. He has vacated from the 12 Tuglaq Lane bungalow and handed over the key to the officer present saying that 'I have paid the price for speaking the truth'.

IIM Raipur's 12th convocation today

Raipur, Apr 23: Indian Institute of Management Raipur is all set to host its 12th Annual Convocation Ceremony on Monday, April 24. It is a proud and joyous occasion for the institute as young business management graduates are ready to embark on their journey, equipped with the values instilled by the institution. The upcoming convocation ceremony will be graced by the Chief Guest, Ashish Kumar Chauhan, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, National Stock Exchange of India, who will deliver the Convocation Address. Shyamala Gopinath, Chairperson, Board of Governors, will deliver the Welcome Address, and

Prof. Ram Kumar Kakani, Director, IIM Raipur, will present the institute's achievements in the Director's Report. IIM Raipur, in its thirteen years of existence, has emerged as a leading business school in the country, as evident from its NIRF ranking of 14th. Given the fast-changing economic environment, the institute is committed to providing a global perspective to all its programmes and activities and has collaborated with various institutions worldwide for its Foreign Exchange Program. This year, 10 students were recommended for grants based on merit and means, and 22 students were selected for the

International Student Exchange program with partner institutions in Greece, France, Germany, Austria, and Slovakia. IIM Raipur has been selected as one of the 15 institutes to represent India in hosting the prestigious Y20 events as part of India's G20 Presidency. Additionally, the institute has been appointed as the sole Knowledge Partner for all Y20 events held in the country. With the guidance of Director Prof Ram Kumar Kakani, IIM Raipur successfully hosted a Y20 event on campus, attended by 250 national and 50 international participants. The event was graced by Anurag Thakur, Minister of Sport, Youth Affairs and Minister of

Information and Broadcasting, and Renuka Singh, Minister of State Tribal Affairs. Many a initiatives taken by IIM Raipur reflect its commitment to providing quality education and keeping pace with the evolving needs of the industry. The institute's efforts to offer innovative programs and collaborate with leading institutions are expected to help students achieve their academic and professional goals. IIM Raipur has come a long way in the academic field since its establishment thirteen years ago and continues to strive towards excellence in providing quality education and preparing its students for the future.

CM greets on Panchayati Raj Diwas today

Raipur, Apr 23: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has extended greetings to Panchayati Raj representatives on occasion of eve of National Panchayati Raj Diwas here on Sunday. CM in his message has said that as per the symbolic 73rd amendments in the Constitution, April 24 is observed as National Panchayati Raj Diwas. With this amendment in the Act, in order to establish democracy at local level, Panchayati Raj institutions were granted constitutional status and were handed over the work of rural development in the country. CM Baghel said that former PM Late Rajiv Gandhi by providing constitution-

al rights and responsibilities to Gram Panchayats, fulfilled the dream of 'Gram Suraj' that of Mahatma Gandhi. In Chhattisgarh, the Panchayati Raj Institutions have proved their leadership capabilities and participation. Be it the case of providing ration to the beneficiaries through Anganbadi workers or PDS during period of trouble or providing employment through MGNREGA and for all such works, all the Panchayats worked along with the state government. The more the Panchayati Raj institutions will be stronger, more the democracy will be strengthened, he added.

Youth electrocuted after touching high tension wire over goods train

Raipur, Apr 23: A mentally deranged youth was electrocuted when he touched high tension wire after climbing on a goods train late Saturday in Tilda area of Raipur. Huge explosion took place as soon as he touched the wire, causing severe burn injuries to his body. He died on the spot. The half-burnt body of the youth was sent for postmortem. According to the information, the Tilda-Nevra police was informed late on Saturday night by the railwaymen that a half-burnt body of a person was lying near the station. The police immediately reached the spot and started investigation.

The youth has been identified as 28-year-old Arun Kumar Sen, resident of ward number-14 Newra. In the initial investigation, it seemed like a case of murder, but when the police examined the footage of the CCTV camera, it was clear that he died after touching high tension wire over goods train. According to the information, deceased's mother had died a few years back. He lived with his father Santosh Sen who is disabled. The deceased Arun Kumar Sen was unmarried. It is being told that he was mentally deranged and was a drug addict. He was undergoing treatment for the last 3-4 years. Police

said that a trident was also recovered from the deceased, which he always kept with him. A tattooed name was found on the other hand of the deceased, from which he was identified as Arun Kumar Sen, a resident of Tilda-Nevra. Regarding this whole matter, Tilda Nevra police station in-charge Sudarshan Singh said that the police got the news late night that a half-burnt body of a young man had been seen. At present, the police has sent the dead body for postmortem. The relatives have been called to the police station to record their statement. Further investigation is on in the matter.

Sales manager absconds with company's bike after his dismissal

Raipur, Apr 23: Sales manager of an iron company absconded with the company's vehicle with his dismissal from service Samta Colony, Raipur. The company named Balaji Iron had given the bike to him to work. When the company dismissed him due to his poor performance, he absconded with the company's vehicle. According to the information, Vineet Gupta, owner of Balaji Iron Company, a resident of Mahoba Bazar, told police that in the year 2021, Bullet Dubey, a resident of Bihar, was appointed as Sales Marketing Manager by the company.

He used to go to different institutions and take orders for the company. For this work, the company gave him a Hero Extreme bike worth Rs 60,000. When the performance of the manager was not found satisfactory, he was dismissed from the job. With his dismissal he was asked to return the vehicle to the company, but he absconded with the vehicle. Other staff of company went to his house but he could not be traced. He also switched off his phone. Seeing no other option company owner lodged an FIR against him. Police started probe into the matter.

Divisional level residential yoga training camp from today

Raipur, Apr 23: A seven-day divisional level residential yoga training camp is being organized by the Chhattisgarh Yog Aayog from April 24 to 30 with the aim of making citizens familiar with yoga. In the first phase of the camp, the training program of Raipur division is being organized from 24 to 30 April 2023 at 'Yog Bhawan' Working Women's Hostel, VIP Road Raipur. About 200 men and women will participate in the camp. The introduction and importance of yoga will be discussed on April 24, the first day of the seven-day training camp. Yoga experts will give lectures on

'Ashtanga Yoga' and Yoga Philosophy. On 25th April Ashtanga Yoga (Rules), Yoga in Global Perspective, Theoretical Interpretation of 'Shatkarma', Physical and Mental Emotional Energy Transformation with 'Pragya' Yoga will be explained. On April 26, there will be lectures on 'Hasya' Yoga, 'Ashtanga' Yoga (Asanas), Naturopathy, Yoga for adolescent girls. Participants will be told about Ashtanga Yoga (Pranayama), spiritual empowerment, treatment of various people by acupuncture, pressure in emergency, Surya Namaskar and its importance, yoga and value education on April

27. On April 28, subject experts will tell about Ashtanga Yoga (Pratyahara, Dharana), Yoga and stress management, prevention of alcoholism and drugs along with yoga and value education. On April 29, the participants will be told about Ashtanga Yoga (meditation, samadhi), role of yoga during delivery, art of living life in Ashtanga Yoga, Isa Yoga. On April 30, the last day of the training, information will be given about the effect of yoga on diseases and stress management, special yoga exercises for pregnant women. There will also be a motivational video demonstration.

Police raids about a dozen Spa Centres



● Many suspects taken into arrest, inquiry in process

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 23: The capital police conducted raids at multiple spa-centres in city on Sunday, based upon complaint of sex-racket operating from these centres. In this at many a centres, girls were found in objectionable condition and this clearly indicates that sex-racket is being operated from such centres. The capital police

along with female police officers raided in about a dozen spa centres in city on Sunday. The team comprised of DSP and police from anti-crime unit. Addl. SP Abhishekh Maheshwari informed that for long time there was complaint of sex-racket being operated from Spa Centres and so with one female DSP and SCCU combined team, the Spa Centres were raided and thorough checking was done. In this raid few suspects were nabbed and were taken to Telibandha thana for inquiry

Chandkhuri resonates with the songs of classical singer Maithili Thakur

Noted singer Kavita Paudwal presents devotional songs

Vyomesh Shukla performs Shakti Puja of Shri Ram

Raipur, Apr 23: Noted classical singer Maithili Thakur presented devotional songs at Mata Kaushalya Dham located in Chandkhuri on the second day of Mata Kaushalya Mahotsav. Maithili Thakur, originally from Bihar, has made a different identity in the youth of the country with her songs and music. On the second day of the festival, Bhajans (devotional songs) were performed by famous Mumbai singer Kavita Paudwal. Shri Ram's Shakti Puja was presented by Vyomesh Shukla from Varanasi. The performance of both these artists was held on the first day of the festival, but due to bad weather, their performance was held on the second day of the festival today.



Dancer Ravinder Khurana performing Odishi dance.

Audience also enjoyed the performance of devotional classical dance-Vatika by Raminder Khurana from Mumbai. Prabhanjay Chaturvedi, a resident of Chhattisgarh's Bhillai, presented devotional songs and bhajans in front of the audience on the second day of the festival. Famous singer Padma Shri Kailash Kher will perform at Mata Kaushalya Dham on the last day of the festival.

Women belonging to 'Manas' troupes to be awarded

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 23: Women belonging to 'Manas' troupes will be awarded with 'Mata Koushalya Alankaran' for their services. This was announced by Culture Minister Amarjit Bhagat while speaking after inaugurating Mata Koushalya Mahotsav in Chandrakhuri here. The award to women members of Manas troupes is an initiative of the government for women's empowerment. Bhagat said in his address that this grand event was being organized by the Chhattisgarh government to promote culture, art and literature. Continuous activities of the state government to promote the cultural heritage helped carve out unique identity of Chhattisgarh in country and abroad, he said. Through this event, a glimpse of art culture and devotional tradition is being seen not only from Chhattisgarh but from all over India, which will always be memorable for the audience, he said. Artistes



of Manas troupes in state are very talented and sing beautiful Manas songs, he said, adding that govern-

ment has given a platform to them to showcase their talent. Ram-Van-Gaman tourism circuit is being de-

veloped in the state and Kaushalya Dham has been given a new look, he said. He also said that Manas competitions were organised to encourage Matas troupes associated with 'Ram Katha'. An amount of Rs 2 crore 44 lakh 75 thousand was given to a total of 4 thousand 895 Manas troupes registered in 'Chinhari portal for the purchase of musical instruments. School Education Minister Dr Premsai Singh Tekam was also present on this occasion. Vyomesh Shukla, head of Roopvani cultural organization who came from Banaras, was also honoured.

Embrace organic farming while considering the health of 'Dharti Mata': CM

- **CM performed Maati Poojan on 'Akti Tihar', sowed seeds and plowed fields by tractor**
- **Announced separate Directorate for Agriculture Engineering**

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 23: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel attended the Akti Tihar and Maati Poojan program held in the Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV) premises today. On this occasion, the Chief Minister worshipped the village soil, deities, and Thakur Dev. He sowed the seeds of bottle gourd, beans, and ridged gourd as per the tradition of sowing seeds.

While praying to the Dharti Mata for good harvest, the Chief Minister worshipped paddy seeds and fed fodder to Gau Mata. Chief Minister Mr.

Bhupesh Baghel prayed to the Dharti Mata for the wealth and prosperity of the state's residents. On the occasion of Akti Tihar, the Chief Minister plowed the fields by a tractor.

On this occasion, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the Farmer Auditorium building, newly-constructed cluster classroom, and camp office of Mahatma Gandhi Horticulture and Forestry University in the premises of the Agriculture University. While addressing the farmers, CM Baghel said that we should be as much concerned about Dharti Mata as we are about our own health.

We should prefer organic farming while decreasing the use of chemical fertilizers. The nature is providing us with all facilities. Akti and Maati Poojan is a festival for expressing our gratitude to the earth. We should contemplate over what we are giving back to the earth in return of what we are obtaining from the nature.

On the occasion of Akti festival, we pray to the Dharti Mata before farming and only after receiving her permission we use the spade. We ask for forgiveness from Dharti Mata for the harm done. During the program, the Chief Minister announced the establishment of separate directorate for agricultural engineering.

The Chief Minister, while extending his greetings of Akti Tihar and Lord Parshuram Jayanti, said that Lord Parshuram had made the 'Akshaypatra'. It is believed that Lord Parshuram conducted many researches in the field of agriculture. Apart from battles, his axe is also useful in farming and agriculture.

He said that Chhattisgarh is an agriculture-dominated state and 70-80 percent of the people are dependent on agriculture for their livelihood



here. Because of the dependence of the state's economy on agriculture, the state government has launched many schemes for farmers and is committed to working for their prosperity. This has led to the increase in agricultural production in the past four years.

The Chief Minister said that the farmers will be able to sell paddy at 20 quintals per acre, and it will benefit the farmers significantly. Because of the

farmer welfare policies of the Government, the paddy production in the state has risen to 107 lakh metric tonnes. The Chhattisgarh Government has fixed the support prices of Kodo and Kutki and has also arranged its purchase.

Kodo, Kutki, and Ragi are being cultivated extensively in Chhattisgarh, especially in tribal regions. Chhattisgarh will emerge as a major hub in the field of horticulture and

forestry. People from all across the world will visit our state for studies.

Chief Minister administered the pledge of protecting Dharti Mata, using organic manure, and providing clean drinking water and air to the future generations.

Launched Indira Seed brand

CM Bhupesh Baghel launched the Indira Seed brand developed by the Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya. He said that he is completely sure that the Indira Seed brand launched by the university will be beneficial for farmers. On this occasion, the Chief Minister also released a coffee-table book based on agricultural research. The Chief Minister said that when we began the purchase of cow dung, then people made fun of us, but today, around 3 lakh people are selling cow dung

and Rs. 230 crores have been transferred to their bank accounts.

The government has taken effective steps in encouraging and promoting millets. Millets Cafe has been established in Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, and soon, as per the agreement between Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya and AIIMS, a Millets Cafe will also be established in AIIMS where patients will be given nutritious meals prepared from millets.

The Chairman of Seed Corporation Mr. Agni Chandrakar, Chairman of the Shakambhari Board Mr. Ramkumar Patel, Advisor to the Chief Minister Mr. Pradeep Sharma, Senior General Manager of NAFED Mr. Unnikrishnan Kurup, and the Director of Horticulture Department Mr. Matheshwaran D. were present on the occasion.

Agriculture Minister Mr. Ravindra Chaubey said that today we worship the earth. It

is considered auspicious to sow seeds in the land today. We have been doing this for years in villages. The Agriculture Minister said that we have revived our original traditions. Because of the farmer welfare policies of our government, the number of farmers in the state has increased.

As a result, we have purchased 170 metric tonnes of paddy, which is a phenomenal record in the country. The Vice Chancellor Mr. Girish Chandel and the Commissioner of Agriculture Production Dr. Kamalpreet Singh also addressed the program.

The digital portal of the Agriculture University was launched during the program and agriculture-based literature was also released. Seeds and planting material were also distributed to farmers. The Chief Minister and Agriculture Minister were presented with jackets prepared from flaxseed made by women's groups of Bemetara.

Admission starts in class 1 of Kendriya Vidyalaya

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 23: The process of admission in class 1 of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) started from April 21st. On the first day, admission was given to the students who filled the form under the Right to Education Act (RTE). Now students can take the admission with submission of required documents.

A message has also been sent to the registered numbers of the students whose names have appeared in the lottery. All the parents are being informed about the process of admission by calling on behalf of the school. In



these three schools - Kendriya Vidyalaya No.1 located in WRS Colony, Raipur, Kendriya Vidyalaya located in Naya Raipur and Kendriya Vidyalaya at Rohinipuram, 520 students will get admission

in class 1. For admission to the school which operates in two shifts, the students of the first shift have to reach by one o'clock, while the students of the second shift have to reach by three o'clock with their

necessary documents and photocopies of the form filled online.

A form has to be filled in the school too, in which basic information like parents' name, address and blood group is filled. According to the first list,

admissions will be done till April 27. The second list will be released on April 28 based on the remaining seats.

The third list will be released on May 4. For any latest update on KVS Class 1 Admission, parents can visit the official website of KVS. According to the rules of Kendriya Vidyalaya, only students who are within a distance of five kilometers are given admission in the school.

In this context, many students are unable to get admission even after their names appear in the lottery. The distance of the student's house from the school should be less than five kilometers.

Application for accounting training till May 31

Raipur, Apr 23: Clerical employees who have completed three years of regular service in government departments can submit applications for accounting training from May 01 to May 31, 2023. The application can be submitted in the prescribed form at Government Accounts Training School, Nagar Ghadi Chowk, Raipur during office hours. Applications received before and after the due date will not be considered. Notarized affidavit must be submitted along with the application form. The upcoming accounting training session will be conducted from July to October 2023. According to the information received from Principal Government Accounts Training School Raipur, applications will be accepted only on the registered standard application form issued from Government Accounts Training School Raipur between April 19, 2023 to May 31, 2023. Pre-existing and photocopied applications will not be accepted. The list of ineligible applications of the previous session has been pasted in the office.

Aakriti Dewangan awarded PhD

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 23: Aakriti Dewangan, daughter of Mr. Anil Kumar Dewangan, PA in CSEB and Mrs. Sushila Dewangan, resident of Borsi Durg has been awarded PhD degree on "Muslim & Triple Talaq Act 2019: A Study on Social and Legislative framework in Chhattisgarh" on March 20th, 2023.

She completed her PhD under the guidance of Dr. Archana Yadav an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at Guru Ghansidas (Central) University She is UGC NET JRF SRF qualified and post graduated in Social Work from Institute of National and Foreign Languages.

She is presently working in Kalinga University as faculty of social work.



Aakriti Dewangan

Aakriti is very inclined towards the Muslim women's situation of triple Talaq. Her parents and supervisor have motivated her to complete her PhD in such difficult and negligible topic. Her constant motivations were Dr. Deepika Pandey, Mr. Ashish Johny Kerketta, Ms. Anushka Atram, Khushboo Sahu and Mr. Aakash.

Sarpanchs thanked CM for starting 'CAPSNB'



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 23: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated Transit Host at Ambikapur here on Thursday. Sarpanchs from different villages of the district met the Chief Minister on this occasion. Sarpanchs of various gram panchayats of the district expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister for starting the 'CG Adivasi Parab Samman Nidhi Yojana' (CSPSNB).

Today, all the sarpanchs thanked the chief minister for the first installment of Rs 21.95 lakh at the rate of Rs 5 thousand per gram panchayat to 439 gram panchayats of the district. On this occasion, Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat Haratikara, Amrita Pankra and Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat Mendrakur, Bundela Ram Sonpakar thanked the Chief Minister for the 'Adivasi Parab Samman Nidhi Yojana'. It is worth mentioning that under the 'Mukhya Mantri Adivasi Parab Samman Nidhi Yojana', tribal festivals, festival fairs, Madai, Jatra festival, Sarna Puja, Devgudi, Navakhai, Chherchera, Akti, Hareli festivals and festivals, culture are preserved in the villages of the scheduled area. For the purpose of doing this, the state government will release a grant of Rs 10,000 per year in two installments to each gram panchayat. The objective of 'Mukhyamantri Adivasi Parab Samman Nidhi' is to preserve the culture and tradition of Teej festivals of the tribals and to transfer these festivals and festival culture in their original form to the next generation and record the cultural traditions.

Sristi Trivedi delivered

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 23: Universal appeal and awards do expand my horizon, give me a larger community, a larger world to learn from, but this can't be the mover and shaker of my writings," said Gitanjali Shree during the Kalam event held by the Ehsaas Women of Raipur.

Kalam, which celebrates the power of literature and the impact it can have on society. The highlight of the evening was the presence of Gitanjali Shree, the first Hindi Bookers Prize winner, who was invited to share her insights on writing and literature.

Sristi Trivedi delivered



the welcome note. Shrishti Trivedi is a lawyer turned entrepreneur and founder of Project Getout a local community venture and a fellow Ehsaas Woman.

The conversationalist for the evening was Aanchal Garcha. She is the founder of Budding Bookworms - an exclusive reading, writing and language enhancement program for children, co-founder of Oorja Ladies Society and Literati, the

first local book club and a fellow Ehsaas Woman.

Gitanjali Shree is a renowned author and has made significant contributions to Hindi literature through her novels and short stories. Her work has been recognized both nationally and internationally, and she has received several awards and accolades for her contribution to the field of literature.

During the event,

Gitanjali Shree shared her experiences as a writer and spoke about the importance of literature in shaping society. She emphasized the need for writers to be socially conscious, inclusive and pluralist in their writing style and use their work to bring about positive change in the world.

She also stressed that though languages have their own boundaries, it's up to us whether or not to



make those boundaries rigid. She also stressed the need to create avenues for language graduates and enthusiasts.

The audience was captivated by Gitanjali Shree's insights and her eloquent articulation of the power of literature. Her words left a lasting impression on everyone in attendance, inspiring them to continue their own literary pursuits and to use their work as a means of contributing to

the greater good.

The event was a resounding success, thanks in no small part to Gitanjali Shree's presence and her inspiring words. The Ehsaas Women of Raipur, Shree Cement, and the Prabha Khaitan Foundation should be commended for their efforts in organizing such a wonderful celebration of literature and its impact on society. We can only hope that events like Kalam will continue to inspire and encourage future generations of writers to use their voices to create a better world.

Prabha Khaitan Foundation is dedicated to the social, cultural and educational advancement of society. The Kolkata-based NGO runs humanitarian projects across the country which includes women's training centres, child literacy programs and aid drives.

Rampant corruption in PMGSY, alleges Jhadi

- **Complaint made to the Governor**

Central Chronicle News

Bijapur, Apr 23: JCC(J) issued a press note saying that massive corruption has been carried out in the construction work of road, bridge and culvert under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the district.

With half half constructed and poor quality construction, the entire amount has been extracted by creating political influence and pressure. JCC-J has lodged complaint and inquiry has been demanded from the

Governor.

JCC-J's Bijapur District President Vijay Jhadi in his press note charged that in PMGSY Bijapur division, incomplete construction work of roads has been carried out by Dharmendra Mishra Construction Company and Gupta Construction. Massive corruption was carried out in connivance with the officials of the department and the contractor.

The old roads of the village have been repaired and billed by these construction companies with dozer vehicles. Gupta Construction Company's carried out works from Dampaya to Bandepara, Bareguda to



Khaspara, Ullur to Kerpe, Murdonga to Banjarapara and Dharmendra Mishra Construction works from Cherkanti to Koter,

Kandulnar to Schoolpara, Mormed to Kachalaram, Kutru to Patakutru, Pata Kutru to Kumlur, Chintanpalli to Aded,

Aakalanka to Hurredeguli, Guddipal to Aded.

Penalties have not been taken into account in the works done under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), nor have the road construction works been completed. Despite all these lacunae full payment has been made for incomplete construction work which smells of huge corruption in the name of road construction.

A demand has been made to the Governor to take necessary action by conducting an impartial inquiry into the quality of roads constructed by both the companies and the payment for the con-

struction of bridges and culverts.

What officer says: PMohan Rao Soni Executive Engineer of PMGSY Bijapur while talking to the correspondent of Central Chronicle, said that "All these roads are GSB la-beled roads, these roads are not yet complete. Phase 1 consists of Earthwork, GSB and small culvert works, Phase 2 works are to be done in which WBM, and asphalt-ing and major bridge works are yet to be approved. The construction of PMGSY roads in Bijapur started late. The government of India has closed the PMGSY scheme-1.

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Tribal snake charmers colony attacked



Balod, Apr 23:

A colony of tribal snake charmers, who have been living in Keri Jungera , a dependent village of Gram Panchayat Chikhali of Vananchal

and hail fell in the area last night. As per the victims they had been settled here 10 years ago, with the consent of the villagers but on Monday suddenly the women and men of the village came and started demolishing the houses, after which they lodged a complaint with the Collector at Jandarshan.Dondilohara's Sub-Divisional Officer Revenue Manoj Markam informed that the Tehsildar had gone to investigate on the spot, due to which the process of making the investigation report has started here. He said that the villagers have been explained to maintain mutual harmony, meanwhile Sarpanch Asha Devi , said that the whole matter is related to the villagers.

development block , Daundilohara of Balod district , for the past 8 to 10 years have been destroyed by residents of the same village. The families reportedly had difficult time after torrential rains

Fall in price of vegetables keep farmers worried

Rajim, Apr 23:

For the last 2 months, the price of vegetables is continuously falling, due to this, apart from the vegetable producing farmer, the seller is also worried and due to not getting the right price, the economic condition of the farmers too is getting affected. Vijay Kumar Sahu of Chamsur told that he had brought 15 carat tomatoes to the market on the basis of seven labourers, of which he could earn no profit , forcing him pocket including transport charges and laborers' wages . Paras Nishad of Baronda said that he had brought 10 carats of tomatoes, out of which barely 5 carats were sold at the rate of ₹60. Leave the remaining 5 carats of tomatoes as they are not sold. Similarly villagers of Chaubebandha , Sindhauri , Shyamnagar



, Surasabandha , Tarra , Kurusekera , Deori , Janjra , Hathkhaj , Pokhara , Piraiband , Bhakli , Rawad , Bainsatara , Beltukari , Kondkera , Paragaon , Chhaanta Parsada and surrounding villages , including a large number of people earn their livelihood on vegetable production , but due to not getting the price tomatoes are being thrown on the road. The cities of

Rajim and Navapara are situated on both sides of the Triveni Sangam river and Nawapara comes under Raipur district and Rajim is the gateway to Gariaband district , both the cities hold an important place from the point of view of pop-

ulation . According to the information, about 100 kilometers in both the wholesale markets people from far away come to sell and buy vegetables, but the drastic fall in prices have caused a chaos in the vegetable market.

Declare Dantewada, Barsoor and Sirpur as UNESCO World Heritage Sites: GCSI

■ **Raja Jagatpal Tila, Mohadi Plateau and Shishupal Mountain were also mentioned for national heritage sites**

Lecturer Kunal Singh Senapati and Political Science Lecturer Iswari Prasad Naik from Geedam said that Dantewada and Barsoor as World Heritage Sites, the people of the whole world will know the local culture, art and history and will also be recognized by the discovery of ancient sites in the interior area. Environmentalist Pandit Tikeswar Mishra from

Shishupal mountain foothill Saraipali demanded inclusion of Shishupal mountain area in heritage list and Dr. Vijay Sharma, historian from Komakhan who recently played an important role in discovery of rock paintings of Mohadi plateau, demanded to declare it as national protected heritage.

Senior members of Green Care Society India, Vishnu Mahanand from Bagbahra , Pandit Bhagirathi Dubey from Tendukona , Yogesh Badhai from Mohgaon , Govardhanlal Baghel from Teddy Nara Ganjar joined in the program and gave a message to preserve the heritage around them and create public awareness.



Amujuri Biswanath, Director and Program Coordinator of Green Care Society India from Dantewada raised the matter of inclusion of Maa Danteshwari Temple of Dantewada and Battisa Temple, Mama Bhanja Temple and Shri Ganesh Temple of the temple city

Barsoor, Chhattisgarh in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list. If these heritage sites of Chhattisgarh state are recognized on the world map by UNESCO, there will be development in tourism, transportation, communication and economic sector. History

Motorcycle stolen, complaint filed against unknown accused

Dongargarh, Apr 23: The motorcycle of a teacher working as a lecturer in the Higher Secondary School of village Sendri was stolen from the house by an unknown thief, whose complaint has been made by the lecturer Ramnath Bhaire in the police station Dongargarh . The applicant Ramnath Bhaire told the police that he is posted as a lecturer in Government High School Sendri, and his bike was stolen on the night of April 21. The Police has registered a report against the unknown thief and took it into consideration.

RBI All India Quiz 2023 block level competition organized

■ **In Geedam**

Dantewada/Geedam, Apr 23: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) All India Quiz 2023 Block Level competition, written examination on the theme of financial literacy was organized at Government Higher Secondary School Geedam. District Education Officer Dantewada Pramod Thakur and Assistant Director Ahilya Thakur inspected the quiz competition and inspired the students. Along with studies, financial literacy is necessary to gain knowledge and information at the school level and it helps in daily life. A total of 36 students studying in class 8th



to class 10th from 18 schools of Geedam Block participated in the quiz. The organizer of the program, Shivram Baghel, Lead Bank Manager, State Bank of India, Dantewada, said that financial literacy provides awareness on the country's economic system, various institutions,

banks and budget. In this competition, Himanshi Sharma and Ujjwal Singh Thakur of Swami Atmanand Government English Medium School, Karli, Jawanga secured the first position, Vijay Kumar and Narendra Hapka of Government Pota Cabin High School, Bangal secured the sec-

ond position, Pappu Bhardwaj and Ayush Jain of Astha Vidya Mandir English Medium School, Jawanga secured the third position. Subject experts Amujuri Biswanath and Mahendra Mandvi did the examination answer sheet evaluation smoothly.

The first winner team in block level quiz competition will participate in district level quiz competition. After district level, state level and national level quiz competition will also be organized. Principal Jitendra Yadav, Rajendra Kumar Assistant Grade 3 Dantewada, Om Prakash Sahu, Gautam Dhruv and teachers of other schools were present in this program.

Collector gives patient hearing to demands, problems Of villagers in Janchoupal



Kondagaon, Apr 23: Collector Deepak Soni, during the Jan Choupal organized in the Collectorate Hall on Tuesday, interacted with the common people from different remote areas of the district and listened to their problems, complaints and needs with due seriousness and sensitivity. He directed to resolve the complaints as per rules. In Jan Chaupal, people from remote areas including citizens of the urban rural areas of the dis-

trict submitted applications to the Collector regarding their demands and problems. The Collector gave instructions to the divisional officers to resolve it. CEO Zilla Panchayat Prem Prakash Sharma, DFO Kondagaon RK Jangade along with district level officials of various departments, SDMs, Tehsildars, CEOs of Janpad Panchayats and CMOs of Municipal Bodies were present on this occasion.

One day training camp for self-compilation of ASI organised

■ **By NSO in Bilaspur**

Bilaspur, Apr 23: One-day training camp for self-compilation of Annual Survey of Industries Return (ASIR) National Statistical Office (NSO) (Field Operations Division), Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, Government of India, Sub-Regional Office, Bilaspur for the purpose of training and cooperation for self-filling of annual industry survey returns on the web portal for units selected in annual industry survey. A camp was organized on April 21 in the conference hall in a private hotel in Bilaspur. The program was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by Roshan Lal Sahu, Deputy Director General, Regional Office, Raipur. On this occasion, George Minz, Assistant Director and Sharad Saxena, General Secretary of District Industries Association were also present.

Representatives of various industrial organizations and high priority units (HPU) of industrial units of Bilaspur, Korba, Raigarh, Janjgir Champa, Mungeli, Sakti, Gaurela Pendra Marwahi and Saranghar districts as well as representatives of other industrial units also participated in the camp. It is notable that 311 units have been selected for the Annual Industry Survey 2021-22 under Bilaspur district, from which data is being collected for estimating the contribution of industrial sector in GDP and for policy-making and labour statistics for industrial development. While presiding over the programme, Roshan Lal Sahu, Deputy Director General, highlighting the purpose of organizing this camp, said that according to the Statistics Collection Act 2008 and the rules made under it in 2011. The National Statistics Office conducts annual industry survey every year from



which the data obtained is used for estimation of national income, study of industrial structure, plan formulation and policy-making for industrial development. Along with this, data related to capital, employment and unemployment, value added, labour, turnover, fuel and raw material, input-output etc. are collected. He told that according to the last year's results of Annual Industrial Survey, there were 3892 units in Chhattisgarh. There are 1.85 lakh workers in Chhattisgarh. He urged the representatives of the present industrial units to self-fill all the information in the return and submit it on the

web portal (self-compile) and in case of any difficulty in this regard, contact the senior statistics officers of the local office to complete the return for guidance. Addressing the program, George Minz, Assistant Director gave information about the annual industry survey being conducted by the National Statistics Office as well as various surveys. He asked the representatives of the units present to make efforts for self-compilation under the provisions of the Collection of Statistics Act and requested them to cooperate and give timely return information. Sharad Saxena, General

Secretary of the District Industry Association, present in the program, expressed happiness over the organization of such a program and requested the representatives of all industrial units that whenever such programs are organized by the department, they should participate in maximum numbers. Try participating. He also requested to take information from today's camp on how to self-compile the return on the web portal.

He urged that a meeting should be organized with all the industrial representatives in future so that whatever problems are being faced in filling the unit details on the web portal can be discussed and resolved. Representatives of 26 (twenty six) units including Jindal Steel Private Limited, Novoco Vistas Corporation, Prakash Industries Chapa, Anjani Steel, Balwa Steel Power Limited, BS Sponge, Jagdamba Structures, Black

Diamond, Phil Coal Beneficiary, Narmada Drinks participated in the event. Also attended. At the end of the inaugural session, R K Srivastava , Senior Statistics Officer expressed his gratitude to the representatives of all industrial organizations and officers present in the programme. Alexius Kujur, Senior Statistical Officer and In-charge, National Statistical Office, Bilaspur, Ranjit Paul, Senior Statistical Officer, Ambikapur and Officers-in-Charge, RO Raipur, P.L.Sonwani, R.K.Srivastava, O.P.Sahu and RN Soni were also present during the camp.

In the second session of the programme, O.P.Sahu, Roshan Kumar and Durga Barla, Senior Statistics Officer, trained the representatives of industrial organizations to Self-Compile the returns on the web portal, informs Roshan Lal Sahu, Deputy Director General N.S.O (FOD), (Regional Office), in a press release.

DEMAND NOTICE				
EDELWEISS ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED				
CIN: U67100MH2007PLC174759				
Registered Office: Edelweiss House, Off C.S.T. Road, Kalina, Mumbai 400098				
DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002, (THE ACT*)				
READ WITH RULE 3 (1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002				
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Limited ("EARC") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. In exercise of powers conferred under the Section 13 (12) of the Act read with rule 3 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer has issued a Demand Notice under section 13 (2) of The Act, calling upon the following borrower(s), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice issued to them that are also given below:				
In connection with above, Notice is hereby given once again, to the Borrowers to pay EARC, within 60 days from the publication of this notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice, from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following asset have been mortgaged to EARC by the said borrower(s) respectively.				
Sr.	Loan A/c Number	Details of the Trust & Assignee	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower (s)	Demand Notice Date & Amount
1	LRALIP000052846	EARC TRUST SC-417 - Edelweiss Housing Finance Limited	1. Rakhi Agrawal ("Borrower") 2. Anand Agrawal ("Co-Borrower")	Rs. 31,95,608.72 (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Ninety Five Thousand Six Hundred Nine and Seventy Two Paise) as on 25.01.2023 & 13.02.2023
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) Commercial Shop bearing No. C-2 & C-3, Block C, on the Ground Floor, comprising Area 200, 200 Sq. Ft. respectively, Total Area 400 Sq. Ft. Completed in Part of Kharsa No. 72/1, 84/1, 73/1, 73/2, 84/2, 86, 87, 72/2, 85, 74, 71 & 72/3, Situated at Known as "BARSANA ENCLAVE" Village Durner Teah, Shahid Bhagat Singh Ward, Ward No. 13, P.H. No. 104/35, R.I.C. Raipur, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.). Boundaries: Shop No. C2: North: Open Area, South: Shop No. C1, East: Shop No. C3, West: Open Area Shop No. C3: North: Road, South: Open Area, East: Shop No. C2, West: Shop No. C4.				
2	NHRDG0000848662	EARC TRUST SC-448 & ICICI Home Finance Company Limited	1. Mr. Ashish Srivastava ("Borrower & Mortgagee") 2. Mrs. Arpana Srivastava ("Co-Borrower")	Rs. 33,43,357.32/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Seven and Thirty Two Paise Only) as on 23.02.2023 & 04.03.2023
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) All that piece and parcel of property constructed on Sheet No. 1, Plot No. 314, Ward No. 23, Tehsil Dongargarh, District Rajnandgaon (Chhattisgarh), Measurement of Property 625 Square Feet: 58.06 Square Meter. Boundaries: North: House of Virendra Thakur, South: House of Shivaji Yadav, East: House of Sonabai Yadav, West: Common Way.				
3	454HL774180291	EARC TRUST SC-422 - Bajaj Finance Limited.	1. Mr. Ashok Dhangar (Borrower) 2. Mrs. Girja Dhangar (Co-Borrower)	Rs. 3,16,273/- (Rupees Three Lakh Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Three Only) as on 26-11-2022 & 02.12.2022
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) House No 100/101 Area 1782 Sq. Ft. Situated At Sweeper Colony Tikarpara Raipur, PCNO 114 Ric Raipur 2 Raipur Cg 492001, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001 City: Raipur State : Chhattisgarh Pincode: 492001, In Totally Measuring 1782.00 Sq. Ft. and Bounded on The: East By: House Of Sn Bhuvan Sahu, House Of Smt. Dhangar (Mother Of Sn Ashok Dhangar), North By: House Of Sn Soni Then Tithali, South By: Road To Bhagat Singh Chowk RDA Colony				
4	HM/0022H/1810064	EARC TRUST SC-425 - Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited	1. Anil Rathore (Borrower) 2. Anuja Rathore (Co-Borrower)	Rs. 17,30,838.60/-PS (Rupees Seventeen Lakhs Thirty Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Eight and Sixty Paise Only) as on 23-02-2023 & 11.03.2023
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) All that piece and parcel of immovable property Plot No. B-1009/10006, Carpet Area 41.85 Sq. Mtrs. 450 Sq. Ft. Built Up Area, 47.52 Sq. Mtrs. 512 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area 701 Sq. Ft. 10th Floor, situated at Mouze-heerpur, Ward No.13, Shahid Bhagat Singh Ward, Hanahil Land Mark, Phase -1, Block-SB, Apartment, 1006, Palwani Halka No.103/35 Khata No.592, 581/21, 593PART, 596/3, 594PART, 596/4 Part, Tehsil & Dist. Raipur				
5	NHRDG 00001066690	EARC TRUST SC-448 & ICICI Home Finance Company Limited	1. Mr. Pinsetty Venkat Ramana ("Borrower") 2. Mrs. Pinsetty Venkata Lakshmi ("Co-Borrower")	Rs. 2,36,548.34/- (Rs. Two Lakhs Thirty Six Thousand Five Hundred Forty Eight and Thirty Four Paise Only) as on 23.02.2023 & 15.03.2023
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) All that piece and parcel of property situated & constructed at Kharsa No. 1223.4, Ward No.4, Palwani Halka No.14, Mouza : Grem Kurud Bihari District, Durg (Chhattisgarh), Measurement of Property: 0.04 haat, 404.27 Square Meters approx. 4350 Square Feet. Boundaries: North : Land of Janak, South : Seller's Porch, East : Witya Lake, West : Uday Kumar Varma's Land.				
6	NHRPR 00000726995	EARC TRUST SC-448 - ICICI HFL	1. Mrs. Shakuntala Tiwari ("Borrower & Mortgagee") 2. Mr. Raj Tiwari ("Co-Borrower & Mortgagee")	Rs. 33,15,841.44/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred Forty One and Forty Four Paise Only) as on 23.02.2023 & 04.03.2023
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) All that piece and parcel of property bearing Municipal House No. 58/29/122(3) Part of Kharsa No. 138/2006, Area 685 Square Feet located in Brahmanpura Ward no. 58, Brahmanpura, Raipur Kharsa, PH. No.106 A, Tehsil and District, Raipur (Chhattisgarh). Bounded by: East / Property of K P Tiwari / West : 12 ft wide road, North: K.R.Pantiyani Property, South: Property of Y.P Tiwari				
7	HL/0022H/15/100122	EARC TRUST SC-425 - Poonawalla Housing Finance Ltd.	1. Abdul Barik (Borrower) 2. Shabana Khatoon (Co-Borrower)	Rs. 15,11,075.74 /PS (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Eleven Thousand Seventy-Five and Seventy-Four Paise Only) as on 23-02-2023 & 15.03.2023
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) All the piece and parcel of Part of Kh. No. 584/27 (old) Part of Kh. No. 584/27/2 (New) Area 1200 sq. ft. Situated at Turlich, P.H. No.13/14, Saral No.130, R.I.C- Patwara, Tah & Dist- Mahasamund (C.G.) and Boundaries: East: house of shikumar, West: remaining Land North- seller's Land, South: Road				
8	H454FL 00334882	EARC TRUST SC-422 Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd.	1. Arvind Kumar Upadhyay (Borrower) 2. Kalawati Upadhyay (Co-Borrower)	Rs.12,41,200.99 (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Forty One Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety Nine Only) as on 26-11-2022 & 03.12.2022
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) All that part and parcel of Shop No.09 Constructed on Part of Kh.No.97/21, Plot No.126, Area 1500 Sq. Ft., Situated at Basant Vihar Sive P. C. No. 16, R.I. C. Tilda, Raipur, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.). Boundaries: North: Plot No.127, North: Plot No.125, West: Plot No.131, East: Road				
9	NHBLI00000742067	EARC TRUST SC-448 - ICICI Home Finance Limited	1. Mr. Ram Narayan Singh ("Borrower") 2. Mr. Kamal Dev Singh ("Co-Borrower") 3. Mr. Devesh Ranjan (Guarantor) 4. Vishal Tripathi (Guarantor)	Rs.15,82,447.16ps (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Sixty Two Thousand Four Hundred Forty Seven and Eighteen Paise Only) as on 17.03.2023 & 17.03.2023
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Plot No. 26, Block B, Area 4.5*6.5 = 29.25 Square Meters, Property situated at Mouza : South Gangotri Supela, Ward No. 03, Bihari, Tehsil and District Durg (Chhattisgarh). Bounded by: East : Road, West: Plot No. 17 North : Plot No.27: South : Plot No.29B				
10	HL/0022H/15/100015 & HL/0022H/15/100017 & HL/0022H/15/100039	EARC TRUST SC-425 - Poonawalla Housing Finance Ltd.	1. Vinod Kumar Verma (Borrower) 2. Beenu Verma (Co-Borrower)	Rs. 15,13,842.95/-ps (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Thirteen Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Two and Thirty-One Paise Only) as on 18-02-2023
Description of secured asset (Immovable Property): Property No. 1 : All that piece and parcel of Part of Kh. No. 97/21, Plot No. 126, Area 1500 Sq. Ft., Situated at Basant Vihar Sive P. C. No. 16, R.I. C. Tilda, Raipur, Tehsil & District: Raipur (C.G.). Boundaries:-South: Plot No.197; North: Plot No.195, West: Plot No.193; East: Road Property No.3: All that piece and parcel of Part of Kh. No. 97/21, Plot No. 127, Area 1500 Sq. Ft., Situated at Basant Vihar Sive P. C. No. 16, R.I. C. Tilda, Raipur, Tehsil & District: Raipur (C.G.). Boundaries:- South: Plot No.128; North: Plot No.128, West: Plot No.130; East: Road				
If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to EARC as aforesaid, EARC shall proceed against the above secured assets under the section 13 (4) of the Act and applicable rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrower(s) as to costs and consequences. The borrowers are prohibited under The Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of EARC. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.				
Place : Chhattisgarh Date : 24.04.2023			Authorised Officer For Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Limited Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction	

BRIEF

Robbed

- New Delhi:** A 43-year-old TV journalist was attacked with a sharp edged weapon allegedly by three men who robbed him while he was on a walk in east Delhi's Sanjay lake, police said Sunday. The victim, a senior reporter, was robbed of his mobile phone and his wallet, which had in it a credit and a debit card, and his office identity card, they said. The victim is the Delhi chief of bureau of his firm which has its office in Jhandewalan, they said. According to police, the victim on Saturday boarded a bus from Jhandewalan and got down at Manglam Chowk.

Bike rally

- Srinagar:** A bike rally was flagged off by the Border Roads Organisation to promote unity and pay tributes to its slain personnel. The rally was flagged off from Rangreth, near Old Airfield here and will culminate at the south portal of Jawahar Tunnel on the Srinagar-Jammu national highway, a senior official of the BRO said. The aim of the rally is to foster a sense of unity and pay tributes to the sacrifices of BRO personnel, Brigadier Saket Singh, Chief Engineer BRO, told reporters here.

5 held

- Thane:** Police have arrested five persons for allegedly kidnapping a 38-year-old doctor and extorting Rs 30 lakh from him last year in Maharashtra's Thane district, an official said. The doctor was on his scooter on October 22, 2022 when a man took lift from him. After they travelled some distance, the man and his associates, who also arrived there, allegedly took the doctor forcibly in a car to a forest at Saralgaon in Murbad area, covered his eyes and beat him up. The accused also called up the doctor's wife and allegedly extorted Rs 30 lakh before releasing him, Murbad police station's senior inspector Prasad Pandhare said.

Two killed

- Bijnor (UP):** A truck collided head-on with a car here, leaving two persons dead and a boy seriously injured, police said on Sunday. Superintendent of Police, Neeraj Jadaun, said the accident took place late on Saturday evening near Golbagh crossing. The deceased have been identified as Saleem (40) and Sajid (20). A seven-year-old boy was seriously injured in the accident, police said.

Arrested

- Ballia (UP):** A man was arrested here for allegedly kidnapping and raping a 15-year-old girl for six months, police said on Sunday. The girl was rescued on Saturday and the accused, Ashish Kumar (24), was arrested, they said. The girl was reported missing in September last year and an FIR was registered against an unidentified person in connection with the incident, said Takha police outpost incharge Phoolchandra Yadav.

SP's new strategy: Eye on Dalit-OBC vote bank

Lucknow, Apr 23 (PTI):

The Samajwadi Party is redrawing its strategy to expand the party's base beyond its Muslim-Yadav core constituencies and win over Dalits and Other Backward Castes (OBCs) to counter the BJP in the upcoming urban local body polls in Uttar Pradesh.

SP president Akhilesh Yadav is working with Azad Samaj Party chief Chandrasekhar, who is said to hold influence among Dalits in west Uttar Pradesh, in this bid to consolidate the new vote bank. This repositioning has been in the works for a while now. The SP conducted a campaign in the state to demand a caste census.

In December, Akhilesh Yadav said the SP will conduct a caste census within three months if it is voted to power in Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier this month, he unveiled a statue of Dalit leader Kanshi Ram and attended an event to commemorate the birth anniversary of social reformer Bhim Rao Ambedkar in Madhya Pradesh's Mhow.

The SP is also counting on its increased heft in the wake of Shivpal Singh Yadav returning to the party fold.

The SP did not fare well in the 2017 urban body polls and could not open its account in any of the 16 mayoral seats.

While 14 of these seats were won by the BJP, two went to the BSP. Shivpal Yadav exuded confidence that the SP will win the urban local body polls this time.

"Responsibilities have already been given to senior party leaders in their respective areas. We will certainly win the urban local body polls," the SP

national general secretary said. "We (Akhilesh and Shivpal) will campaign together as per the plan formulated by the party," he added. The SP has been persistently demanding a caste census.

"Ours is the only party that worked on the ground to demand a caste census. Our campaign was very successful. It will certainly prove helpful for the party candidates in this election," said Rajpal Kashyap, state head of the SP's backward wing.

The recent killing of gangster-politician Atiq Ahmad and his brother Ashraf in Prayagraj might also help consolidate Muslim votes against the BJP and benefit the SP.

"Certainly, the manner in which the two were killed raises suspicion. There was apprehension that they might be killed but the government did not do anything.

Massive searches underway in J-K's Poonch to track terrorists

● Terror attack

Poonch/Jammu, Apr 23 (PTI): Army's Northern Commander Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Sunday said that necessary action is underway against the terrorists responsible for the deadly attack on an army truck in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district that left five soldiers dead.

A massive search operation to track down the terrorists is underway in Bhata Dhurian following the ambush on the army vehicle carrying fruits and other items to a border village for an Ifar that was to be hosted by the Rashtriya Rifles unit on Thursday evening, officials said.

In a tweet on its official



handle, the Army's Northern Command shared Lt Gen Dwivedi's visit to the Command Hospital in Udhampur and his interaction with the survivor of the terror attack.

"#LtGenUpendraDwivedi #ArmyCdrNC interacted with the survivor of the 20 Apr 23 #Poonch inci-

dent at Command Hospital #Udhampur and assured that necessary action is underway," read the tweet accompanied by two pictures of the soldier.

The Northern Army Commander on Saturday visited the attack site at Bhata Dhurian, an area that is a preferred infiltration route for terrorists

from across the Line of Control because of its topography, dense forest cover and natural caves.

Dwivedi reviewed the security in the border area and the ongoing combing operation to track down the terrorists.

The Northern Command said in a tweet that he was briefed on the actions undertaken so far and exhorted the troops to be steadfast in their resolve.

While the search operation is underway amid a high alert in the twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri, the traffic on Rajouri-Poonch highway was restored on Sunday morning after remaining suspended since Thursday evening, the officials said.

Rain: Advisory issued for Kedarnath Dham pilgrims



Uttarakhand, April, 23: Uttarakhand government on Sunday issues an alert stating that in view of the

rain and snowfall in Kedarnath Dham in past few days, devotees are requested to be careful and

TRAIN CATCHES FIRE



Smoke billows after two coaches of Ratlam-Dr Ambedkar Nagar DEMU train caught fire, in Ratlam district, Sunday.

Joshimath still to see enough long-term measures to address land subsidence: Experts

Dehradun, Apr 23 (PTI):

Nearly four months since Joshimath made headlines as the "sinking town", the gateway to Himalayan pilgrimage sites is yet to see enough curative steps that address the land subsidence issue, environmental experts have said. People in unsafe zones have been moved to safety, cracks in the roads filled and unsafe buildings demolished but environmentalists feel long-term measures to save the town from further damage are yet to be initiated. More than 100 days have passed since the crisis reared its head in early January but cracks have still not

stopped appearing in the hill town, which is situated on old landslide rubble. The cracks that appeared in buildings, roads and public facilities in Joshimath have not widened further of late but sporadic appearances of newer ones leave no room for complacency, said locals. Atul Sati, the convener of the Joshimath Bachao Sangharsh Samiti, told PTI, "Cracks are still appearing here and there."

Sati was the first to raise the issue of land subsidence in the town. During this pilgrimage season, which started with the opening Yamunotri and Gangotri temples on Saturday, the state govern-

ment expects a record-breaking influx of devotees in Joshimath.

The locals fear that the huge influx of pilgrims would further increase the pressure on the hill town. The pilgrimages to Badrinath and the Sikh shrine of Hemkund Sahib begin on April 27 and May 20, respectively. Joshimath Municipality Chairman Shailendra Panwar noted that there was a marked improvement in the conditions. The people are safe in the relief camps, unsafe hotels and rest houses demolished, buildings in danger zones vacated and the distribution of compensation among the affected people is underway.

PM Modi pays tributes to Basaveshwara on birth anniversary

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday paid tributes to statesman, poet and social reformer Basaveshwara on his birth anniversary, saying his thoughts and ideals provide inspiration to serve humanity.

He tweeted, "Today, on the sacred occasion of Basava Jayanthi, I bow to Jagadguru Basaveshwara, whose thoughts and ideals give us the inspiration to serve humanity. He rightly emphasised on empowering the downtrodden and building a strong and prosperous society."

Basaveshwara, who stood against gender and caste discrimination, is be-

lieved to be the driving force behind the rise of Lingayatism.

With the revered 12th century Kannadiga's birth anniversary falling amid the intense Karnataka assembly poll campaign, both the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress are going all out to celebrate the day in the state where Lingayats are the largest community.

Mann Ki Baat: Galvanising Swachh Bharat Abhiyan



Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak

India was called the 'Golden Bird' (Sone Ki Chidiya) in ancient times because of its wealth and prosperity. However, people disregarded cleanliness. Be it a city or a village, people did not pay attention to cleanliness. They had an unfortunate habit of dumping waste products everywhere at public places. Piles of garbage or filth in public places was a common sight. Besides, people used to defecate in the open as not many houses had toilets. Women faced many challenges as they had to go out for

defecation either before sunrise or after sunset. Sometimes, snakes and scorpions etc. would bite them when they stepped out to defecate in the dark. Sometimes, there were also incidents of crime against women and girls while they were on their way to the fields or on their way back. People used to defecate on both sides of the road or next to the railway track. Some people would also use pay-and-use toilets in villages and cities. The sweepers deserve praise for cleaning those toilets, because if they did not clean those toilets, diseases like cholera, etc. could spread and people could die. Sadly, the manual scavengers were treated inhumanely and they were subjected to derogatory words like untouchable all through the day.

Mahatma Gandhi launched India's independence movement in 1915. At the sight of filth all around the country, Gandhiji said in 1919 that he wanted 'Swachh Bharat' (Clean India) first and independence later. Mahatma

Gandhi asked the common people and especially the volunteers involved in the freedom struggle to use 'trench latrines' which Gandhi himself used in South Africa. Gandhiji also said that until toilets were built in the houses, people going out for open defecation should cover the excreta with soil so that the flies do not sit on it as they pose a health risk. Flies can carry bacteria, viruses and parasites from waste to our food and cause diseases. He also said that new forms of toilets should be developed so that the practice of manual scavenging is put to an end. He also called for ending the practice of untouchability and favoured that the people involved in manual scavenging should be incorporated into mainstream society and treated equally with other members of society. Gandhi even said, "I may not be reborn, but if I have to be reborn, I would like to be born in a Valmiki family so that I can free them from this inhuman, unhealthy and disgusting work of



manual scavenging."

Addressing the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15th August 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for the launch of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to end open defecation. Officially launched on 2nd October 2014, the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is one of the most successful government initiatives in the history of independent India. If you're wondering how this happened, the answer is simple. The Prime Minister made citizens an integral and important part of this campaign. A day after the launch of the campaign, the Prime Minister talked about it in great detail in the very first

episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' on 3rd October 2014. He called upon the people to join the campaign enthusiastically.

He gave a call for 'toilets first and temples later'. He said that toilets should be built in 4.50 lakh schools of India within a year in mission mode so that school girls are not forced to skip classes or drop out totally. This will also help increase the enrolment of girls in the schools. It should be appreciated that toilets were built in all the schools within a year. Expressing concern over the problems faced by mothers and sisters while going out for defecation, Prime Minister Modi launched a campaign to build toilets in all houses before the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It is a matter of great satisfaction that toilets have been built in about 11 crore houses of India and now mothers and sisters do not have to go out for defecation.

On August 15, 2014, Prime Minister Modi picked up a broom and cleaned the Valmiki Colony

in Delhi. He also called upon the people of the country to pick up the broom and clean up public places wherever they see any dirt. He also wielded a spade to clean the Assi Ghat on the banks of the Ganges in Varanasi where silt had accumulated for more than 50 years. Assi Ghat now looks outstanding. Apart from worshiping by the local people, tourists from India and abroad come to Assi Ghat and enjoy watching the waves of the Ganges.

Prime Minister Modi should be lauded for his efforts as there is a ground swell for cleanliness and people do not litter at home or in public places. People even object if they find somebody littering at public places. There has been a sea-change in the attitude of people as they can be found discussing the benefits of the cleanliness movement in villages, cities, schools and colleges and even while travelling in trains and buses. The entire country now looks much cleaner and Prime Minister Modi deserves all the

credit for this. The Prime Minister did not stop here. He continues to share every milestone and stories related to the cleanliness campaign from across the country on important platforms like 'Mann Ki Baat' to keep motivating the people. This has not only created a sense of pride among the citizens, but also energized them to keep the country clean.

Prime Minister Modi has lit the lamp of cleanliness among Indians. He has called upon the countrymen to revive the culture of cleanliness, which was prevalent during the Harappan civilization. As the 'Mann Ki Baat' radio program heads towards its 100th episode, the country is gearing up for many revolutionary mass movements like the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan under the leadership of the Prime Minister. Let us join hands together to make India a better place not only for us but for future generations as well.

(Writer Is Founder, Sulabh International Social Service Organization).

Imran to launch election campaign in Punjab province today

Islamabad, Apr 23 (PTI):

Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party on Sunday announced that it will formally launch its election campaign in Punjab on Monday though there is no clarity on the date of the polls in the politically crucial province. "Tehreek-e-Insaf will officially launch its election campaign tomorrow. They (Pakistan Democratic Movement) may not be ready but we are ready," PTI Secretary General Asad Umar tweeted. The Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) is a coalition of political parties headed by the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) currently ruling the country.

Interestingly, PTI's announcement of launching the election campaign comes despite uncertainty surrounding the elections in Punjab, the most populous province which also sends nearly 150 lawmakers to the National Assembly. The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) is waiting for funds from the federal government to conduct the elections. The Defence Ministry has informed the ECP that the Pakistan Army will not be available for providing security. Parliament and the judiciary have also locked horns over the holding of elections in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces as the cash-strapped government has

refused to authorise the funds to meet the expenditures amidst the economic crisis facing the country. The Supreme Court has directed the federal government to release Rs 21 billion in funds for the ECP by April 10 and provide security for the elections. However, the government has refused to release funds for the polls as the Parliament rejected the proposal. The defence ministry had also filed a petition in the Supreme Court calling it to take back its order of holding polls on May 14. The case is being heard in the Supreme Court and during the proceedings Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial remarked that the three-

member bench will not take back its order for holding polls on May 14. Former prime minister Khan has been pushing for snap elections in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the provinces where his PTI ruled till recently. The PTI dissolved the Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa assemblies on January 14 and 18, respectively, in a bid to force the ruling PDM coalition in Islamabad to hold early general elections in the country. The PTI finalised a list of 297 candidates recently after PTI Chairman Khan interviewed all party candidates in person to uphold merit in awarding party tickets, media reports said.

VAISAKHI PARADE



Attendees pack a street during the Vaisakhi parade in Surrey, British Columbia, Sunday.

Two Indian students die while swimming in lake

New York, Apr 23 (PTI):

Two Indian students who went missing last week while swimming at a lake in the US state of Indiana are dead, local authorities have confirmed. Siddhant Shah, 19, and Aryan Vaidya, 20, went swimming at Monroe Lake, roughly 102 km southwest of downtown Indianapolis, with a group of friends on April 15 but did not resurface, the USA Today newspaper reported. After two days of intense searching, divers found their bodies 18 feet below the surface, investigators said on April 18. Both students attended Indiana University's Kelley School of Business. Shah and Vaidya were boating on a pontoon on April 15 when their group

anchored to swim. Both men did not resurface and friends attempted to help them but were unsuccessful, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources was quoted as saying by the newspaper. One of the men was struggling in the water when others jumped in to help, said Lt. Angela Goldman, a Department of Natural Resources representative. Divers searched using sonar and scuba divers, and all day on April 16 under windy conditions, Goldman said. The lake was busy with boaters on April 15, which was sunny and warm. But the next two days, cold rain and the wind changed the nature of the lake, which was mostly deserted. "With 15-to-20-mph sustained winds, we're struggling with that," Goldman said. "A lot of the technology we use that makes things more precise needs better conditions. When dealing with whitecaps and wind, our sonar is not as effective." Sycamore Schools confirmed that Vaidya is a 2021 graduate of Sycamore High School. "The entire Sycamore community is heartbroken by this sudden loss. Aryan was very involved during his time at Sycamore, including as a member of the student council and DECA," WLWT television station, affiliated with NBC, reported. "Aryan's death may raise different emotions for our staff and students. Some of these reactions may be mild, others may be more intense.

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Govts race to rescue diplomats, citizens from Sudan

Khartoum (Sudan), Apr 23 (AP):

The US military airlifted embassy officials out of Sudan on Sunday and international governments raced to evacuate their diplomatic staff and citizens trapped in the capital as rival generals battled for control of Africa's third-largest country for a ninth day. Fighting raged in Omdurman, the city across the Nile from Sudan's capital, Khartoum, residents reported. The violence came despite a declared truce that was to coincide with the three-day Muslim holiday of Eid al-Fitr. "We did not see such a truce," said Amin al-Tayed from his home near state television headquarters in Omdurman. He said heavy gunfire and thundering explosions rocked the city

"The battles did not stop," he said. Thick black smoke filled the sky over Khartoum's airport. The paramilitary group battling the Sudanese armed forces claimed the military unleashed airstrikes on the upscale neighbourhood of Kafouri, north of Khartoum. There was no immediate comment from the army. After a week of bloody battles that hindered rescue efforts, US special forces swiftly evacuated some 70 US embassy staffers from Khartoum to an undisclosed location in Ethiopia early Sunday. Although American officials said it was still too dangerous to carry out a government-coordinated mass evacuation of private citizens, other countries scrambled to evacuate their citizens and

diplomats. France, Greece and other European countries said Sunday they were organizing evacuations for embassy employees and nationals, along with some citizens of allied countries. French Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Anne-Claire Legendre said France was undertaking the operation with the help of European partners. The Greek foreign minister said the country had dispatched aircraft and special forces to its ally, Egypt, in preparation for an evacuation of 120 Greek and Cypriot nationals from Khartoum. Most of them have sought shelter in recent days at a Greek Orthodox cathedral in the capital, Nikos Dendias said. The Netherlands sent two air force Hercules C-130 planes and an Airbus

A330 to Jordan ahead of a possible rescue mission. "We deeply sympathise with the Dutch in Sudan and will make every effort to evacuate people where and when possible," said Defence Minister Kajsa Ollongren. Italy has dispatched military jets to the Gulf of Aden nation of Djibouti to prepare for the evacuation of 140 Italian nationals in Sudan, many of whom have already taken refuge in the embassy. Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani said the ministry's crisis unit was in touch with stranded citizens. The fighting between the Sudanese armed forces and the powerful paramilitary group, known as the Rapid Support Forces, has targeted and paralysed the country's main international airport, reducing a number of civilian air-

craft to ruins and gutting at least one runway. Other airports across the country have also been knocked out of operation. Overland travel across areas contested by the warring parties has proven dangerous. Khartoum is some some 840 kilometres (520 miles) from Port Sudan on the Red Sea. But some countries have pressed ahead with the journey. Saudi Arabia on Saturday said the kingdom successfully evacuated 157 people, including 91 Saudi nationals and citizens of other countries. Saudi state TV released footage of a large convoy of Saudis and other foreign nationals travelling by car and bus from Khartoum to Port Sudan, where a navy ship then ferried the evacuees across the Red Sea to the Saudi port of Jeddah.

German Govt, unions reach pay deal for public workers

Berlin, Apr 23 (AP):

German government officials and labour unions have reached a pay deal for more than 2.5 million public-sector workers, ending a lengthy dispute and heading off the possibility of disruptive all-out strikes. The ver.di union had pressed for hefty raises as Germany, like many other countries, grapples with high inflation. Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said as the deal was announced early Sunday that "we accommodated the unions as far as we could responsibly do in a difficult budget situation." The deal entails one-time payments totalling 3,000 euros (USD 3,300) per employee, with the first 1,240 euros coming in June and monthly payments of 220 euros following until

February. In March, regular monthly pay for all will be increased by 200 euros, followed by a salary increase of 5.5 per cent. The deal runs through to the end of 2024. Verdi originally sought a one-year deal with a raise of 10.5 per cent. The deal was reached on the basis of a proposal by arbitrators who were called in after talks broke down last month. Verdi chair Frank Werneke said that "we went to our pain threshold with the decision to make this compromise." He said that the raises in regular pay next year will amount to an increase of over 11 per cent for most employees. Germany's annual inflation rate has declined from the levels it reached late last year but is still high.

Top election official in Myanmar assassinated

● By guerrillas

Bangkok, Apr 23 (AP):

A top election official in Myanmar was fatally shot in his car in Yangon, the country's commercial capital, in the latest attack attributed to militants opposed to military rule. Sai Kyaw Thu, deputy director-general of the military-appointed Union Election Commission, was shot multiple times on Saturday, according to the military's information office, media reports and a statement of responsibility from an urban guerrilla group. The information office on Sunday said the attack was carried out by the People's Defence Force, the loosely organised armed wing of the pro-democracy National Unity Government, an underground group that opposes



Sai Kyaw Thu

the military-installed government that was established when the army seized power two years ago. Many opposition forces including local People's Defence Force groups operate autonomously from the National Unity Government but the military labels them all as "terrorists." A resistance group calling itself "For The Yangon" said it carried out the attack on Sai Kyaw Thu, a former lieutenant colonel. It declared "Mission: Accomplished" in a Facebook post on Saturday evening that was

illustrated with three photos of their target. Sai Kyaw Thu is believed to be the most senior official of the Election Commission to be shot since the army seized power on Feb. 1, 2021, from the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi. Resistance groups earlier this year attempted to disrupt preparations for a new election the military had promised by attacking personnel conducting a population survey that could be used to assemble voter rolls and other low-level election workers. Plans for the polls, whose date was never set, were set back indefinitely in February when the military government announced it was extending a state of emergency due to security problems. Urban guerrillas have carried out many targeted killings, acts of arson and small bombings. Victims

included officials and members of the military and their cronies, as well as people believed to be informers or military collaborators. In November 2021, a former navy officer who was the chief finance officer of Myanmar's military-linked Mytel telecommunications company was fatally shot on a Yangon street. Than Than Swe, then a deputy governor of Myanmar's Central Bank, was shot at her home in Yangon in April 2022. She survived and was promoted to the bank governor. Most recently, a veteran corporate lawyer accused of helping military leaders was shot dead in Yangon by self-proclaimed urban guerrillas in March. After its takeover, the army clamped down harshly on opponents in the cities, arresting thousands and using deadly force even against nonviolent demonstrators.

Israel limps toward its 75th birthday

Jerusalem, Apr 23 (AP):

Orit Pinhasov strongly opposes the Israeli government's proposed judicial overhaul, but you won't find her anywhere near the mass protests against the plan. She says her marriage depends on it. Pinhasov's husband sits on the opposite side of Israel's political divide, and joining the protests will only deepen what she says already are palpable tensions in her household. "I don't go to the demonstrations not because I don't believe in them," she said. "I don't go in order to protect my home. I feel like I'm fighting for my home." As Israel turns 75 on Wednesday, it has much to celebrate. But instead of feting its accomplishments as a regional mili-

tary and economic powerhouse, the nation that arose on the ashes of the Holocaust faces perhaps its gravest existential threat yet not from foreign enemies but from divisions within. For over three months, tens of thousands of people have rallied in the streets against what they see as an assault by an ultranationalist, religious government threatening a national identity rooted in liberal traditions. Fighter pilots have threatened to stop reporting for duty. The nation's leaders have openly warned of civil war, and families of fallen soldiers have called on politicians to stay away from the ceremonies. Many Israelis wonder if the deep split can ever heal.

PROTEST RALLY



Climate activists hold a rally to protest the use of fossil fuels on Earth Day in the rain in front of the White House, Sunday.

ROYAL EXPERT OPINES

Buckingham Palace averted Kohinoor side story' for King Charles's Coronation

London, Apr 23 (PTI):

Buckingham Palace would have been conscious about the potential for controversy around the colonial era Kohinoor diamond claimed by India and averted it becoming a side story of King Charles III and Queen Camilla's Coronation ceremony next month, a royal expert has said. Camilla Tominey is the Associate Editor of The Daily Telegraph' and has an inside track to the British royal family as the newspaper's royal expert. In an interview with PTI, she reflected upon the significance of

Camilla choosing to forgo the traditional crown used for the monarch's partner as the "consort crown" due to it being embedded with the Kohinoor also known as Koh-i-Noor. Among the crown jewels unveiled by the palace for the Coronation ceremony on May 6, it was confirmed that Queen Mary's Crown has been chosen by Camilla. "I think the palace were conscious about the Koh-i-Noor perhaps being controversial and therefore have decided that they don't want there to be a side story about the provenance of these diamonds," said Tominey. "Basically, [the palace

have] decided to do the safe and sensible thing, to not have a separate debate about the jewels in the crown," noted Tominey. Earlier this month, the palace said that minor changes and additions to the Queen Mary's Crown are being undertaken, such as the inclusion of the Cullinan III, IV and V diamonds which were part of Queen Elizabeth II's personal jewellery collection for many years. The design has been inspired by Queen Alexandra's Crown of 1902 which was originally encrusted with the Kohinoor, which now sits in the crown of the Queen Elizabeth the

Queen Mother, the mother of Queen Elizabeth II, since 1937. Last month, Historic Royal Palaces, the charity that manages Britain's palaces, said that the infamous diamond will instead be part of a new Jewel House exhibition at the Tower of London classed as a "symbol of conquest" for the first time. According to its assessment, the diamond probably originated from the Golconda mines in southern India and weighs 105.6 carats. It was once much larger but was re-cut in 1852 to improve its brilliance and conform to contemporary European tastes.



CENTRAL

Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 198

Victory for Law and Order

Arrest of Separatist Preacher Amritpal Singh

After 37 days on the run, separatist and radical preacher Amritpal Singh has finally arrested to the Punjab Police at a gurdwara in Moga. The police had launched a massive crackdown against Amritpal and members of his outfit 'Waris Punjab De' on March 18, in response to the preacher's supporters storming the Ajnala police station in February. Amritpal and his associates are facing several criminal charges, including an attempt to murder and attacking police personnel. His key associate Papalpreet Singh, who is considered to be Amritpal Singh's mentor and who has allegedly been in contact with Pakistan's ISI, has been arrested. Despite being sighted in several CCTV footage and photos with changed appearances at many places, Amritpal Singh, who the government describes as a Khalistani-Pakistan agent, continued to stay out of the police's fishnet. He had managed to hoodwink the police on two occasions - in Jalandhar on March 18 by switching vehicles and then again on March 28 in Hoshiarpur when he returned to Punjab along with Papalpreet Singh. The search for the fugitive was then widened - and police searched his probable hideouts in Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. Wanted posters were put up at several railway stations announcing that an appropriate reward will be given to anyone who provides credible information about Amritpal Singh's whereabouts. On April 15, police managed to arrest Amritpal's close aide Joga Singh from Sirhind in Fatehgarh Sahib, who was in direct contact with Amritpal and had even arranged a shelter and vehicles for him in Uttar Pradesh's Pilibhit. Eight of Amritpal's aides have been charged under the NSA and are being held at the Dibrugarh central jail. While on the run, two videos and one audio clip of Amritpal surfaced on social media. In one of his videos, which surfaced on March 30, Amritpal Singh asserted that he was not a fugitive and would soon appear. He claimed that he was not like those who would flee the country. Ahead of Baisakhi, there were rumours that Amritpal Singh may surrender at Takht Damdama Sahib gurdwara in Bathinda during the celebration. But that did not happen. However, on the day of his surrender, he addressed the crowd at a gurdwara in Moga before being shifted to the central jail in Assam's Dibrugarh. The Jathedar of Akal Takht (the highest temporal seat of Sikhs) had earlier appealed to the fugitive preacher to cooperate with the police and surrender. While security arrangements during the Baisakhi festival at Talwandi Sabo earned the wrath of Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh who accused the Punjab government of trying to create panic, the police claimed that security was deployed for the convenience and safety of devotees. The arrest of Amritpal Singh is a victory for law and order, and the Punjab Police must be commended for their tireless efforts in tracking down the fugitive. The message is clear - no one is above the law, and those who break it will be brought to justice. The government must also ensure that the legal process is followed in a fair and transparent manner. It is heartening to note that the people of Punjab have also played a significant role in the arrest of Amritpal Singh. The public must continue to support the police in their efforts to maintain law and order in the state.

Clean Energy Revolution

Renewable energy is on the cusp of transforming the world's energy mix, and India is leading the way with its ambitious plans to expand its renewable energy capacity. As the world grapples with climate change and energy security, renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydroelectric, and geothermal are becoming increasingly crucial in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and diversifying energy supplies. With technological advancements, renewable energy is becoming more efficient and cost-effective, making it more attractive to investors, businesses, and governments alike. India has been at the forefront of promoting renewable energy in recent years, with the government introducing several incentives, subsidies, and schemes to encourage the adoption of renewable energy. The country's renewable energy capacity has increased manifold in the last nine years, with solar and wind energy leading the way, followed by hydroelectric power. India currently has a total renewable energy capacity of 168.96 GW and has committed to raising this to 500 GW by 2030, as per the COP26 resolution. The Indian government has entrusted several companies such as Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. (SECI), NTPC Ltd., NHPC Ltd., and SJVN Ltd. to call for tenders and go ahead with the plan for augmentation, with a main focus on solar, wind, and solar-wind hybrid. The largest solar plant in the world is set to be built in Ladakh, making it the biggest beneficiary of this clean energy revolution. Despite the government's efforts, India still faces several challenges in scaling up renewable energy. The high cost of renewable energy compared to conventional sources of energy, the intermittent nature of renewable energy, and the lack of adequate transmission infrastructure are some of the major challenges. However, the government has started upgrading and adding transmission system capacity to transport renewable energy from remote areas to urban centres, and this is expected to continue. Renewable energy has several advantages over traditional sources of energy, including sustainability, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, enhanced energy security, and job creation. In addition, renewable energy can help improve public health by reducing air pollution, which can have negative health impacts. India has already attracted significant foreign investment in the renewable energy sector, with companies such as Soft Bank, Adani, and Tata Power investing in large-scale solar and wind projects in the country. India's renewable energy sector is poised for significant growth in the coming years, driven by a combination of government support, private investment, and technological innovation. While renewable energy may not completely replace traditional sources of energy in the short term, it is likely to play an increasingly important role in the world's energy mix in the years to come. India's clean energy revolution is not only critical for its energy security and climate change goals but also for the global effort to transition to a sustainable energy future.

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.

AKSHAYA TRITIYA FESTIVAL



Farmers during the ceremonial act of sowing seeds in a paddy field during agrarian festival rituals of 'Akshaya Tritiya', in Khordha, Sunday, April 23.

Mann ki Baat: Nation Building through Jan Bhagidari

JUSTICE K.G BALAKRISHNAN



India, that is Bharat completed 75 years of its Independence on 15th August, 2022. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji brought forth to our nation and its rich civilization the vision for its 'Amrit Kaal' - the next 25 years till the centenary of its precious freedom in the Vikram Samvat 2104 (Gregorian year 2047), which is a period of infinite possibilities and transformation for our beloved country Bharat. Modi Ji has ushered in a new era of growth and achievements for our country by his vision and diligence in creating this truly remarkable path forward for all our citizens. One initiative by Hon'ble Prime Minister that has stood out, out of the many outstanding initiatives he has taken for the upliftment and better governance of our country is his programme, Mann Ki Baat. Mann Ki Baat is a unique radio programme which was inception in Vikram Samvat 2071 (Gregorian year 2014), through which Hon'ble Prime Minister has not only established direct contact with those citizens who are hardest to reach but also the most down trodden in our society.

Mann Ki Baat is wonderful in its essence because it creates a direct connect between the listener and the Hon'ble Prime Minister. One feels that he or she is being addressed directly

by Hon'ble Prime Minister; as their well-wisher and guide on an intellectual, spiritual and individual level. Hon'ble Prime Minister has established this practice of addressing the Nation without any fail. No matter what the challenge was before us as a nation, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has never relented in discharging his role as a leader of our country. This transformative radio programme which has been the usherer for several significant social and cultural mass movements in the country was started in October 2014 and is reaching the milestone of 100 episodes on 30th April 2023.

Hon'ble Prime Minister has ushered in the Amrit Kaal by laying down the 'Panch Pran' i.e., five pledges that every citizen of Bharat must take to lay the unshakable foundation of the future Bharat. Each of these Panch Pran is focused on inspiring action, and facilitating Nation building. The Pran include the goal of a developed Bharat; removing any traces of colonial mind set; celebrating our heritage; strengthening unity and focusing on our duties.

Bharat in the last decade has recorded spectacular growth in its various sectors with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's resolve to build an Atmanirbhar Bharat. It is evident from the fact that during the unprece-

dent challenge of Covid-19 pandemic, Bharat was able to produce indigenous vaccines for the benefit of its citizens and the World. The Prime Minister urged Bharat to become a self-reliant nation and a strong global economic force on 'Mann ki Baat' during the pandemic.

Bharat has resolved to excel in its civilisational goals which include social stability, economic prosperity, cultural safeguard and evolution, which are contemporaneous with its roots. Hon'ble Prime Minister has effectively conveyed and manifested the spirit of this resolve in the people of our country through his programme Mann Ki Baat.

Hon'ble Prime Minister has continuously inspired citizens of the country to become agents of change and contribute to national development. Mann Ki Baat has been a stellar platform for promoting Start-up India campaign, fuelling innovation and entrepreneurship among young people in India. The digital revolution in our country, to the largest scale, has been popularised through this medium. 'Mann ki Baat' has been a bulwark in popularizing all-round developments in the country. Mann Ki Baat is yet another tool for transforming the lives of our citizens and uniting them to contribute to the broader goal of a developed nation.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister recognizes that our Art, Literature and Culture are pillars of structuring a new Bharat. He has not only taken this responsibility upon himself to inform the general public about the collective wealth of our society through Mann Ki Baat but has taken many initiatives to retrieve and rebuild our pillars of Art, Literature and Cultural heritage.

Hon'ble Prime Minister has shown his faith in the nation's ability to take on the role of a global leader as a true representative of the country. He promotes the concept of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' on the world stage through his initiatives. This has created a positive impact on citizens who feel proud and motivated to work towards the goal of Bharat becoming a 'Vishwa Guru'.

While giving the clarion call for 'Amrit Kaal' to the nation, Hon'ble Prime Minister said that this is the right time to embark on a journey of achievements based on our talent, resources and strength. He added the call of 'Sabka Prayas' to the mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas', invoking the people to make their contribution in the journey of building an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. The Prime Minister laid down the path of 'Amrit Kaal' setting the goal of ascending new heights of prosperity, while bridging the rural-urban divide and promoting the less government, more governance mantra for the nation. It has been established that the rise of New Bharat can undoubtedly be ensured with the participation, dedication and commitment of every Indian. And Mann Ki Baat will continue to be a driving force in this direction, highlighting the nation's progress through jan-bhagidari. Therefore, bringing the nation closer to continually achieving its goals and perpetually instilling the spirit of nationalism and patriotism in India i.e., Bharat. It will be interesting to see what the centenary episode of this iconic radio programme which will be live on 30th April 2023, brings forth.

(Writer is Former Chief Justice of India)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Amritpal Arrested

Punjab police have successfully apprehended Sikh extremist Amritpal Singh from a gurdwara near Moga under the National Security Act. Singh has been sent to Dibrugarh jail where other extremists are being held under the same act. However, with the ongoing electioneering for the Jalandhar parliament bye-election, political parties are being urged to refrain from making allegations and counter allegations regarding Singh's arrest. The state has worked hard to restore peace after the anti-Sikh riots and it is important for all to remain united to prevent any communal disharmony. Panjab's strong community ties have prevented any divisive elements from taking root. The upcoming bye-election on May 10th is expected to be won by the Congress party, but the focus should be on defeating those who seek to disrupt peace.

Yash pal Ralhan, Jalandhar

Modernise drug control department

Cops have seized millions of bottles of sedative cough syrup from pharmaceutical units across the country, which were notably sealed in long ago. It is discovered that the syrup contains codeine, an opiate on the list of controlled substances. How this escaped the attention of regulators for so long is perplexing, given that all units using it are required to file quarterly returns of the narcotic substance used. Lax regulatory controls and gaps in the inspection of medical and drug-making firms have been identified as major causes of the sector's ills. This is a serious lapse in judgement because bogus medicines cause havoc in the lives of consumers and can even be fatal. The grip of law enforcement on this critical segment must be tightened. However, its image has been tainted by a few bad apples, with cases of death linked to contaminated medicines manufactured in India being reported on a regular basis both at home and abroad. Immediate and firm action against the perpetrator can keep people from becoming victims of this lethal scam.

Vijaykumar H K, Raichur, Karnataka

Same-Sex Marriage

I am writing to express my disappointment at the matter that referred to same-sex marriage as "unnatural, absurd, and anti-social." Same-sex marriage is not against the principles of creation, nor is it abnormal or in need of psychological treatment. Rather, it is a fundamental human right that should be recognized and protected by the government and the Supreme Court. It is true that religious books do not mention same-sex marriage, but that does not mean it should be dismissed or marginalized. Same-sex couples deserve the same rights and recognition as heterosexual couples, and denying them the right to marry is a violation of their basic human dignity. It is time for society to move past these outdated prejudices and embrace the diversity of love and relationships.

Suresh Verma, Raipur

Concept of Sustainable Development and Natural Disasters



Rajender Kumar Sharma

Kedarnath disaster in 2013, Raini natural disaster in 2021, Joshimath landslide in 2023 are such natural calamities occurring one after the other, which have been named natural calamities but the root cause of all these tragic calamities are human hunger and mistake for the

sake of his comforts and convenience.

Man, riding on the crutches of science, has set out to conquer nature. This fact is nothing less than a big joke. In this vast and mighty nature, man is like a straw. What a shelter nature has given to man that he himself has become the master of nature. We are not ready to learn even after the Kedarnath disaster. When the Chaurabari glacier melted and merged into the Mandakani river and the flood that followed, it took about 10,000 lives in a single moment and humans could not do anything. Hotels and houses were scattered like a pack of cards in an instant.

Even such a big accident failed to open our eyes. These disasters are coming in front of us as a result of the nature being tampered with in the name of tourism and develop-

ment. Movement of vehicles without any hindrance in the name of tourism in hilly areas, commercial constructions done keeping the rules aside, are the primary reasons which nature is not ready to tolerate. It cannot be denied that in most of the mountainous areas, tourism is the mainstay of people's livelihood, for which there is no other alternative. But arbitrariness should not be done in the name of tourism.

Don't the facilities of free electricity, free water take away the basic right of a man to live? Today we are in more need of electricity and water, the reason is clear, when precious things like electricity and water are available for free, then they will be wasted. To fulfill this deficiency, big dams will also be constructed and when the mountains will be demolished for the con-

struction of the dam, it will directly affect the cities and villages there. Incidents like the Joshimath disaster are proof of intervention of human beings in nature. The increase in environmental pollution and temperature due to vehicular traffic is a natural process which is directly related to the melting of glaciers, the more the melting, the more the rivers will rise, which is not in our hands to control.

We talk about sustainable development, which has remained confined to books only. The no-objection certificate given by the Environment and Forest Departments for such big constructions is under doubt. The mountains of Uttarakhand are mostly of soil, that is why landslides keep happening here. The blasts done for the construction of large structures in such mountains are loosening

the soil of the mountains somewhere.

Development is the need of the hour, but today's biggest need is sustainable development. In which development should be done without harming the environment and nature. The concept of sustainable development has to be taken out from the books and brought to the ground of reality. Otherwise, man's unlimited hunger for convenience and uncontrolled exploitation of resources will make nature his biggest enemy and will invite more bigger natural calamities to destroy the man and material. This is an alarm as well as need of today's life style to conserve the natural resources by protecting our earth.

Writer is a Columnist & Sr. Educationist, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.)

BRIEF

NFRA

New Delhi: The National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) has imposed a fine and a three-year ban on two auditors for professional misconduct and other lapses in connection with the audit of SRS Ltd in 2017-18. In two separate orders, NFRA slapped a fine of Rs 3 lakh each on auditors - Pankaj Kumar and Naresh Kumar, and debarred them for three years from undertaking any audit in respect of financial statements or internal audit of the functions and activities of any company or body corporate during the ban period.

Volkswagen

New Delhi: With nearly 45 per cent of passenger vehicles sold in India coming from models priced above Rs 10 lakh so far this year, German carmaker Volkswagen is focussing on premium products in the country following its global strategy, according to a senior company official. The company, which till about three to four years back was operating in a price bracket of Rs 6.5 lakh to Rs 7 lakh, has now moved up to an average price band of Rs 16 lakh offering feature-loaded products in order to meet the evolving customer demands.

MoRTH

New Delhi: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) plans to raise Rs 35,000 crore through various modes of asset monetisation in this financial year, against Rs 32,855-crore target in the last fiscal, a senior government official said on Sunday. Currently, MoRTH monetises its assets under three different modes viz toll-operate-transfer (TOT) model, Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) and project-based financing, in order to provide all categories of investors an opportunity to invest in assets pertaining to highways and associated infrastructure.

Muthoot Microfin

Mumbai: The third largest microlender Muthoot Microfin expects to disburse 25-30 per cent more loans this fiscal, taking its assets to around Rs 12,000 crore. The Kerala-based firm, promoted by the diversified Muthoot Pappachen Group that's more known for its flagship gold loan business, closed FY23 with a loan book of Rs 9,209 crore and a likely net income of Rs 200 crore.

MG Motor

New Delhi: Bullish on electric mobility MG Motor India expects 30 per cent of its sales to accrue from the electric vehicle segment this year as it gears up to introduce its second offering in the vertical next month, according to the company's President and Managing Director Rajeev Chaba. The company, which currently sells ZS EV in the country, has unveiled a two-door electric vehicle 'Comet' which it plans to introduce in phase wise manner across the country starting next month.

Regulating crypto without global consensus will not be effective: FM

Bengaluru, Apr 23 (PTI):

Underlining that global consensus is necessary for regulation of crypto, before India makes any move on it, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Sunday said a global template may have to be created, and everyone will have to work together on it, otherwise regulating it will not be effective.

The Minister, however, said it does not mean controlling of 'distributed ledger technology', which has its goodness and potential.

"The G20 of which the India is currently holding the Presidency, it was India's proposal and it has been taken on board, I'm



glad that the G20 has kept it in its agenda for this year; the IMF has given a paper on crypto currency and the way it can affect the macroeconomic stability. The Financial Stability Board (FSB), which was set up by G20, has agreed to give a report that will also focus on financial stability," Sitharaman said.

"Their (FSB) report and IMF's report are going to be discussed in July when Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors will meet under the G20, and post that in September there will be a summit of Prime Ministers and Presidents of G20 nations that will be held in India," she said. The Minister was

responding to a question on regulating digital or crypto currency during the interaction with 'Thinkers Forum, Karnataka' here.

The First G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting under the G20 Indian Presidency was held during February 24-25 in Bengaluru. "The underlying principle is, because the digital currencies are completely digitalised and technology-driven, the technology which is very distributed, and some times identity is very difficult to be established, but which has potential, it will therefore have to be acted upon only with all countries coming on board," Sitharaman said.

Sun Pharma, Hetero recall drugs in the US market

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

Drug makers Sun Pharma and Hetero are recalling products in the US market for manufacturing issues, according to the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA).

As per the US health regulator's latest Enforcement Report, the US-based arm of Sun Pharmaceutical Industries is recalling a generic drug indicated to raise blood pressure in adult patients with acute hypotension.

Princeton (New Jersey) based Sun Pharmaceutical Inc is recalling 16,450 vials of Norepinephrine Bitartrate Injection for "Failed Impurities/Degradation Specifications", it said.

The affected lot has been manufactured by

Hyderabad-based Gland Pharma and distributed in the US by Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, the USFDA stated. Sun Pharmaceutical Inc initiated the Class III nationwide recall (US) on March 29 this year. As per the USFDA, a Class III recall is initiated in a "situation in which use of, or exposure to, a violative product is not likely to cause adverse health consequences".

In a separate disclosure, the USFDA said the US-based arm of Hetero Labs is recalling a drug used to treat certain stomach and esophagus problems.

Hetero USA Inc is recalling 2,352 bottles of Pantoprazole Sodium delayed release tablets for "CGMP Deviations: Discoloration", the USFDA stated. The affected lot was produced by Hetero Labs

for New Jersey-based Camber Pharmaceuticals Inc, it added.

Hetero USA Inc initiated the Class II recall on March 14 this year.

As per the USFDA, a Class II recall is initiated in a situation in which use of, or exposure to, a violative product may cause temporary or medically reversible adverse health consequences or where the probability of serious adverse health consequences is remote.

The Indian pharmaceutical industry is the world's third-largest by volume and 14th-largest in terms of value. India exported pharmaceuticals worth Rs 1,75,040 crore in the financial year 2021-22, including bulk drugs/drug intermediates. The US is the world's largest market for pharmaceutical products.

Symphony launches air cooler powered by BLDC Technology

Ahmedabad, Apr 23:

The World Earth Day recognises the significance of positive environmental impact and the importance of investing in sustainable practices and technologies to protect our planet. The global leader in evaporative air coolers - Symphony Ltd, has launched the world's first range of highly energy efficient air coolers powered by BLDC Technology. They consume up to 60% less power compared to other coolers which result in energy savings up to Rs. 2000 per year. The company has launched 3 models in the BLDC range of 80 litre, 55 litre and 30 litre water tank capacity. Apart from being highly energy efficient, they are also packed with additional features such as 7- speed options, up to 8 hours of

night sleep mode, touch-screen control panel, empty water tank alarm etc. Symphony coolers are engineered to reduce carbon footprint equivalent to planting 18 trees per year* per cooler and consume only 10% energy vs air conditioners.

Commenting on the development, Achal Bakari, Chairman and Managing Director, Symphony Ltd, said, "At Symphony, we think about tomorrow, today. Our endeavour has always been to build a better future for the planet and its inhabitants which is reflected through our brand tagline - 'Thinking of Tomorrow'. We are certain that with this new air-cooling range, Symphony will revolutionize the future of air cooling while bolstering its position as the global leader of sustainable cooling solutions to consumers".

FPIs invest Rs 8,643 car in equities in Apr on reasonable valuation of stocks

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have infused Rs 8,643 crore in the Indian equity markets so far this month on the reasonable valuation of stocks, according to analysts.

FPIs infused a net sum of Rs 7,936 crore in equities in March mainly driven by bulk investment in the Adani Group companies by the US-based GQG Partners.

FPIs started the current financial year on a positive note and invested Rs 8,643 crore in Indian equities from April 3, data with the depositories showed.

The situation is generally favourable for

economies like India in terms of FPI inflows, Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director - Manager Research, Morningstar India, said.

Also, the valuation of Indian equities has come to a reasonable level following its consolidation, which prompted FPIs to invest in Indian stocks, he added.

Another market expert believes that valuations have become more palatable given almost zero NSE 50 returns over the last 17-18 months.

Apart from equities, FPIs have invested Rs 778 crore in the debt market during the period under review. In terms of sec-

tors, FPIs heavily bought financial stocks for Rs 4,410 crore during the fortnight that ended April 15. Besides, they were also buyers of automobiles and capital goods. In addition, IT stocks too saw buying interest, although marginally.

"There were huge delivery volumes in stocks like HDFC Bank, HDFC, and Tata Motors during the fortnight. It can be safely assumed that the bulk of this delivery buying was done by FPIs. FPIs have also increased their holding in ITC," VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said.

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

South Korean automaker Kia is focussing on the utility vehicle segment in the Indian market as it remains bullish on the long-term growth potential of the vertical in the country, according to a senior company official.

The automaker, which sells products like Seltos, Sonet and Carens in the market, also plans to keep on offering diesel trims on its models with demand remaining robust for such variants in the fast-growing sports utility vehicle (SUV) segment.

Buoyed by its presence in the utility vehicle segment, the company expects its sales to grow by around 10 per cent this year. It sold 2,54,556 units in 2022.

"Our focus firmly remains on multi-purpose ve-



Kia India National Head- Sales and Marketing Hardeep Singh Brar.

hicles and sports utility vehicles," Kia India National Head- Sales and Marketing Hardeep Singh Brar told PTI in an interaction. The company remains bullish on the SUV and MPV segments and does not have

HANNOVER MESSE 2023



A woman interacts with a robot by Devanthro - The Robody Company in front of a photo box at the HANNOVER MESSE 2023, the Hanover technology fair, in Hanover, Germany. Manufacturers are hoping for the artificial intelligence revolution to reach their factories, envisaging robots being used to repair complex machinery.

Focus remains firmly on utility vehicle segment in India: Kia

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"Our focus firmly remains on multi-purpose ve-

hicles and sports utility vehicles," Kia India National Head- Sales and Marketing Hardeep Singh Brar told PTI in an interaction. The company remains bullish on the SUV and MPV segments and does not have

any plans to introduce sedans in the market, he noted. Brar noted that the contribution of the SUV segment in the overall passenger vehicle sales has gone up to 43 per cent in 2022 from 24 per cent in 2018. The multi-purpose vehicle segment's contribution has also grown from 5 per cent in 2018 to 9 per cent in 2022, he noted.

On the other hand, sedans used to contribute 19 per cent to the overall PV industry in 2018 which went down to 10 per cent in 2021, he said.

Due to some product launches last year, it has grown to 11 per cent last year, Brar said. Similarly, the contribution of hatchbacks has come to 48 per cent in 2022 from 65 per cent in 2018, he said.

When asked about diesel cars, Brar noted that diesel

trims of Sonet and Seltos currently contribute around 30-35 per cent to the overall sales of the two models. "When you look at the industry perspective, diesel vehicles currently contribute almost 19 per cent of the overall sales. The diesel contribution however remains robust in the SUV vertical," he noted. Brar said the contribution of diesel cars in the industry sales has grown from 17 per cent in 2020 to 19 per cent in 2022.

"The numbers show an increasing contribution by diesel vehicles to overall industry sales. Thus, we will continue with the diesel powertrains," he stated.

On sales outlook this year, Brar said: "We foresee 10 per cent growth for Kia in CY2023. It would be around 5-6 per cent for the industry."

Reliance to start gas production from MJ field this quarter

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

Reliance Industries Ltd, India's largest company by market value, will commence natural gas production from its deepest discovery in the KG-D6 block this quarter, meeting 15 per cent of India's gas demand.

KG-D6 off the Andhra coast is India's only deep-water block under production. The block averaged 20 million standard cubic meters per day of production in the January-March quarter, the company said in an investor presentation post-presentation of the March quarter earnings.

Reliance and its partner, UK supermajor BP are now nearing the start of production from their giant MJ deep-water project, which will significantly

boost gas output from the prized east coast asset.

"MJ field is expected to commence production in 1Q FY24 (April 2023 to March 2024)," it said.

The company, which is the operator of the block, earlier planned to start production in the December quarter, but it was delayed by three months. Reliance and BP are spending about USD 5 billion on further developing KG-D6 through three different projects, aimed at rejuvenating gas production from the offshore asset. While the first two developments R-cluster and Satellite Cluster have started gas production, MJ is now nearing completion. Start of MJ will take KG-D6 gas production to 30 mmscmd in FY24, Reliance said in the presentation.

354 infra projects show cost overruns of Rs 4.55 lakh cr

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

As many as 354 infrastructure projects, each entailing an investment of Rs 150 crore or more, have been hit by cost overruns of more than Rs 4.55 lakh crore, as per an official report. According to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, which monitors infrastructure projects worth Rs 150 crore and above, out of 1,449 projects, 354 reported cost overruns and as many as 821 projects were delayed. "Total original cost of implementation of the 1,449 projects was Rs 20,69,658.30 crore and their anticipated completion cost is likely to be Rs 25,25,348.87 crore, which reflects overall cost overruns of Rs 4,55,690.57 crore (22.02 per cent of original cost)," the ministry's latest report for March, 2023 said.

India jumps 6 places on World Bank's Logistic Performance Index

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

India has climbed six places on the World Bank's Logistic Performance Index (LPI) 2023, now ranking 38th in the 139 countries index, as a result of significant investments in both soft and hard infrastructure as well as technology.

India was ranked 44th on the index in 2018 and has now climbed to 38th in the 2023 listing. India's performance has drastically improved from 2014, when it was ranked 54th on the LPI. Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government had announced PM Gati Shakti initiative, a National Master Plan for

multimodal connectivity, in October 2021 to reduce logistics cost and boost the economy by 2024-25.

In 2022, the prime minister had launched the National Logistics Policy (NLP) to ensure quick last-mile delivery, end transport-related challenges, save time and money of the manufacturing sector and ensure desired speed in the logistics sector.

These policy interventions are fruitifying, which can be seen in India's jump in LPI and its other parameters. According to the report, India's rank moved up five places in infrastructure score from 52nd in 2018 to 47th in 2023. It climbed to

22nd spot for international shipments in 2023 from 44th in 2018 and moved four places up to 48th in logistics competence and equality.

In timelines, India witnessed a 17-place jump in rankings, whereas it moved up three places in rank in tracking and tracing to 38th. The report quotes modernisation and digitalisation as a reason for emerging economies, like India, to leapfrog advanced countries. The report said: "Since 2015, Government of India has invested in trade-related soft and hard infrastructure connecting port gateways on both coasts to the economic poles in the hinterland."



Alaya F

on playing a lead role and the progress of women in cinema

Actress Alaya F is currently playing the lead role of Radhika, a reporting intern in the supernatural thriller movie 'U-Turn', where she investigates accidents happening at a U-turn on a flyover. She expressed that there is pressure in playing the lead role as expectations are high from the makers. However, she is happy to be part of a cinema where more projects are being made around female protagonists. Alaya also shared her thoughts on working with producer Ekta Kapoor, who has been a boss lady in the industry and doesn't let gender bias affect her personality. Alaya said that when someone like Ekta Kapoor believes in you, you just shoulder that film without questioning yourself and do your best to live up to it. The actress made her debut in 2020 with the comedy film 'Jawaani Jaaneman' and has appeared in several films such as 'Freddy', 'Almost Pyaar with DJ Mohabbat', and is set for 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan', 'Sri', and 'Ek Aur Ghazab Kahani'. She acknowledged that things are changing in the industry, and many films are being made with women actors as the protagonist. However, she feels that there is still a long way to go for women to have great opportunities in cinema. Alaya concluded by saying that she enjoys this era of cinema better and is optimistic about the incredible beginnings towards progress for women in the industry.

Monica Khanna excited for her OTT debut with 'Surkh'



perience of playing a cop mesmerizing and feels blessed to portray such roles as an actor. Moreover, she shared her thoughts on how the OTT industry has given tough competition to TV, but both have their own points. She loves both the mediums.

The series is being shot in Lucknow, which is very special for Monica as it's her maternal home. She loves the food and the place and finds the whole experience beautiful. The actress also talked about her co-stars, Sharad Malhotra and Manish Raisinghan, saying that they are both amazing actors and good in their own ways. Manish is like a kid, always energetic and brushing up his photography skills, while Sharad is a professional and focused actor, and they have developed a good bond on the sets.

This is not the first time Monica is playing the role of a cop, as she has played a pivotal role in one of her Spanish films, 'Alex's Strip'. But this role is very special as she will be representing a UP officer, wearing the uniform with pride and feeling the respect it commands.

Monica believes that wearing the uniform creates a sense of confidence and changes her lifestyle. She finds the ex-

Nusraat Faria: Indo-Bangla Partnership Crucial for Bengali Cinema



Nusraat Faria, a renowned Bangladeshi actor, has expressed the belief that Bengali is one of the world's most beautiful and revered languages, and that an Indo-Bangla partnership is crucial for putting the language on the world map. She emphasises that we live in the era of globalisation, where geographical boundaries are redundant, and the two nations must continue to collaborate in the field of cinema. Faria states that she has had the privilege of working in nine Indo-Bangla productions, and the experience has been unforgettable. Faria will be seen essaying the role of Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh's Prime Minister, in Shyam Benegal's 'Bongobondhu'. An entertainer, Faria enjoys everything related to the arts, and she thinks of herself as an actor, singer, RJ, and reality show host. "Going with the flow is my thing," she says.

Faria is all praises for new age Bangladeshi directors, asserting that they bring forth fresh perspectives, novel concepts, and a peculiar technical style. She believes that the best part is that they have the right attitude and know what to do. Faria takes the Bangladeshi Hoichoi platform as an example that produces excellent television shows and films, giving Bangladeshi cinema a critical boost at this crucial juncture. Faria's single, 'Bujhina Toh Tai,' with Mumzy Stranger, released on Eid, and she has high expectations from the single. She has already released several singles with SVF, including 'Pataka,' 'Ami Chai Thakte,' and 'Habibi.' She adds, "It is a significant role, and as a producer, I like the way they have approached it from my perspective. I have given my best to the latest song and set the bar high." Faria frequently works in Kolkata, not just in Indo-Bangla productions. She says that she has a busy year ahead, with upcoming films like 'Abar Bibaho Obhijaan' and 'Patalghor.' For Faria, personal experiences go a long way in acquainting oneself with the craft of acting. She states that she does not miss formal education in acting, as the best education is encountered on the path of self-learning. Faria concludes by saying that she may not be the best, but she is improving and learning every day from her co-stars, directors, and instincts.

Vardhan Puri reveals how he manifested his next with Vivek Agnihotri!

Vardhan Puri made an impressive debut with the intense drama Yeh Saali Aashiqui. The film was lauded critically, but then the pandemic hit and the film industry faced a block in its momentum. However, now Vardhan is all set and raring to hit the screens with multiple interesting projects, and one of them is his next with The Kashmir Files director Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri.

However, it isn't just another film for Vardhan. It is one that he manifested and he shares the story of how he got the film. Talking about how his fascination with Vivek started, the actor shares, "In 2019, when The Tashkent Files released, I remember seeing it in the theatres. I found it to be a very gutsy, honest, compelling and disruptive film. I remember calling my agent really late at night and asking for Mr. Agnihotri's number."

As soon as he got the number, Vardhan messaged Vivek quite late at night. "It was because that's how impacted I was from the film. I texted him that I am an actor who recently finished shooting his first film and would really love to work with him. And he replied to me within seconds," the actor informs,



sharing what the filmmaker wrote back to him. "He said that if it is in our destiny to work together, we surely will."

However, came March 2020 and the Covid pandemic and the subsequent lockdown halted everything. Vardhan shares, "I was in a really strange place mentally. The movies that I was supposed to work on didn't take off because of the pandem-

ic. Then one day out of the blue, I got a call from Vivek sir and Mukesh Chhabra sir. They asked me to come and meet them and I realised they are offering me a film that Vivek sir was to direct."

Vardhan was pleasantly surprised and showed Vivek the earlier conversation he had with him. "He just replied saying, 'Dekha, kaha tha na maine. Qismat mein likha hoga to zarur saath mein kaam karenge.' And it was like life had come a full circle. I couldn't be more grateful and I couldn't believe more in miracles because I wanted it so badly and with so much sincerity that the universe offered it to me," he beams.

The actor's manifestation worked and he got to work with Vivek Agnihotri. Not just that, he also got a chance to star alongside some mavericks including Anupam Kher, Pallavi Joshi and the late Satish Kaushik. "This movie is one I am really proud of. It's written by Mr Rumi Jafry and he is an incredible writer. It's a social comedy. It was shot in Bhopal and I am sure when it releases, it's gonna make everyone smile from ear to ear. I cannot wait to share this film with the world," Vardhan concludes.

Aayush's upcoming action entertainer titled 'RUSLAAN'



Aayush Sharma's upcoming masala action entertainer has been titled Ruslaan, which was earlier tentatively called AS04. The makers shared a motion poster for the film now titled Ruslaan. Currently in post-production, the masala action entertainer with unmatched swag and stylised action has wrapped its shoot. After revealing the first glimpse in the film with a short teaser earlier last year on Aayush Sharma's birthday, the actor has now revealed the name of the film. Before unveiling the motion poster, Aayush Sharma took to his

social media last night to share a video hinting at the big reveal of the title. The motion poster unfolds the suave and svelte look of Aayush Sharma in and as Ruslaan, along with drawing attention to the two most important aspects of his character's life- guitar and guns. Produced by KK Radhamohan, under the banner of Srisathyasai Arts, Ruslaan stars Aayush Sharma as the lead, co-starring debutante Sushri Mishra, along with Jagapathi Babu and Vidya Malavade. Directed by Katayyan Shivpuri, the film is slated for release in 2023.

Tina Datta on audience's interest in new TV Genres



Tina Datta, the television actress currently featuring in the show 'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum,' spoke about the audience's inclination towards new genres on the small screen. Tina gained fame from her performance in the show 'Uttaran,' which depicted the class divide, with her character being the daughter of a maid and her friend being the daughter of her mother's wealthy employer.

Commenting on whether the audience is interested in new genres on TV after watching social messages and 'saas-bahu' dramas, Tina stated that people want to watch something new as they get tired of watching the same thing repeatedly. She thinks that this show 'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum' is very refreshing as it tells a new-age story that the audience is looking for in today's world. She added that change is the only constant, and the audience looks forward to such refreshing elements on screen.

'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum' airs on Sony Entertainment Television show.

Scarlett Johansson confirms she won't return to Marvel

Actress Scarlett Johansson, known for her role as Black Widow in 'Iron Man 2' and 'The Avengers' movies, as well as 2021's 'Black Widow', has stated that she has no plans to return to the Marvel Cinematic Universe in the future. In a recent interview on 'The Goop Podcast' with Gwyneth Paltrow, who starred as Pepper Potts in the 'Iron Man' movies, Scarlett reminisced about her time in the MCU, describing it as an "awesome" and "fun" experience when she was 26 years old and single.

Scarlett reflected on the camaraderie among the cast, mentioning how they would come back every few years to film together, sharing different life experiences such as getting married, divorced, or having kids, likening it to an "adult summer camp thing" and describing it as some of the best experiences of her career. However, Scarlett firmly stated that she is done with the



character of Black Widow, expressing that she has completed her chapter and did everything she needed to do in the role. She also praised Marvel boss Kevin Feige as a lover of cinema and storytelling.

During the interview, Gwyneth speculated about the possibility of her own return to the Marvel Cinematic Universe, to which Scarlett responded positively, stating that she can see it happening and jokingly encouraging Gwyneth to "break out that wig, baby." Gwyneth quipped about the idea of a 64-year-old Pepper Potts, to which Scarlett responded with enthusiasm.

Overall, Scarlett Johansson's confirmation that she won't be returning to Marvel marks the end of an era for her portrayal of Black Widow in the MCU, leaving fans curious about the future of the character and the possibility of other cast members making comebacks.

CROSSWORD

625



ACROSS

- Desperate
- Wave top
- Interlock
- Summer coolers
- Large mammal, for short
- Got it! (2 wds.)
- Eye-opener
- Old wound
- de toilette
- Vote in

- Tantalize
- Shirt arms
- James _____ Jones
- Dog doc
- Shaving cut
- Long, long _____
- Baseball blunder
- City in NY
- Smell
- Cowboys' contest
- Ice cream holder
- Gazelles

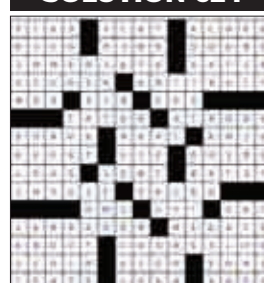
- Small arrows
- Amtrak stop (abbr.)
- Pub beverages
- Punching tool
- Feeble, as an excuse
- Get ready
- Fine porcelain
- Fourth month
- Pitch
- Borrowed money
- Draw pictures for a book
- Passenger vehicle
- Expiate
- A Baldwin
- Hunted animal
- Short messages
- Actress Mae _____

DOWN

- Challenges
- Utopian
- Musical show
- Vane letters
- Swiss cottage
- Ceremonial events
- Long story
- Blot
- Shipping weight
- Penny pincher
- Moving staircase
- Large bodies of water
- At this location
- Crowbar, for one
- Capture
- Call forth
- Vodeler's feedback
- Lymph _____

- Freezes
- Fellow
- Mined minerals
- Epochs
- Landlord's due
- Get even
- Heavy twine
- Hair location
- Portrayal
- Tibetan monk
- Resided
- Gets up
- Pester
- Trim trees
- Dickens title beginning (2 wds.)
- Appraises
- Put up
- Thunder sound
- Time period
- Chorus voice
- Conspire
- Bond creator _____ Fleming
- Inexpensive

SOLUTION 624



Maxwell and du Plessis set RCB up for tight victory

Bengaluru, April 23:

Royal Challengers Bangalore pacer Harshal Patel held his nerve to defend 20 runs in the final over as the green-jerseyed RCB registered a seven-run win over Rajasthan Royals in the IPL 2023 thriller at M.Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday. Chasing 190, Rajasthan Royals were off to a disastrous start as Mohammed Siraj dismissed Jos Buttler for 0 in the first over at the Chinnaswamy Stadium. Yashasvi Jaiswal then joined hands with Devdutt Padikkal to revive Rajasthan, adding 98 runs for the second wicket.

Ex-RCB batter Padikkal looked in good touch as he raced to a brilliant fifty before David Willey removed him for 52 (34). Yashasvi Jaiswal was the next batter to perish as the RR opener fell to a slower delivery from Harshal Patel.

Earlier in the day, impact player Faf du Plessis (62) and Glenn Maxwell's (77) century stand nearly propelled Royal Challengers Bangalore to a huge total before Rajasthan Royals fought back to restrict them to 189 for 9. RR pacer Trent Boult gave his side a



Brief Scores

Royal Challengers Bangalore: 189 for 9 in 20 overs (Glenn Maxwell 77 off 44 balls, Faf du Plessis 62 off 39 balls; Trent Boult 2/41, Yuzvendra Chahal 1/28).
Rajasthan Royals: 182 for 6 in 20 overs (Devdutt Padikkal 52, Yashasvi Jaiswal 47; Harshal Patel 3/32).

dream start by removing Virat Kohli (0) on the first delivery of the match, which was his 100th overall wicket in IPL. After returning for a second over, Boult then had Shahbaz Ahmed (2) caught at short midwicket by Yashasvi Jaiswal. However, Du Plessis and Maxwell counterattacked, with the RCB captain hitting Sandeep Sharma (2/49) for three fours and two sixes in two overs. It took just 66 balls for Maxwell and du Plessis to add 127 runs for the third wicket, the pair's third 100-run partnership in as many games this season.

Royal Challengers Bangalore's Glenn Maxwell (R) celebrates after scoring a half-century fellow teammate Faf du Plessis.

Archery World Cup: Indian men's recurve team wins silver

Antalya, Apr 23 (PTI):

The Indian men's recurve team signed off with a silver medal after going down to China by the thinnest of margins in a shoot-off at the Archery World Cup Stage 1, here on Sunday.

In pursuit of their first World Cup gold medal since 2010, the men's recurve team, comprising Tarundeep Rai, Ananu Das and Dhiraj Bommadevara, bounced back from being 0-4 down to level and force a shoot-off.

But the trio went down 4-5 (54-55, 50-56, 59-58, 56-55, 28-28*) with the Chinese team of Li Zhongyuan, Qi Xiangshuo and Wei Shahoxu hitting an X (closer to the centre) in the shoot-off in a dramatic finish. India now have two golds, one silver from Stage 1 of the meet, while Dhiraj is also in the medal hunt in recurve individual category. In hindsight, the



team would rue its pathetic second set where it totalled just 50 out of a possible 60, after hitting the red rings thrice (one 7 and two 8s) as China won by six points to take a 4-0 lead.

India had a slow start and China took the first set by a slender one-point margin. It was only in the third set the team bucked up to drill in a series of

five 10s including three Xs. China then cracked under pressure in the fourth set which India won by a one-point margin.

It was so near, yet so far for the Indians as a gold medal continued to elude the Olympic recurve archers yet another time.

In 2014, India came close to winning the World Cup twice in Stage 2 Medellin

and Stage 4 Wroclaw, but on both occasions they ended up losing.

India have so far won five gold medals in the men's recurve team event.

It is at the same Mediterranean coastal resort of Antalya where the Indian men's recurve team had tasted its first success in a World Cup way back in 2008.

Kiptum wins London Marathon in 2nd fastest time

Sifan Hassan completed a stunning comeback

London, Apr 23 (AP):

Kelvin Kiptum collapsed to the ground after winning the London Marathon on Sunday and recording the second fastest time in history over the distance.

The 23-year-old Kenyan runner broke the course record with a time of 2 hours, 1 minute, 25 seconds and just missed out on Eliud Kipchoge's world record by 16 seconds.

"I am so happy with the result," said Kiptum.

"I don't know what to say right now, I am just grateful. The course felt good, there was a bit of rain around halfway but it was OK. 'I enjoy doing the marathons, it is good preparation for me. I loved it, I am very happy.' In the women's race, Sifan Hassan completed a stunning comeback to win on her



Sifan Hassan of the Netherlands celebrates winning the women's race at the London Marathon in London, Sunday, April 23.

marathon debut after appearing to be injured part way through. In what was long distance great Mo Farah's final marathon, defending champion Amos Kipruto and world champion Tamirat Tola were also among the elite men's field that Kiptum left behind.

Wrestlers return to protest site

Demand release of panel report on sexual harassment allegations against WFI chief

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

Country's top wrestlers, including Bajrang Punia and Vinesh Phogat, returned to protest site Jantar Mantar on Sunday and demanded that the government makes public the findings of the oversight panel that investigated into sexual harassment allegations against WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

The wrestlers, surrounded by a huge posse of police personnel, also demanded that an FIR be lodged against the WFI boss, who has denied the allegations that first surfaced in January this year when grapplers had staged a 'sit-in' protest and de-



Indian wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik during a press conference regarding wrestlers' protest at Jantar Mantar, in New Delhi, Sunday.

mandated that federation be disbanded. The six-member oversight panel, headed by legendary boxer MS Mary Kom, had submitted its report in the first week of April but the government has not yet made it public. "How long is it going to take for the (government) committee to submit its report. It's already been three months

and we are still waiting to hear from them. Will the report come out after the girls, who have filed complaints, die?," questioned Vinesh, the world championship medallist.

"We are tired of asking the government to release the findings. We have filed a complaint at a police station in Connaught Place and want an FIR to be filed

against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

"We have nothing to do with the (WFI) election process. We are more concerned about our careers. The (Paris) Olympics are upon us and we want to begin preparations in right earnest," she added.

Singh, who has completed 12 years as WFI president, has confirmed that he will not contest for the top post in the WFI election on May 7.

However he had indicated that he may find a role for himself within the national federation.

"You people can see who is running the federation despite such serious charges. We only have the power of truth which I suppose is not sufficient," she said, adding, "The least the government can do is to take action on the sexual harassment that has been done. We demand justice. We will continue out protest."

Swiatek and Sabalenka set up another final in Stuttgart



Stuttgart, Apr 23 (AP):

Defending champion Iga Swiatek will again play Aryna Sabalenka in the final of the Porsche Grand Prix after they came through their semifinals on Saturday.

Swiatek had an easier path to the final than she expected when Ons Jabeur

retired with a left calf injury. Swiatek was leading 3-0. Sabalenka eased into the final for the third straight year with a 6-1, 6-2 win over Anastasia Potapova. The Belarusian player lost the decider to Ash Barty in 2021, then to Swiatek 6-2, 6-2 last year. The Pole has won four of their six meetings overall.

Man City beats Sheff United to keep treble dream alive

London, Apr 23 (AP):

In this kind of mood, it will take something special to halt Manchester City's pursuit of the treble. Just days after Pep Guardiola's team advanced to the Champions League semifinals, a place in the FA Cup final was secured by beating Sheffield United 3-0 at Wembley Stadium on Saturday, with Riyad Mahrez scoring a hat trick.

City can also seize control of the English Premier League title race on Wednesday in a showdown with leader Arsenal.

Nothing has been won yet, but City's near-irresistible form is driving it toward the history books as its three-pronged trophy



Manchester City's Algerian midfielder Riyad Mahrez (L) celebrates scoring the team's third goal, his hat trick, with Manchester City's English midfielder Jack Grealish.

challenge shows no sign of stopping. Manchester United is the only English team to have won the Champions League,

Premier League and FA Cup in one season, in 1999. It's a point of pride for United and its fans, a fact not lost on Guardiola.

"They don't have to be scared (we will emulate them)," he joked. "We are neighbors, neighbors are always nice to each other. I said yesterday we are far away." United could yet have a say in City's potential trophy haul. Erik ten Hag's team plays Brighton in the second FA Cup semifinal on Sunday, with the chance to set up an all-Manchester final in June.

City also faces the significant test of trying to navigate a way past 14-time winner Real Madrid in the last four of the Champions League. But the defending Premier League champion is in ominous form having extended its unbeaten run to 16 games with a routine win against Sheffield.

Alcaraz beats Evans, will face Tsitsipas in Barcelona final

Barcelona, Apr 23 (AP):

Defending champion Carlos Alcaraz eased into the final of the Barcelona Open after seeing off Daniel Evans 6-2, 6-2 on Saturday.

The second-ranked Alcaraz will face Stefanos Tsitsipas in Sunday's final after the Greek advanced by beating Lorenzo Musetti 6-4, 5-7, 6-3 on the outdoor clay court.

Alcaraz sealed his victory when he blasted a return under Evans' racket as he made an approach.

"Of course, how you reach a final is important



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz returns the ball to Great Britain's Daniel Evans during the ATP Barcelona Open "Conde de Godo" tennis tournament singles semi-final match.

for your confidence, and I head into tomorrow with a

great feeling," said Alcaraz, after not dropping

a set in four matches. "Even so, we can't just rely on how I have played and know that it will be a tough game." Alcaraz, the U.S. Open champion, will be seeking his ninth career title and third of the year after triumphing in Buenos Aires and Indian Wells. If he beats Tsitsipas, his title in Barcelona will be his first that he has successfully defended. The 19-year-old Spaniard is 3-0 against Tsitsipas including a three-set victory in the Barcelona quarterfinals last year. Alcaraz described last year's game here against Tsitsipas as "spicy."

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‘Shinde-led Maha govt will collapse in 15-20 days’

Jaigaon, Apr 23 (PTI):

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Sunday claimed the “death warrant” of the Eknath Shinde-led Maharashtra government has been issued and it will collapse in the next 15-20 days.

Talking to reporters, Raut, a key leader of former CM Uddhav Thackeray’s Shiv Sena (UBT), said his party was waiting for court’s order and expecting that justice will be done.

The Rajya Sabha member was referring to the Supreme Court’s judge-



Sanjay Raut

ment pending on a batch of pleas including one seeking disqualification of 16 Shiv Sena MLAs (of Shinde’s party) who revolted against the

Thackeray leadership.

“The government of the existing chief minister and his 40 MLAs will collapse in 15-20 days. The death warrant of this government has been issued. It is now to be decided who will sign it,” Raut claimed. The Shiv Sena (UBT) leader had earlier claimed the Shinde government will collapse in February. In June last year, Shinde and 39 MLAs rebelled against the Sena leadership resulting in the party’s split and collapse of the Maha Vikas Aghadi government

(which also comprises the NCP and Congress) led by Thackeray.

Shinde later tied-up with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to form government in Maharashtra.

On June 30, 2022, Shinde was sworn in as the CM along with BJP’s Devendra Fadnavis as his deputy. The apex court last month reserved its verdict on a batch of cross-petitions of Uddhav Thackeray and CM Eknath Shinde factions pertaining to last year’s political crisis in the state.

WINGED VISITORS



Painted storks attempt to catch fish at the Pulicat Lake, in Sriharikota, Sunday.

Curious case of 2 ‘banned-entry’ candidates in K’taka Assly polls

Bengaluru, Apr 22 (PTI):

Two “banned-entry” candidates Vinay Kulkarni and G Janardhana Reddy present a picture of a peculiar case in the run-up to the May 10 Karnataka Assembly elections.

While the Congress candidate Kulkarni can’t go to Dharwad, the constituency he is contesting from, following a court-imposed ban, Reddy fielded his wife in Ballari city as he is barred from entry there.

Kulkarni’s wife Shivaleela filed the nomination on his behalf.

“Our supporters are backing us with a firm belief that ‘Saheb’ will come here. In his absence I am seeking the blessings of the voters asking them treat me as ‘Saheb’,” she told reporters.

Since video and phone calls are the only means to reach out to his voters, Kulkarni in a video message said, “I will immerse myself for you and my constituency. You are my strength who backed me



Vinay Kulkarni



G Janardhana Reddy

today.”

Former Minister Kulkarni was arrested and remanded to judicial custody in November 2020 in connection with the murder of BJP leader and Zilla Panchayat member Yogeshgouda Goudar in June 2016.

He was granted bail by the Supreme Court on the condition that he would not be allowed to enter Dharwad, the district known as cultural capital of Karnataka as it produced acclaimed literateurs and music maestros,

without the permission of the jurisdictional court.

The jurisdictional Special Court in Bengaluru had rejected his request requesting entry, after which he had approached the High Court where his petition was dismissed by Justice K Natarajan on Friday.

Kulkarni’s advocate had argued that he needs to be in the constituency to campaign. The HC observed that the party, which gave him ticket to contest, should have known that he was forbidden by the court

OUT OF BOUNDS

from entering Dharwad.

The case of former mining baron Janardhana Reddy of the famed ‘Reddy brothers of Ballari’ is not much different compared to Kulkarni. A former BJP minister, Reddy has been barred by the apex court from entering Ballari in Karnataka and Anantapur and YSR Kadapa districts in Andhra Pradesh in connection with illegal mining case.

Reddy had severed ties with the BJP and floated a new party Kalyana Rajya Pragathi Paksha (KRPP). His brothers G Karunakara Reddy and G Somashekhar Reddy are with the BJP and are contesting from Ballari City and Harapanahalli, respectively, on the party ticket.

Since he is not allowed to enter Ballari, Reddy chose to contest from neighbouring Gangavathi in Koppal district. The KRPP leader has fielded his wife Lakshmi Aruna G

from Ballari City constituency against his brother Somashekhar Reddy.

Lakshmi Aruna was in tears on the day of filing her nomination papers as she missed her husband, who could not accompany with her.

She sought the blessings of voters to complete the projects such as ring road, airport, superspecialty hospital and drinking water, which Janardhana Reddy had started but “halted midway.”

Janardhana Reddy said: “I am concentrating only in those constituencies wherever I have the scope of winning the election. My target is to win 20 to 28 seats. I am building party at the booth level with the available strength,” he had told reporters.

Barred entry, Reddy cannot canvass for his wife or any other candidates that the party has fielded in Ballari district it considers as its stronghold.

Organs of minor declared brain dead give new lease of life

● To two children

New Delhi, Apr 22 (PTI):

The family of a six-year-old boy who was declared brain dead at AIIMS, Delhi following a head injury donated his organs giving a new lease of life to two children.

The parents of the child admitted to AIIMS Trauma Centre after suffering a severe head injury in a road accident on April 15 gave consent to donate the minor’s organs following counselling.

This is the fifth paediatric donation (in the 1-6 years of age group) amongst 19 donations to have taken place at JPN apex trauma centre, AIIMS, here since last April. Children are a very special group and need targeted approaches for brain death certification, maintenance of donor organs after brain death, subsequent organ retrievals and transplantations, Dr

Deepak Gupta, Professor of Neurosurgery at AIIMS, Delhi. There is a large unmet need for organs by children suffering from end-stage diseases of the kidney, liver and heart across India and training of doctors in transplants in children needs to be reinforced at regular intervals. “Incidentally, 6 year old Master S was born with only one kidney (as was confirmed on CT and USG abdomen) and hence only one kidney was retrieved to be transplanted to another boy at AIIMS Delhi, while liver was transplanted at ILBS to another 16-year-old boy in Delhi as per allocation by NOTTO,” Dr Gupta said.

National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation is an organisation set up under the Directorate General of Health Services of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Both corneas retrieved by the RP Centre Eye bank team will be used to give new vi-

sion to patients in need at AIIMS in subsequent days, he said, adding that heart valves were also retrieved for later usage.

However, the heart and lungs were not found to be suitable for transplantation by a team of experts from NOTTO.

The entire process of brain death certification, donor organ management and counselling for consent and further retrievals was coordinated by a team of doctors, paramedic support staff from the Organ Procurement team (OPT), Organ retrieval banking organisation (ORBO) of AIIMS, transplant team of doctors and support staff from the hospital, said Dr Aarti Vij, Head of ORBO at AIIMS said.

Talking about the challenges involving organ donations from very young donors, Dr Gupta said the Biggest myth amongst many is that organ donations can be done only between the 18-60 years of age group.

Cheetah that strayed out of Kuno National Park rescued

● Before entering UP

Sheopur, Apr 23 (PTI):

A male cheetah that strayed out of the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh last week has been rescued while it was about to cross over to a forest in neighbouring Uttar Pradesh and brought back to the park, an official said on Sunday.

This is the second time this month that cheetah Oban has been tranquillised and brought back to the KNP after the feline wandered a long distance from the park.

After being tranquillised at Karera forest in Shivpuri district, cheetah Oban, now renamed as Pavan, was re-



A male cheetah that strayed out of the Kuno National Park last week being brought back to the park.

leased in Palpur forest of the Kuno National Park at around 9.30 pm on Saturday, KNP’s Divisional Forest Officer Prakash Kumar Verma told PTI.

The cheetah was moving towards Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh when it was rescued. The spotted cat was around 150 km away from the KNP at that time, the official said.

Goblin mode, Vax, Climate emergency - How does Oxford pick ‘Word of the year’

New Delhi, Apr 24 (PTI):

‘Goblin mode’, ‘Vax’, ‘Climate Emergency’, and ‘Toxic’ — these are among the “Oxford Word of the year” chosen in the last five years. Ever wondered, how these words are picked?

Casper Grathwohl, President of Oxford Languages, elaborated the process in an interview with PTI from New York.

“Each year, a team of lexicographers comes together from Oxford University Press to review the evidence and select the Oxford word of the year. In considering a word as a candidate for the word of the year, we look at various factors and analyse real language data. “Frequency of use is

word of the key indicators that a word maybe a good candidate if it has a spike in usage that year; we then look and see what has been happening with that word and why did it experience such increased usage,” he said. Grathwohl explained that the final word is chosen from a shortlist of around 30-40 words every year.

“Throughout the year, the Oxford University Press is marking candidates they think would make a potential word of the year. When the word of the year begins, we gather these together. We also send our queries to our staff asking them for candidates and we usually have a long list of 30-40 potential words of the year.

We then go for the process of analysing language that has been nominated to move the list to shortest and eventually settle the word of the year,” he said.

Asked about whether “Word of the year” is also included in the dictionary, she said, “not necessarily”. “Good candidates for word of the year are often words that are emerging in the language in real time. As a result, often the word of the year has not yet been included in the dictionary itself at the time of announcement. We are trying to capture something that is the ethos and spirit of that year, but maybe only later, is it added to the actual dictionary itself,” she said.

Deadlock over 38-year-old man’s suicide ends after 6 days

● Family to perform last rites

Jaipur, Apr 22 (PTI):

The family of a 38-year-old man who died by suicide six days ago ended their dharna on Saturday, after assurances from the administration on their demands, including action against the accused, police said. The family members of Ramprasad Meena have agreed to end their dharna and perform his last rites, Deputy Commissioner of Police, North, Rashi Dogra Dudi said.

Following Meena’s death on Monday, based on a complaint by his

brother, a case of abetment to suicide was registered against five-six people, including Water Supply Minister Mahesh Joshi.

Ramprasad allegedly recorded a video before killing himself in which he blamed minister Joshi and others for driving him to take the extreme step.

Joshi, however, rejected the allegations against him and said police should conduct a fair investigation in the case.

Ramprasad’s family members and relatives had been sitting on the dharna since then to press for demands that include arrest of the accused in the case, compensation and a government job.

Delhi eatery serves up memories of late superstar

New Delhi, Apr 23 (PTI):

In a quiet, leafy corner of central Delhi, Rajesh Khanna lives on a recurring echo at a small eatery that has preserved his memory in photographs, in songs that blare out through the day, the flat screen that play his films on a loop and even in the waiters’ uniforms.

The Treat is Vipin Oberoi’s ode to the superstar, arguably the first and biggest in Hindi cinema whose stylised acting and mannerisms in films such as “Anand”, “Kati Patang” and “Amar Prem” made him a rage.

There is no escaping Khanna at the small restaurant in Chanakyapuri area that also boasts giant cutouts of the star. And one wax statue too.



Rajesh Khanna inspired food joint ‘The Treat’, in New Delhi.

“Some people have the ambition to become a doctor or a lawyer, I had ambition to become a friend of Rajesh Khanna,” Oberoi told PTI.

Oberoi, 69, was 12 when he watched “Aradhana”,

FAN’S ODE TO RAJESH KHANNA

which starred Khanna and Sharmila Tagore. And remembers every detail of that cinematic experience.

“It was in the 1970s when the movie was released. I went with my grandmother to watch that movie. I was so impressed by his acting that I told everyone that one day I will become a friend of Rajesh Khanna.”

About 10 years later, Oberoi met up with his hero when Khanna was shooting for his movie “Ashanti” in Mumbai.

“I reached there and at the time, Shabana Azmi, Zeenat Aman and Parveen Babi were also present but I only wanted to meet Rajesh

Khanna. I met him three-four times and after that he came to Delhi.”

In the years that followed, the loyal fan missed no opportunity to get close to the star.

