

BRIEF

Priyanka sounds poll bugle in Chh'garh

Slams earlier BJP rule for 'corruption, hunger, fear'

Jagdalpur, Apr 13:

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Thursday sounded poll bugle in Chhattisgarh, asking the people of the state to repose their faith in her party again and hitting out at the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Speaking at a gathering at Lalbag Maidan in Jagdalpur city, the headquarters of the Bastar district, she said Bastar, earlier known for Naxalite violence, has now become a "brand" and "you (tribals of the region) have got identity across the country and abroad because of your handicrafts, other arts and processed food products." Assembly polls are due in the Congress-ruled state this year.

During the event, titled 'Bharose Ka Sammelan', she and Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched the Adivasi Parab Samman Nidhi Yojana under which financial assistance will be provided to Gram Panchayats in the scheduled areas for organising tribal festivals, fairs and religious programs.

(More news on Pg 03 & 04)



AICC General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and others being garlanded during the 'Bharose Ka Sammelan', organised by Congress, in Bastar district, Thursday.

CM issues grants to 1840 panchayats

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel issued grants of Rs. 5000 to all 1840 Village Panchayats of the Bastar division in the presence of the special guest Priyanka Gandhi. Every Village Panchayat will receive an annual amount of Rs. 10 thousand in two installments. Under the scheme, the State Government will provide a grant amount to Village Panchayats for the dignified celebration of tribal festivals. The scheme has been implemented in all scheduled areas of the state.

Announcements made by CM

- "Indira Gandhi Women's Cooperative Bank" will be established in the Bastar division HQ's in Jagdalpur.
- The Government Adarsh Mahila Mahavidyalay Narayanpur will be renamed Veerangana Ramotin Madia Shaskiya Adarsh Mahila Mahavidyalay Narayanpur.
- Narayanpur Agriculture College and Research Center Kerlapal will be renamed after the founder of Ghotul as "Lingo Mudiyal Agriculture College and Research Center Kerlapal Narayanpur"
- Dantewada Government College Katekalyan will be renamed "Hidma Majhi Government College Katekalyan".
- Bijapur Government College Bhairamgarh will be renamed "Dhurvarao Madia Government College Bhairamgarh".

ED books BBC India for FEMA violations

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has registered a case under FEMA against BBC India for alleged foreign exchange violations and called its staffers for questioning following which a deputy managing editor of the broadcasting company deposed on Thursday, official sources said.

The action by the central agency comes nearly two months after the Income-Tax department surveyed the office premises of the British Broadcaster in Delhi and Mumbai in February.

According to officials, the case under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) was registered nearly two weeks ago to essentially probe purported foreign direct investment (FDI) violations by the company and related instances.

The ED has called for documents and the recording of statements of some company executives and a team of lawyers representing the company has already submitted some financial documents last week, they added. There was no immediate reaction from the broadcaster. Reacting to the ED action, Congress spokesperson Anshul Avijit said, "We know the atmosphere that is being created by the Orwellian sort of state here where the freedom of expression and press has completely been clamped down."

JHANSI ENCOUNTER

Atiq Ahmad's son, accomplice killed



Police personnel at the site of the encounter in which jailed mafia Atiq Ahmad's son Asad was killed by the UP STF, in Jhansi, Thursday.

Lucknow, Apr 13:

Gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad's son Asad and an accomplice, both wanted in the Umesh Pal murder case, were killed in an encounter with the Uttar Pradesh Police in Jhansi on Thursday, officials said.

"Asad and Ghulam were wanted in the Umesh Pal murder case of Prayagraj and were carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh each. They were killed in an encounter with an UP STF team," said Special Director General (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar. "Sophisticated foreign made weapons were re-

'Oppn wants high-level probe'

Opposition parties in Uttar Pradesh raised questions on the killing of gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad's son Asad and his aide in a police encounter in Jhansi on Thursday and demanded a high-level probe to bring out the facts before people. SP chief Akhilesh Yadav alleged that the BJP government was trying to divert attention from real issues with "fake encounters" and BSP supremo Mayawati said the killing could be a repeat of "Vikas Dubey incident".

'Justice served'

Umesh Pal's family thanked Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and the police administration. "Whatever they have done is right. He (the CM) has punished the killer of his daughter's husband. I express my gratitude. He is like a father. Justice has been done," Jaya Pal told the media. She hoped strict action would be taken against the other accused. "I leave that (action) to the government. The government is giving me justice," she added. Umesh Pal's mother said the two gunners (Asad and his aide) had "committed a sin". "They have been punished today. We have faith, we will get complete justice," she added.

UMESH PAL MURDER CASE

Court allows 5-day police custody of Atiq, brother

A Prayagraj court on Thursday sent gangster-politician Atiq Ahmad and his brother Ashraf to 14-day judicial custody and also allowed five-day police remand in connection with the Umesh Pal murder case. The two were produced before Chief Judicial Magistrate Dinesh Gautam at 11:10 am amid heavy security and they remained in the court for over two hours as the arguments proceeded. Ahmad and Ashraf alias Khalid Azim will be kept in judicial custody till April 26, said advocate Vikram Singh, the counsel for Umesh Pal's wife Jaya. Singh said after arguments on the application submitted by police seeking their custody were completed, the court allowed five-day police remand of the duo which will remain effective till evening of April 17.



covered from the accused. Further details are awaited," he said, adding the Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force team was led by deputy superintendents of police Navendu Kumar and Vimal Kumar.

Website

Mumbai: The government is mulling blocking websites transmitting pirated content, Union Information and Broadcasting Secretary Apurva Chandra said on Thursday. Stressing that the government is serious about curbing piracy, Chandra said it has already proposed to make filming of content for piracy as an offence, and is now looking to add another provision on transmitting such pirated content.

Greet

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday greeted citizens on the eve of Vaisakhi, Vishu, Rongali Bihu, Naba Barsha, Vaisakhadi and Puthandu Pirappu which are being celebrated on April 14 and 15, an official statement said. "On the auspicious occasion of Vaisakhi, Vishu, Rongali Bihu, Naba Barsha, Vaisakhadi and Putandu Pirappu, I extend my heartiest greetings and best wishes to all Indians living in the country and abroad," Murmu said.

Order on Rahul's plea to stay conviction on April 20

Surat, Apr 13 (PTI):

A sessions court here on Thursday said it would pronounce on April 20 the order on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's plea for a stay to his conviction in a criminal defamation case over his "Modi surname" remark, made exactly four years ago during a poll rally.

After hearing arguments from both sides, additional sessions judge R P Mogera said he will pronounce the order on April 20. A metropolitan magistrate's court in Surat had on March 23

Trial not fair, no need for maximum punishment

Rahul Gandhi's lawyer on Thursday argued in a court in Gujarat's Surat that the trial in a defamation case over the Congress leader's "Modi surname" remark was "not fair" and there was no need for maximum punishment in the case. The lawyer made the argument during a hearing currently underway on Gandhi's plea for a stay on his conviction in the defamation case.

sented the Congress leader to two years in jail after holding him guilty for

his remark "how come all thieves have Modi as the common surname", made during an election rally in 2019. Gandhi, who was disqualified as Member of Parliament after the conviction, filed an appeal before the sessions court here against the verdict.

He also prayed for a stay to the conviction in the meantime. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Purnesh Modi, the complainant in the case, opposed Gandhi's plea for a stay in his reply, saying the Congress leader was a "repetitive offender".

India witnesses over 10,000 new Covid cases

19 more deaths recorded

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

India witnessed a single-day rise of 10,158 coronavirus cases, highest in nearly eight months, while 19 more deaths were recorded including four reconciled by Kerala on Thursday. According to the latest Union Health Ministry data the number of active cases has increased to 44,998. With the 19 more fatalities, the death toll due to the virus has increased to 5,31,035. The new recorded deaths included nine from Maharashtra, two from Gujarat and one each from Delhi, Kerala, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu and four reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

SC TO CENTRE

'File comprehensive affidavit' On pleas related to coal block allocation in Chh'garh

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Supreme Court on Thursday sought a comprehensive affidavit from the Centre on the pleas related to a coal block allocation in Chhattisgarh to the Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL) and mining operations by Adani Enterprise Limited (AEL). "We need a comprehensive statement on what has happened. We require a statement from the Union of India," a bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud said. "We direct the Union of India to file a comprehensive affidavit indicating the status of all matters. This shall be carried out within a period of two weeks," the bench said in its order.

Weather
High 41 Low 25

MARKET
NIFTY 17,828.00
SENSEX 60,431.00

BULLION
GOLD 61,113
SILVER 76,562

विनम्र श्रद्धांगलि

स्व. प्रकाशचंद्रजी माहेश्वरी
जन्म : 15-11-1940 महाप्रयाण : 14-4-2005

धर्मयुक्तं सदादरं चित्तं पुरुषो कर्म हिते रतः ।
इच्छा बुद्धि प्रयासेन भवति प्राण प्रकाशकम् ॥

जो पुरुष अपने चित्त को सदा भावनामय तथा धर्म युक्त रखते हुए हितकारक कर्मों में लगा रहता है, वह इच्छा, बुद्धि और प्रयास से प्राणों को प्रकाशित करने वाला हो जाता है.

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DAY 1 PATIENT ADMISSION & CT SCAN ROBOT PRE PLANING

DAY 2 MORNING : ROBOTIC SURGERY EVENING : FIRST WALK AFTER 6 HOURS OF SURGERY

DAY 3 PATIENT STAIRS CLIMBING

DAY 4 PATIENT THERAPY SESSION

DAY 5 PATIENT DISCHARGE

हमारे अनुभवी विशेषज्ञों की टीम

डॉ. राम खेमका (M.S Ortho), डॉ. प्रीतम अजवाल (Robotic Joint Replacement Surgeon and Arthroscopic Surgeon), डॉ. सुनील खेमका (HOD, Department of Orthopaedics), डॉ. मनीन्द्र भूषण (M.S (Ortho) FNB (Spine Surgery)), डॉ. अमवरीश वर्मा (M.S (Ortho))

सभी गवर्नमेंट योजनाओं, कॉर्पोरेट संस्थाओं एवं इंडस्ट्रियल कंपनियों से मान्यता प्राप्त

गंज मंडी के पास, देवेन्द्र नगर, सेक्टर-5 के पीछे, पंडरी, रायपुर | वेबसाइट : www.snh.org.in | संपर्क करें - 9300373737

Collector asks officers to coordinate with farmers for crop insurance and claims

Rs 8 crores premium paid; Rs 45 crores claims disbursed

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena discussed the status of the implementation of various schemes during a meeting of department heads on Thursday. The departmental heads of agriculture, horticulture, mandi, Seed Corporation, fishery and veterinary participated in the meeting.

The Collector reviewed the works of the Agriculture Department and discussed the crop insurance scheme. The Collector found that even the farmers who get crop insurance are deprived of the benefits of insurance.

The concerned officer informed that in case of crop loss, the insurance registered farmer has to inform the insurance com-



pany and the officer of the concerned department about it. After that the concerned officers visit the field to inspect the condition of the crops and prepare a report and take advance action for the insurance claim.

During the discussion, it came to light that many farmers are deprived of insurance claims due to lack of information or complexity. The Collector asked the concerned officials to maintain a list of farmers who got each crop insured and provide assis-

tance to the farmers for their insurance claims if their crops have been damaged due to calamities and other reasons.

In order to improve both the registration and claim status of insurance and ensure maximum advantage to the farmers, the officers will conduct door-to-door campaigns and provide information related to the scheme and the required documents. According to the figures presented by the department, farmers have received claims of Rs 47

crore against the crop insurance premium of Rs 8 crore.

Collector clearly ordered the concerned officer for 100 percent participation of farmers in crop insurance. Apart from this, the Collector also discussed about Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, organic farming, millet production, Kisan Samridhhi Yojana, Kisan Samman Nidhi, Atma Yojana, Akti Beej Samvardhan Yojana etc.

In the meeting, discussions were held with the

Fisheries Department, in which the Deputy Director of the Fisheries Department informed that the department has made a great achievement by producing 09 crore fish spawn in 2022-23 under the state funded scheme. Apart from this, discussion was also held on saving cum relief scheme, state funded scheme, seed harvesting under MNREGA under Sampada Yojana.

The meeting also reviewed the activities of the Department of Horticulture, under the National Horticulture Mission Scheme, for vegetable seed production, fruit, vegetable, flower and spice area expansion, protected cultivation, horticulture mechanization, integrated post harvest management, Adarsh Bari, etc.

Lyness Club organises health camp



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: On the occasion of World Health Day, the members of Lyness Club Bhilai organized a health camp at Kosanala Shiva temple. A large number of locals got free health checkup, consultation and medicines.

Lyness Club President Savita Srivastava informed that Dr Suresh

Sharma, Dr Neeraj Sharma, Dr Manish Awasthi and Dr Ravindra Patil rendered free services at the camp. They examined the patients, gave consultation and distributed free medicines also.

Club Secretary Nandini, Treasurer Seema; area Advisor Anjana Vinayak, Shakti Dharani, Karuna Bansal, Ujjwala Singhal, Jayanti Sharma, Nutan,

Seema Yadav, Sushma Upadhyay, Lata, Urmila, Rashmi, Shalini, Pushpa, Sushma and others extended their contribution in this noble work. At the end, the doctors were honored with mementos. President Savita Srivastava said that they will organize similar health camps in other localities as well.

Workshop on Food Adulteration & Safety Regulation organised

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: A one day talk on Food Adulteration and Safety Regulation was organised by the Department of Chemistry, St Thomas College, on April 12. The Resource person of the programme was Domendra Dhruv food safety officer, Rajnandgaon.

He talked on food adulteration, food safety, food testing and easy way of detecting adulterants in food product at home. He motivated the stu-



dents sharing his own journey of becoming food officer to appear in various competitive exam. He assured his cooperation and shared his contact number with the students.

PG students of physics, chemistry, bio-tech, microbiology, botany and zoology along with their faculties attended the programme. The programme ended with an inter-

active session. Students satisfied their various queries. This program was conducted on inspiration of Rev Fr Dr Joshi Varghese, Administrator St Thomas College, Bhilai.

Dr MG Roymon, Principal of St Thomas College, felicitated speaker by giving a Memento. Dr Chanda Verma delivered the welcome speech, Dr Arvind Kumar Sahu introduced the speaker and Mohini Sharma delivered the vote of thanks and Anil Varghese assisted in organizing the programme.

School children take out 'Jabo Matdaan Rally'

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: The students of government primary school Kasaridih took out a voter awareness rally on Thursday morning with the aim to awaken the people to vote. The school children during the "Jabo" voter awareness rally raised slogans such as vote is the life of democracy, country is calling, voting is very important etc.

The children moved from Rao Cottage Line of Kasaridih to Ber Para, Subhash Nagar to Kanhaiyapuri Chowk and other lanes of Kasaridih area and expressed their faith in the country's democratic system and in-

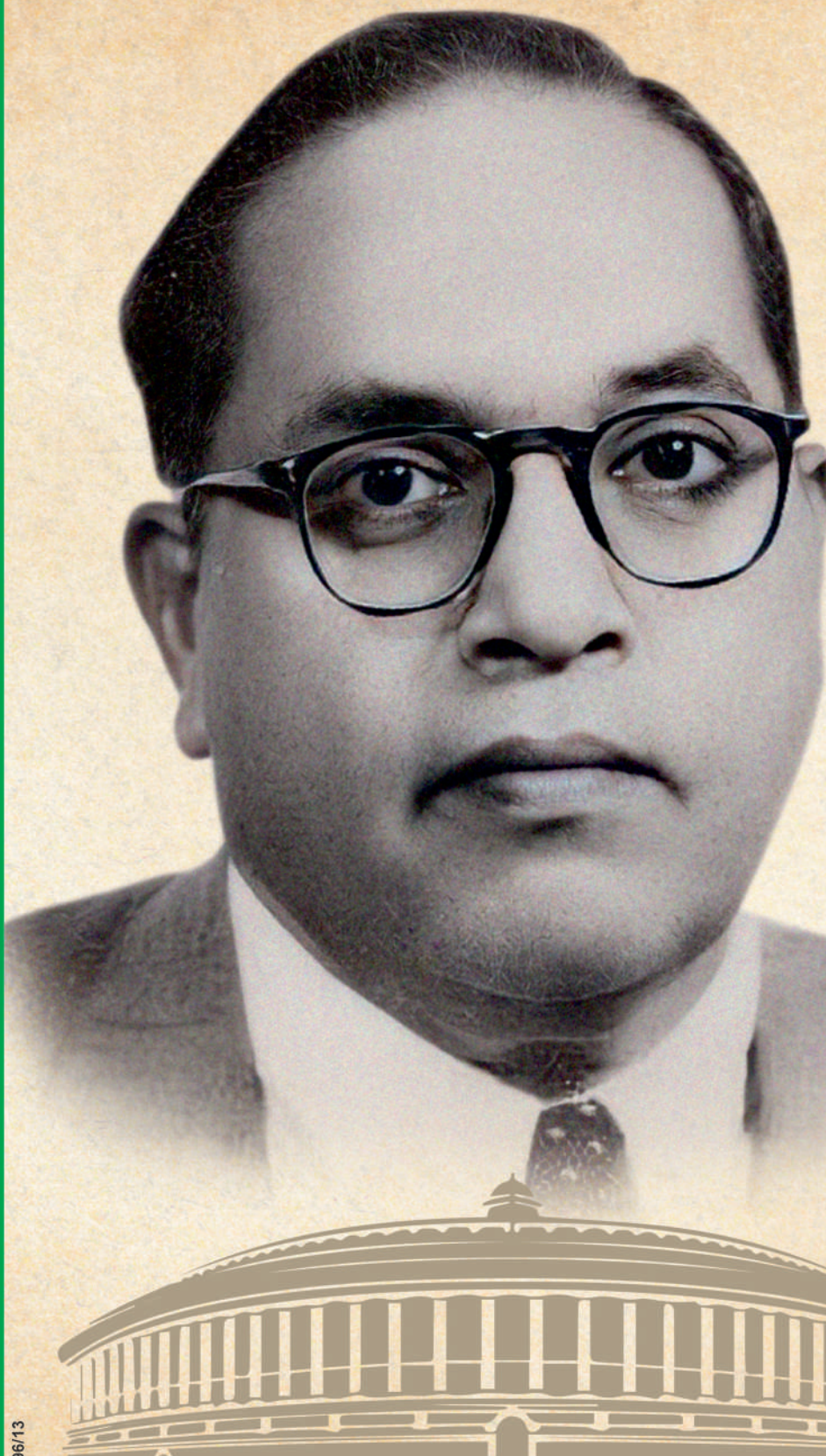



spired parents and people around them to vote. Children involved in voter awareness rally held placards and posters and kept motivating the people of the area to

ensure their participation in democracy. The children also raised slogan that be it a man or a woman, voting is everyone's responsibility, leave all the work and

vote first. The rally also stated that the country and the state will progress only when every voter votes, therefore wake up voter. Here it needs a mention that election is to be held on the vacant seat of the councilor for Kasaridih Ward 42 which falls under Durg Municipal Corporation limits. Already the voter list has been published and claims and objections have been called from April 10 to April 17 prior to revision.

All the voters of Ward 42 can view the voter list by contacting BLO at Kasaridih School near Sai Mandir of the Ward. In case of any discrepancy claim objections can be raised for addition, amendment and deletion of name.





भारतीय संविधान निर्माता, समाज-सुधारक, भारत रत्न

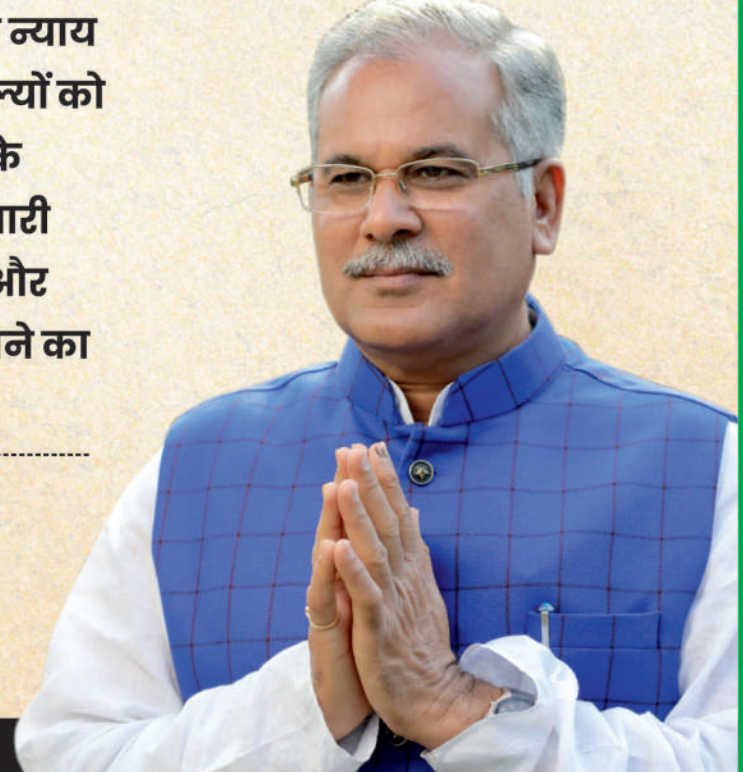
बाबा साहेब


डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर

की जयंती पर कोटि-कोटि नमन

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Cong ensured safety of tribal: Baghel

And their rights for Water, Jungle and Land

Baghel govt working for upliftment of tribals: Priyanka

Jagdalpur: Speaking at a gathering at Lalbag Maidan in Jagdalpur city, headquarters of the Bastar district, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra charged that during the BJP rule (2003-2018), the loot of people, corruption and "ignoring the pain of people" had become normal, Gandhi said.

"Now you are seeing a government which has been working day and night for your uplift and development; now it is up to you to decide whom you will support," she added.

Recalling past visits by leaders from the Nehru-Gandhi family to Bastar, she said, "You have come here today because you have faith in each and every member of my family. You have come because Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had attended a tribal convention here several years ago and worked for your development. You have come because you were in the



heart of Indira Gandhi."

She had heard about the struggle, culture and handicrafts of tribals from her family members since her childhood, Priyanka Gandhi said.

"My family members recognized your honour and your lifestyle because of the trust. In every relationship trust is the key factor. No work can be done without trust. In public life, trust is a very crucial thing," she said. The Congress leader welcomed the people attending the function in the local 'Halbi' tribal dialect. Former prime

minister late Indira Gandhi, her grandmother, used to say that tribal culture is the best culture as they respect nature and never harm it for their benefit, she said.

The Chhattisgarh government has been doing the same and tried to devise schemes while giving due consideration to the protection of nature in the interest of tribals, Gandhi said.

"Tribal women, who did not get employment earlier, are now making saris and clothes (at government-supported DAN-NEX garment factories). The Baghel government has been working to make people, particularly women, self-reliant," she added.

Priyanka Gandhi also praised Baghel saying that whenever they meet, he never talks about negative things or indulges in backbiting but only speaks about new schemes and development works.

Ahead of the 2018 assembly elections, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, speaking from the same Lalbag Maidan, had promised to ensure the safety of tribals and their rights to 'jal, jungle, za-

meen' (water, jungle, land), generate employment and bring normalcy to Bastar, the chief minister said.

Reposing faith in Congress, people elected it to power, Baghel added.

Highlighting the achievements of various schemes of his government, Baghel said it put money in the common man's pockets. At the event, the chief minister

disbursed the first installment of Rs 5,000 each to 1,840 Gram Panchayats in the Bastar division under the Mukhyamantri Adivasi Parab Samman Nidhi Yojana.

Ch'garh below national average in Tap Water Scheme: Patel

Union Minister reviews central schemes

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 13: Union Minister of State for Jalshakti Prahlad Patel during his day-long visit to Chhattisgarh on Thursday reviewed the implementation of central schemes here. During discussion over the cleanliness and tap water scheme, he said that the Chhattisgarh is well below the National Average in the implanta-



tion of the central scheme. He said that Centre is providing all possible assistance on these schemes whereas the progress is quite slow over the years. He said that the Union Government would not compromise over the implementation of the central schemes.

Replying to a question on alleged irregularities in Tender for the works under Tap Water scheme, he said that essential steps would be taken on the issue. He further stated that state government is responsible for the timely completion of the project by the year 2024 to ensure

water at every home and added that the state has to reply if any delay.

Raipur Parliamentarian Sunil Soni and senior officials were also present during the meeting.

During his day-long visit, the Union Minister Prahlad Patel also made a visit to the residence of former Minister Prem Prakash Pandey to hold discussion over the existing political scenario here. Senior BJP Legislator Ajay Chandrakar and several other BJP leaders were also present on the occasion.

Improve customer service, SBI Chairman tells staff members

State Bank of India Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara on two-day visit to Raipur

Raipur, Apr 13:

Dinesh Kumar Khara, Chairman, State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest bank, was on a two-day visit to Raipur from April 11th and 12th. On the first day of his visit, he felicitated Padma awardees on behalf of the State Bank by interacting with eminent personalities of the state in a program organized at Mayfair Hotel. On the second day of his tour, he inaugurated the new campus of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank sponsored by State Bank of India at Nava Raipur. After this, he held a meeting with the staff members of the State Bank's administrative office at Byron Bazar and directed them to improve customer service by disseminating information about various products and services of the bank



quickly to the customers. On this occasion, he presented an ambulance to "Feel Parmartham Foundation-Old Age Home" Bhilai and expressed hope that this would help Parmartham Foundation to serve the residents of Bhilai as well as other areas of the state in a better way. In this series, he also participated in a discussion with the top officials of Shriram Finance Corporation. It is notable that Shriram Finance Corporation has also entered into an agreement with SBI in the past

for loan management. On this occasion, Mr. Khara presented an innovative experiment in the direction of environmental protection by the administrative office in the State Bank of India, administrative office premises, along with the idol "Sangwari" prepared from the e-waste of the office, as well as the Retail Asset Central Resource Center and SBI and inaugurated the Bank's New Guest House at SBI Colony premises, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Chowk, Shankar Nagar. In this se-

ries, he also planted saplings in the bank's administrative office premises located at Byron Bazar. Mrs. Anita Khara, wife of Mr. Khara, also took time out of her busy schedule to inaugurate a computer lab on behalf of SBI Mahila Club at "Kopal Vani" Institute, an organization dedicated to the empowerment of differently-abled children in Raipur city and expressed hope that this will go a long way in making the children of the institute self-reliant by connecting them with the latest technology. Chief General Manager of Bhopal Division, Mr. Binod Kumar Mishra, General Manager of Chhattisgarh Network, Mr. Neeraj Prasad and Deputy General Manager of Raipur Module, Mr. Rakesh Kumar Yadav were specially present on the occasion.

Co-op Society creates new identity to woman empowerment

Specializing in traditional products

Raipur: After the global pandemic, the trend of traditional and pure food has increased, that is why the demand for traditional dishes like badi, bijori, different types of pickles, organic spices, pulses and millets is high. The organization aims to open at least one store in each district across the state by the end of this year.

opened in Saraipali on 4th April 2023. Harita said that some middlemen wanted to buy their products cheaply and tried cheating them. After a proper consultation harita Along with the women of the group, did a market survey in Raipur and decided to form her own organization. After the successful startup of their society, women from 15 other districts are ready to work with this organization.

'National Pathology Day' organized at Medical College Raipur

Raipur, Apr 13:

"National Pathology Day" was organized through various activities by the Pathology Department of Pt Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College, Raipur. National Pathology Day is celebrated on 13th April 13, 2023 on the call of the Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists (IAPM) to mark birthday of Dr VR Khanolkar, the father of Pathology and Medical Research in India.

Pathology quiz was organized by the Department of Pathology for the postgraduate students. Four teams each comprising 4 MD students participated in the quiz which was competed by Dr Varsha Pandey, Dr Amit Kumar Bhardwaj,



Dr Vanita Bhaskar, Dr Kasturi Mangrulkar and Dr Riti Sharma, scorer Dr Pushkar Chowdhary and Dr Anubhav Chandrakar.

The quiz was guided by Professor Dr Rabia Parveen Siddiqui. Graduate MBBS students made Rangoli and painting depicting the importance of pathology in the field of medicine. Both these competitions were conducted by Dr Vikas

Bambeshwar, Dr Ruchi Verma, Dr Sudit Pal, Dr Saroj Kumari, Dr Sarita Thakur and Dr Megha Verma.

Senior Pathologist of Chhattisgarh State Dr Vijaya Sudarshan was felicitated with shawl, shreefal and insignia. Dr Sudarshan has served in the Department of Pathology for many years and has contributed significantly to the develop-

ment of Pathology as Professor Head of the Department.

Professor Head Dr Arvind Neral, in his welcome address, while describing the continuous development and changes of pathology propounded the importance of pathology as "Physician's doctor". Associate Professor of the Department Chandrakala Joshi proposed vote of thanks.

Gram Sabha meeting in all Gram Panchayats today

Raipur, Apr 13: Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Bhure has directed the district sub-divisional authorities, revenue, and the chief executive officer of the district panchayat to convene the gram sabha on April 14. It should be mentioned that Section-6 of the Chhattisgarh Panchayat Raj Act, 1993, calls for at least one Gram Sabha meeting every three months. Follow-up report on the implementation of Gram Sabha resolutions, review, and approval of the Panchayats' income and expenditure for the last quarter, names of works approved from various schemes in the last half-year, amount received, approved amount, expenditure reading of the updated status of amount and work, demand for employment by rural families, and status of employment made available in Gram Panchayats of districts. However, discussion regarding the management and operation of gauthans in village and the progress of works related to Narva, Garuva, Ghuruva, and Bari under Suraji Gram Yojana, social audit of pension schemes operated under samajik Sahayata Karikram and verification of beneficiaries.

Punjab National Bank celebrates 129th Foundation Day

Raipur, Apr 13:

Punjab National Bank celebrated its 129th Foundation Day on April 12. On this occasion various programs were organized in Punjab National Bank Zonal and Circle Office Raipur. The program was inaugurated by Circle Manager, Raipur Mr. V. Srinivas by garlanding the statue of Lala Lajpat Rai, the co-founder of the bank. In his address, highlighting the 129 years long history of the bank, he said that Punjab National Bank 129th Foundation Day is another golden milestone in our glorious journey. It is not only a celebration of the achievements of the Bank but also a celebration of the affection and trust of the employees and customers. Punjab National Bank being one of the



largest banks in India, it is its constant endeavor to enrich the lives of its customers by providing them with state-of-the-art banking services.

From innovative digital products and services, futuristic technologies, customized solutions to PNB One Like through the Super App, PNB has brought the world-class banking experience right at your fingertips. Punjab National Bank will remain committed to provide excellent customer service to its customers in future as well. On this occasion, the bank donated a

water cooler along with RO to Shri Satyasai Sanjeevani Hospital, Nava Raipur as a corporate social responsibility activity. On this occasion, Mr. V.Srinivas, Zonal Manager, Mr. Arun Kumar Rao, Deputy Zonal Manager, Mr. Manoj Kumar Rai, Circle Head Raipur and senior officials of Punjab National Bank, Raipur distributed food to the children and their families as well as those who were healthy from the disease. "Gift of Life" certificates were also given to the children by Mr. V.Srinivas.

JSP to set up a new 1.2 MTPA Rail Mill at Angul, Odisha

Raipur, Apr 13:

In its endeavour to contribute to an "AtmaNirbhar Bharat", Jindal Steel & Power (JSP) plans to commission a state of art 1.2 MTPA Rail & Heavy structure mill at its Angul Steel complex in Odisha. After the Commissioning of the New Rail Mill at Angul, JSP's total rail-making capacity will be 2.2 MTPA.



Rails to Indian Railways, DFCCs and other critical projects of national importance. Such long Rails with minimum welds are a key element in increasing Track Safety and Comfort.

JSP's speciality rails of 1080 HH grade are being utilized, at almost all the Metro and RRTS systems in India. Such rails are also used in Special projects of National civil-military importance of remote connectivity having difficult terrains such as the USBRL Project (J&K) and

Sivok - Rangpo Project in West Bengal.

"JSP is committed to supporting the Government's initiatives of Gati Shakti Yojna, as part of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan by making available domestically produced import substitution products at competitive prices. JSP is proactively adding and augmenting further Rail manufacturing capacity to support the modernization of the Indian Rail network.", said Mr BimlendraJha,

Managing Director, Jindal Steel & Power in a statement.

He further added: "Even though there is surplus Rail capacity in India, there are markets abroad we will be looking to feed as well after meeting India's requirements." To help build a future-ready national rail infrastructure, JSP has successfully developed 60E1 1175 Heat Treated (HT) Rails suitable for High speed and High Axle Load applications. Indian Railways has embarked upon upgrading the Indian Railway Track system to carry more than 25MT axle load and up to 200 km/Hour speed. JSP is also exporting its "Made in India" rails to multiple countries around the world. JSP has also supplied speciality rail blooms for the European railways, thus positioning itself as a world-class rail manufacturer.

Govt schemes benefiting Bastar's talented craftsmen: Priyanka

Highly appreciates Bastar's exceptional products at 'Bharose Ka Sammelan'

CM, Priyanka praise the exhibition set up by the beneficiaries of govt schemes

Jagdalpur, Apr 13:

Priyanka Gandhi, who was a special guest at the Bharose Ka Sammelan in Jagdalpur, along with Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel visited the exhibition set up by the beneficiaries of government schemes. She highly appreciated their efforts and the quality of their products saying that products made in Bastar are of excellent quality. The flavor of cashew nuts from Bastar, as well as the chikki and biscuits made from millets, is exceptional. Furthermore, she praised the workmanship of the people of Bastar stating that the level of skill and craftsmanship among the people here is just as impressive as their admirable qualities.

Sharing her personal experience Priyanka Gandhi said that the people of



Bastar have a remarkable ability to build human connections quickly. During my visit to a stall, a woman kindly offered me a serving of homemade ice cream, but she insisted that I may refrain from eating it due to my upcoming speech on stage as it can affect my throat. Her thoughtful warning highlighted the warmth and consideration that the people of Bastar exude.

"It's heartening to see that government assistance is now allowing the products made in Bastar to reach wider markets, providing much-needed benefits to the talented craftsmen in the region",

she said. Meanwhile, Chief Minister, Bhupesh Baghel, gave information to Smt. Gandhi about various products at different stalls. The women of SHG presented a Kosa saree to Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. At the Amcho Bastar stall, Priyanka Gandhi spoke to the craftsmen who were working on moulding the utensils made of clay and brass. She appreciated the achievements of the state government in terms of trust, development, and security in Bastar at the Manwa Nawa Nar stall.

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra spoke with the women jawans of the Bastar

Fighters and clicked photos with them. She also took a glimpse of the exhibition that showcased remarkable works being undertaken by women's groups in the districts of Bastar division and innovative schemes being implemented here. Here, the Bastar district had set up a photo exhibition showcasing the trips of the Nehru and Gandhi families to the Bastar region through pictures.

Apart from these, the exhibition showcased live demonstrations of Bastar coffee production and processing techniques, wood carving by Bastar Kalaguri handicrafts, Moms Food associated with district administration's innovation Think-B, community policing initiative Manva Nawanar by the police department, threading and weaving of clothes from Tussar Kosa, Mahua tea and other products manufactured by Bastar food firm, and tamarind and cashew processing and manufacturing by the forest department.

Chief Secretary reviews priority schemes of the state govt

Reviews schemes of skill development, technical education and employment, school education, and village industries departments

Raipur, Apr 13:

Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain on Thursday reviewed the top priority schemes of the State Government in the Mantralaya Mahanadi Bhawan, including schemes of skill development, technical education and employment, school education, and village industries departments. The meeting reviewed important schemes including Employment Mission, ITI development, unemployment allowance, Atmanand School, maintenance of schools, establishment of world class school, and Chhattisgarh Mahtari Dular yojana. The meeting was attended by the Chief Minister's Additional Chief Secretary Subrat Sahoo, School Education



Principal Secretary Dr. Alok Shukla.

During the review of the government's priority schemes, officials provided an update on the process for providing an allowance to unemployed individuals under the Unemployment Allowance Scheme. According to the officials, in accordance with the Chief Minister's announcement, online applications for unemployment allowance have been invited starting April 1. They further stated that to date, over 46,000 applications have been received, with thousands more being received daily. The applications are being physically verified, and the bank accounts of the applicants are being confirmed.

Upon verification of the bank accounts, eligible applicants will receive

the unemployment allowance via direct bank transfer starting May 1 this year.

The government is developing state technical institutes as technological hubs under ITI upgradation. This will require a cost of Rs 1216.80 crore to upgrade 36 government ITIs. The cooperation of the corporate sector is being sought for this initiative.

In the meeting, discussions were held on the newly established Swami Atmanand Schools, which aims to provide quality education to students in both English and Hindi mediums. Detailed discussions were held on school buildings, teacher recruitment, and other arrangements.

The officials also said that a world-class residential school will be established in Sector 32 of

Nava Raipur. A review was conducted regarding the progress made so far on this matter. Officials said that the construction work of the school building has been completed up to the foundation level. administrative approval of Rs 49.52 crore has been given for the various works of the school.

Chhattisgarh Mahtari Dular Yojana provides scholarships to children who have lost their parents due to Covid-19. Under the scheme, students in grades 1 to 8 are given an annual scholarship of Rs 5,000, while students in grades 9 to 12 receive Rs 10,000. Additionally, the government reimburses the school fees for all students studying in private schools from grades 1 to 12. The meeting was attended by Energy Secretary Shri Ankit Anand, Technical Education and Employment Secretary Shri Topeshwar Verma, School Education Secretary Dr. S. Bharathidasan and senior officials of the Education Department.

CM Baghel, Priyanka Gandhi pays floral tribute to Pt. Nehru



Jagdalpur, Apr 13:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and the Special Guest of the program Priyanka Gandhi, who reached Jagdalpur to

attend the Bharose ka Sammelan program, bestowed a floral tribute to the statue of India's first Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, situated at the Nehru Smriti Manch.

This stage has been constructed on the site where the nation's first Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru had addressed the third National Tribal Convention. Pt. Nehru attended the convention held in this place on 13 March 1955. The guests also overviewed the five inscriptions related to Nehru Ji's life.

On May 03 and 04

Raipur, Apr 13:

Under the joint aegis of the Government and Technical Council, the 18th Young Scientist Conference is being organized at Pt Ravi Shankar Shukla University Raipur. Chairman of the organizing committee Dr. Kallol Ghosh and coordinator Prof. Manas Kanti Dev and Dr. Jais Rai have said that the Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology promotes the youth talent of the state by organizing the Chhattisgarh Young Scientist Congress every year to celebrate the discovery of the "Raman Effect" by the Indian physicist Sir Chandrashekar Venkata Raman. This discovery was awarded the Nobel

Prize in Physics in 1930. In this conference, fundamental researches from research students of agriculture and other universities, engineering colleges, medical colleges, science institutes and non-governmental organizations and all other related departments are invited. The subjects included for the conference are Agricultural Science, Agriculture Engineering Technology, Biology, Botany, Zoology, Chemical Biology, Biotechnological Science, Biochemistry, Bioinformatics and Biomedicine, Chemical Science, Earth and Atmospheric Science, Geology, Geography, Meteorology, Oceanology Etcetera. Chemical Engineering, Civil and Architecture Engineering,

Computer Science, Electronic Engineering and Forestry, Home Science and Behavioral Science, Psychology, Life Science Medicine and Pharmacology, Physics Bio-Physics Chemistry-Physics and Geophysics, Astrophysics Nuclear Physics, Veterinary Science, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Technology [Mining] Metallurgy and Applied Geology- I In this conference, cash prize of Rs 21,000 will be given each to the best young scientist from 19 disciplines. Facility will be provided for carrying out advanced research for a period of two months in any National Laboratory (National Research Centre) in India. To make this conference a success, Vice Chancellor Prof. Satchidanand Shukla is giving

continuous guidance. One has to avail the facility of research within two years of receiving the award. Dr. Ghosh and Dr. Deb told that the young scientist should submit the summary of their research paper and the research paper in five copies, latest by 24 April, 2023 in website (www.cgysc.in).

To participate in the competition, the age should be less than 32 years for male and 35 years for female candidates as on 28 February, 2023. Two years of research experience after obtaining a Master's degree in the science subjects listed above or Bachelor's degree in case of Medical/Engineering/Technological subjects is the basic requirement. Single authorship original research paper will be

accepted. Work done in the state of Chhattisgarh and work performed elsewhere are not required to be submitted/published. This facility is only for research scholars working in Chhattisgarh. 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. In this, many senior scientists are also being invited for lectures. To whom email can also be sent through cgysc2023@gmail.com. For detailed information Prof. Kallol Ghosh, Head of the Department, School of Chemistry and Prof. Manas Kanti Deb, Head of the Department, School of Environmental Sciences.

Pranav Das will take charge of JBM in Ch'garh

Raipur, Apr 13:

The All India Congress Committee (AICC) has appointed Congress worker Pranav Das as the chief executive coordinator of Jawahar Bal Manch (JBC) in Chhattisgarh state. In this regard, National President of Jawahar Bal Manch Dr. G.V. Hari has issued the order in this regard.

There are six different departments of the All India Congress Committee, one of them has been formed in the name of "Jawahar Bal Manch". In Chhattisgarh, the command of Jawahar Bal Manch has been handed over to Pranav Das.

Prior to this, Pranav Das had started his career in active politics in his student life in the year 2005 with N.S.U.I., as the City District General Secretary. After this, he worked in the Indian National Youth Congress, Jawahar Nehru Leadership Institute as a master coach (trainer) and has also been working for the Congress party in the state and the country in the organization and elections. He was given the responsibility of District Coordinator in All India Professional Congress in the year 2018. In the year 2020, he was appointed the State convener of Professional Congress. Later, in 2021 he was given the responsibility of State convener of Jawahar Bal Manch.

'You women are doing commendable work'

Priyanka Gandhi hugged Manmati Potai of Abujhmad. SHG of 90 tribal women of Abujhmad earned Rs 15 lakh in a year

Jagdalpur, Apr 13:

Priyanka Gandhi, the special guest of the 'Bharose Ka Sammelan' programme held in Jagdalpur, praised the work of the women self-help group (WSHG) from Abujhmad.

When Manmati, who came from Abujhmad, informed Priyanka Gandhi that 90 women in her group have earned an income of more than 15 lakh in 1 year; she hugged Manmati intimately and said that "your group is an inspiration for many women and you all are doing a commendable job." It is notable that various types of employment-oriented activities are being successfully conducted by the women of Mavli Multiactivity Center of the Gothan located in



Kochwahi village of Narayanpur district. The indulgence of rural women in the multi-activity centre has encouraged entrepreneurship and self-reliance among the local rural women as well. Manmati Potai, who works in the same Gothan, informed that the women associated with the self-help groups of the Gothan have strengthened their socio-economic condition by joining the food processing unit, cow dung paint manufacturing unit and paver blocks unit. 90 women are employed in the food processing unit.

Apart from processing Kodo rice, black rice, brown rice, red rice, women are also making 5 types of cookies, including Kodo kutki millets cookie, mahua, jaggery ragi, tamarind cookies etc. Along with this, ragi flour, tikhur powder, honey, processed poha, mushroom production is also being carried out in this Mavli Multiactivity Center. In the last one year, processed foods worth Rs 15 lakh were sold by women from this centre, from which they have clocked a net profit of Rs 6 to 7 lakh.

IBITF participated in the 2nd National Workshop at IIT Delhi

On Technology Innovation in Cyber-Physical Systems (TIPS)

Raipur, Apr 13:

The Mission Governing Board (MGB) of the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS), Department of Science and Technology (DST), organized the 2nd National Workshop on Technology Innovation in Cyber-Physical Systems (TIPS) during 6-8 April 2023 at IIT Delhi. TIPS is a premier national workshop that brings together all 25 Technology Innovation Hubs (TIHs) to discuss collaborations and connect with leading government, industry, researchers, academicians, and entrepreneurs. The event also provided a platform for discussing the latest innovations and advances in Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS). The workshop gave an excellent opportunity to network within all the 25 Technology Innovation



Hubs (TIHs) and with leading experts in the field, exchange ideas, and collaborate on new research projects.

IBITF participated in this critical event and showcased its contribution to advancing CPS research in India through impactful technologies and the latest innovations and projects in the financial technology (FinTech) domain.

The foundation is committed to fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology transfer in the region. The three-

day event also included an exhibition to showcase the achievements and impactful technologies/products developed by the TIHs, where IBITF showcased nine impactful technologies/products developed by its startups/projects.

These products/technologies also included the flagship projects under IBITF IIT Bhubaneswar, such as Accessible banking functionalities for Divyang (visually impaired) using smart ATM, Secure Dongle, "Trustoken", is a secure app framework

based on an indigenously developed PKI hardware token and Farm monitoring and management systems to increase crop productivity and efficiency and deliver real-time solutions to various crop disease.

The Chairman of IBITF, Prof. Rajiv Prakash (Director, IIT Bhubaneswar), acknowledged the effort, time, and dedication put into creating efficient and practical new technologies. He congratulated the team for the range and scope of the products showcased in the event by IBITF.

He appreciated the prospective social impact of truly innovative and cutting-edge solutions. Prof. Prakash has emphasized that the next year will be crucial for IBITF to translate all such impactful solutions and technologies into commercially viable products ready for deployment.

IIT Bhubaneswar will provide all the necessary infrastructure and institutional support to IBITF to realize this objective.

CM Baghel, Priyanka distribute kits

Jagdalpur, Apr 13:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel distributed kits to the beneficiaries of different schemes during his one-day stay in Bastar on April 13. In the presence of special guest Priyanka Gandhi, the Chief Minister distributed machines for making paper cup tea, papad, chips, murpala to 10 women groups of RUPA Center run by District Panchayat Jagdalpur. The Chief Minister distributed bank linkage cheques to 21 women groups of District

Panchayat NRLM. The second installment under the SC Women Empowerment Scheme operated by the District Antavayashiki Sahakari Vikas Samiti for a bookstore to Sahadai of village Bedagudapara of Tokapal development block was provided on this occasion.

Cheques were distributed to 5 women self-help groups for small businesses under the loan scheme of the Women and Child Development Department. Cheques were distributed by the Chief Minister to the beneficiaries of

Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, run by the Agriculture Department under the Agriculture Mechanization Scheme, Krishi Samridhhi Yojana.

Cheques were distributed to the beneficiaries of Bakavand, Jagdalpur, and Darbha development blocks for National Horticulture Mission seeds operated by the Department of Horticulture. Under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 run by the Tribal Development Department, Community Forest Rights Pattas

were distributed to Jirakhal and Dhubiguda Irikpal of Bakavand, and Bagmohali-2 and Sonar Pal (Mataguri) gram panchayats of Bastar.

The cheques of Rs.10 lakh 8 thousand were distributed by the Chief Minister to 10 students for B.Sc Nursing course. Chief Minister Mr. Baghel and Mrs. Priyanka Gandhi distributed Ayushman cards under the Dr. Khubchand Baghel Swasthya Sahayata Yojana to 10 beneficiaries of the Jagdalpur development block.

Amit appointed BJYM in-charge for Baloda Bazar

Raipur, Apr 13:

Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) State Unit President Ravi Bhagat has appointed Amit Chaudhary from Raipur as the in-charge of Kasdol Legislative Assembly segment in the series of recent appointments to strengthen the Organization ahead of the next Legislative Assembly polls. Senior leaders have congratulated Amit and extended best wishes to him



on his new responsibility.

Classifieds

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BRIEF

Pedestrians use umbrellas to protect themselves from scorching sun during a hot summer day, in Kolkata, Thursday.

Arrest

Bhopal: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested a sacked Bishop from Madhya Pradesh on money laundering charges linked to alleged financial irregularities, official sources said Thursday. P C Singh was arrested by the officials of the federal probe agency from Jabalpur city on Wednesday night and will be produced before a local Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court on Thursday where the ED will seek his custody, they said.

Tribute

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday paid tributes to the martyrs of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, saying their great sacrifice inspires us to work even harder to fulfil the dreams of great freedom fighters and build a strong and developed India. Hundreds of people protesting peacefully against the Rowlatt Act, which granted the British colonial administration repressive powers, were gunned down by British forces without any provocation on this day in 1919 at Jallianwala Bagh in Punjab's Amritsar.

Book fair

Kolkata: A book fair will be held in Kolkata from April 16-25 to mark 'Nababarsho' or Bengali New Year, organisers said on Thursday. Seventy-five well-known publishers will take part in the event, named 'Nababarsho Boi Utsav'. It will be organised by the Publishers and Booksellers' Guild, which also holds the annual International Kolkata Book Fair.

Fire

Mangaluru: A major accident was averted at a helipad in Udupi district of Karnataka on Thursday where Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai arrived enroute to his visit to Kollur Mookambika temple. Fire broke out near the Areshiroor helipad during the take-off of a helicopter after the Chief Minister's convoy had left the helipad to the temple.

Protest march

Akola: A case has been registered against Shiv Sena (UBT) MLA Nitin Deshmukh and more than 100 other party workers for holding a foot march allegedly without permission from authorities in Akola in Maharashtra, an official said on Thursday. Deshmukh was leading the march from Akola to Nagpur in the state's Vidarbha region on April 10 for supply of water in 69 villages in his Balapur Assembly constituency, he said.

GOKALPURI DOUBLE-MURDER CASE

Main accused held, blames daughter-in-law

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Delhi Police have arrested the main accused in the Gokalpuri double-murder case from Ghaziabad and he has disclosed that he killed the elderly couple on the insistence of their daughter-in-law, who also wanted to get rid of her husband to be the sole claimant to their property, officials said Thursday.

Ashish Bhargav, who was on the run after the killing, was arrested near his residence on Wednesday evening,

three days after allegedly killing Radhey Shyam Verma, 72, and his wife Veena, 68, at their home.

Ashish, 29, was in a relationship with the elderly couple's daughter-in-law Monika, 30. And they hatched a conspiracy to kill the couple after they decided to sell their property, estimated to be worth Rs 1.30 crore, to buy a new house in Dwarka. Monika wanted to sell the property herself and use the money to settle down with Ashish, according to police.

She asked Ashish, who used to work as a bounc-

er in a shopping mall but was unemployed for sometime, to kill her parents-in-law and also wanted to get rid of her husband, Ravi Rattan, 38, later, police said.

During interrogation, Ashish blamed Monika for the murders. He said he was not in favour of killing the Vermas and had asked Monika to elope with him with her five-year-old child. But she wanted money to settle down and told him they can get it after killing her in-laws and selling the property, a senior police officer said.

'Will not contest 2024 LS polls'



V Srinivas Prasad

Bengaluru, Apr 13 (PTI): BJP MP and former Union Minister V Srinivas Prasad has announced his retirement from politics, and said he would not be contesting in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. During an election campaign in

favour of Gundlupet BJP candidate C S Niranjan Kumar, who will contest the May 10 Assembly election, the 75-year-old said the current term in the Lok Sabha would be his last. According to sources close to him, the six-time Chamarajnagar MP made the announcement as "there is an unofficial age bar (75 years) in the BJP for leaders to contest in polls or hold official positions".

He quit the Congress in 2016 after being dropped as a minister in the Siddaramaiah Cabinet and joined the BJP. He resigned from the Assembly seeking a fresh mandate on a BJP ticket but lost the contest.

'Sambalpur violence is outcome of 'governance deficit' in Odisha'

Bhubaneswar, Apr 13 (PTI):

Calling violence in Sambalpur during the Hanuman Jayanti procession which left 10 police personnel injured as a "governance deficit", senior BJP leader and Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Thursday alleged that law and order situation has "completely collapsed" in Odisha.

Terming Wednesday's violence in Sambalpur as an "unfortunate" incident, Pradhan who hails from Odisha said that he was pained that the police personnel were targeted and 10 of them were injured besides a large number of civilians. BJD spokesperson Shreemayee Mishra



Baisakhi festival celebrations at a high altitude temple in Bhaderwah, J & K, Thursday.

FESTIVE CELEBRATION

Centre, NSCN-IM agree to seek solution to Naga pol issue

Based on Framework Agreement

Dimapur, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Centre and NSCN-IM have decided to seek the solution to the decades old Naga Political Issue on the basis of the Framework Agreement signed by the two, an NSCN-IM leader said on Thursday.

A closed door meeting was held here between the Centre's interlocutor for Naga peace talks, A K Mishra and a high-level NSCN(IM) team.

"The outcome is positive and we have agreed to seek solution on the basis of the Framework Agreement," NSCN(IM) leader Rh Raising Tangkhul told reporters

after coming out of the two-hour long meeting held at the Police Complex at Chumoukedima in Dimapur.

The Framework Agreement was signed by the Centre with the NSCN-IM in August 2015 to end the long protracted imbroglio. The two are in dialogue on the issue since 1997.

Mishra was accompanied by Intelligence Bureau joint director Mandeep Singh Tulli and Nagaland Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau director Don Jose. The 20-member NSCN-IM team was led by the organisation's secretary general Th Muivah.

PROTEST RALLY

ASHA workers stage a protest against the Madhya Pradesh government demanding regularization of their jobs, in Jabalpur, Thursday.

'Unique model of Ganga Ram hospital should be replicated all over India'

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The unique model of functioning of the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital here should be replicated all over India, Delhi University Vice Chancellor Yogesh Singh said on Thursday.

He attended the 68th Founder's Day celebrations at the premises of the hospital which was set up in Delhi in 1950s.

The original Sir Ganga Ram Hospital was established in Lahore in 1921.

"I have seen this hospital very closely as a patient, attendant and visitor. I am pleasantly surprised and happy to know that all consultants of this hospital contribute 20 per cent of their earnings



Yogesh Singh

back to the hospital. "It needs real dedication and commitment to run good healthcare institutions like Sir Ganga Ram Hospital," a statement issued by the hospital quoting Singh said.

In his address as the chief guest, he urged healthcare institutions to show kindness, passion and goodness towards the poor who get neglected.

"Contribution and growth of healthcare and education sectors is most important in growth of India's GDP. I firmly believe the unique model of Sir Ganga Ram Hospital should be replicated all over India... open more branches to serve patients all over India. Replication and expansion of the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital is the need of the day," he said.

Sir Ganga Ram Trust Society, Board of Management, consultants and staff of the old hospital celebrated the occasion. The celebrations started in the morning with garlanding of the statue of Sir Ganga Ram.

Bhimrao Ambedkar : The fighter for depressed masses



Er. Prabhat Kishore

The governance system of every independent nation is governed by its constitution. After independence, the making of a constitution in a diverse country like India was an arduous task. The leading figures of the Constituent Assembly for the formation of the Constitution was Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, under whose chairmanship the Drafting Committee played a pivotal role in giving concrete shape to the Constitution.

Bhim Rao Ambedkar was born on 14th April 1891 in the army head-

quarters of Mhow in Madhya Pradesh. In 1906, at the age of fourteen, he married 9-year-old Rama Bai. He passed the matriculation examination in 1907. Impressed by Ambedkar, Maharaja Sayajirao Gaikwad of Baroda approved him a scholarship of twenty five rupees per month. In 1912, he passed his graduation in Economics and Political Science from the University of Mumbai. He was the first Mahar Dalit to study in a foreign university. In June 1915, He was awarded M.A. degree in economics. In June 1916, Ambedkar submitted his dissertation entitled "National Dividend for India: A Historical and Analytical Study" for a PhD degree. In October 1916, he was admitted to the Grays Inn of Law. In July 1917, He was appointed military secretary to the Maharaja of Baroda. He saw the ugly face of the caste system in its entirety. He was not even allowed drinking water in the office. Due to the misbehavior, he left Baroda and returned to Mumbai in

November 1917. In November 1918, Ambedkar got the position of lecturer of political economy at Sydenham College. He participated in the conference of Depressed Classes held under the chairmanship of Shahuji Maharaj in Nagpur in 1918 and in Kolhapur on 21 March 1920. On 31 January 1920, to support the cause of the Depressed Classes in India, a weekly named "Mook-Nayak" was started.

In September 1920, Ambedkar re-enrolled at the London School of Economics and Political Science and qualified for the degree of Law from Grays Inn, London. He got a Master of Science (Economics) degree in June 1921 and D.Sc. (Economics) degree in March 1923. In April 1923, he met the Secretary of State for India, ES Montagu and Vithalbai Patel, and discussed the grievances of the untouchables in India. In June 1923, He started legal practice at the High Tribunal, Mumbai. He then left the

practice and became a lecturer in business law at the Batliboi Accountancy Institute on a part-time basis for 3 years.

On 9 July 1924, Ambedkar formed the Bahishkrit Hitkarini Sabha to spread education, improve economic conditions and listen to grievances among the depressed classes. On 3 April 1927, he started a newspaper called 'Bahishkrit Bharat' and started Satyagraha for entry of depressed masses into the temples in Mahad. In 1926, he gave evidence before the Royal Commission on Money and Finance. In 1927 he was nominated to the Bombay Legislative Council along with Dr. Solanki. In the same year he demanded separate electorate for Dalits before the Simon Commission. In November 1930, he was invited as a representative of the Dalits in the First Round Table Conference held in London. In August 1931, he opposed Gandhiji's claim to represent Dalits in the Second Round Table Conference held in London itself.

In August 1932, Ramsay MacDonald published the Communal Arbitration for Separate Electorates for Dalits against which Gandhiji, started fast till death. The Poona Pact was signed on 25 September 1932 by Ambedkar (on behalf of the marginalized community) and Madan Mohan Malviya (on behalf of other Hindus) and the order regarding separate electorates was withdrawn. From 1932 to 1934, he was a member of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Reforms. He participated in the Third Round Table Conference held in London in 1933-34. In June 1935, Ambedkar was appointed Principal and Perry Professor of Jurisprudence at the Government Law College, Mumbai.

Ambedkar formed the Independent Labour Party. The party contested 17 seats for the Mumbai Legislature and won 14 seats. In 1938, he opposed the Congress party's bill to replace the word 'untouchable' with the word

'Harijan'. In November 1946 he was elected to the Constituent Assembly from Bengal. He advocated the partition of India. On 29 August 1947, at the initiative of Sardar Patel, he was made the chairman of the drafting committee for the making of the Constitution of India. He did not agree with Nehruji's initiative to give special status to Jammu and Kashmir and the inclusion of Article 370 in the Constitution. But he could not oppose it as Nehru had made it a question of prestige. On 27 November 1949, Ambedkar presented the Constitution of India to the government.

After independence on 15 August 1947, Ambedkar became the Law Minister in the Nehru Cabinet. In October 1951, he resigned from the cabinet due to differences of opinion on the government's apathy towards the Scheduled Castes, India's foreign policy and the Hindu Code Bill. In the first Lok Sabha election in 1952, he was defeated by a Congress candidate from Mumbai. In March 1952,

he was nominated to the Rajya Sabha.

On 15 April 1948, Ambedkar married Dr. Sharda Kabir, who later came to be known as Savita Ambedkar. He was a bitter critic of the evils of Islam in South Asia and condemned child marriages, polygamy and purda system in the Muslim community. In the year 1949, he addressed the World Buddhist Conference in Kathmandu, Nepal on the topic "Marxism vs Buddhism". In December 1950, he again participated in the World Buddhist Conference in Sri Lanka. In July 1951, he formed the Bharatiya Buddhist Jana Sangh. In September 1951, he compiled a Buddhist worship treatise called "Upasana Panth". On 14 October 1956, He embraced Buddhism along with 5 lakh people in a historic ceremony in Nagpur. This great activist and social reformer took the last breath on 6th December 1956, leaving his colossal work.

(The Author is a technocrat and educationist)

India today can meet its security challenges: EAM Jaishankar

Kampala, Apr 13 (PTI):

Forces who indulge in cross-border terrorism against India for decades now know this is a "different India" which will give them a reply, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said, stressing that today the country can meet its national security challenges posed by China and Pakistan.

Addressing the Indian community in Uganda on Wednesday, Jaishankar spoke about the transformation of the country into a new India.

Speaking about the challenges India faces on its borders, Jaishankar said:

**External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar Interacts with the Indian community in Kampala, Uganda.**

"Today, people see a different India that is willing to stand up and India which will meet its national security challenges whether it is Uri or whether it is Balakot." He was referring to the 2016 Uri attack by Jaish-e-Mohammed insur-

gents from Pakistan against an Indian Army brigade headquarters and the 2019 Balakot airstrike conducted by Indian warplanes in Balakot, Pakistan against a terrorist training camp. "Today, the forces which indulged

in cross-border terrorism against India for decades and which India tolerated, they now know this is a different India and this India will give them a reply," he said.

He also spoke about the challenges on the border with China.

"For the last three years, in violation of the agreements, the Chinese have brought large forces," he said. Today the Indian military is deployed at very great heights and in very tough conditions, he said.

This situation is different from the past as Indian soldiers have now the "full backing, they have the right equipment and the infrastructure," he said.

SNOWMELT FLOODING IN UTAH

**Local officials issued evacuation orders for at least 20 homes as temperatures spiked and snowmelt coursed through the streets, in Kaysville, Utah. A record-breaking snow season has raised fears of spring flooding throughout Utah as the weather in mountain regions warms.**

Japan to offer military aid to like-minded countries in a bid to counter China

Beijing, Apr 13 (PTI):

Japan has unveiled a new plan to provide "like-minded" countries especially in Asia with military aid as it looks to expand its influence in the Indo-Pacific region to counter China's aggressive push over Taiwan and the South China Sea issues. The guidelines announced by Tokyo early this month included a new programme to strengthen the militaries of like-minded countries by providing "official security assistance" - a move that breaks with its previous policy of avoiding the use of development aid for military purposes other than disaster relief, the Japan Times reported.

Foreign Ministry officials said the Philippines will be one of the first beneficiaries of Overseas Security Assistance (OSA), with Malaysia, Bangladesh and Fiji also among those being considered, the report said.

Japan, a member of the Quad alliance consisting of the US, India and Australia, is actively pursuing the Indo-Pacific strategy which China claims aimed at countering its rise.

Tokyo's decision to use international aid for military purposes is a paradigm shift but won't lead to an arms race in Asia, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Thursday.

The move will not only build up the defence capabilities of Asian nations amid changing security dynamics, but boost the competitiveness of Japan's defence sector, it said. Japan's new policy of defence aid to neighbours was announced after this month's visit of Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi to China.

In his talks with Hayashi on April 2, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang said Japan should not "help a villain do evil", apparently referring to Tokyo's close ties with Washington.

This was the first visit by the Japanese Foreign Minister to China since 2019.

India, Italy for balanced, fair Indo-EU free trade agreement

Rome, Apr 13 (PTI):

India and Italy have discussed progress of talks on the proposed free trade agreement between New Delhi and the European Union (EU) and hope for its early conclusion, the commerce ministry said on Thursday.

In January last year, India and the EU resumed negotiations for a free trade agreement, investment protection and Geographical Indications (GI). Italy is a member of the EU.

The issue came up for discussion in the meeting of Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and Italian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in Foreign Office Antonio Tajani here on April 12.

"The ministers underlined the importance of achieving a free, balanced and fair free trade agreement and hoped that it would be concluded soon,"

it said. They also agreed to the convening of the next session of the Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation (JCEC) in Rome in the last week of September.

Tajani suggested the formation of a Joint Working Group in the strategic areas such as space, technology, defence and agriculture to increase cooperation.

Tajani suggested strengthening the parliamentary friendship group diplomacy between the parliaments of the two countries and exploring scope for having a cyber dialogue.

Goyal also emphasised on enhancing the bilateral cooperation in the field of clean energy to achieve sustainability to mitigate the negative impact of climate change.

Goyal is on an official visit here. He is accompanied by a large business delegation which includes Indian industry and exporters from different sectors.

Meanwhile addressing businesses of India and Italy here, Goyal said that huge investment opportunities are there in India for Italian companies.

On India's exports, he said that India exported goods and services worth USD 676 billion in 2021-22. "We just closed March 31, 2022-23 with an even bigger record of about USD 765 billion."

He expressed hope that the exports would reach USD 2 trillion by 2030.

India-Italy bilateral trade stood at over USD 16 billion in 2022. During April-January 2022-23, India's exports to Italy stood at USD 7.15 billion, while imports aggregated at USD 4.6 billion. The trade gap is in favour of India.

Italy is the 17th largest foreign investor in India, with a cumulative FDI of USD 3.25 billion between April 2000 and December 2022. It accounts for about 0.52 per cent of the total FDI India received during the period.

Pak court grants Imran Khan interim bail till May 4 in three cases

Lahore, Apr 13 (PTI):

An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan on Thursday extended interim bail to Imran Khan till May 4 in three cases related to the clashes between his supporters and the police during an operation to arrest the former premier in the Toshakhana corruption case last month.

Lahore's Anti-terrorism court (ATC) granted one-time permission to Khan, the chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), to appear for the hearing via video link in the case.

Khan had filed petitions for bail in three FIRs registered with the Race Course police station under anti-terror laws.

Khan, 70, has been repeatedly claiming that his life is under threat because of which he was abstaining from attending court hearings.

ATC judge Ejaz Ahmad Bhutta asked Khan's



lawyer Salman Safdar which he had done for what he was facing threats to his life.

To this, Safdar said those who were behind a gun attack on his client (in last November) could answer this.

"If Imran Khan is assassinated Pakistan will descend into chaos like what had happened after the murder of former premier Benazir Bhutto," he said.

"There are credible reports that Mr Khan can be targeted by snipers on his way to courts and these can be verified from the law enforcement agencies," he said.

FIRE ACCIDENT

**People mourn next to the bodies of fire fighters who died in a fire, at a morgue in Karachi, Pakistan, Thursday, April 13. A massive fire broke out in a garment factory in the southern Pakistan port city of Karachi. The cause of the blaze, which ripped through the factory Wednesday night and eventually caused it to collapse, was not immediately known, rescue officials and police said.**

Pak's ruling coalition rejects SC bench hearing petitions

Against bill on clipping Chief Justice's power

Islamabad, Apr 13 (PTI):

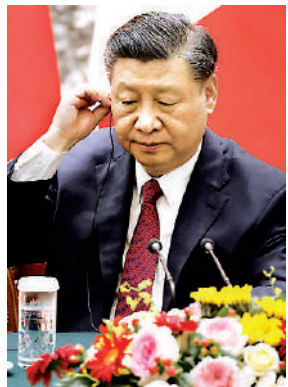
Pakistan's ruling coalition has rejected the formation of an eight-judge bench tasked to hear the petitions against pending legislation meant to clip the powers of the Supreme Court Chief Justice, terming the move "unprecedented" and "unacceptable", media reports said on Thursday. The Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) also issued a joint declaration in which it said that the apex court's move to form a "controversial bench" even before the completion of the legislative process "was never seen in the history of Pakistan and the Supreme Court", the Dawn newspaper reported. The bill, titled the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Bill 2023, is aimed at depriving the office of the CJP of powers to take suo motu notice in an individual capacity. It was initially passed by both houses of parliament and sent to the president for his assent. However, the president sent it back, saying that the proposed law travelled "beyond the competence of parliament". On Monday, the bill was passed by a joint sitting of parliament with certain amendments, amid a noisy protest by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lawmakers. The

eight-judge Supreme Court bench, headed by the chief justice, will take up a set of three petitions challenging the bill on Thursday, the report said. In its joint declaration, the PDM said that the move is "tantamount to destroying the credibility of the highest court of the country and making the constitutional process of justice meaningless", another report by The Express Tribune said. "This bench itself is a testament to the division of the Supreme Court, which once again supports the earlier stated position of the ruling parties," the report said, citing the statement. In addition to CJP Umar Ata Bandial, the bench hearing plea against the bill comprises Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Sayed Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi, Justice Mohammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha A. Malik, Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi and Justice Shahid Waheed. The bench is termed as controversial because notably missing from the bench are Justices Qazi Faez Isa and Justice Aminuddin Khan who had earlier ruled that the CJP did not have the power to make special benches or decide its members and ordered the postponement of all suo motu matters.

Xi asks military to resolutely defend China's sovereignty and maritime rights

Beijing, Apr 13 (PTI):

President Xi Jinping on Wednesday asked the military to resolutely defend China's sovereignty and maritime rights and interests, and strive to maintain the overall stability of the neighbouring regions, amid rising tensions over Taiwan and the South China Sea.



China on Monday said it has successfully completed its three-day large-scale fire and fury military drills "encircling" Taiwan, including the use of an aircraft carrier, aimed at showing its anger over the US House Speaker's meeting with Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen.

Also China braced for tensions in the South China Sea as the US secured access to four additional military bases in the Philippines - a key bit of real estate which would offer a front row seat to monitor the Chinese in the South China Sea and around Taiwan.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea.

Theatre Command, Xi said the armed forces should analyse and address military issues from a political perspective, carry out military struggles in a resolute and flexible manner, and enhance the ability to ensure timely and proper responses to complex situations.

His comments came as China faced increasing tensions with the US over Taiwan and the disputed South China Sea.

Xi, who is also the chairman of the Central Military Commission - the high command of the Chinese military, inspected the troops at the Southern Theatre Command, stressed strengthening training and combat readiness and accelerating transformation to boost the armed forces' modernisation levels on all fronts.

He called on the armed forces to resolutely fulfill the duties entrusted by the ruling Communist Party and the people. At the Navy headquarters of the

CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER TRANSMISSION CO. LTD (A SUCCESSOR COMPANY OF CSEB) (A GOVT. OF CHHATTISGARH UNDERTAKING) OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (CIVIL) (CIN - U40108CT2003SGC015820)

No.-04-01/Trans./Works/102 Raipur, dtd: 13.04.2023

E-TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from eligible/experienced contractors for following works:-

1. Rfx No.- 8100030741:- Extension of control room at 132/33 KV S/s., Nawargarh. NIT Value:- Rs.18.17 Lakhs & EMD:-Rs. 18,200/-, Completion Period:- 04 Months. 2. Rfx No.- 8100030742:- Augmentation of CGL make 125 MVA, 220/132 KV X-mer No.-03 with 160 MVA capacity new X-mer at 220 KV S/s., Bhillai-03. NIT Value :- Rs. 21.55 Lakhs & EMD:- Rs. 21,600/-, Completion Period:- 03 Months. 3. Rfx No.- 8100030743:- Construction of 01 No. 132 KV feeder bay for providing grid connectivity to M/s Godawari Power & Ispat Ltd. for their upcoming 20 MW-AC Solar Power Plant at 220 KV S/s., Thekkadih. NIT Value :- Rs. 15.79 Lakhs & EMD:- Rs. 15,800/-, Completion Period :- 02 Months. 4. Rfx No.- 8100030744:- Construction of new 132 KV feeder bay at 132/33 KV S/s., Bhanupratappur for giving power supply to M/s Godawari Power & Ispat Ltd., Aridongari Iron Ore Mines, Kacheche, Bhanupratappur. NIT Value :- Rs. 35.12 Lakhs & EMD:- Rs. 35,200/-, Completion Period:- 04 Months. 5. Rfx No.- 8100030745:- Construction of Executive Engineer (Civil)/Dn. office building at 132/33 KV S/s., Premises, Kanker. NIT Value :- Rs. 19.25 Lakhs & EMD:- Rs. 19,300/-, Completion Period:- 06 Months. 6. Rfx No.- 8100030753:- Civil work for construction of 01 No. Additional 220 KV feeder bay at 220 KV S/s., Doma (to accommodate new 220 KV Patan-Doma line). NIT Value :- Rs. 16.27 Lakhs & EMD:- Rs. 16,300/-, Completion Period:- 02 Months. 7. Rfx No.- 8100030766:- Hiring of 01 No. Jeep Category vehicle with one driver for 02 years for Assistant Engineer (Civil)-II, CSPTCL, Bhillai. NIT Value :- Rs. 14.09 Lakhs & EMD:- Rs.14,100/-, Completion Period:- 24 Months.

Cost per tender document to be submitted online for tender SI. No.-01,02,03,05,06 & 07 is Rs.590/- & SI. No.- 04 is Rs. 885/-per tender document (i/c GST). Last date for Online submission of Tender - upto 05:30 PM on 28.04.2023 • Last Date for physical submission of Technical bid - upto 02:00 PM on 01.05.2023 • Opening of Technical Bid at 04:00 PM on - 01.05.2023

The details of tender and terms & conditions are available on the e-procurement website <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> Any amendment/modification in the tender documents, will only be uploaded on the e-procurement website and shall not be published in any newspaper.

Superintending Engineer

SAVE ELECTRICITY S-36608/2 Chief Engineer (Civil) CSPTCL, Raipur

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER FOR APPOINTMENT OF ATVM FACILITATORS

No. : 2023/C/Chg./ATVM (I)/R, Date: 11.04.2023.

Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), South East Central Railway, Raipur Division invites applications in the prescribed format from interested Retired Group C & D Railway Employees, for appointment as Facilitators for issue of unreserved tickets through smart card based. (1) Name of Work: Appointment of ATVM Facilitators at Different Stations for issue of unreserved tickets through smart card based. (2) Date and time for submission of Application: Up to 15.00 hours on 17.05.2023. (3) Opening of Application Box: At 15.30 hours on 17.05.2023. (4) Submission of Sealed Applications: Application to be drop their sealed cover addressed to Sr.Divisional Commercial Manager/South East Central Railway, Raipur in the Application box kept in the box kept for this purpose in the office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, DRM Office Complex, South East Central Railway, Near Waitair Level Crossing Gate, RVH Colony, Raipur (Chhattisgarh) up to 15.00 hours of 17.05.2023.

For further details, eligibility criteria, Stations and the complete details for the above work, please contact office of the Sr. DCM/ South East Central Railway, Raipur or refer/download application document & other details which is available on our website: www.secr.indianrailways.gov.in.

DRM (Commercial) / PR/R/Sr.DCM/IP/14 Raipur

f South East Central Railway @seccrall

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम विलासपुर (छ.ग.)
ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

क्र.59/न.पा.नि./स.प्र./2023-24 दिनांक 12/04/2023
एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु ऑनलाइन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

सिस्टम टेंडर नं.	कार्य का विवरण	अनुमानित लागत (रु.लाख में)	निविदा डाउनलोड/सबमिट करने की अंतिम तिथि
130418	स्वामी आत्मानंद उल्कट अंग्रेजी माध्यम विद्यालय योजनांतर्गत कार्यनित शा.उ.मा.सा. सक्की में उन्नयन कार्य।	200.00	08-05-2023

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेबसाइट <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है। मुख्य अभियंता Green City, Clean City, Dream City. नगर पालिक निगम, विलासपुर (छ.ग.)

RAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
2nd Floor, Bhakt Mata Karma Commercial Complex, New Rajendra Nagar, RAIPUR (C.G.)
Email : ceordaryp@gmail.com, Website : <https://rda.cgstate.gov.in>
Toll Free No. 1800-233-7188

Notice Inviting Tender (SECOND CALL) Date 13.04.2023

Online Tenders are invited for "Sale of Amod-Pranod Land (Zone - 7A, Approx 10.50 HA - 25.95 Acres) (Freehold Ownership Rights) Near Boriya Lake At Sector-3A, Kamal Vihar, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)" 2nd Call

S. No.	System Tender No.	Location	Area (In Hect.) approx	Reserved Land Premium (INR Crore)	EMD (INR Crore)
1	130559	Sector-3A, Kamal Vihar	10.50	46.14 Cr.	1.40 Cr.

Tenderers shall download tender from website and tender processing fee is INR. 1.00 Lacs only (Including GST).
• Date of Pre-bid meeting - at 12:00 PM on 19.04.2023 • Last Date for Online submission of Tender - upto 05:30 PM on 28.04.2023 • Last Date for physical submission of Technical bid - upto 02:00 PM on 01.05.2023 • Opening of Technical Bid at 04:00 PM on - 01.05.2023

The details of tender and terms & conditions are available on the e-procurement website <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> Any amendment/modification in the tender documents, will only be uploaded on the e-procurement website and shall not be published in any newspaper.

विशेष सूचना : रायपुर विकास प्राधिकरण की विक्रय की जाने वाली सभी संपत्तियों के लिए कोई भी एजेंट, दलाल या ब्रोकर को नियुक्ति नहीं की गई है। प्लेनटर्स, प्लॉट, दुकानों व अन्य सभी विक्रय की जाने वाली संपत्तियों की जानकारी हेतु कार्यालय रायपुर विकास प्राधिकरण के मार्केटिंग शाखा से संपर्क करें।



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Bathinda Tragedy

The nation mourns the loss of four Army jawans who were killed in a firing incident at the Bathinda military station. The circumstances surrounding their deaths are still unclear, and authorities are investigating whether it was a terror attack or an instance of fratricide. However, before reaching any conclusions, it is crucial to thoroughly explore the possibility of external instigation. If the incident does turn out to be an instance of fratricide, it should serve as a wake-up call to address the root causes of suicide and fratricide in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Assam Rifles. A task force set up by the Ministry of Home Affairs had submitted a draft report to the Union Government in January that identified several factors contributing to these tragedies. Among them were tough service conditions, unresolved personal issues, humiliation in the workplace, access to weapons, fear of disciplinary or legal action, and prolonged deployment in high-risk areas without leave. The task force emphasized the importance of mental health awareness and recommended the use of experts to identify vulnerable personnel for stress management and psychological counseling. It also called for improving the grievance redressal system at every level. These recommendations should be implemented not just in the CAPFs and Assam Rifles but across all branches of the armed forces. Fratricide and suicide have a devastating impact on the morale of the armed forces and their battle readiness. They create opportunities for India's hostile neighbors to exploit and engage in misadventures. Disgruntled soldiers can become easy prey for anti-national forces, compromising the safety of military installations and vital information. It is therefore imperative to take all-out efforts to reduce stress among troops, including processing their leave applications compassionately and in a timely manner. Complaints about harassment by superiors or bullying by colleagues should also be taken seriously and acted upon promptly. One potential solution worth exploring is restricting access to weapons, although this should be done with caution. Limiting access to weapons can help preclude suicidal or fratricidal reactions, but it must be balanced with the need for troops to protect themselves in dangerous situations. The tragedy in Bathinda should be a catalyst for change. It is time to take a hard look at the working conditions and mental health of our armed forces and implement measures to address these issues. By doing so, we can honor the memory of the jawans who lost their lives and ensure that their sacrifices were not in vain. In a related development, a jawan claimed to have seen two unidentified men in white kurta-pyjama with covered faces and heads leaving the barracks after the firing. One of them was carrying an INSAS rifle and the other an axe. The suspects, who were of medium height, fled towards a forested area near the barracks upon seeing the jawan, according to the police FIR. The incident further underscores the need for increased security measures and vigilance at military installations.

Mangoes: A Nutritious Delight

Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

Mangoes are a tropical fruit enjoyed all over the world for their sweet and unique flavour. They come in different varieties, ranging from small to large sizes, and can be eaten raw or ripe. But mangoes are more than just a tasty treat. They are also a superfood that offers a wide range of health benefits. Mangoes are low in calories and high in fiber, making them an ideal choice for maintaining a healthy diet. They are also rich in nutrients such as folate, beta carotene, iron, vitamins A and C, calcium, zinc, and vitamin E. Mangoes are a good source of antioxidants and may help prevent chronic diseases such as cancer and heart disease. Furthermore, mangoes are a great source of potassium, which can aid in reducing blood pressure. Mangoes have been dubbed the "luscious superhero of fruit" by the American Heart Association due to their remarkable ability to enhance heart health. For instance, the fiber in mangoes is essential for maintaining digestive health. It helps regulate bowel movements, prevents constipation, and promotes the growth of good bacteria in the gut. The antioxidants in mangoes also play a crucial role in protecting the body against harmful free radicals that can cause cellular damage and contribute to chronic diseases such as cancer and heart disease. Speaking of heart health, mangoes are an excellent food choice for promoting cardiovascular health. The fiber in mangoes has been shown to help lower cholesterol levels, reduce the risk of heart disease, and improve blood sugar levels. Additionally, the potassium in mangoes can help regulate blood pressure, which is crucial for maintaining heart health. Mangoes also offer a host of benefits for skin health. The vitamins and antioxidants in mangoes can help protect the skin against sun damage, reduce the signs of aging, and promote overall skin health. Moreover, the high water content in mangoes can help keep the skin hydrated, which is crucial for maintaining healthy, youthful-looking skin. When it comes to eye health, mangoes are also a great choice. They are high in vitamins A and flavonoids, which are essential for maintaining good eyesight. These nutrients can help protect against age-related macular degeneration and other eye disorders. So, how can you incorporate mangoes into your diet? There are countless ways to enjoy this versatile fruit. You can eat them raw, add them to smoothies, use them as a topping for yogurt or oatmeal, or even use them in savory dishes such as salads or stir-fries. The possibilities are endless! Mangoes are a superfood that offers a host of health benefits. From promoting heart health to enhancing skin and eye health, the nutritional content of mangoes makes them an excellent addition to any diet. So, the next time you indulge in a juicy, sweet mango, know that you are not just enjoying a delicious treat, but also nourishing your body with essential nutrients.

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

BIJU FESTIVAL



A Chakma woman floats flowers on the Dew River during the Biju festival at Pencharthal in Unakoti district, Thursday, April 13.

How Social Media is Responsible in a Way of FOMO?

DR ARCHI DUBEY



The term FOMO stands for Fear of Missing Out! FOMO is a phenomenon that has gained widespread attention in recent years (between 2000 to 2004) due to the increasing use of social media platforms. FOMO is characterized by a feeling of anxiety or insecurity that arises when one believes that they are missing out on a rewarding experience or opportunity. While FOMO is often associated with social media, it is a broader concept that has been studied in various contexts. After entry of numerous social media sites, the screen time of people has been tremendously increased. Thereafter, they are suffering from the fear of missing out, which increases the stress, anxiety, towards obsession of checking posts and documentations in social media.

FOMO is difficult to measure and define. The concept is highly subjective, and individuals may experience FOMO differently based on their personality, values, and social context. This makes it challenging to develop a standardized measure of FOMO, which can limit the comparability and generalizability of research findings.

Who are the sufferers?
The worst sufferer of FOMO are the youngsters but the person who is using the social media are equally prone to FOMO than the person who is not using that. The person which is using multiple social media at a time is more likely to be at risk and experience

FOMO because he is open to watch the reels, status, pictures and videos uploaded by their social connections and often feel void when they are not confronted with the similar situations or lifestyles. These are principally the extrovert persons.

The person who is introvert and avoid meeting people publicly and social connections are disposed to the risk of FOMO since they use social media to side-step their loneliness.

FOMO can also impact adolescence in terms of their self-esteem and sense of self-worth. Adolescents may compare themselves to others, particularly on social media, and feel inadequate or inferior if they perceive that others are having more exciting experiences or living more fulfilling lives. This can lead to feelings of depression, anxiety, and low self-esteem. In conclusion, FOMO can have a significant impact on adolescence.

It is important for parents, teachers, and caregivers to help adolescents navigate this challenging time and provide support to help them develop a healthy sense of self-worth and confidence. Encouraging adolescents to engage in activities that they enjoy and value, rather than simply trying to keep up with their peers, can help them to feel more secure and confident in themselves.

How does it Works?
Social media can be a contributing factor to FOMO. Social media platforms are designed to showcase the highlights of people's lives and often promote a culture of comparison.

When people post something on social media, they get positive feedback in the form of likes or comments or celebrations in one or other way, then they feel like rewarded. This increases their sense of belongingness towards social media and increase the tendency to repost. This is following the theo-

ry of reinforcement which explains that the likelihood of any action increases after getting positive rewards. It is also heading towards the compulsive behaviour of refreshing and checking phones again and again to check for new social connections and new posts, likes and comments in their posts.

Through social media people can virtually see the status of their connections, photos and updates, after watching the same they may suffer from fear of missing of those things from their lives. Contradictory to this if they are doing the similar things, they perceive that their belongingness towards that social media community get increased and they feel obsessed. They flaunt themselves in various ways to annoy others and content themselves with overscheduling in social media, this gives them a feeling of satisfaction.

Gradually people feel fatigued from social media after overscheduling there which results in various disarrays like depression, sleeping disorders, loss of appetite, lack of concentration etc. The use of their favourite social media to relief the stress after the work or for leisure make people even more anxious.

Every third teen feel worse if he/she spends more time in the social media. The more the time they spend on watching social media they feel more anxious about what others are doing in their life, how they are enjoying vacations. They keep an eye constantly on social media to stay connected with others. The teens define their lives based on what goes around the social media. When they compare their life with others, they feel a sense of inferiority complex, low self-esteem and low social rank. This feeling leads to mental health problems, social and physical complications as well. Frequently checking mobile phones for getting social media

feeds results in distraction from the driving and studying.

It is believed that it is FOMO which carried the sustained popularity of social media further. Currently the teens are doing everything to post in their social media to get ample of likes and support. If they are successful in getting a capacious number of likes and comments, then they feel like conquering the mountain with a very high self-esteem. Subsequently, they keep on a check on the likes and comments, because again it gives rise to FOMO the likes and comments on their posts.

However, it is important to note that social media is not solely responsible for FOMO. FOMO can stem from a variety of factors, including societal pressures, peer pressure, and personal insecurities. Social media can simply amplify these feelings, making them more pervasive and difficult to escape.

Overall, while FOMO is a concept that has gained widespread attention, it remains a controversial and complex phenomenon. More research is needed to fully understand its effects on mental health and well-being, and to develop effective strategies for managing it. In the meantime, individuals can take steps to reduce the negative impact of FOMO on their lives, such as setting boundaries with social media use and focusing on their own values and goals.

That being said, it is important for individuals to be mindful of their social media use and how it may be impacting their mental health. Taking breaks from social media, setting boundaries around usage, and prioritizing offline activities and relationships can all help to alleviate the pressure of FOMO.

(Writer is Assistant Professor, Faculty of Management Studies, The ICAI University, Raipur. Views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hotchpotch list

Publicizing its first list of 189 campaigners for the Karnataka Assembly choices the BJP contended as numerous as 52 new campaigners and retained 90 sitting MLAs including 11 from the Congress and JDS who crossed over in 2019 to help it wrest power from the coalition. In all, the first list has 8 women, 32 OBC candidates, 30 from SC communities, and 16 from ST communities. Profession and education-wise, it has 9 doctors, 5 advocates, 3 academics, and 31 postgraduates appears to be hotchpotch. However not even a single ticket given to Muslim candidate clearly indicates BJP is against Muslims. The BJP veteran MLAs who have been dropped from the list include Ramadas, Raghupathy Bhat Anil Benake, S Angara from Sullia, rebel MLA Anand Singh, Halady Srinivas Shetty Laxman Savadi, Eshwarappa, Jagadish Goolihatti Shekar seems to be a shocking. Vijay Kumar H K, Raichur; Karnataka

A New World Order

The recent statement by the French President advocating for the EU to pursue an independent stance on the Taiwan issue marks the beginning of a new world order. By asserting its autonomy, the EU weakens the grip of the US on its policies. Meanwhile, Russia and China have formed a united front against the US on the Ukraine issue, and China has successfully shifted the balance of power in the world. To counter this trend, the US must focus on building alliances with countries that share its interest in containing China's influence, and refrain from engaging in proxy wars against Russia. Failure to do so risks the loss of control over NATO and other allied countries. It is time for the EU to assert its autonomy and take a leading role in shaping the new world order.

Rajesh Sharma, Korba

Protecting India's Big Cats

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Project Tiger, it is encouraging to see progress in the conservation of big cat populations. However, to continue this success, we must address human-animal conflict and protect dedicated corridors. India's approach of balancing ecology and economy is commendable, but more work is needed in the laws that enable coexistence. We must ensure that the proposed Bill incorporates a clause for wildlife conservation and protects areas rich in biodiversity. With practical measures to limit human presence in corridors, we can reduce conflict and protect our forests. Let us build on the success of Project Tiger and take steps to safeguard the future of our big cats.

MKN, Raipur

MAN FOR RELIGION/CASTE

Kajal Chatterjee

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had asserted "I tell you, religion is for man and not man for religion". Perhaps his words have turned "antique" and so immediately requires to be junked. Presently man is for religious shrines, epic and mythological figures, mythical unseen rivers urgently in need of "rejuvenation", "holy" animals and "sacred" books. Today religion is not for married couples even, rather matrimonial bonds are for religion; with divine love getting interpreted as "jihad" of sorts.

So by ignoring all "stories" revolving poverty-malnutrition-hunger-illiteracy-child labour-human trafficking-unemployment; let's invest all our energy, time and resource to commemorate epic figures monopolised by the "religious" brigade and revolve our precious lives around myths, rituals and

"sanctity" of animals. Never mind if billions of fellow citizens remain deprived of minimum dignity and rights entitled to human beings! After all, man is for religion. Man was/is also for Caste as well.

Pre-Islamic or Pre-British "Hindu" India was such a "great" land mass of "humanity" "principles" "values" and "liberalism" that the Dalits had to hang a metallic object around their neck so that if their path crosses with an "upper caste", the latter will get alert by the metallic sound and move away from the "untouchable" shadow of the former. In Kerala, Dalit women were barred from sporting any piece of cloth on their upper bodies. Hiding modesty remained the "sole preserve" of the "upper caste". And when the Dalits rebelled and asked their women to sport dresses on upper bodies, the "upper castes" barbarically engaged in a mass massacre of the Dalits. Oh what

a specimen of "Indian unity" in the land of Yoga.

And this Yoga has still not succeeded in "unifying" the nation despite the passing of centuries after centuries as that venom of casteism is still thriving in full swing! In many rural areas of this "elite" nation of attaining Mars orbit, Dalits often get beaten up for using wells or ponds "reserved" for the non-Dalits. In "highly modern and technological" Karnataka, Dalits of a village (not far from "progressive" Bangalore) were reported to walk about 12 kilometers to and fro to a town for a mere haircut or shave. Why? Not for absence of saloons, but a blanket ban had been imposed on the barbers not to entertain the Dalits as the saloons are frequented by the people of "higher caste hierarchies".

In that "model of development" named Gujarat, Dalits had not only been notoriously beaten up publicly in Una, news

arrived of a Dalit woman being physically assaulted for daring to sit on a chair in a village school! Often Dalit grooms get beaten up from Punjab to Gujarat for their "sin" of riding a horse during marriage procession! Somewhere they get assaulted for keeping a moustache also. And right from Rajasthan to Tamil Nadu, Dalits are often not allowed to be cremated as the crematoriums are perhaps the "paternal property" of the "upper caste. Yes, Yoga-enriched India, advising the world on "unity", doesn't spare even the corpse of a Dalit. What a shame and disgrace. All "proud" Indians should hang their heads in disgust by witnessing such a series of barbaric inhumanity. Only dialogues after dialogues with not a single meaningful constructive step to speak of.

Babasaheb Ambedkar had to follow the lecture of the teachers by remaining outside the

classroom so that his entry did not "pollute the environment". "Hindu brotherhood" indeed! Unfortunately in many parts of the country, the situation in this respect has hardly improved. So one and only establishing a strict sense of law and order with the culprits being handed harshest possible punishment for daring to physically assault another human being or woman, for his/her "fault" of being born to a particular caste, can improve the situation. Yes, only when the likes of casteist violent brutes would be prosecuted, awarded exemplary punishment and thrown behind bars for several years; their fellow-minded counterparts will think twice before indulging in such barbaric violence -- both physical as well as cultural or psychological in the form of caste. And on that day we can pay proper tribute to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar through practical deeds, not mere words.

BRIEF

Relief camps



Jaipur: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Wednesday held a detailed discussion on inflation relief camps, to be organised from April 24 to provide relief to people from rising prices.

Ugandan businesses



Kampala: India's progress and prosperity can create new opportunities that can benefit Uganda, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said, as he met the Indian business community here and encouraged it to bolster bilateral business ties for growth and development.

Investment destination



Ahmedabad: A delegation of all-party MPs from the UK met with Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel in Gandhinagar. During the meeting with the all-party Parliamentary Group of the British parliament on trade and investment, Patel pitched for Gujarat as the sought-after destination to set up businesses given the availability of logistical infrastructure and investor-friendly atmosphere.

India's exports up 6 pc to USD 447 billion in 2022-23

Rome, Apr 13:

The country's exports rose by about 6 per cent to a "record" USD 447 billion during 2022-23 on account of healthy growth in the outbound shipments of sectors such as petroleum, pharma and chemicals and marine, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday.

formance for 2022-23, with India's overall exports scaling new heights at USD 770 billion, registering 14 per cent growth over the previous year and all-time high record growing from USD 500 billion in 2020-21 to USD 676 billion in 2021-22," the minister told reporters here.

The overall imports of goods and services have touched USD 892 billion and it reflects that the country's economic activities are growing and that has supported the exports.

In the goods segment, sectors which recorded growth include oil meals, electronic goods, tobacco, oil seeds, rice, coffee, fruits and vegetables, leather goods, ceramic, pharma, marine products, chemicals, and ready-made garments of textiles. Services

imports are estimated at USD 178 billion in 2022-23 as against USD 147 billion a year ago. Goyal said that the exports of goods and services has increased by about USD 100 billion to cross USD 770 billion in such challenging times, when the world is seeing softening and slowing of international trade, recessionary conditions in the developed world, and unprecedented high inflation in many developed countries.

There were concerns because of the conflict in Russia, Ukraine; there were also concerns that piled up inventories in the developed world may not help us achieve such a "stupendous" performance, he added.

Infosys Q4 net profit rises 7.8 pc to Rs 6,128 crore

New Delhi, Apr 13:

Infosys on Thursday posted a 7.8 per cent year-on-year rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 6,128 crore in March quarter of FY23, and gave 4-7 per cent revenue growth forecast for FY24 amid macro economic uncertainties.

The net profit (after minority interest) stood at Rs 5,686 crore in the fourth quarter of FY22. Seen sequentially, the net profit for Q4 came in 7 per cent lower. The results were below street estimates. The Bengaluru-based Infosys - which competes in the market with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Wipro and other IT firms -- also logged a 16 per cent year-on-year growth in consolidated revenue in the fourth quarter of FY23 at Rs



Infosys CEO Salil Parekh (left) with CFO Nilanjan Roy during a press conference to announce the 4th quarter financial results of the company, at Infosys headquarters in Bengaluru, Thursday, April 13.

37,441 crore. Infosys has given revenue growth guidance of 4-7 per cent for FY24. Infosys, during Q3 earnings announcement in January this year, had raised FY23 revenue guidance to 16-16.5 per cent against the previously projected band of 15-16 per cent. For the full year FY23, the net profit was up 9 per cent on year at Rs

24,095 crore, while revenue was 20.7 per cent higher at Rs 146,767 crore. "As the environment has changed, we see strong interest from our clients for efficiency, cost and consolidation opportunities, resulting in a strong large deal pipeline," Infosys CEO and MD Salil Parekh said in a statement.

Arohan Financial Services opens 102 new branches in FY 23

Kolkata, Apr 13:

Arohan Financial Services Limited, Kolkata-based, leading, digitally advanced NBFC-MFI in India, has opened 102 new branches in FY 23 to expand its footprints to the underserved states of the country spanning east, west, central and north-east India.

for the rural youth, as well as enhanced access to credit for the financially under-penetrated segment of the society. Its new business line, ArohanPrivilege Digital Lending is India's first Digital Lending platform for microfinance customers.

NMDC presented with Greenleaf Platinum Award

For remarkable works in Kirandul's mining project

Goa, Apr 13:

Under leadership of the Project Head of NMDC Limited Kirandul Vinay Kumar, Chief General Manager, many activities and works are being carried out under his guidance. In this context, for remarkable works being done in the field of environment in the project's mining field, Apex India Foundation has honoured NMDC's Kirandul Project with Greenleaf Platinum Award at the national level, in the environmental category, in the field of Metal and



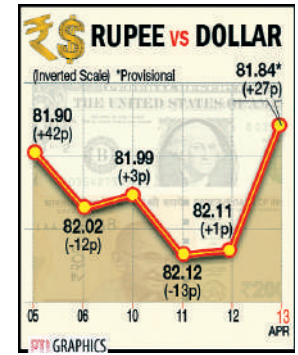
Mining. This award was presented in a grand programme organised at Hotel Taj Cidade, Goa, at the hands of well-known Bollywood cine actress Poonam Dhillon, former Major General and well-known expert on India's defence issues

PK Sehgal to General Manager (Production) SB Singh and Manager (Environment) D Mandal last on Tuesday. For this achievement, Vinay Kumar, CGM and BK Madhav CGM (Personnel) have extended greetings to both.

Rupee gains 27 paise to close at 81.84 against US dollar

New Delhi, Apr 13:

The rupee appreciated 27 paise to close at 81.84 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, tracking the broad weakness of the American currency in the overseas market. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 81.99 against the US currency and finally closed at 81.84 (provisional) against the greenback, registering a gain of 27 paise over its previous close. During the session, the rupee touched a high of 81.83 and a low of 82.01 against the dollar. On Wednesday, the rupee closed at 82.11 against the US currency. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six cur-



rencies, fell 0.23 per cent to 101.26. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures declined 0.27 per cent to USD 87.09 per barrel. On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share BSE Sensex advanced 38.23 points or 0.06 per cent to end at 60,431.00 and the broader NSE Nifty gained 15.60 points or 0.09 per cent to 17,828.

Fino Payments Bank takes Suryoday SFB's high interest offering Fixed Deposit services

Mumbai, Apr 13:

Following RBI's approval earlier this fiscal, Fino Payments Bank ("Fino Bank", "The Bank") has commenced offering referral services of Fixed Deposits (FD) of its partner bank, Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SSFB). Over the years FD has emerged as the most preferred instrument to save and invest.

FD services can now be accessed from Fino Bank's mobile app FinoPay as well as its widely distributed physical network.

The Bank's extensive network reaching tier 2, 3 and remote areas enables better access to FD services that is expected to increase usage and improve household savings. Fino Bank and SSFB's FD offering aims for safety and growth of customers' funds.

The service is initially available to Fino Bank's existing 67 lakh as well as new on-boarded CASA customers. One can book an FD from any of the Bank's omni-platform channels i.e. FinoPay app, branches and own network of over 6 lakh points across the country.

Markets extend gains for 9th session on fag-end buying; bank stocks shine

Mumbai, Apr 13:

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty ticked higher for the ninth straight session on Thursday, buoyed by fag-end buying in banking, financial and realty stocks amid encouraging domestic retail inflation data. Weak trends in IT counters and fall in the overnight US equity markets triggered by fresh concerns over recession, however, put a check on market's uptrend. In a largely subdued session, the 30-share BSE Sensex went up marginally by 38.23 points or 0.06 per cent to settle at 60,431. During the day, it hit a high of 60,486.91 and a low of 60,081.43. The broader NSE Nifty climbed 15.60 points or 0.09 per cent to finish at 17,828.

Advertisement for Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Sarva Janik Jyanti Samaroh 2023, featuring a list of dignitaries and speakers.

Advertisement for Bhilai Maitri College, affiliated to Hemchand Yadav University, featuring a portrait of S. Sajjan and contact information.

Advertisement for Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Jyanti Ki Hardik Shubhkaamna, featuring a portrait of Anil Mehra and contact information.

Samantha recalls being disrespected by designers in the past

The 35-year-old South Indian actress, Samantha Ruth Prabhu, discussed the advancements in regional cinema and how far it has come in recent years. She shared the challenges that she and her colleagues faced in the past, citing instances when they struggled to source garments from designers because of their regional background. She recalled how they were asked, "Who are you? South actor? What south?" and were disrespected in the process. Despite the challenges, Samantha remains optimistic about the progress that has been made, especially in terms of inclusivity. She spoke about her upcoming film 'Shaakuntalam', which has over 3,000 costumes made by designer Neeta Lulla for the actors, supporting cast, and junior artistes, highlighting the strides that have been made. She concluded that the inclusivity in the industry is quite amazing, and they have finally reached where they should be. In recent years, South Indian films such as 'RRR', 'KGF' franchise, 'Pushpa: The Rise' and 'Kantara', among many others, have given Hindi cinema a run for their money at the box-office, showing that regional cinema has gained significant momentum and is now being recognized on a national level.

'Film 'Middle class love' proved to be the turning point for me'

Kavya Thapar is known for her performances in films and web series like Ek Mini Katha, Market Raja MBBS, Ee Maaya Peremito and Farzi. Her movie Middle Class Love is soon going to have its world television premiere on &Pictures on 15th April, 12 Noon.

Excerpts of interview:
Can you tell us something about your family background? Were they supportive of your career? What was their reaction?

I was born and brought up in Mumbai only. My grandfather was originally from Jhelum in Pakistan, but after the partition the entire family moved to Mumbai including my immediate as well as extended family. Also, as we live in a joint family, we are closely connected to one another and always support each other in every aspect. So when it comes to being supportive, for them it was all about my happiness. Initially, I had no idea that



I would be part of this industry, but my family has always supported my career choices, be it my father who is a builder by profession, my mother who is a homemaker or even my brother, Abhimanyu, who owns his own restaurant in the city.

I have graduated with a BMS (Bachelors in management studies) and my aim was to secure a degree and then venture into whatever career field that would interest me. I had no sources or an in-road into the industry, but towards the final year of

my college, things started to fall in place. I was called for an audition at YRF (Yash Raj Films) and I am sure Shanu ma'am must have seen some potential in me which is why she conducted a personal workshop with me. She was also of the opinion that I should lay more focus on my acting skills and enhance it. This is exactly how I made my pathway into the industry and it wouldn't be wrong to say that my destiny was on my side.

So support wise, my family has always trusted my decisions and I don't



but she does some things in the film due to incidents that have impacted her life in the past. As she is still a college student, she is trying to figure out her life. Her family does not stay with her and because of that, her friends are her family. As you watch the film, you will understand Saisha and her actions better.

What are your upcoming projects?

I am shortly going to announce a new project; it's a Hindi movie itself. Apart from that, I am working in 2 Telugu films, one is Ooru Peru Bhairavakona and the other is Eagle which will hopefully be released this year. I am also working in a Tamil film which will release in May. So basically, it's mostly in the south that I will be seen soon. Additionally, I am excited for CAT Season 2 and Farzi Season 2 also.

Watch World Television Premiere of Middle Class Love on &Pictures on 15th April, 12 Noon.

think that I have ever let them down.

Can you please share something about your character in the film?

Sure. Saisha Oberoi, the character that I am playing is an extremely well known influencer from Mussoorie and enjoys styling and staying updated with the latest fashion on Instagram at all times. Her family background is contradictory to the film name; middle class as she comes from a rich family. She is not very egoistic,

Nana Patekar set to make OTT debut

Nana Patekar, a renowned actor in Hindi cinema, is all set to make his debut in the world of streaming with the upcoming political thriller series titled 'Laal Batti', directed by Prakash Jha. This project was announced as part of Jio Studios' content slate, which includes over 100 stories in multiple languages across various genres of films and original web series.

The star-studded event, where the content slate was unveiled, took place at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. Some of the biggest names in the industry, including Raj Kumar Hirani, Sooraj Barjatya, Ali Abbas Zafar, Aditya Dhar, Prakash Jha,



Amar Kaushik, and Laxman Utekar, will release their projects as part of this slate.

Along with 'Laal Batti', the film line-up includes exciting titles such as 'Bhul Chuk Maaf', 'Stree 2', 'Mumbaikar', and many more. The streaming series vertical is also packed with highly anticipated projects, such as 'Union: The Making of India', 'Inspector Avinash', and 'Doctors'. The slate includes Marathi, Bengali, and Gujarati original web series, catering to a diverse audience. Jio Studios is one of the few content companies to invest in premium Marathi original web series like 'Kaal sutra', 'Eka Kaleche Mani', and 'Aga Aai Aho Aai'.

There's thin line between intimate & vulgar,' says Zayn Ibad Khan of 'Aashiqana'

Actor Zayn Ibad Khan, who plays Yash in the streaming show 'Aashiqana', opened up about filming intimate scenes for the show. He shared that there's a thin line between intimacy and vulgarity and an actor should always be mindful of how the scene is turning out on the screen because the camera notices everything.

The actor said: "First of all, you know, there's a very thin line in being intimate and just being vulgar, right. It's just up to you, how you convey or portray it. We've seen romantic scenes before, in everything, it is a very sensitive topic to shoot. We need proper coordination like camera man, director, DOP, and Khushi, she is a sport."

For every actor, doing an intimate scene can be a tricky task. A lot of work goes behind getting it right and making sure the audiences are happy with the end product.

The actor further mentioned: "I also have to make sure that she is comfortable and she's also doing the same, she's doing the most of it. And as everybody knows, she's an amazing actor. So just yeah, it's fun. I try to do every possible thing, every nuance, every small thing convincingly and shooting intimate



scenes is something of a different ball game altogether and I'm glad that people have accepted it in a very good way and not in a vulgar way."

The show, after the successful run of its two seasons, has returned with its third season.

Star Bharat's leading ladies shares their wishes for 'Baisakhi'



day, for which they shared many special things and their experiences with their fans regarding Baisakhi.

Ayushi Khurrana 'Aka Ajooni'

This year I'll be shooting on my sets of Star Bharat's 'Ajooni' so will celebrate Baisakhi on sets with all my crew members. Every year I go to gurudwara on the eve of Baisakhi and eat murr-mura's so since I'll be shooting this year I'll take murr-mura and gachak for all my crew members. I wish all my fans a very Happy Baisakhi.

Reena Kapoor aka Bhawana from 'Aashao Ka Savera Dheere Dheere Se'

This year on Baisakhi I'll be shooting on sets of Aashao Ka Savera Dheere Dheere Se but I'll make sure that I go to gurudwara and pray. I make it sure that no matter how busy I am I go to gurudwara and offer my gratitude to babaji on every festival. I'd like to wish my fans a very happy Baisakhi.

Stay tuned to watch Star Bharat every Monday-Friday for more interesting updates.

Baisakhi is traditionally celebrated as the new year of the Sikhs. Baisakhi is a harvest festival for the people of Punjab. In Punjab, Vaisakhi marks the ripening of the Rabi crop. This day is celebrated by the farmers as a thanksgiving

day, whereby the farmers thank God for the bountiful harvest and also pray for future prosperity. Apart from Punjab and Haryana, the festival of Baisakhi is also very important in North India. Star Bharat actors are also very excited about this

Aditya Narayan takes a digital break, deletes all posts from Instagram

Television host and singer Aditya Narayan has announced that he is taking a "digital break" and has deleted all his pictures from his Instagram handle. In a long note shared on Tuesday, Aditya revealed that he wants to spend more time in the real world.

He wrote, "Before anyone jumps the gun, let me inform all my well-wishers that I'm absolutely fine. I am on a digital break, happily spending time with my daughter, wife, parents & loved ones along with putting finishing touches to my debut album 'Saansein'." Aditya ex-



plained that he deleted all his previous posts from Instagram because it's like his digital canvas, and he wishes to erase his previous imprints and begin anew.

The 'Tattad Tattad' hitmaker further added, "I am also a firm believer that one must, every once in a while, disconnect from our current social confines, spend time with yourself and look within, for that is where I have gained life's deepest insights." He emphasized that good health is multi-dimensional, including physical, mental, and spiritual well-being, and that he aspires to lead a wholesome life.

Raghav shares how he bagged his first Salman Khan film

This weekend, Sony Entertainment Television's The Kapil Sharma Show will have dhamakedaar episodes as megastar Salman Khan will grace the show with his damdaar presence! Joining him in this laugh riot will be the impressive star cast of the highly awaited film, Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan - Pooja Hegde, Shehnaaz Gill, Raghav Juyal, Palak Tiwari, Jassi Gill, Siddharth Nigam, Vinali Bhatnagar, and Sukhbir. In an entertainment extravaganza like none other, the special guests will not only be seen cracking up on the amusing antics of Kapil's atrangi parivaar but will also share some fun tidbits about their lives.



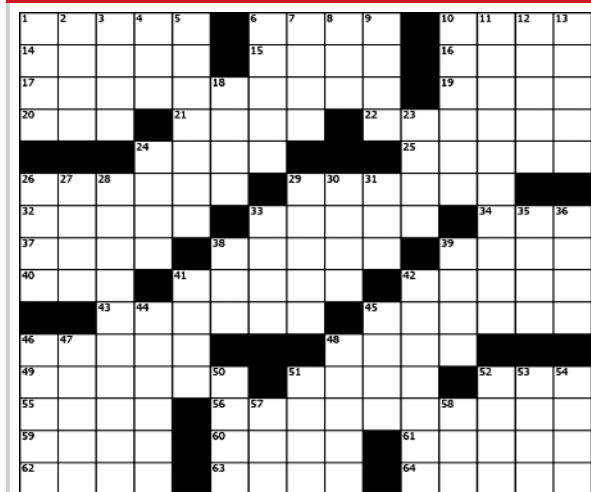
Amidst all the candid conversation, Raghav Juyal, the dancing star famous for his slow-motion walk will be seen revealing how he bagged the role in

Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ka Jaan. He shares, "I was shooting for another project when one of my team members came running to me saying that Salman Khan is

calling you! I responded in a calm manner saying that I would call back later because I thought it was Salman Yusuff Khan my fellow dancer (Laughs). Then the guy said no it's THE SALMAN KHAN. I was in shock because never in my wildest dream did I ever think that Salman Khan would call me directly.

I rushed to the phone thinking that he would ask me to choreograph but instead, I was surprised to know that he was offering me a role in his film. I was silent for 2 minutes. And that's how I got my break in a Salman Khan movie." Tune into 'The Kapil Sharma Show' every Saturday and Sunday at 9:30 PM only on Sony Entertainment Television.

CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Exams
 - Historic periods
 - Snow toy
 - Potato state
 - TV host Jay _____
 - Songstress _____ Turner
 - Northeastern US (2 wds.)
 - Bellow
 - Printers' measures
 - Not ever, poetically
 - Spiritualist meeting
 - William or Sean
 - Shopping reminders
 - Stir up
 - Uses the oven
 - Advertising lights
 - Poetry
 - Pelvic bone
 - Lincoln's coin
 - Festive events
 - Corridor
 - Classified _____

615

- DOWN**
- Fork feature
 - Eve's home
 - Cutting tools
 - Common article
 - 14-line poems
 - Actress _____ Barkin
 - "_____ Window"
 - "Raggedy" doll
 - Lays turf
 - Narrow waterway
 - Largest portion (2 wds.)
 - Legislate
 - Is bold
 - Actor _____ Hackman
 - Differently
 - Half quart
 - Machu Picchu native
 - Deficiency
 - Moral motivation
 - Rent again
 - Vocal
 - Pack animal
 - Barn ornament
 - Evils
 - Conspiracy
 - Tank filler
 - Bonnets
 - Sulk
 - In the middle
 - Reduce
 - _____ Carvey of SNL
 - Formal necktie
 - Actress _____ Keaton
 - Drunk
 - Sour
 - Hymnal word
 - India's locale
 - Singer Diana _____
 - Leg joint
 - Keats work
 - Rage

SOLUTION 614



High-flying KKR face SRH, eye hat-trick of wins

Kolkata, Apr 13 (PTI):

On a high after Rinku Singh's phenomenal knock, Kolkata Knight Riders will be gunning for a hat-trick of victories when they face a resurgent Sunrisers Hyderabad in the Indian Premier League here on Friday.

Having started off their campaign with a reversal against Punjab Kings at Mohali, KKR found two unlikely heroes in two matches to get their campaign up and running.

First, it was Shardul Thakur's storm with the bat that took a star-studded Royal Challengers Bangalore by surprise as the pace bowling all-rounder's 29-ball 68 led KKR to their first win of the season, a dominant 81-run victory. Then the low-profile Rinku has become the flavour of the season after pulling off the greatest heist in T20 history by scoring 31 runs in the last over to win a match.

KKR defeated the reigning champions Gujarat



Match starts: 7.30pm IST

Titans by three wickets in their den, the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, courtesy Rinku's astonishing power-hitting.

The two-time former champions, who were hit hard by the absence of their skipper Shreyas Iyer and star allrounder Shakib-Al-Hasan and were written off by many following a low-key auction, suddenly have become the side to beat this season. That the two wins have come without any significant contribution from

their star power-hitter Andre Russell and skipper Nitish Rana, make them an even more dangerous side.

As for SRH, the Aiden Markram-led side looks strong on paper after some big buys like Harry Brook, Mayank Agarwal and Heinrich Klaasen at the auction.

Overflowing with white-ball specialists, SRH, however, have failed to impress in their first two matches. However, a Rahul Tripathi special - 48-ball unbeaten 74 - led them to their first win of the season when they defeated Punjab Kings by

eight wickets. Boosted by the win, the Brian Lara-coached side would look to hold on to their winning momentum and give KKR a strong fight at home.

Tripathi will be up against his former team, playing the role of holding the innings together in the middle overs. Tripathi is someone who can rotate the strike in the middle overs and land a counter-attacking punch with his ability to tackle spin.

SRH would be hoping for the likes of Brook and Klaasen to fire and put up a big total.

Dhoni nursing a knee injury, Magala out for two weeks: Fleming

Chennai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Chennai Super Kings captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni is nursing a knee injury, which is hindering his movement somewhat, said head coach Stephen Fleming after the four-time IPL champions lost a last-ball thriller to Rajasthan Royals by three runs.

Adding to the injury worries, CSK's South African pace bowler Sisanda Magala too suffered a split webbing at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Wednesday night.

"He (Dhoni) is nursing a knee injury, which you can see in some of his movement, hindering him somewhat. His fitness has been professional. He comes in months before the tournament starts. He does some nets in Ranchi, but his main pre-season is a month before he comes to Chennai," Fleming told reporters at the post-match press conference after CSK suffered their



second defeat in four games this season.

Seamer Sandeep Sharma nailed a couple of perfect block-hole deliveries to earn a hard-fought victory for the Royals.

Chasing 176, Dhoni (32) and Ravindra Jadeja (25) were on course requiring 21 runs off the last over.

CSK's final score was 172/6 as Dhoni couldn't end his 200th game for CSK in a manner he would have wanted to on home turf.

Fleming, though, expressed confidence that the former India captain will manage his injury well and will continue to

lead the side. "He works his way back into match form, and you can still see he is playing pretty well. So we always have confidence about how he manages himself. He always keeps himself up to speed," said Fleming, allaying concerns about Dhoni's fitness.

Aman Sehrawat lines himself up for gold



Asian Championship
Astana, Apr 13 (PTI):

Aman Sehrawat continued to impress on the senior circuit as he stormed into the final of the 57kg competition at the Asian Wrestling Championships even as two other Indians reached the bronze-medal round here Thursday.

Sehrawat, who trains at Delhi's famed Chhatrasal stadium, got the better of Japan's Rikuto Arai 7-1 in the quarterfinal before beating China's Wanhao Zou 7-4 in the semifinal.

Sehrawat, who won the U23 World Championships

last year, will now clash with Kyrgyzstan's Almaz Smanbekov in the gold-medal bout. It will be a second podium finish of the 2023 season for Sehrawat, who had won a bronze at the Zagreb Open in February. Deepak Kukna (79kg) and Deepak Nehra (97kg) will fight for bronze medals after losing their respective semifinals even as Anuj Kumar (65kg) and Mulayam Yadav (70kg) could not reach the medal round. India have won 11 medals so far in the competition. The Greco-Roman wrestlers won four medals while the women grapplers grabbed seven.

Ashwin fined for breaching IPL code of conduct

Chennai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Rajasthan Royals off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin was on Thursday fined 25 per cent of his match fee for breaching the IPL code of conduct during his side's match against Chennai Super Kings here.

Ashwin was fined for breaching Article 2.7 of the IPL's code of conduct during the match which the Royals won by three runs on Wednesday night. "Ashwin admitted to the Level 1 Offence under Article 2.7 of the IPL's Code of Conduct. For Level 1 breaches of the Code of Conduct, the Match Referee's decision is final and binding," a statement from the IPL said.

The statement did not mention the nature of the offence but Article 2.7 of code of conduct for players and team officials relates to "public criticism of, or inappropriate competition in relation to an incident occurring in a match or any player, team official, match official or team



participating in any match, irrespective of when such criticism or inappropriate comment is made".

After the match, Ashwin had said that he was left puzzled by the umpires' decision to change

the ball on their own because of the dew at Chepauk on Wednesday, and had called for consistency while taking such decisions.

The heavy dew at the MA Chidambaram Stadium forced the umpires to intervene and change the ball during CSK's run chase, leaving Ashwin, who returned figures of 2/25, "surprised".

Ashwin said he had never before seen the umpires changing the ball because of excessive dew.

"I'm quite surprised the umpires changed the ball for dew on their own. It's never happened before and I'm quite surprised. Some of the decisions in this year's IPL on the field have left me a little flummoxed to be honest," said the India stalwart at the post-match press conference.

"I mean, (it) left me flummoxed in a good or a bad way. It's because I think what you need is a little bit of balance," said Ashwin, who was adjudged 'Player of the Match'.

India name 39-member team for Suhl Junior Shooting World Cup

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

India on Thursday named a 39-member squad for the ISSF World Cup Junior Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun shooting competition to be held in Suhl, Germany from June 1 to 6.

The Junior World Cup will be followed by the Junior World Championships in July in Chagnwon, Korea.

The squad announced by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) has some familiar names, who have been representing the country at the junior level for some time now, including the likes of Simranjeet Kaur Brar, Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu and Sameer in pistol, Abhinav Shaw and Dhanush Srikanth in rifle and Shardul Vihan and Preeti Rajak in shotgun.

Some upcoming shooters include Gautami Bhanot and Swati Chowdhary in rifle, Abhinav Chaudhary and Shubham Bisla in pistol and Sabeera Haris and Harmehar Singh Lally in shotgun.

Neeraj Chopra to start season at Doha Diamond League on May 5

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will begin his season at the Diamond League meeting in Doha on May 5, as one of the top draws in a star-studded field.

The 25-year-old Chopra, the reigning Diamond League champion after winning the grand finale in September last, will join world champion Anderson Peters of Grenada and Olympic silver medalist Jakub Vadlejch of the Czech Republic in the first meet of the 14-leg one-day series of the season.

Chopra, who has a personal best of 89.94m which he achieved while finishing second at last year's Stockholm Diamond League meeting, is currently training in Turkiye. He will be there till May 31.

Due to an injury, the Indian superstar missed the 2022 Doha Diamond League Meeting where Peters sent the spear to 93.07m, the fifth-longest throw in history, to win the



title. World Championships bronze medalist Vadlejch had finished second with a personal best throw of 90.88m. Alongside the decorated trio, the Doha Meeting will also see European champion Julian Weber of Germany, the Olympic and world fourth-place finisher with a best of 89.54m, former Olympic champion Keshorn Walcott (PB: 90.16m) of Trinidad & Tobago, former world champion and 2016 Olympic silver medalist Julius Yego (PB: 92.72m) of Kenya.

One of the targets for Chopra, the first Indian Olympic gold medalist in track and field, this year will be to cross the 90m mark, the gold standard in the world of javelin.

It is too late to change action: Bishop's advice to Bumrah



New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Someone who has endured multiple back injuries himself, former West Indies fast bowler Ian Bishop can imagine what a "generational" talent like Jasprit Bumrah is going through at the moment.

The 29-year-old underwent a surgery in New Zealand last month following recurring back issues that have kept him away from the game since September 2022.

Bumrah is now racing against time to get fit for the ODI World Cup at home in October-November.

Bumrah's "unique" action has worked wonderfully for him but it has also

put a lot of load on his back, making him susceptible to injuries.

Bishop, who could have played a lot more than 43 Tests and 84 ODIs if it wasn't for injuries, feels it is too late for Bumrah to change his action at this stage of his career and he can only be "managed" by picking and choosing tournaments amid the relentless schedule.

"Any fast bowler worth his soul can play all formats of the game all year and maintain his cutting edge pace, it is just too demanding. The sprint up and down, the hamstring, the workload of the body. It has to be managed," Bishop told PTI in an interview.

Shanmukha Pulli triumphs after three-way tie



Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

In a tournament of turnarounds and surprises, eighth seed Shanmukha Pulli, who was not expected to be in contention for the crown, emerged the champion of the 6th FIDE Rating Chess Championship here on Thursday.

Starting the last round as the joint overnight leader with the favourite, Arnab Kherdekar, the 24-year-old Pulli from Andhra Pradesh drew his last round quickly with Darsh Shetty and ended in a three-way tie at the top with the remaining results going his way.

Arnab lost to International Master Viramaditya Kulkarni while Aayush Shirodkar was beaten by Saurabh Khedekar at the Russian Cultural Centre.

Kulkarni, Khedekar and Pulli finished with a score of 7.5 out of nine. However, the tie-breaker favoured Pulli and he was declared the champion of the tournament. He bagged a trophy and a cash award of Rs 75,000.

The second and third prizes were won by Kulkarni and Khedekar, who took home Rs 50,000 and Rs 30,000 respectively.

Arnab Kherdekar, who missed the championship by a whisker had to be content with fourth place and an award of Rs 20,000, while the fifth prize went to Darsh Shetty who bagged Rs 15,000.

The best female prize was awarded to Mysha Perwez and the best unrated player prize was won by Divyesh Bhattacharya.

A total cash award of Rs 3.00 lakh and 30 trophies were presented to the winners by Nishikant Shukla, Regional Manager of SBI Life, the title sponsor of the tournament.

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References to Maulana Azad removed

From NCERT's new class 11 political science textbook

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

References to freedom fighter and India's first education minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad have been removed from the new class 11 political science textbook by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

As part of its "syllabus rationalisation" exercise last year, the NCERT, citing "overlapping" and "irrelevant" as reasons, dropped certain portions from the course including lessons on Gujarat riots,

Mughal courts, Emergency, Cold War, Naxalite movement, among others from its textbooks. The rationalisation note had no mention of any changes in class 11 political science textbook.

The NCERT has, however, claimed that no curriculum trimming has taken place this year and the syllabus was rationalised in June, last year. "Certain changes not finding mention of in the rationalised content book could be an 'oversight'," NCERT Director Dinesh Saklani reiterated.

In the class 11 political science textbook's first chapter, titled 'Constitution - Why and How', a line has been revised to omit Azad's name from the constituent assembly committee meetings. The revised line now reads, "Usually, Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajendra Prasad, Sardar Patel or BR Ambedkar chaired these Committees."

In the tenth chapter of the same textbook, titled "The Philosophy of the Constitution", the reference to Jammu and

Kashmir's conditional accession has also been deleted. "For example, the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to the Indian union was based on a commitment to safeguard its autonomy under Article 370 of the Constitution," says the dropped paragraph.

Last year, the Ministry of Minority Affairs had discontinued the Maulana Azad Fellowship, which was launched in 2009, and provided financial assistance for five years to students from six notified minorities.

'Will be more than happy if Ajit Pawar joins our party'

Pune, Apr 13 (PTI):

Union minister and Republican Party of India (A) chief Ramdas Athawale on Thursday said he will be more than happy if NCP leader Ajit Pawar joins his party. Athawale also said if they get a chance for Maharashtra chief minister's post, they will give the chance to Pawar.

Responding to queries by reporters here, the RPI(A) chief also said he does not think Ajit Pawar will join the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Pawar's cancellation of some programmes and the



Ramdas Athawale

fact that he was unreachable on phone gave rise to speculation last Friday about his next move among some political circles. The NCP leader on Saturday said he cancelled

his programmes for Friday as he was unwell after long tours across Maharashtra and asked the media not to speculate on such issues as it caused confusion.

Notably, amid a deadlock over government formation in Maharashtra after the Assembly elections in 2019, BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis and NCP's Ajit Pawar were sworn as the chief minister and deputy CM in a hush-hush early morning ceremony on November 23. Their government lasted only 80 hours.

To a query by reporters, Athawale said, "Ajit Pawar

is nephew of (NCP president) Sharad Pawar, he has given multiple portfolios and positions to Ajit Pawar. I think he (Ajit Pawar) was unwell and that's the reason he was not reachable." Athawale said he does not think Ajit Pawar will join the BJP.

Ajit Pawar and Devendra Fadnavis are good friends. They once took the oath together to form government in the state, he noted. "I will be more than happy if Ajit Pawar joins our party. If we get a chance for the CM's post, we will give that chance to him," Athawale said.

BAISAKHI FEST



Students perform the Punjabi folk dance 'Bhangra' during celebrations of Baisakhi festival, at a wheat field on the outskirts of Amritsar, Thursday.

'Uddhav quit as Maha CM on his own, how can his govt be reinstated?'

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray had resigned as Chief Minister of Maharashtra on his own in June last year without facing a floor test, so how can his government be reinstated by the Supreme Court, Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said on Thursday. Fadnavis also maintained his party BJP will continue to work with Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and fight the next elections under the latter's leadership.

"If you read the Supreme Court proceed-



Devendra Fadnavis

ings carefully, you will realise that Uddhav Thackeray himself had resigned....he did not even face the floor test in the Assembly. By no stretch of imagination his govern-

ment can be brought back in Maharashtra," he said while speaking at an event organised by Marathi news channel Mumbai Tak.

In mid-March, the Supreme Court reserved its verdict on a batch of cross-petitions of Uddhav Thackeray and Shinde factions of the Shiv Sena pertaining to the June 2022 political crisis in Maharashtra.

Expanding his point, Fadnavis said, "I have been a lawyer. If he (Uddhav Thackeray) had resigned on his own, how will the Supreme Court set aside his resig-

nation and reinstate him as Chief Minister? This is not possible."

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