





## Four workers suffer burns in mishap at BSP



Bhilai, Apr 25:

Four workers suffered fatal burns in a mishap which occurred in Bhilai Steel Plant on Tuesday. All the victims are contract workers and were using a gas cutter to repair some structure. The oil spilled on the structure caught fire and soon the entire area was engulfed in flames. Fire tenders reached the spot and doused the flames. The victims were rushed to Main Medical Post and

thereafter to JLN Hospital, Sector 9. Condition of two victims was reported to be critical.

According to information, the incident occurred at Caster Number 6 of Steel Melting Shop #2 in Bhilai Steel Plant. Around 15:30 hrs on Tuesday, the labourers of Maruti Constructions (Contractor) were cutting some structure of the Converter Caster in SMS-2. According to information, the sparks of

the gas cutter triggered a fire which got aggravated due to the spilled oil on the structure. Soon the entire area was engulfed in flames. The labourers rushed to safer places but unfortunately four of them suffered fatal burns in the incident.

The labourers Ranjeet Singh (30), Ramesh Mourya (35), Raju Tandi (31) and Amit Singh (32) suffered burn injuries and were shifted to the Main Medical Post by the rescue team. After giving first aid, the victims were shifted to the Burn Unit of JLN Hospital, Sector 9. On information, leaders of Steel Workers Union (INTUC) including Vansh Bahadur Singh, Puran Verma, Sanjay Sahu; CITU leaders including DVS Reddy, Ashok Khatarkar, P Venkat and other trade unions reached the hospital and met the injured workers. They interacted with the doctors and requested to provide best medical treatment to the victims.

## Meeting of heads of projects of SAIL takes off in Bhilai



Bhilai, Apr 25:

Senior Officers of SAIL heading Projects Organisations of integrated steel plants and other units of SAIL have gathered in Bhilai for Heads of Projects Meet organized by Bhilai Steel Plant on 25 and 26th April 2023.

The Heads of Projects Meet being held in MP Hall, Bhilai Niwas was inaugurated by Director In-charge, Bhilai Steel Plant, Anirban Dasgupta in presence of Executive Directors of Bhilai Steel Plant and Heads of Projects including Jagdish Arora, ED (CET), DV Jagannath, ED (Projects) Corporate Office, P Murugesan, ED (Projects) Durgapur Steel Plant, CR Mohapatra, ED (Projects) Bokaro Steel Ltd, PK Sahoo, ED V(Projects) Rourkela Steel Plant, RK Shrivastava, CGM

(Projects) Bhilai Steel Plant and other senior officers. HOPs from Corporate Office, all five integrated steel plants of Bhilai Steel Plant, Rourkela Steel Plant, Bokaro Steel Ltd., Durgapur Steel Plant, IISCO Steel Plant, other four special and sister plants from Alloy Steel Plant, VISL, Salem Steel Plant & CFP and Consultant CET (Centre for Engg & Technology) are participating in the HoPs Meet.

On the first day of the meet, the participants actively engaged in productive discussions on various complex issues being faced by SAIL Projects Organisation today as well as methods of meeting the demanding targets of Capex (capital expenditure) spending. CET took lead in presenting latest trends in project monitoring through BIM software for implementation in new projects.

## People make complaint against Spa in residential colony

Bhilai, Apr 25:

Residents of Vidya Vihar Colony have made a complaint against the operation of a Spa Centre in their locality. President of the colony residents' association submitted the application at Collector Jandarshan and asserted that running a Spa Centre was against the rules in the residential colony. President of Vidya Vihar Colony said that their colony is situated in Nehru Nagar (West) and it is a residential colony. Here, Green Day Spa Center is being operated on a rented house which is against the rules. He alleged that some objectionable activities are happening at the Spa. He added that the locals have opposed such activities from time to time, but the Spa is being operated uninterrupted. As it is a residential colony, it is inappropriate to use a house for commercial activities. President of the colony demanded from the Collector to get the Spa closed down immediately. The Collector forwarded the application to the



Superintendent of Police Abhishek Pallava and asked him to take legal action.

A woman approached the Collector with a complaint against her brother. As the electricity connection of their house was in the name of younger brother, she feared that the younger brother could capture the house. The applicant said that she is a resident of Bhilai Azad Para and the property tax of the house is paid by her name. With the intention of capturing the house, her younger brother has taken the electricity connection in his name. The applicant has requested the Collector that because

she pays the property tax of the house and has the receipts to prove her claim, the electric connection in the name of her brother should be disconnected immediately so that her brother could not conspire to capture the house. The Collector forwarded the application to the concerned officer.

On Monday, 184 applications were received in Collector Jandarshan. Most of the applications were related to ration cards, illegal possession, error correction, name change, amendment, labour registration, cancellation of fake lease, revenue, road and drain construction, etc.

## Sankara Jayanti celebrated with fervour



Bhilai, Apr 25:

Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sec-10 celebrated Sankara Jayanti on April 25, 2023. The day started with morning assembly conducted by students of class 4th. Bipin Deshmukh, Principal Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sector-X, garlanded the portrait of Sri Adi Guru Sankaracharya and lighted the lamp. On this occasion he also enlightened the students about the life history of Sri Adi Guru Sankaracharya and motivated the students to lead a meaningful life. Puja and Havan was performed at the

temple of Jagatguru Sri Adi Sankaracharya in the school premises. The whole atmosphere reverberated with the chanting of mantras.

The pooja was performed by Shivacharya Shri Guru Prasad and Shri Shabri. The teachers sang bhajans on this occasion. The function was attended by Subramanian Swaminathan, V Ramachandran, (Secretary), S Venkataraman, (President), SSES, TR Venkataraman, (Treasurer), SSES and other members of management, teaching & non-teaching staff and administrative staff.

## Man, daughter killed in road accident

Bhilai, Apr 25: A man and his daughter were killed in a road accident which occurred on Y-Shape Bridge at Raipur Naka on Tuesday. The deceased were travelling on a bike and were crushed to death by a speeding truck. On information, teams of Smriti Nagar and Mohan Nagar Police Stations reached the spot and the bodies were sent for autopsy. The accused truck driver escaped from the spot after the accident. According to information, the incident occurred around 13:30 hrs on Tuesday. A man and his daughter were moving from Durg towards Bhilai Township. The biker applied brakes near the traffic police island on the top of Y-Shape Bridge as there was no clear passage towards Bhilai Township. Meanwhile, a speeding truck came from behind and crushed the duo to death. The truck driver left the vehicle and escaped from the spot. On information, the police team and medical emergency response team reached the mishap site. Bodies of the man and his daughter were taken out from beneath the truck. After preparing an inquest, the bodies were sent for autopsy. The deceased remained unidentified till filing of this report.

## Kick-off meeting for implementation of ABMS held at BSP

Bhilai, Apr 25: Anti-Bribery Management System is an effective Management System designed in line with ISO 37001:2016 to help an organization prevent, detect and respond to bribery. It helps Organisation to demonstrate organisation's commitment to anti-bribery. Improving organisational efficiency and effectiveness in managing bribery risks. Maximizes profit/ minimizes losses through procedures and processes to mitigate bribery and increases visibility and reputation of the organisation. Anti-Bribery Management System (ABMS) also give assurance to management, investors, business associates, personnel and other stakeholders that an organization is taking reasonable steps to prevent bribery. After getting certification of ABMS (As per ISO 37001:2016) for its Bokaro Steel Plant and Corporate Office, SAIL has become first Maharatna PSU to get this Certification. Now SAIL has aimed to get the ABMS Certification for its remaining Plants and Units. In order to implement the Anti-Bribery Management System (As per ISO 37001:2016) at Bhilai Steel Plant, a Kick-off meeting was held



on April 20, 2023. Director I/c (BSP) Anirban Dasgupta was the Chief Guest of this occasion. Other Senior dignitaries present on the occasion were ED (Works) Anjani Kumar, ED (Projects) having Additional Charge of ED(P&A) Subrata Mukhopadhyay, ED (MM) AK Chakraborty, ED (F&A) Dr AK Panda, Chief General Manager I/c (Services), CMO (M&HS), CGMs and HODS of various Shops/Departments. Kick-off Meeting was also attended by Approx 30 Resource Persons nominated by different Shops /Departments. Arun Kumar, CGM (Vigilance) & ACVO, Bokaro Steel Plant and SK Tripathy, GM

(Vigilance) were the Guest Speakers during the Kick-off Meeting. Inauguration Ceremony of the Workshop started with welcome of all dignitaries by presenting the flower bouquet. Welcome address was delivered by Satyabrata Kar,

Acting ACVO, BSP. After that, Presentation on the Topic "Awareness Programme on Anti-Bribery Management System" was given by SK Tripathy, GM (Vigilance) Corporate Office who is also the Management Representative of SAIL for ABMS. In his detailed presentation Tripathy has given the overview of ABMS, its objective, benefit for the organisation and ABMS Leadership Structure at SAIL. He also elaborated the Key Clauses of ISO 37001:2016 such as Scope, Terms and definitions, Context of the Organisation, Leadership, Planning, Support, Operation, Performance Evaluation and

Improvement. He also presented the Road Map for implementation of ABMS in SAIL. Arun Kumar, CGM (Vigilance) and ACVO BSL, who is the Key Person for implementation of ABMS at BSL has shared his experience on implementation of ABMS in BSL. In his presentation, Kumar has highlighted the various practical issues faced by them during the implementation phase and how they come out from these issues to get the Certification. After completion of the sessions of SK Tripathy and Arun Kumar, an interactive session was also done, wherein queries of participants related to implementation of ABMS were resolved by SK Tripathy, Arun Kumar and Satyabrata Kar. To showcase the implementation Schedule for Implementation of ABMS at BSP, a short presentation was given by Rakhi Tiwari, AGM (Vigilance), wherein time lines for achieving various significant intermittent milestones were presented. At the end of the meeting Vote of thanks was delivered by Aniket Ojha, DGM (Vigilance). The programme was hosted by Himanshu Dave, AGM (Vigilance).

## 35-year-old man sentenced to jail for sexual assault of minor girl

Bhilai, Apr 25: A Fast Track Special Court in Durg sentenced a man to five years of rigorous imprisonment for aggravated sexual assault of minor girl. Additional Sessions Judge (Fourth), FTSC - PCCSO, Sangeeta Naveen Tiwari convicted 35-year-old Shankar Sen of Contractor Colony, Supela on Monday. The girl's family had lodged a complaint at Supela Police Station on September 16, 2022. Special Public Prosecutor Santosh Kasar informed that the accused resides in the locality of the victim girl. The victim is a specially challenged girl. Taking advantage of her mental condition, the accused sexually assaulted her several times. The accused threatened the girl of dire consequences if she disclosed the happenings to anyone. When the family came to know about the incident, they lodged an FIR at Mohan Nagar Police Station after which the accused was arrested. After trial, the Special Court found the accused guilty and awarded different jail terms for section 506-B of IPC and Section 10 of PCCSO Act under which the accused was tried. He was sentenced to one year of rigorous imprisonment and Rs 100 fine under section 506 (B) of IPC and five years of rigorous imprisonment and Rs 5000 fine under section 10 of PCCSO Act. The jail terms would run concurrently for different sections aggregating to five years, informed Special Public Prosecutor Santosh Kasar. The fine will be given to the victim as compensation.

# First convocation ceremony of Hemchand Yadav University held

Bhilai, Apr 25:

In the current scenario new inventions are mainly helpful for social change. Along with becoming a good citizen, every student should also focus on the upliftment of the society and the country. These words were expressed by the Governor of Chhattisgarh Biswajit Harichandan. The Governor was delivering presidential address at the convocation ceremony of Hemchand Yadav University, Durg held at the auditorium of BIT, Durg on April 24. Harichandan asserted that many people such as parents, teachers, friends and other family members contribute in the success of student. All these people deserve appreciation he added and urged the students that after receiving the gold medal or degree in the convocation ceremony, the responsibility of each student increases further. Presenting the views of Nelson Mandela, the Governor said that education is such an important

- 126 gold medals and 13 PhD degrees distributed
- CM Bhupesh Baghel, Padamshree Usha Barle conferred with honorary PhD degree

tool through which the whole world can be changed. Due to health reasons, the Governor joined the convocation ceremony online to address hundreds of students, researchers, professors, employees and other dignitaries connected offline and online.

Two honorary degrees of Doctor of Philosophy were awarded by Hemchand Yadav University, Durg for special contribution to social service at the convocation ceremony. The VC of the University, Dr Aruna Palta, conferred the title of Honorary Doctor of Philosophy to the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel who was present as chief guest for his unprecedented contribution in the field of environmental protection through his scheme Narwa, Garwa, Ghurwa,



Bari. In sequence famous singer Padamshree Usha Barle was also awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy. During the awarding of both the titles, the entire auditorium echoed with thunderous applause. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel while congratulating for the first convocation of the university said that convocation is the right of every student. Every student remembers this ceremony for the entire life. Describing in detail the remarkable works done by the Chhattisgarh

government in the field of higher education, Baghel said that the Chhattisgarh government has started 06 new colleges in Durg district and it has been announced to open a new college in Nagpura from the next session. He announced the setting up of the renowned litterateur and professor of Chhattisgarh zone, Late Dr Narendra Dev Verma Research Center in Hemchand Yadav University, Durg from July 01, 2023. Baghel also announced for the construction of a new auditorium near the new building of

the university and assured that the construction work of the new building of the university would be completed soon. Higher Education Minister, Umesh Patel also attended the convocation online. In his speech, Patel expressed hope that the university would be able to enter its newly constructed building from the new academic session. He praised the excellent performance done by the colleges affiliated to Hemchand Yadav University, Durg during NAAC evaluation. Earlier, in the welcome address

and convocation report, the Vice-Chancellor Dr Aruna Palta mentioned the achievements of the University in its journey of 08 years. The guests present at the function also released a souvenir on the 08th Foundation Day of Hemchand Yadav University, Durg. The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Palta delivered the convocation address before the degree distribution. The registrar of the university, Bhupendra Kuldeep, conducted the entire process of the convocation ceremony and proposed the vote of thanks at the end. DCDC of the

University, Dr Preeta Lal conducted the programme. During the convocation ceremony, Cabinet Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Member of Parliament Vijay Baghel, MLA Durg (Urban) Arun Vora, MLA Bhilai Nagar Devendra Yadav, Mayors, Vice Chancellors and Registrars of various universities, all gold medal donors, former Vice Chancellors, and all officers and employees of the University, District Administration Officers, Principals of various colleges, Professors, renowned educationist Dr

IP Mishra, Director of BIT, Durg, Dr Arun Arora and a large number of dignitaries were present. During the convocation ceremony, 126 meritorious students who secured the highest marks in merit in the examinations of 2020, 2021 and 2022 were awarded gold-plated medals. Along with this, a cheque of Rs 5000 each was also given from the university to the students who secured first place in merit. PhD degree was awarded to 13 research scholars by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. Girl students wearing white colored saris and turbans on their heads and boys wearing white kurta-pajamas and wearing turbans on their heads were enthusiastically involved in the convocation ceremony. The members of the Executive Council and the Academic Council and the heads of various faculties were wearing turbans on their heads. Vice-Chancellor of the University, Dr Aruna Palta and Registrar Bhupendra Kuldeep presented mementos to the guests at the end of the convocation ceremony.



## Four District Collectors shifted in admn reshuffle

● 26 IAS Officers given fresh postings

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Apr 25:** Senior Administrative Services (IAS) Officer posted as District Collector of Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara, IAS Officer of 2012 batch Ifat Ara working as Surajpur District Collector, Khairagarh-Chuikhadan District Collector Jagdish Sonkar, Menendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur District Collector PS Dhruv have been called back from the field posting in the administrative reshuffle by the Chhattisgarh Government here on Tuesday.

Bastar Collector Chandan Kumar has been entrusted with the responsibility of Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara District whereas Balrampur-Ramanujan District Collector Vijay Dayaram has been given key responsibility of Bastar District Collector in the reshuffle. Joint Secretary Sanjay Agrawal has been posted as Surajpur Collector, Gopal Verma has been posted as Khairagarh District Collector in the reshuffle. Apart from the, the senior IAS Officer and Additional Chief Secretary Renu G Pillai has been given the responsibility of Public Health & Family Welfare and Medical Education

with additional charge of Science & Technology, Religious Trust and Endowment as well as Director General of Chhattisgarh Administrative Academy whereas Alermail Mangai D has been shifted from Finance Department to General Administration as Secretary Energy Department Ankit Anand has been given additional charge of Finance Department and would also be Chairperson of Pension Redressal Committee. Rajat Bansal has been posted as Commissioner Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the reshuffle.

## RALLY FOR YOGA



A massive rally was taken out by members of Chhattisgarh Yoga Commission and Yoga enthusiast for Yoga session on CYC foundation day here on Tuesday.

## CM Baghel to take final decision on COA dispute

● Camp led by Hora urges COA President Baghel to take final call

**Raipur, Apr 25:** Jolted with the rebel within the Organization, the Chhattisgarh Olympic Association (COA) General Secretary Gurucharan Singh Hora led-camp on Tuesday passed a resolution at the meeting held at the COA office entrusting the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel who is also the COA President, to take a final decision on the issue.

COA Vice President Gajraj Bagaria on Tuesday presided over the meeting held at COA Office in presence of COA General Secretary Hora against whom nearly two-third of the office-bearers have revolted. Dissident camp have also passed a resolution to nominate Bhilai Nagar Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA)

Devendra Yadav as new General Secretary to replace Hora who had resigned amidst another controversy. With no decision on his resignation, the dissident office-bearers led by COA Vice President Bashir Ahmed Khan had moved resolution to name Yadav as new General Secretary and also called a meeting on April 30 to take decision to fill up the other vacant posts in the Organization. It is understood that the COA Treasurer Sahiram Jakhar had resigned amidst reported financial irregularities.

At the meeting held at COA Office on Tuesday, the office-bearers have left the matter of Organizational changes to COA President Bhupesh Baghel. Less than 10 members were present at the meeting out of total 30 Executive Body members including the office-bearers. It is understood that scenario would be clear on April 30.

## Benefits of yoga will reach every village of Ch'garh: Sharma



● Yoga practice by 1500 people on 6th foundation day of Chhattisgarh Yoga Commission

**Raipur, Apr 25:** On the occasion of the sixth foundation day of Chhattisgarh Yoga Commission, on April 25, a one-day group special yoga practice program was organized from 6 am to 7 am at Subhash Stadium, Raipur. About 1500 people participated and practiced various yoga asanas. After the yoga session, an awareness rally (walking tour) was taken out from 7 am to make people aware of healthy lifestyle and yoga.

This awareness rally started from Subhash Stadium via Shastri

Chowk, Jai Stambh Chowk to City Kotwali, and ended back at Subhash Stadium. Expressing gratitude to the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel for making available the building at Fundhar free of cost to the citizens for providing free yoga centers and regular training programs to the resident, the Chairman of the Yoga Commission Gyanesh Sharma said that the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has entrusted the important responsibility of publicity of yoga to Yoga Commission by making people disease-free by returning to a healthy lifestyle. The Yoga Commission is continuously making efforts in this direction. With the cooperation of the Municipal Corporation, an atmosphere conducive to yoga

has been created in the state. More than 40 free yoga practice centers have been started in urban areas. On the announcement of Chief Minister Mr. Baghel, Yog Bhavan has started in Fundhar last year. Here, from April 24, seven-day divisional level training is being given to yoga seekers by yoga experts. With this, qualified yoga trainers and instructors will be prepared, who will take yoga to every village of Chhattisgarh.

Former Minister and MLA Raipur Rural Satyanarayan Sharma, Chairman of Chhattisgarh State Housing Board Kuldeep Juneja and Mayor Raipur Aijaz Dhebar said that awareness about Yoga has increased in Chhattisgarh due to the activeness of the Yoga Commission. People are seen doing yoga early in the morning in every public place. He urged people to adopt regular yoga in daily life to stay healthy. He said that all possible cooperation will be done to facilitate the practice of yoga by the citizens.

## BJP files complaint against Congress MLA at EOW



● Delegation urges to take action against him for patronizing corruption in viral video

**Raipur, Apr 25:** Launching campaign against the Congress Legislator Brihaspati Singh over his remark on corruption, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Media Cell and Legal Cell on Tuesday approached Economic Offence Wing (EOW) seeking case against him.

According to the information received, the BJP

delegation led by the State BJP Spokesperson Nalinesh Thokne, BJP Media Cell in-charge CA Amit Chimmami and Co in-charge Anurag Agrawal, BJP Legal Cell Convenor JP Chandravanshi and Co Convenor Brajesh Pandey reached EOW office and submitted a written complaint against the Congress MLA Brihaspati Singh who in a viral video is reportedly instructing the Station House Officer (SHO) to written back the Rs 50 thousand taken from an complaints stating that they can take 2-3 thousand but not big amount from people.

## CM lays stone for Water Augmentation Scheme in Mana Camp

Rs 44.50 cr scheme to provide clean drinking water to 3200 households in Mana Camp

CM announces to name the new college to be opened in Mana Camp after Smt. Indira Gandhi

Under Bhent-Mulaquat Prog in Raipur (rural) VS area

**Raipur, Apr 25:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel performed the Bhoomipujan of the Water Augmentation Scheme (Jal Avardhan Yojana) of Mana Camp Nagar Panchayat during his Bhent-Mulaquat programme in Raipur Rural Assembly Constituency today. The scheme, which is estimated to cost around Rs 44.50 cr, will be completed in 27 months and will provide clean drinking water to 3,200 houses in Mana Camp. Besides, Chief Minister announced to name the new college to be



opened in Mana Camp after Smt. Indira Gandhi.

In his address to the gathering, the Chief Minister said "Completion of this scheme will ensure the proper supply of drinking water to all households, with special benefits for women. Mana Camp was established by Indiraji, and since then, the area has been continuously developing and progressing."

He further stated that the people of Mana camp have an emotional attachment to Indira Gandhi, and in response to their demand to keep her name memorable, he announced that the new college to be opened in the area would be named Priyadarshini Indira Gandhi College. He expressed his happiness

that there would be a college named after Indira Ji in the Mana Camp established by her.

Under the scheme, a total of two new overhead tanks will be built in Mana camp, and approximately 65,000-meter pipeline will be laid here. Upon the completion of the scheme, the dependency of the area residents on groundwater sources will reduce, and water will be supplied from Municipal Corporation Raipur. Raipur Rural MLA Satyanarayan Sharma, Raipur Mayor Aijaz Dhebar District Cooperative Central Bank Raipur Chairman Pankaj Sharma, along with other public representatives and dignitaries, were present on the occasion.

## Team of officials formed to monitor preparations for upcoming academic session

**Raipur, Apr 25:** The next academic session of the schools will start from June 16. In order to ensure the implementation of important schemes in the upcoming education session and for continuous successful operation, a team of state-level officers has been constituted and entrusted with the responsibility of the districts. State level officials will inspect and monitor at least two clusters, two private schools, one school where repair work is being done, one SEZ or other schools from May 1 to May 9 in the allotted districts.

According to an order issued by the Directorate of Public Instructions the state level offi-

cers will monitor preparations for establishment of proposed new Swami Atmanand Excellent Schools in allotted districts and their operation besides monitoring the supply of uniform and text books and inspecting maintenance of Sankuls.

Apart from this, the reports on start-present status of the repair work approved under the 'Mukhya Mantri School Jatan Yojana', verification of students following the Right to Education Act (studying) in private schools, as well as inspection and monitoring of other necessary preparations have to be submitted to Directorate of Public Instructions.

## Big achievement for Ch'garh in PMAY (Urban)

● Government of India awarded Chhattisgarh for its remarkable work in urban housing scheme

Raipur, Apr 25:

Under the direction of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, the state of Chhattisgarh has achieved a major achievement in the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) (Urban). Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, has award-



ed Chhattisgarh for its remarkable work in the field of housing construction in a program organized in Delhi.

On the occasion of the

53rd foundation day of Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO), New Delhi, the State Urban Development Agency

(SUDA) was felicitated and rewarded for its innovative efforts and excellent contribution in the field of housing construction. The award was given to Chhattisgarh by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs at a function held in Delhi, which was received by Mr. Saumil Ranjan Choubey, CEO, SUDA.

Expressing happiness over this achievement of the state, Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel said that the state government is ready to provide benefits of the housing scheme to all the beneficiaries.

It is noteworthy that under the guidance of Urban Administration Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahria, the work of providing housing for all in all the urban bodies is being done in mission mode under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).

At present, the State Urban Development Agency (SUDA) is implementing the Housing Mission for All in all the 170 urban bodies of all the 33 districts of the state. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), more than 2.62 lakh hous-

es have been approved so far, in which 1.40 lakh houses have been successfully completed so far, and the remaining houses are being constructed. In the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) Housing for All Mission, an expenditure of about 42 hundred crores has been made. Chhattisgarh Government, Urban Administration and Development Department is committed to provide houses to all the approved beneficiaries under the scheme and is continuously working for this.

## Maintenance of handpumps, purification of water sources be done on priority: CS

● Instructions to make all necessary preparations to ensure supply of drinking water during summer

**Raipur, Apr 25:** Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain said that in view of the summer season, instructions have been given to the officials to run a campaign for hand pump maintenance and purification of drinking water sources. He has said that mining of tube wells, raising of riser pipes, repair of tube wells should be done on priority in villages which are problematic from the point of view of surface water. Chief Secretary Mr. Jain was addressing a meeting of officers regarding supply of drinking water during the summer season at Mantralaya Mahanadi Bhawan here. The Chief Secretary said that an action plan should be prepared soon in relation to the supply of drinking water and by working with mutual coordination,



arrange for riser pipes for handpump maintenance, storage of spare parts of handpumps and purification of drinking water sources for the prevention of seasonal diseases. He told the officials of the Public Health Engineering Department that after identifying the problem-oriented villages from the point of view of drinking water, repair work of handpumps should be done there on priority. Cooperation of panchayat and rural development work should be taken for this work. The Chief Secretary said that special campaigns should be launched for chlorination of drinking water sources and for cleaning the surroundings. He instructed the officials of the health department to

run health awareness campaigns including adequate storage of medicines to prevent water-borne diseases. In the meeting Dr. S. Bharathidasan, Secretary, Public Health Engineering Department, Mr. N.N. Ekka, Secretary, Revenue Department, Dr. Aayaz Tamboli, Special Secretary, Urban Administration Department, Mr. Kartikeya Goyal, Director, Panchayat Department, Missionaries of Jal-Jeevan Mission Director Mr. Alok Katiyar, Director Public Relations Mr. Saumil Ranjan Choubey along with senior officers of Panchayat and Rural Development, Water Resources, Health and Family Welfare Department were present.

## Players felicitated at World Table Tennis Day function

Raipur, Apr 25:

Chhattisgarh Table Tennis Association and Rajdhani Table Tennis Association celebrated World Table Tennis Day (April 23) by cutting a cake at the table tennis hall of Sapre School, Raipur. Senior players of table tennis were felicitated on the occasion for their outstanding contribution.

Sharad Shukla, Vice President of Chhattisgarh Olympic Association and Saurabh Shukla, Co-Secretary of Indian Table Tennis Federation were present as the chief guest of the ceremony. The program was presided over by Mr. Kishore Jadwani, Senior Vice President of Chhattisgarh Table Tennis Association. Senior players

Mr. Bharat Parekh, Mr. Deepak Parmar, Mr. Suresh Shadija, Mr. J.M. Rathore, Pranaya Nand Mazumdar and Vinay Kejriwal were felicitated for their outstanding contribution by giving 'Shrifal', 'Shawl' along with 'Samman Patra'.

On this occasion, Secretary Mr. Pradeep Joshi and Mr. Vinay Baiswade, Mr. Rajesh Lunia, Mr. Giriraj Bagdi, Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Ms. Vrinda Tambe, Ms. Geeta Pandit, Mr. Arun Bawaria, Mr. Pankaj Shukla, Mr. Shishir Gupta, Mr. S. V. Pendharkar, Ms. Ira Pant, Mr. M.R. Nirapure, Mr. Pradeep Dasgupta, Mr. Praveen Nirapure, office bearers of the association, players and guardians were present.

**Chronicle APPOINTMENT**

**DAV PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CG ZONE-F**  
NMDC COMPLEX, BACHELI  
(Managed by DAV College Managing Committee, New Delhi-55)

**WALK-IN-INTERVIEW**

Invitation for walk-in- interview for eligible, trained competent and English speaking candidates for the post of Teaching & Non-teaching staff at DAV Public School, Bachel Dist- Dantewada, (C.G.) for the session 2023-24.

The eligible candidates are required to visit [www.davpsbacheli.in](http://www.davpsbacheli.in) for more information.

The written test is scheduled to be held on 06th May 2023, 09:00 AM & the personality test for selected candidates, will be held on 07th May 2023, 09:30 AM at DAV Public School, Bachel, Dist.- Dantewada (C.G.) 494553.

Those candidates who have attended interview before for this session 23-24 need not apply.

**PRINCIPAL**



## CM Baghel dedicates development works worth Rs 167 cr

Lays stone for various public facilities

Raipur, Apr 25:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel dedicated a slew of developmental works worth Rs 167 cr to the residents of the area today during Bhent-Mulaqat at Boriyakhurd, falling under Raipur Rural Assembly Constituency. These works include the inauguration of various developmental works worth more than Rs 36 cr and the Bhoomipujan of works worth more than Rs 126 cr.

The Chief Minister laid the foundation stone and performed Bhoomipujan for several other developmental projects. These include approval of Rs 38.03 cr for 9 works of Municipal Corporation Birgaon. Approval for Rs. 38.56 cr for 12 different developmental works of Public Works Department, Rs 44.37 cr for different devel-



opment works of Nagar Panchayat Mana, and Rs 19.36 lakh for development works related to the Health and Family Welfare Department. Laid foundation stone for 2 development works for Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited at a cost of Rs. 4.03 cr.

Similarly, the Chief Minister said that "Our government is determined to connect the villages, the poor, the farmers, and the general public to the mainstream of development." Inauguration of various

### Announcements made by CM in Boriyakhurd during the Bhent Mulaqat prog:

- Repair of streams, sewer lines, and chambers of old colonies under the Housing board located at Saddu and Kabir Nagar will be undertaken.
- Provision of Rs. 50 lakh for every BSUP colony in the assembly constituency for the repairs of sewer seepage, chambers, etc.
- ITI will be established in Birgaon.
- Newly-constructed Govt School in G a n g a n a g a r Bhanpuri under

Ward no. 4 of Raipur Municipality will be upgraded to Swami Atmanand English Medium School.

- Upgradation of High School in Sarora to Higher Secondary School.
- Upgradation of Government Middle School in Rawabhata and Sondongri to High Schools.
- Boundary-wall construction and beautification of Ward No. 08's Saddu Muktidham.
- High schools of Urkura and

Boriyakhurd will undergo expansion as new rooms will soon be added.

- Quad Room construction in Daldal Seoni Mahavir Sports Ground of Ward no. 07.
- Deepening and beautification of the pond in Nagar Panchayat Mana Camp will be undertaken.
- Renaming Kamal Vihar as Kaushalya Vihar.
- Naming the college in Amlidih after Kaushalya Mata.

developmental works worth Rs. 36.57 cr was done, which includes 13 works of Municipal Corporation Raipur cost-

ing 32.76 cr, 2 works of Municipal Corporation Birgaon costing 74.87 lakh, work of Chhattisgarh Rural Road

Development Agency costing 50.36 lakh, and 1 work of Chhattisgarh Rural Road Development Agency costing Rs. 2.56 cr.

## CM lays stone for 1000-seater garment factory

- Under Bhent Mulaqat in Raipur (Rural) VS area
- One thousand women to be employed in the factory constructed at Rs. 15 cr
- Separate departments for cutting, sewing, and packaging



Raipur, Apr 25:

Chief Minister Shri Bhupesh Baghel laid the foundation stone of a 1000-seater garment factory in Mowa during the Bhent Mulaqat programme organized in Raipur Rural Assembly Constituency here on Tuesday.

The factory, which is aimed at enhancing urban livelihood, will employ women who are proficient in basic tailoring. Women who are interested in learning sewing will be trained at the factory and employed thereafter.

The Raipur Municipality plans to install one thousand sewing machines in the factory to create a brand of garments through the hard work of women and the government's

cooperation. The factory will have separate departments for cutting, sewing, and packaging of clothes manufactured in large numbers. The factory will tie up with large readymade garment companies in the country, which will provide raw materials to the factory and buy the manufactured garments. This initiative is expected to not only provide employment to the women of Raipur but also help the city make a mark in the field of garments. The demand for clothes manufactured here is expected to increase in metropolitan cities due to their low cost, which will lead to new employment opportunities. The Raipur Municipal Corporation has decided to operate the factory on the Public-Private

Partnership model. This model is expected to ensure the smooth operation of the factory and its long-term sustainability. The Minister In Charge of the district Ravindra Chaubey, Raipur (Rural) MLA Satyanarayan Sharma, Mayor of the Raipur Municipal Corporation Aijaz Dhebar, Chairman of District Central Co-operative Bank Pankaj Sharma, Chairman of Municipal Corporation Pramod Dubey, other public representatives, Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Bhure, Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal, Commissioner of Corporation Mayank Chaturvedi, and a large number of common people were present on the occasion.

## Three-day Mata Kaushalya Mohatsav concludes

In the presence of CM Bhupesh Baghel



Raipur, Apr 25: The three-day Mata Kaushalya Mahotsav, with the theme 'Women Empowerment', concluded in the presence of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at Chandkhuri on Monday. Renowned artists from Chhattisgarh and other parts of the country showcased cultural performances throughout the event, which was filled with faith and devotion.

On Republic Day earlier this year, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had announced the celebration of Mata Kaushalya Mahotsav in the state, aiming to promote art, culture, and tourism, support women's empowerment, protect active folk artists, and promote and support existing art groups. The Mahotsav marks the glory of Mata

Kaushalya's birthplace Chandkhuri at a global level.

### Tourism Café inaugurated

In line with this, the tourism department established a tourist cafe on the temple premises, which was inaugurated by the Chief Minister during the event. The cafe will offer millet-based products and Chhattisgarhi cuisine, providing devotees and tourists alike with a taste of local cuisine.

### Stalls by SHGs reflected Ch'garh's culture

Furthermore, nine stalls were set up for the sale of products produced by women's self-help groups, providing a glimpse of Chhattisgarh's culture and reflecting the Chief Minister's aim to empower women.

## Plantation done in courts and schools

Bemetara, Apr 25: State Plan of Action Calendar operated by Salsa on the occasion of Earth Day by paralegal volunteers of District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Chandrakishore Singh, Devendra Yadav, Tuvendra Verma, Khetha Ghritalhare, Chetan Sahu, Sonia Singh, Prachi Tiwari, Sanju Yadav in the District Court premises for free. Appealed to the people to conserve the environment and save the earth by planting more and more trees by distributing free saplings.

Along with this, Mrs. Madhu Tiwari, Special Judge, Paxo Court and Mrs. Jaswinder Kaur Ajmani Malik, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Bemetara visited the students of Government Pre-Secondary School, Kanteli and made them aware of environmental protection on the occasion of Earth Day. Made them aware of their defense in relation to crimes committed under the protection of children from sexual offences. In the school premises, students, girl students and head reader Paras Ram Sahu all together planted trees. Tree plantation was also done by paralegal volunteers at Kanteli old age home.

## 'Akti Tihar' celebrated in Agriculture College and Research Center

MLA Chhabra distributed fruit plants to the farmers Bemetara



Bemetara, Ap 25: Akti Tihar and Mati Pujan Day was organized on April 22 at RSV Agricultural College and Research Center (RSVAC&RC) Dholia Bemetara. On this occasion, 'Akti Tihar' was started by worshipping the soil according to traditional method on the premises of Agriculture College, Bemetara. On this occasion, local MLA and chief guest Ashish Chhabra completed the work of soil worship and seed rituals and started by sowing the seeds in the field. MLA and RS Tomar Senior State Manager Raipur were present as special guests in the Mati Pujan program.

MLA Chhabra said that 'Akti Tihar' is the main festival of Chhattisgarh. Farming starts the farming work in the region from Akti Tihar. Farmers start seed germination from this day. Dr. MP Thakur, Dean

Agriculture College, presiding over this program, said that this festival connects us with our soil, our history and society, so traditional festivals should not be forgotten. Dr. Alok Tiwari informed the visitor about the mythological belief of this day and said that this event is a good opportunity to tell the importance of this day. In which farmers do the work of soil worship, deity worship and seed setting. RS Tomar, Senior State Manager Krishko Raipur said that from the beginning of this festival, farmers start agricultural work. Even though we are leaving the traditions by getting entangled in the material worlds of the modern era, but the discharge of this tradition also connects us to our soil. The main center of attraction in this program was given by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel to the

state level farmers.

Farmers and students listened to the online virtual address of Chief Minister Baghel with interest. After this, saplings of fruit bearing plants like lemon, orange, dragon fruit, amla, star amla, jam were distributed to the farmers by the MLA. Vegetables, beans and nursery plants were also distributed by Krishi Vigyan Kendra. In which 75 farmers were benefited.

In this programme, farmers were also given information on various topics related to cereals and small grains crops of Bemetara region. In which farmers were given detailed information on natural farming, importance of short grain crops, processing and value addition of short grain crops, method of making vermicompost, advanced technology of paddy and soyabean cultivation. In this, farmer friends cleared their doubts related to various subjects. Toshan Thakur Assistant Professor, Dr. Umesh Kumar Dhruv, Dr. Asit Kumar, Dr. Hemlata Nirala, Dr. Ravishankar Lanjiana, farmers and students including staff of Agriculture College were present in the program.

## GEMS bids farewell to outgoing students



Principal Dr Sharma and management committee members along with Mr and Miss Farewell amd Mr GEMS

Raipur, Apr 25:

It was an emotional scene all throughout when Shri Gujrati English Medium School family gave a touching farewell to the outgoing batch of the school.

The programme organised at Gyanodaya Bhavan here was mixed with joy and emotions as passing out Class XII students came in their best outfit while they were given the best of treatment by the junior batch.

The faculty members too rose to the occasion to prepare well knit songs befitting for this moment. Shri Gujrati Shikshan Sangh office bearers led by Naryan Bhai Patel showered their blessings and best wishes to the outgoing students. School

Principal Dr Shailesh Sharma in his speech appealed the students to be a good human being in life and wished all of them to reach the pinnacle of success.

The senior students were invited on the stage to receive their gifts as a mark of love from the juniors. The student council members shared their experiences while discharging their duties.

The programme took a beautiful turn with the surprise introduction of Bunty Chandrakar from Crazy Chaps who by his wonderful act mesmerized the audience.

The best students were honoured with Mr and Miss Farewell along with Mr and Miss GEMS based on their performance on the stage.

## CM offers prayers to Mata Sheetla



Raipur, Apr 25: CM Bhupesh Baghel today reached Lalpur falling under Raipur rural assembly as part of his state-wide Bhent-Mulaqat Abhiyan. He offered prayers to Mata Sheetla and Nageshwar Mahadev wishing for happiness, peace, prosperity, and well-being for the people of the state. Raipur Rural MLA Satyanarayan Sharma and Municipal Corporation Raipur Mayor Aijaz Dhebar were present on this occasion.

## RSU extends last date for submission of research papers

In the 18th Young Scientist Congress

Raipur, Apr 25:

Under the joint aegis of Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University and Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology, the last date for submission of research papers in the 18th Young Scientist Congress to be held at Ravi Shankar Shukla University on May 3 and May 4 has been extended till April 28. Chairman of the organizing committee Dr. Kallol Ghosh and coordinator Prof. Manas Kanti Deb and Dr. Joyee K Rai and Organizing Secretary Prof. Manish Rai has told that the detailed description of submission of research paper has been given in the website of Pt Ravi Shankar Shukla University and Chhattisgarh Science and Technology (www.cgsc.in). In this conference, original research papers are invited from research students of agriculture and other universities, engineering colleges, medical colleges, science institutes and NGOs and all other related departments. Agricultural Sciences Agricultural Engineering Technology, Biology Botany, Zoology Chemical Biology, Biotechnological Sciences, Biochemistry Bioinformatics and Biomedicine, Chemical Sciences, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Geology, Geography, Meteorology, Oceanography etc. Chemical



Engineering Civil and Architectural Engineering Computer Science Electronic Engineering and Forestry Home Science and Behavioral Science, Psychology Life Science Medicine and Pharmacology Physics Bio-physics Ramayana Physiology and Geophysics Astrophysics Nuclear Physics Veterinary Medicine, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Technology Forest Metallurgy and Applied Geology. In this, cash prize of 21 thousand will be given to the best young scientists of 19 different disciplines. Organizing Secretary Prof. Manish Rai told that the Young Scientist Conference will be inaugurated by the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel who will also be the chief guest. Higher Education and Science and Technology Minister Umesh Patel, Chief Minister's Planning Policy, Agriculture and Rural Advisor Pradeep Sharma will be present as

special guests. Renowned scientist Praveen Trivedi of Rajasthan University will deliver the keynote address at the inauguration ceremony. The distribution of the award to the selected young scientist 'Yuva Scientist Samman award' will be given by the Chancellor Vishwa Bhusan Harichandan at the closing ceremony of the conference. Higher Education and Science and Technology Minister Umesh Patel will be present as very special guest and Dr. Lalit Sharma Chairman NCSC-DST, New Delhi will be present as special guest in the prize distribution and closing ceremony. The inauguration ceremony will be held in the Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay auditorium.

For the preparation of this Young Scientist Conference, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Sachchidanand Shukla and Director General of Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology, Dr. S. Workers are continuously giving advice and guidance.

It may be noted that after the formation of the state of Chhattisgarh, the Young Scientist Conference has been successfully organized five times in Ravi University. Till now about forty senior scientists have given their consent to attend this conference.

## During maiden visit to Patan VS area after getting charge

Nandini-Ahirwara, Apr 25: Working Committee members Mayank Gupta and Dau Anand Tamarkar paid their first visit to Patan VS after getting the charge of Patan assembly. In this the in-charge Mayank Gupta and co-in-charge Dau Anand Tamarkar of Patan Vidhan Sabha's central Patan Mandal and South Patan Mandal's BJYM, as per call by the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) Chhattisgarh state leadership, met the party workers. After meeting with the workers, strategy was discussed to stage lockout in each employment office in each district; to hold Mandal Strengthening Campaign of each Mandal and organize 'Padyatra' programmes, to take the corruption prevalent in Chhattisgarh reach out to the masses. On April 30 it is going to be the 100th



episode of Modiji's 'Mann Ki Baat' and the party workers were urged to listen to it in large number in every booth.

On this occasion newly appointed BJYM District President Jeet hemchand Yadav and two General Secretary Manoj Sharma, Mukesh Sonkar and BJYM State Working Committee members Mayank Gupta and Dau Anand Tamarkar and District Vice President

Kewal Dewangan, District Special Invitee member Rahul Chandel, Raunak Tamarkar were accorded warm welcome by the workers. On this occasion, the workers of Laeshwar Sahu Mandal South Patan, Khemlal Sahu Mandal Central Patan Mandal, Narad Sahu President, Kunal Sharma, Sagar Soni, Kaleshwar Shukla, Jinesh Jain, Shrikant Chandrakar were present.

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Chronicle



# MLA attends Jeevandeep Samiti meeting

### Apprised about problems faced; MLA assures to get funds sanctioned



Tilda-Newara, Apr 25:

The general body meeting of 'Jeevandeep Samiti' of Community Health Centre (CHC) Tilda-Newara, Raipur was held here on Tuesday and MLA Pramod Kumar Sharma participated in it.

In this information was given about the problems in CHC and this included need for ambulance in CHC, dead-body vehicle, hike in wages of employees working in Jeevandeep Samiti; stand for cycle, two-three-four wheelers in CHC and completion of

the building work of CHC left incomplete by PWD; construction of shed for cook of food by woman under 'Janani Suraksha yojana'; opening of canteen in CHC, construction of an overhead tank or supply of water 24 hrs from water tank in Tilda-

Newara; construction of resting place for 'Mitanins' and installation of AC in the wards for patients; making the vaccination centre full-fledged and others.

In the meeting, IAS officer Jayant Nahata directed to the arrange for an ambulance through DMF funds; President Nagar Palika Lemiksha Guru Daharia gave assurance to provide water ATM and help for Cycle stand and as per recommendations by MLA Pramod Kumar Sharma a sanction of Rs 65 lakh after talks with Health Minister TS Singh Deo and PWD Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu and gave assurance to complete the works soon.

For this Members of Jeevandeep Samiti expressed gratitude towards MLA PK Sharma.

# 12 corporators move no-confidence motion

Keshkal, Apr 25:

Keshkal Nagar Panchayat is once again in the news and this time out of total 15 corporators of Nagar Panchayat, 12 Corporator have moved no-confidence motion against the President Roshan Jamir Khan and V-P Biharilal Shori. On Monday, all the Corporators met the Collector Kondagaon Deepak Soni and expressed dissatisfaction towards the work of President and V-P of Nagar Panchayat Keshkal and submitted a no-confidence motion against the two. On this Collector accepted it and assured to take necessary action. With this no-confidence motion getting viral on the social media, the political activities in the Keshkal and Kodagaon district have gained momentum.

Officers, employees do not listen to public reps:

In this regard the Leader of Opposition in Nagar Panchayat



Navdeep Soni informed that the President Nagar Panchayat Roshan Jamir and V-P Biharilal Shori are not having any control on the officers and employees working under them. These employees never listen to what the public representatives say to them. Set aside this, during the term of existing President and V-P Nagar Panchayat, no satisfactory development works have taken place and due to which 6 corporators each from Congress and BJP moved this no-confidence motion against the two. The same was accepted by the Collector and he assured to hold election for the same shortly.

'Corporators jealous

about devp works'

Nagar Panchayat President Roshan Jamir Khan said that many development works have been carried out in Keshkal Nagar Panchayat in last three years and the general public is getting benefit of state government schemes and by which they are happy. But there are some dissatisfied and jealous corporators who are unhappy about it and moved a no-confidence motion

against them.

He said that if the corporators have any problem, they should approach him or the CMO, instead of moving no-confidence against them. As to what could be exact reason behind this is not known to me, he added.

# Case filed against doctor, two nurses

### In death of woman and newly born child in Rashmi Nursing Home

Surajpur, Apr 25:

A case under section 304-A, 34 of IPC was filed against the female doctor and two staff nurse of District Hospital in case of death of a mother and her newly born boy in Rashmi Nursing Home of city few days back. It is notable here that last on April 3, one Puja Sahu (23), R/o Bhuneshwarpur was pregnant and on getting delivery pain she was rushed to District Hospital and till April 4 in the evening, she could not get any medical help.

Here the Gynecologist at District Hospital through false information took the patient to her Rashmi Nursing Home and here she was asked to deposit Rs 15000 for normal delivery and got Rs 10000 deposited from the family. Through Sonography and other test it was declared both mother and child are healthy and that it will be normal delivery.

On April 6 in the morning she was operated and it was informed that baby was dead on delivery and got him bur-

ried. Father Mahendra Sahu was sent by the doctor to get blood from the district hospital twice in a day and since the blood was cold, it was wrapped around a hot cloth and the staff nurse administered the blood. By this time Puja started turning critical and by calling 108 Ambulance it was called and later was asked not to come and the doctor tried to give resuscitation to the patient, but it was in vain and she died.

After the death, Dr Rashmi started pressurising the family to take her body quickly and was demanding money as well and since it was night, the father of deceased expressed his helplessness. In the morning the family members charged the woman of showing carelessness in delivery and treatment of their daughter and sending information to SDM and Police demanded action against the doctor and nursing home.

On this the Tehsildar in front of the police, sealed the Nursing Home and got the buried body of child taken out and got the post-mortem done.

In this entire case, the District Health officer formed a team and conducted investigation and gave recommendations to suspend Dr Rashmi Kumar and

two staff nurses Anjali Tirkey, Mousami Tirkey posted in the District Hospital and handed over the report to the Collector.

After this the Kotwali Police came into action and filed case under section 304 A and 34 of IPC against the above three.

Should terminate the doctor, demands Father of deceased through

a letter to the President, Chief Minister, Health Secretary had cited the entire incident and demanded termination of the doctor responsible from District Hospital. Along with this he showed dissatisfaction from the action taken by police and demanded filing of FIR against the accused and had warned to stage dharna and protest, if it is not done soon.

**FORM NO. IV**  
[See sub-rule(2A) of rule 5]  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**  
H.No. 797-II, Shanti Kunj, South Civil Lines, Jabalpur (M.P.)  
(Area of Jurisdiction-Madhya Pradesh)  
(Summons under Sub Section (4) Section 19 of the Act, read with Sub-Rules 2 A) of rule 5 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993.  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 567/2022  
STATE BANK OF INDIA  
VERSUS  
Shri Kamal Kumar Chhmanni & Others  
Defendants to 1) Shri Kamal Kumar Chhmanni S/o Shri Ramesh Lal Chhmanni, Flat No.- M-602, Sixth Floor, Matri Chhaya Apartments, Priyadarshini Colony, Tikrapara, Near Pachpedi Naka, Rajendra Prasad Ward No.46, Raipur. District-Raipur (C.G.) PIN-492001 (Borrower)  
2) Smt. Kamta Chhmanni W/o Shri Kamal Kumar Chhmanni, Flat No.- M-602, Sixth Floor, Matri Chhaya Apartments, Priyadarshini Colony, Tikrapara, Near Pachpedi Naka, Rajendra Prasad Ward No.46, Raipur. District-Raipur (C.G.) PIN-492001 (Co-Borrower) .....Defendants

**केनरा बैंक Canara Bank**  
Canara Bank, Specialised ARM Branch. Plot no. 4, PSP Area, Near AIIMS, Saket Nagar Bhopal Tel.: 9399014648  
**E-AUCTION (SALE NOTICE)**

**Appendix-IV-A** [See provision to rule 8(6) & 6(2)]  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE & IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**  
E-auction Sale Notice For Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rules 9(6) & 9(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.  
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged / charged to the secured creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the authorised officer the Canara Bank (secured creditor) will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & WHAT EVER THERE IS" on 15/05/2023, for recovery of bank dues to the Canara Bank (secured creditor)

Name and address of the Borrower & Guarantors	Description of Property	Demand Notice Dt. Possession Dt. Outstanding Amt.	Reserve Price EMD Amt. Bid Increment Amt.
<b>Borrowers: M/s Ganpati Industries Prop- Mrs. Sandhya Ashish Gupta</b> , Industrial Plot No 134/B & 134/H, Light Industrial Area, Bhalai, Durg, C.G.	1) Industrial plot no 134/B & 134/H, Light Industrial Area Village, Chhawani Bhalai, Durg (CG). Plot No 134/B Bounded by East - Part of Plot No 134, West - Road, North - Plot No 134/C South - Part of Plot No 134, Plot No 134/H- Bounded by East - Plot No -134/E, West - Plot No 134/B, 134/C & 134/D, North - Plot No 134/G, South - Plot Nala	30.04.2021 05.08.2021 as on 31/03/2023	₹ 47.57 Lakh ₹ 5.00 Lakh ₹ 3,85,70,006.91
<b>Mrs. Sandhya Gupta W/o Mr. Ashish Gupta</b>	2) Plant & Machinery situated at Plot No 134/B & 134/H, Light Industrial Area, Village Chhaoni, Bhalai Durg (CG)	PHYSICAL POSSESSION	₹ 9.06 Lakh ₹ 1.00 Lakh ₹ 25000/-
<b>Borrowers: M/s Ekta Steel Prop- Mr. Kamal Kishore Arora</b> , Plot No 12-A, Heavy Industrial Area, Bhalai, Tahseel & District Durg C.G.	1) Plant & Machinery situated at Plot No - 12/A, Heavy Industrial Area, Bhalai, Tahseel & District Durg C.G. with admeasuring 10,000 sq. ft. Bounded by: East - Part of Plot No 12, West - Plot No 11, North - Proposed Road, South- Part of Plot No 12	30-04-2021 05-08-2021 as on 31-03-2023	₹ 28.20 Lakhs ₹ 2.90 Lakhs ₹ 25000/-
<b>Mr. Kamal Kishore Arora</b> R/o B/19, 4 BHK, Row Bunglow, Chhouna Town, Junwani, Bhalai, C.G. - 490022	2) Factory Land & Building situated at Plot No. 12/A, Heavy Industrial Area, Bhalai, Tahseel & District Durg C.G. with admeasuring 10,000 sq. ft. Bounded by: East - Part of Plot No 12, West - Plot No 11, North - Proposed Road, South- Part of Plot No 12	1,72,37,742.68/- + interest & charges	₹ 5.40 Lakhs ₹ 25000/-
<b>Borrower: M/s Bhalai Bricks Prop Shanti Pandey</b> Village Dhor P.C. No 24, Teh Patan, Dist-Durg CG-490020	(1) EMT of factory Premises situated at PH No. 11 Kh No. 782/2, Village Dhaur Teh Patan, Dist Durg-CG, total area 0.49 hect, Boundaries: East: Land of Makhan Lal, West: Land of Dinesh Kumar, North: Land of Dujram, South: Land of Dharsa	27-04-2021 23-08-2021 as on 31/03/2023	₹ 60.00 Lakhs ₹ 6.00 Lakhs ₹ 25000/-
<b>Mrs Shanti Pandey W/o Late Shri Shyam Charan Pandey</b>	(2) Hypothecation of Plant and Machinery at PH no. 11 Kh no. 782/2, Village Dhaur Teh, Patan	70,06,745.48/- + Interest & charges	₹ 18.70 Lakhs ₹ 1.90 Lakhs ₹ 25000/-

Last date for submission of online bids is on or before 12-05-2023 upto 5.00 p.m.  
Date and Time of e-auction: 15-05-2023, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM (with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each)  
Account Detail for EMD Submission: Demand Draft in favour of Authorized Officer, Canara Bank, SPLSD ARM Branch (6816) Bhopal OR shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to credit of authorized officer, Canara Bank, ARM Branch, A/c No 209272454 IFSC Code: CNRB0006816  
For sale proceeds of Rs. 50,00,000 (Rupees Fifty Lacs) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at the rate 1% on the Sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the Bank.  
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (https://www.canara-bank.com) or may contact Mr. Ranjan Kumar Park, Chief Manager, SPLSD ARM Bhopal, Canara Bank, Plot no. 4, PSP Area, Near AIIMS, Saket Nagar Bhopal. Contact no. 9399014648 during office hours on any working day.  
Place: Bhopal, Date: 25-04-2023  
AUTHORISED OFFICER, CANARA BANK

**CHANGE OF NAME**  
It is informed to the general public that I, ASHINA SIDDIQUE D/o Abdul kalam Siddique resident of Qu.no. 2/A, Street no. 13, sector 5 bhilai nagar Teh & Distt- Durg, Chhattisgarh have changed my old name ASHINA SIDDIQUE W/o IBRAHIM KHAN so in future I should be recognized by my new name ASHINA IBRAHIM KHAN W/O IBRAHIM KHAN in all government and other documents.  
ASHINA IBRAHIM KHAN  
Qu.no. 2/A, Street no. 13, sector 5 bhilai nagar Teh & Distt- Durg, Chhattisgarh

**NAME CHANGE**  
I, Nadeem Ahmad S/o. Mohammad Mustafa, R/o. J-285, Ahmed Nagar, Camp-2, Bhalai, Chhattisgarh has changed my name from First name- Nadeem Ahmad to First name- Nadeem & Surname- Ahmad for all future purposes.

**NAME CHANGE**  
It is informed general public that my daughter Zainab Bano D/o Aijaz Naseem, Address - H.No. 1597 Ward No.22, Near Energy Fitness Gym, Park Avenue Residency, Amanaka, Raipur, C.G. have changed her old name Zainab Bano D/o Aijaz Naseem, in her all the government, school and other documents.  
**Aijaz Naseem**  
Address - H.No. 1597 Ward No.22, Near Energy Fitness Gym, Park Avenue Residency, Amanaka, Raipur, C.G.

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**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**  
H.No. 797-II, Shanti Kunj, South Civil Lines, Jabalpur (M.P.)  
(Area of Jurisdiction-Madhya Pradesh)  
(Summons under Sub Section (4) Section 19 of the Act, read with Sub-Rules 2 A) of rule 5 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993.  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 1044/2021  
STATE BANK OF INDIA .....Applicant  
VERSUS  
Shri Harjeet Singh Hanspal & Others .....Defendants  
1. Shri Harjeet Singh Hanspal S/o Shri Darshan Singh Hanspal H.No. 7502, Street No.4, Hanspal Villa, Fafadhi Naka, Raipur Chhattisgarh PIN-492001 (Borrower)  
2. Smt. Paramjeet Kaur W/o Late Shri Surendrapal Singh Hanspal H.No. 7502, Street No.4, Hanspal Villa, Fafadhi Naka, Raipur Chhattisgarh PIN-492001 (Co-Borrower/Legal Heir Late Shri Surendrapal Singh Hanspal)  
3. Shri Gurpreet Singh Hanspal S/o Late Shri Surendrapal Singh Hanspal H.No. 7502, Street No.4, Hanspal Villa, Fafadhi Naka, Raipur Chhattisgarh PIN-492001 (Co-Borrower/Legal Heir Late Shri Surendrapal Singh Hanspal)  
4. Shri Jaspreet Singh Hanspal S/o Late Shri Surendrapal Singh Hanspal H.No. 7502, Street No.4, Hanspal Villa, Fafadhi Naka, Raipur Chhattisgarh PIN-492001 (Co-Borrower/Legal Heir Late Shri Surendrapal Singh Hanspal)  
5. Smt. Vidwanti Kaur W/o Shri Darshan Singh Hanspal H.No. 7502, Street No.4, Hanspal Villa, Fafadhi Naka, Raipur Chhattisgarh PIN-492001 (Guarantor) .....Defendants  
WHEREAS, OA No. 1044/2021 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer on 21/03/2022. Whereas, the Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/ notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you recovery of debts of Rs. 42,13,828.00 in accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you the defendants are directed as under:-  
1. To show case within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted.  
2. To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under Serial No. 3A of the Original Application.  
3. You are restrained from dealing without disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under Serial No. 3A of the Original Application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties.  
4. You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under Serial number 3A of the Original Application without the prior approval of the Tribunal.  
5. You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank of financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.  
You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy there of furnished to the applicant and to appear on 03.05.2023 at 10:30 AM failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.  
Give under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, this the 24th day of April 2023.  
Registrar  
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Jabalpur

**ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**  
Registered Office- Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat - 362266  
Branch Office- G Corporation Tech Park, Kesavnagar, Ghodbunder Road, Thane - 409607 (MH)  
**DEMAND NOTICE**  
(under Rule 3 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)  
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE U/s 13 (2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.  
Notice is hereby given to the borrowers as mentioned below that since they have defaulted in repayment of the Credit facility availed by them from Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited (ABHFL), their loan accounts have been classified as Non-Performing Assets in the books of the Company as per RBI guidelines thereto. Therefore, ABHFL has issued demand notices under section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on the last known addresses of the said borrowers thereby calling upon and demanding from them to repay the entire outstanding amount together with further interest at the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount and incidental expenses, cost charges etc. as stated in the said demand notices. However, the demand notice is also being served by way of publication, as per Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (SARFAESI Rules):  
Sl. No. Name and Address Borrower/ Co-Borrower and Guarantor / Co-Guarantor & Loan A/C No. NPA Date Date of Demand Notice Amount Due as per Demand Notice (as on Date)  
1. SAURABH PANJWANI, Kh. No. 6141, Ph. No. 114 (Proposed Ph.No. 52), Rom Raipur-2, Village-Devpuri, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001. 2. BHAGWAN DAS PANJWANI Kh. No. 6141, Ph. No. 114 (Proposed Ph.No. 52), Rom Raipur-2, Village-Devpuri, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001. 3. ASHA PANJWANI Kh. No. 6141, Ph. No. 114 (Proposed Ph.No. 52), Rom Raipur-2, Village-Devpuri, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001. 4. SAURABH PANJWANI H. No. 4, In Front Of Bank Of Baroda, Baba Gela Ram Nagar, Devpur, Bhandwanganj, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492015. 5. ASHA PANJWANI H. No. 4, In Front Of Bank Of Baroda, Baba Gela Ram Nagar, Devpur, Bhandwanganj, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492015. 6. BHAGWAN DAS PANJWANI, H. No. 4, In Front Of Bank Of Baroda, Baba Gela Ram Nagar, Devpur, Bhandwanganj, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492015. Loan Account No. LNRALAP-10160913560 & LNRALAP-19200074864  
DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/PROPERTIES MORTGAGED: All That Piece And Parcel Of Land/Plot Area 2430 Sq. Ft. Part Of Khatta No. 6141, Situated At Ph. No. 114 (Proposed Ph.No. 52) R/N/M Raipur-2, Village: Devpur, Tehsil & District: Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001, And Bounded As: East: RastWest: Land Of Manoj Narwani North: Open Land South: Land Of Agrawal  
We hereby call upon the borrower stated herein to pay us within 90 days from the date of this notice, the outstanding amount (together with further interest thereon plus cost, charges, expenses, etc. thereon falling which we shall be at liberty to enforce the security interest including but not limited to taking possession and selling the secured asset entirely at your risk as to the cost and consequences.  
Please note that as per section 13(1) of the SARFAESI Act, all of you are prohibited from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise, the aforesaid secured assets without prior written consent of the Company. Any contravention of the said section by you shall invoke the penal provisions as laid down under section 29 of the SARFAESI Act and / or any other legal provision in this regard.  
Please note that as per sub-section (6) of section 13 of the Act, if the dues of ABHFL together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by ABHFL are tendered to ABHFL at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by ABHFL and no further step shall be taken by ABHFL or transfer or sale of that secured asset.  
Date: 26.04.2023  
Place: RAIPUR  
Sd/- Authorised Officer (Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited)

**CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED**  
Corporate Office: No.2, Dare House, 1st Floor, NSC Bose Road, Chennai- 600 001.  
Branch Office: Shop No.- 416, 4th Floor National Corporate Park, Infront Of Maruti Business Park, G.E. Road, Raipur C.G-492001, Contact No: Prakash Verma-9981343191, Prakhar Sharma-9826432751  
**E-AUCTION NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**  
E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.  
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor(s) that the below scribed immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Cholamandalam investment and Finance Company Limited the same shall be referred here in after as Cholamandalam investment and Finance Company Limited. The Secured Assets will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "What ever there is" basis through E-Auction.  
It is hereby informed to General public that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website https://bankauctions.in.  
Account No. and Name of borrower, co-borrower, Mortgagors 1. Date 2. Demand Notice Amount 3. Total Loan Outstanding 4. Possession Date  
Description of the Immovable property Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit & Bid Increment Amount (In Rs.) E-Auction Date and Time, EMD Submission Last Date, Inspection Date  
Loan Account No. X0HERRH00002075285  
Borrower & Co-Borrowers:-  
1. Sunil Kumar Badlani (Applicant), House No 34/215, Katora Talab, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001.  
2. A. Mohandas Jewellers (Co-Applicant), Sadar Bazar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001.  
3. Kiran Badlani (Co-Applicant) House No 34/215, Katora Talab, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001.  
4. Mukesh Kumar Badlani (Co-Applicant) House No 16 Sector 2, Khushi Vihar Avanti Vihar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001, 5. Bhavika Badlani (Co-Applicant) House No 16 Sector 2, Khushi Vihar Avanti Vihar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001.  
All interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website https://bankauctions.in/https://www.cholamandalam.com/auction-notices. For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact Ms.4 Closure - Mr. U. Subbarao, Incharge No. 8142000061, Mr. Muhammed Rahees - 81240 00030, Email : subbarao@bankauctions.in, Email\_bharathi@bankauctions.in.  
For further details on terms and conditions please visit : https://bankauctions.in/https://www.cholamandalam.com/auction-notices to take part in e-auction.  
**THIS IS ALSO A STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 9(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES,2002**  
Date: 25.04.2023, Place: Raipur (C.G.) Authorised Officer/ M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited



## BRIEF

### Missing

**Thane:** Four children, in the age group of 14 to 15 years, have gone missing after leaving for school from their homes in Maharashtra's Thane district, police said on Tuesday. The incident took place in Ambernath town on Monday following which the police registered a case under Indian Penal Code Section 363 (kidnapping) against unknown persons, an official from Shivaji Nagar police station said. The children, residents of different localities in Ambernath and studying in the same school, left their homes at around 7 am, but did not return, he said.

### Accident

**Shimla:** A vehicle rolled down into a gorge in Himachal Pradesh's Bilaspur district, leaving one person dead and another injured, police said on Tuesday. The accident took place near village Mihran on Monday night. In another incident, a bridge connecting Renukaji with Sangarh in Sirmour district collapsed on Monday night blocking a road. No casualty was reported in the incident.

### Fire

**New Delhi:** A fire broke out at Sarojini Nagar market in south Delhi early on Tuesday and was doused within an hour, officials said. Fire department officials received information about the fire around 2.20 am. Five fire tenders were rushed to the spot and doused the flames in an hour-long effort. Around 15 to 20 roadside stalls and four shops were damaged by fire but there was no casualty, officials added.

### Arrested

**Mumbai:** The Mumbai police arrested two men for allegedly cheating a 27-year-old actor by promising her a role in Hollywood web series and then sending her for an "audition" to the UAE's Sharjah city, where she was later caught in an alleged drugs case, an official said. Sleuths of Unit 10 of the Mumbai crime branch arrested the accused — Ravi Bobhate and Anthony Paul — who also cheated the actor's mother, Pramila Pareira, by promising her hefty commissions in real estate deals in Hyderabad, he said.

### Racket busted

**Berhampur:** Police claimed to have busted an inter-district fake education certificate racket and arrested four persons in Odisha's Berhampur, including a school teacher and his son. Several counterfeit certificates, mark sheets, documents of Board of Secondary Education (BSE) and Council of Higher Secondary Education (CHSE), and seals of doctors and college principals have been recovered during raids, they said. The teacher is now under suspension for misappropriation of government money, a police officer said.

# Priyanka hits out at PM for 'dig my grave' comment



**AICC General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra waves at Congress supporters as she arrives for a public meeting ahead of the Karnataka Assembly elections, in Mysore district, Tuesday, April 25.**

## ● Says Karnataka polls is not about Modi

T Narasipura (K'taka), Apr 25 (PTI):

Taking a strong exception to Narendra Modi's comments that the opposition party wants to "dig his grave", Congress General

Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Tuesday said there won't be anyone in this country who doesn't want the Prime Minister's good health and that he has a long life.

Calling such statements "strange" and questioning as to whether it is an election issue as it is being used

during the campaigning, she called on the people of the state to ensure this election is not about Modi or any other leader, irrespective of their party.

"I have seen that BJP leaders come here and speak strange things. I heard the Prime Minister was saying that opposition leaders want to dig his grave, what kind of talk is this? There won't be anyone in this country who doesn't want our Prime Minister's good health and that he has a long life," Vadra said. Addressing a public meeting here, as part of the party's campaigning for the May 10 Assembly polls, she said, "But, I want to ask you (people)- is this an election issue? They raise strange issues, but why don't they speak about you? Why don't they speak about price rise, unemployment, talk about taking you forward?"

# SP promises urban employment scheme in UP

## ● If it wins UP local body polls

Lucknow, Apr 25 (PTI):

The Samajwadi Party on Tuesday said it will implement an urban employment guarantee scheme in Uttar Pradesh on the lines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme if it wins the upcoming civic polls.

The urban local body polls will be held in two phases — on May 4 and 11. The counting of votes will be taken up on May 13.

The main opposition party also promised to set

up Samajwadi canteens and grocery stores, and yoga centres across the state, make Gaushalas self-sufficient, and probe the house tax assessment "scam". The appeal, which was signed by party chief Akhilesh Yadav, accused the ruling BJP of promoting corruption in the urban bodies.

Though BJP has been in control of most of the local bodies for a long time, the development work has stopped and people are suffering due to corruption, Yadav said.

The 'jumla' of smart cities was tossed around a lot by the BJP, but the reality is exactly the opposite.

In the name of cleanliness, only scams are happening, the SP chief said.

Instead of clean drinking water, dirty water is being given, and waterlogging, piles of filth, and encroachment in the entire state are seen, he said.

The scam in the assessment of house tax and water tax is at its peak and the SP will probe it if we win the local body polls, he said. Yadav also promised to provide an urban employment guarantee on the lines of MNREGS and said that the SP will give 'Nagar Bharti Samman' to those who do good work in their areas at the city level.

"Samajwadi canteens

# EMPOWERING WOMEN TOGETHER



**HUBLI-DHARWAD WEST: Union Minister Smriti Irani during a Mahila Samavesh programme ahead of Karnataka Assembly elections, in Hubli-Dharwad West, Tuesday, April 25.**

# BSP nominating 11 Muslims for mayoral polls in UP

## ● Move to split SP vote bank

Lucknow, Apr 25 (PTI):

The Bahujan Samaj Party giving 11 out of 17 nominations to Muslim candidates for the election to mayoral posts in Uttar Pradesh is seen as a move to split the Samajwadi Party's traditional Muslim-Yadav vote bank and also gives a glimpse into the Mayawati-led outfit's plans for next year's Lok Sabha polls. While the Congress and the Samajwadi Party have termed it a "vote-

cutting" strategy, a BSP leader said his party has tried to project itself as the true well-wisher of Muslims. Polling for the urban bodies is slated in two phases — on May 4 and May 11. The BSP has fielded Muslim candidates for mayoral posts in the municipal corporations of Lucknow, Mathura, Firozabad, Saharanpur, Prayagraj, Moradabad, Meerut, Shahjahanpur, Ghaziabad, Aligarh and Bareilly. On the other hand, the SP and Congress have fielded only four Muslim candidates each. The BJP did not field any Muslim candidate

for the mayor's seat. "Every voter knows why the BSP gave so many tickets to Muslims. She (Mayawati) cannot win herself, so she has done this at the behest of someone else," the Samajwadi Party's chief spokesperson Rajendra Chowdhary told PTI. "The BSP is the BJP's B-team and this is their strategy to cut votes. But now everyone is aware of all their tricks," he claimed. On the SP giving nominations to fewer Muslim candidates than BSP, Chowdhary said his party that takes everyone along and works accordingly.

# Delhi HC asks lawyer to file information on similar pleas before SC

## ● Uniform Civil Code

New Delhi, Apr 25 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court said on Tuesday the petition by lawyer Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay seeking implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) was prima facie not maintainable and asked him to place before it the prayers made by him before the Supreme Court in similar matters. "You file those prayers. We will see. It is prima facie not maintainable.

We will first see if it is maintainable," a bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad told Upadhyay.

The court was informed that in March the top court refused to entertain petitions by Upadhyay in respect of gender neutral and religion neutral laws observing that these fell within the legislative domain and that he had even withdrawn a plea from there in relation to UCC in 2015. The court remarked that a "simpliciter withdrawal"

has to be distinguished from a "withdrawal with liberty" to approach a court with the same grievance and directed the petitioner to file the prayers in these matters in four weeks. Lawyer MR Shamshad, representing the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, said he was the intervenor in the case and the Supreme Court has rejected Upadhyay's petitions on the same subject matter. "He filed four petitions in Supreme Court which were dismissed...This was his second round," he said.

# Hijab not a major issue in coastal Karnataka poll campaign

Mangaluru, Apr 25 (PTI):



The controversial issue of Muslim girls wearing 'hijab' in educational institutions, which had hit national headlines last year with a government pre-university college in Udupi banning it inside classrooms, does not appear to be a serious campaign issue for the May 10 elections to the Karnataka Assembly.

The BJP government in the state had in an order last year banned wearing of hijab inside campuses after the controversy broke out, saying 'any clothing that

would disturb equality, integrity and public law and order' will not be allowed. Students were directed to wear only the uniforms prescribed for them in schools and PU colleges.

country. The Karnataka High Court upheld the government order after a few Muslim girl students moved the court. The judgement was then challenged before the Supreme Court, which subsequently delivered a split verdict in October. The matter will be later heard by a larger bench. BJP's poster boy of the hijab row, Yashpal Suvarna, is now the party's candidate for the Udupi Assembly constituency. When the row broke out, he was vice-president of the development committee of the Udupi government PU college for women.

# Intellectual Property Accounts for more than 27% jobs and 38% GDP in U.S.



Prof. Sunil Goyal

World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated annually on 26 April. Events organized to mark the Day seek to inform about the role of intellectual property rights in encouraging innovation and creativity. World Intellectual Property Day 2023 will focus on the theme, 'Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity,' celebrating the "can do" attitude of women inventors, creators, and entrepreneurs around the world and their ground-breaking work.

Intellectual property is defined as the creation of the mind that includes inventions, patents, designs,

any type of art, etc. The primary purpose of establishing intellectual property rights is to foster an environment that allows both corporations and individuals to have the freedom to create and innovate.

Intellectual property is classified into four types: copyright, trademarks, patents, and trade secrets. Copyright is having legal rights to literary and artistic works. These are usually, but not limited to, books, music, films, drawings, and paintings. Trademark is the sole right granted to a company to use a name and a logo that distinguishes that business's goods and services. A patent is one of the most challenging types of intellectual property to draft. It involves creativity and invention. A trade secret is confidential information that usually involves a company's flagship. It ensures a business's advantage over its competition.

According to a report of Legal Jobs (2023), 22% of tech innovations come from the US, 27.7% of jobs in the US come from intel-

lectual property intensive industries, 38.2% of the US GDP comes from intellectual property intensive industries. Intellectual property theft costs the US \$225 billion to \$600 billion annually, the average cost of a data breach in the US is \$8.64 million, the average cost to defend a patent lawsuit exceeds \$3 million, and around 12,000 intellectual property cases are filed each year.

The US Department of Commerce states that over 40 million jobs come from intellectual property intensive industries. For this reason, the US Intellectual Property Enforcement believes that intellectual property infringement can hurt not just the economy but the US labor force as well. There's a strong connection between intellectual property, business development, and economic growth, and numbers prove it. Intellectual property intensive industries account for 38.2% of the country's GDP, amounting to over \$6 trillion. US pointed out that US industries that rely heavily on intellectual property are most likely to prosper. He used

the copyright-based industry as an example. According to intellectual property data, IPR-intensive industries generate many jobs and contribute to the US's economic growth. These industries generated 5.6 million jobs, where the average income of these workers was 38% higher than the US workforce's average income. Intellectual property theft is taking a financial toll on the US economy. The Intellectual Property Commission estimates that intellectual property theft in the form of counterfeit goods, trade secret theft, and pirated software costs the US economy \$225 billion to \$600 billion. According to intellectual property crimes statistics, that's about 1% to 3% of the US's GDP.

Many people think that intellectual property theft doesn't do any harm, aside from hurting the economy. However, NCPC maintains that counterfeit drugs have caused a lot of harm amounting to more than \$75 billion to Americans due to substandard quality or misla-

bellings. According to intellectual property litigation statistics, 76% of cases end up in a voluntary settlement. This is because trials could drag on for years; the longer the trial goes on, the more costly it becomes. At some point, both the plaintiff and the defendant come to the realization that going to trial isn't worth the cost and effort. And that's why a lot of companies seek to settle as soon as possible. According to statistics, patent assertion entities, also known as patent trolls, make up 84% of all patent lawsuits every year. This figure isn't surprising since patent lawsuits by patent trolls have increased activity by 500% in the past decade. Their lawsuits have affected over 10,000 companies and cost companies around \$80 billion per year.

A lot of companies choose to settle immediately when they are sued for patent infringement. This is because the cost to defend against the lawsuit usually exceeds \$3 million. For companies that make less than \$10 million, this

cost could be detrimental to the business. There are approximately 18,400 cases filed in federal court every year. Of that figure, 12,000 are intellectual property cases. The cost of intellectual property litigation skyrockets the moment it is filed. This is why some legal advisers urge clients to go through mediation with the plaintiff due to cost. The cost of a patent infringement case with \$10 million to \$25 million at risk could range from \$2 million to \$9 million. In contrast, mediation for the same risk could go as low as \$100,000. According to intellectual property cases statistics within US states, it takes roughly about 2.4 years for an intellectual property infringement case to go to trial. Of those that go to trial, only 13.4% are awarded compensation for damages and losses. One controversial intellectual property infringement lawsuit was the case of technology giant Apple against conglomerate Samsung on the basis of design and utility patents. The lawsuit dragged on for seven years, with the

court finally awarding Apple \$539 million. Even with companies obtaining legal rights to ideas, creativity, and invention, it doesn't guarantee a steady growth in the economy. One factor that threatens intellectual property and the economy is intellectual property theft. The intellectual property statistics listed above illustrate the effects of intellectual property theft on the economy. In-depth intellectual property analysis isn't necessary to deduce that infringements have already cost the country billions of dollars and millions of jobs. The advancement of technology and the ease of obtaining information through digital means double the predicament. That's why all sectors must participate in strategies to keep intellectual property crime statistics under control.

(Author is an Eminent Social Scientist, Columnist, and presently posted as Dean and Chairman - Board of Studies at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University of Social Sciences, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar (MHOW), Madhya Pradesh. Email: gasspub@gmail.com. Views are personal)



## Pak Army chief visits China to strengthen defence ties

Islamabad, Apr 25 (PTI):

Pakistan's Army chief General Asim Munir has arrived in China on a four-day official visit aimed at boosting bilateral defence ties.

This is Gen. Munir's fourth overseas visit ever since he took command of the Pakistan Army in November last year. In January, he visited Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (UAE) on his first official visit abroad since his appointment.

A month later, he visited the United Kingdom on a highly important visit on Britain's Ministry of Defence invitation to discuss security-related strategic issues.

After his UK visit, Gen. Munir again visited the UAE.

"COAS is on a four-day official visit to China for



Asim Munir

enhancing bilateral military relations," the army's media wing said in a statement on Monday without providing any further details about the trip.

It is common for the new army chief in Pakistan to undertake a visit to China within weeks of his appointment. The delay this time is attributed to the internal situation in Pakistan.

The visit comes amidst mounting pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on cash-strapped Pakistan to

arrange at least USD 6 billion to bridge the external payment financial gap.

So far, Saudi Arabia and the UAE have committed to providing USD 3 billion to Pakistan but the international lender has demanded assurance for the remaining amount.

Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif last week acknowledged the army chief's efforts towards securing financial commitments from Pakistan's friendly countries.

Though nothing has been said officially about the financial purpose of the visit, China is the only country, apart from Saudi Arabia and the UAE, which is believed to provide critical support to Pakistan.

Pakistan's economy has been in dire straits after years of neglect by successive governments.

## 15 killed in two road accidents

In Pak's Punjab province

Lahore, Apr 25 (PTI): At least 15 people, including women and children, were killed in two separate road accidents in Pakistan's Punjab province, authorities said on Tuesday.

According to the Rescue 1122, eight members of a nomad's family, including women and children, were killed when a speeding oil tanker ran over their huts at Lodhran district, some 350 kms from Lahore, on Monday. It said that a good number of nomad families were asleep in their huts when the speeding oil tanker ploughed into them killing eight on the spot and leaving four injured.

The Rescue 1122 said that the driver of the tanker lost control over the vehicle after one of the tyres burst. The driver managed to flee and a case has been registered against him. In a separate incident, seven members of a family were killed when a bus hit a car in Okara, some 130kms from Lahore.

## RESCUE OPERATIONS



Stranded Indians queue up to board INS Sumedha as they leave violence-hit Sudan for Jeddah under 'Operation Kaveri', in Port Sudan, Tuesday.

## UN fears more 'displacement' from Sudan despite cease-fire

Geneva, Apr 25 (AP):

The UN refugee agency warned Tuesday of "further displacement" of people from Sudan after thousands streamed into neighbouring Chad and South Sudan despite a tenuous cease-fire between the two warring Sudanese generals battling for control of the country.

The fighting has plunged Sudan into chaos, pushing the already heavily aid-dependent African nation to the brink of collapse. Since the clashes erupted on April 15, at least 20,000 Sudanese have fled into Chad and some 4,000 South Sudanese refugees who had been living in Sudan have returned to their home country, UNHCR spokeswoman Olga Sarrado said Tuesday.

The figures could rise, she cautioned. Sarrado did not have figures for the five other countries neigh-

boursing Sudan, but UNHCR has cited unspecified numbers of those fleeing Sudan arriving in Egypt. "The fighting looks set to trigger further displacement both within and outside the country," she said, speaking at a UN briefing in Geneva.

The UNHCR was scaling up its operations, she said, even as foreign governments have raced to evacuate their embassy staff and citizens from Sudan. Many Sudanese have desperately sought ways to escape the chaos, fearing late their all-out battle for power once evacuations are completed.

Several previous cease-fires have failed, although intermittent lulls during the weekend's major Muslim holiday allowed for dramatic evacuations of hundreds of diplomats, aid workers and other foreigners by air and land.

More than 800,000 South Sudanese refugees live in

Sudan, a quarter of them in the capital of Khartoum, where they are directly affected by the fighting.

Marie-Helene Verney, the UNHCR's chief in South Sudan, said from its capital of Juba that "the planning figure that we have for the most likely scenario is 125,000 returns of South Sudanese refugees into South Sudan, and 45,000 refugees," Sudanese fleeing the fighting.

The UN Population Fund has said that the fighting threatens tens of thousands of pregnant women, including 24,000 women expected to give birth in the coming weeks.

For 219,000 pregnant women across the country it is too dangerous to venture outside their homes to seek urgent care in hospitals and clinics amid the clashes, the agency said.

Dozens of hospitals have shuttered in Khartoum and elsewhere

across the country due to the fighting, and dwindling medical and fuel supplies according to the Sudanese Doctors' Syndicate.

"If the violence does not stop, there is a danger that the health system will collapse," the UN agency warned last Friday.

The International Committee of the Red Cross welcomed the announced cease-fire as a "potential lifesaver for civilians" trapped in their homes in fighting-hit areas.

"It's clear that this ceasefire must be implemented up and down the chain of command and that it must hold for it to give a real respite to civilians suffering from the fighting," said Patrick Youssef, ICRC's regional director for Africa.

He called on the international community to help find a "durable political solution to end the

bloodshed."

Spokesman Jens Laerke of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, said it has been forced to "reduce our footprint" because of the fighting and he pointed to "acute shortages of food, water, medicines and fuel and limited communications and electricity" and new reports of looting of humanitarian warehouses and aid stockpiles.

"The humanitarian needs in Sudan were already at record levels before this recent eruption of fighting some 15.8 million people that's about a third of the population required humanitarian assistance," he said.

"This (fighting) coming on top of it, is, I would say, more than just a slap in the face. It's more than a fist in the face of those people who were already in need," Laerke added, echoing the calls for "the fighting to stop." (AP)

## ILLEGAL WORK CRACKDOWN

### Indian moped delivery drivers arrested in UK

London, Apr 25 (PTI):

Several Indians are among 60 moped drivers arrested for working illegally for major food delivery firms in the UK as part of a week-long crackdown on illegal migration to the country, the UK government has said.

The arrests, which also included Brazilians and Algerians, were made for offences including illegal working and possession of false documentation. It came as the UK Home Office released latest statistics on Tuesday which claim that Indians are now among the second-largest cohort of migrants crossing the English Channel illegally on small boats, with 675 recorded between January and March this year. "Illegal working damages our communities, cheats honest workers out of employment and defrauds the public purse," said UK Home Secretary

Suella Braverman.

"As the Prime Minister (Rishi Sunak) has set out, we are committed to going further and faster to prevent the abuse of our laws and borders. The British public deserve a labour market that is fair and honest and must have confidence that goods and services they buy are from legitimate businesses," the Indian-origin minister said. Of the 60 arrested, 44 were detained by the Home Office pending their removal from the UK, with the remaining 16 being released on immigration bail. The government said it is expected that a number of the arrests will result in voluntary departure from the UK.

"Our enforcement teams are working around the clock to deter immigration offending and change behaviours that compromise public safety," said Eddy Montgomery, Director of

Enforcement, Compliance and Crime at the Home Office.

He said his teams stepped up action to tackle illegal working by so-called "gig workers", or without contracts, for companies such as Deliveroo, JustEat and UberEats.

The Immigration Enforcement department is said to have carried out extensive intelligence-gathering ahead of an operation to identify hotspots for illegal moped delivery drivers. Alongside local police forces, the Home Office said it deployed officers on six consecutive days between April 6 and 21 to make the arrests and detentions. The UK government said it is clamping down on illegal working to ensure all companies and workers are contributing to the economy by complying with tax and other regulations.

## 'Electrical short circuit caused deadly blasts in Swat Valley'

Pak police rule out terror angle

Peshawar, Apr 25 (PTI):

Pakistani police on Tuesday ruled out a terror angle in the twin blasts which ripped through a counterterrorism facility in the country's restive northwest on Monday killing at least 17 people and injuring 70 others, saying the explosions were caused by electrical short-circuit.

The blast occurred on Monday at the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of the Kabal police



A police commando stands on the rubble from a damage building at the site of Monday's explosions in Kabal, a town of Pakistan's the Swat district, Tuesday.

station in Swat Valley in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Those killed in the blast included a girl

child, 12 policemen and four detained prisoners, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) CTD Khalid Suhail

said. Refuting initial claims of a suicide attack, Suhail said that arms and ammunition were stored in the CTD police station, and an explosion in the armoury likely caused the blasts.

"There was a store where we had a huge quantity of weapons, and until now, we believe that there might have been some blast in it due to some carelessness," Geo News quoted Suhail as saying. Two suspected terrorists were brought to the CTD Swat police station two days before the blast and both terrorists have been killed in the incident.

## Chinese journalist faces espionage charges

Beijing, Apr 25 (AP):

A veteran Chinese journalist who worked at a ruling Communist Party-affiliated newspaper and was a Harvard University fellow faces espionage charges after being detained while meeting with a Japanese diplomat in a restaurant, his family said Monday.

Dong Yuyu, deputy head of the editorial department at Guangming Daily, regularly met with foreign journalists and diplomats to help understand global trends. But Chinese authorities regarded his contacts with foreign diplo-

mats as evidence of spying, according to a family statement.

Dong is the latest in a series of liberal Chinese voices to be accused by the government of being linked to what it terms foreign interference.

As a non-Communist Party member, he was one of the most pro-reform voices at Guangming Daily and wrote articles in favour of an independent legal system, his family said. He was awarded a Nieman fellowship at Harvard University in 2006-07 and became a visiting fellow at Keio

University in Japan in 2010. Four years later, he served as a visiting professor at Hokkaido University in Japan.

But his writings caused him problems in China. In 2017, an investigation by party authorities found that some of his articles were "anti-socialist" and Dong was threatened with demotion, his family said.

He was detained in February 2022 while eating lunch with a

Japanese diplomat at a restaurant in a Beijing hotel where he often met with foreign friends, the statement said.

The diplomat was also detained, triggering a strong protest from Japan's Foreign Ministry. The diplomat was released after several hours, but Dong has remained in detention.

## Chinese defence minister to visit India this week

Beijing, Apr 25 (PTI):

China on Tuesday announced that its Defence Minister General Li Shangfu will visit India this week to attend the meeting of SCO defence ministers from April 27 during which he is expected to hold talks with his Indian counterpart Rajnath Singh on ending the prolonged eastern Ladakh standoff which has severely strained bilateral ties.

Considered a close associate of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Gen. Li's India visit is regarded significant as it comes amid the vexed standoff between the armies of India and China in eastern Ladakh since May 2020. "Upon invitation, Chinese State Councillor and Defence Minister General Li

## SCO MEET

Shangfu will attend the meeting of the Council of Defense Ministers of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in New Delhi, India, from April 27-28," China's Ministry of National Defence (MND) said in a statement.

"During the meeting, General Li will address the conference and meet with the heads of delegations from relevant countries to communicate and exchange views on the issues of the international and regional situation, as well as defence and security cooperation", the statement said.

Gen. Li is widely expected to hold a bilateral meeting with Defence

Minister Singh and discuss the progress of the military and diplomatic talks to resolve the festering standoff.

Ahead of Gen Li's visit, the Chinese defence ministry spoke positively about the 18th round of the China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting held at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Chinese side on April 23.

It said both sides have agreed to "speed up" the settlement of "relevant issues" related to the prolonged standoff in eastern Ladakh, besides safeguarding peace in the border areas.

The two sides had a friendly and candid exchange of views on relevant issues, said the Defence Ministry's statement.

## ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY



Israelis stand still to observe two minutes of silence as air raid sirens sound to mark Israel's annual Memorial Day for fallen soldiers, in Tel Saki memorial site for 1973's Mideast war in the Israeli-controlled Golan Heights, on the border with Syria, Tuesday.

## SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

**SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKS**

(1) Tender Notice No. Dy.CE-GSU-R-7-07-23-24, Date: 21.04.2023.

**Name of Work:** Construction of RUB in lieu of LC No. 379 (Dhaurabhatta) in between BYT - NPI section (Km 752/23-25) and Construction of RUB in lieu of LC No. 380 (Akaltara) in between BYT - NPI section (Km 755/3-5) by Box Pushing. **Tender Value:** ₹ 16,96,08,422/-, **Earnest Money Deposit:** ₹ 9,98,100/-, **Submission of Tender:** Upto 11.00 hours on 19.05.2023. **Opening of Tender:** 11.00 hours on 19.05.2023.

For further details/purchase of tender document, eligibility criteria and the complete details for the above work, please contact office of the Dy. CE/ Gati Shakti Unit/Raipur or refer/download tender document which is available on our website: www.ireps.gov.in

**Dy. Chief Engineer (Gati Shakti) PR/R/GSU/IR/22 (Unit) Raipur.**

South East Central Railway @ Gsecoil

Tender Notice No.: Sr. DEE RS&G/ BSP/OT/23-24-01 Dated 18.04.2023

**Name of the Work:** 1) Provision of additional Platform Shelter at Pandra Road, Uslapur, Kharasia, Korba and Shahdol stations. 2) Provision of 2 additional rooms at Ambikapur's Officers Rest House 3) Bilaspur Division - Renovation and Repairs of officers and subordinates Rest House at Manendraghat. 4) Electrical portion of work for 'Provision of new road and widening of existing road' in Bilaspur settlement.

**Tender Value (Approx):** ₹ 26,22,304.39

**Bid Security Amount:** ₹ 52,500.00

**Tender Closing Date & Time:** On 11.05.2023 at 15:00 Hrs.

For further details, purchase of Tender Documents eligibility criteria and the complete details for the above work, please refer/download Tender document which is available on our website: www.ireps.gov.in.

Sr. Div. Electrical Engineer (RS&G) CPR/19/26 S.E.C. Railway, Bilaspur

South East Central Railway @ Gsecoil

**कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम विलासपुर (जोन क्र.01)**

**ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

क्र./12/न.पा.नि./जो.01/ली.नि.वि./2023-24 दिनांक 24/04/2023

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम वेबो में पंजीकृत देवेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु निनांक 16.05.2023 संचय 17.30 Hours (IST) तक ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

सिद्धय संख्या	कार्य का विवरण	अनुमानित लागत (₹.लाख में)	अमानत राशि
130739	CONSTRUCTION OF C.C. ROAD FROM DILHARAN YADAV HOUSE TO TAIBA NAGARAT GHURU WARD NO.04	59.06	44300.00

निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, अमानत राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापित, निविदा बन्तारोजेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेबसाइट <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> से दिनांक 25/04/2023 से काउनलोड/देखी की जा सकती है।

आदेशक अधिकारी  
Green City, Clean City, Dream City. नगर पालिक निगम, विलासपुर (ज.न.)





## CENTRAL Chronicle

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### Future of Urban Mobility

India's first water metro a game-changer in urban transportation

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched India's first-ever water metro in Kerala. The water metro is a unique transport system that connects 10 islands around Kochi through battery-operated electric hybrid boats. It provides a convenient and comfortable travel experience to commuters who reside on the islands, who until now had to depend on traditional ferry services for connectivity with the mainland. The water metro project is a significant development in urban transportation, especially for cities like Kochi, which are surrounded by water bodies. With the water metro, residents of Kochi's islands will have access to a sustainable, regular, and luxurious transport system at an affordable price. The water metro project is a joint initiative of the Kerala government and the German company KfW, and it consists of 38 terminals and 78 electric boats. The water metro will start its operations in the first phase with eight electric hybrid boats, which were developed under Cochin Shipyard Limited. The service will connect the High Court-Vypin and Vyttila-Kakkanad terminals. The ticket prices for the water metro are very reasonable, starting at Rs. 20. The weekly and monthly passes are also available for frequent travelers. The water metro service will be a part of the Kochi One Card, which can also be used to travel on Kochi Metro Rail. The Kochi One App allows users to digitally purchase tickets. The water metro project is a game-changer in the urban transportation sector and provides a comparable level of convenience and travel experience to traditional metro systems. With the water metro, Kochi's residents will experience a hassle-free and comfortable journey to their destinations. The Modi government has taken a conscious decision to provide infrastructure and connectivity that caters to the specific needs of each region in the country. The expansion of metro connectivity in the country is a prime example of this approach. The Kochi Water Metro project is also an extension of this approach, which caters to the unique needs of Kochi's islands' residents. The water metro project is an excellent example of how innovation and technology can improve people's lives and transform urban transportation. The Kochi Water Metro project is a game-changer in the urban transportation sector and provides a sustainable, affordable, and luxurious transport system to Kochi's islands' residents. The water metro is a crucial step towards building a smarter and sustainable transportation system that caters to the unique needs of each region. With the water metro, Kochi's residents will experience a comfortable and hassle-free journey, and it will enhance the city's overall connectivity and infrastructure.

### Let Humanity be the Ultimate Truth

Kajal Chatterjee

There is a saying in Bengali that one does not need to press all grains of rice in the pot to assess whether it has got boiled sufficiently, rather pressing of a single grain will do the job. Similarly in the pot of humanity, exist innumerable memorable comments and anecdotes revolving great souls of the world. Without belittling the treasure trove of such enlightening thoughts, I prefer to pick a single grain from that pot which will reflect the ultimate essence of humanity in simplest of language comprehensible even to the little child also. A funeral procession passed in front of the Prophet (PBUH) and he stood up. When he was told by the people that it was the coffin of a Jew, he said, "Was he not a human being?" As a father of a 18-year-old boy studying in a faraway city of South India, my heart has simply got shattered to pieces by reading the inconsolable sudden death of 18-year-old boy Rudra in faraway Pune and feeling the shock and pain of his father Haladhar Let - - - migrant labourer from the Birbhum district of West Bengal. But along with such grief, my chest has also got swollen with much pride and joy on reading the unfathomable humanity and liberalism of the labour contractor Abdul Gaffar (also from Birbhum); who, despite being a person of modest means, immediately paid a sum of Rs. 80,000 (non-refundable) as the cost of embalming the body and transporting it to the Birbhum village in an ambulance. "I just had my iftar ... I thought it was my duty as a pious Muslim to help Haladhar in this time of distress. It was not about money, it was about humanity" - - - the words of Abdul Gaffar simply arrive as rings of temple bell in this rapidly communal environment prevailing in these current times in Indian society with a significant section of Bengalis also succumbing to such churning of poison of hatred despite rich history of syncretic culture in the background. In the 17th century, the local Hindu King Madan Roy had donated land to Pir Ghazi Mubarak Ali for setting up the iconic mazaar in Ghutiari Sharif - - - Bengal's South 24 Parganas district - - - after the latter cured the former from a serious bout of illness. Every year a large fair is organised in Ghutiari Sharif in June coinciding with the famous Ambubachi Mela at the Kamakhya temple. Today the mazaar forms a revered pilgrimage or happy meeting ground of Hindus and Muslims alike! Or the concept of Bonbibi in the Sunderbans - - the deity bearing the essence of a syncretic culture with the rituals shared by the people of both communities. Or the Patachitra art (hand scroll painting) of Medinipur where Durga Shiva Ram Sita come alive through the brush of Muslim artists since centuries. Indeed this has been the tradition of Bengal/India since centuries bearing such secular legacy handed down through generations since centuries. May the Bengalis and Indians draw inspiration from this Haladhar-Gaffar saga and return to their all-embracing cultural roots and take a vow not to sacrifice their secular legacy and the all-embracing spirit of the Indian Constitution on the altar of violent cusswords, hate talks and sword-flexing barbaric "celebration" of epic heroes leading to all sorts of communal disharmony. "Was he not a human being?" - - the simplest of questions raised by the Prophet form the greatest and ultimate truth of human civilization. Not glittering shopping malls-multiplexes-gigantic statues and towers-Space mission-"Enviably" rate of economic growth-Bullet Trains or Supersonic Jets-Missiles-IT Revolution; but one and only humanity and brotherhood transcending all barriers of language-race-religion-caste-colour-politics-nationality-sex-economy can act as the guarantor of world peace and it's survival. May the humanitarian spirit of Rabindranath Tagore-Kazi Nazrul Islam-Mahatma Gandhi-Jawaharlal Nehru-Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose enjoy the last laugh in the soil of Bengal and India and let this be the spirit on the holy occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

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

### LABOURERS AT A BRICK KILN



A labourer drinks water to quench her thirst while working at a brick kiln on a hot summer day, in Nadia, Tuesday, April 25.

### Yatra naryastu pujiyante ramante tatra Devata...



SUDHA MURTY



This verse was written thousands of years ago in our Bharat, during the times when our ancestors knew the power of women. 'Women' not just means a female gender, but much beyond that. They make half the society and a family's backbone. Where women were respected and enjoy their status, gods reside there. But over centuries, may be due to various reasons, our women were kept inside, unlike those days of thousand years' ago.

In ancient India, women too were considered equally like men and given opportunities in intellectual debates, administration, property inheritance, scholarly knowledge, etc. Later, women were denied education, social status and to a great extent, her existence. She was only being recognised as a daughter, as a wife or as a mother, and lost her glory of equality and courage.

I feel women are like elephants tied to a tree. For an elephant, a tree is not a great thing to uproot, and she can just pull it out with ease. But the elephant thinks that she has been chained and hence, does not unleash her potential. So are women. They are great managers, root of a family, with hard working habits; but

chained to the mindset that they cannot exercise their powers or unleash their potential.

It is possible to think that way because, a starting point is required to trigger any storm or wave. How this point would come, who will help them, who will give them confidence, who will give a policy to help them or who will unlock her potential for the first time? Who will acknowledge her to come out of her smoky kitchens, who can give her a helping hand when she wants to start a new venture, who will appreciate her capacity in sports, health, defence, aviation?

Once it is done, she will grow herself with tremendous capacity in building the nation.

This amazing transformation happened to them, with the right leader who spoke about women and making aware that daughters are precious gifts of god. The leader started talking to all common men and women of his country through a programme with good live and real examples. He made the right promise, with right words and followed in the right direction. Be it 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao', 'Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana', 'Ujjwala Yojana', 'Swachh Bharath

'#SelfiewithDaughter', etc.

Who encouraged the Nari Shakti and made them to remember that they are responsible in country's building national wealth? This leader did this with 'Mannki Baat' episodes which started in 2014, with various social issues like children getting scared of the exams, parental pressure, women empowerment (Nari Shakti), etc. The leader is none other than our Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji. The broadcast programme of his talk with people of our country is known as 'Mann ki Baat'. He speaks with various people from different walks of life, about various causes and finds out the real heroes who are unsung, unheard, unseen, but who have done great work.

When a good leader talks consistently without exaggeration, people listen and believe and then, follow. The entire country has a great belief in him that what he talks, he means, particularly women who have been benefited a lot from his talks and projects. Today, women in different fields have achieved a lot. When women do extraordinary work, they are called and appreciated and nation accepts them; they become role models to many youngsters and thus girl children are dreaming big because they know that policies are favouring them and they are achievable. Few months ago, I had visited a rural village regarding my work, and was interacting with a group of children. We were exchanging many questions and answers, covering many varied topics. Towards the end of our talk, was my last ques-

tion to the young girls in the group, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?' A bright-eyed girl immediately said, 'I want to be Zoya Aggarwal.' I was curious and asked why. She said, 'You don't see TV, you don't read paper? Zoya Aggarwal took all women pilot team flying over north pole from San Francisco to Bangalore, covering a distance of 16,000 km. She met our Prime Minister. I want to be like her.' The other girl said "I want to participate in Olympics, because I will be a role model to other girls and get honoured by Prime Minister." The third girl said "I want to be a lady entrepreneur; because there are big projects like PMMY which will help me". Their mother came out and said, 'Madam, I want to thank Prime Minister ji for getting us LPG. It has saved my eyes from smoke and improved my health.' Another lady said, "I feel safe to go to toilet now."

Some older women came forward and told 'We listen 'Mann ki Baat' but we do not know how to convey dhanyavad. Madam, in case you meet him or write to him, please convey from all of us that your sisters of this country want to thank him.' Their tears showed how much gratitude they wanted to express. I had told them that I would do it sometime, somewhere, somehow. And, my mind was effortlessly observing the confident transformation in our Nari Shakti.

I remembered the shloka once again. Yatra naryastu pujiyante ramante tatra Devata.

(Author is Padma Bhushan Awardee, Educator, Author, and Philanthropist. Views are personal.)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Enzymes can degrade plastics

Plastic products are a cemented part of everyday life, from containers and clothes to bags, bottles and food packaging. However, plastics resist degradation, instead breaking down into smaller particles that invade natural ecosystems and threaten the organisms living in them, including humans. Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) - a polymer widely used in common plastic products due to its durability and cheap cost - is a primary target for scientists to reduce plastic pollution. Utilizing enzymes and other biology-based methods to break down PET in plastic showing promise in the scientific community and forming the basis of many novel research projects. Scientists identified a mutated form of an enzyme called leaf-branch compost cutinase (LCC) that degrades PET. This mutant LCC also retains the monomers of PET so that it can be repeatedly remade into high-quality plastic products, an example of how plastic can be recycled in a circular economy. The LCC mutant enzyme can become a permanent solution to plastic recycling and can provide an insight for future enzyme studies for plastic recycling.

Vijaykumar H K, Raichur, Karnataka

#### Population Control in India

As an Indian citizen, I feel proud of our country's achievements, but surpassing China to become the most populous nation in the world is not a record to boast about. The government must take measures to curb population growth and raise awareness about the consequences of such a milestone. Overpopulation can lead to a strain on resources, unemployment, poverty, and environmental degradation. India already faces these challenges, and they can only worsen with an ever-growing population. Let us take a step forward and work towards population control in India. Only then can we hope for a sustainable future and a better India.

MK Nair, Raipur

#### India's Potential Talent Pool

India's achievement of becoming the most populous nation is a significant milestone, but it also presents an opportunity for our country to become a global leader in talent and skill development. With a large population comes a vast pool of potential talent, which can be a blessing in disguise for our country and the world at large. The government should focus on converting this potential momentum into a skill upgrade on a mass scale for economic betterment. India can provide a skilled talent pool to alleviate economic sufferings globally. To achieve this, we need to ensure reliable employability and cutting-edge skill development, which can make our workforce competitive on a global level. This approach can help us create a sustainable and prosperous future for our country.

Shivkumar Mishra, Raipur

## Agriculture Robot: Economical Friend of Farmers



Priyanka Saurabh

Farmers are decreasing in India in the agriculture sector. Some are leaving the farming profession by repeating common sentences that it is no longer profitable, becoming risky day by day. Its disadvantages do not allow even the youth to take interest in it. Robotics will surely bring the agriculture revolution. However, the road ahead is not very easy. We have to calculate the feasibility, sustainability, and efficiency of meeting the world's food needs. However, it will be interesting to see how farmers, agri-businessmen, and consumers will harness the power of robotics and digital mechanization to shape the future of this industry.

The agriculture industry in India has undergone drastic changes in the last few decades. From traditional farming methods to smart farming,

we have come a long way. Technology has finally overcome the challenges of rural agriculture and is constantly coming up with advanced solutions to increase productivity. The ultimate aim is to help farmers produce high-yielding crops to feed the growing population. To achieve this continuous growth, technological advances combined with artificial intelligence have helped in introducing innovative gadgets in the shape of drones, humidity sensors, etc. One such example is agricultural robots. Robotics is the branch of technology that deals with the design, construction, operation, structural deposition, fabrication, and application of robots. Today robotics is a rapidly growing field and it continues to research, design and manufacture new robots that serve various practical purposes.

Robotics in increasing agricultural productivity and sustainability in India Companies are leveraging sensors and various technologies to monitor crop and soil health. Various AI and machine learning tools are being used to predict seed sowing time, receive alerts on risks from pest attacks, etc. Companies are using real-time data analytics on data streams coming in from multiple sources to build an efficient and

smart supply chain. Agricultural robot companies are developing and programming autonomous robots to handle essential agricultural tasks, such as harvesting crops at greater volumes and a faster rate than human laborers. Some examples of an agricultural robot are the Green Seeker sensor smart machine that reads a plant's needs and then applies the exact amount of herbicide fertilizer needed. The Green Seeker is a machine that uses sensors to tell a plant what it needs.

Robot Drone Tractor A new generation of robotic drones is revolutionizing the way we do farming, with the creation of various robots, the announcement of the first Robot Drone Tractor has become part of the agricultural mainstream. The robot will decide where to sow, when to harvest, and how to choose the best route to cross the field. Illy, a flying robot to spread fertilizer, monitors the growing status of crops above fields, with an automated fertilizer system, the robot can fly autonomously. Fruit-picking robot research is still a work in progress, especially as the robots need to be carefully designed so that they don't get hurt while plucking the fruit. One solution is the use of suction grippers, which are used on automatic

fruit-picking machines, to milk dairy animals, especially dairy cattle, without human labor. Automatic milking systems, also known as automatic milking systems, were developed in the late 20th century. Farm equipment companies and researchers in India have developed a lot of small and heavy farm equipment for the needs of traditional farming. If robots are being used for weed control, it will help in reducing the use of herbicides and the yield will change to organic, in the same way, robots can be used for transplanting to avoid intensification. Some impressive innovative technologies by rural inventors can be operated remotely by the cell phone, this is very helpful for farmers in the summertime as the power supply is erratic. Despite various advantages, some drawbacks of agricultural robots significantly hinder their use. Agribots are machines that require considerable investment, making them a costly affair for small and marginal farmers. Eggbots are equipped with the latest technological advancements, which makes them complicated to use. Agricultural robots require farmers to become skilled and efficient in dealing with modern technology, which hinders their ability to properly care for their farmland. India is a

country that regularly faces power cuts, especially in rural areas. This renders agricultural robots useless as they cannot operate without power, leading to unnecessary wastage of time. In farming advanced intelligent machines, sensors or readers and handheld PDAs are going to be very helpful in calculation and accuracy. There are so many constraints in the agriculture sector in all countries especially in the agriculture sector farmers are decreasing in India. They are leaving the profession of farming by repeating some common sentences again and again that it is not profitable anymore and it is becoming risky day by day. Its disadvantages do not allow even the youth to take interest in it. Robotics will surely bring the agriculture revolution. However, the road ahead is not very easy. We have to calculate the feasibility, sustainability, and efficiency of meeting the world's food needs. However, it will be interesting to see how farmers, agri-businessmen, and consumers will harness the power of robotics and digital mechanization to shape the future of this industry. (Writer is a Research Scholar in Political Science, Poetess, Independent journalist and columnist.)



**BRIEF**

**Wheat procured**



**Chandigarh:** Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said more than 54 lakh metric tonne of wheat has been procured in the state and Rs 5,800 crore paid directly to the farmers in their bank accounts. Chautala said the procurement of wheat started in the state from April 1. "So far, 54 lakh metric tonne has been procured," an official statement quoted him as saying. He claimed that lifting from 'mandis' has been expedited and not a single farmer has faced any inconvenience in selling crops in the procuring centres. Chautala said the farmers' crops are being procured as soon as they arrive in the mandis.

**Income category**



**New Delhi:** Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) Chairman Bibek Debroy on Monday said that some states in India are already in the high income category in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms, and the country is likely to move to the upper-middle-income country by 2047. Debroy further said any presumption that the Indian economic growth rate will be driven only by exports may be misleading because there are plenty of endogenous sources of growth.

**Zinc International**



**New Delhi:** Hindustan Zinc CEO Arun Mishra has said that the plans to buy overseas asset from the company's parent firm Vedanta Ltd had not been called off yet. The Chief Executive officer (CEO) made the remarks during an earnings call. When asked about Zinc International's acquisition and whether the plan is still under works, Mishra replied "Unless we the board passes a resolution withdrawing this, till that time, it is not called off."

**Lead poisoning**



**New Delhi:** Presence of lead in cheap cookware, traditional medicines and in cosmetics is a problem and there is still a significant lack of awareness of this problem at the highest levels, health secretary Rajesh Bhushan said on Tuesday.

# Goyal invites big, small retailers to join ONDC

New Delhi, Apr 25:



Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday invited all big and small retailers to join the government-promoted Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), as it would help in creating huge opportunities for everybody. ONDC aims to promote an open platform for all aspects of e-commerce retail. It would help small retailers expand their business through e-commerce medium and reduce the dominance of giants in the sector. It is a non-profit company, which is formulating a set of standards for voluntary adoption by sellers or logistics providers or payments gateway operators. ONDC will require an undertaking from each participant at the time of onboarding that it will comply with the policy in its entirety. "The Walmarts and Flipkarts of the world the Tatas, and Reliances of the world, everybody has a role in making ONDC a

success. So, we would like to invite everybody to be part of this journey in a free and fair manner and nobody will be discriminated against. It is open to all. ONDC is open for business," Goyal said here at a function.

The industry ministry and the consumer affairs ministry are working together to ensure that the grievances of consumers are addressed.

"We are making sure that this platform remains absolutely agnostic to any influence," Goyal said, adding the platform would allow the e-commerce sector to flourish without damaging a large section of stakeholders and small retailers. It would allow

## Maruti Suzuki upgrades its entire model range



**To conform to stricter emission norms**

New Delhi, Apr 25:

Maruti Suzuki India on Tuesday said it has upgraded its entire range of vehicles to meet the stricter emission norms under the BSVI regime. All company hatchbacks, sedans, MPVs, SUVs and commercial vehicles are now compliant with the new BSVI Phase-II real driving emissions (RDE) regulations, alongside being compatible with E20 fuel as well, the auto major said in a statement.

The new RDE compliant Maruti Suzuki cars feature an enhanced on-board diagnostics (OBD) system to monitor emission control systems of the car in real-time and will notify drivers

in case of any malfunction, it added. The products now also come equipped with an electronic stability control (ESC) system, MSI said. "At Maruti Suzuki, we are always finding new and innovative ways to reduce emissions from our vehicles. The Government's drive to incorporate the new BSVI Phase II norms will go a long way in controlling emissions from vehicles over their entire lifespan," Maruti Suzuki India Chief Technical Officer C V Raman noted.

During this upgrade, the company also took the opportunity to delight customers even more by equipping cars with ESC, a leading safety feature globally, he added. Maruti Suzuki currently sells 15 models in the country.

## Equity markets log gains for 2nd day: power shares advance

Mumbai, Apr 25:

Equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty closed higher for the second straight session on Tuesday, helped by buying in power and utility stocks amid positive quarterly numbers announced by heavyweight companies. However, foreign fund outflows and a muted trend in global equities capped the gains, traders said. In a highly volatile trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex rose 74.61 points or 0.12 per cent to settle at 60,130.71. During the day, it hit a high of 60,268.67 and a low of 60,202.77. The broader NSE Nifty gained 25.85 points or 0.15 per cent to end at



17,769.25. "The domestic market succeeded in holding the gains, though multiple attempts were made by bears to reverse the trend considering the weak global market. Investors are highly nervous as they await the release of US GDP and PCE inflation data, which will guide the

## Malabar onboards prominent Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt as New Brand Ambassador

Mumbai, Apr 25:

Malabar Gold & Diamonds, the 6th largest jewellery retailer globally with 312 showrooms across 10 countries, has signed Indian actress Alia Bhatt as their new brand ambassador. After making her debut in 2012, Alia Bhatt has quickly transformed into one of the most sought-after actresses in India, with a score of blockbuster movies under the belt. She has garnered praise for her versatility as an actress, her humble persona and stunning looks, representative of a new era of super talented actors hailing from India. She is also set to make her Hollywood debut in the

movie, Heart of Stone, which is slated to be released soon.

The announcements come in the wake of the 30th anniversary of Malabar group, which began their operations in 1993. With an extensive retail network in India, UAE, KSA, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Malaysia, Singapore and the USA, the signing of Alia Bhatt as the brand ambassador will bring a new global outlook to the brand as they set their eyes on new markets such as the UK, Australia, Canada, South Africa, Egypt, Bangladesh, Turkey and New Zealand as well as major cities in all states of India strengthen their presence in existing markets.

upcoming Fed action. The Fed is expected to raise their rates by another 25bps in its announcement on 3rd May," according to Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. Bajaj Finance led the Sensex gainers' chart, spurring up to 2.38 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finserv rising 2.11 per cent and IndusInd Bank closing 1.66 per cent higher. Bharti Airtel, SBI and L&T increased by 1.60 per cent, 1.28 per cent and 0.92 per cent, respectively. In contrast, HDFC twins, Tech Mahindra, Sun Pharma, Wipro and Axis Bank were among the main laggards, shedding up to 1.47 per cent.

## India needs to be vigilant against several potential risks: FinMin Report

New Delhi, Apr 25:

Sounding a note of caution, the finance ministry's monthly economic review on Tuesday said India needs to be vigilant against potential risks of lower agriculture output, elevated prices and geopolitical developments.

Although the 6.5 per cent growth projection for the current fiscal is in line with the estimates of the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), there are factors which could affect the favourable combination of growth and inflation outcomes currently esti-

small retailers to participate in this journey of new technologies and new ways of doing business. "ONDC threatens nobody. Even big e-commerce is not threatened. It only unlocks and opens the doors of opportunity," he added. The platform, he said, is using a system of creating an inter-operable network, allowing different platforms to collaborate and create an interface to help the buyers and sellers. "ONDC will be the transformational e-commerce platform not just in India but across the world, in the years to come," he said. On the public procurement portal GeM, he said, it has saved Rs 40 000 crore taxpayers' money.

## 'India plans to open logistics hub for Indian companies in Panama'

Panama City, Apr 25:

India is exploring the possibility of opening a logistics hub for Indian companies in Panama, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said, asserting that the country's trade with Latin America is growing and nearing USD 50 billion.



S Jaishankar

The minister arrived in Panama on Monday from Guyana. He called on President Nito Cortizo and conveyed the personal greetings of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to him. "His strong resonance with PM Modi's 'Panch Prann' reflects the strength of our Global South bonds and shared outlook for the world. Valued his guidance for advancing our bilateral and multilateral partnership," Jaishankar tweeted. Cortizo said, during their

meeting, they talked about the will to make an alliance with the Indian pharmaceutical industry to achieve quality, effective and cheaper medicines for Panamanians. "We address the commercial exchange between Panama and India and the advantages that our country offers for the establishment of more companies; also about the opportunities for cooperation, and our interest in de-

veloping a centre of technological excellence and innovation," he tweeted. Jaishankar also met his counterpart Janaina Tewaney Mencomo and discussed ways to strengthen the bilateral relationship. They later addressed the media.

"Much of the talks were devoted to how to deepen our friendship, and how to expand our cooperation. Among the specific issues we discussed were those pertaining to trade and investment, the possibilities of exploring a logistics hub here for Indian companies," Jaishankar said. He said they deliberated on the challenges of affordable health of more decentralised production of medicines in the world, including in this region and discussed possibilities in energy and in renewables.

## Mahindra plans to fully utilise production capacity of commercial vehicles in 2-3.5 tonne range

New Delhi, Apr 25:



Baneswar Banerjee, National Sales Head, Automotive Division of Mahindra, poses with newly-launched Bolero Max Pick-Up, in New Delhi, Tuesday, April 25.

Mahindra & Mahindra on Tuesday said it is looking to fully utilise its production capacity of commercial vehicles in the 2-3.5 tonne payload category in the current fiscal. The company may also look at adding some additional capacity as per the market situation.

Mahindra currently rolls out around 17,500 units of vehicles with a payload capacity ranging between 2 and 3.5 tonnes per month from its plants in Kandivali and Chakan in Maharashtra. "Our current production capacity is 17,500 units a month for such vehicles (2-3.5 tonne). If market demand is there, we may take a call to increase it," Mahinda & Mahindra VP and National Sales Head (Auto Division) Baneswar Banerjee told reporters

here. Mahindra sold around 2 lakh units last fiscal in the segment and aims to do better in the current fiscal, he added.

The company already has a market share of 60 per cent in the segment. The total market for 2-3.5 tonne payload vehicles stood at around 3.31 lakh units in FY23. "We expect the segment to grow in the

range of 7-8 per cent this year over last fiscal," Banerjee noted. The company on Tuesday launched the new Bolero MaXX Pick-Up range in the country with prices starting at Rs 7.85 lakh (ex-showroom). The new product range comes in two series HD and City with multiple payload capacities.

## Rupee settles flat at 81.92 against US dollar

Mumbai, Apr 25:

The rupee traded in a narrow range and settled on a flat note at 81.92 (provisional) against the US dollar amid rising crude oil prices and foreign fund outflows. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 81.95 against the US currency and finally closed at 81.92 (provisional) against the greenback, unchanged from its previous close. During the session, the rupee touched a high of 81.86 and a low of 81.96 against the dollar. The rupee on Monday settled at 81.92 against the US dollar.

According to Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst at LKP Securities, the rupee traded range bound near 81.90 as the dollar index was in the consolidation range. "The rupee replicated peers by staying in the range of 81.85-81.95. The US GDP data is the next key trigger for the traders to watch out for, till then the range for the rupee can be seen in 81.75-82.10," Trivedi said. The dol-



lar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.06 per cent to 101.40. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures declined 0.39 per cent to USD 82.41 per barrel. On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share BSE Sensex advanced 74.61 points or 0.12 per cent to end at 60,130.71 points and the broader NSE Nifty gained 25.85 points or 0.15 per cent to 17,769.25 points. Foreign institutional investors were net sellers in the capital market on Monday as they offloaded shares worth Rs 412.27 crore, as per exchange data.

## Indusind Bank Q4 net profit rises 46 pc on lower provisions, strong core income

Mumbai, Apr 25:

Private sector lender Indusind Bank on Monday reported a 46 per cent jump in its March quarter net profit at Rs 2,043 crore on a dip in provisions and stronger core income. The Hinduja-promoted bank's core net interest income rose 17 per cent to Rs 4,669 crore on a 21 per cent loan growth and a 0.08 per cent expansion in the net interest margin to 4.28 per cent. Its other income came at Rs 2,154 crore, up by 13 per cent when compared to the year-ago period. A 30 per cent dip in provisions and contingencies at Rs 1,030 crore during the quarter led to the handsome profit growth during the quarter.

## Coca-Cola reports 3 billion transactions in India in Q1, as economy remains resilient

New Delhi, Apr 25:

Euphoric over the sale of 3 billion Coca-Cola products in a country with a population of 1.4 billion in March quarter, Global CFO and President John Murphy on Monday said the Indian economy is "resilient with a strong job market and robust consumption".

The soft drinks major said it has increased availability by over 3 lakh stores in India in the first quarter, driving approximately 3 billion transactions at affordable price points. Ahead of the summer, the company also added 40,000 coolers, The Coca-Cola Company said

in its global earnings statement. "During the first quarter, the company and its bottling partners increased availability by more than 3,00,000 stores and approximately 40,000 coolers ahead of the summer season and drove approximately 3 billion transactions at affordable price points through single-serve packages and at-home entry packs," it said. India is the fifth-largest market for Coca-Cola globally.

"The company also increased household penetration via targeted promotions on large packages for the at-home channel," it said. Coca-Cola said the company along with its

bottling partners "continues to raise the bar in India in integrated execution" to deliver value for its customers and consumers.

"This integrated execution yielded strong results, as the company grew revenue ahead of transactions and grew transactions ahead of volume, while also growing value share in the sparkling soft drinks and juice categories," it said. In the Asia Pacific market, including India, Coca-Cola's unit case volume grew 10 per cent, driven by strong growth across most categories. "Growth was led by China, India and Australia," it said.

## RBI approves appointment of Kaizad Bharucha as Deputy Managing Director and Bhavesh Zaveri as ED

Mumbai, Apr 25:

The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of Mr Kaizad Bharucha as the Deputy Managing Director of HDFC Bank and Mr Bhavesh Zaveri as Executive Director of the bank for a period of three years, with effect from April 19, 2023.

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bank will be convened in due course inter alia to give effect to the above-mentioned appointments.

Mr Kaizad Bharucha is a career banker with over 35 years of experience. He has been associated with the Bank since 1995. In his current position as Executive

Director, he is responsible for Wholesale Banking covering areas of Corporate Banking, PSU, Capital & Commodities Markets, Financial Institutions, Custody, Mutual Funds, Global Capability Centre & Financial Sponsors coverage, and Banks coverage.

As Executive Director, in his earlier position, he was responsible for Corporate Banking, Emerging Corporates Group, Business Banking, Healthcare Finance, Agri lending, Tractor financing, Commercial Vehicle Finance, Commercial Equipment Finance, Infrastructure Finance, Department for Special Operations and Inclusive Banking Initiatives Group.



## Eminent Tabla Exponent Abhishek Mishra Enthralls Audience

At Pracheen Kala Kendra's Monthly Baithak Programme

Sweta Sinha

On a pleasant evening at the M.L. Koser Indoor Auditorium, music lovers in the city were treated to an amazing musical delight by eminent Tabla exponent Abhishek Mishra from New Delhi. This was on the occasion of the 283rd Monthly Baithak Programme organized by Pracheen Kala Kendra. Abhishek kept the audience enthralled by the sheer and clean beauty of his musical skills.

Abhishek Mishra is one of the uniquely gifted tabla players from the great Benaras Gharana. He belongs to a celebrated family of Pt. Dargahi Mishra & Pt. Bikku Maharaj, and is the son of Pandit Birendra Nath Mishra. He started playing tabla at the early age of three years, and his proper training was done under his grandfather Pandit Surendra Mohan Mishra. Later on, he also received guidance from Pandit Pooran Maharaj & Pandit Kumar Bose. Abhishek is a graded artist from All India Radio and Doordarshan. He has performed Tabla solos and has also performed with most of the great artists and legends in different renowned music festivals



and organizations in India and abroad.

Abhishek commenced his programme with a traditional Uthan followed by Peshkar based on the teen tal of Banaras Gharana. Then he moved on to present Kayda, Rela, Palta, etc. before the technical part consisting of gats, Chakradar, and farmaishi chakradar amidst applause. He doled out with

His tabla playing was full of energy, grace, and virtuosity. He exhibited a rare combination of technical excellence and aesthetic sensibility, making his performance truly captivating.

The Monthly Baithak Programme organized by Pracheen Kala Kendra is a platform for musicians to showcase their talent and give the audience a glimpse into the world of classical music. The programme has been organized for the past 283 months, and has become a cultural hub for the city's music enthusiasts.

Dr. Shobha Koser, SNA Awardee, Registrar and Secretary, Sh. Sajal Koser, Secretary and Tabla Guru Pt. Sushil Jain honored the artists with a bouquet, scroll of PKK and Memento. The event was a grand success and left the audience spellbound with Abhishek's mastery over the tabla.

The event was attended by music enthusiasts from all walks of life, and the audience was left mesmerized by the talent of the artists. The Monthly Baithak Programme organized by Pracheen Kala Kendra is a testament to the organization's commitment to preserving and promoting classical music.

beautiful amalgamation of Punjab and Banaras gharana compositions, and concluded his recital with crisp traditional bandishes of his Gharana. He was ably accompanied by Delhi based noted harmonium exponent Sumit Mishra on harmonium. Abhishek's performance showcased his deep understanding of the intricacies of tabla playing.

'I wanted to do something unique yet significant'



Parneet Bhatt is currently seen in Star Bharat's 'Aashao Ka Savera....Dheere Dheere Se'. He portrays the character of 'Amit' younger brother of Bhanu and part of the Shastri family. Parneet Bhatt who has portrayed some strong and impact characters in the past speaks about why he decided to take up on a supporting role in the show 'Aashao Ka Savera...Dheere Dheere Se'.

He says, "The audience began to perceive me in similar roles because I had portrayed certain well-known legendary characters in the majority of my previous performances. I therefore wanted to do something unique yet significant that would also demonstrate the other side of my acting abilities. Even though I have a very minor role in 'Aashao Ka Savera...Dheere Dheere Se' as Amit, being a part of this show itself is an opportunity because it highlights a delicate subject—the life of a widow—that not many television producers have yet addressed."

## Dulichand, the first contestant of KBC 14 urges participants to register for the 15th season of 'KBC'

"Hotseat par pohonchne ke liye uloom-juloon haathkande mat anaaiye, bas phone uthaaiye" advises mega star Amitabh Bachchan as Sony Entertainment Television opens registrations for the 15th season of the fan favourite game show, 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' (KBC). Over the years, Kaun Banega Crorepati has established a legacy for itself, and this 'knowledge-based' gameshow has served as a platform that gives the contestants fame, fortune, respect, and so much more. With its return, the show is once again ready to celebrate the true power of knowledge. And its new clutter breaking promo creates awareness for KBC enthusiasts that the simplest and the only way to reach the coveted hotseat is to answer the daily questions for registrations starting 29th April at 9:00 PM, only on Sony Entertainment Television.

Dulichand Agarwal, the first contestant of Season 14 from Durg, Chhattisgarh had been trying to get to the hotseat since the first season of the show in the year 2000. His penance of 21 years was finally answered, and he became the first contestant of the 14th season



of Kaun Banega Crorepati. He says, "The feeling of reaching the hot seat and answering the questions in front of Mr. Amitabh Bachchan is phenomenal. My penance of 21 years was completed when Mr. Bachchan called out my name to come to the hotseat. I have not only been a fan of the show, but I worship it as a

temple of knowledge and thus, I made a parikrama, right before I sat on the hotseat. It was not only fame and respect that I earned through the gameshow, but I gained a sense of fulfilment. I get goosebumps thinking about the time when Mr. Bachchan gave me twenty rupees for 'Muqadar Ka Sikandar'.



Sushmita Sen to resume filming for 'Aarya' Season 3 in Jaipur

The shooting for the third season of the series 'Aarya' resumes with actress Sushmita Sen in Jaipur. Ram Madhvani, Showrunner, co-director and the co-producer of the show, expressed his excitement as they resumed shooting for season 3. He stated, "Obstacles are merely opportunities in disguise, and Sushmita, our Aarya, has shown us how to overcome them with grace and strength." "As we resume the journey for season 3, our team at Ram Madhvani Films is brimming with excitement and enthusiasm to bring our audience a riveting narrative, power-packed performances, and an unstoppable Aarya, our Sherni, who will leave a lasting impression. We are committed to giving our best, and can't wait to showcase what we have in store for the world." The show follows the journey of Aarya, a woman who finds herself in the world of crime after her husband's murder. Sushmita, who essays the titular role, has won hearts with her performance in the previous seasons.

## Namik Paul: To me, fitness is something that makes me happy

Lag Ja Gale' actor Namik Paul, who is seen playing the role of Shiv in the show, is following a strict workout regime on a daily basis for his role.

He doesn't compromise on what he loves to eat by restricting his diet. He works out everyday to look perfect as Shiv in the daily soap. He shared: "I have always been a fitness enthusiast and I like to keep my body well maintained, but I can't stop eating the food that I love. To me, fitness is something that makes me happy, and I believe in balancing my diet and workout accordingly so that I don't have to compromise on anything. Not being content with what one eats, often leads to mood swings, so I always ensure that I do the appropriate workout while eating everything that I love and balance it out." Namik made his acting debut with 'Qubool Hai', and gained popularity with his shows such as 'Ek Duje Ke Vaaste', 'Ek Deewana Tha', among others.



The actor is currently enjoying his stint in 'Lag Ja Gale'. He added: "I will work out a bit extra if needed but won't compromise on food. I follow a strict workout regime set by my trainer which involves a mix of core workouts, CrossFit, power yoga, cardio, muscle training, and much more. I must add that a good workout session helps kick-start my day in the best way possible and sometimes, after a long, hard day, my workout regime also tends to help me unwind."

## Saiyami Kher reunites with Gulzar, to recite his poetry in her next

Actress Saiyami Kher, who worked with legendary writer-director-lyricist Gulzar in her Bollywood debut 'Mirzya', has reunited with the maestro in her upcoming movie '8 A.M. Metro'.

The movie, helmed by the director Raj R, also stars Gulshan Devaiah, and features poetry by Gulzar. The actress will be seen reciting Gulzar's poems in the film.

Sharing her experience of working again with the veteran artiste, the actress said, "8 A.M. Metro' is a beautiful story and is decorated with poetry written by Gulzar Saab. His poems bring so much life into the film. I feel lucky to have gotten a chance to mouth those poems. He was gracious enough to release the poster of the movie. I have been fortunate to start my acting career with him in Mirzya and Gulzar Saab's words and existence has left a huge impact on my life. His body of work, humility, and knowledge is so vast, all I can do is sit back and wonder how one man can do so much". Saiyami plays the role of a 29-year-old homemaker, Irvati, who leads a mundane life. But her life goes through a huge change when she has to rush to Hyderabad. That's when she meets Pritam, played by Gulshan Devaiah. She further mentioned, "I am a HUGE fan of Gulzar Saab. He unknowingly has been a big influence in my life. I feel eternally grateful that I am working with him now for the second time, it's pure joy (sic)".



## Here's how Charrul Malik celebrated her birthday!

It was actress Charrul Malik's birthday yesterday, and she had an intimate celebration this year with her family and close friends. The actress says she has a simple tradition of praying every birthday morning. "I celebrated my birthday with my family and close ones. We had a simple celebration, no pomp and show, no big party. It was a very close-knit affair. I pray to God and light up a diya. I thank God for everything he has given us. I pray for health, wellness, and peace of mind," she says.

Talking about her most memorable birthday celebration, she says, "In 2019, I gave a very big party where around 50-60 actors were there. It was good fun and was very special."

When asked about the most memorable birthday gift she has received until now, Charrul says, "There are many as my twin sister, Parul, keeps sending me a lot of stuff from the US, and we have similar choices. She sends me clothes,



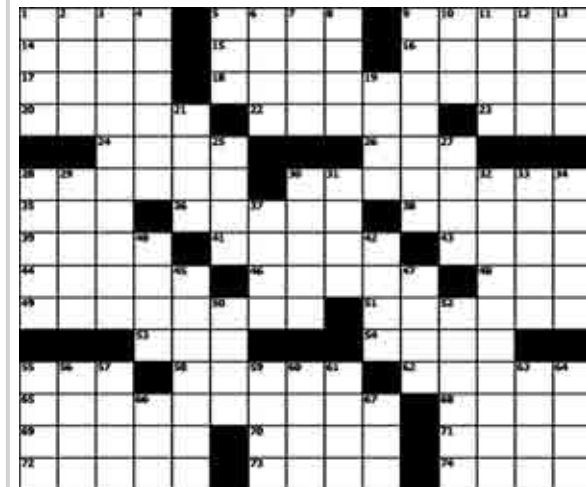
jewellery, perfumes etc., so I can't figure out one gift that is my favourite. My mom always gave me some unique clothes, and I used to shop for trending stuff. She is no more, but I still have those 20-year-old tops, and they are still in good condition, and I wear those sometimes. I have some things that I still wear, which my mom gave me."

Age is just a number, and Charrul says she never gives it too much importance. "Aging is natural, so why think about it? We should think about our experiences and be healthy. Age should not be discussed at all. I don't think much. Just keep thinking positively. My goal is to do some good movies and explore different roles as an actor," she says. Charrul Malik is currently seen in Sanjay and Binaiferr Kohli's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai.

Watch Charrul Malik as Rusa in &TV's Happu Ki Ultan Paltan and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, airing every Monday to Friday at 10:00 pm and 10:30 pm!

## CROSSWORD

627



### ACROSS

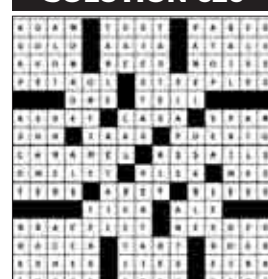
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- Understands
- Passover feast
- Roof part
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- Treasure \_\_\_\_\_
- Periods in history
- Available to anyone
- Jeans fabric
- Room

### DOWN

- Nourish
- Barely cooked
- Billy Graham, e.g.
- Want
- Large antelope
- Agnes and ages
- Canvas cover
- Mets' old stadium
- Guided
- Do the wrong thing
- Peace symbol
- Nights before holidays
- Lipstick shades
- Kilt wearer
- Relocate
- Common contraction
- Certain star
- Fable collector

- Coins from Mexico
- Liveliness
- Made a witty reply
- Orb
- \_\_\_\_\_ culpa
- Fly
- Fin. fund
- Slope
- Rubbish
- Fix
- Talented
- Rock star \_\_\_\_\_ John
- Aware of
- Bridge coup
- Bowler's button
- Look closely
- Bastes
- Greasy streak
- Embarkment
- Assisted
- Telescope glass
- Broken
- No way!
- Vine fruit
- Mellow
- Hover
- Pitch
- In attendance
- Dog's name
- Bath powder
- Pester
- Bakery worker
- Function
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- On
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- Lug
- Shredded cabbage
- Skirt bottoms
- Fish eggs
- Neither's companion

### SOLUTION 626





## Rahane back in Indian team for WTC final

**Suryakumar and Kuldeep dropped**

New Delhi, Apr 25 (PTI):

Ajinkya Rahane, who has added a dash of aggression to his batting style, made a comeback to the Indian team on Tuesday for the World Test Championship (WTC) final against Australia as the BCCI announced a 15-man squad for the one-off contest. The WTC final will be played in London at the Oval from June 7 to 11. Aggressive batter Suryakumar Yadav, spinner Kuldeep Yadav and young stumper-batter Ishan Kishan, who were all part of the home series against Australia, have been dropped for the contest. BCCI's five-man selection panel, secretary Jay Shah along with skipper Rohit Sharma and Rahul Dravid met on Monday evening to decide on the squad. Rahane's comeback after 15 months was on predictable lines following Shreyas Iyer's back injury that ruled him out of the grand



finale. Iyer recently underwent a surgery in the UK to treat

### India's Test squad

Rohit Sharma (Captain), Shubman Gill, Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli, Ajinkya Rahane, K L Rahul, KS Bharat (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Shardul Thakur, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Umesh Yadav and Jaydev Unadkat.

stress fractures in his lower back. That Rahane was in contention was reported by PTI in its report on April 10. Rahane last played a Test in January, 2022 against South Africa in Cape Town. His selection has more to do with carrying enough experienced batters in the line-up as Indian teams have had their share of struggles in SENA countries during one off games like these. The 34-year-old, who led Mumbai during entire domestic season, scored nearly 700 runs but what stood out was how he has improved his attacking game in the IPL and is looking more purposeful than ever before with a strike-

rate of 190 in seven games so far. The rest of the squad led by Rohit Sharma was on predictable lines. However there is no designated vice captain for the WTC final although it is expected that Cheteshwar Pujara, who was Sharma's deputy in the last two Test matches against Australia at home, would be asked to do the job again. Pujara is currently leading Sussex in the English County Championship. KS Bharat is the only specialist wicketkeeper in the 15-man squad, while young Kishan, Kuldeep and Suryakumar, lost their place in the squad. There are at least four bowling all-rounders in the squad including Ravindra Jadeja, Ravichandran Ashwin, Axar Patel and Shardul Thakur. With the Oval usually assisting spinners during later stages of the game, a second slow bowler could come in handy. Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj along with Shardul Thakur will be in contention for first three seam bowling slots.

## Struggling KKR seek change of fortunes against RCB

Bengaluru, Apr 25 (PTI):

Kolkata Knight Riders will be desperate to bring their flagging campaign back on track while Royal Challengers Bangalore will look to shrug off the overdependence on its top three batters when the two teams clash in the IPL here on Wednesday.

The two-time champions have looked clueless in their last four outings, losing at home while also on the road. The Nitish Rana-led side is currently at seventh spot with just two wins from seven games.

The losses can largely be pegged down to the shoddy performance by KKR batters. They are missing their regular skipper Shreyas Iyer and star all-rounder Shakib-Al-Hasan.

In the 49-run loss against Chennai Super Kings on Sunday, KKR batters were expected to rise to the occasion, chasing a 230 plus score, instead the top-order, comprising the likes of Venkatesh Iyer, Rana and N Jagadeesan



KKR cricketers during a training session.

crumbled under pressure. KKR have also struggled to zero in on their opening pair. The former champions have shuffled around with Sunil Narine, Jagadeesan, Litton Das, Jason Roy and Rahmanullah Gurbaz at the top. Their decision to send Narine to open the innings

along side Jagadeesan against CSK failed as the West Indian departed for a duck. Had it not been for Roy and Rinku Singh's fifties the margin of defeat would have been worse.

Meanwhile, RCB will be high on confidence after eking out a seven-run win over the then table toppers Rajasthan Royals and

Match starts: 7:30pm IST.

would be eager to extend their winning streak. Faf du Plessis and his troops have won four of their seven games, including the last two, and find themselves just outside of the top four in the fifth spot. Du Plessis has been in sublime form and has raised several century-stands with Virat Kohli and Glenn Maxwell, who are also in good nick. More is expected from the middle-order comprising Dinesh Karthik, Mahipal Lomror, Shahbaz Ahmed and Suyash Prabhudessai.

Among bowlers, Mohammed Siraj has been in sensational form. The Purple Cap holder has conceded at 7.17 runs per over and has bowled the most dot balls - 89 this season. Siraj is being ably supported by Wayne Parnell and Harshal Patel. The addition of Sri Lankan spinner Wanindu Hasaranga has also done wonders for the previously struggling RCB bowling unit.

## Ireland reaches highest Test score of 492 vs Sri Lanka

Galle (Sri Lanka), Apr 25 (AP):

Ireland took full advantage of ideal batting conditions and a tired Sri Lankan bowling attack to pile up 492 all out before the hosts responded by reaching 81-0 at stumps on day two of the second Test on Tuesday. Nishan Madushka was unbeaten on 41 in only his third test match, and Sri Lanka skipper Dimuth Kurunaratne remained not out on 39 when play was suspended 30 minutes before the scheduled close due to bad light and rain.

Earlier, Ireland reached its highest Test score by a distance, surpassing their previous best of 339 against Pakistan in 1998 in Dublin. The Sri Lankan bowling looked uninspired for the best part of the day and was sent on a leather hunt by Paul Stirling (103) and Curtis Campher (111) who scored their maiden centuries. They joined Kevin O'Brien and Lorcan Tucker as Irish Test centurions in the country's short Test cricket history.

Although they lost Tucker for 80 early in the day, bowled by Vishwa Fernando, the Irish counter-attack continued with Stirling and Campher dominating the morning session. Stirling then fell soon after hitting his ton, half an hour before lunch break.



Ireland's Curtis Campher celebrates after scoring a century.

Sharath, Manika to spearhead challenges at World TT in Durban

Jalandhar, Apr 25 (PTI):

Birmingham Commonwealth Games gold medallist Sharath Kamal and Manika Batra, the top-ranked Indian women player, will spearhead an 11-member Indian squad at the 2023 World Table Tennis Championships in Durban from May 20 to 28. The team comprises five men and six women.

The 59th edition of the Worlds will be confined only to the team championships and the first in Africa since 1939 when Egypt hosted the event.

The selection committee of Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) considered the latest selection policy, experience and the utility value of the individuals in important events such as the Worlds before recommending the members to represent the country.

The men's team will consist of the top-ranked Indian in the world, G. Sathyan, ranked No. 50, A. Sharath Kamal (No. 55), Manush Shah, Harmeet Desai and Manav Thakkar; while Manika Batra (No. 40), Sreeja Akula, Sutirtha Mukherjee, Reeth Rishya, Archana Kamath and Diya Chitale will form the women's squad. Sathyan, Sharath, Manush, and Harmeet will compete in the men's singles and the doubles. Sathyan will pair up with Sharath, while Manush and Harmeet will form the second pair.

## Chapman's century stuns Pakistan; NZ draw level in T20 series



Mark Chapman celebrates after scoring a century.

Rawalpindi, Apr 25 (PTI):

Mark Chapman pummeled a belligerent maiden T20 century to resurrect a second-string New Zealand team to a sensational series-levelling victory against Pakistan.

Chapman, who shelved a scarcely believable career-best 57-ball 104 not out, combined with Jimmy Neesham (45) to overhaul the 194-run target and stun Pakistan in the fifth and final T20 match here on Monday. In doing so, the visitors

pulled off their second-highest run chase against Pakistan in the game's shortest format.

This was also New Zealand's 100th T20 win, one that will surely be etched in the annals of their cricketing history in the years to come. More so because of the dire circumstances that they had found themselves half-way through an arduous chase.

Stuttering at 73/4 in the 10th over, it seemed like an insurmountable task for the Black Caps, before Chapman and Neesham turned the tables with an incredible counterattack that left the Pakistanis in utter dismay. The commanding 121-run partnership, which came in a shade over 9 overs helped New Zealand script the remarkable turnaround.

New Zealand came back from losing the first two matches in Lahore to square the series 2-2.

The fourth match was washed out due to rain. "One of the best innings a lot of us have ever seen. Hats off to Chapman," New Zealand captain Tom Latham said after the match.

"They (Neesham and Chapman) just worked out their partnership really well and kept piling the pressure back on the opponents. It's mightily satisfying that we ended with a series draw after being 2-0 down," he added.

## Top Indian stars, including Sindhu, eye good show



### At Asia Championships

Dubai, Apr 25 (PTI):

Top Indian shuttlers, including double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu, will hope to find their rhythm as they begin their campaign in the main draw of the Asia Badminton Championships, here on Wednesday.

The 40th edition of the prestigious continental competition started here on

Tuesday with the qualifying rounds, while the main draw comprising all the top players will happen only from Wednesday. It will be a tough task for India to return with a medal, considering most of the top players have been struggling with rhythm and form this season. India have so far won 17 medals at ABC with Dinesh Khanna claiming the lone gold in 1965 and the likes of Sindhu, Prannoy and Lakshya will have to really play out of their skins to break the title drought.

## Wrestlers' protest take political colour

### Farmer leaders also support athletes

New Delhi, Apr 25 (PTI):

Several politicians, including former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, and 'khap' leaders on Tuesday met with the protesting wrestlers and extended their support to them.

Hooda, Udit Raj, another Congress leader, CPI(M) leader Brinda Karat, who was stopped from joining the stir by the wrestlers in January, were welcomed by the wrestlers, a day after they had sought support from all quarters. Hooda spent about 35 minutes with the wrestlers at the Jantar Mantar, where the grapplers had started their protest in January, demanding the removal of Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) President Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, who was ac-



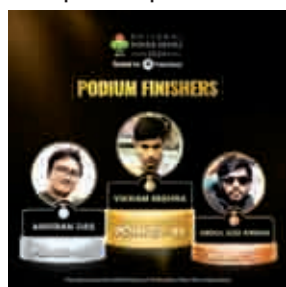
Wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik at a press conference during their protest at Jantar Mantar, in New Delhi, Tuesday, April 25.

used of sexual harassment and intimidation by them. While Hooda did not speak, Raj asked the protesting wrestlers to stick to their cause, like the farmers did against the farm laws and said, "You will emerge victorious". The Bharat Kisan Union (BKU) representative also joined the wrestlers' stir.

A few kids, including one from Bhopal, offered their piggy bank, containing their

savings, to the wrestlers. Bajrang Punia, while thanking them, said, "You have big hearts." Earlier in day, the Supreme Court issued notices to the Delhi government and others on a plea by seven women wrestlers alleging non-registration of an FIR on their sexual harassment allegations against Sharan, saying these are "serious allegations" requiring its consideration.

National Poker Series India draws to a close with record participation



New Delhi, Apr 25:

National Poker Series India (NPS) 2023 - India's coveted poker series hosted on PokerBaazi witnessed an exhilarating finish to its 3rd edition after a gruelling 18-days as three top poker talents of the country battled out to achieve glory and a ticket to Las Vegas to represent India on the global stage.

Outpacing intense competition, Vikram Mishra from Darbhanga, Bihar emerged victorious with a total tally of three gold medals and two silver medals (Medal Leaderboard) registering 40 points. The finish for a podium spot heated up as Anirban Das from Haryana pipped Uttar Pradesh's Abdul Aziz Ansari for the second spot after both players registered a tally of three golds and a silver medal but were separated from the number of hands played between them.

In a total of 107 tournaments to participate in, the 2023 edition broke previous records by registering more than a 25% increase in the total number of entries from 96,000 (in 2022) to over 1.25 lacs.

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## High-stakes Delhi mayoral poll today

New Delhi, Apr 25 (PTI):

Stage is set for the high-stakes Delhi mayoral election on Wednesday which will be a direct contest between incumbent Shelly Oberoi from the AAP and BJP leader Shikha Rai.

The AAP is the ruling party in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). The two candidates, current mayor Oberoi and BJP's Rai, had earlier filed their nominations for the Delhi mayoral poll slated to be held on April 26, officials had said.

Oberoi was elected as the Delhi mayor on February 22. She had defeated BJP's Rekha Gupta by a margin of 34 votes. Oberoi polled 150 votes, while Gupta received 116

of the total 266 votes polled.

The voting was held at the Civic Centre the headquarters of the MCD, where the fresh mayoral poll will be held.

The post of mayor in the national capital sees five single-year terms on a rotational basis, with the first year reserved for women, the second for the open category, the third for the reserved category and the remaining two again for the open category. The city gets a new mayor after the end of a financial year.

Oberoi will continue to hold charge till a new mayor is elected, official sources said on April 3.

Aam Aadmi Party's Oberoi and Aaley Mohammad Iqbal filed

their nominations earlier this month for the posts of mayor and deputy mayor for a possible second consecutive term, with the Arvind Kejriwal-led party exuding confidence that its candidates are poised for a win.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) too has entered the fray and senior party leader Rai, the councillor from the Greater Kailash-1 ward, is its candidate for the mayoral poll. Four nominations were received by the municipal secretary's office two each for the posts of mayor and deputy mayor. The last day for filing nominations for the mayoral poll was April 18.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva has nominated second-time

councillor Rai for the mayoral poll. Sachdeva has also nominated Soni Pandey, an activist of the Purvanchal Morcha and the councillor from ward number 249, for the deputy mayor's post.

Former North Delhi mayor Jai Prakash said the presiding officer for the mayoral poll will be chosen by the lieutenant governor.

"Once the term of a mayor ends, the new mayor is to be elected at the first MCD meeting, according to the norm. Similar is the process to elect the deputy mayor. After the start of the financial year 2023-24, the meeting scheduled to be held on April 26 will be the first one in the new financial year," he said.

## PM WITH CHRISTIAN LEADERS



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets the leaders of various Christian organisations, at Taj Malabar Hotel, in Kochi, Tuesday.

## Kedarnath shrine opens for devotees amid inclement weather

Kedarnath (Ukhand), Apr 25 (PTI):

The portals of Kedarnath shrine opened after a winter break on Tuesday morning, with thousands of pilgrims braving sub-zero temperatures in the snow-covered town to offer prayers at the Himalayan temple.

Temple chief priest Rawal Bhima Shankar Ling opened the gates of the temple amid rituals and chanting of shlokas.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who offered prayers at the temple, said, "The first 'puja' was done on behalf of Prime Minister Narendra Modi under whose leadership a grand Kedarpuri has been built".

Due to bad weather, the journey to Kedarnath is a little difficult and challenging at present but it will become smooth in a few days as the weather improves, he told reporters here.



Devotees during the opening of the doors of the Kedarnath Temple, in Rudrapur district, Tuesday.

ister advised pilgrims en route to the temple to proceed only after updating themselves about the weather so that they do not face any problem.

"The state government is working consistently to improve the facilities in Kedarnath and make the pilgrimage safer and easier for devotees. It will soon be linked with a ropeway whose foundation stone

was laid by the prime minister last year," he said.

BJP MLA from Kedarnath, Shailarani Rawat and Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee (BKTC) chairman Ajendra Ajay accompanied the chief minister to the shrine.

The pilgrims were showered with flower petals from a helicopter on the occasion.

## '54 expatriates from Andhra identified in Sudan, 34 reach safety'

Amaravati, Apr 25 (PTI):

As many as 34 of the 54 expatriates with origins from Andhra Pradesh currently stuck in violence-hit Sudan have been found to be safe, AP Non-Resident Telugu Society (APNRTS) president Medapati Venkat said on Tuesday.

Officials from the government-run society confirmed that the 34 expatriates have already reached Port Sudan by the coast of the Red Sea and they are expected to proceed further to a safer place.

Though the remaining 20 people could not get in touch with APNRTS, Venkat said efforts were underway to reach out them and noted that they could be just 30 kilometres from conflict zone, hinting that all of them are safe.

"We could not get in touch with them due to telecom signal issues," he said, adding that the society is reaching out on behalf of the Andhra

Pradesh government.

According to Venkat, all the 54 are not at the same place but APNRTS has created a Whatsapp group for them to stay in touch.

Incidentally, the Central government contacted the society through AP Bhavan in Delhi two days ago asking for information on stranded people or any distress calls from the African nation.

Venkat said they have provided all the information and also wrote to the Indian Embassy two times to ensure the safety of the expatriates.

Further, all the 54 have been directed to register themselves with the local embassy to avail evacuation from there as and when it is possible, he added. India on Monday launched 'Operation Kaveri' to bring back its nationals from Sudan that has been witnessing fierce fighting following a power struggle between the regular army and a paramilitary force.

## Bengal introduces centralised online system

● For admission to UG courses

Kolkata, Apr 25 (PTI):

The West Bengal government has introduced a centralised online system for admission to undergraduate courses in all state-run, aided or affiliated colleges and universities for the 2023-24 academic session, a notification said.

The single-window platform will allow students to choose their preferred colleges and eliminate the need to pay admission fees multiple times in various institutions to block seats.

In the notification issued on Monday, Principal Secretary Manish Jain said that the online admission system will be maintained and operated by the West Bengal State Council of Higher Education and there will be a dedicated bank account of the council to deposit admission

fees. The council will transfer the admission fees to the respective educational institution within one month from the date of completion of the admission process, it said.

The notification, however, said the Higher Education Department may at its discretion keep any course or institution out of the purview of the centralised admission portal. The government said that the centralised admission system was implemented seeing the plight of the students, who had to apply in various colleges and universities by registering themselves on online portals of different institutions and paying separate application fees.

"A student had to take admission in a particular college within a specific time-frame, block the seat and apply in other institutions where admissions began later. As a result, the

student had to pay multiple admission fees in various colleges and faced problems in getting refund from institutions he or she did not take admission finally," the notice stated.

The notification said that considering the need for uniformity and transparency in the admission system of colleges and universities under the administrative control of the Higher Education Department, it wanted to give opportunity to every student to choose the course he or she wanted to study. "We are prepared. The move will minimise the possibility of a student not getting admission to his or her college and subject of choice as the seats will hopefully not be blocked. We hope that the dates for opening and closure of admissions on the portal will be the same for all institutions," Lady Brabourne College principal Siuli Sarkar said.

## AI helps scientists detect exoplanet

New Delhi, Apr 25 (PTI):

Researchers used machine learning tools, a kind of artificial intelligence (AI), and now has confirmed evidence of previously unknown exoplanet.

The researchers from University of Georgia (UGA), US, said that their study showed machine learning to correctly determine the presence of exoplanets by looking in protoplanetary disks, the gas around newly formed stars.

They said their findings, published in The Astrophysical Journal, represented a first step toward using machine learning to identify previously overlooked exoplanets.

"We confirmed the planet using traditional techniques, but our models directed us to run those simulations and showed us exactly where the planet might be," said Jason Terry, doctoral student in the UGA Franklin College of Arts and Sciences department of physics and astronomy and lead author on the study.

"When we applied our models to a set of older observations, they identified a disk that wasn't known to have a planet despite having already been analysed. Like previous discoveries, we ran simulations of the disk and found that a planet could re-create the observation," said Terry. According to

Terry, the models suggested a planet's presence, indicated by several images that strongly highlighted a particular region of the disk that turned out to have the characteristic sign of a planet - an unusual deviation in the velocity of the gas near the planet.

"This is an incredibly exciting proof of concept. We knew from our previous work that we could use machine learning to find known forming exoplanets," said Cassandra Hall, assistant professor of computational astrophysics and principal investigator of the Exoplanet and Planet Formation Research Group at UGA.

"Now, we know for sure that we can use it to make brand new discoveries,"

said Hall.

The models were able to detect a signal in data that people had already analysed; they found something that previously had gone undetected.

The researchers said that their study is an example of how engaging AI can enhance scientists' work by expanding researchers' accuracy and efficiently economising their time.

"This demonstrates that our models - and machine learning in general - have the ability to quickly and accurately identify important information that people can miss. This has the potential to dramatically speed up analysis and subsequent theoretical insights," Terry said.

## Lakhs of baby Olive Ridley turtles crawl towards sea

● From Odisha's Gahirmatha beach

Kendrapara (Odisha), Apr 25 (PTI):

Lakhs of baby Olive Ridley turtles broke out of their eggshells and crawled towards the Bay of Bengal without their mothers at Gahirmatha beach in Odisha's Kendrapara district.

The mass hatching, which is underway over

the last three days, marks the culmination of the annual sojourn of the Olive Ridley turtles.

'Arribada' or the annual journey of the Olive Ridley turtles to Gahirmatha, the world's largest nesting site for the aquatic species, to lay eggs ended on March 9, with as many as 5.12 lakh female turtles turning up this year, officials said.

"The hatching of Olive Ridley turtles lasts for

seven to 10 days. The number of babies breaking out of their shells would swell considerably over the next few days," an official of the Rajnagar Mangrove (Wildlife) Division said.

The site has been made off the limits for tourists and only forest officials of Bhitarkanika National Park were witness to the annual event.

"The tiny turtles broke out of the eggshells and

wandered aimlessly on the beach for an hour before making their way to the sea," a forest personnel said.

"The newborns make a hissing sound, which gets amplified to a soothing cacophony as lakhs of hatchlings cry out together," he said.

The mother turtles bury the eggs beneath the sand and the eggs receive natural incubation, hatching after 45-55 days.

## Ex-MP jailed in IAS officer murder to be freed

Patna, Apr 25 (PTI):

Former Bihar MP Anand Mohan, who is serving a life sentence in the killing of IAS officer G Krishnaiah, is to be set free along with 26 others who have been lodged in different prisons of the state for more than 14 years. A notification to the effect was issued late Monday evening, when, incidentally, Mohan, who has been on parole, was celebrating the engagement of his son Chetan Anand, who is a sitting MLA of the ruling RJD in the state.

Talking to reporters, Mohan expressed his gratitude towards Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, who along with his deputy Tejashwi Yadav, was among the attendees at the gala function organised on the outskirts of Patna.

Without mentioning BSP supremo Mayawati by name, Mohan lashed out at "those who are making an issue out of the unfortunate death of G Krishnaiah". The Telangana-born Dalit IAS officer, who was then the district magistrate of Gopalganj, was beaten to death by a mob in 1994, while his vehicle was passing



Anand Mohan

tending his son's wedding in Dehradun, said, "All these years, others have been mere spectators. The sufferers have been my wife Lovely and the family members of G Krishnaiah. I wonder if those who are making noise over my release from jail, have ever cared to wipe the tears of the family members of the slain IAS officer".

Mayawati's outbursts over "tweaking" of rules for allegedly facilitating the release of Mohan have been followed by similar charges from Amit Malaviya, who heads the BJP's IT cell.

JD(U) president Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan reacted, saying "after first getting its B-team (an indirect reference to the BSP supremo), the BJP has now come out in the open on the issue of Anand Mohan's release".

"Anand Mohan has served his jail term and the Nitish Kumar government has removed a discriminatory clause which prevented some of the prisoners from securing release. It is in line with our leader's policy of framing no innocent person and sparing nobody

who is guilty," said Lalan.

Notably, the law department's notification follows a recent amendment in rules in which those convicted for serious crimes like killing of a government servant or rape were not to be released even after completing 14 years in prison. Besides Mohan, those whose release has been ordered include former RJD MLA Raj Ballabh Yadav, who has been convicted of raping a minor girl, and Awadhesh Mandal, an ex-legislator of JD(U), named in many criminal cases, whose wife Bima Bharti is an ex-minister.

## CELEBRATION TIME



School girls jubilate after UP Board declared class 10th and 12th exam result, in Prayagraj, Tuesday.

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