

BRIEF



A drone being used by Crisis Response Team (CRT) personnel for security purposes amid a high alert in view of the upcoming G20 meeting in J&K's Srinagar, in Jammu, Friday.

SIT probe

Nashik: A Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Friday began probe into the alleged attempt by a group of people from another religion to force their way into the famous Trimbakeshwar temple in Maharashtra's Nashik district. SIT chief Sukhwinder Singh visited the Shiva temple, one of 12 'jyotirlingas' in the country, examined relevant CCTV camera footage and met the temple's trustees.

Coastal Policing

Ahmedabad: Union Home Minister Amit Shah will on Saturday lay the foundation stone for the permanent campus of the National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) at Okha in Gujarat's Devbhumi Dwarka district. NACP, the country's first national academy to train police forces in effectively safeguarding the shoreline, started functioning in 2018 from the campus of the Gujarat Fisheries Research Centre.

3 get lifer

Indore: A local court in Madhya Pradesh's Indore sentenced three persons to life imprisonment for killing a 18-year-old man following a dispute while playing a game on mobile phone, a prosecution official said on Friday. An additional sessions judge on Thursday found the accused Ahmed Raza (22), Sarfaraz Ahmed (22) and Irfan Sheikh (21) guilty of charges under section 302 (murder) and other relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code, additional public prosecutor Saraswati Yadav said.

Woman booked

Gwalior: A 34-year-old woman was booked for allegedly throwing acid on the wife of her former live-in partner in Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh, a police official said on Friday. The incident took place on Thursday evening in Janakganj area here, Lashkar City Superintendent of Police Shiyaz KM told PTI.

Prophet post

Shahjahanpur: Friday prayers here in Tilhar city were held under heavy police presence following tensions over derogatory remarks made on social media about Prophet Mohammad. Circle Officer (CO) Priyank Jain said police and PAC personnel were deployed outside the major mosques of the city area.

Weather
High 41 Low 28

MARKET
NIFTY 18,203.40
SENSEX 61,729.68

BULLION
GOLD 59,884
SILVER 72,611

RBI announces demonetisation of Rs 2000 notes

Mumbai, May 19 (PTI): The Reserve Bank of India on Friday announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 currency notes from circulation, and existing notes in circulation can either be deposited in bank accounts or exchanged by September 30. The bank notes in Rs 2,000 denomination will continue to be a legal tender, the RBI said in a statement. In order to



ensure operational convenience and to avoid disruption of regular activities of bank branches, the RBI said exchange of Rs 2,000 bank notes into bank

notes of other denominations can be made up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time at any bank starting from May 23, 2023.

The RBI has advised banks to stop issuing Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes with immediate effect. Besides, the facility for exchange of Rs 2,000 bank notes up to the limit of Rs 20,000 at a time will be provided at the 19

Regional Offices (ROs) of the RBI having issue departments from May 23.

The Rs 2,000 denomination bank note was introduced in November 2016, primarily to meet the currency requirement of the economy in an expeditious manner after the withdrawal of legal tender status of all Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 bank notes that were in circulation at that time.

Adani row: Sebi probe drew blank

SC-appointed committee says not found regulatory failure



New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

In a relief to embattled billionaire Gautam Adani, a Supreme Court-appointed expert committee said it has found no evidence of stock price manipulation in Adani group companies, while a separate Sebi probe into alleged violation in money flows from offshore entities has "drawn a blank".

The six-member panel, however, said there was evidence of a build-up in short positions on Adani Group stocks ahead of the report of US-based short

Conclusions 'predictable', but to spin it as clean chit to Adani Group 'wholly bogus': Congress

New Delhi: With a Supreme Court-appointed expert committee stating that it cannot conclude any regulatory failure around Adani Group's stock rallies, the Congress on Friday said the conclusions were "predictable" but to spin the report as having given a clean chit to the conglomerate is "wholly bogus". Stressing the need for a joint parliamentary committee probe, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the party has all along been saying that the expert panel appointed by the Supreme Court has "extremely limited terms of reference and will simply be unable (and perhaps unwilling too) to unravel the Modani scam in all its complexity".

Hindenburg Research that alleged fraud, stock manipulation, and money laundering at the apples-to-port group. Profits were earned from squaring off positions after prices crashed post-publication of the damning allegations. Financial crime-fighting agency Enforcement Directorate (ED) "found intelligence about potentially violative and concerted selling by specific parties just ahead of the publication of the Hindenburg report, and this may lead to credible charges of concerted destabilisation of the

Indian markets, and Sebi ought to be probing such actions under securities laws," it said citing a response from ED.

Suspicious trading has been observed on the part of six entities. Of these, four are FPIs, one body corporate and one individual.

The committee, headed by former Supreme Court judge Justice AM Sapre, in its 173-page report, said that based on the data from the stock market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), it saw "no evident pattern of manipulation" in the steep stock price rise in billionaire Gautam Adani's companies that can be attributed to "any single entity or group of connected entities".

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SC gets two new judges

CJI administers oath of office to Justice Mishra, senior advocate Viswanathan



Chief Justice of India (CJI) Justice DY Chandrachud administers oath of office to Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra as a judge of the Supreme Court, in New Delhi, Friday.

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI): Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra and senior advocate Kalpathy Venkataraman Viswanathan were on Friday administered the oath of office as judges of the Supreme Court by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud. The new judges were administered the oath of

office during a ceremony at the apex court's auditorium.

With the swearing-in of Justice Mishra and Justice Viswanathan, the number of judges in the Supreme Court reached its sanctioned strength of 34. However, the apex court will be at full strength only for a brief period as Friday is also the

last working day of three judges who are set to retire in June. Justice KM Joseph, Justice Ajay Rastogi and Justice V Ramasubramanian are set to demit office next month during the summer vacation, which will run from May 22 to July 2. The warrant of appointments of Justice Mishra and Justice Viswanathan as apex court judges was issued from the office of President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday. Justice Mishra was appointed as a judge of the High Court of Chhattisgarh on December 10, 2009. He was appointed as Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh on October 13, 2021. He has served as a high court judge for more than 13 years and ranks 21st in the all-India seniority list of judges of high courts.

SC defers scientific survey to determine age of 'Shivling' found at Gyanvapi mosque

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

The Supreme Court on Friday deferred the scientific survey, including carbon dating, to determine the age of "Shivling" which was said to have been found at the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi.

The Allahabad High Court on May 12 ordered determination of the age of the structure claimed to be "Shivling" using modern technology. However, the mosque authorities have said the structure is part of a fountain in the

'wazu khana', where ablutions are performed before namaz.

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud issued notices to the Centre, the Uttar Pradesh government and the Hindu petitioners on the mosque panel's plea against the high court order for the scientific survey and carbon dating of "Shivling".

"Since the implications of the impugned order merit closer scrutiny, the implementation of the directions concerned in the order shall stand deferred

till the next date," the bench also comprising Justices P S Narasimha and K V Vishwanathan said.

The top court was hearing a plea challenging the Allahabad High Court order for conducting a "scientific survey", including carbon dating, to determine the age of the structure.

The Centre and the Uttar Pradesh government both agreed to the plea for adjourning the proposed scientific survey of "Shivling" for the time being.

Monsoon advances in Andaman Sea, Nicobar islands: IMD

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

Southwest monsoon has advanced over Southeast Bay of Bengal, Nicobar Islands and South Andaman Sea on Friday, setting the stage for the four-month rainy season crucial for the country's farm economy.

Earlier this week, the weather office said the onset of monsoon over Kerala, marking its entry into the mainland, would be slightly delayed than the usual

date of June 1. "Southwest Monsoon has advanced into some parts of southeast Bay of Bengal, Nicobar Islands and South Andaman Sea today," the India Meteorological Department said.

Conditions are favourable for further advance of southwest monsoon into some more parts of south Bay of Bengal, Andaman Sea and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during next 3-4 days, it said. On Tuesday, the

weather office had said that the onset of monsoon over Kerala is likely to be on June 4 with a model error of four days. The monsoon arrived in Kerala on May 29 last year, June 3 in 2021, June 1 in 2020, June 8 in 2019 and May 29 in 2018.

Agriculture contributes around 15 per cent to India's 3.5 trillion dollar economy and a good monsoon helps recharge aquifers and reservoirs besides watering the farms.

The emergence of the El Nino weather pattern has raised concerns over monsoon rainfall in 2023. El Nino, which is the warming of the waters in the Pacific Ocean near South America, is generally associated with the weakening of monsoon winds and dry weather in India. The El Nino conditions this year follow three consecutive La Nina years. La Nina, which is the opposite of El Nino, typically brings good rainfall during the monsoon season.

RADICAL LINKS



Men, suspected to have links with radical Islamist group Hizb-Ut-Tahrir, being produced in a court after being arrested by Madhya Pradesh ATS (Anti-Terror Squad) and NIA (National Investigation Agency) officials, in Bhopal, Friday.

Bengaluru, May 19 (PTI): Siddaramaiah will be sworn in as Chief Minister for the second term on Saturday, along with his deputy D K Shivakumar and a group of legislators as Ministers, exactly a week after Congress swept the Assembly polls in Karnataka. Congress chief M Mallikarjun Kharge has invited leaders of several like-minded parties for the swearing-in ceremony, which will see Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot administering the oath of office and secrecy to the Chief Minister and his



Karnataka Deputy CM-designate DK Shivakumar oversees preparations for the oath-taking ceremony of Karnataka Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister at Sree Kanteerava Stadium, in Bengaluru, Friday.

Cabinet at 12.30 PM at Kanteerava Stadium here.

The venue is the same place Siddaramaiah took oath in 2013, when he became Chief Minister for

the first time. The event may turn out to be a show of strength for opposition parties amid unity efforts to take on the ruling BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha elec-

tions. The Congress on Thursday named Siddaramaiah as the next Chief Minister and state PCC chief Shivakumar, a strong contender for the top post, as his only deputy, ending the tense deadlock after prolonged parleys involving its central leadership. A meeting of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) later on Thursday formally elected Siddaramaiah as its leader and Chief Minister, following which he staked his claim with the Governor, who invited him to form the government.

firecracker factory blast NHRC issues notice to Bengal govt over 9 deaths

Kolkata: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Friday issued a notice to the West Bengal government seeking a detailed report on the explosion in an illegal firecracker factory that left nine people dead and several others injured, an official said. The blast took place at Egra in Purba Medinipur district on May 16. There seems to be a violation of the human rights of the victims of the blast due to negligence on the part of the administration, the NHRC official told PTI.

CBI files charge sheet against PhD scholar arrested for sexually exploiting children

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

The CBI has filed a charge sheet against a 35-year-old PhD scholar from Tamil Nadu who was arrested for allegedly sexually exploiting eight children aged between 5 and 18, and selling explicit videos of these acts on the internet, officials said.

In its charge sheet filed recently before a POCSCO (Protection of Children From Sexual Offences) court in Tamil Nadu's Thanjavur, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has alleged that the accused,

Victor James Raja, was sexually abusing a child for the last four years.

"It was further alleged that the accused forced victims to perform penetrative sexual acts on them as well as on other minor children, including a minor victim girl; clicked photographs and recorded videos; forced them to watch sexual acts with other adult person; threatened them with publishing the pictures and video on social media and for bringing more minor girls," a CBI spokesperson said in a statement on Friday.

The CBI had uncovered his sleazy crimes when it found Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) images and videos from the Interpol's International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) database.

The forensic analysis using specialised tools led the CBI to Thanjavur district.

"Searches were conducted at the premises of the accused which led to recovery of incriminating electronic gadgets. The accused was arrested and is in judicial custody," the statement said.

Rijiju takes charge of Earth Sciences Ministry

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI): Kiren Rijiju on Friday assumed charge as Earth Sciences Minister and thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for giving him an opportunity to handle various portfolios.

Rijiju, who was removed as Law Minister on Thursday, refused to answer questions about his previous ministry contending that they were no longer relevant and that he looked forward to serve in the Earth Sciences Ministry. "Don't ask questions related to the previous ministry as they are no longer relevant," Rijiju



Former union law minister Kiren Rijiju takes charge as Union Minister of State for Earth Sciences, in New Delhi, Friday.

said to questions whether he was removed as Law Minister for his frequent run-ins with the judiciary. India Meteorological Department (IMD) Director General Mrityunjay Mohapatra and Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor Vishwajit Sahay were present when Rijiju assumed charge as the Minister of Earth Sciences. Senior officers of the ministry, including Secretary M Ravichandran, were away in Diu for the G-20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Conference.



फौलादी इरादा निभाया वादा

नए पद
विज्ञापन जारी

12,489

शिक्षा विभाग

1920

वन विभाग

920

तकनीकी शिक्षा
विभाग

522

अपेक्स एवं
सहकारी बैंक

500

आदिम जाति तथा
अनुसूचित जनजाति
विकास विभाग

653

अन्य विभाग

मैंने कहा था कि अदालती रोक
हटते ही हम नौकरियों की बरसात
कर देंगे। नतीजा आपके सामने है।

- भूपेश बघेल मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़

रोक हटते ही

19940

नौकरियों की
बरसात

शुरु हुई

थमी भर्ती प्रक्रिया

975

गृह विभाग

400

ऊर्जा विभाग

291

वन विभाग

342

अन्य विभाग

जारी हुए

अटके नियुक्ति आदेश

377

ऊर्जा विभाग

352

जल संसाधन विभाग

136

स्वास्थ्य विभाग

63

अन्य विभाग

विभिन्न विभागों में रिक्त पदों पर भर्ती मिशन मोड में

छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार, भरोसे की सरकार

Nobody is ready to believe other as leader in BJP: Baghel

● **Alleges internal strife in state BJP**

Raipur, May 19: The Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in a lighter mood commented upon the plans of launching 'Gouthan Chalbo of BJP' saying that it is good that their 'Gouthan' is complete and their 'Gouthan' is only media and social media. With a wry smile, Baghel said that they (BJP) were to go to 'Gouthan' and if it takes 15 days for one 'Gouthan', then how much it will take for 10000 'Gouthans' all over the state, is the question which should be asked to them.



Speaking to a section of media persons before leaving for Karnataka, CM Baghel charged that there is lot of internal strife in BJP, as no one is ready to believe other as the leader of the party. Programmes are held and the ex-CM does not even know about it, then be it Raman Singh, or Arun Sao or Brijmohan

Agrawal, case is the same with all. Earlier there was a strict person Jamwal, but he has left and now Mr Om Mathur is in-charge and it was expected that being young everything will be okay, but there is 'Kabaddi' going on in BJP.

Bhupesh Baghel while commenting on the Raman

Singh's Tweet said that it is so awkward a comment and charged that Raman Singh and his government looted the people of the state for 15 yrs and questioned whether he would stop taking the MLA's honorarium when it comes to not paying unemployment allowance to unemployed youths in the state. A poor person's son who studies to become a doctor or engineer taking loan and whether he (Raman) would stop giving unemployment allowance to them, he questioned. CM Baghel said that it is a slap on the face of the poor and unemployed youth by ex-CM Raman Singh and is sheer disrespect to their talent as well.

CM allocates Rs 40 lakh for Kabir Community projects

Raipur, May 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has allocated Rs 40 lakhs for various initiatives of the Kabir community of Dhamtari district. The Kabir Vishwa Shanti Mission has expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister for this generous support. The announcement was made by Chief Minister Shri Baghel during his 'Bhent-Mulakat' programme held in the Dhamtari Assembly Constituency on May 17, where he engaged in discussions with representatives of different communities. It is worth mentioning that the community had submitted a grant request of Rs 40 lakhs for various projects, including furniture and literature arrangements at the Kabir Sansthan Dhamtari and Devpur Vachanalaya, beautification of Kabir Sansthan Dhamtari, expansion of the building, construction of a welcome gate, establishment of a Satsang shed at Kabir Ashram Senchuwa, construction of Sant Niwas Bhawan at Kabir Ashram Kalartari, and construction of a building and toilet at Kabir Ashram Semra.

CREATIVE OUTPUT



An exhibition of the products made by the girls and other candidates in 'Aakar-2023' were put on display here on Friday.

Anwar, Purohit sent on 14 days judicial remand

● **AP Tripathi and TS Dhillon taken on four days remand by ED**

● **IAS Niranjan Das sent summon by ED for inquiry**

Raipur, May 19: Anwar Dhebar and Nitesh Purohit arrested in the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam as unearthed by ED in the money laundering act were again sent to judicial remand for 14 days by the judge of the Special Court here on Friday. On the other hand, the two other accused, AP Tripathi, and Trilok Singh Dhillon have been sent on four days to ED's remand. It is also learnt that the ED has sent summon to IAS Niranjan Das in context of



the liquor scam. The Enforcement Directorate produced four accused in the liquor scam viz. Anwar Dhebar, Nitesh Purohit, AP Tripathi and Trilok Singh Dhillon in the special court of Special Judge Ajay Singh Rajput here on Friday. The ED team reached court with documents related to evidences in the boxes.

Anwar and Purohit were sent on 14 days judicial remand and AP Tripathi and Trilok Singh Dhillon have been sent on 4 days ED remand.

On the other hand, a Congress MLA from neighbouring district has been called for interrogation, as property of this MLA has been attached by ED and inquiry with few others is in process.

CM inaugurates 'Bunkar Gudi' in Achhota Gauthan

● **Handloom artisans express gratitude to CM for skill development and economic empowerment**

Raipur, May 19: Lakshmi Dewangan, a resident of Achhota village in Dhamtari, used to work as a labourer a few years ago. However, due to physical difficulties, she had to quit her job. Later, Lakshmi learned about the 'Mukhyamantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana'. She underwent a four-month training programme in the handloom and installed a handloom machine in her home.

Lakshmi started receiving work through Maa Angarmoti Bunkar Sahakari Samiti Maryadit Achhota, a cooperative society. Now, she earns thousands of rupees every month from the comfort of

her home. In this cooperative, Lakshmi, along with 97 other women, is crafting a new narrative of economic empowerment in the rural environment through the handloom industry.

Earlier, the members of the cooperative used to individually perform handloom work in their own houses. However, due to limited space in many members' houses, the work couldn't be efficiently carried out. To address this issue, a handloom unit has been established in the Achhota Gauthan under the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Industrial Park Scheme.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the 'Bunkar Gudi', to facilitate the work for the cooperative members. Expressing their gratitude, the members involved in the handloom work thanked the Chief Minister for his efforts in elevating them from ordinary laborers to skilled artisans.

BJYM break down five barricades, enter PSC office

● **Court arrest while on way to gherao PSC office, enters into scuffle with police**

Raipur, May 19: BJYM party workers and leaders gheraoed State PSC office and staged massive demonstration in front of it here on Friday. During this the protestors broke down the five barricades by police and entered the office of PSC and flashed the party flag inside. This gherao was done under leadership of BJYM State President Ravi Bhagat. There were minor scuffle between police and BJYM workers and the demonstrators made court arrest and were later released. Ravi Bhagat informed that the day the PSC results came out, there was annoyance among many candidates, as the family members of many a government officers and political leaders secured berth in the top 20. PSC Chairman's son himself has been selected for the post of Dy. Collector. The sons, daughters,



and brother-in-laws of Congress leaders and DIGs daughter too are in the list and this stands testimony to rampant corruption.

Speaking on the occasion BJYM State President Ravi Bhagat informed that the candidates from all categories anxiously wait for this exam to fulfill the wishes of their mother and father and today the very dreams held by the aspiring youths have been quashed by the Baghel government. This is an institution from where candidates are selected for progress and development of the state and it has been defamed by the

Baghel's government. Ravi Bhagat charged that Congress has now become synonymous to corruption, as after the liquor, coal, rice and gouthan scam, PSC scam too is now included in the list. He charged that those in power and in PSC have sold the future of many candidate for Rs 75 lakhs. BJYM President said that candidates of poor and middle class families take up loan and carry out studies in coaching institutes to qualify in state PSC for state administrative services, but all their dreams have been quashed by Baghel's government.

Rajiv Yuva Mitran Clubs of 13 districts to get a fund of 7.71 cr

Raipur May 19: In commemoration of the death anniversary of former Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi observed on May 21, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel has announced the distribution of a total fund of Rs. 7.71 crores to 3085 Rajiv Yuva Mitran clubs located in 13 districts of the state. The distribution of the fund will take place in the upcoming Bharose Ka Sammelan organized in Sankra village, under the Patan development block of Durg district

The Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Mitran Clubs were formed with the aim of engaging the youth in a variety of development works centred around tradition, culture, sports etc. Currently, 13 Thousand 242 Rajiv Yuva Mitran Clubs are successfully operating across the state and every club is given a quarterly amount of Rs 25000 to support the organisation of various events and activities. Since the inception of the scheme, an amount of Rs 60 cr 18 lakh has been made available to Rajiv Yuva Gandhi Mitran Clubs.

The youth associated with the Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Mitran club have shown keen interest and enthusiasm

in preserving traditions and culture unique to the state by organising various cultural, creative activities in villages, towns and cities. Along with delivering government services till the last person of the state, Mitran clubs are also proving to be conducive in maintaining constant dialogue between every communities of the state, be it the rural populace or the urban. It has been observed that these clubs are also gaining widespread popularity in the rural regions by organising various events and socio-cultural activities that have benefitted the rural populace. The youth belonging to rural regions are also constantly honing their intellectual and leadership skills by engaging in numerous activities that benefit the society and also help in the development of an individual as well. From Sports to socio-cultural events, or creating awareness on health and education, or promoting public welfare schemes, the members of Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Mitran Clubs are successfully fulfilling all their duties with utmost dedication.

MAIC United took a wonderful initiative for persons without slippers

● **During scorching heat, handover 'paduka' to them**

Raipur, May 19: JCI Raipur MAIC United helped needy people with slippers, eatables in the scorching hot summer. Footwear has always been considered as a token of remembrance since Ancient times. As Lord Rama who gave his Paudka to his brother Bharat while proceeding to 14 Years of exile (Vanvas). We helped to needy people near Sai temple, Amapara and station.

We should be responsible for care and help to the people who are less fortunate than others. Helping with things to needy can make you feel good. This feeling of satisfaction is hard to replicate with any other activity, endeavor or luxury. We can bring pre-



vious moments of happiness and comfort to thousands just by helping with the essentials of life.

A pair of footwear is one of the important necessities of human in order to cover his feet with the pur-

pose of protection against adversities of the environment. Therefore, footwear primarily serve the purpose to ease the movement and prevent injuries. Due to lack of footwear they face many severe health problems and suffer in pain. As we know, that the underprivileged people are deprived economically. They hardly get opportunities. They have inadequate nutrition, lack of access to health and hygiene, basic essentials and higher risk of diseases. A Pair of footwear is something which they cannot think off. So for them it is not less than the blessing which can prevent them from various problems and their feet from damage. This was done under the guidance of Chairman Rajesh Agarwal, convener JCI Sen Jaya Arora and incharge Dr. Rishi Pandey.

Two ex-policemen nabbed for threatening people and recovering cash

Raipur, May 19: The police nabbed two accused involved in threatening people near Indoor Stadium Gate and blackmailing people and recovery cash from the people. Complainant Shivam Sharma, R/o Millennium Chowk, Sunder Nagar, Raipur filed a report in Kotwali thana that on May 18 at 6:30 pm, he was talking to his friend on the mobile sitting in his Scooty, when two persons approached him and charged him of being involved with a girl and that they are having his video and photos and warned to make it viral on the social media platforms. They took him inside the indoor stadium and demanded Rs 15000. One the person was in police uniform as well. But he said that he is not having this much of cash and then they said whatever amount you are having give it to them. Since I was having only Rs 3480, I gave it to them. Both of them were addressing each other as Nitesh Singh and Deepak Sonwani. A case under section 384 and 34 of IPC was filed against the two.



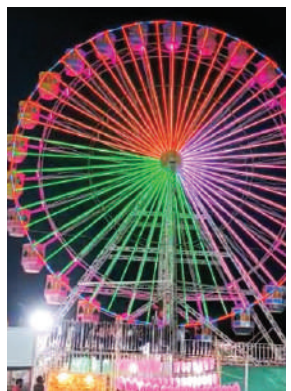
It was on interrogation and checking the CCTV footages, the police collected some information about the accused and finally managed to nab the two accused Nitesh Singh and Deepak Sonwani R/o Devendra Nagar, Raipur and on interrogation they accepted their crime.

Both the accused were nabbed and cash of Rs 3180 was seized and in this accused Nitesh informed that is ex-police personnel and the other accused Deepak Sonwani is a policeman and is absent on duty for last 1 year. Nitesh Singh is R/o Pandri tarai, near Shiv Mandir and Sonwani is R/o Pandri Tarai, Shiv Mandir, Raipur.

Fun World Fair inaugurated for children's to enjoy summer vacations

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 19: Fun World Fair the entertainment fair was inaugurated by Kuldeep Juneja MLA, Raipur North and Aiyaz Dhebar, Mayor, Raipur Municipal Corporation at BTI Ground, Shankar Nagar on Friday evening. In the fair, hundreds of attractive range of items of made by the artisans of various states is on display for sale. The fair also displays wider range of home decoration items - show piece, furniture, home appliances and terracotta. Apart from this, different types of swings are the center of attraction for the children.



Addressing the media persons here on Friday, the Director of the fair, Tamanna Hussain said that she has been organizing this fair in the name of Fun World Fair for the last 20 years. This time this fair is being inaugu-

rated with a new look and style. In this, special attention has been given to the fun zone of the children, she added. In addition to this wide range of handloom, handicraft, lifestyle, home decor, furniture items and accessories of weavers from all over the country including Chhattisgarh are available at affordable rates.

There are many stalls in the expo, in which the main attractions are Kashmiri Saree, Kolkata Saree, Kosa Silk, Bamboo Silk, Banarasi Silk, Bhagalpuri Linen Saree, Chanderi Silk, Lucknowi Chikan, Denim Kurti, Batik Print, Jaipuri One Piece, Punjabi Phulkari,

Khadi Shirt, Modi Jacket, Afghani Suit, Jhansi Bedsheet, Crab Bedsheet, Jaipuri Bedsheet, Fancy Jewellery, Stone Jewellery, Rajasthani Antique Jewellery, Colorful Bangles of Firozabad, T-shirts, lowers, woolen ladies jackets and in footwear - Patiala shoes, Rajasthani shoes, Bombay sandals and best carpets in handloom, wooden paintings, Sarangpuri furniture, bed and sofa covers, Rajasthani bags, Pashmina shawls and Kashmiri kurtis. A huge range of cosmetics, home appliances is also on display which will attract the visitors. She informed that Raipurians gives a

better response to Fun World Fair with large number of footfall daily. Keeping in mind the summer holidays, 20-22 types of swings are only for children and there are 11 to 12 types of swings for youth. In the event, the residents of Raipur can enjoy Break Dance Swing, Columbus Swing, Giant Wheel, Silambo Swing, Chili Swing, Dashing Car and Dragon Swing including Arrow Plane, Mini Train, Car Jhula and Mickey Mouse which will provide lot of fun for kids. There is also a food zone for the taste lovers, which has large number of delicious food stall. The timings of the fair are from 5 pm to 10 pm daily.

Minor boy, two accused nabbed in Rs 25lakh theft case

Raipur, May 19: The police has nabbed a minor, his sister and her lover in the Rs 25 lakh theft case in the house of a businessman in Gudhiyari and seized the gold, silver ornaments and cash from their possession.

It is notable here that the complainant Pranjal Daga had filed a complaint in Gudhiyari thana about theft of gold, silver ornaments and cash worth Rs 25 lakh from his house on the intervening night of May 15-16 and it was 8 in the morning when they went to the room they found all the goods scattered and almira in broken condition. As per the complaint filed, the owner lives in front of Jagannath Mandir in Daga Bhavan in Gudhiyari and is owner YM Auto related to e-riskshaw business. A case under section of 457, 380 and 34 of IPC was filed against unknown in Gudhiyari



Thana. The police conducted thorough inquiry into the matter with the family members and their neighbors and those working in the house and was suspecting a hand of someone working in the house and shops and those who have left the service as the accused involved, as the target and room in which the ornaments were kept, was clearly known to the accused. Based upon technical analysis, an eye was kept on the movement of those recently released and the police tried to identify the accused.

During interrogation they came to know about a minor boy who managed to escape from Child Reform Home in Mana and managed to nab him. Initially he tried to fool the police, but on serious interrogation he accepted his crime and disclosed name of his sister Nidhi Manikpuri and her lover Gautam Baghel's involvement in this theft. The police came to know about the locations of other two and managed to nab both and as per their location given, managed to recover the cash and ornaments worth Rs 25 lakh from their possession.

Joint Unions to stage aggressive demonstration on May 26

Women observe Vat Savitri Vrat with devotion

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: Leaders of various trade unions conducted a joint meeting on Friday to chalk out the strategy for total finalisation and implementation of the wage revision. The Joint Trade Union meeting discussed all issues of wage revision including 39 months arrears of SAIL workers, gratuity ceiling, HRA, night shift allowance and wage revision of contract workers. It was decided to stage an aggressive agitation at Equipment Square from 08:00 hrs to 09:00 hrs on May 26.

The joint trade union meeting was held at the INTUC office located in Sector 3. The office bearers of INTUC, CITU, AITUC, HMS, AICCTU,

Ispat Shramik Manch, Steel Workers Union and LOIEMU attended the meeting. The union leaders expressed their resentment against the stubborn and dictatorial attitude of the SAIL management. They emphasised on the joint struggle for achieving the rights. Even after a lapse of 78 months, the wage revision of the SAIL workers has not been completed. SAIL management has constituted a committee but the meetings are convened at the gaps of several months. All those meetings conclude without any conclusion.



At the time of signing MoU for wage revision on October 22, 2021, the management had formed a sub-committee and assured to complete wage revision in three-four months, but even after 19 months of MoU, no decision has been taken on issues like arrears of 39 months, night shift allowance, HRA, etc. Meanwhile, SAIL management has put a ceiling on gratuity despite protests

from trade unions.

In the meeting, the union leaders said that the management has delayed the whole matter by forming a sub-committee for wage revision of the contract workers as well. The contract workers are working on such low wages that even the basic needs of their families are not being met.

In the meeting, all the unions jointly decided that in the first phase of the struggle against the arbitrary attitude of the SAIL management, the joint trade unions will stage an aggressive demonstration on May 26, at Equipment

Square, from 8:00 am to 9:00 am. They would submit a memorandum to the SAIL management. If the management did not take any positive initiative, the joint trade unions will intensify their agitation.

Vansh Bahadur Singh, Puran Verma from INTUC, Santosh Kichlu, S Ravi, Vijay Kumar Jangde from CITU, Vinod Soni, Kevendra Sunder AITUC, Pramod Mishra, Hariram Yadav, Prem Singh Chandel, DK Singh from HMS, Brijendra Tiwari, Ashok Miri, Sunny Kumar Sahu from AICCTU, Kishore Kumar Marathe from Ispat Shramik Manch, Tondon Das from Steel Workers Union, Rajendra Parganiha, Surendra Mohanty and Devendra Soni from LOIEMU were present.



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: On Friday, married women observed Vat Savitri Vrat with devotion for the long and prosperous life of their husbands. This Vrat is observed on the Purnima of Jyeshtha

month. According to mythological stories, Savitri tricked Lord Yama and compelled him to return the life of her husband Satyawana. Hence, married women observe Vat Savitri vrat for the well being and long life of

their husbands. The women gathered near the Banyan trees and prayed for the long life and well being of their husbands. Thereafter they performed circumambulation of the Banyan Tree and tied the raw tread around it.

Summer Sports Coaching Camp-2023 inauguration today

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: Like every year, this year also, SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's department of Sports, Cultural & Civic Amenities (SC&CA) has organized month-long Summer Sports Coaching Camp for school-going children.

Coaching is being imparted from May 10, 2023 in 37 sports complexes, school halls and playgrounds of the Township by more than 110 expert coaches.

As many as 2100 school students from BSP and non-BSP schools are participating in the summer

sports training camp this year.

The Summer Sports Coaching Camp that is scheduled to conclude on June 09 will be formally inaugurated by Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c Bhilai Steel Plant on May 20, 2023 at Cricket Ground, Pant Stadium, Sector-1 at 18:30 hrs.

Senior officials of the plant will be present as Special Guests on this occasion, along with PTIs and departmental personnel from Education Department, participants and trainers of various games and sports enthusiasts. Some sports and

games activities will also be displayed by participating children during the Inauguration Ceremony.

Coaching is being imparted for 24 games in various sports complexes, school halls and playgrounds.

The 24 sports and games include Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Chess, Cricket, Football, Handball, Hockey, Karate, Judo, Tennis, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Yoga, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Powerlifting, Cycle Polo, Gymnastics, Fencing, Netting and Wrestling.

BJP Dist Prez welcomes reinstated members

- After revocation of their expulsion orders

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: On the restoration of party membership after revocation of expulsion orders, the BJP workers met the District BJP President Jitendra Verma at the District BJP office on Friday. District BJP President Jitendra Verma welcomed all the BJP workers with garlands and sweets.

Addressing the gathering, Jitendra Verma said that all the workers re-joining the party are well aware of the customs, principles and working methods of the Bharatiya Janata Party. The power of



Bharatiya Janata Party will definitely increase in Durg district after the revocation of the expulsion orders of the rebel BJP workers.

All the workers, whose membership has been restored, are very serious

and senior workers. Joining the party again after staying out for three and a half years will increase the strength of the party.

Verma assured that he will make every effort to ensure that the senior

workers who re-joined the party shall get new responsibilities and opportunities to do organizational work of the party.

Shivendra Singh Parihar, Arun Singh, Anoop Soni, Shyam Sharma, Wasim Qureshi,

Gyaneshwar Tamarkar, Kavita Tandi, Savita Poshan Sahu, Mamta Dewangan, Parvati Sahu, Dinesh Mishra and Mohan Keswani were the reinstated members who expressed their gratitude after meeting District BJP President Jitendra Verma.

District General Secretary Lalit Chandrakar, Surendra Kaushik, District BJP Vice President Dilip Sahu, Vinayak Natu, KS Chauhan, Alka Bagmar, Nilesh Agrawal, Rajneesh Srivastava, Jitendra Singh Rajput, Mandal President Madan Badhai, Surendra Bajaj, Dr Devnarayan Tandi, Naveen Singh Pawar and Keval Dewangan were specially present.

Gang of bike lifters busted; three held

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: With the arrest of three ruffians, police claimed to have busted a gang of bike lifters involved in thefts of vehicles in different districts. One of the accused was recently released from the jail. The accused were arrested earlier also in connection with vehicle thefts. Nine stolen two wheelers worth Rs 06.64 lakh were recovered from the possession of the accused. It was a joint action of Anti Crime and Cyber Unit Durg and Police Stations of Padmanabhpur, Mohan Nagar, Supela and Patan.

SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that they have formed joint teams to trace the people involved in thefts, burglaries and other offences. Cops are continuously keeping an eye on the suspects, habitual offenders and criminals recently released from the jails. The network of informers has also been activated.

Meanwhile, on May 12, Police Station Patan received a complaint regarding theft of a motor cycle from CHC Hospital in Patan.

A police team immediately reached the crime scene and launched investigations. They obtained footage from the CCTV cameras installed around the crime scene and observed them closely. In the CCTV footage, a suspicious person was seen stealing the motor cycle. Information was gathered about the suspect from the locals and informers.

The identity of the suspect was confirmed as Sohan Yadav alias Sagar Hindi, a resident of Maya Nagar Risali Bhilai. He was arrested earlier also in many cases of vehicle thefts. Sohan Yadav alias Sagar Hindi was arrested from Azad Market Risali. During sustained interrogation, he confessed to lifting a Honda bike bearing registration num-



ber CG 07 CK 2789 from CHC Hospital Patan.

Other important information was obtained after questioning Sohan Yadav about the motorcycles stolen in the district a few months back. The accused revealed that in the year 2022-23, he committed bike lifting from several places with the help of his accomplices Vidyadhar

Chauhan alias Suraj and Kalyani Das Banjare alias Sonu. They lifted bikes from Supela, Padmanabhpur, Mohan Nagar, Chhawani and Tatibandh areas. A total of 09 motor cycles worth Rs 6.84 lakh were recovered. Further action is being taken by the concerned police stations.

Police have booked the accused identified as Sohan Yadav

alias Sagar Hindi (20) son of Agnu Yadav a resident of Maya Nagar Risali Bhilai; Vidyadhar Chauhan alias Suraj (36) son of Shivprasad Chauhan a resident of village Salar, Sarangarh; and Kalyani Das Banjare alias Sonu (20) son of Rakesh Banjare a resident of Panch Building, Durg.

ASI Purna Bahadur, Rajesh Pandey, Head Constable Chandrashekhar Banjeer, Constable, Pradeep Singh, Jagjit Singh, Farooq Khan, Chitrasen Sahu, Narendra Sahare, Dharendra Yadav, Pankaj Chaturvedi, Rajkumar Chandra, Samim Khan, Pannal Lal, Santosh Gupta, Upendra Yadav, Anup Sharma, Tisheshwar Rathore, SI Pramod Srivastava, ASI Rajnikant Dewan, Head Constable Santosh Sharma, Head Constable Anil Shukla, Head Constable Monica Gupta and Head Constable Punit Verma played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Teenager gets 20 years in jail for raping minor girl

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: A Fast Track Special Court in Durg sentenced a 19-year-old boy to 20-years rigorous imprisonment for establishing sexual relations with a 15-year-old girl. The trial was completed and punishment was awarded to the convict within thirteen months of charge sheet filing.

Additional Sessions Judge (Fourth), FTSC - POCOS, Sangeeta Naveen Tiwari convicted 19-year-old Rajpal alias Shivam Sahu (19) son of Mahesh Sahu a resident of Gandhi Nagar, Kosanalla, Supela on Friday. The victim's fami-

ly had lodged a complaint at Supela Police Station on February 01, 2022.

Special Public Prosecutor Santosh Kasar informed that the accused resides in the neighbourhood of the victim. Around 02:30 hrs on the intervening night of January 31 and February 01, 2022, the victim's mother woke up and went to her daughter's room. She was shocked to see the accused Shivam Sahu sleeping with her daughter on her bed.

On spotting the lady, the accused escaped from the spot. When the parents asked the girl, she informed that Shivam had trespassed into the house

and established sexual relations with her several times without her will. Thereafter the victim's parents lodged an FIR at Supela Police Station.

After trial, the Special Court found the accused guilty and awarded different jail terms for Section 450 of IPC and Section 06 of POCSO Act under which the accused was tried.

He was sentenced to one year rigorous imprisonment and Rs 100 fine under section 450 of IPC (house trespass) and 20-years rigorous imprisonment and Rs 5000 fine under section 06 of POCSO Act, informed Special Public Prosecutor Santosh Kasar.

Hemchand Yadav University declares 05 more exam results

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Bhilai, May 19: Hemchand Yadav University, Durg has declared 05 more exam results related to annual exam 2023. Including these, a total of 11 exam results have been declared by the university so far. Giving this information, Dr Rajamani Patel, Deputy Registrar of Examinations of the University said that out of 04 candidates included in the PG Diploma in Tourism and Hotel Management issued by the University, only one candidate passed. Out of 54 candidates who appeared in the MA Public Administration pre-examination, 44 got success, the result of which was 81 percent. Out of 78 candidates appeared in MA Public Administration final, 68 got success, their exam result was 87 percent. Out of 10 candidates passed in MPhil Clinical Psychology Part 01, exam result stood at 60 percent. Out of 10 candidates appeared in MPhil Clinical Psychology Part 02, all 10 were declared passed, thus result was 100 percent. Dr Patel said that the university administration is trying to release the results of the final year classes of graduation and post-graduation at the earliest so that it becomes easier for the candidates to appear in various competitive examinations. Soon other exam results will also be released. There was not a single case of cheating involved in the 11 examination results released above.

Spiritual lecture series organised at Shri Jagannath Temple, Sector-4

In-depth discussion on the chariot of Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Swami and the thoughts of Maharishi Shri Aurobindo

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: A spiritual lecture series was organized on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Maharishi Sri Aurobindo at Shri Jagannath Mandir, Sector-4. It was attended by eminent preachers of Sri Aurobindo Ashram located in Koraput district of Odisha.

Affiliated to Sri Aurobindo Ashram, the "Eager to Forge a Head" group is traveling all over India to propagate the ideas of Sri Aurobindo and the importance of Sanatan Dharma. In the same context, Binod Bihari Das, Sachchidananda Rath, Lipika Rath, who came from Koraput Orissa, gave a lecture on Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath



Swamiji's chariot and the thoughts of Maharishi Shri Aurobindo.

Highlighting the importance of the Rath Yatra, various stages of spiritual consciousness were highlighted. On this occasion, Hemant Barik, Secretary of Shri Aurobindo Ashram Bhilai also made an intensive explanation of the dif-

ferent levels of human consciousness.

On this occasion Virendra Satpathy, President and General Secretary Satyawana Nayak of Jagannath Committee, Binod Bihari Das, Sachchidanand Rath of "Eager to Forge a Head" group affiliated with Aurobindo Ashram and Hemant Barik, secretary of

Aurobindo Ashram Bhilai and Amresh Sharma was on stage. The program was started by worshipping Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Swami ji along with offering floral tributes on the photo of Shri Aurobindo ji.

In this program Lipika Rath presented a melodious prayer and cleared the doubts by answering the questions asked

by the devotees. Satyawana Nayak, General Secretary of Jagannath Samiti conducted the program and given vote of thanks.

In making this spiritual program a success, Jagannath Committee President Virendra Satpathy and General Secretary Satyawana Nayak along with the office bearers of the committee, Basant Pradhan, D Trinath, Bhim Swain, Trinath Sahu, Sushant Satpathy, BC Biswal, Brindavan Swain, Prakash Das, Kalu Behera, Niranjan Maharana, Ranjan Mahapatra, Prakash Swain, Kailash Patro, Kavi Biswal, Simanchal Behera, Shankar Dalai etc contributed significantly. Many devotees were present in this spiritual lecture series.

24.5 lakh farmers in the state will receive the first installment of Rs. 1895 cr

Under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana State Govt has provided an input subsidy of Rs. 18,208 cr to farmers in the state under RGKNY

Raipur, May 19: The state government, on the death anniversary of Bharat Ratna former Prime Minister Late Rajiv Gandhi, will provide input subsidy to the farmers of the state under Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana (RGKNY), starting

on May 21. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will transfer a total of Rs. 1894 crore 93 lakh as the first installment of this scheme through online mode to 24 lakh 52 thousand 592 farmers during the Bharose Ka Sammelan to be held in Durg's Sankara Patan on 21 May. Hereafter, the farmers will be paid nearly Rs. 6000 crore in the coming August, October, and March months in three more installments. The Chhattisgarh Government has set aside a provision of Rs. 6800 crore for this scheme in the current financial year. However, in the last Kharif season, while considering

the number of registered farmers, acreage, and record purchase of paddy, the amount of input subsidy given to farmers under this scheme is expected to be about Rs. 8000 crore. Under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana, 18.43 lakh paddy-cultivating farmers of Kharif year 2019 were given an input subsidy of Rs. 5627 crore 2 lakh at the rate of Rs. 10 thousand per acre of land, whereas, Rs. 5553 crore 8 lakh was transferred to the bank accounts of 20.59 lakh farmers who cultivated paddy in Kharif year 2020. From 2021, all Kharif and horticulture crops have been included

in this scheme, and a provision has been made to provide an input subsidy of Rs. 9 thousand per acre per year to productive farmers. In 2020-21, a provision has been made to provide an input subsidy of Rs. 10,000 per acre for the cultivation of horticulture crops or tree plantations instead of paddy in the area where paddy was sold at the minimum support price. In the Kharif year 2021, an input subsidy of Rs. 7028 crore has been paid to 23.35 lakh farmers producing various other crops, including horticulture crops.

Under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana, agriculture in the state has

flourished considerably because of the input subsidy paid to the farmers of Chhattisgarh. People who had given up farming are again considering pursuing it. In 2017-18, there has been an increase of more than 11 lakh farmers who sell paddy in the state and an increase of more than 50 lakh metric tonnes of paddy in the total paddy accrued. Chhattisgarh has achieved the second position among the states that contribute paddy to the Central Pool. Moreover, Chhattisgarh stands first in the country in terms of the number of farmers who sell paddy at support price.

Yashi Jain creates history by conquering Mount Everest

● **Hoisted Indian flag on the peak**

Raipur, May 19: Chhattisgarh's mountaineer Yashi Jain has set a new record. Yashi has created history by scaling Mount Everest. Yashi Jain hoisted the tricolor on the world's highest peak Mount Everest at around 5.45 am on Wednesday. Her campaign to conquer Mount Everest started from April 1 which lasted for 45 days. She was the only climber from Chhattisgarh in the 15-member team. Before going on the expedition, Yashi Jain said City that earlier she had set out to conquer Mount Everest once more but she could not succeed due to bad weather.

Yashi Jain is the first daughter of Chhattisgarh who has conquered the highest peak of three continents and hoisted the flag of 'Beti Bachao' along with the tricolor. Yashi Jain conquered Mount Aconcagua



6961 meters on February 14, 2023, the highest peak in South America. Mount Kilimanjaro at 5896 meters was successfully conquered on October 2, 2022, it is the highest peak in Africa. Successfully climbed Lobuche East Peak 6119m in January 2021. She successfully scaled Island Peak Nepal 6189 m in Jan 2020. In 2019 Mount Elbrus 5642 m the highest peak of Europe, in the year 2018 has achieved success by climbing 6116 m high Mount Jogin 3 peak in the Himalayan region. Due to her courageous deeds, she has been felicitated by the



Governor with many big awards including Veerangana Award, Shaheed Indira Gandhi Sports Award and Tanya Award. It is worth mentioning that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had congratulated mountaineer Yashi Jain for her Mount Everest victory. At the same time, it was also announced to provide her Rs five lakh rupees as incentive amount. Along with this, the Chief Minister had also released the 'Indian National Flag' and 'Garhbo Nava Chhattisgarh' flag to be hoisted there by Yashi after conquering Mount Everest.

CM will distribute first installment of this year to landless agriculture labourers on May 21

● **Nearly 5.63 lakh landless agriculture labourers of rural and urban areas will be benefited**

Raipur, May 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has announced that the financial aid under Rajiv Gandhi Bhoomiheen Krishi Mazdoor NYAY Yojana will be distributed to the beneficiaries at 'Bharosa Sammelan' to be organized in Patan area of Durg district on May 21, i.e. on the death anniversary of former Prime Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. This will be the first installment under the scheme for the year 2023-24. An amount of Rs 112 crore 71 lakh 52 thousand will be released as the first installment to a total of 5 lakh 63 thousand 576 bene-

ficiaries of Rajiv Gandhi Bhoomiheen Krishi Mazdoor NYAY Yojana in rural and urban areas. The first installment under the scheme will be distributed at the rate of Rs 2 thousand per beneficiary. And the amount will be transferred to the bank account of each beneficiary. A large section of the state's rural and urban population is dependent on agro-based wage labour for livelihood. While paddy harvest season comes with sufficient employment opportunities for agricultural labourers, rabi season has limited employment availability, creating challenging circumstances for the agricultural labourers. **32,328 Baiga, Gunia will also be benefited under BKM NYAY Yojana** Under Rajiv Gandhi Bhoomiheen Krishi

Mazdoor (BKM) Agricultural NYAY Yojana, the first installment of the financial year 2023-24 will be issued to 32 thousand 328 Baiga, Guniya, Manjhi, Pujari and Haat Paharia as well. In urban areas, the eligible beneficiaries include 53 thousand 265 general agrolabourers and 737 Baiga, Gunia beneficiaries. On May 21, an amount of Rs 10 crore 80 lakh 04 thousand will be transferred to a total of 54 thousand 02 landless agricultural labourers of urban areas. Likewise, the eligible beneficiaries under the scheme in rural areas include 4 lakh 77 thousand 983 general beneficiaries and 31 thousand 591 Baiga, Gunia, and an amount of Rs 101 crore 91 lakh 48 thousand will be transferred to a total of 5 lakh 9 thousand 574 beneficiaries.

Character building and overall personality development possible from the concept of Panchkoshi knowledge : Dr. Kothari

Character building and personality development are the crux of education: Prof. Chakrawal

Bilaspur, May 19: A three-day workshop on the subject of character building and overall personality development of the individual started in Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) on May 19, 2023, with Dr. Atul Kothari, National Secretary of the Shiksha Sanskriti Uthan Nyas, New Delhi as the chief guest. The program, presided over by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal, started at 10 a.m. on 19 May. At the inauguration of the three-day workshop (May 19-21, 2023) organized at the Rajat Jayanti Sahbagah of the University, Dr. Atul Kothari said that Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya is becoming the first university where character building and personality development are



being offered as an undergraduate course and work is being expedited for achieving this goal. Throwing light on the Indian concept of character building and overall development of a person, Dr. Kothari said that character building and overall personality development of students is possible with the glorious tradition of Indian knowledge system which gives the concept of Panchkoshi knowledge. Highlighting the concept of Panchkoshi, he gave detailed information about Annamaya, Pranamaya, Manomaya, Vignamaya and Anandamaya Koshas. In common language, these Koshas are known as body, life, mind, intellect and soul which are essential for the

overall development of the personality of all the students. Dr. Kothari stressed that education creates coordination and balance between heart, mind and hands. The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Alok Kumar Chakrawal said that character building and personality development are the central elements of education. Professor Chakrawal said, "The primary objectives of the National Education Policy 2020 are to develop students as self-reliant beings and to ensure their overall development for this purpose. At the same time, we must work to develop in them sensitivity and devotion to the interests of the society, which is the aim of the training being

provided in this workshop." Further, he informed that in this workshop, teachers will be trained to give practical shape to the concept of value education. Through this workshop, efforts will be made to include various topics for character building and personality development of the students, followed by necessary amendments in the curriculum. The guests on the stage were honored with shawls, shripal and mementoes. In the end, vote of thanks was delivered by the Registrar, Prof. Manish Srivastava. Dr. Garima Tiwari, Assistant Professor, Forestry, Wildlife and Environmental Science Department conducted the program. Deans of various

schools, heads of departments, officers, teaching staff and a large number of researchers were present in the programme.

Participation of Over 400 Teachers

More than 400 teachers have worked as participants in this workshop. 20 groups are created in the workshop who will think, discuss, analyze, review and write conclusions on various topics of training.

9 subject specialists of the country

Dr. Atul Kothari, National Secretary, Shiksha Sanskriti Uthan Nyas, New Delhi, Mr. Deshraj Sharma, Former Principal, Sarvhitkari Vidya Mandir, Talwara, Punjab, Dr. Ajay Tiwari, Chancellor, Swami Vivekananda University, Sagar M.P., Dr. Manohar Bhandari MBBS MD, Indore, M.P., Mr. Jayendra Jadhav, Member Secretary, Gujarat Sahitya Akademi, Gujarat and Mr. Sanjay Sharma from Dr. Harisingh Gour University Sagar M.P. are the subject specialists for the workshop.

Encourage farmers to cultivate mustard in the area: Dr. Kamalpreet Singh

Raipur, May 19: Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Kamalpreet Singh said that Bastar division is a tribal-dominated area, where farmers should be encouraged to promote mustard cultivation. The farmers of Bastar division prefer farming naturally, which uses very little chemical fertilizers. Dr Singh stressed on to encourage farmers to use vermicompost fertilizers and get high yielding seeds distributed, so that the income of farmers increases. Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Singh was addressing the review meeting of Kharif crop assessment for the year 2023 and Rabi crop program for the year



2022-23 of Bastar division in Prerna hall of the district office in Jagdalpur on Thursday. Dr. Kamalpreet Singh said that there is a need to increase the area of products like Kodo, Kutki, Kulthi, as well as involve more and more farmers in the Millet Mission. He said that cultivation of horticulture and

commercial crops earns many times more than traditional farming. The state government is also providing loans at zero percent interest to co-operative banks from this year along with attractive grants for their cultivation. Therefore, farmers should be encouraged for their cultivation by giving information

about the schemes. He inquired about the progress of the ethanol plant under construction in Kondagaon district and directed to arrange necessary human resources for the operation of the plant, coordinate with oil companies, conduct exposure visits to ethanol plants operating in other states. Agriculture Production Commissioner called the work of KCC necessary to fulfill the credit related needs of the farmers. Commissioner Mr. Dhavde informed that all the districts have worked hard in KCC work, as well as forest rights recognition card holders are also being given the benefit of KCC tax schemes.

Protest continues in Abujhmad for 6 months

● **Villagers made the protest site as their home**

Narayanpur, May 19: Villagers are sitting on dharna for almost 6 months in Abujhmad forest of Irakhbhatti, Toymeta, Dhondribeda and river Para of Orcha in Narayanpur district. The villagers sitting on dharna are not protesting because they want development in the area, on the contrary, their demand is that they do not want development imposed by the central or state government. The villagers say that the area should be developed but not that the forests get ruined. The villagers have been accused of running this sit-in demonstration by the Naxalites. The Naxalites are also said to have made

arrangements for food and other essential items for the villagers. Three to four hundred villagers live at the picket site at a time. The crowd increased to such an extent that slowly a settlement has been established at the dharna site. To get relief from the heat of summer and rains and to cook food, they have made a house for themselves by building a temporary hut. It is noteworthy that when will the government and administration take care of the demands of these villagers or how long will this protest continue. It may be known that 36 gram panchayats of Abujhmad of Narayanpur district are sitting on dharna with various demands including implementation of Rural Profession Act, withdrawal of amendment of

Forest Act 2022, closure of new caps being opened without the permission of Gram Sabha. Villagers along with their families from the interior villages of Abujhmad have come on strike. Villagers from Irakhbhatti, Toymeta, Dhondribeda and Orcha stay at Nadipara dharna venue for 24 hours amid dense forests. All the villagers bring their ration with them. The villagers stay at the dharna site for a few days. Every villager brings his ration when he comes home. In the evening, meetings and cultural programmes are organized on the stage built in the middle of the dharna venue. In this way the villagers have made the protest site their home. The villagers say that their protest will continue until their

demands are met. The villagers say that today we are united only because the coming generations can also see the Abujhmad forest. The tribal of Bastar is not poor as they have so many resources that big industrialists want to get them. But the tribals do not want to sell their water, forests and land. They say that our mountains and forests are our Gods and Goddesses, who provide resources for our livelihood. It is a conspiracy of the government to take away our water, jungle and land from us by expanding new police camps. That's why they are taking out the iron by ripping the chest of the hill. If there is no forest, then how will we live our life? The forest produce obtained from the forest is our support, they added.

Constructive efforts is the precursor to transformation: KCS

Nanded (Maharashtra state) May 19:

Bharat Rastra Samithi (BRS) supremo and Telangana Chief Minister K.Chandrasekhar Rao exhorted the cross section of the society in Maharashtra to pave way for achieving a transformation from the foundation of democracy. Delivering the key note address at the training camp of BRS workers and cadre of Maharashtra in Nanded city of the state, the BRS chief said the orientation imparted in the two day training of the cadre would help transforming the polity of the nation where the thrust was not even the basic amenities till date for the past 75 years. These requirements were thoroughly achieved in the state of Telangana and that transformation is labelled Telangana model. Till we achieve that goal

we would strive and accomplish the mission, KCR said amidst cheers from the public.

The hour long speech of KCR dealt with the subjects pertaining to water and electricity needs and detailed how those requirements were achieved with utmost ease in the state of Telangana. The BRS supremo said the states like Maharashtra were languishing in a state of backwardness what with the non supportive governments over the past seven decades. Commencing his speech at the training camp after lighting lamp in the presence of leaders and representatives belonging to 288 assembly segments spread across Maharashtra the Telangana chief minister said the BRS was formulating a model that aims at bringing a " Sarkar of farmers " with the slogan Ab ki baar kisan Sarkar .



Citing the examples of development achieved in the countries like Singapore, Malaysia and China the BRS leader observed that the polity in the country has never concentrated on the issues related to the needy. The political parties he said were basically giving priority to election after elections but people were never given thrust, he said and added that people should win in the coming days for which the BRS

is keen on providing a leadership. Stating that leadership could be groomed from the activists and cadre trained on the orientation camps like Nanded the BRS chief said a change sought for the past 75 years could be realised with the new mission of BRS. Asserting that the BRS would bring about a change and transformation that provides water and power the two basic

needs of the people in general and the farm sector in particular: Expressing concern over the state of affairs on the water supply position in the states like Maharashtra and even Delhi the BRS chief said the mission undertaken by the BRS would pave way for a transformation. Stating that this goal was achieved in a span of nine years of the formation of Telangana state, the BRS supremo said a six

and half years basic effort has given scope for the achievement of that requirement. KCR has detailed how the farmers in the country have undertaken various struggles for their just demands that include provision of power and irrigation needs too. Observing all these things and referring how the goals were achieved with the farmer friendly leadership of BRS in Telangana state the BRS chief said his party was aiming at achieving a goal of constructing a political leadership that proves itself as a beacon life for the coming generations. During his detailed speech about the political orientation class of the BRS the Telangana chief minister said a new leadership would be groomed in Maharashtra state in 45 thousand villages and 5000 odd municipal wards. KCR said each and every

village would have nine committees at the booth level and all these committees represent party main, Kisan committee, Yuva committee, Mahila committee, OBC committee, SC affairs committee, ST committee, Minority committee, students committee and the committees pertaining to workers and retired persons also be constituted for strengthening the party from the roots. The BRS chief said the party was floating its executive bodies in all the rural and urban parts of the state and it would aim of expanding the network to the states like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh in the coming days. He said the trained youths in the orientation camp would be utilised for the expansion of party network in the neighbouring states. The two day training program of BRS was

planned in a systematic manner by the party and KCR said a membership drive would be launched for constituting committees at the village and urban level on a war footing. He said party offices in Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Aurangabad and Marathwada would soon come into existence with food facility for the cadre.KCR said his party would be equipped with technological advancement and each village committee leadership is provided with gadgets that help expanding the social media network. Rajyashba MP Santhosh Rao, MLA OF Telangana Jeevan Reddy, BRS leaders Gurnam Singh, Kadam, Himanshu Deshmukh, Maharashtra party leaders and Telangana MLA Jeevan Reddy, chief advisor to chief minister Somesh Kumar were among the leaders present.

Russian PM to visit Beijing as China renews criticism of Western arms sales to Ukraine

Beijing, May 19:

Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin will visit Beijing next week for talks, China's Foreign Ministry said Friday, marking the latest exchange in a relationship in which Russia is becoming increasingly reliant on China for economic and diplomatic support. "During the visit, the two sides will have an in-depth exchange of views on practical cooperation in bilateral relations and issues of common concern," ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said at a daily briefing. "We look forward to further strengthening cooperation between the two sides, deepening people-to-people and local exchanges (and) injecting strong momentum into the recovery of the world economy," Wang added.

Mishustin's visit is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday. Meanwhile, China's Deputy Permanent U.N. Representative Geng Shuang again criticised Western arms sales to Ukraine, saying it would only lead to escalation, more civilian casualties and displacement, and make it harder to obtain a ceasefire and start peace negotiations. China says it does not and will not provide arms to either side in the Ukraine conflict, a point Geng reiterated at a Security Council meeting Thursday. "The constant feeding of weapons to the battlefield will ... also pose serious challenges to post-war reconstruction and, if such weapons are diverted to terrorists or armed groups, likely cause new turmoil in a wider geographic area," Geng was cited as saying on the U.N.'s

website. "All parties should promote a political settlement with sincerity and urgency and create conditions conducive to a ceasefire," Geng added. China says it is a neutral party and wants to help broker an end to the 15-month-old conflict, but has refused to criticise the invasion and blamed the West for provoking Moscow. China is now seen as the senior partner in the relationship, helping Moscow deflect condemnation at the United Nations and maintaining what it calls "normal trade" with Russia, providing a market for Russian oil and other resources and selling the country needed manufactured goods. At the same time, Beijing is making inroads into what has traditionally been Russia's strategic backyard, this week hosting a summit of

five former Soviet Central Asian republics. China's special envoy met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and other government officials during talks in Kyiv earlier this week. The visit followed a phone call last month between the Ukrainian leader and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping that Zelenskyy described as "long and meaningful" and which marked the first known contact between the two since the Russian invasion began. Beijing released a peace plan in February but Ukraine's allies largely dismissed it, insisting that Russian President Vladimir Putin must withdraw his forces. Zelenskyy's own 10-point peace plan includes a tribunal to prosecute war crimes committed by

Australian police use Taser on 95-year-old with dementia who held steak knife

Canberra, May 19:

Police shocked a 95-year-old woman with a stun gun as she approached them using a walker and carrying a steak knife in an Australian nursing home, sending her to the hospital in critical condition after her head hit the floor. The extraordinary police take-down of Clare Nowland, who has dementia, on Wednesday prompted a high-level police internal investigation. It also has sparked debate about how New South Wales state police use stun guns, which are widely known as Tasers after a major manufacturer. They are a less

lethal option than firearms but have occasionally proved more dangerous than other policing options. Police said Nowland received her injuries from striking her head on the floor, rather than directly from the stun gun's debilitating electric shock. Two police officers went to Yallabee Lodge, a nursing home in the town of Cooma that specialises in residents with higher care needs including dementia, after staff reported that Nowland had taken a serrated steak knife from the kitchen. Police Assistant Commissioner Peter Cotter declined to say whether he thought a po-

lice officer with 12 years' experience used excessive force by firing a stun gun at Nowland, who is 1.57 metres (5 feet, 2 inches) tall and weighs 43 kilograms. Cotter said police engaged in "negotiations" with Nowland for several minutes and used the stun gun when she approached the doorway where the officers were standing. "At the time she was tasered, she was approaching police. But it is fair to say at a slow pace. She had a walking frame. But she had a knife. I can't take it any further as to what was going through anyone's mind," Cotter told reporters. Nicole Lee, president of

the advocacy group People with Disability Australia, said she was shocked by the police response. "She's either one hell of an agile, fit, fast and intimidating 95-year-old woman, or there's a very poor lack of judgment on those police officers and there really needs to be some accountability on their side," Lee said. Family spokesperson Andrew Thaler said Nowland's dementia "waxes and wanes." "The question will be, how was it appropriate to use this level of force on a 95-year-old woman?" Thaler was quoted as saying by The Sydney Morning Herald.

Sudan's top army general formally fires rival paramilitary leader as his deputy in symbolic gesture

Cairo, May 19:

In a symbolic gesture, Sudan's army general on Friday fired the paramilitary leader his former ally turned rival as the deputy of the country's governing body, state media reported. The dismissal by Gen. Abdel Fattah Burhan of Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, commander of the

Rapid Support Forces, from the Sovereignty Council comes as the two warring generals continue to battle for control over this troubled African country. The month long conflict that has killed at least 705 people, the World Health organisation said Friday. The firing, reported by the state SUNA news

agency, is unlikely to affect the battlefield where the warring sides appear locked in a stalemate and

unwilling to end the hostilities. The paramilitary forces did not immediately comment.

Pak police obtain warrant to search former PM Imran Khan's residence in Lahore

Lahore, May 19:

Punjab Police on Friday obtained warrants to conduct a detailed search at former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan's Zaman Park residence here to find "terrorists" reportedly hiding there, media reports said. The move comes after the Punjab government decided to send a team to hold talks with Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership, according to

Geo TV. An officer of the rank of a superintendent of police will lead the contingent, which will also include a female police officer, the report said. The Commissioner of Lahore Division will also be accompanying the team. According to the statement, the search will encompass a thorough examination of both the entrance and exit points of the residence, with the primary objective of finding "terrorists" hid-

ing at the place, the Dawn newspaper reported. On Wednesday, the Punjab government claimed that "30 to 40 terrorists were hiding inside Khan's residence," and gave an ultimatum of 24 hours to his party to hand over the miscreants. However, no action was taken after the deadline expired on Thursday. Punjab Information Minister Amir Mir said law enforcers will conduct a search operation at

Khan's residence after his permission and in front of cameras to apprehend "terrorists", the Geo TV report said. "We [the interim government] have decided that instead of a head-on collision, we will send a delegation to Khan sahab under the supervision of the Lahore commissioner," Mir was quoted as saying in the report. "They will ask him [Khan] to allow them to conduct a search operation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives in Hiroshima for G7 and Quad summits

Hiroshima, May 19:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived here in the Japanese city on Friday to attend the annual summit of the G7 grouping and the third in-person Quad leaders' meeting during which he will exchange views with world leaders on global challenges and discuss ways to collectively address them. Modi arrived here on the first leg of his three-nation trip to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia and is expected to take part in over 40 engagements. He will interact with over two

dozen world leaders in summits as well as in bilateral meetings, officials said. "I look forward to exchanging views with the G7 countries and other invited partners on challenges that the world faces and the need to collectively address them. I would also be holding bilateral meetings with some of the leaders attending the Hiroshima G7 Summit," Modi said in his departure statement. "My presence in this G7 summit is particularly meaningful as India holds the G20 presidency this year. I look forward to exchanging views with the

G7 countries and other invited partners on challenges that the world faces and the need to collectively address them," he said. The prime minister was received by senior Japanese and Indian officials at the airport. Modi is visiting Hiroshima from May 19 to 21 primarily for the annual summit of the G7 advanced economies in which he is expected to speak on challenges facing the globe, including food, fertiliser and energy security. Modi is expected to hold bilateral meetings with some of the world leaders attending the Hiroshima G7 Summit. The G-7 bloc comprises Japan, the United States, France, Germany, Canada and Italy, as well as the European Union. From Japan, he will travel to Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea where he will host the

third summit of the Forum for India Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) on May 22 jointly with Prime Minister James Marape. In the third and final leg of the trip, Modi will visit Australia from May 22 to 24. The Quad summit was originally scheduled to be held in Sydney but it will now take place in Hiroshima as US President Joe Biden postponed his visit to Australia to focus on crucial debt-ceiling talks in Washington. The Quad leaders from the US, India, Australia and Japan will discuss how they can deepen their cooperation on critical and emerging technologies, high-quality infrastructure, global health, climate change, maritime domain awareness, and other issues that matter to the people of the Indo-Pacific, according to the White House.

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स्वामी आत्मानंद विद्यालयों में संविदा भर्ती की सूचना

पत्र क्र. संविदा भर्ती/SAGES/2023/416 रायपुर, दिनांक: 17.05.2023

1. कार्यालयीन पत्र क्रमांक/शिक्षा/SAGES/संविदा भर्ती/2023/361 रायपुर, दिनांक 09.05.2023 द्वारा जिला अन्तर्गत 06 स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय हेतु विभिन्न पदों पर संविदा भर्ती हेतु विज्ञापन जारी किया गया है। जिसके लिए दिनांक 20.05.2023 सायं 05:00 बजे तक आवेदन आमंत्रित किये गये हैं।

2. छत्तीसगढ़ शासन स्कूल शिक्षा विभाग मंत्रालय महानदी भवन नवा रायपुर अटल नगर के आदेश दिनांक 16.05.2023 के तहत जिला रायपुर अन्तर्गत नवीन 05 विद्यालयों (1. स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय रायखेड़ा वि.खं. तिल्दा जिला रायपुर, 2. स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय गनियारी वि.खं. तिल्दा जिला रायपुर, 3. स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय खोरपा वि.खं. अभनपुर जिला रायपुर, 4. अनंत राम बड़िछा अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय चंदखुरी वि.खं. आरंग जिला रायपुर, 5. स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय बरबंदा वि.खं. धरसीवा जिला रायपुर) को स्वामी आत्मानंद विद्यालय घोषित किया गया है। उक्त प्रत्येक विद्यालय के लिए 24 पद स्वीकृत किये गये हैं अर्थात् कुल 120 पदों एवं पूर्व में जारी 54 पदों की संविदा भर्ती हेतु आवेदन दिनांक 31.05.2023 सायं 05:00 बजे तक सीधे स्वीड पोस्ट/पंजीकृत डाक/कुरियर द्वारा कार्यालय प्राचार्य, स्वामी आत्मानंद शासकीय अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय, एन.एच.एम.एम.आई. अस्पताल के पास लालपुर रायपुर, पिन कोड 492015 के पते पर आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन पत्र प्रारूप वेबसाईट <https://raipur.gov.in/> से डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं, निर्धारित तिथि के बाद कोई भी आवेदन पत्र स्वीकार नहीं किया जावेगा।

3. उपरोक्त पद हेतु जिले के पूर्व में जारी संविदा भर्ती विज्ञापन दिनांक 09/05/2023 के शैक्षणिक योग्यता/चयन प्रक्रिया/नियम एवं शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेंगे।

4. जिन आवेदकों ने जिले के संविदा भर्ती के विज्ञापन दिनांक 09/05/2023 में आवेदन किया है, उन्हें पुनः आवेदन करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है, क्योंकि चयन प्रक्रिया एक साथ पूरी की जावेगी।

जिला शिक्षा अधिकारी
जिला-रायपुर (छ.ग.)

कार्यालय आयुक्त, आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास
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क्रमांक/ऑ.ला.पो.मै.छा./123/2022-23/1480 नवा रायपुर, दिनांक 17/05/2023

सूचना

अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति एवं अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति (कालेज स्तर) वर्ष 2022-23 के विद्यार्थियों का संस्था परिवर्तन, पाठ्यक्रम परिवर्तन तथा संस्था एवं पाठ्यक्रम दोनो परिवर्तन की सुविधा पोर्टल पर प्रदाय की सूचना

विभाग द्वारा अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति एवं अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति (कालेज स्तर) का पंजीयन/स्वीकृति एवं मुग्तान विभागीय पोर्टल <https://postmatric-scholarship.cg.inc.in/> के माध्यम से किया जा रहा है। वर्ष 2022-23 में ऐसे विद्यार्थी जो संस्था परिवर्तन, पाठ्यक्रम परिवर्तन तथा संस्था एवं पाठ्यक्रम दोनो परिवर्तन करना चाहते हैं, भारत सरकार के नियमानुसार पात्रता रखने वाले ऐसे विद्यार्थियों को पोर्टल पर सुविधा (Option) दी गई है। कृपया संबंधित जिले के सहायक आयुक्त, आदिवासी विकास कार्यालय में दिनांक 25.05.2023 तक आवेदन करने की अंतिम तिथि निर्धारित की जाती है।

आयुक्त
आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास
नवा रायपुर, छ.ग.

छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग
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क्रमांक 684/48/परीक्षा/2022 रायपुर, दिनांक 17 मई 2023

भृत्य (सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग एवं छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग) परीक्षा-2022 के संबंध में महत्वपूर्ण सूचना

आयोग द्वारा दिनांक 25 सितम्बर, 2022 को भृत्य के प्रथम चरण की लिखित परीक्षा का आयोजन किया गया था। आयोग द्वारा जारी विज्ञापन के परिशिष्ट-एक के अनुसार भृत्य के द्वितीय चरण की परीक्षा शुद्धलेखन (ईमला) का आयोजन परीक्षा केन्द्र J.R. Dani, Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School, Kalibadi Chowk, Raipur (C.G.) में किया जाना है, जिसकी समय-सारणी निम्नानुसार है:-

Date & Day of Exam	Time of Exam	Subject
25.05.2023, गुरुवार	पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे से अपराह्न 01:00 बजे तक	शुद्धलेखन (ईमला)

प्रवेश पत्र आयोग के वेबसाईट www.psc.cg.gov.in में दिनांक 16.05.2023 को जारी कर दिया गया है। अभ्यर्थी आयोग की वेबसाईट से प्रवेश पत्र डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। आयोग द्वारा किसी भी अभ्यर्थी को पृथक से प्रवेश पत्र व्यक्तित्व: नहीं भेजा जायेगा।

सचिव
छ.ग. लोक सेवा आयोग,
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR

(CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice
Main Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Tenders are invited for the Following works:-

S. No	System Tender No./Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)
1	133353 Second Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE ACROSS JUJHARA NALLA ON CHIPARA - KILLEKODAR ROAD.	183.95
2	132889 First Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE I/C APPROACHES ACROSS DANKANI RIVER IN KM. 6/2 ON GEEDAM BY-PASS TO BAGABADHI ROAD.	920.75
3	133355 Second Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF 4 WAY DIRECTION ROAD, B. T. & DRAIN WORK (LENGTH 2.373 KM) AT PT. JAWAHAR LAL NEHRU WARD NO.2 KABIR NAGAR (UNDER NAGAR NIGAM) I/C. CULVERTS AT DISTT. RAIPUR, (VIDHANSABHA DN. RAIPUR).	288.31
4	133356 Second Call 10.05.2023	Construction of Siganpur to Badepara Road Total Length 2.985 Km in/c Culverts and Bridges.	295.53
5	133354 Fourth Call 10.05.2023	Construction of Motimpur (Amartapu) Temple on Both Sides Approach Road Length 1.70 Km.	383.25
6	133392 Second Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE I/C APPROACHES ACROSS SUKHA NALLA ON HALEKOSA - KOLIHAATOLA ROAD.	308.42
7	133393 Second Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF H.L. BRIDGE I/C APPROACH ACROSS BHARARI NALLA ON SASKOBA PARAGHATI ROAD.	551.58
8	133394 Second Call 10.05.2023	Construction of Kasdol Bhainapara (Bhaisgadi) Badgaon to Barliya Road Length 14.40 Km.	1413.10
9	134000 First Call 15.05.2023	Upgradation & Construction of Nikum to Ruda Road Length 3.50 K.M. including Bridges & culverts AT Distt.-Durg (C.G.)	1135.00
10	134015 Second Call 10.05.2023	Construction of village Nimdha (Hostel) to village Darmohli Road Length 3.00 km.	401.97

Last Date of Tender Downloading For S.No. 02 date 02.06.2023, S.No. 05 date 22.05.2023, S.No. 09 date 05.06.2023, S.No. 10 date 31.05.2023. Other Tenders Date are Schedule as date 29.05.2023.
For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer
(Central Tender Cell)
Office Of Engineer In Chief
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar

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For complete details [including qualifications, experience, age etc.] and online Application Form, please visit Company website: <http://careers.ecil.co.in> or www.ecil.co.in

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CBC - 48138/12/0002/2324

कार्यालय आयुक्त
आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास
इन्द्रवती भवन, अटल नगर रायपुर छत्तीसगढ़

क्रमांक/निर्माण/753/2023-24/1445 नवा रायपुर, दिनांक 17/05/2023

ई- प्रोक्यूमेंट निविदा सूचना
Website <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

संक्र. क्रमांक	कार्य का नाम	कार्य का अनुमानित लागत
1	बलरामपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	321.60 लाख
2	जशपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	192.96 लाख
3	कोरिया जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख
4	सूरजपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	192.96 लाख
5	सरगुजा जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	192.96 लाख
6	बलराम जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	225.12 लाख
7	बीजापुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	192.96 लाख
8	दरभंगा जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख
9	कांकेर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	257.28 लाख
10	कोणार्जुन जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	257.28 लाख
11	नारायणपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	64.32 लाख
12	सुकमा जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख
13	गैरला-फेण्ड-मरवाही जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	64.32 लाख
14	कोरबा जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख
15	रायचढ़ जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	96.48 लाख
16	नारायणपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	64.32 लाख
17	मानपुर-मोहला-अंबागढ़ चौकी जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख

उपरोक्त 17 निविदाएं पृथक-पृथक आवेदन की जावेगी। निविदा तिथियां कार्य सूची के संरक्षक अनुसूचित निम्नानुसार पृथक-पृथक दर्शित की गई हैं। निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि- निर्धारित है। निविदा में भाग लेने की प्रक्रिया एवं निविदा के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी विभाग के उपरोक्त वेबसाईट में देख सकते हैं।

Date and time of pre-proposal conference
23.05.2023/24.05.2023/25.05.2023/26.05.2023.
At 3:00 P.M at Office Of Commissioner, Scheduled Tribes And Scheduled Castes Development Department, Government Of Chhattisgarh Address: Block-D, Ground Floor, Indravati Bhawan Atal Nagar Nava Raipur.

Last Date And Time For Uploading Of E- Tenderin E-Procurement Platform On Or Before.
Serial no.1 to 5, Date 07.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.6 to 12 Date 08.06.2023 by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 09.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.16 to 17 ,Date 12.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 08.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.6 to 12 ,Date 09.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 12.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.6 to 12 , Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 14.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.16 to 17 ,Date 15.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.6 to 12 , Date 14.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 15.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.16 to 17, Date 16.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M

Last date for submission of physical bid.
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 08.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.6 to 12 ,Date 09.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 12.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.6 to 12 , Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 14.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.16 to 17 ,Date 15.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.6 to 12 , Date 14.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 15.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M
Serial no.16 to 17, Date 16.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M

The Price Bid will Be opened online on

(टी. चक्रवर्ती)
कार्यपालन अभियंता
आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)



CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 224

Unmasking Drug Cartels

Record Haul in Kerala Exposes Alarming Drug Trade

In a groundbreaking operation off the Kochi coast, a staggering 2,500 kg of high-purity methamphetamine, commonly known as crystal meth, was seized, marking a record-breaking achievement in terms of its monetary value. This unprecedented drug bust stands as a testament to the commendable efforts of the Narcotics Control Bureau and the Indian Navy. Operation Samudragupt, the operation under which these drug busts took place, has shed light on the immense scale of the illegal drug trade, the innovative smuggling techniques employed, and the emergence of new trafficking routes. Samudragupt's primary focus is combatting maritime drug trafficking, primarily originating from Afghanistan, and relies on actionable intelligence for intercepting vessels. Since its inception in January last year, the operation has resulted in the seizure of approximately 3,200 kg of methamphetamine, 500 kg of heroin, and 529 kg of hashish. This outstanding success deserves recognition, but it also necessitates increased vigilance, intelligence-gathering efforts, and round-the-clock intensive patrolling. The Pakistani connection to the drug seizure in Kerala is undeniable, as the consignment was concealed within jute bags weighing 40 kg and 20 kg, bearing labels of a Pakistan-based rice company. The mother ship intercepted during the operation had its origins traced back to the Makran coast, encompassing both Pakistan and Iran. A Pakistani national, now in custody, has disclosed crucial information indicating that smaller boats were intended to transport the bags to Sri Lanka and India. From the deployment of drones in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir to ships sailing perilously close to the coastline, the desperation of drug cartels operating in India's neighboring countries becomes painfully apparent. This situation underscores the fact that there is a thriving market within India, with individuals willing to go to extreme lengths to ensure a steady supply to meet the relentless demand. While the government's ambition to make India drug-free by 2047 appears commendable, the ground reality paints a different picture. Despite the implementation of numerous plans, the scourge of drug abuse continues to grow deeper within our society. It is imperative to alter our approach and ensure that those facilitating the drug trade, irrespective of their social or official status, face stringent legal consequences. It is high time to apprehend and incarcerate the key figures behind the drug trade, regardless of whether they wear khadi (traditional Indian clothing) or khaki (uniforms worn by law enforcement personnel). Only by taking such measures can we truly hope to make a substantial impact on curbing drug abuse and dismantling the networks that perpetuate this crisis. The record-breaking drug bust off the Kochi coast is a stark reminder of the urgent need for heightened security measures, intelligence sharing, and international cooperation in combating the drug trade. The magnitude of this seizure underscores the gravity of the situation and serves as a wake-up call for all stakeholders involved. The collaboration between the Narcotics Control Bureau and the Indian Navy in Operation Samudragupt has proven successful thus far, but it is crucial to build upon this accomplishment and further strengthen our efforts. To effectively tackle the drug menace, we must address both the supply and demand sides of the equation. On the supply side, it is essential to enhance border security, strengthen surveillance systems, and actively collaborate with international agencies to dismantle the intricate drug networks. On the demand side, the focus should be on prevention, education, and rehabilitation programs to address the underlying factors driving individuals towards substance abuse. Additionally, inter-agency coordination and intelligence sharing must be prioritized to identify and apprehend drug traffickers, financiers, and kingpins operating within and beyond our borders. The Narcotics Control Bureau and the Indian Navy's accomplishments under Operation Samudragupt deserve commendation, but they should also serve as catalysts for even greater collaboration and innovation in the future. It is time to transform our aspirations for a drug-free India into concrete actions. The fight against drugs is not just a battle of law enforcement agencies; it is a battle for the well-being and future of our nation. Let us join forces, strengthen our resolve, and work relentlessly towards a society free from the clutches of drugs. Together, we can overcome this scourge and create a safer and healthier India for generations to come.

A New Chapter

Karnataka Congress' Leadership Challenge

The recently concluded Karnataka Assembly elections brought forth a resounding victory for the Congress party, putting an end to the suspense surrounding the appointment of the Chief Minister. After much deliberation, the party has declared 75-year-old Siddaramaiah as the Chief Minister and appointed state unit chief DK Shivakumar (61) as his deputy. This decision was not an easy one, as both contenders aggressively staked their claims for the top post. However, the party seems to have successfully resolved the issue, with Shivakumar stating that "everything is well and will be well." Siddaramaiah, having previously served a full term as CM from 2013 to 2018, is undoubtedly the right choice for the position. He now faces the challenge of meeting the expectations of Karnataka's voters, who have given the Congress a decisive mandate. The party must address the taint of corruption and demonstrate clean and transparent governance, as these were key factors that led to the downfall of the BJP in the previous election. With the Congress now unencumbered by coalition pressures, it is in a strong position to deliver on its promises. However, the onus is not solely on Siddaramaiah. Deputy CM Shivakumar also plays a crucial role in the success of the government. It is essential for both leaders to work in unison and present a united front. The Congress high command must also be proactive in addressing any potential issues that may arise between them. The party should learn from its experiences in Rajasthan, where Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and former Deputy CM Sachin Pilot have been engaged in a prolonged power struggle, casting a shadow over the state government. Similarly, there are rumblings of discontent in Chhattisgarh, another poll-bound state governed by the Congress. The performance of the Karnataka government will have a significant impact on the party's prospects of leading the Opposition in the upcoming 2024 General Election. Any missteps in the southern state could weaken the Congress at the national level, leaving the Opposition ill-prepared to challenge the ruling BJP. This is an opportune moment for the Congress to establish a strong and efficient government in Karnataka. The party must seize this opportunity to address the pressing issues faced by the state, such as unemployment, agrarian distress, and infrastructure development. Effective governance and tangible results will not only benefit the people of Karnataka but also enhance the party's credibility and position in national politics. Furthermore, the Congress should also focus on strengthening its organizational structure in the state. This includes empowering grassroots leaders and nurturing new talent to ensure a robust party machinery. The involvement of young leaders, women, and marginalized communities is crucial for the party's long-term growth and relevance. A united and well-organized Congress will not only be beneficial for Karnataka but also for the broader democratic fabric of our country. The appointment of Siddaramaiah as Chief Minister and DK Shivakumar as his deputy marks a fresh start for the Congress in Karnataka. The party must learn from past experiences and ensure that the leadership works together harmoniously. It is crucial for the Congress high command to address any internal rifts promptly and provide the necessary support to the state government. By delivering on its promises and addressing the concerns of the people, the Congress can strengthen its position in Karnataka and revitalize its role as a credible opposition at the national level. The road ahead may not be easy, but with determination, unity, and effective governance, the Congress can bring about positive change for the people of Karnataka and set an example for the entire nation.

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

G20 MEETINGS



Students pose for pictures after getting their hands and face painted in view of the upcoming G20 meetings in Srinagar, in Jammu, Friday.

Foiling Pakistan's Disruptive Agenda

MANOJ KUMAR K P



The Indian Army achieved a significant victory by thwarting an audacious attempt by militants to infiltrate across the Line of Control (LoC) in the Uri sector of Baramulla district. The brave soldiers engaged in a fierce firefight, successfully preventing the intruders from infiltrating into the Kashmir valley. The Pakistani army, in an alarming move, even deployed a quadcopter to assist the infiltrators, but it was promptly fired at and compelled to retreat. This attempted infiltration, masterminded and aided by the Pakistan army, was a desperate action aimed at disrupting the upcoming G-20 Summit and sowing chaos in the Valley. Pakistan's relentless efforts to disturb peace in India, especially in the Kashmir valley, have been an ongoing concern. One of the primary tactics employed by Pakistan is to support and aid militant groups operating in the region. These groups, with backing from the Pakistani army, continually attempt to infiltrate Indian territory, carrying out heinous attacks on innocent civilians and security forces. Alongside this support for militants, Pakistan consistently violates ceasefire agreements along the border, instigating firing incidents targeting Indian positions. Such provocations often result in cross-border shelling, causing casualties

among civilians on both sides.

Furthermore, Pakistan utilizes propaganda as a tool to disseminate false information and incite violence within India. The state-run media in Pakistan frequently broadcasts anti-India content, fueling communal tensions and fostering an atmosphere of mistrust. In addition, Pakistan provides sanctuary to numerous terrorist groups that orchestrate attacks within India, operating from Pakistani soil and receiving support from the country's intelligence agencies. These groups benefit from financial and logistical assistance from Pakistan, perpetuating a cycle of violence and instability.

Pakistan's attempts to disrupt peace in India encompass a multi-dimensional approach, involving supporting militants, violating ceasefires, spreading propaganda, and providing safe havens to terrorist organizations. These actions pose a grave threat to regional stability and hinder progress towards peaceful coexistence.

Internally, Pakistan is grappling with significant turmoil across various fronts. Political instability, allegations of electoral fraud, and human rights violations have marred the country's democratic landscape. Tensions between the military and elected officials have resulted in clashes and a lack of stability in the political system. The country's economy is burdened by substantial debt and inflation, leading to a devaluation of the Pakistani rupee. Seeking financial aid from international institutions has become a necessity to mitigate economic challenges. Security concerns persist as conflicts along Pakistan's borders with Afghanistan and India. Additionally, sectarian violence, particularly targeting religious minorities, remains a grave concern

within the country.

Pakistan's internal turmoil presents formidable obstacles to the nation's stability and future development. Yet, despite the critical state of affairs, Pakistan seems to have failed to learn from its precarious position, veering perilously close to collapse.

The rise of India on the global stage has unsettled Pakistan, leaving it grappling to accept India's growing influence, particularly in its presidency of the G-20 and SCO meetings and the support it has garnered from major countries worldwide. In response, Pakistan resorts to desperate measures such as drug and arms smuggling via drones and cowardly attacks on civilians and the army, in a futile attempt to revive terrorism. However, the Indian Army remains resolute, maintaining a tight vigilance along the LoC to prevent any infiltration. Regular patrols are conducted near the fence and adjacent forest areas, ensuring that no infiltrated militants breach the hinterland's security. The security agencies are prepared to address any potential threats during the G-20 meeting, underscoring that there is no place for terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir.

India's unwavering commitment to safeguarding its borders, countering terrorist activities, and maintaining peace and stability in the region is commendable. The Indian Army's constant vigilance and proactive measures along the LoC serve as a strong deterrent against infiltrators and terrorists seeking to disrupt peace.

The upcoming G-20 Summit holds immense significance for India, as it assumes the presidency of this prestigious global forum. Pakistan's desperate attempt to disrupt the summit and create turmoil in the Kashmir valley is a

clear indication of its anxiety over India's rising prominence and global recognition. The G-20 platform provides India with a crucial opportunity to showcase its economic prowess, diplomatic leadership, and commitment to addressing pressing global issues. Pakistan's disruptive agenda not only aims to undermine India's achievements but also reflects its own frustration at being left behind on the world stage.

India's position as a responsible global power is reinforced by its adherence to democratic principles, respect for human rights, and commitment to international cooperation. In contrast, Pakistan's actions and support for terrorism undermine regional stability and hinder progress in the fight against extremism. The international community must take note of Pakistan's attempts to disrupt peace and rally behind India in its efforts to combat terrorism.

India's efforts to address the challenges in Jammu and Kashmir have focused on a multifaceted approach. The government has initiated various developmental projects aimed at improving infrastructure, education, healthcare, and employment opportunities for the people of the region. Additionally, dialogue and engagement with stakeholders have been prioritized to foster a peaceful and inclusive environment.

It is essential for the global community to recognize and support India's endeavors in Jammu and Kashmir, rather than allowing Pakistan's disruptive actions to overshadow India's sincere efforts for peace and progress. By standing united against terrorism and supporting India's initiatives, the international community can help create a conducive environment for stability, development, and lasting peace in the region.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Modi Dominance

The BJP's electoral strategy since 2014 has revolved around the dominance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Regardless of success or failure, the credit for victories is attributed solely to Modi's popularity, while shortcomings are rarely placed on his shoulders. This reliance on a personality cult not only poses a threat to the party's internal democracy but also to the democratic fabric of the nation. With the exception of Yogi Adityanath, no state leader within the BJP can achieve victory in Assembly elections independently; they must heavily rely on the PM's tireless campaigning.

Krishna Kumar KA, Kannur, Kerala

Crucial Reforms

The Karnataka verdict is being closely scrutinized to assess its implications for the Congress, BJP, and other political parties in upcoming Assembly and General Elections of 2024. However, it is equally important to address the concerning state of electioneering today, which fosters hatred, mistrust, fear, and insecurity among certain sections of society, while spreading misinformation. Even before the results are announced, the nation and society become the ultimate losers. Irresponsible remarks from individuals in constitutional positions tarnish the country's image, while exorbitant amounts of money are wasted on campaigns. Urgent electoral reforms are imperative to reduce the influence of money in politics. It is crucial to minimize roadshows and rallies, promoting a more responsible and inclusive electoral process.

MK Nair, Raipur

Covert Negotiations

Pakistan's predicament is largely self-inflicted. From its founder capitalizing on anti-India sentiment to power-hungry generals repeatedly taking their share, the nation has faced numerous challenges. With the government and military on one side and a judiciary supporting beleaguered former Prime Minister Imran Khan on the other, covert negotiations are underway to seek a resolution that favors the ex-cricketer. However, given the widespread unrest in the streets, any attempt to impose martial law would lead to irreversible consequences. The bureaucrats in India's Ministry of External Affairs must prudently safeguard India's interests amidst the tumultuous developments in crisis-ridden Pakistan.

Navneet Nair, Raipur

Bees are the lifeline of life on the earth



Dr. Prabhat Kishore

"If the bees disappeared from the surface of the globe the man would only have four years of life left. No more bees, no more pollination, no more plants, no more animals, no more man." - Albert Einstein.

World Bee Day is celebrated every year on 20th May. This day is intended to generate awareness about importance of Beekeeping activities in increasing yield of various agricultural and horticultural

products and providing income and employment support.

Beekeeping activities are being carried out by farmers in rural areas under Integrated Farming System (IFS). Honeybees are one of the best pollinators which enhances the yields and quality of produce of various crops such as fruits, vegetables, pulses, oil seeds, etc. through pollination support. They are vital for the preservation of ecological balance and biodiversity in nature.

By sucking on the nectar of flowering plants, bees spread pollen to other plants and help with the fertilization process. About 85% of plants exist because of bees and one-third of all food we eat depends on pollinators. Bees pollinate nearly 70 to 100 types of crops.

Beekeeping provides income and employment to the rural people by way of increasing yield of various crops along with providing honey & other beehive prod-

ucts, such as - bees wax, propolis, pollen, royal jelly, comb honey, bee venom, etc. which have great importance in human life. Therefore, honeybees/beekeeping is being treated as one of the most important 5th input for sustainable development of agriculture/horticulture.

Keeping in view the importance of beekeeping, GOI has approved a central sector scheme "National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)" (100% funded by Central Government) for overall promotion and development of scientific beekeeping in mission mode to achieve the goal of "Sweet Revolution" in the country. The Mission will have 3 sub-schemes/Mini Missions (MMs)-MM-I, MM-II, MM-III. Under MM-I, thrust will be given on production & productivity improvement of various crops through pollination assisted by adoption of scientific beekeeping. Integrated Beekeeping Development Centers (IBDC),

honey testing labs, bee disease diagnostic & treatment labs, Api-therapy centers and other infrastructure will be set up. This will also include development of nucleus stock & bee breeders, Custom hiring centers, digitization/online registration & insurance, promotion of bee friendly plants/flora/bee gardens, involvement & empowerment of women etc.

MM-II will concentrate on post-harvest management of beekeeping/beehive products including collection, processing, storage, trading, branding, marketing, value addition, packaging, etc. with a thrust to requisite infrastructure facility for these activities. MM-III will be responsible for Research & Technology generation for different Regions/States/Agro-Climate and Socio-Economic conditions.

GOI has approved Rs 500 Crore for beekeeping initiatives under Atma Nirbhar Bharat programme for NBHM for 3 years (2021 to

2023). National Bee Board (NBB) has been designated as a Nodal Agency for overall development/promotion of scientific beekeeping in the country.

The main theme of celebrating World Bee Day this year will be "Bee engaged in pollinator-friendly agricultural production", because saving the bees leads to saving the plants & food and ultimately life on the earth. Having usage of honey & other beehive products in daily life, their importance in human health and dependency of world agriculture/horticulture on bees as pollinators, mass-scale awareness campaigns are being organized by various departments & institutions. Beekeeping helps in prosperity of farmers, healthy people & strong nation and all citizens must give their support for preservation of this life saving creature.

(Author is a technocrat and academician.)

BRIEF

Helping airlines



New Delhi: Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said Go First going into insolvency proceedings is not a "great thing" for the country's civil aviation sector and added that the ministry wants the resumption of flights as early as possible. While replying to a query on the Go First crisis on the sidelines of an event here, Scindia said it is "certainly something that is not a great thing for civil aviation". Each company has to manage its own issues. "As far as the ministry is concerned, we are quite steadfast in our resolve in helping airlines...." he said. Cash-strapped Go First stopped flying from May 3 and has extended the suspension of operations till May 26.

Loan offered

Mumbai: Godrej Agrovet's Oil Palm Business on Thursday said it has partnered with the State Bank of India (SBI) to offer loans to oil palm farmers for setting up micro irrigation facility and install fencing to protect crops from cattle and improvement of tube well at their oil palm farms. Introduced with an objective of aiding oil palm growth by improving Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) productivity, it will act as a catalyst to maintain juvenile gardens during the gestation period of the first 5 years, Godrej Agrovet said in a statement. "The partnership with SBI is a testament of our company's efforts to improve farmer's confidence in sustainable oil palm farming. With no income visibility during the long gestation period, this partnership will aid bridge the gap for their finance needs during the initial years," Godrej Agrovet CEO, Oil Palm Business, Sougata Niyogi said.

Financial aspects



Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan on Thursday said growth and success in economic activities should not be viewed as just being driven by profits. Prosperity should also be measured in social, environmental and ethical dimensions aside from the financial means, he said. Khan's suggestion came while speaking after inaugurating the Trivandrum Management Association's (TMA) flagship conclave — TRIMA 2023 — whose focal theme is "Trivandrum 5.0 - Prosperity Beyond Profit", a statement issued by TMA said.

Huge biz opportunities in India's petrochemical industry: Mandaviya

New Delhi, May 19:



Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya addresses at Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023, in New Delhi, Friday, May 19.

Union Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Friday asked foreign companies to invest in India's petrochemical industry that presents huge business opportunities. Addressing 'Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023', Mandaviya asserted that the Modi government is pro-farmer, pro-poor and is also industry-friendly. He said the government is making long-term policies for chemicals and petrochemicals sector to attract investments from domestic and foreign companies.

The minister asked industry to follow the path of reclaim, reuse and recycle for sustainable development. "India is poised to be the new destination of petrochemicals, globally. Due to our business-friendly policies, the

world views India as a trusted partner and priority destination for investment," Mandaviya said.

He said the Indian chemical manufacturing industry has truly been one of the emerging global manufacturing hub for petrochemicals.

"Today, India is promoting ease of doing business

as the Indian government is industry-friendly government by minimising government's interference and through various other measures such as reduction in corporate tax, reduction in compliance burden and by policy changes," the minister said. India is committed to becoming a trusted part-

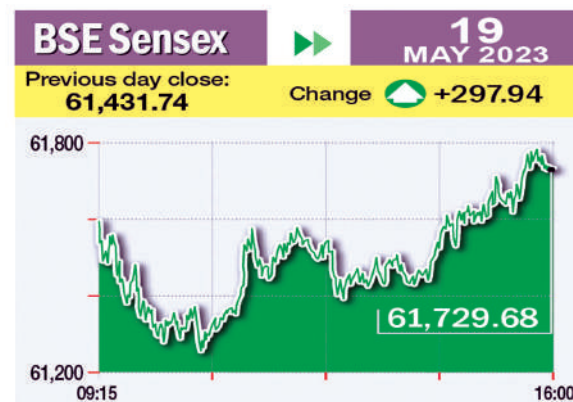
ner in the world in global supply chain of chemicals and petrochemicals, the minister said. Mandaviya emphasised that this is the best time to invest in India with such a huge population. "India, itself is a big market to invest. We are making way for free trade agreements with many countries," he said.

The government is working effortlessly on policies to attract investment from domestic and foreign sources to address the major issue of availability of petrochemical.

He said the government has made necessary changes such as production-linked incentive scheme for chemicals and also proposed the manufacturing of difficult and strategic chemicals intermediates in India. "India also provides an opportunity for easy import and export.

Sensex snaps 3-day losing run, climbs nearly 300 pts

Mumbai, May 19:

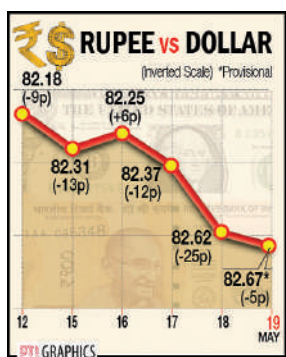


Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty found firmer ground on Friday after a three-session losing streak, propped up by buying in IT, tech and banking counters amid a positive trend overseas and unabated foreign fund inflows. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 297.94 points or 0.48 per cent to settle at 61,729.68 helped by fag-end buying. During the day, the benchmark faced volatile trends, hitting a high of 61,784.61 and a low of 61,251.70. The NSE Nifty advanced 73.45 points or 0.41 per cent to end at 18,203.40. On a weekly basis, the BSE Sensex declined 298.22 points or 0.48 per cent. The Nifty dipped 111.4 points or 0.60 per cent. "Positive global cues helped markets reverse its 3-day losing streak, as buying in IT, select banking and realty stocks aided recovery. If

the global situation over interest rate movement and demand scenario doesn't improve, we may see bouts of profit-taking in the near term," said Amol Athawale, Technical Analyst (DVP), Kotak Securities Ltd. Tata Motors was the biggest gainer in the Sensex pack, rising over 3 per cent, followed by Tech Mahindra, Infosys, HCL Technologies, Axis Bank, Mahindra & Mahindra, ICICI Bank, UltraTech Cement and Kotak Mahindra Bank. On the other hand, NTPC, Asian Paints, Titan and Power Grid were among the laggards. Punjab National Bank on Friday reported over five-fold jump in its net profit to Rs 1,159 crore for the March 2023 quarter, helped by lower bad loans and a rise in interest income. Its shares surged 1.61 per cent to close at Rs 49.26 apiece on BSE.

Rupee falls 5 paise to close at 82.67 against US dollar

Mumbai, May 19:



The rupee fell 5 paise to close at 82.67 (provisional) against the US currency on Friday, weighed down by a strong greenback overseas and surging crude prices in the international market. However, a firm trend in domestic equities and persistent foreign capital inflows supported the rupee and restricted the fall, traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 82.71 against the dollar, and finally settled at 82.67 (provisional), down 5 paise from its previous close. During the day, the rupee touched a high of 82.64 and a low of 82.80 against the green-

back. On Thursday, the rupee had settled at 82.62 against the dollar. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.32 per cent to 103.25. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 1.05 per

cent to USD 76.66 per barrel. "Indian rupee fell to a two-month low on overnight surge in the US Dollar and positive crude oil prices. However, late recovery in domestic equities and FII inflows prevented a sharp fall in the rupee," said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. Hawkish statements from the US Federal Reserve officials also supported the greenback.

There are rising odds that the Fed may continue to hike interest rates in its June FOMC meeting to tame inflation. "We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias on the strong Dollar.

Govt asks airlines to exercise moderation in pricing tickets amid spike in airfares

New Delhi, May 19:

The government has asked airlines to exercise moderation and ensure a balance in pricing of air tickets amid a spike in airfares on certain routes especially after suspension of flights by crisis-hit Go First, according to a senior official.

While making it clear that there are no plans to regulate airfares, the official said there should not be a huge gap between the tickets sold in the lower and upper fare buckets by the airlines.

India is one of the fastest growing civil aviation markets in the world and domestic passenger traffic has been rising after being signifi-

cantly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

After cash-strapped Go First stopped flying from May 3, there has been a significant rise in airfares on certain routes that were operated by the budget carrier. The routes include Delhi-Srinagar and Delhi-Pune. Also, the reduction of capacity due to the Go First crisis has come at a time when peak domestic air travel period is round the corner.

The senior civil aviation ministry official told reporters that airlines have been asked to "exercise moderation" and "maintain some kind of balance" in terms of pricing of tickets. There cannot be a situation

where there is a huge gap between the lowest and highest fare buckets, and passengers should not face hardships in terms of exorbitant fares, the official said on the condition of anonymity. There are no plans to regulate airfares, the official said. Go First, which is undergoing voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings, has cancelled flights till May 26. Besides, many planes of IndiGo are grounded due to Pratt & Whitney engine issues while SpiceJet is also facing financial headwinds.

The official noted that capacity is an issue and hoped that resumption of flights by Go First at the earliest would help ease

the situation before the peak travel season in June. In April, domestic airlines flew 128.88 lakh passengers, as per the latest official data.

There has been a steep jump in airfares on certain routes where Go First was operating. For instance, the average one-way spot fare on Delhi-Leh route saw a 125 per cent rise to an average of Rs 13,674 during the May 3-10 period compared to April 20-28 period, as per data shared by travel portal Ixigo. During the same comparable periods, average one-way spot fare witnessed an increase of 86 per cent to Rs 16,898 on Delhi-Srinagar route, the data showed.

Forex kitty jumps USD 3.5 bn to USD 599.53 bn

Mumbai, May 19:

Rising for the second consecutive week, India's forex kitty jumped USD 3.553 billion to USD 599.529 billion for the week ended May 12, the RBI said on Friday. The overall reserves had jumped by USD 7.196 billion to USD 595.976 billion for the previous reporting week. It can be noted that in October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of USD 645 billion.

The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments. For the week ended May 12, the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, in-

creased by nearly USD 3.577 billion to USD 529.598 billion, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the RBI on Friday. Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

Gold reserves increased by USD 38 million to USD 46.353 billion, the RBI said. The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by USD 35 million to USD 18.413 billion, the apex bank added.

The country's reserve position with the IMF was down by USD 28 million to USD 5.164 billion in the reporting week, the apex bank data showed.

Fabindia to bring big Summer celebrations

New Delhi, May 19:

This summer season is going to be different. It will be Big on Choices, Bigger on Offers and the Biggest on Smiles! And it's all happening at Fabindia, across 350+ stores, 129 cities in 30 States/Union Territories. Always loved for their summer styles across Indian and Western Wear for the entire family.

The Big Summer celebrations also offer handcrafted home decor, fine linens, tableware for your home. And there's a host of personal care products which are toxin-free and loaded with Natural Bio-Actives for your skin.

Shop from a curation of contemporarily designed kurtas, saris, shirts, trousers. And complete the look with trendy accessories including fine Indian jewelry, bags and



footwear. The choices also extend to the home collection on soft linens, modern decorative items, sturdy furniture, and chic kitchen wares. And remember, Bigger Bags lead to Bigger Savings.

Talking about the Big Summer at Fabindia, Mr. Ajay Kapoor (President, Sales) of Fabindia said, "Summers have always been a favorite time for our patrons to pick up

their seasons wardrobe - whether its for their everyday looks or for travel and leisure. We wanted to turn the Summer of '23 into a celebration of the curation and experience that Fabindia offers.

Made from consciously procured raw materials and handcrafted by a team of artisans across India, Fabindia is known for its unmatched handcrafted and sustainable products.

PNB Q4 profit jumps over 5-fold to Rs 1,159 cr

New Delhi, May 19:

Punjab National Bank (PNB) on Friday reported over five-fold jump in its net profit to Rs 1,159 crore for the March 2023 quarter, helped by lower bad loans and a rise in interest income.

The state-owned bank had earned a standalone net profit of Rs 202 crore in the year-ago period. During the quarter, the bank's total income increased to Rs 27,269 crore from Rs 21,095 crore a year ago, PNB said in a regulatory filing. Interest income grew to Rs 23,849 crore during the period under review against Rs 18,645 crore in the year-ago period. The bank's board has recommended a dividend of Rs 0.65 per

share or 32.5 per cent of Rs 2 face value out of the net profits for the year ended March 31, 2023. Gross Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) were reduced to 8.74 per cent of gross advances as of March 31, 2023, from 11.78 per cent by the end of March 2022. Net NPAs also came down to 2.72 per cent of the advances from 4.8 per cent at the end of 2022.

The fall in the bad loans ratio helped cut the provisions towards NPAs for Q4FY23 to Rs 3,625 crore compared to Rs 4,564 crore a year ago. However, the bank reported a 27 per cent decline in net profit for the entire financial year 2022-23 to Rs 2,507 crore against Rs 3,457 crore in the same period a year ago.

Kabira Mobility unveils KM5000 e-cruiser bike; deliveries to begin next year

New Delhi, May 19:



Electric two-wheeler maker Kabira Mobility on Friday unveiled its flagship electric bike KM5000, which can attain a top speed of 188 kilometre/hour and comes with a 344 kilometre range on a single charge. The company plans to formally launch the bike later this year with deliveries expected to commence in 2024. Price of the cruiser electric bike is expected to start from Rs 3.15 lakh (ex-showroom Goa). "We are constantly raising the bar of what we can expect from the electric bike segment. KM5000 is a testament to our belief that electric bikes are now on par, if not even better than

their ICE counterparts in terms of performance and safety," Kabira Mobility CEO Jaibir Siwach said in a statement. The company has several products in the pipeline that will be coming to the market very soon, he added. KM5000

comes with two types of charging options: a high-speed boost charger that can charge the vehicle from 0 to 80 per cent in less than two hours and a standard charger for overnight charging, the company said.

RBI approves Rs 87,416 cr dividend payout to Gol for 2022-23

Mumbai, May 19: The Reserve Bank on Friday approved Rs 87,416 crore dividend payout to the central government for 2022-23, nearly triple of what it paid in the previous year. The dividend payout was Rs 30,307 crore for accounting year 2021-22. The decision was taken at the 602nd meeting of the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India held under the chairmanship of Governor Shaktikanta Das.

"The board approved the transfer of Rs 87,416 crore as surplus to the central government for accounting year 2022-23, while deciding to keep the Contingency Risk Buffer at 6 per cent," RBI said in a statement.

AI, AI Express have hired more than 3,900 people this year: Campbell Wilson

New Delhi, May 19:



Air India chief Campbell Wilson on Friday said the airline and Air India Express have hired more than 3,900 people, including over 500 pilots and 2,400 cabin crew members, since the start of this year. Air India, under the stewardship of Tata Group, is revamping the airline group and hiring more people as it expands the fleet as well as operations. "Since the start of the year more than 500 pilots, 2,400 cabin crew and 1,000 other staff have been recruited across AI and AIX. We also saw our 1,000th new cabin crew of the year commence operational duties," Wilson said in a message to Air India

employees on Friday. He also said the teams have done a great job in ramping up the recruitment and training capabilities, travelling the country and grooming the new Air Indians. Air India (AI) has around 11,000 employees and Air India Express (AIX) has about 1,900 people, including third party staff. Wilson is the CEO

and Managing Director of Air India. The airline has embarked on a five-year transformation under which it seeks to expand routes, flights and increase market share in both domestic and international segments. It has also placed firm orders for 470 aircraft, including narrow-body and wide-body planes, with Boeing and Airbus. Last month, the airline said it was hiring more than 1,000 pilots and that more than 500 aircraft will be joining its fleet in the coming years. "We are offering multiple opportunities and accelerated growth across our A320, B777, B787 and B737 fleet for captains and first officers, as well as trainers," it had said.

IIFA Award 2023 to be held in Abu Dhabi on May 26-27

Mumbai, May 19:

(PTI) Actor Rakul Preet Singh on Thursday said she will pay an ode to the black-and-white era of Indian cinema at the upcoming International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards.

The 23rd edition of the awards will be held on May 26 and 27 at Yas Viceroy Hotel, Abu Dhabi, the UAE, for a second consecutive year. Singh, known for films such as "De De Pyaar De" and "Yaariyan", said she is excited about her maiden dance performance at IIFA. "I am very excited as it is my first performance at IIFA. I have always watched the award show at home during my growing-up years. It's an act that has not been done before on the IIFA stage."

"My performance is a tribute to the black-and-white era. I cannot reveal much, the songs will be a surprise," Singh told reporters at the IIFA awards press conference here.

Actor Rajkumar Rao, who is set to co-host the IIFA Rocks event with Farah Khan, said he is



- **Rajkumar Rao to co-host the show with Farah Khan**
- **Rakul Preet Singh to pay tribute to black-and-white era of Indian cinema**

looking forward to sharing the stage with the filmmaker IIFA Rocks, a musical extravaganza, is a grand fusion of song, dance, film, and fashion which will feature live performances by popular artists. "I have never been to Abu Dhabi and I have never been to IIFA either. To get an opportunity to host the award show with Farah ma'am, who I truly admire and love, is very exciting. Besides, she is a friend," Rao added.

Actor Dia Mirza, also an environmental advocate, talked about the urgent ac-

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tions needed to tackle climate change.

"Simple actions like re-fusing single-use plastics, carrying our own bottle and cutlery, celebrating festivals and birthdays more sustainably, choosing sustainable clothing, eating seasonal and local vegetables, practising plant-based diet... The options are many, we need to find them because we don't have an option," Mirza added. With an aim to educate civil society

about water conservation, IIFA also launched the Be Water+ve initiative in partnership with the AquaKraft Foundation.

Union Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, in a live interaction via video-conferencing, said the ministry is pleased to join hands with IIFA. "Looking ahead, the need for water is increasing manifold. While the Jal Shakti Ministry has been doing extensive work that is

being recognised as an inspiring effort across the world, it can only succeed when people join hands with government efforts.

"As our Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji has said, Jal Jan Abhiyaan and Jan Bhagidaari are needed simultaneously to achieve India's Water Vision 2047, thereby ensuring longevity and permanent solutions," Shekhawat further said in a statement.

The United Nations in India joined hands with IIFA to create the first-of-its-kind initiative comprising advocacy, education

and on-ground action on the Sustainable Development Goals, with a focus on sustainability, according to a press release issued by IIFA.

Through this engagement, IIFA proposes to use its platforms and the voices of celebrities and actors to raise awareness about issues of sustainability and climate action in our daily lives. With the knowledge and support of the United Nations in India, IIFA aims to encourage sustainable living, environment and water positivity in India and key regions across the world, it read. Bollywood stars Abhishek Bachchan and Vicky Kaushal will host the IIFA Weekend and Awards, which will see stars including Salman Khan, Varun Dhawan, and Kriti Sanon perform at the ceremony.

The awards will be held in collaboration with the Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi (DCT Abu Dhabi), and Miral, Abu Dhabi's leading curator of immersive destinations and experiences. (PTI)



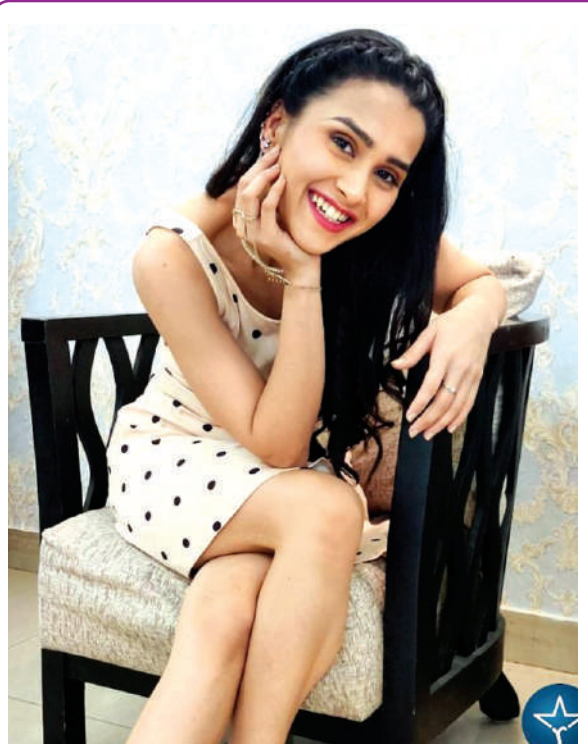
Sikandar Kher shares BTS pic with Sushmita from 'Aarya 3' sets

Actor Sikandar Kher, who left a mark with his delectable performance in 'Monica, O My Darling', is currently shooting for season 3 of his streaming show 'Aarya' in which he essays the role of Daulat.

The actor recently took to his Instagram to share a picture from the sets of the show in which he can be seen with the lead of the show - actress and former Miss Universe Sushmita Sen, who essays the titular role in 'Aarya 3'.

He captioned the picture, "Daulat always there to serve you, protect and lean on walls. Aarya 3, Dugga Dugga and Thank you (sic)".

The crew and cast recently resumed shooting in Mumbai of the series after wrapping up the schedule in Rajasthan. Sikandar has found immense love for the show helmed by Ram Madhvani and since the release of the show has become one of the most impressive actors in the OTT space.



Anushka Kaushik is in love with aesthetics, culture of Rajasthan

Actress Anushka Kaushik, who is known for her work in 'Maharani 2', 'Ghar Waapsi', 'Crash Course' and 'Garmi' is quite excited to go back to her roots and work in a yet-to-be-titled short film. The actress started her journey with short-format content and coming back to the medium is a heartening experience for her. The actress shot for the project in Rajasthan and she is enamoured by the beauty of the northwestern state.

Walking down the memory lane, she said, "I

started my career by making short films and that was the time when I was doing a lot of short format content on YouTube but it was mainly rom-com. Then I started doing long formats on OTT platforms. In the last two-three years, I had said no to a lot of projects as I didn't find anything exciting in them. But this is the kind of script that I genuinely want to do."

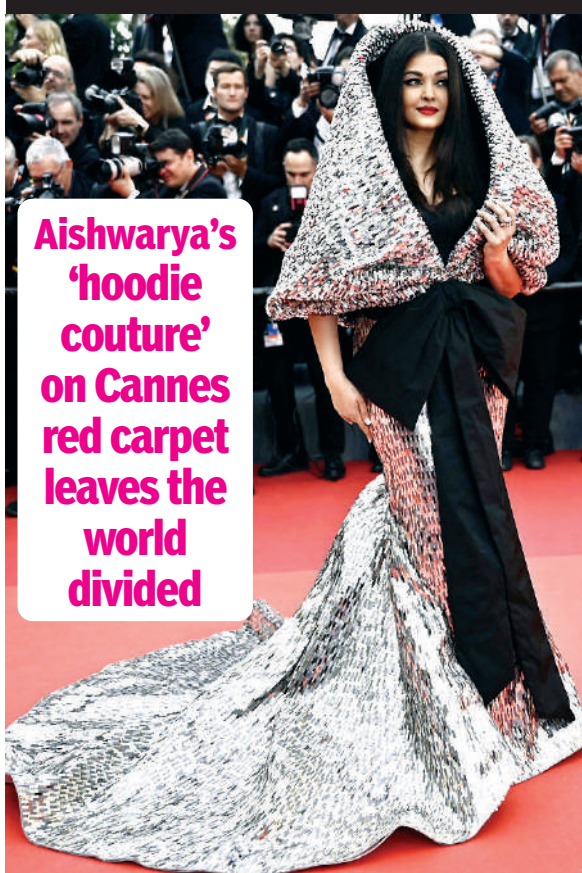
Shedding light on the short film, Anushka revealed, "It's a friendship drama. After reading the script of the short film, I started crying since it's

full of life and the message that it gives is very refreshing and personal, which will also make you emotional. I enjoyed every bit of playing the character." Produced and directed by Dheeraj Jindal, the short film, written by Palak, also features Akashdeep Arora as Anushka's co-star.

Talking about the dynamics between the two characters, the actress shared, "In this short film, we are playing friends and as actors both of us are on the journey to explore how relations between a boy and a girl can be."

The short film has been shot in Jaipur and I have previously shot in Udaipur. I am in love with Rajasthan; its aesthetics and culture." She further

Making her 21st appearance on the Cannes red carpet on Thursday evening (local time), Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, after French photographers mistook Urvashi Rautela for her, left observers flummoxed with her choice of clothing. The less respectful called it 'hoodie couture', some others said it appeared as if she had picked up a flowing sheet of aluminum foil from a kitchen in a hurry to act as a sort of canopy atop her flowing black gown; her fawning fans, however, insisted that she was looking very much like the "Queen of Cannes". In the past, according to media reports, she has shown up in a gold mermaid gown by Roberto Cavalli, accessorised with coral lips and immaculate hair, or as the personification of Cinderella, and last year, Renaissance painter Botticelli's ageless masterpiece, The Birth of Venus, had clearly inspired her look. Earlier in the morning, she wore a little more understandable dress - what looked like a shimmering green cape (reportedly by Valentino) paired with straight hair, light lip liner, and high heels. This look was for a L'Oreal event. Aishwarya has been representing the cosmetics giant for more than two decades.



Aishwarya's 'hoodie couture' on Cannes red carpet leaves the world divided

mentioned, "When I entered the resort (where we were staying), they welcomed me by putting teeka on my forehead and garland and gave me their traditional pagdi. This time, we shot at Pink city and it was a beautiful experience to shoot during nights."

Apart from Arbaaz Khan's 'Patna Shukla' where she will be seen alongside seasoned actors like Raveena Tandon and the late Satish Kaushik, Anushka is also doing an anthology for Netflix, followed by a feature film for Maddock Films.

Kangana claims to lose Rs 30-40 cr per year after speaking against politicians, 'anti-nationals'

Actress Kangana Ranaut has claimed that she was dropped from over 25 brand endorsements and incurred Rs 30-40 crore loss every year as she spoke against "politicians, anti-nationals, tukde-tukde gang".

Kangana took to Instagram, where she shared an interview of Twitter head Elon Musk, which had the headline "Elon Musk: I'll say what I want, and if the consequence of that is losing money, so be it."

She captioned it: "This is a character, true freedom and success, speaking for Hinduism, against politicians/anti-nationals/tukde gang costed me 20-25 brand endorsements, they dropped me overnight and that amounted to a loss of Rs 30-40



crore per year..." Kangana said that nothing can stop her from saying whatever she wants.

"But I am free and nothing should stop me from saying what I want definitely not agenda-driven multinational companies and their corporate brand heads who hate India its culture and integrity..."

I appreciate Elon because everyone displays only weaknesses, at least rich person should not care for money...I see those more rich they get deprived they become..."

On the work front, Kangana will be seen in 'Emergency', 'Tejas', 'Chandramukhi 2', 'Manikarnika Returns: The Legend of Didda' and 'The Incarnation: Sita'.

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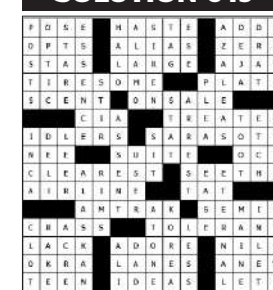
ACROSS

- Remain
- Short play
- Pretended
- Exhaust
- Helper
- Cheese type
- Examined
- Fanatical
- Id's partner
- District
- French caps

DOWN

- Evaluates
- Like a bright night
- Ladder rung
- Dined
- US rail service
- Religious dissent
- Norwegian city
- Wind dir.
- Wear down
- Determine for sure
- Bus patron
- Nasty
- Circular current
- Marsh plants
- Ain't, correctly
- On the ocean
- Pigs' digs
- Hint of a color
- Criminal burning
- Uh-huh
- Holy
- Flying toy
- Notions
- Baseball's _____ Williams
- Consents
- Unpolished
- Inner _____
- Rewrite
- Fathers
- Diner
- Radar indication
- Diva's solo
- Maxims
- Showy
- Plenty (2 wds.)
- Preserve

SOLUTION 649



World Cup Stage 2: Compound archers Ojas, Jyothi confirm first medal, face Korea in final

Shanghai, May 19 (PTI):

India's compound archery team once again brought cheers confirming its first medal from the World Cup Stage 2, as recurve archers continued to falter, here on Friday.

The new-look pair of Ojas Deotale and Jyothi Surekha Vennam remained on course for a second successive World Cup gold when they defeated their Italian rivals 157-157 (19*-19) in a dramatic finish to make the final.

As expected, the sixth seeded Indian duo will run into top-seed Korea in the final on Saturday, in what would be their biggest test since they paired up for the first time, winning the Stage 1 World Cup gold in



India's Ojas Deotale and Jyothi Surekha Vennam will face Korea in the mixed team compound final at the World Cup Stage 2.

Antalya last month. The Indians started off eliminating Bangladesh 158-151 in lopsided pre-quarterfinals, while in the next round they overcame a strong challenge from Turkey to emerge 157-156 winners. Italy's Elisa

Roner and Elia Fregnan had a one-point lead shooting a perfect 40 in the first end. The Italians once again shot a 40 in the third end to extend their lead by two points (117-119). But Ojas and Jyothi showed remarkable com-

posure to drill in two Xs en route to shooting 40 in the fourth end to force a shoot-off where the Indians sealed the issue with their arrows landing near the centre.

However in the Olympic category, the fifth seeded recurve duo of Dhiraj Bommadevara and Simranjeet Kaur failed to live up to expectations and lost to Indonesia 2-6 (39-35, 37-39, 37-38, 34-35) in their opening match.

The Indian duo who got a bye into the second round (prequarterfinals) by virtue of their rankings squandered a 2-0 lead against the lower-ranked Indonesians.

They had a chance in the fourth end but they were wayward and shot in the outer seven-point ring to make an early exit.

Medvedev making progress on clay, to face Tsitsipas in Italian Open semifinals

Rome, May 19 (AP):

Daniil Medvedev's clay-court game keeps improving. First came a run to the French Open quarterfinals in 2021. Then an appearance in the fourth round at Roland Garros a year ago. Now, the third-ranked Russian is making big strides at the Italian Open. Medvedev beat German qualifier Yannick Hanfmann 6-2, 6-2 on Thursday to reach the semifinals in Rome after losing his opener in his three previous appearances at the Foro Italico.

"I said before the tournament that I was feeling really great in practice," Medvedev said. "It's always a danger to say this, because when you lose the first round you're going to be, Why did I say this? But I'm proving it. I feel great."



On an overcast day, Medvedev controlled play with his flat groundstrokes and big first serve to the end of the run of Hanfmann, who upset Monte Carlo Masters champion Andrey Rublev in the previous round after also taking out ninth-seeded Taylor Fritz. Medvedev has dropped

only one set in four matches. His semifinal opponent will be Stefanos Tsitsipas, who defeated Borna Coric 6-3, 6-4 to reach the last four in Rome for the third time. Last year, Tsitsipas lost the final to Novak Djokovic. Tsitsipas has not dropped a set in his four matches, having eliminat-

ed two local hopes, Lorenzo Sonego and Lorenzo Musetti. It will be Medvedev's first semifinal on clay since reaching the final in Barcelona more than four years ago.

Medvedev has long been a threat on hard courts, having won the 2021 U.S. Open and reached three other finals between the U.S. Open and Australian Open which propelled him to the No. 1 ranking. But he struggled with four consecutive first-round exits at Roland Garros from 2017-20. This year's French Open starts in 10 days and there's room for a new champion after 14-time winner Rafael Nadal announced that he won't be competing in the tournament because of a lingering hip injury that has sidelined him since January.

Rafael Nadal to miss French Open with hip injury

Paris, May 19 (AP):

Rafael Nadal announced Thursday that he is pulling out of the French Open because of a lingering hip injury, and he expects 2024 to be the final season of his career.

The owner of a record 14 championships at the clay-court Grand Slam tournament will miss it for the first time since making his debut there in 2005. Nadal, who turns 37 next month, delivered the news of his withdrawal and future plans during a news conference at his tennis academy in Manacor, Spain. He said he does not want to set a date for his return to the tennis tour, but expects it to take months. And then, the 22-time Grand Slam champion added: "You never



know how things will turn out, but my intention is that next year will be my last year."

Play begins at Roland Garros in Paris on May 28. Nadal has a career record of 112-3 across 18 appearances at the French Open, a level of dominance unmatched by any man or woman at any Grand Slam

event in the long annals of a sport that dates to the 1800s. When Nadal won the trophy last year at age 36 while dealing with chronic foot pain, he became the oldest champion in tournament history.

He said he is not sure that taking more time off now will give him a real chance of coming back next season in competitive form, but explained that he knows he can't keep trying to force his body back into match condition now. "I am going to stop, I am not going to train. I am not ready to train," Nadal said, alternating answers in Spanish and English.

"These have been many months with many moments of frustration, and I can handle frustration, but there comes a time when you have to stop."

Ponting feels India should have SKY in WTC squad, backs Kishan to provide X factor

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

Batting great Ricky Ponting is a tad surprised that Suryakumar Yadav doesn't feature in India's main squad for next month's World Test Championship final but backed Ishan Kishan to provide the much-needed 'X' factor in the absence of injured Rishabh Pant.

Suryakumar, who made his Test debut against Australia at home earlier this year, could do the same for the team but he is only among the standby players. An injury to K L Rahul has made way for Kishan, who Ponting thinks can help India play an aggressive brand of cricket in their quest for a first ICC title in 10 years.

Asked if Suryakumar should have been in the



Talks on in ICC to address pay disparity for growth of Test cricket

New Delhi: Australian legend Ricky Ponting feels the International Cricket Council has a role to play in ensuring that players from smaller Test playing nations are paid well for their services in the five-day format. Ponting gave the example of West Indies cricketers who tend to choose franchise cricket over international duty for financial reasons. In an event organised by the ICC ahead of the World Test Championship final between India and Australia at the Oval from June 7, Ponting was asked about youngsters wanting to play the five-day game in an era of T20 leagues.

squad, Ponting expressed surprised and said "yes". "But there is another X factor that has just been added in Ishan Kishan. If you look at the way he plays, he is probably the most like Rishabh Pant with his potential to keep and bat in the middle order.

"If they do play those guys they should be given the right to play an aggressive brand of cricket.

"The best chance for India to achieve a result is by being a bit more adventurous in the way they play and Australia will try to do the same thing," said Ponting in response to a PTI query in an event organised by the International Cricket Council ahead of the WTC final at the Oval from June 7.

Ultimate Table Tennis: Aruna Quadri leads foreign players line-up

Mumbai: Veteran paddler Sharath Kamal, G Sathiyan and Manika Batra will headline the Indian line-up while world no 12 Nigeria's Aruna Quadri will be among the foreign players competing in the upcoming season of .The fourth season is scheduled to be held at the Balewadi Sports Complex in Pune from July 13 to 30 and the player draft will be held in Mumbai next month.

From a pool of 40 available players, each team can choose two foreigners one male and one female and four Indians two male and two female. Every team has the right to retain one player from the previous season. The Indian line-up will also include reigning national champion Sreeja Akula, who has just won back-to-back Nationals Titles, U-19 boys national title holder Payas Jain, Diya Chitale, S Fidel, R Snehit and Ankur Bhattacharjee.

Under-20 World Cup kicks off in Argentina for future soccer stars

Buenos Aires, May 19 (AP):

Argentina will play on the opening day of the Under-20 World Cup on Saturday just over a month since it replaced Indonesia as tournament host and participant. After such a dramatic race to the start line, 24 competing teams and soccer's international governing body can breathe a sigh of relief. Four cities in Argentina will feature some of the sport's best young prospects while the South American nation is still celebrating Lionel Messi and his national team's 2022 World Cup triumph in Qatar.

Protests in Muslim-majority Indonesia against hosting the Israel team forced FIFA into a very late switch of venues. Indonesia does not have formal diplomatic relations with Israel. Defending champion and war-torn Ukraine will not take part, which makes continental champions England, Brazil and Senegal favorites to

lift the title. Argentina, the record six-time champion, failed to qualify initially but FIFA decided it should take the guaranteed spot as tournament host. Coached by Argentina great Javier Mascherano, the hosts are aiming to emulate the team of 2001 and clinch the title on home soil. Mascherano held the Argentine record for most international caps until it was broken by Messi, who won the 2005 under-20 World Cup at the start of illustrious career.

Clubs needed to authorize their contracted players so they could be selected for the Under-20 World Cup, and many talented footballers called by their coaches will not take part in the tournament because they were not allowed.

Champions in 2017, England will bring players who won the Under-19 European title in 2022, including Chelsea midfielder Carney Chukwuemeka.

'Haven't given myself enough credit despite six hundreds but don't care what people say'

Hyderabad, May 19 (PTI):

Virat Kohli feels that he doesn't give himself enough credit for scoring six IPL hundreds but he couldn't care less about critics, who are always pointing fingers at his middling strike-rate.

Kohli smashed his way to 100 off 63 balls in a perfect chase as RCB kept itself in play-off contention after chasing a target of 187 against wooden spooners Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Kohli and skipper Faf du Plessis (71) added 172 for the opening stand as RCB won by eight wickets. "I never look at past numbers. I put myself under so much stress already. This is my sixth IPL hundred. I don't give myself enough credit some-



times despite playing impact knocks. (So) I don't care what anyone says on the outside. Because that is their opinion," said Kohli at the post match presentation, when asked about his not-so-great

record against SRH.

Kohli, who has faced criticism for his mid-130s strike-rate, didn't forget to remind people how he has shouldered responsibility of his team in franchise and national cricket.

"When you are in that situation yourself, you know how to win games of cricket. I have done that for a long period of time, it is not like when I play I don't win games for my team. I take pride in playing according to the situation," said Kohli, who was named 'Player of the Match'.

Kohli, who has often been panned for slowing down at the middle overs, said he would want to remain true to his technique and avoid playing fancy shots.

TOPS shooters Gurjoat and Ganemat get MOC approval for training in Italy

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) of the sports ministry has approved shooters Ganemat Sekhon and Gurjoat Singh's proposals to train in Italy under foreign coaches Piero Genga and Ennio Falco respectively. Ganemat, who recently won mixed team event gold in the ISSF World Cup in Cairo and is currently country's number one in the women's skeet event, would spend 11 days training in Bari under Italian coach Genga. Gurjoat will head to Capua, will train at TAV Falco for 10 days. Both the TOPS athletes are preparing for the upcoming ISSF World Championship and the Asian Games, scheduled to be held in Hangzhou later this year.

BCCI set to ratify its POSH policy and form World Cup Working Group at SGM

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

The Indian cricket board will ratify its new Prevention Of Sexual Harassment (POSH) policy at a Special General Meeting (SGM) in Ahmedabad on May 27 while a core "Working Group" will be formed to oversee preparations for the 2023 ODI World Cup in October-November.

The PTI has accessed the five point agenda of the SGM agenda including "Formation of Infrastructure Development and Subsidy Sub - C o m m i t t e e , Guidelines for appointment of Physiotherapists and Trainers in state teams, Formation of Working Group for ICC World Cup 2023,

Formation of committee of Women's Premier League and Ratification of Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy".

After the sexual harassment accusations against former BCCI CEO Rahul Johri, the BCCI had formed a four-member Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) but more members could be included in the new committee as per revised policy.

The Working Group for the ODI World Cup will comprise BCCI president, secretary, treasurer along with acting CEO and other senior officials.

The board has already allocated funds for upgradation of infrastructure of all the stadiums zeroed in for the ODI World Cup.

Listless KKR hoping against hope, LSG eyeing back-to-back playoff berth

Kolkata, May 19 (PTI):

Set to be clad in local giants Mohun Bagan's iconic green and maroon jersey, Lucknow Super Giants would find themselves at home as they look to seal their playoff berth knocking out a hapless Kolkata Knight Riders in the final IPL game, here on Saturday.

The real home team in this case, KKR, have not only complained of being let down by the conditions but their problems go deeper, having struggled to find a perfect winning combination in a topsy-turvy season, enduring seven defeats. Out of those seven, four losses were at the Eden Gardens.

Be it the batting, which still seems to be a work in progress, the bowling, especially pace department, has also looked ter-



ribly short on experience. In fielding, they have made a mockery of themselves with some of the efforts suggesting that the two-time champions have showed they do not 'belong' at this level. KKR batters simply have not been able to adapt to the surface while batting first as they scored below-par totals of 179/7 and 149/8 against Gujarat Titans

and Rajasthan Royals respectively. Putting things into perspective, CSK and SRH scored 235/4 and 228/4 when they were put into bat by KKR at the same venue.

Courtesy, some individual brilliance from Rinku Singh and Varun Chakravathy, the KKR still are lucky to have been able to keep their campaign alive in 'blow hot-n-cold' season. With a

heavy mid-table traffic, there is a possibility of four teams to be locked on 14 points with the one with a superior net run rate making the playoffs. Hanging by the thread, KKR with 12 points would not only need to win by a big margin, but they have to rely on Punjab Kings (vs Rajasthan Royals), Gujarat Titans (vs Royal Challengers Bangalore) and Sunrisers Hyderabad (Mumbai Indians) to win their respective matches.

LSG however do not have to fret so much about the mathematical scenarios as a win would be enough for them to seal their back-to-back playoff berth. On momentum too, LSG look far superior to a struggling KKR who have struggled to get into the act at their home den.

CSK aim at qualification, DC look to end season on a high

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

A determined Chennai Super Kings unit wouldn't mind being masters of its own fate in its bid to steamroll the already ousted Delhi Capitals, who are looking to end a forgettable IPL campaign on a high in a final league game, here on Saturday.

At the moment, CSK are on second on the points table with 15 points from 13 games. But a loss against DC along with a string of unfavourable results could see the four-time champions miss out on the last leg of IPL action. A win would, however, confirm a play-off spot but whether they finish in second place or third would depend on the Lucknow Super Giants' result against Kolkata Knight Riders later in the day. CSK have a better net run rate of +0.381 than



LSG's +0.304, who are also on 15 points. The slow nature of Feroz Shah Kotla track will suit CSK's game plan and Mahendra Singh Dhoni, in all likelihood playing his last competitive game in the National Capital will like to make

full use of the conditions against an out-of-sorts team. Batting has been CSK's strong suit. Devon Conway, Ruturaj Gaikwad and Ajinkya Rahane have provided solid starts but CSK need the likes of Ambati Rayudu, Ravindra

Jadeja and Moeen Ali to complement Shivam Dube better in the middle overs.

Dhoni has managed some cameos in the fag end of the innings and the skipper is expected to continue doing so despite calls of him coming up the order. On the bowling front, Tushar Deshpande has been expensive but he gets breakthroughs while young pacer Matheesha Pathirana has been doing a good job. The spin trio of Jadeja, Moeen and Maheesh Theekshana have also been effective in stemming the flow of runs. But standing in CSK's way is an unpredictable Delhi side. After a miserable first half, where they lost five games on the trot, the Capitals did manage to pick up some momentum, winning five out of their next eight games but it came too late in the competition.

PM Modi amid eastern Ladakh border row

'India fully prepared, committed to protecting its sovereignty & dignity'

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

Amid the India-China standoff in eastern Ladakh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said India is fully prepared and committed to protecting its sovereignty and dignity, and emphasised that peace and tranquillity on the border are essential for normal bilateral ties among the neighbours.



world.

He stressed on his country's respect for sovereignty, the rule of law and the peaceful resolution of disputes.

India-China ties have been fraught since the Galwan clashes in 2020. Both sides have been periodically holding meetings to defuse the crisis at the border but a lasting solution has eluded them so far. On Pakistan, the publi-

cation quoted him as saying that India wants "normal and neighborly relations."

"However, it is incumbent upon them to create a conducive environment free from terrorism and hostilities. The onus is on Pakistan to take necessary steps in this regard," he said.

Speaking about the Indian economy, he noted that it has been one of the world's fastest-growing.

"Our progress is evident, as we have risen from being the tenth largest economy in 2014 to now being the fifth largest globally... While it is true that global headwinds pose challenges to growth, we have built a strong foundation in recent years,

which positions us favorably," he said.

On the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Modi said India's position on the matter "is clear and unwavering."

"India stands on the side of peace and will remain firmly there. We are committed to supporting those who face challenges in meeting their basic needs, especially in the face of rising costs of food, fuel, and fertilizers. We maintain communication with both Russia and Ukraine," Modi said.

"Cooperation and collaboration should define our times, not conflict," he told Nikkei Asia.

The Prime Minister is on a three-nation trip to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

VAT SAVITRI PUJA



Married women tie threads around a Banyan tree as part of rituals of 'Vat Savitri Puja', in Nagpur, Friday.

Is Centre 'conspiring' to overturn SC order on services matters, asks Kejriwal

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal asked on Friday whether the Centre was "conspiring" to reverse through an ordinance the Supreme Court verdict giving the elected government executive powers in services matters.

The Delhi government was given executive power in services matters, including transfer and posting of officers, in an important verdict by the Supreme Court last week.

Delhi Services Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj also asked whether the lieutenant governor and the Centre were "conspiring" to reverse the verdict by bringing in an ordinance.

Addressing a press conference, the minister and AAP leader said he requested all his cabinet colleagues to join him for a meeting with Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena to request him to clear the file pertaining to the transfer of Services Secretary Ashish More. Later in a tweet, Kejriwal reiterated Bharadwaj's charge.



Delhi Ministers Gopal Rai, Atishi Marlena, Kailash Gahlot, Imran Hussain and Saurabh Bharadwaj wait outside the residence of Lt. Governor V.K. Saxena to request him to follow the Supreme Court's verdict on matters pertaining to services, in New Delhi, Friday.

"Why is LG sir not obeying the SC order? Why hasn't the file pertaining to Services Secretary been signed for two days? It is being said that the Centre is going to reverse the SC order by bringing an ordinance next week? Is the Centre conspiring to overturn the SC order? Is LG sir waiting for the ordinance and that's why he is not signing the file?" Kejriwal asked in a tweet in Hindi.

Earlier in the day, Bharadwaj requested the lieutenant governor (LG) to clear the file related to the transfer of Services

Secretary More, saying several administrative changes were held up due to the delay.

In a letter to the LG, Bharadwaj said the Delhi government had sent the file two days ago.

More was transferred hours after a Supreme Court order on May 11 put the control of bureaucrats working with the Delhi government — excluding those related to police, public order and land — under the elected government.

Bharadwaj urged Saxena to clear the file soon.

CBI calls TMC's Abhishek Banerjee as part of school jobs' scam probe

Kolkata, May 19 (PTI)

TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee, has been called by the CBI to appear at its Kolkata office on Saturday as part of the probe it is conducting into the school jobs scam.

Officials said Banerjee had been sent a missive asking him to join the probe at its offices at Nizam Palace here.

Earlier, on Thursday, Calcutta High Court had dismissed a petition filed

by Banerjee seeking recall of a previous order of the court which said that investigative agencies such as CBI and ED could interrogate him in the teacher recruitment scam.

The TMC leader's name cropped up in a complaint filed by Kuntal Ghosh, an accused in the scam, who alleged that he was being pressured by central investigating agencies to name Abhishek Banerjee in the recruitment case.

Dare CBI to arrest me if there is corruption proof: Abhishek

Bankura (WB), May 19 (PTI) TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee, who has been called by the CBI to appear at its Kolkata office on Saturday as part of its probe into the school jobs scam, dared the central agency to arrest him if it has any proof of corruption or misconduct against him.

Banerjee accused the BJP of "using" the central agency to stop his ongoing mass out-

reach campaign as the saffron party was "afraid of the public support" for the programme.

"I will not bow my head before anyone apart from the masses. The BJP is afraid of the public support for the mass outreach campaign. CBI has summoned me, as they (BJP) want this mass outreach campaign to stop," he said while addressing a road show here.

SC refuses to stay Cal HC order transferring probe to NIA into incidents of Ram Navami violence

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to stay the order of the Calcutta High Court handing over the probe into incidents of violence during Ram Navami celebrations in West Bengal to the NIA.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and KV Viswanathan deferred the hearing on the plea of the West Bengal government challenging the high court order till after the summer vacation.

"We have not stayed the high court order and will take up the matter after summer vacation in the month of July," the bench told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for NIA.

The anti-terror probe agency has registered the case following a high court order.

During the hearing, Senior advocates Abhishek Singhvi and Gopal Sankaranarayanan, representing the West Bengal government, said the high court has in its order referred to only one

FIR related to the Chandan Nagar incident.

"We have instructions that the court may allow the probe of Chandan Nagar FIR to be done by NIA but rest five FIRs be allowed to be investigated by the state police," Sankaranarayanan said.

Singhvi said the NIA cannot be brought in for ordinary cases of violence unless it affects the country's security or sovereignty.

He said the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has a clear bar and it cannot be brought in just because someone says bombs might have been used in an incident.

"Either summoning of police officials by the NIA be stayed or the high court order be stayed till this court has adjudicated the appeal of the state government finally," he said.

The bench told Singhvi and Sankaranarayanan, "Assuming that the high court has referred to one FIR but all these incidents are part and parcel of the same transactions. Police used tear gas to control the situation and the high court has applied its mind

that there is enough material to refer it to the NIA."

The bench said pursuant to the direction of the high court, investigation has been transferred and it is not a case where this court stultifies everything.

Mehta said the NIA has registered a case and, when the probe agency wrote to the state government to hand over the papers, it was told to wait for the decision of the apex court as it has challenged the order of the high court.

"Kindly clarify the position as we have registered the case," he urged the bench.

CJI Chandrachud said the apex court has not stayed the order of the high court.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi and PS Patwalia, appearing for top state BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari, said the NIA has registered a case, and even if the high court order is stayed, the investigation will go on.

The bench then deferred the hearing post summer vacation from May 22 to July 2.

President Murmu appoints 4 additional judges to Madras High Court

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

President Droupadi Murmu on Friday appointed four additional judges to the Madras High Court, including P Dhanabal, the Registrar General of the High Court.

"...the President is pleased to appoint S/Shri (i) Ramasamy Sakthivel, (ii) P. Dhanabal, (iii) C h i n n a s a m y Kumarappan and (iv) Kandasamy Rajasekar, Judicial Officers as Additional Judges of the Madras High Court for a period of two years with effect from the date they assume charge of their respective offices," read a notification issued by the government.

Additional judges usually serve a term of two years before they are made permanent judges of high courts.

The Supreme Court Collegium had recommended the names of the four judicial officers for appointment as judges of the Madras High Court on March 21.

The appointments came a day after Arjun Ram Meghwal assumed charge as the Law Minister replacing Kiren Rijju. The president appointed two Supreme Court judges on Thursday.

Navy begins sea trials of Kalvari class submarine Vaghsheer



Indian Navy's sixth scorpene submarine of Project-75, 'INS Vaghsheer' commences sea trials.

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

The Indian Navy's sixth and final Kalvari class submarine, Vaghsheer, has begun its sea trials and is expected to be commissioned into the force by early next year. The commissioning of the submarine, built under Project-75,

is set to enhance the Navy's combat capability at a time when China has been increasing its presence in the Indian Ocean region.

"The sixth submarine of Project-75 commenced her sea trials on May 18," the Navy said. Vaghsheer is scheduled for delivery to the Indian Navy in early 2024

after completion of the sea trials. The submarine was launched in April last year from the Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL). India has been focusing on bolstering its maritime capability with a focus on the Indian Ocean in the backdrop of concerns over China's growing forays into the region, considered the backyard of the Indian Navy. The Project-75 includes indigenous construction of six submarines. The submarines are being constructed at the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) in Mumbai under a collaboration with the Naval Group of France. Five of the Kalvari class of submarines have already been commissioned into the Indian Navy.

ED seizes funds worth Rs 8.26 crore of Chinese-owned education company in Bengaluru

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

The Enforcement Directorate on Friday said it has seized funds worth Rs 8.26 crore of a Bengaluru-based online education company, fully owned and controlled by Chinese nationals, as part of a probe linked to the alleged contravention of the foreign exchange law.

The funds of Pigeon

Education Technology Private Limited have been seized under Section 37A of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), it said in a statement.

The company provided online education under the brand name "OdaClass", it said.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted searches against

the group in April and "found that the company is 100 per cent owned by Chinese nationals and all the affairs of the company, including financial decisions, are being taken by the persons sitting in China".

It was ascertained, the agency alleged, that the company has siphoned off Rs 82.72 crore to China and Hong Kong in the name of advertise-

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud Friday termed Justice Ajay Rastogi, who will be demitting office on June 17, a "great ally" who possessed judicial compassion and sensitivity for every cause.

Justice Rastogi, fourth in seniority at the apex court, was appointed a Supreme Court judge on November 02, 2018. He will retire during the summer vacation, having served as a Supreme Court judge for over four years.

Besides Justice Rastogi, Justices K M Joseph, third in seniority at the Bench, and Justice V Ramasubramanian will also demit office on June 16 and June 29 respectively.

ly. These retirements will bring down the number of judges in the Supreme Court from 34 to 31.

With the swearing in of Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra and senior advocate Kalpathy Venkataraman Viswanathan on Friday, the top court regained its full strength for a brief period.

Heading the ceremonial bench, set up to bid farewell to Justice Rastogi, the CJI hailed his contribution to the bench and the collegiums.

"Brother Justice Rastogi, you personified in so many ways the judicial compassion and sensitivity to every cause which came before you. Brother Rastogi draws immense inspiration from

his father Shri Harish Chandra Rastogi who was also an eminent civil lawyer in the same court," the CJI said.

Justice Chandrachud said he often relied on Justice Rastogi's expertise on civil, service and labour laws, among other things.

"Indeed there was a sense of relief and assurance when we see your name in the roster handling these cases or your name as the author of the judgement..." he said, adding, "Brother Rastogi and I sat for a very long period of time in 2019 and 2020 and we shared both on and off the bench a very interesting time and it was a sheer pleasure to sit with you."

ment and marketing expenses "on the instructions" of Chinese director Liu Can.

"The company could not produce any proof of receipt of service on its part and proof of any advertisement published against the said expenses," it said.

The director and accounts manager of the company "admitted" during the investigation

that the payment was made only on the instructions of Can, the ED said. The company's Indian director Vedanta Hamirwasia stated that the Chinese director told them that the advertisements were published through Google and Facebook. However, no confirmation or invoice raised by these platforms has been submitted, it added.

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BRIEF



A drone being used by Crisis Response Team (CRT) personnel for security purposes amid a high alert in view of the upcoming G20 meeting in J&K's Srinagar, in Jammu, Friday.

SIT probe

Nashik: A Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Friday began probe into the alleged attempt by a group of people from another religion to force their way into the famous Trimbakeshwar temple in Maharashtra's Nashik district. SIT chief Sukhwinder Singh visited the Shiva temple, one of 12 'jyotirlingas' in the country, examined relevant CCTV camera footage and met the temple's trustees.

Coastal Policing

Ahmedabad: Union Home Minister Amit Shah will on Saturday lay the foundation stone for the permanent campus of the National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) at Okha in Gujarat's Devbhumi Dwarka district. NACP, the country's first national academy to train police forces in effectively safeguarding the shoreline, started functioning in 2018 from the campus of the Gujarat Fisheries Research Centre.

3 get lifer

Indore: A local court in Madhya Pradesh's Indore sentenced three persons to life imprisonment for killing a 18-year-old man following a dispute while playing a game on mobile phone, a prosecution official said on Friday. An additional sessions judge on Thursday found the accused Ahmed Raza (22), Sarfaraz Ahmed (22) and Irfan Sheikh (21) guilty of charges under section 302 (murder) and other relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code, additional public prosecutor Saraswati Yadav said.

Woman booked

Gwalior: A 34-year-old woman was booked for allegedly throwing acid on the wife of her former live-in partner in Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh, a police official said on Friday. The incident took place on Thursday evening in Janakganj area here, Lashkar City Superintendent of Police Shiyaz KM told PTI.

Prophet post

Shahjahanpur: Friday prayers here in Tilhar city were held under heavy police presence following tensions over derogatory remarks made on social media about Prophet Mohammad. Circle Officer (CO) Priyank Jain said police and PAC personnel were deployed outside the major mosques of the city area.

Weather
High 41 Low 28

MARKET
NIFTY 18,203.40
SENSEX 61,729.68

BULLION
GOLD 59,884
SILVER 72,611

RBI announces demonetisation of Rs 2000 notes

Mumbai, May 19 (PTI): The Reserve Bank of India on Friday announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 currency notes from circulation, and existing notes in circulation can either be deposited in bank accounts or exchanged by September 30. The bank notes in Rs 2,000 denomination will continue to be a legal tender, the RBI said in a statement. In order to



ensure operational convenience and to avoid disruption of regular activities of bank branches, the RBI said exchange of Rs 2,000 bank notes into bank

notes of other denominations can be made up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time at any bank starting from May 23, 2023.

The RBI has advised banks to stop issuing Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes with immediate effect. Besides, the facility for exchange of Rs 2,000 bank notes up to the limit of Rs 20,000 at a time will be provided at the 19

Regional Offices (ROs) of the RBI having issue departments from May 23.

The Rs 2,000 denomination bank note was introduced in November 2016, primarily to meet the currency requirement of the economy in an expeditious manner after the withdrawal of legal tender status of all Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 bank notes that were in circulation at that time.

Adani row: Sebi probe drew blank

SC-appointed committee says not found regulatory failure



New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

In a relief to embattled billionaire Gautam Adani, a Supreme Court-appointed expert committee said it has found no evidence of stock price manipulation in Adani group companies, while a separate Sebi probe into alleged violation in money flows from offshore entities has "drawn a blank".

The six-member panel, however, said there was evidence of a build-up in short positions on Adani Group stocks ahead of the report of US-based short

Conclusions 'predictable', but to spin it as clean chit to Adani Group 'wholly bogus': Congress

New Delhi: With a Supreme Court-appointed expert committee stating that it cannot conclude any regulatory failure around Adani Group's stock rallies, the Congress on Friday said the conclusions were "predictable" but to spin the report as having given a clean chit to the conglomerate is "wholly bogus". Stressing the need for a joint parliamentary committee probe, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the party has all along been saying that the expert panel appointed by the Supreme Court has "extremely limited terms of reference and will simply be unable (and perhaps unwilling too) to unravel the Modani scam in all its complexity".

Hindenburg Research that alleged fraud, stock manipulation, and money laundering at the apples-to-port group. Profits were earned from squaring off positions after prices crashed post-publication of the damning allegations. Financial crime-fighting agency Enforcement Directorate (ED) "found intelligence about potentially violative and concerted selling by specific parties just ahead of the publication of the Hindenburg report, and this may lead to credible charges of concerted destabilisation of the

Indian markets, and Sebi ought to be probing such actions under securities laws," it said citing a response from ED.

Suspicious trading has been observed on the part of six entities. Of these, four are FPIs, one body corporate and one individual.

The committee, headed by former Supreme Court judge Justice AM Sapre, in its 173-page report, said that based on the data from the stock market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), it saw "no evident pattern of manipulation" in the steep stock price rise in billionaire Gautam Adani's companies that can be attributed to "any single entity or group of connected entities".

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SC gets two new judges

CJI administers oath of office to Justice Mishra, senior advocate Viswanathan



Chief Justice of India (CJI) Justice DY Chandrachud administers oath of office to Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra as a judge of the Supreme Court, in New Delhi, Friday.

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI): Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra and senior advocate Kalpathy Venkataraman Viswanathan were on Friday administered the oath of office as judges of the Supreme Court by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud. The new judges were administered the oath of

office during a ceremony at the apex court's auditorium.

With the swearing-in of Justice Mishra and Justice Viswanathan, the number of judges in the Supreme Court reached its sanctioned strength of 34. However, the apex court will be at full strength only for a brief period as Friday is also the

last working day of three judges who are set to retire in June. Justice KM Joseph, Justice Ajay Rastogi and Justice V Ramasubramanian are set to demit office next month during the summer vacation, which will run from May 22 to July 2. The warrant of appointments of Justice Mishra and Justice Viswanathan as apex court judges was issued from the office of President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday. Justice Mishra was appointed as a judge of the High Court of Chhattisgarh on December 10, 2009. He was appointed as Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh on October 13, 2021. He has served as a high court judge for more than 13 years and ranks 21st in the all-India seniority list of judges of high courts.

SC defers scientific survey to determine age of 'Shivling' found at Gyanvapi mosque

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

The Supreme Court on Friday deferred the scientific survey, including carbon dating, to determine the age of "Shivling" which was said to have been found at the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi.

The Allahabad High Court on May 12 ordered determination of the age of the structure claimed to be "Shivling" using modern technology. However, the mosque authorities have said the structure is part of a fountain in the

'wazu khana', where ablutions are performed before namaz.

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud issued notices to the Centre, the Uttar Pradesh government and the Hindu petitioners on the mosque panel's plea against the high court order for the scientific survey and carbon dating of "Shivling".

"Since the implications of the impugned order merit closer scrutiny, the implementation of the directions concerned in the order shall stand deferred

till the next date," the bench also comprising Justices P S Narasimha and K V Vishwanathan said.

The top court was hearing a plea challenging the Allahabad High Court order for conducting a "scientific survey", including carbon dating, to determine the age of the structure.

The Centre and the Uttar Pradesh government both agreed to the plea for adjourning the proposed scientific survey of "Shivling" for the time being.

Monsoon advances in Andaman Sea, Nicobar islands: IMD

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

Southwest monsoon has advanced over Southeast Bay of Bengal, Nicobar Islands and South Andaman Sea on Friday, setting the stage for the four-month rainy season crucial for the country's farm economy.

Earlier this week, the weather office said the onset of monsoon over Kerala, marking its entry into the mainland, would be slightly delayed than the usual

date of June 1. "Southwest Monsoon has advanced into some parts of southeast Bay of Bengal, Nicobar Islands and South Andaman Sea today," the India Meteorological Department said.

Conditions are favourable for further advance of southwest monsoon into some more parts of south Bay of Bengal, Andaman Sea and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during next 3-4 days, it said. On Tuesday, the

weather office had said that the onset of monsoon over Kerala is likely to be on June 4 with a model error of four days. The monsoon arrived in Kerala on May 29 last year, June 3 in 2021, June 1 in 2020, June 8 in 2019 and May 29 in 2018.

Agriculture contributes around 15 per cent to India's 3.5 trillion dollar economy and a good monsoon helps recharge aquifers and reservoirs besides watering the farms.

The emergence of the El Nino weather pattern has raised concerns over monsoon rainfall in 2023. El Nino, which is the warming of the waters in the Pacific Ocean near South America, is generally associated with the weakening of monsoon winds and dry weather in India. The El Nino conditions this year follow three consecutive La Nina years. La Nina, which is the opposite of El Nino, typically brings good rainfall during the monsoon season.

RADICAL LINKS



Men, suspected to have links with radical Islamist group Hizb-Ut-Tahrir, being produced in a court after being arrested by Madhya Pradesh ATS (Anti-Terror Squad) and NIA (National Investigation Agency) officials, in Bhopal, Friday.

Bengaluru, May 19 (PTI): Siddaramaiah will be sworn in as Chief Minister for the second term on Saturday, along with his deputy D K Shivakumar and a group of legislators as Ministers, exactly a week after Congress swept the Assembly polls in Karnataka. Congress chief M Mallikarjun Kharge has invited leaders of several like-minded parties for the swearing-in ceremony, which will see Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot administering the oath of office and secrecy to the Chief Minister and his



Karnataka Deputy CM-designate DK Shivakumar oversees preparations for the oath-taking ceremony of Karnataka Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister at Sree Kanteerava Stadium, in Bengaluru, Friday.

Cabinet at 12.30 PM at Kanteerava Stadium here.

The venue is the same place Siddaramaiah took oath in 2013, when he became Chief Minister for

the first time. The event may turn out to be a show of strength for opposition parties amid unity efforts to take on the ruling BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha elec-

tions. The Congress on Thursday named Siddaramaiah as the next Chief Minister and state PCC chief Shivakumar, a strong contender for the top post, as his only deputy, ending the tense deadlock after prolonged parleys involving its central leadership. A meeting of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) later on Thursday formally elected Siddaramaiah as its leader and Chief Minister, following which he staked his claim with the Governor, who invited him to form the government.

firecracker factory blast NHRC issues notice to Bengal govt over 9 deaths

Kolkata: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Friday issued a notice to the West Bengal government seeking a detailed report on the explosion in an illegal firecracker factory that left nine people dead and several others injured, an official said. The blast took place at Egra in Purba Medinipur district on May 16. There seems to be a violation of the human rights of the victims of the blast due to negligence on the part of the administration, the NHRC official told PTI.

CBI files charge sheet against PhD scholar arrested for sexually exploiting children

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

The CBI has filed a charge sheet against a 35-year-old PhD scholar from Tamil Nadu who was arrested for allegedly sexually exploiting eight children aged between 5 and 18, and selling explicit videos of these acts on the internet, officials said.

In its charge sheet filed recently before a POCSCO (Protection of Children From Sexual Offences) court in Tamil Nadu's Thanjavur, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has alleged that the accused,

Victor James Raja, was sexually abusing a child for the last four years.

"It was further alleged that the accused forced victims to perform penetrative sexual acts on them as well as on other minor children, including a minor victim girl; clicked photographs and recorded videos; forced them to watch sexual acts with other adult person; threatened them with publishing the pictures and video on social media and for bringing more minor girls," a CBI spokesperson said in a statement on Friday.

The CBI had uncov-

ered his sleazy crimes when it found Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) images and videos from the Interpol's International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) database.

The forensic analysis using specialised tools led the CBI to Thanjavur district.

"Searches were conducted at the premises of the accused which led to recovery of incriminating electronic gadgets. The accused was arrested and is in judicial custody," the statement said.

Rijiju takes charge of Earth Sciences Ministry

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI): Kiren Rijiju on Friday assumed charge as Earth Sciences Minister and thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for giving him an opportunity to handle various portfolios.

Rijiju, who was removed as Law Minister on Thursday, refused to answer questions about his previous ministry contending that they were no longer relevant and that he looked forward to serve in the Earth Sciences Ministry. "Don't ask questions related to the previous ministry as they are no longer relevant," Rijiju



Former union law minister Kiren Rijiju takes charge as Union Minister of State for Earth Sciences, in New Delhi, Friday.

said to questions whether he was removed as Law Minister for his frequent run-ins with the judiciary. India Meteorological Department (IMD) Director General Mrityunjay Mohapatra and Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor Vishwajit Sahay were present when Rijiju assumed charge as the Minister of Earth Sciences. Senior officers of the ministry, including Secretary M Ravichandran, were away in Diu for the G-20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Conference.



फौलादी इरादा निभाया वादा

नए पद
विज्ञापन जारी

12,489

शिक्षा विभाग

1920

वन विभाग

920

तकनीकी शिक्षा
विभाग

522

अपेक्स एवं
सहकारी बैंक

500

आदिम जाति तथा
अनुसूचित जनजाति
विकास विभाग

653

अन्य विभाग

रोक हटते ही

19940

नौकरियों की
बरसात

शुरु हुई

थमी भर्ती प्रक्रिया

975

गृह विभाग

400

ऊर्जा विभाग

291

वन विभाग

342

अन्य विभाग

जारी हुए

अटके नियुक्ति आदेश

377

ऊर्जा विभाग

352

जल संसाधन विभाग

136

स्वास्थ्य विभाग

63

अन्य विभाग

मैंने कहा था कि अदालती रोक
हटते ही हम नौकरियों की बरसात
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छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार, भरोसे की सरकार

Nobody is ready to believe other as leader in BJP: Baghel

● **Alleges internal strife in state BJP**

Raipur, May 19: The Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in a lighter mood commented upon the plans of launching 'Gouthan Chalbo of BJP' saying that it is good that their 'Gouthan' is complete and their 'Gouthan' is only media and social media. With a wry smile, Baghel said that they (BJP) were to go to 'Gouthan' and if it takes 15 days for one 'Gouthan', then how much it will take for 10000 'Gouthans' all over the state, is the question which should be asked to them.



Speaking to a section of media persons before leaving for Karnataka, CM Baghel charged that there is lot of internal strife in BJP, as no one is ready to believe other as the leader of the party. Programmes are held and the ex-CM does not even know about it, then be it Raman Singh, or Arun Sao or Brijmohan

Agrawal, case is the same with all. Earlier there was a strict person Jamwal, but he has left and now Mr Om Mathur is in-charge and it was expected that being young everything will be okay, but there is 'Kabaddi' going on in BJP.

Bhupesh Baghel while commenting on the Raman

Singh's Tweet said that it is so awkward a comment and charged that Raman Singh and his government looted the people of the state for 15 yrs and questioned whether he would stop taking the MLA's honorarium when it comes to not paying unemployment allowance to unemployed youths in the state. A poor person's son who studies to become a doctor or engineer taking loan and whether he (Raman) would stop giving unemployment allowance to them, he questioned. CM Baghel said that it is a slap on the face of the poor and unemployed youth by ex-CM Raman Singh and is sheer disrespect to their talent as well.

CM allocates Rs 40 lakh for Kabir Community projects

Raipur, May 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has allocated Rs 40 lakhs for various initiatives of the Kabir community of Dhamtari district. The Kabir Vishwa Shanti Mission has expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister for this generous support. The announcement was made by Chief Minister Shri Baghel during his 'Bhent-Mulakat' programme held in the Dhamtari Assembly Constituency on May 17, where he engaged in discussions with representatives of different communities. It is worth mentioning that the community had submitted a grant request of Rs 40 lakhs for various projects, including furniture and literature arrangements at the Kabir Sansthan Dhamtari and Devpur Vachanalaya, beautification of Kabir Sansthan Dhamtari, expansion of the building, construction of a welcome gate, establishment of a Satsang shed at Kabir Ashram Senchuwa, construction of Sant Niwas Bhawan at Kabir Ashram Kalartari, and construction of a building and toilet at Kabir Ashram Semra.

CREATIVE OUTPUT



An exhibition of the products made by the girls and other candidates in 'Aakar-2023' were put on display here on Friday.

Anwar, Purohit sent on 14 days judicial remand

● **AP Tripathi and TS Dhillon taken on four days remand by ED**

● **IAS Niranjan Das sent summon by ED for inquiry**

Raipur, May 19: Anwar Dhebar and Nitesh Purohit arrested in the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam as unearthed by ED in the money laundering act were again sent to judicial remand for 14 days by the judge of the Special Court here on Friday. On the other hand, the two other accused, AP Tripathi, and Trilok Singh Dhillon have been sent on four days to ED's remand. It is also learnt that the ED team reached court with documents related to evidences in the boxes.



The Enforcement Directorate produced four accused in the liquor scam viz. Anwar Dhebar, Nitesh Purohit, AP Tripathi and Trilok Singh Dhillon in the special court of Special Judge Ajay Singh Rajput here on Friday. The ED team reached court with documents related to evidences in the boxes.

Anwar and Purohit were sent on 14 days judicial remand and AP Tripathi and Trilok Singh Dhillon have been sent on 4 days ED remand.

On the other hand, a Congress MLA from neighbouring district has been called for interrogation, as property of this MLA has been attached by ED and inquiry with few others is in process.

CM inaugurates 'Bunkar Gudi' in Achhota Gauthan

● **Handloom artisans express gratitude to CM for skill development and economic empowerment**

Raipur, May 19: Lakshmi Dewangan, a resident of Achhota village in Dhamtari, used to work as a labourer a few years ago. However, due to physical difficulties, she had to quit her job. Later, Lakshmi learned about the 'Mukhyamantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana'. She underwent a four-month training programme in the handloom and installed a handloom machine in her home.

Lakshmi started receiving work through Maa Angarmoti Bunkar Sahakari Samiti Maryadit Achhota, a cooperative society. Now, she earns thousands of rupees every month from the comfort of

her home. In this cooperative, Lakshmi, along with 97 other women, is crafting a new narrative of economic empowerment in the rural environment through the handloom industry.

Earlier, the members of the cooperative used to individually perform handloom work in their own houses. However, due to limited space in many members' houses, the work couldn't be efficiently carried out. To address this issue, a handloom unit has been established in the Achhota Gauthan under the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Industrial Park Scheme.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the 'Bunkar Gudi', to facilitate the work for the cooperative members. Expressing their gratitude, the members involved in the handloom work thanked the Chief Minister for his efforts in elevating them from ordinary laborers to skilled artisans.

BJYM break down five barricades, enter PSC office

● **Court arrest while on way to gherao PSC office, enters into scuffle with police**

Raipur, May 19: BJYM party workers and leaders gheraoed State PSC office and staged massive demonstration in front of it here on Friday. During this the protestors broke down the five barricades by police and entered the office of PSC and flashed the party flag inside. This gherao was done under leadership of BJYM State President Ravi Bhagat. There were minor scuffle between police and BJYM workers and the demonstrators made court arrest and were later released. Ravi Bhagat informed that the day the PSC results came out, there was annoyance among many candidates, as the family members of many a government officers and political leaders secured berth in the top 20. PSC Chairman's son himself has been selected for the post of Dy. Collector. The sons, daughters,



and brother-in-laws of Congress leaders and DIGs daughter too are in the list and this stands testimony to rampant corruption.

Speaking on the occasion BJYM State President Ravi Bhagat informed that the candidates from all categories anxiously wait for this exam to fulfill the wishes of their mother and father and today the very dreams held by the aspiring youths have been quashed by the Baghel government. This is an institution from where candidates are selected for progress and development of the state and it has been defamed by the

Baghel's government.

Ravi Bhagat charged that Congress has now become synonymous to corruption, as after the liquor, coal, rice and gouthan scam, PSC scam too is now included in the list. He charged that those in power and in PSC have sold the future of many candidate for Rs 75 lakhs. BJYM President said that candidates of poor and middle class families take up loan and carry out studies in coaching institutes to qualify in state PSC for state administrative services, but all their dreams have been quashed by Baghel's government.

Rajiv Yuva Mitran Clubs of 13 districts to get a fund of 7.71 cr

Raipur May 19: In commemoration of the death anniversary of former Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi observed on May 21, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel has announced the distribution of a total fund of Rs. 7.71 crores to 3085 Rajiv Yuva Mitran clubs located in 13 districts of the state. The distribution of the fund will take place in the upcoming Bharose Ka Sammelan organized in Sankra village, under the Patan development block of Durg district.

The Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Mitran Clubs were formed with the aim of engaging the youth in a variety of development works centred around tradition, culture, sports etc. Currently, 13 Thousand 242 Rajiv Yuva Mitran Clubs are successfully operating across the state and every club is given a quarterly amount of Rs 25000 to support the organisation of various events and activities. Since the inception of the scheme, an amount of Rs 60 cr 18 lakh has been made available to Rajiv Yuva Gandhi Mitran Clubs.

The youth associated with the Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Mitran club have shown keen interest and enthusiasm

in preserving traditions and culture unique to the state by organising various cultural, creative activities in villages, towns and cities. Along with delivering government services till the last person of the state, Mitran Clubs are also proving to be conducive in maintaining constant dialogue between every communities of the state, be it the rural populace or the urban. It has been observed that these clubs are also gaining widespread popularity in the rural regions by organising various events and socio-cultural activities that have benefitted the rural populace. The youth belonging to rural regions are also constantly honing their intellectual and leadership skills by engaging in numerous activities that benefit the society and also help in the development of an individual as well. From Sports to socio-cultural events, or creating awareness on health and education, or promoting public welfare schemes, the members of Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Mitran Clubs are successfully fulfilling all their duties with utmost dedication.

MAIC United took a wonderful initiative for persons without slippers

● **During scorching heat, handover 'paduka' to them**

Raipur, May 19: JCI Raipur MAIC United helped needy people with slippers, eatables in the scorching hot summer. Footwear has always been considered as a token of remembrance since Ancient times. As Lord Rama who gave his Paduka to his brother Bharat while proceeding to 14 Years of exile (Vanvas). We helped to needy people near Sai temple, Amapara and station.

We should be responsible for care and help to the people who are less fortunate than others. Helping with things to needy can make you feel good. This feeling of satisfaction is hard to replicate with any other activity, endeavor or luxury. We can bring pre-



cious moments of happiness and comfort to thousands just by helping with the essentials of life.

A pair of footwear is one of the important necessities of human in order to cover his feet with the pur-

pose of protection against adversities of the environment. Therefore, footwear primarily serve the purpose to ease the movement and prevent injuries. Due to lack of footwear they face many severe health problems and suffer in pain. As we know, that the underprivileged people are deprived economically. They hardly get opportunities. They have inadequate nutrition, lack of access towards health and hygiene, basic essentials and higher risk of diseases. A pair of footwear is something which they cannot think off. So for them it is not less than the blessing which can prevent them from various problems and their feet from damage. This was done under the guidance of Chairman Rajesh Agarwal, convener JCI Sen Jaya Arora and incharge Dr. Rishi Pandey.

Two ex-policemen nabbed for threatening people and recovering cash

Raipur, May 19: The police nabbed two accused involved in threatening people near Indoor Stadium Gate and blackmailing people and recovery cash from the people. Complainant Shivam Sharma, R/o Millennium Chowk, Sunder Nagar, Raipur filed a report in Kotwali thana that on May 18 at 6:30 pm, he was talking to his friend on the mobile sitting in his Scooty, when two persons approached him and charged him of being involved with a girl and that they are having his video and photos and warned to make it viral on the social media platforms. They took him inside the indoor stadium and demanded Rs 15000. One the person was in police uniform as well. But he said that he is not having this much of cash and then they said whatever amount you are having give it to them. Since I was having only Rs 3480, I gave it to them. Both of them were addressing each other as Nitesh Singh and Deepak Sonwani. A case under section 384 and 34 of IPC was filed against the two.



It was on interrogation and checking the CCTV footages, the police collected some information about the accused and finally managed to nab the two accused Nitesh Singh and Deepak Sonwani R/o Devendra Nagar, Raipur and on interrogation they accepted their crime.

Both the accused were nabbed and cash of Rs 3180 was seized and in this accused Nitesh informed that is ex-police personnel and the other accused Deepak Sonwani is a policeman and is absent on duty for last 1 year. Nitesh Singh is R/o Pandri tarai, near Shiv Mandir and Sonwani is R/o Pandri Tarai, Shiv Mandir, Raipur.

Fun World Fair inaugurated for children's to enjoy summer vacations

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 19: Fun World Fair the entertainment fair was inaugurated by Kuldeep Juneja MLA, Raipur North and Aiyaz Dhebar, Mayor, Raipur Municipal Corporation at BTI Ground, Shankar Nagar on Friday evening. In the fair, hundreds of attractive range of items of made by the artisans of various states is on display for sale. The fair also displays wider range of home decoration items - show piece, furniture, home appliances and terracotta. Apart from this, different types of swings are the center of attraction for the children.



Addressing the media persons here on Friday, the Director of the fair, Tamanna Hussain said that she has been organizing this fair in the name of Fun World Fair for the last 20 years. This time this fair is being inaugu-

rated with a new look and style. In this, special attention has been given to the fun zone of the children, she added. In addition to this wide range of handloom, handicraft, lifestyle, home decor, furniture items and accessories of weavers from all over the country including Chhattisgarh are available at affordable rates.

There are many stalls in the expo, in which the main attractions are Kashmiri Saree, Kolkata Saree, Kosa Silk, Bamboo Silk, Banarasi Silk, Bhagalpuri Linen Saree, Chanderi Silk, Lucknowi Chikan, Denim Kurti, Batik Print, Jaipuri One Piece, Punjabi Phulkari,

Khadi Shirt, Modi Jacket, Afghani Suit, Jhansi Bedsheet, Crab Bedsheet, Jaipuri Bedsheet, Fancy Jewellery, Stone Jewellery, Rajasthani Antique Jewellery, Colorful Bangles of Firozabad, T-shirts, lowers, woolen ladies jackets and in footwear - Patiala shoes, Rajasthani shoes, Bombay sandals and best carpets in handloom, wooden paintings, Sarangpuri furniture, bed and sofa covers, Rajasthani bags, Pashmina shawls and Kashmiri kurtis. A huge range of cosmetics, home appliances is also on display which will attract the visitors. She informed that Raipurians gives a

better response to Fun World Fair with large number of footfall daily. Keeping in mind the summer holidays, 20-22 types of swings are only for children and there are 11 to 12 types of swings for youth. In the event, the residents of Raipur can enjoy Break Dance Swing, Columbus Swing, Giant Wheel, Silambo Swing, Chili Swing, Dashing Car and Dragon Swing including Arrow Plane, Mini Train, Car Jhula and Mickey Mouse which will provide lot of fun for kids. There is also a food zone for the taste lovers, which has large number of delicious food stall. The timings of the fair are from 5 pm to 10 pm daily.

Minor boy, two accused nabbed in Rs 25lakh theft case

Raipur, May 19: The police has nabbed a minor, his sister and her lover in the Rs 25 lakh theft case in the house of a businessman in Gudhiyari and seized the gold, silver ornaments and cash from their possession.

It is notable here that the complainant Pranjal Daga had filed a complaint in Gudhiyari thana about theft of gold, silver ornaments and cash worth Rs 25 lakh from his house on the intervening night of May 15-16 and it was 8 in the morning when they went to the room they found all the goods scattered and almira in broken condition. As per the complaint filed, the owner lives in front of Jagannath Mandir in Daga Bhavan in Gudhiyari and is owner YM Auto related to e-riskshaw business. A case under section of 457, 380 and 34 of IPC was filed against unknown in Gudhiyari



Thana. The police conducted thorough inquiry into the matter with the family members and their neighbors and those working in the house and was suspecting a hand of someone working in the house and shops and those who have left the service as the accused involved, as the target and room in which the ornaments were kept, was clearly known to the accused. Based upon technical analysis, an eye was kept on the movement of those recently released and the police tried to identify the accused.

During interrogation they came to know about a minor boy who managed to escape from Child Reform Home in Mana and managed to nab him. Initially he tried to fool the police, but on serious interrogation he accepted his crime and disclosed name of his sister Nidhi Manikpuri and her lover Gautam Baghel's involvement in this theft. The police came to know about the locations of other two and managed to nab both and as per their location given, managed to recover the cash and ornaments worth Rs 25 lakh from their possession.

Joint Unions to stage aggressive demonstration on May 26

Women observe Vat Savitri Vrat with devotion



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: On Friday, married women observed Vat Savitri Vrat with devotion for the long and prosperous life of their husbands. This Vrat is observed on the Purnima of Jyeshtha

month. According to mythological stories, Savitri tricked Lord Yama and compelled him to return the life of her husband Satyawana. Hence, married women observe Vat Savitri vrat for the well being and long life of their husbands. The women gathered near the Banyan trees and prayed for the long life and well being of their husbands. Thereafter they performed circumambulation of the Banyan Tree and tied the raw tread around it.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: Leaders of various trade unions conducted a joint meeting on Friday to chalk out the strategy for total finalisation and implementation of the wage revision. The Joint Trade Union meeting discussed all issues of wage revision including 39 months arrears of SAIL workers, gratuity ceiling, HRA, night shift allowance and wage revision of contract workers. It was decided to stage an aggressive agitation at Equipment Square from 08:00 hrs to 09:00 hrs on May 26.

The joint trade union meeting was held at the INTUC office located in Sector 3. The office bearers of INTUC, CITU, AITUC, HMS, AICCTU,

Ispat

Shramik Manch, Steel Workers Union and LOIEMU attended the meeting. The union leaders expressed their resentment against the stubborn and dictatorial attitude of the SAIL management. They emphasised on the joint struggle for achieving the rights. Even after a lapse of 78 months, the wage revision of the SAIL workers has not been completed. SAIL management has constituted a committee but the meetings are convened at the gaps of several months. All those meetings conclude without any conclusion.



from trade unions. In the meeting, the union leaders said that the management has delayed the whole matter by forming a sub-committee for wage revision of the contract workers as well. The contract workers are working on such low wages that even the basic needs of their families are not being met.

In the meeting, all the unions jointly decided that in the first phase of the struggle against the arbitrary attitude of the SAIL management, the joint trade unions will stage an aggressive demonstration on May 26, at Equipment

At the time of signing MoU for wage revision on October 22, 2021, the management had formed a sub-committee and assured to complete wage revision in three-four months, but even after 19 months of MoU, no decision has been taken on issues like arrears of 39 months, night shift allowance, HRA, etc. Meanwhile, SAIL management has put a ceiling on gratuity despite protests

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Summer Sports Coaching Camp-2023 inauguration today

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: Like every year, this year also, SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's department of Sports, Cultural & Civic Amenities (SC&CA) has organized month-long Summer Sports Coaching Camp for school-going children.

Coaching is being imparted from May 10, 2023 in 37 sports complexes, school halls and playgrounds of the Township by more than 110 expert coaches.

As many as 2100 school students from BSP and non-BSP schools are participating in the summer

sports training camp this year.

The Summer Sports Coaching Camp that is scheduled to conclude on June 09 will be formally inaugurated by Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c Bhilai Steel Plant on May 20, 2023 at Cricket Ground, Pant Stadium, Sector-1 at 18:30 hrs.

Senior officials of the plant will be present as Special Guests on this occasion, along with PTIs and departmental personnel from Education Department, participants and trainers of various games and sports enthusiasts. Some sports and

games activities will also be displayed by participating children during the Inauguration Ceremony.

Coaching is being imparted for 24 games in various sports complexes, school halls and playgrounds.

The 24 sports and games include Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Chess, Cricket, Football, Handball, Hockey, Karate, Judo, Tennis, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Yoga, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Powerlifting, Cycle Polo, Gymnastics, Fencing, Netting and Wrestling.

BJP Dist Prez welcomes reinstated members

- After revocation of their expulsion orders

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: On the restoration of party membership after revocation of expulsion orders, the BJP workers met the District BJP President Jitendra Verma at the District BJP office on Friday. District BJP President Jitendra Verma welcomed all the BJP workers with garlands and sweets.

Addressing the gathering, Jitendra Verma said that all the workers re-joining the party are well aware of the customs, principles and working methods of the Bharatiya Janata Party. The power of



Bharatiya Janata Party will definitely increase in Durg district after the revocation of the expulsion orders of the rebel BJP workers.

All the workers, whose membership has been restored, are very serious

and senior workers. Joining the party again after staying out for three and a half years will increase the strength of the party.

Verma assured that he will make every effort to ensure that the senior

workers who re-joined the party shall get new responsibilities and opportunities to do organizational work of the party.

Shivendra Singh Parihar, Arun Singh, Anoop Soni, Shyam Sharma, Wasim Qureshi,

Gyaneshwar Tamarkar, Kavita Tandi, Savita Poshan Sahu, Mamta Dewangan, Parvati Sahu, Dinesh Mishra and Mohan Keswani were the reinstated members who expressed their gratitude after meeting District BJP President Jitendra Verma.

District General Secretary Lalit Chandrakar, Surendra Kaushik, District BJP Vice President Dilip Sahu, Vinayak Natu, KS Chauhan, Alka Bagmar, Nilesh Agrawal, Rajneesh Srivastava, Jitendra Singh Rajput, Mandal President Madan Badhai, Surendra Bajaj, Dr Devnarayan Tandi, Naveen Singh Pawar and Keval Dewangan were specially present.

Gang of bike lifters busted; three held

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: With the arrest of three ruffians, police claimed to have busted a gang of bike lifters involved in thefts of vehicles in different districts. One of the accused was recently released from the jail. The accused were arrested earlier also in connection with vehicle thefts. Nine stolen two wheelers worth Rs 06.64 lakh were recovered from the possession of the accused. It was a joint action of Anti Crime and Cyber Unit Durg and Police Stations of Padmanabhpur, Mohan Nagar, Supela and Patan.

SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that they have formed joint teams to trace the people involved in thefts, burglaries and other offences. Cops are continuously keeping an eye on the suspects, habitual offenders and criminals recently released from the jails. The network of informers has also been activated.

Meanwhile, on May 12, Police Station Patan received a complaint regarding theft of a motor cycle from CHC Hospital in Patan.

A police team immediately reached the crime scene and launched investigations. They obtained footage from the CCTV cameras installed around the crime scene and observed them closely. In the CCTV footage, a suspicious person was seen stealing the motor cycle. Information was gathered about the suspect from the locals and informers.

The identity of the suspect was confirmed as Sohan Yadav alias Sagar Hindi, a resident of Maya Nagar Risali Bhilai. He was arrested earlier also in many cases of vehicle thefts. Sohan Yadav alias Sagar Hindi was arrested from Azad Market Risali. During sustained interrogation, he confessed to lifting a Honda bike bearing registration num-



ber CG 07 CK 2789 from CHC Hospital Patan.

Other important information was obtained after questioning Sohan Yadav about the motorcycles stolen in the district a few months back. The accused revealed that in the year 2022-23, he committed bike lifting from several places with the help of his accomplices Vidyadhar

Chauhan alias Suraj and Kalyani Das Banjare alias Sonu. They lifted bikes from Supela, Padmanabhpur, Mohan Nagar, Chhawani and Tatibandh areas. A total of 09 motor cycles worth Rs 6.84 lakh were recovered. Further action is being taken by the concerned police stations.

Police have booked the accused identified as Sohan Yadav

alias Sagar Hindi (20) son of Agnu Yadav a resident of Maya Nagar Risali Bhilai; Vidyadhar Chauhan alias Suraj (36) son of Shivprasad Chauhan a resident of village Salar, Sarangarh; and Kalyani Das Banjare alias Sonu (20) son of Rakesh Banjare a resident of Panch Building, Durg.

ASI Purna Bahadur, Rajesh Pandey, Head Constable Chandrashekhar Banjeer, Constable, Pradeep Singh, Jagjit Singh, Farooq Khan, Chitrasen Sahu, Narendra Sahare, Dharendra Yadav, Pankaj Chaturvedi, Rajkumar Chandra, Samim Khan, Panna Lal, Santosh Gupta, Upendra Yadav, Anup Sharma, Tuleshwar Rathore, SI Pramod Srivastava, ASI Rajnikant Dewan, Head Constable Santosh Sharma, Head Constable Anil Shukla, Head Constable Monica Gupta and Head Constable Punit Verma played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Teenager gets 20 years in jail for raping minor girl

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: A Fast Track Special Court in Durg sentenced a 19-year-old boy to 20-years rigorous imprisonment for establishing sexual relations with a 15-year-old girl. The trial was completed and punishment was awarded to the convict within thirteen months of charge sheet filing.

Additional Sessions Judge (Fourth), FTSC - POCOS, Sangeeta Naveen Tiwari convicted 19-year-old Rajpal alias Shivam Sahu (19) son of Mahesh Sahu a resident of Gandhi Nagar, Kosanalla, Supela on Friday. The victim's fami-

ly had lodged a complaint at Supela Police Station on February 01, 2022.

Special Public Prosecutor Santosh Kasar informed that the accused resides in the neighbourhood of the victim. Around 02:30 hrs on the intervening night of January 31 and February 01, 2022, the victim's mother woke up and went to her daughter's room. She was shocked to see the accused Shivam Sahu sleeping with her daughter on her bed.

On spotting the lady, the accused escaped from the spot. When the parents asked the girl, she informed that Shivam had trespassed into the house

and established sexual relations with her several times without her will. Thereafter the victim's parents lodged an FIR at Supela Police Station.

After trial, the Special Court found the accused guilty and awarded different jail terms for Section 450 of IPC and Section 06 of POCSO Act under which the accused was tried.

He was sentenced to one year rigorous imprisonment and Rs 100 fine under section 450 of IPC (house trespass) and 20-years rigorous imprisonment and Rs 5000 fine under section 06 of POCSO Act, informed Special Public Prosecutor Santosh Kasar.

Hemchand Yadav University declares 05 more exam results

Classifieds

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Bhilai, May 19: Hemchand Yadav University, Durg has declared 05 more exam results related to annual exam 2023. Including these, a total of 11 exam results have been declared by the university so far. Giving this information, Dr Rajamani Patel, Deputy Registrar of Examinations of the University said that out of 04 candidates included in the PG Diploma in Tourism and Hotel Management issued by the University, only one candidate passed. Out of 54 candidates who appeared in the MA Public Administration pre-examination, 44 got success, the result of which was 81 percent. Out of 78 candidates appeared in MA Public Administration final, 68 got success, their exam result was 87 percent. Out of 10 candidates passed in MPhil Clinical Psychology Part 01, exam result stood at 60 percent. Out of 10 candidates appeared in MPhil Clinical Psychology Part 02, all 10 were declared passed, thus result was 100 percent. Dr Patel said that the university administration is trying to release the results of the final year classes of graduation and post-graduation at the earliest so that it becomes easier for the candidates to appear in various competitive examinations. Soon other exam results will also be released. There was not a single case of cheating involved in the 11 examination results released above.

Spiritual lecture series organised at Shri Jagannath Temple, Sector-4

In-depth discussion on the chariot of Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Swami and the thoughts of Maharishi Shri Aurobindo

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 19: A spiritual lecture series was organized on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Maharishi Sri Aurobindo at Shri Jagannath Mandir, Sector-4. It was attended by eminent preachers of Sri Aurobindo Ashram located in Koraput district of Odisha.

Affiliated to Sri Aurobindo Ashram, the "Eager to Forge a Head" group is traveling all over India to propagate the ideas of Sri Aurobindo and the importance of Sanatan Dharma. In the same context, Binod Bihari Das, Sachchidananda Rath, Lipika Rath, who came from Koraput Orissa, gave a lecture on Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath



Swamiji's chariot and the thoughts of Maharishi Shri Aurobindo.

Highlighting the importance of the Rath Yatra, various stages of spiritual consciousness were highlighted. On this occasion, Hemant Barik, Secretary of Shri Aurobindo Ashram Bhilai also made an intensive explanation of the dif-

ferent levels of human consciousness.

On this occasion Virendra Satpathy, President and General Secretary Satyawana Nayak of Jagannath Committee, Binod Bihari Das, Sachchidanand Rath of "Eager to Forge a Head" group affiliated with Aurobindo Ashram and Hemant Barik, secretary of

Aurobindo Ashram Bhilai and Amresh Sharma was on stage. The program was started by worshipping Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Swami ji along with offering floral tributes on the photo of Shri Aurobindo ji.

In this program Lipika Rath presented a melodious prayer and cleared the doubts by answering the questions asked

by the devotees. Satyawana Nayak, General Secretary of Jagannath Samiti conducted the program and given vote of thanks.

In making this spiritual program a success, Jagannath Committee President Virendra Satpathy and General Secretary Satyawana Nayak along with the office bearers of the committee, Basant Pradhan, D Trinath, Bhim Swain, Trinath Sahu, Sushant Satpathy, BC Biswal, Brindavan Swain, Prakash Das, Kalu Behera, Niranjan Maharana, Ranjan Mahapatra, Prakash Swain, Kailash Patro, Kavi Biswal, Simanchal Behera, Shankar Dalai etc contributed significantly. Many devotees were present in this spiritual lecture series.

Ranjana Sahu's injured as her car turns turtle

Near Tourenga turn on NH-130C of Mainpur-Deobhog road



Central Chronicle News

Mainpur, May 19: The car in which the BJP MLA Dhamtari Ranjana Sahu was travelling, turned turtle near Deobhog road on NH-130 C near Tourenga turn and the injured MLA

was taken to Mainpur Hospital for treatment by the police convoy following her vehicle. It is notable here that MLA Ranjana Sahu was accompanied with Sarpanch Anita Yadav, Mahila Morcha Member

Nilu Rajak, BJP Mandal President Vijay Sahu and all these four were also injured when the car turned turtle. It is notable here that MLA Ranjana Sahu was on way to attend the marriage programme of MLA

Brindanavagarh VS area Damrudhar Pujari to Deobhog Mungapadar road. At the Mainpur District Hospital, the BJP party workers, local police administration and journalists were present in large number.

Long pending demand of road construction fulfilled

- By Minister for Urban Admn. Dr Shiv Kumar Daharia
- Grants sanction of Rs 14.40 cr for road in Gram Kakara, Sandi, Bhansoj

Central Chronicle News

Mandir Hasoud, May 19: The vilagers of Gram Kukara, Sandi and Bhansoj under Arang VS have been demanding construction of 'pucca' road for last many years, but it was not fulfilled till date. But after formation of Congress government in the state, the vilagers put forth their request in the weekly 'Jandarshan'

programme before the MLA and Minister for Urban Development Dr Shiv Kumar Daharia and it was immediately granted sanction.

For this the PWD Nirman Bhavan, Nava Raipiur Atal Nagar has granted sanction of Rs 14.14 cr for construction of 5.40 km long road from Kukari, Sandi, Bhansoj (Naharpar).

This news has brought happiness among the vilagers and public repre-



sentatives of Kukara, Sandi, Bhansoj and they expressed their grati-

tude towards the Minister Dr Shiv Kumar Daharia.

Among those who expressed gratitude included Khilleshwar Dewangan, President Janpad Panchayat Arang, Anita Thansingh Sahu District Panchayat member Raipur, Hemlata Dumendra Sahu V-P Janpad Panchayat Arang, Tikeswari Chandrashekhar Sahu Sarpanch Kukara, Mahesh Sahu Sarpanch Sandi, Santoshi Sahu Sthapan Sarpanch Bhansoj, Chandraprakash Sahu Zone President Bhansoj, Hari Banjare, Mohan Sahu and other Dy. Sarpanchs of the villages.

Free & fair decisions increases faith of people towards Court: Justice Rajni Dubey

- Inaugurates Civil Court in Bagbahra sub-division

Central Chronicle News

Bagbahra, May 19: The Judge of the Chhattisgarh High Court Bilaspur Justice Rajni Dubey inaugurated the Civil Court in sub-division Bagbahra of Mahasamund district here on Wednesday. There will be court operational in this Civil Court.

As the Class-I Judicial Magistrate Avinash Toppo has been appointed. Justice Rajni Dubey on this occasion extended greetings to Toppo on being appointed as the Class-I Judicial Magistrate in the Court. In this Court, both the Civil and Criminal cases will be heard.

A total of 1500 cases



have been transferred to the record room of this Court and it was day of happiness for the advocates and people on opening of Civil Court in Bagbahra.

Speaking as the Chief Guest of the function, Justice Rajni Dubey said that people have faith in the Court of law and to maintain this faith, it is responsibility of all of us. It

is with healthy and unbiased decisions in the Court that faith of people increases towards the Court.

In the democratic country like India, Judiciary is part of the Constitution and it helps safeguard rights of the people and works for their safety and security as well.

Here the people can get constitutional facilities in

legal cases and justice under law for various cases. Be it the Supreme Court or the District Court, both have been formed for to maintain law & order and legal system.

Speaking to the parties seeking justice, she said that they should not get annoyed or turn fearful on getting negative decisions, as the doors are open for higher appeal in the upper

courts as well.

They should feel annoyed or do something untoward coming in rage. She said that on opening of the Civil Court, the people of the region will not have to travel long distances to get justice, she added.

Justice Rajni Dubey said that from time-to-time, National Lok Adalat and Lok Adalats too are organised for people in the country to sort out long pending issues through mutual consent or dialogues and personal talks. In this there is less of expenditure compared to hearing in Court for legal cases.

It is on reaching with consensus among the two parties that a case can be easily resolved and this helps saves time and money of both the parties. She extended greetings to the programme and Court

building to the District administration and all concerned.

District & Session Judge BP Pandey welcomed the Justice Rajni Dubey and gave a brief introduction of her life. Parliamentary Secretary and MLA Khallari Dwarkadheesh Yadav in his address said that this long pending demand of people of the region has been fulfilled and now they will not have to travel long distance.

He said that people have full faith towards Court and its decisions and today is an important day for the people of the region and I can feel the happiness in the mind of people. He said that with opening of Civil Court, the people would not have to travel long distance to get justice and would get it saving time and money.

One nabbed with 35 quarter bottles of liquor



Central Chronicle News

Simga, May 19: It was on tip from an informer that a person in his motorcycle 'Stream' bearing No. CG 04-NP-8876 is transporting illicit liquor in large quantity in a blue coloured bag.

On this the 'Humrah' staff stopped the private vehicle on May 17 and on interrogation he disclosed his name as Gend Ram Sahu S/o Purshottam Sahu (23), R/o Damakheda. The police on checking the blue bag

found bottles of Goa brand Foreign Liquor inside it.

On counting it, there were 35 quarter bottles of liquor worth Rs 4200 and its quantity was 6.300 bulk litre. He failed to produce any valid documents in support of it and was taken into arrest under section 34 (2) of Excise Act and sent on remand to jail. In the above action, Asst. SI Manohar Singh Rajput, constable Virendra Sinha, Babbu Sahu played important role.

New Tehsildar Pushpraj Patra accorded warm welcome



- By Supervisors of election work in Tehsil office

Central Chronicle News

Bhond, May 19: The supervisors of Bastar and Narayanpur election work accorded warm welcome to newly appointed Tehsildar Pushpraj Patra

in largest Bastar Tehsil of Bhand district in the Tehsil office here on Thursday.

It is notable here that prior to this he was posted as Nayab Tehsildar in 205 and 2018 in Bastar tehsil. Tehsildar Pushpraj Patra is known for his jovial nature among the employees and office staff, there is an air of happiness among

the employees on his posting as Tehsildar. On Thursday, the supervisors related to election works viz. Shailendra Tiwari, Nehru Singh Thakur, Sanjeev Sharma, Chandrashekhar Sadhu, Devendra Thakur, Devendra Soni, Ajay Dewangan, Parmeshwar Thakur, were specially present.

Padam Dakaliya hands over cow-dung based products to Guv



- Pays courtesy call to him

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, May 19: Managing Trustee of Manohar Gaushala Akhil Jain (Padam Dakaliya) paid courtesy call on the Governor Bishwabhusan Harichandan and presented to him a 'chatai' made out of cow-dung following 'Gau Ark', 'fasal amrut', and Charak Rishi. Along with this he also presented to him 'Kamdheni's photo', a vedic idol of Lord

Ganesha made out of cow-dung and a detailed book of 'Gaushala'. On this occasion Governor extended greetings to Dakliya on becoming honorary representative of 'Jeev Jantu Kalyan Board' (JKKB) of Gol. On this occasion the Governor accepted the proposal for an invitation to visit 'Manohar Gaushala' and to visit 'Kamdheni Mata' as well and gave assurance to him. He hailed the research works on 'Fasal Amrut' and other organic farming in 'Manohar Gaushala' and other cow-dung based products being manufactured by him.

Farmers of 11 villages deprived benefits of crop insurance

Central Chronicle News

Dongargarh, May19: Farmers of 11 villages in the development block are being deprived of crop insurance due to negligence by the agriculture department. As per information for the last 2 years, the amount of crop insurance is being taken from the farmers, but the crop insurance is not being shown in the portal, due to this, the angry farmers had continuously attracted the attention of the administration. But due to administrative laxity, the technical deficiencies could not be removed from the concerned departments.

Former MLA Ramji Bharti had drawn everyone's attention to the district level officials in the meeting of the Disha Committee held earlier regarding the inclusion of farmers' names in the insurance portal. But till today the name of the farmers could not be added in the insurance portal and

regarding the same, the farmers of 11 villages will hand over the memorandum related to their demands to the District Collector under the leadership of former MLA Ramji Bharti. Senior member of Janpad Panchayat Ravi Agarwal has said that farmers are continuously being cheated in the name of crop insurance and in a release issued to the press, Aggarwal said that farmers of 11 villages including Thakur Tola, Katalwahi, Piparkhar, Khurshipar, Navagaon of Dongargarh development block are not getting the benefit of crop insurance scheme for the last two years and the name of these villages has been deleted from the portal of the Crop Insurance Company. Farmers of these villages are being deducted insurance premium for the 2021, 2022 Kharif and 2022 Rabi crops by the Society, he said.

CHANGE OF NAME

IT IS INFORMED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT I SHEELA WANI D/O BABUL WANI RESIDENT OF BABJEE RESIDENCY H. NO. 49, SHUBHAM VIHAR MANGLA BILASPUR (C.G.) PIN -495001, HAVE CHANGED MY OLD NAME SHEELA WANI D/O BABUL WANI, SO IN FUTURE I SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED BY MY NEW NAME SMT. SHEELA DEV KHATKAR W/O RAMPAL DEV KHATKAR IN ALL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

SMT. SHEELA DEV KHATKAR
Babjee Residency H.No.-49
Shubham Vihar Mangla Bilaspur
Dist.-Bilaspur (C.G.) 495001

Conference organized to make women voters aware under SVEEP



Central Chronicle News

Korea, May 19: According to the instructions of District Collector and District SVEEP Corps Committee Chairman Vinay Kumar

Langhe, various activities are being organized according to the SVEEO calendar for the purpose of making voters aware in the district, under which a conference of women self-help groups

was organized here to make women voters aware. District Project Officer, District Literacy Mission Authority Korea and District SVEEP Nodal Officer KK Gupta motivated the present women to play an important role in voting and also in the program, Vinay Tiwari gave detailed information for filling Form 6 and 6A, 6B, Form 7 and Form 8, 8A, 8B through Voter Helpline Mobile App.

On this occasion, Chief Executive Officer, Janpad Panchayat Baikunthpur directed to successfully organize maximum number of voter awareness campaign programs in each gram panchayat to increase the voting percentage in all polling booths.

Special motor vehicle checking campaign launched



Central Chronicle News

Balod, May 19: On the direction of Superintendent of Police, Balod, Dr. Jitendra Kumar Yadav, under the guidance of Mr. Additional Superintendent of Police, Harish Rathore, under the supervision of Boniphos Ekka, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Traffic Balod, all police station/outpost in-charges of the district and

under the leadership of traffic in-charge Inspector Dileshwar Chandravanshi a special motor vehicle checking campaign was launched in Daundi Lohara area. The main objective of this motor vehicle checking is to reduce road accidents and to take strict action against negligent drivers and to make common people aware of traffic rules. On 14.05.2023, by taking action against a total of 42 negligent drivers under the Motor Vehicles Act, Rs. 13, 200, summons fee was charged, in which 23 cases of not presenting vehicle documents on the spot, 03 without number plate, 06 three rides, 07 not following traffic rules, 03 cases of driving without helmet, and a total of 42 careless drivers were found.

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AUCTION VENUE	: THROUGH E-AUCTION		
AUCTION ADDRESS	: https://gold.matenet.net/		

To register as bidder for the e-Auction with terms and conditions and full details of e-Auction please visit the above site

BRANCHES & LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBERS

BHATAPARA: 7422000034827, **CHAMPA:** 63220000227209, 207267, 7422000032711, **DONGARGARH:** 7422000039918, **DURG:** 63220000221900, 7422000031082, 039418, **MAHASAMUND:** 7422000033659, 75220000153560, 165427, 172563, 197726, 222091, 222161, **PITHORA:** 63220000142158, 150922, **RAIBARN:** 63220000143146, 205831, 231341, **RAJNANDGAON:** 63220000201798, 193954, 222648

Customers who are interested to release the ornaments by paying total due amount, may do so on or before (2 Days before date of auction) at the respective branches.

Bidders who wish to participate in auction shall produce their KYC documents. GST No. is mandatory for registered firm/company. Bidders shall deposit a sum of Rs.50,000 as EMD before participating in auction.

Thrissur
Date: 20-05-2023

Sd/-
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24.5 lakh farmers in the state will receive the first installment of Rs. 1895 cr

Under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana State Govt has provided an input subsidy of Rs. 18,208 cr to farmers in the state under RGKNY

Raipur, May 19: The state government, on the death anniversary of Bharat Ratna former Prime Minister Late Rajiv Gandhi, will provide input subsidy to the farmers of the state under Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana (RGKNY), starting

on May 21. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will transfer a total of Rs. 1894 crore 93 lakh as the first installment of this scheme through online mode to 24 lakh 52 thousand 592 farmers during the Bharose Ka Sammelan to be held in Durg's Sankara Patan on 21 May. Hereafter, the farmers will be paid nearly Rs. 6000 crore in the coming August, October, and March months in three more installments. The Chhattisgarh Government has set aside a provision of Rs. 6800 crore for this scheme in the current financial year. However, in the last Kharif season, while considering

the number of registered farmers, acreage, and record purchase of paddy, the amount of input subsidy given to farmers under this scheme is expected to be about Rs. 8000 crore. Under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana, 18.43 lakh paddy-cultivating farmers of Kharif year 2019 were given an input subsidy of Rs. 5627 crore 2 lakh at the rate of Rs. 10 thousand per acre of land, whereas, Rs. 5553 crore 8 lakh was transferred to the bank accounts of 20.59 lakh farmers who cultivated paddy in Kharif year 2020. From 2021, all Kharif and horticulture crops have been included

in this scheme, and a provision has been made to provide an input subsidy of Rs. 9 thousand per acre per year to productive farmers. In 2020-21, a provision has been made to provide an input subsidy of Rs. 10,000 per acre for the cultivation of horticulture crops or tree plantations instead of paddy in the area where paddy was sold at the minimum support price. In the Kharif year 2021, an input subsidy of Rs. 7028 crore has been paid to 23.35 lakh farmers producing various other crops, including horticulture crops.

Under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana, agriculture in the state has

flourished considerably because of the input subsidy paid to the farmers of Chhattisgarh. People who had given up farming are again considering pursuing it. In 2017-18, there has been an increase of more than 11 lakh farmers who sell paddy in the state and an increase of more than 50 lakh metric tonnes of paddy in the total paddy accrued. Chhattisgarh has achieved the second position among the states that contribute paddy to the Central Pool. Moreover, Chhattisgarh stands first in the country in terms of the number of farmers who sell paddy at support price.

Yashi Jain creates history by conquering Mount Everest

● **Hoisted Indian flag on the peak**

Raipur, May 19: Chhattisgarh's mountaineer Yashi Jain has set a new record. Yashi has created history by scaling Mount Everest. Yashi Jain hoisted the tricolor on the world's highest peak Mount Everest at around 5.45 am on Wednesday. Her campaign to conquer Mount Everest started from April 1 which lasted for 45 days. She was the only climber from Chhattisgarh in the 15-member team. Before going on the expedition, Yashi Jain said City that earlier she had set out to conquer Mount Everest once more but she could not succeed due to bad weather.

Yashi Jain is the first daughter of Chhattisgarh who has conquered the highest peak of three continents and hoisted the flag of 'Beti Bachao' along with the tricolor. Yashi Jain conquered Mount Aconcagua



6961 meters on February 14, 2023, the highest peak in South America. Mount Kilimanjaro at 5896 meters was successfully conquered on October 2, 2022, it is the highest peak in Africa. Successfully climbed Lobuche East Peak 6119m in January 2021. She successfully scaled Island Peak Nepal 6189 m in Jan 2020. In 2019 Mount Elbrus 5642 m the highest peak of Europe, in the year 2018 has achieved success by climbing 6116 m high Mount Jogin 3 peak in the Himalayan region. Due to her courageous deeds, she has been felicitated by the

Governor with many big awards including Veerangana Award, Shaheed Indira Gandhi Sports Award and Tanya Award. It is worth mentioning that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had congratulated mountaineer Yashi Jain for her Mount Everest victory. At the same time, it was also announced to provide her Rs five lakh rupees as incentive amount. Along with this, the Chief Minister had also released the 'Indian National Flag' and 'Garho Nava Chhattisgarh' flag to be hoisted there by Yashi after conquering Mount Everest.

CM will distribute first installment of this year to landless agriculture labourers on May 21

● **Nearly 5.63 lakh landless agriculture labourers of rural and urban areas will be benefited**

Raipur, May 19: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has announced that the financial aid under Rajiv Gandhi Bhoomiheen Krishi Mazdoor NYAY Yojana will be distributed to the beneficiaries at 'Bharosa Sammelan' to be organized in Patan area of Durg district on May 21, i.e. on the death anniversary of former Prime Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. This will be the first installment under the scheme for the year 2023-24. An amount of Rs 112 crore 71 lakh 52 thousand will be released as the first installment to a total of 5 lakh 63 thousand 576 bene-

ficiaries of Rajiv Gandhi Bhoomiheen Krishi Mazdoor NYAY Yojana in rural and urban areas. The first installment under the scheme will be distributed at the rate of Rs 2 thousand per beneficiary. And the amount will be transferred to the bank account of each beneficiary. A large section of the state's rural and urban population is dependent on agro-based wage labour for livelihood. While paddy harvest season comes with sufficient employment opportunities for agricultural labourers, rabi season has limited employment availability, creating challenging circumstances for the agriculture labourers. **32,328 Baiga, Gumia will also be benefited under BKM NYAY Yojana** Under Rajiv Gandhi Bhoomiheen Krishi

Mazdoor (BKM) Agricultural NYAY Yojana, the first installment of the financial year 2023-24 will be issued to 32 thousand 328 Baiga, Guniya, Manjhi, Pujari and Haat Paharia as well. In urban areas, the eligible beneficiaries include 53 thousand 265 general agrolabourers and 737 Baiga, Gumia beneficiaries. On May 21, an amount of Rs 10 crore 80 lakh 04 thousand will be transferred to a total of 54 thousand 02 landless agricultural labourers of urban areas. Likewise, the eligible beneficiaries under the scheme in rural areas include 4 lakh 77 thousand 983 general beneficiaries and 31 thousand 591 Baiga, Gumia, and an amount of Rs 101 crore 91 lakh 48 thousand will be transferred to a total of 5 lakh 9 thousand 574 beneficiaries.

Character building and overall personality development possible from the concept of Panchkoshi knowledge : Dr. Kothari

Character building and personality development are the crux of education: Prof. Chakrawal

Bilaspur, May 19: A three-day workshop on the subject of character building and overall personality development of the individual started in Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) on May 19, 2023, with Dr. Atul Kothari, National Secretary of the Shiksha Sanskriti Uthan Nyas, New Delhi as the chief guest. The program, presided over by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal, started at 10 a.m. on 19 May. At the inauguration of the three-day workshop (May 19-21, 2023) organized at the Rajat Jayanti Sahbagha of the University, Dr. Atul Kothari said that Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya is becoming the first university where character building and personality development are



being offered as an undergraduate course and work is being expedited for achieving this goal. Throwing light on the Indian concept of character building and overall development of a person, Dr. Kothari said that character building and overall personality development of students is possible with the glorious tradition of Indian knowledge system which gives the concept of Panchkoshi knowledge. Highlighting the concept of Panchkoshi, he gave detailed information about Annamaya, Pranamaya, Manomaya, Vignamaya and Anandamaya Koshas. In common language, these Koshas are known as body, life, mind, intellect and soul which are essential for the

overall development of the personality of all the students. Dr. Kothari stressed that education creates coordination and balance between heart, mind and hands. The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Alok Kumar Chakrawal said that character building and personality development are the central elements of education. Professor Chakrawal said, "The primary objectives of the National Education Policy 2020 are to develop students as self-reliant beings and to ensure their overall development for this purpose. At the same time, we must work to develop in them sensitivity and devotion to the interests of the society, which is the aim of the training being

provided in this workshop." Further, he informed that in this workshop, teachers will be trained to give practical shape to the concept of value education. Through this workshop, efforts will be made to include various topics for character building and personality development of the students, followed by necessary amendments in the curriculum. The guests on the stage were honored with shawls, shripal and mementoes. In the end, vote of thanks was delivered by the Registrar, Prof. Manish Srivastava. Dr. Garima Tiwari, Assistant Professor, Forestry, Wildlife and Environmental Science Department conducted the program. Deans of various

schools, heads of departments, officers, teaching staff and a large number of researchers were present in the programme.

Participation of Over 400 Teachers

More than 400 teachers have worked as participants in this workshop. 20 groups are created in the workshop who will think, discuss, analyze, review and write conclusions on various topics of training.

9 subject specialists of the country

Dr. Atul Kothari, National Secretary, Shiksha Sanskriti Uthan Nyas, New Delhi, Mr. Deshraj Sharma, Former Principal, Sarvhitkari Vidya Mandir, Talwara, Punjab, Dr. Ajay Tiwari, Chancellor, Swami Vivekananda University, Sagor M.P., Dr. Manohar Bhandari MBBS MD, Indore, M.P., Mr. Jayendra Jadhav, Member Secretary, Gujarat Sahitya Akademi, Gujarat and Mr. Sanjay Sharma from Dr. Harisingh Gour University Sagor M.P. are the subject specialists for the workshop.

Encourage farmers to cultivate mustard in the area: Dr. Kamalpreet Singh

Raipur, May 19: Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Kamalpreet Singh said that Bastar division is a tribal-dominated area, where farmers should be encouraged to promote mustard cultivation. The farmers of Bastar division prefer farming naturally, which uses very little chemical fertilizers. Dr Singh stressed on to encourage farmers to use vermicompost fertilizers and get high yielding seeds distributed, so that the income of farmers increases. Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Singh was addressing the review meeting of Kharif crop assessment for the year 2023 and Rabi crop program for the year



2022-23 of Bastar division in Prerna hall of the district office in Jagdalpur on Thursday. Dr. Kamalpreet Singh said that there is a need to increase the area of products like Kodo, Kutki, Kulthi, as well as involve more and more farmers in the Millet Mission. He said that cultivation of horticulture and

commercial crops earns many times more than traditional farming. The state government is also providing loans at zero percent interest to co-operative banks from this year along with attractive grants for their cultivation. Therefore, farmers should be encouraged for their cultivation by giving information

about the schemes. He inquired about the progress of the ethanol plant under construction in Kondagaon district and directed to arrange necessary human resources for the operation of the plant, coordinate with oil companies, conduct exposure visits to ethanol plants operating in other states. Agriculture Production Commissioner called the work of KCC necessary to fulfill the credit related needs of the farmers. Commissioner Mr. Dhavde informed that all the districts have worked hard in KCC work, as well as forest rights recognition card holders are also being given the benefit of KCC tax schemes.

Protest continues in Abujhmad for 6 months

● **Villagers made the protest site as their home**

Narayanpur, May 19: Villagers are sitting on dharna for almost 6 months in Abujhmad forest of Irakhbhatti, Toymeta, Dhondribeda and river Para of Orcha in Narayanpur district. The villagers sitting on dharna are not protesting because they want development in the area, on the contrary, their demand is that they do not want development imposed by the central or state government. The villagers say that the area should be developed but not that the forests get ruined. The villagers have been accused of running this sit-in demonstration by the Naxalites. The Naxalites are also said to have made

arrangements for food and other essential items for the villagers. Three to four hundred villagers live at the picket site at a time. The crowd increased to such an extent that slowly a settlement has been established at the dharna site. To get relief from the heat of summer and rains and to cook food, they have made a house for themselves by building a temporary hut. It is noteworthy that when will the government and administration take care of the demands of these villagers or how long will this protest continue. It may be known that 36 gram panchayats of Abujhmad of Narayanpur district are sitting on dharna with various demands including implementation of Rural Profession Act, withdrawal of amendment of

Forest Act 2022, closure of new caps being opened without the permission of Gram Sabha. Villagers along with their families from the interior villages of Abujhmad have come on strike. Villagers from Irakhbhatti, Toymeta, Dhondribeda and Orcha stay at Nadipara dharna venue for 24 hours amid dense forests. All the villagers bring their ration with them. The villagers stay at the dharna site for a few days. Every villager brings his ration when he comes home. In the evening, meetings and cultural programmes are organized on the stage built in the middle of the dharna venue. In this way the villagers have made the protest site their home. The villagers say that their protest will continue until their

demands are met. The villagers say that today we are united only because the coming generations can also see the Abujhmad forest. The tribal of Bastar is not poor as they have so many resources that big industrialists want to get them. But the tribals do not want to sell their water, forests and land. They say that our mountains and forests are our Gods and Goddesses, who provide resources for our livelihood. It is a conspiracy of the government to take away our water, jungle and land from us by expanding new police camps. That's why they are taking out the iron by ripping the chest of the hill. If there is no forest, then how will we live our life? The forest produce obtained from the forest is our support, they added.

Constructive efforts is the precursor to transformation: KCS

Nanded (Maharashtra state) May 19:

Bharat Rastra Samithi (BRS) supremo and Telangana Chief Minister K.Chandrasekhar Rao exhorted the cross section of the society in Maharashtra to pave way for achieving a transformation from the foundation of democracy. Delivering the key note address at the training camp of BRS workers and cadre of Maharashtra in Nanded city of the state, the BRS chief said the orientation imparted in the two day training of the cadre would help transforming the polity of the nation where the thrust was not even the basic amenities till date for the past 75 years. These requirements were thoroughly achieved in the state of Telangana and that transformation is labelled Telangana model. Till we achieve that goal

we would strive and accomplish the mission, KCR said amidst cheers from the public.

The hour long speech of KCR dealt with the subjects pertaining to water and electricity needs and detailed how those requirements were achieved with utmost ease in the state of Telangana. The BRS supremo said the states like Maharashtra were languishing in a state of backwardness what with the non supportive governments over the past seven decades. Commencing his speech at the training camp after lighting lamp in the presence of leaders and representatives belonging to 288 assembly segments spread across Maharashtra the Telangana chief minister said the BRS was formulating a model that aims at bringing a " Sarkar of farmers " with the slogan Ab ki baar kisan Sarkar ". Citing the examples of development achieved in the countries like Singapore, Malaysia and China the BRS leader observed that the polity in the country has never concentrated on the issues related to the needy. The political parties he said were basically giving priority to election after elections but people were never given thrust, he said and added that people should win in the coming days for which the BRS



is keen on providing a leadership. Stating that leadership could be groomed from the activists and cadre trained on the orientation camps like Nanded the BRS chief said a change sought for the past 75 years could be realised with the new mission of BRS. Asserting that the BRS would bring about a change and transformation that provides water and power the two basic

needs of the people in general and the farm sector in particular: Expressing concern over the state of affairs on the water supply position in the states like Maharashtra and even Delhi the BRS chief said the mission undertaken by the BRS would pave way for a transformation. Stating that this goal was achieved in a span of nine years of the formation of Telangana state, the BRS supremo said a six

and half years basic effort has given scope for the achievement of that requirement. KCR has detailed how the farmers in the country have undertaken various struggles for their just demands that include provision of power and irrigation needs too. Observing all these things and referring how the goals were achieved with the farmer friendly leadership of BRS in Telangana state the BRS chief said his party was aiming at achieving a goal of constructing a political leadership that proves itself as a beacon life for the coming generations. During his detailed speech about the political orientation class of the BRS the Telangana chief minister said a new leadership would be groomed in Maharashtra state in 45 thousand villages and 5000 odd municipal wards. KCR said each and every

village would have nine committees at the booth level and all these committees represent party main, Kisan committee, Yuva committee, Mahila committee, OBC committee, SC affairs committee, ST committee, Minority committee, students committee and the committees pertaining to workers and retired persons also be constituted for strengthening the party from the roots. The BRS chief said the party was floating its executive bodies in all the rural and urban parts of the state and it would aim of expanding the network to the states like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh in the coming days. He said the trained youths in the orientation camp would be utilised for the expansion of party network in the neighbouring states. The two day training program of BRS was

planned in a systematic manner by the party and KCR said a membership drive would be launched for constituting committees at the village and urban level on a war footing. He said party offices in Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Aurangabad and Marathwada would soon come into existence with food facility for the cadre. KCR said his party would be equipped with technological advancement and each village committee leadership is provided with gadgets that help expanding the social media network. Rajyashba MP Santhosh Rao, MLA OF Telangana Jeevan Reddy, BRS leaders Gurnam Singh, Kadam, Himanshu Deshmukh, Maharashtra party leaders and Telangana MLA Jeevan Reddy, chief advisor to chief minister Somesh Kumar were among the leaders present.

Russian PM to visit Beijing as China renews criticism of Western arms sales to Ukraine

Beijing, May 19:

Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin will visit Beijing next week for talks, China's Foreign Ministry said Friday, marking the latest exchange in a relationship in which Russia is becoming increasingly reliant on China for economic and diplomatic support. "During the visit, the two sides will have an in-depth exchange of views on practical cooperation in bilateral relations and issues of common concern," ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said at a daily briefing. "We look forward to further strengthening cooperation between the two sides, deepening people-to-people and local exchanges (and) injecting strong momentum into the recovery of the world economy," Wang added.

Mishustin's visit is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday. Meanwhile, China's Deputy Permanent U.N. Representative Geng Shuang again criticised Western arms sales to Ukraine, saying it would only lead to escalation, more civilian casualties and displacement, and make it harder to obtain a ceasefire and start peace negotiations. China says it does not and will not provide arms to either side in the Ukraine conflict, a point Geng reiterated at a Security Council meeting Thursday. "The constant feeding of weapons to the battlefield will ... also pose serious challenges to post-war reconstruction and, if such weapons are diverted to terrorists or armed groups, likely cause new turmoil in a wider geographic area," Geng was cited as saying on the U.N.'s

website. "All parties should promote a political settlement with sincerity and urgency and create conditions conducive to a ceasefire," Geng added. China says it is a neutral party and wants to help broker an end to the 15-month-old conflict, but has refused to criticise the invasion and blamed the West for provoking Moscow. China is now seen as the senior partner in the relationship, helping Moscow deflect condemnation at the United Nations and maintaining what it calls "normal trade" with Russia, providing a market for Russian oil and other resources and selling the country needed manufactured goods. At the same time, Beijing is making inroads into what has traditionally been Russia's strategic backyard, this week hosting a summit of

five former Soviet Central Asian republics. China's special envoy met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and other government officials during talks in Kyiv earlier this week. The visit followed a phone call last month between the Ukrainian leader and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping that Zelenskyy described as "long and meaningful" and which marked the first known contact between the two since the Russian invasion began. Beijing released a peace plan in February but Ukraine's allies largely dismissed it, insisting that Russian President Vladimir Putin must withdraw his forces. Zelenskyy's own 10-point peace plan includes a tribunal to prosecute war crimes committed by

Australian police use Taser on 95-year-old with dementia who held steak knife

Canberra, May 19:

Police shocked a 95-year-old woman with a stun gun as she approached them using a walker and carrying a steak knife in an Australian nursing home, sending her to the hospital in critical condition after her head hit the floor. The extraordinary police take-down of Clare Nowland, who has dementia, on Wednesday prompted a high-level police internal investigation. It also has sparked debate about how New South Wales state police use stun guns, which are widely known as Tasers after a major manufacturer. They are a less

lethal option than firearms but have occasionally proved more dangerous than other policing options. Police said Nowland received her injuries from striking her head on the floor; rather than directly from the stun gun's debilitating electric shock. Two police officers went to Yallabee Lodge, a nursing home in the town of Cooma that specialises in residents with higher care needs including dementia, after staff reported that Nowland had taken a serrated steak knife from the kitchen. Police Assistant Commissioner Peter Cotter declined to say whether he thought a po-

lice officer with 12 years' experience used excessive force by firing a stun gun at Nowland, who is 1.57 metres (5 feet, 2 inches) tall and weighs 43 kilograms. Cotter said police engaged in "negotiations" with Nowland for several minutes and used the stun gun when she approached the doorway where the officers were standing. "At the time she was tasered, she was approaching police. But it is fair to say at a slow pace. She had a walking frame. But she had a knife. I can't take it any further as to what was going through anyone's mind," Cotter told reporters. Nicole Lee, president of

the advocacy group People with Disability Australia, said she was shocked by the police response. "She's either one hell of an agile, fit, fast and intimidating 95-year-old woman, or there's a very poor lack of judgment on those police officers and there really needs to be some accountability on their side," Lee said. Family spokesperson Andrew Thaler said Nowland's dementia "waxes and wanes." "The question will be, how was it appropriate to use this level of force on a 95-year-old woman?" Thaler was quoted as saying by The Sydney Morning Herald.

Sudan's top army general formally fires rival paramilitary leader as his deputy in symbolic gesture

Cairo, May 19:

In a symbolic gesture, Sudan's army general on Friday fired the paramilitary leader his former ally turned rival as the deputy of the country's governing body, state media reported. The dismissal by Gen. Abdel Fattah Burhan of Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, commander of the

Rapid Support Forces, from the Sovereignty Council comes as the two warring generals continue to battle for control over this troubled African country. The month long conflict that has killed at least 705 people, the World Health organisation said Friday. The firing, reported by the state SUNA news

agency, is unlikely to affect the battlefield where the warring sides appear locked in a stalemate and

unwilling to end the hostilities. The paramilitary forces did not immediately comment.

Pak police obtain warrant to search former PM Imran Khan's residence in Lahore

Lahore, May 19:

Punjab Police on Friday obtained warrants to conduct a detailed search at former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan's Zaman Park residence here to find "terrorists" reportedly hiding there, media reports said. The move comes after the Punjab government decided to send a team to hold talks with Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership, according to

Geo TV. An officer of the rank of a superintendent of police will lead the contingent, which will also include a female police officer, the report said. The Commissioner of Lahore Division will also be accompanying the team. According to the statement, the search will encompass a thorough examination of both the entrance and exit points of the residence, with the primary objective of finding "terrorists" hid-

ing at the place, the Dawn newspaper reported. On Wednesday, the Punjab government claimed that "30 to 40 terrorists were hiding inside Khan's residence," and gave an ultimatum of 24 hours to his party to hand over the miscreants. However, no action was taken after the deadline expired on Thursday. Punjab Information Minister Amir Mir said law enforcers will conduct a search operation at

Khan's residence after his permission and in front of cameras to apprehend "terrorists", the Geo TV report said. "We [the interim government] have decided that instead of a head-on collision, we will send a delegation to Khan sahab under the supervision of the Lahore commissioner," Mir was quoted as saying in the report. "They will ask him [Khan] to allow them to conduct a search operation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives in Hiroshima for G7 and Quad summits

Hiroshima, May 19:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived here in the Japanese city on Friday to attend the annual summit of the G7 grouping and the third in-person Quad leaders' meeting during which he will exchange views with world leaders on global challenges and discuss ways to collectively address them. Modi arrived here on the first leg of his three-nation trip to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia and is expected to take part in over 40 engagements. He will interact with over two

dozen world leaders in summits as well as in bilateral meetings, officials said. "I look forward to exchanging views with the G7 countries and other invited partners on challenges that the world faces and the need to collectively address them. I would also be holding bilateral meetings with some of the leaders attending the Hiroshima G7 Summit," Modi said in his departure statement. "My presence in this G7 summit is particularly meaningful as India holds the G20 presidency this year. I look forward to exchanging views with the

G7 countries and other invited partners on challenges that the world faces and the need to collectively address them," he said. The prime minister was received by senior Japanese and Indian officials at the airport. Modi is visiting Hiroshima from May 19 to 21 primarily for the annual summit of the G7 advanced economies in which he is expected to speak on challenges facing the globe, including food, fertiliser and energy security. Modi is expected to hold bilateral meetings with some of the world leaders attending the Hiroshima G7 Summit. The G-7 bloc comprises Japan, the United States, France, Germany, Canada and Italy, as well as the European Union. From Japan, he will travel to Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea where he will host the

third summit of the Forum for India Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) on May 22 jointly with Prime Minister James Marape. In the third and final leg of the trip, Modi will visit Australia from May 22 to 24. The Quad summit was originally scheduled to be held in Sydney but it will now take place in Hiroshima as US President Joe Biden postponed his visit to Australia to focus on crucial debt-ceiling talks in Washington. The Quad leaders from the US, India, Australia and Japan will discuss how they can deepen their cooperation on critical and emerging technologies, high-quality infrastructure, global health, climate change, maritime domain awareness, and other issues that matter to the people of the Indo-Pacific, according to the White House.

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स्वामी आत्मानंद विद्यालयों में संविदा भर्ती की सूचना

पत्र क्र. संविदा भर्ती/SAGES/2023/416 रायपुर, दिनांक: 17.05.2023

1. कार्यालयीन पत्र क्रमांक/शिक्षा/SAGES/संविदा भर्ती/2023/361 रायपुर, दिनांक 09.05.2023 द्वारा जिला अन्तर्गत 06 स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय हेतु विभिन्न पदों पर संविदा भर्ती हेतु विज्ञापन जारी किया गया है। जिसके लिए दिनांक 20.05.2023 सायं 05:00 बजे तक आवेदन आमंत्रित किये गये हैं।

2. छत्तीसगढ़ शासन स्कूल शिक्षा विभाग मंत्रालय महानदी भवन नवा रायपुर अटल नगर के आदेश दिनांक 16.05.2023 के तहत जिला रायपुर अन्तर्गत नवीन 05 विद्यालयों (1. स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय रायखेड़ा वि.खं. तिल्दा जिला रायपुर, 2. स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय गनियारी वि.खं. तिल्दा जिला रायपुर, 3. स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय खोरपा वि.खं. अभनपुर जिला रायपुर, 4. अनंत राम बड़िछा अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय चंदखुरी वि.खं. आरंग जिला रायपुर, 5. स्वामी आत्मानंद अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय बरबंदा वि.खं. धरसीवा जिला रायपुर) को स्वामी आत्मानंद विद्यालय घोषित किया गया है। उक्त प्रत्येक विद्यालय के लिए 24 पद स्वीकृत किये गये हैं अर्थात् कुल 120 पदों एवं पूर्व में जारी 54 पदों की संविदा भर्ती हेतु आवेदन दिनांक 31.05.2023 सायं 05:00 बजे तक सीधे स्वीड पोस्ट/पंजीकृत डाक/कुरियर द्वारा कार्यालय प्राचार्य, स्वामी आत्मानंद शासकीय अंग्रेजी माध्यम उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय, एन.एच.एम.एम.आई. अस्पताल के पास लालपुर रायपुर, पिन कोड 492015 के पते पर आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन पत्र प्रारूप वेबसाईट <https://raipur.gov.in/> से डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं, निर्धारित तिथि के बाद कोई भी आवेदन पत्र स्वीकार नहीं किया जावेगा।

3. उपरोक्त पद हेतु जिले के पूर्व में जारी संविदा भर्ती विज्ञापन दिनांक 09/05/2023 के शैक्षणिक योग्यता/चयन प्रक्रिया/नियम एवं शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेंगे।

4. जिन आवेदकों ने जिले के संविदा भर्ती के विज्ञापन दिनांक 09/05/2023 में आवेदन किया है, उन्हें पुनः आवेदन करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है, क्योंकि चयन प्रक्रिया एक साथ पूरी की जावेगी।

जिला शिक्षा अधिकारी
जिला-रायपुर (छ.ग.)

कार्यालय आयुक्त, आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास
इन्द्रवती भवन, ब्लाक-डी (भू-तल) अटल नगर,
जिला रायपुर (छ.ग.)

☎: 2263708, 2262558 Fax - 2262558
Email Id - pmsctobc@gmail.com

क्रमांक/ऑ.ला.पो.मै.आ./123/2022-23/1480 नवा रायपुर, दिनांक 17/05/2023

सूचना

अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति एवं अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति (कालेज स्तर) वर्ष 2022-23 के विद्यार्थियों का संस्था परिवर्तन, पाठ्यक्रम परिवर्तन तथा संस्था एवं पाठ्यक्रम दोनो परिवर्तन की सुविधा पोर्टल पर प्रदाय की सूचना

विभाग द्वारा अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति एवं अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति (कालेज स्तर) का पंजीयन/स्वीकृति एवं मुगुतान विभागीय पोर्टल <https://postmatric-scholarship.cg.inc.in/> के माध्यम से किया जा रहा है। वर्ष 2022-23 में ऐसे विद्यार्थी जो संस्था परिवर्तन, पाठ्यक्रम परिवर्तन तथा संस्था एवं पाठ्यक्रम दोनो परिवर्तन करना चाहते हैं, भारत सरकार के नियमानुसार पात्रता रखने वाले ऐसे विद्यार्थियों को पोर्टल पर सुविधा (Option) दी गई है। कृपया संबंधित जिले के सहायक आयुक्त, आदिवासी विकास कार्यालय में दिनांक 25.05.2023 तक आवेदन करने की अंतिम तिथि निर्धारित की जाती है।

आयुक्त
आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास
नवा रायपुर, छ.ग.

छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग
नाथ ब्लाक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)
दूरभाष (का.) 0771-2439564, फैक्स: 0771-2331525, 2446556
वेबसाईट: www.psc.cg.gov.in

क्रमांक 684/48/परीक्षा/2022 रायपुर, दिनांक 17 मई 2023

भृत्य (सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग एवं छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग) परीक्षा-2022 के संबंध में महत्वपूर्ण सूचना

आयोग द्वारा दिनांक 25 सितम्बर, 2022 को भृत्य के प्रथम चरण की लिखित परीक्षा का आयोजन किया गया था। आयोग द्वारा जारी विज्ञापन के परिशिष्ट-एक के अनुसार भृत्य के द्वितीय चरण की परीक्षा शुद्धलेखन (ईमला) का आयोजन परीक्षा केन्द्र J.R. Dani, Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School, Kalibadi Chowk, Raipur (C.G.) में किया जाना है, जिसकी समय-सारणी निम्नानुसार है:-

Date & Day of Exam	Time of Exam	Subject
25.05.2023, गुरुवार	पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे से अपराह्न 01:00 बजे तक	शुद्धलेखन (ईमला)

प्रवेश पत्र आयोग के वेबसाईट www.psc.cg.gov.in में दिनांक 16.05.2023 को जारी कर दिया गया है। अभ्यर्थी आयोग की वेबसाईट से प्रवेश पत्र डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। आयोग द्वारा किसी भी अभ्यर्थी को पृथक से प्रवेश पत्र व्यक्तित्व: नहीं भेजा जायेगा।

सचिव
छ.ग. लोक सेवा आयोग,
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR

(CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice
Main Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Tenders are invited for the Following works:-

S. No	System Tender No./Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)
1	133353 Second Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE ACROSS JUJHARA NALLA ON CHIPARA - KILLEKODARA ROAD.	183.95
2	132889 First Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE I/C APPROACHES ACROSS DANKANI RIVER IN KM. 6/2 ON GEEDAM BY-PASS TO BAGABADHI ROAD.	920.75
3	133355 Second Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF 4 WAY DIRECTION ROAD, B.T. & DRAIN WORK (LENGTH 2.373 KM) AT PT. JAWAHAR LAL NEHRU WARD NO.2 KABIR NAGAR (UNDER NAGAR NIGAM) I/C. CULVERTS AT DISTT. RAIPUR, (VIDHANSABHA DN. RAIPUR).	288.31
4	133356 Second Call 10.05.2023	Construction of Siganpur to Badepara Road Total Length 2.985 Km in/c Culverts and Bridges.	295.53
5	133354 Fourth Call 10.05.2023	Construction of Motimpur (Amartapu) Temple on Both Sides Approach Road Length 1.70 Km.	383.25
6	133392 Second Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE I/C APPROACHES ACROSS SUKHA NALLA ON HALEKOSA - KOLIHTOLA ROAD.	308.42
7	133393 Second Call 10.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF H.L. BRIDGE I/C APPROACH ACROSS BHARARI NALLA ON SASKOBA PARAGHATI ROAD.	551.58
8	133394 Second Call 10.05.2023	Construction of Kasdol Bhainapara (Bhaisgadi) Badgaon to Barliya Road Length 14.40 Km.	1413.10
9	134000 First Call 15.05.2023	Upgradation & Construction of Nikum to Ruda Road Length 3.50 K.M. including Bridges & culverts AT Distt.-Durg (C.G.)	1135.00
10	134015 Second Call 10.05.2023	Construction of village Nimdha (Hostel) to village Darmohli Road Length 3.00 km.	401.97

Last Date of Tender Downloading For S.No. 02 date 02.06.2023, S.No. 05 date 22.05.2023, S.No. 09 date 05.06.2023, S.No. 10 date 31.05.2023. Other Tenders Date are Schedule as date 29.05.2023.
For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer
(Central Tender Cell)
Office Of Engineer In Chief
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar

ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED
A Govt. of India (Department of Atomic Energy) Enterprise
ECIL Post, Hyderabad - 500 062, Telangana State.

TEAM UP WITH ECIL FOR A BRIGHT CAREER

Electronics Corporation of India Limited, a Government of India Enterprise under Department of Atomic Energy invites applications for the posts of SDGM [HR], DGM [Corporate Purchase], DGM [Corp. Communications], DGM [HR], Sr. Manager [Finance], Sr. Manager [Law], Manager - HRD, Dy. Manager -Company Secretariat, Dy Manager - Finance and Dy Manager -Law.

Online application commences on 20.05.2023 (1400 hrs) and closes on 10.06.2023 (1400 hrs.)

For complete details [including qualifications, experience, age etc.] and online Application Form, please visit Company website: <http://careers.ecil.co.in> or www.ecil.co.in

Advt.No.05/2023 **DGM - HR(Rectt)**

CBC - 48138/12/0002/2324

कार्यालय आयुक्त आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास इन्द्रवती भवन, अटल नगर रायपुर छत्तीसगढ़

क्रमांक/निर्माण/753/2023-24/1445 नवा रायपुर, दिनांक 17/05/2023

ई- प्रोक्यूमेंट निविदा सूचना
Website <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

सं. क्रमांक	कार्य का नाम	कार्य का अनुमानित लागत
1	बलरामपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	321.60 लाख
2	जशपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	192.96 लाख
3	कोरिया जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख
4	सूरजपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	192.96 लाख
5	सरगुजा जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	192.96 लाख
6	बलराम जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	225.12 लाख
7	बीजापुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	192.96 लाख
8	दरभंगा जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख
9	कांकेर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	257.28 लाख
10	कोणार्जंग जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	257.28 लाख
11	नारायणपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	64.32 लाख
12	सुकमा जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख
13	गैरला-फेण्ड-मरवाही जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	64.32 लाख
14	कोरबा जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख
15	रायचड़ जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	96.48 लाख
16	नारायणपुर जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	64.32 लाख
17	मानपुर-मोहला-अंबागढ़ चौकी जिले के विभिन्न छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं हेतु प्री-फेब्रीकेटेड डारमेट्री एवं शौचालय ब्लाक के निर्माण कार्य	128.64 लाख

उपरोक्त 17 निविदाएं पृथक-पृथक आवेदन की जावेगी। निविदा तिथियां कार्य सूची के सरल क्रमांक अनुसार निम्नानुसार पृथक-पृथक दर्शित की गई हैं। निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि- निर्धारित है। निविदा में भाग लेने की प्रक्रिया एवं निविदा के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी विभाग के उपरोक्त वेबसाईट में देख सकते हैं।

Date and time of pre-proposal conference
23.05.2023/24.05.2023/25.05.2023/26.05.2023.
At 3:00 P.M at Office Of Commissioner, Scheduled Tribes And Scheduled Castes Development Department, Government Of Chhattisgarh Address: Block-D, Ground Floor, Indravati Bhawan Atal Nagar Nava Raipur.

Last Date And Time For Uploading Of E- Tenderin E-Procurement Platform On Or Before.
Serial no.1 to 5, Date 07.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.6 to 12 Date 08.06.2023 by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 09.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.16 to 17 ,Date 12.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.

Last date for submission of physical bid.
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 08.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.6 to 12 ,Date 09.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 12.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.16 to 17 ,Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.

Technical bid will Be Opened Online By The Authorized Officer on
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 12.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.6 to 12 , Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 14.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.16 to 17 ,Date 15.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.

The Price Bid will Be opened online on
Serial no 1 to 5, Date 13.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.6 to 12 , Date 14.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.13 to 15 ,Date 15.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.
Serial no.16 to 17 ,Date 16.06.2023 .by 5:00P.M.

(टी. चक्रवर्ती)
कार्यपालन अभियंता
आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)



CENTRAL Chronicle

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Unmasking Drug Cartels

Record Haul in Kerala Exposes Alarming Drug Trade

In a groundbreaking operation off the Kochi coast, a staggering 2,500 kg of high-purity methamphetamine, commonly known as crystal meth, was seized, marking a record-breaking achievement in terms of its monetary value. This unprecedented drug bust stands as a testament to the commendable efforts of the Narcotics Control Bureau and the Indian Navy. Operation Samudragupt, the operation under which these drug busts took place, has shed light on the immense scale of the illegal drug trade, the innovative smuggling techniques employed, and the emergence of new trafficking routes. Samudragupt's primary focus is combatting maritime drug trafficking, primarily originating from Afghanistan, and relies on actionable intelligence for intercepting vessels. Since its inception in January last year, the operation has resulted in the seizure of approximately 3,200 kg of methamphetamine, 500 kg of heroin, and 529 kg of hashish. This outstanding success deserves recognition, but it also necessitates increased vigilance, intelligence-gathering efforts, and round-the-clock intensive patrolling. The Pakistani connection to the drug seizure in Kerala is undeniable, as the consignment was concealed within jute bags weighing 40 kg and 20 kg, bearing labels of a Pakistan-based rice company. The mother ship intercepted during the operation had its origins traced back to the Makran coast, encompassing both Pakistan and Iran. A Pakistani national, now in custody, has disclosed crucial information indicating that smaller boats were intended to transport the bags to Sri Lanka and India. From the deployment of drones in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir to ships sailing perilously close to the coastline, the desperation of drug cartels operating in India's neighboring countries becomes painfully apparent. This situation underscores the fact that there is a thriving market within India, with individuals willing to go to extreme lengths to ensure a steady supply to meet the relentless demand. While the government's ambition to make India drug-free by 2047 appears commendable, the ground reality paints a different picture. Despite the implementation of numerous plans, the scourge of drug abuse continues to grow deeper within our society. It is imperative to alter our approach and ensure that those facilitating the drug trade, irrespective of their social or official status, face stringent legal consequences. It is high time to apprehend and incarcerate the key figures behind the drug trade, regardless of whether they wear khadi (traditional Indian clothing) or khaki (uniforms worn by law enforcement personnel). Only by taking such measures can we truly hope to make a substantial impact on curbing drug abuse and dismantling the networks that perpetuate this crisis. The record-breaking drug bust off the Kochi coast is a stark reminder of the urgent need for heightened security measures, intelligence sharing, and international cooperation in combating the drug trade. The magnitude of this seizure underscores the gravity of the situation and serves as a wake-up call for all stakeholders involved. The collaboration between the Narcotics Control Bureau and the Indian Navy in Operation Samudragupt has proven successful thus far, but it is crucial to build upon this accomplishment and further strengthen our efforts. To effectively tackle the drug menace, we must address both the supply and demand sides of the equation. On the supply side, it is essential to enhance border security, strengthen surveillance systems, and actively collaborate with international agencies to dismantle the intricate drug networks. On the demand side, the focus should be on prevention, education, and rehabilitation programs to address the underlying factors driving individuals towards substance abuse. Additionally, inter-agency coordination and intelligence sharing must be prioritized to identify and apprehend drug traffickers, financiers, and kingpins operating within and beyond our borders. The Narcotics Control Bureau and the Indian Navy's accomplishments under Operation Samudragupt deserve commendation, but they should also serve as catalysts for even greater collaboration and innovation in the future. It is time to transform our aspirations for a drug-free India into concrete actions. The fight against drugs is not just a battle of law enforcement agencies; it is a battle for the well-being and future of our nation. Let us join forces, strengthen our resolve, and work relentlessly towards a society free from the clutches of drugs. Together, we can overcome this scourge and create a safer and healthier India for generations to come.

A New Chapter

Karnataka Congress' Leadership Challenge

The recently concluded Karnataka Assembly elections brought forth a resounding victory for the Congress party, putting an end to the suspense surrounding the appointment of the Chief Minister. After much deliberation, the party has declared 75-year-old Siddaramaiah as the Chief Minister and appointed state unit chief DK Shivakumar (61) as his deputy. This decision was not an easy one, as both contenders aggressively staked their claims for the top post. However, the party seems to have successfully resolved the issue, with Shivakumar stating that "everything is well and will be well." Siddaramaiah, having previously served a full term as CM from 2013 to 2018, is undoubtedly the right choice for the position. He now faces the challenge of meeting the expectations of Karnataka's voters, who have given the Congress a decisive mandate. The party must address the taint of corruption and demonstrate clean and transparent governance, as these were key factors that led to the downfall of the BJP in the previous election. With the Congress now unencumbered by coalition pressures, it is in a strong position to deliver on its promises. However, the onus is not solely on Siddaramaiah. Deputy CM Shivakumar also plays a crucial role in the success of the government. It is essential for both leaders to work in unison and present a united front. The Congress high command must also be proactive in addressing any potential issues that may arise between them. The party should learn from its experiences in Rajasthan, where Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and former Deputy CM Sachin Pilot have been engaged in a prolonged power struggle, casting a shadow over the state government. Similarly, there are rumblings of discontent in Chhattisgarh, another poll-bound state governed by the Congress. The performance of the Karnataka government will have a significant impact on the party's prospects of leading the Opposition in the upcoming 2024 General Election. Any missteps in the southern state could weaken the Congress at the national level, leaving the Opposition ill-prepared to challenge the ruling BJP. This is an opportune moment for the Congress to establish a strong and efficient government in Karnataka. The party must seize this opportunity to address the pressing issues faced by the state, such as unemployment, agrarian distress, and infrastructure development. Effective governance and tangible results will not only benefit the people of Karnataka but also enhance the party's credibility and position in national politics. Furthermore, the Congress should also focus on strengthening its organizational structure in the state. This includes empowering grassroots leaders and nurturing new talent to ensure a robust party machinery. The involvement of young leaders, women, and marginalized communities is crucial for the party's long-term growth and relevance. A united and well-organized Congress will not only be beneficial for Karnataka but also for the broader democratic fabric of our country. The appointment of Siddaramaiah as Chief Minister and DK Shivakumar as his deputy marks a fresh start for the Congress in Karnataka. The party must learn from past experiences and ensure that the leadership works together harmoniously. It is crucial for the Congress high command to address any internal rifts promptly and provide the necessary support to the state government. By delivering on its promises and addressing the concerns of the people, the Congress can strengthen its position in Karnataka and revitalize its role as a credible opposition at the national level. The road ahead may not be easy, but with determination, unity, and effective governance, the Congress can bring about positive change for the people of Karnataka and set an example for the entire nation.

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

G20 MEETINGS



Students pose for pictures after getting their hands and face painted in view of the upcoming G20 meetings in Srinagar, in Jammu, Friday.

Foiling Pakistan's Disruptive Agenda

MANOJ KUMAR K P



The Indian Army achieved a significant victory by thwarting an audacious attempt by militants to infiltrate across the Line of Control (LoC) in the Uri sector of Baramulla district. The brave soldiers engaged in a fierce firefight, successfully preventing the intruders from infiltrating into the Kashmir valley. The Pakistani army, in an alarming move, even deployed a quadcopter to assist the infiltrators, but it was promptly fired at and compelled to retreat. This attempted infiltration, masterminded and aided by the Pakistan army, was a desperate action aimed at disrupting the upcoming G-20 Summit and sowing chaos in the Valley. Pakistan's relentless efforts to disturb peace in India, especially in the Kashmir valley, have been an ongoing concern. One of the primary tactics employed by Pakistan is to support and aid militant groups operating in the region. These groups, with backing from the Pakistani army, continually attempt to infiltrate Indian territory, carrying out heinous attacks on innocent civilians and security forces. Alongside this support for militants, Pakistan consistently violates ceasefire agreements along the border, instigating firing incidents targeting Indian positions. Such provocations often result in cross-border shelling, causing casualties

among civilians on both sides.

Furthermore, Pakistan utilizes propaganda as a tool to disseminate false information and incite violence within India. The state-run media in Pakistan frequently broadcasts anti-India content, fueling communal tensions and fostering an atmosphere of mistrust. In addition, Pakistan provides sanctuary to numerous terrorist groups that orchestrate attacks within India, operating from Pakistani soil and receiving support from the country's intelligence agencies. These groups benefit from financial and logistical assistance from Pakistan, perpetuating a cycle of violence and instability.

Pakistan's attempts to disrupt peace in India encompass a multi-dimensional approach, involving supporting militants, violating ceasefires, spreading propaganda, and providing safe havens to terrorist organizations. These actions pose a grave threat to regional stability and hinder progress towards peaceful coexistence.

Internally, Pakistan is grappling with significant turmoil across various fronts. Political instability, allegations of electoral fraud, and human rights violations have marred the country's democratic landscape. Tensions between the military and elected officials have resulted in clashes and a lack of stability in the political system. The country's economy is burdened by substantial debt and inflation, leading to a devaluation of the Pakistani rupee. Seeking financial aid from international institutions has become a necessity to mitigate economic challenges. Security concerns persist as conflicts along Pakistan's borders with Afghanistan and India. Additionally, sectarian violence, particularly targeting religious minorities, remains a grave concern

within the country.

Pakistan's internal turmoil presents formidable obstacles to the nation's stability and future development. Yet, despite the critical state of affairs, Pakistan seems to have failed to learn from its precarious position, veering perilously close to collapse.

The rise of India on the global stage has unsettled Pakistan, leaving it grappling to accept India's growing influence, particularly in its presidency of the G-20 and SCO meetings and the support it has garnered from major countries worldwide. In response, Pakistan resorts to desperate measures such as drug and arms smuggling via drones and cowardly attacks on civilians and the army, in a futile attempt to revive terrorism. However, the Indian Army remains resolute, maintaining a tight vigilance along the LoC to prevent any infiltration. Regular patrols are conducted near the fence and adjacent forest areas, ensuring that no infiltrated militants breach the hinterland's security. The security agencies are prepared to address any potential threats during the G-20 meeting, underscoring that there is no place for terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir.

India's unwavering commitment to safeguarding its borders, countering terrorist activities, and maintaining peace and stability in the region is commendable. The Indian Army's constant vigilance and proactive measures along the LoC serve as a strong deterrent against infiltrators and terrorists seeking to disrupt peace.

The upcoming G-20 Summit holds immense significance for India, as it assumes the presidency of this prestigious global forum. Pakistan's desperate attempt to disrupt the summit and create turmoil in the Kashmir valley is a

clear indication of its anxiety over India's rising prominence and global recognition. The G-20 platform provides India with a crucial opportunity to showcase its economic prowess, diplomatic leadership, and commitment to addressing pressing global issues. Pakistan's disruptive agenda not only aims to undermine India's achievements but also reflects its own frustration at being left behind on the world stage.

India's position as a responsible global power is reinforced by its adherence to democratic principles, respect for human rights, and commitment to international cooperation. In contrast, Pakistan's actions and support for terrorism undermine regional stability and hinder progress in the fight against extremism. The international community must take note of Pakistan's attempts to disrupt peace and rally behind India in its efforts to combat terrorism.

India's efforts to address the challenges in Jammu and Kashmir have focused on a multifaceted approach. The government has initiated various developmental projects aimed at improving infrastructure, education, healthcare, and employment opportunities for the people of the region. Additionally, dialogue and engagement with stakeholders have been prioritized to foster a peaceful and inclusive environment.

It is essential for the global community to recognize and support India's endeavors in Jammu and Kashmir, rather than allowing Pakistan's disruptive actions to overshadow India's sincere efforts for peace and progress. By standing united against terrorism and supporting India's initiatives, the international community can help create a conducive environment for stability, development, and lasting peace in the region.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Modi Dominance

The BJP's electoral strategy since 2014 has revolved around the dominance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Regardless of success or failure, the credit for victories is attributed solely to Modi's popularity, while shortcomings are rarely placed on his shoulders. This reliance on a personality cult not only poses a threat to the party's internal democracy but also to the democratic fabric of the nation. With the exception of Yogi Adityanath, no state leader within the BJP can achieve victory in Assembly elections independently; they must heavily rely on the PM's tireless campaigning.

Krishna Kumar KA, Kannur, Kerala

Crucial Reforms

The Karnataka verdict is being closely scrutinized to assess its implications for the Congress, BJP, and other political parties in upcoming Assembly and General Elections of 2024. However, it is equally important to address the concerning state of electioneering today, which fosters hatred, mistrust, fear, and insecurity among certain sections of society, while spreading misinformation. Even before the results are announced, the nation and society become the ultimate losers. Irresponsible remarks from individuals in constitutional positions tarnish the country's image, while exorbitant amounts of money are wasted on campaigns. Urgent electoral reforms are imperative to reduce the influence of money in politics. It is crucial to minimize roadshows and rallies, promoting a more responsible and inclusive electoral process.

MK Nair, Raipur

Covert Negotiations

Pakistan's predicament is largely self-inflicted. From its founder capitalizing on anti-India sentiment to power-hungry generals repeatedly taking their share, the nation has faced numerous challenges. With the government and military on one side and a judiciary supporting beleaguered former Prime Minister Imran Khan on the other, covert negotiations are underway to seek a resolution that favors the ex-cricketer. However, given the widespread unrest in the streets, any attempt to impose martial law would lead to irreversible consequences. The bureaucrats in India's Ministry of External Affairs must prudently safeguard India's interests amidst the tumultuous developments in crisis-ridden Pakistan.

Navneet Nair, Raipur

Bees are the lifeline of life on the earth



E. Prabhat Kishore

"If the bees disappeared from the surface of the globe the man would only have four years of life left. No more bees, no more pollination, no more plants, no more animals, no more man." - Albert Einstein.

World Bee Day is celebrated every year on 20th May. This day is intended to generate awareness about importance of Beekeeping activities in increasing yield of various agricultural and horticultural

products and providing income and employment support.

Beekeeping activities are being carried out by farmers in rural areas under Integrated Farming System (IFS). Honeybees are one of the best pollinators which enhances the yields and quality of produce of various crops such as fruits, vegetables, pulses, oil seeds, etc. through pollination support. They are vital for the preservation of ecological balance and biodiversity in nature.

By sucking on the nectar of flowering plants, bees spread pollen to other plants and help with the fertilization process. About 85% of plants exist because of bees and one-third of all food we eat depends on pollinators. Bees pollinate nearly 70 to 100 types of crops.

Beekeeping provides income and employment to the rural people by way of increasing yield of various crops along with providing honey & other beehive prod-

ucts, such as - bees wax, propolis, pollen, royal jelly, comb honey, bee venom, etc. which have great importance in human life. Therefore, honeybees/beekeeping is being treated as one of the most important 5th input for sustainable development of agriculture/horticulture.

Keeping in view the importance of beekeeping, GOI has approved a central sector scheme "National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)" (100% funded by Central Government) for overall promotion and development of scientific beekeeping in mission mode to achieve the goal of "Sweet Revolution" in the country. The Mission will have 3 sub-schemes/Mini Missions (MMs)-MM-I, MM-II, MM-III. Under MM-I, thrust will be given on production & productivity improvement of various crops through pollination assisted by adoption of scientific beekeeping. Integrated Beekeeping Development Centers (IBDC),

honey testing labs, bee disease diagnostic & treatment labs, Api-therapy centers and other infrastructure will be set up. This will also include development of nucleus stock & bee breeders, Custom hiring centers, digitization/online registration & insurance, promotion of bee friendly plants/flora/bee gardens, involvement & empowerment of women etc.

MM-II will concentrate on post-harvest management of beekeeping/beehive products including collection, processing, storage, trading, branding, marketing, value addition, packaging, etc. with a thrust to requisite infrastructure facility for these activities. MM-III will be responsible for Research & Technology generation for different Regions/Stages/Agro-Climate and Socio-Economic conditions.

GOI has approved Rs 500 Crore for beekeeping initiatives under Atma Nirbhar Bharat programme for NBHM for 3 years (2021 to

2023). National Bee Board (NBB) has been designated as a Nodal Agency for overall development/promotion of scientific beekeeping in the country.

The main theme of celebrating World Bee Day this year will be "Bee engaged in pollinator-friendly agricultural production", because saving the bees leads to saving the plants & food and ultimately life on the earth. Having usage of honey & other beehive products in daily life, their importance in human health and dependency of world agriculture/horticulture on bees as pollinators, mass-scale awareness campaigns are being organized by various departments & institutions. Beekeeping helps in prosperity of farmers, healthy people & strong nation and all citizens must give their support for preservation of this life saving creature.

(Author is a technocrat and academician.)

BRIEF

Helping airlines



New Delhi: Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said Go First going into insolvency proceedings is not a "great thing" for the country's civil aviation sector and added that the ministry wants the resumption of flights as early as possible. While replying to a query on the Go First crisis on the sidelines of an event here, Scindia said it is "certainly something that is not a great thing for civil aviation". Each company has to manage its own issues. "As far as the ministry is concerned, we are quite steadfast in our resolve in helping airlines...." he said. Cash-strapped Go First stopped flying from May 3 and has extended the suspension of operations till May 26.

Loan offered

Mumbai: Godrej Agrovet's Oil Palm Business on Thursday said it has partnered with the State Bank of India (SBI) to offer loans to oil palm farmers for setting up micro irrigation facility and install fencing to protect crops from cattle and improvement of tube well at their oil palm farms. Introduced with an objective of aiding oil palm growth by improving Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) productivity, it will act as a catalyst to maintain juvenile gardens during the gestation period of the first 5 years, Godrej Agrovet said in a statement. "The partnership with SBI is a testament of our company's efforts to improve farmer's confidence in sustainable oil palm farming. With no income visibility during the long gestation period, this partnership will aid bridge the gap for their finance needs during the initial years," Godrej Agrovet CEO, Oil Palm Business, Sougata Niyogi said.

Financial aspects



Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan on Thursday said growth and success in economic activities should not be viewed as just being driven by profits. Prosperity should also be measured in social, environmental and ethical dimensions aside from the financial means, he said. Khan's suggestion came while speaking after inaugurating the Trivandrum Management Association's (TMA) flagship conclave — TRIMA 2023 — whose focal theme is "Trivandrum 5.0 - Prosperity Beyond Profit", a statement issued by TMA said.

Huge biz opportunities in India's petrochemical industry: Mandaviya

New Delhi, May 19:



Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya addresses at Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023, in New Delhi, Friday, May 19.

Union Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Friday asked foreign companies to invest in India's petrochemical industry that presents huge business opportunities. Addressing 'Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023', Mandaviya asserted that the Modi government is pro-farmer, pro-poor and is also industry-friendly. He said the government is making long-term policies for chemicals and petrochemicals sector to attract investments from domestic and foreign companies.

The minister asked industry to follow the path of reclaim, reuse and recycle for sustainable development. "India is poised to be the new destination of petrochemicals, globally. Due to our business-friendly policies, the

world views India as a trusted partner and priority destination for investment," Mandaviya said.

He said the Indian chemical manufacturing industry has truly been one of the emerging global manufacturing hub for petrochemicals.

"Today, India is promoting ease of doing business

as the Indian government is industry-friendly government by minimising government's interference and through various other measures such as reduction in corporate tax, reduction in compliance burden and by policy changes," the minister said. India is committed to becoming a trusted part-

ner in the world in global supply chain of chemicals and petrochemicals, the minister said. Mandaviya emphasised that this is the best time to invest in India with such a huge population. "India, itself is a big market to invest. We are making way for free trade agreements with many countries," he said.

The government is working effortlessly on policies to attract investment from domestic and foreign sources to address the major issue of availability of petrochemical.

He said the government has made necessary changes such as production-linked incentive scheme for chemicals and also proposed the manufacturing of difficult and strategic chemicals intermediates in India. "India also provides an opportunity for easy import and export.

Sensex snaps 3-day losing run, climbs nearly 300 pts

Mumbai, May 19:

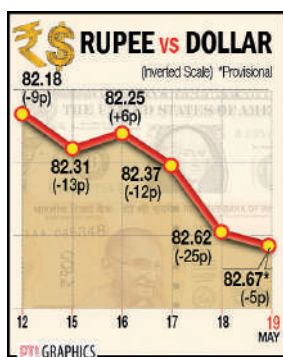


Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty found firmer ground on Friday after a three-session losing streak, propped up by buying in IT, tech and banking counters amid a positive trend overseas and unabated foreign fund inflows. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 297.94 points or 0.48 per cent to settle at 61,729.68 helped by fag-end buying. During the day, the benchmark faced volatile trends, hitting a high of 61,784.61 and a low of 61,251.70. The NSE Nifty advanced 73.45 points or 0.41 per cent to end at 18,203.40. On a weekly basis, the BSE Sensex declined 298.22 points or 0.48 per cent. The Nifty dipped 111.4 points or 0.60 per cent. "Positive global cues helped markets reverse its 3-day losing streak, as buying in IT, select banking and realty stocks aided recovery. If

the global situation over interest rate movement and demand scenario doesn't improve, we may see bouts of profit-taking in the near term," said Amol Athawale, Technical Analyst (DVP), Kotak Securities Ltd. Tata Motors was the biggest gainer in the Sensex pack, rising over 3 per cent, followed by Tech Mahindra, Infosys, HCL Technologies, Axis Bank, Mahindra & Mahindra, ICICI Bank, UltraTech Cement and Kotak Mahindra Bank. On the other hand, NTPC, Asian Paints, Titan and Power Grid were among the laggards. Punjab National Bank on Friday reported over five-fold jump in its net profit to Rs 1,159 crore for the March 2023 quarter, helped by lower bad loans and a rise in interest income. Its shares surged 1.61 per cent to close at Rs 49.26 apiece on BSE.

Rupee falls 5 paise to close at 82.67 against US dollar

Mumbai, May 19:



The rupee fell 5 paise to close at 82.67 (provisional) against the US currency on Friday, weighed down by a strong greenback overseas and surging crude prices in the international market. However, a firm trend in domestic equities and persistent foreign capital inflows supported the rupee and restricted the fall, traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 82.71 against the dollar, and finally settled at 82.67 (provisional), down 5 paise from its previous close. During the day, the rupee touched a high of 82.64 and a low of 82.80 against the green-

back. On Thursday, the rupee had settled at 82.62 against the dollar. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.32 per cent to 103.25. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 1.05 per

cent to USD 76.66 per barrel. "Indian rupee fell to a two-month low on overnight surge in the US Dollar and positive crude oil prices. However, late recovery in domestic equities and FII inflows prevented a sharp fall in the rupee," said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. Hawkish statements from the US Federal Reserve officials also supported the greenback.

There are rising odds that the Fed may continue to hike interest rates in its June FOMC meeting to tame inflation. "We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias on the strong Dollar.

Govt asks airlines to exercise moderation in pricing tickets amid spike in airfares

New Delhi, May 19:

The government has asked airlines to exercise moderation and ensure a balance in pricing of air tickets amid a spike in airfares on certain routes especially after suspension of flights by crisis-hit Go First, according to a senior official.

While making it clear that there are no plans to regulate airfares, the official said there should not be a huge gap between the tickets sold in the lower and upper fare buckets by the airlines.

India is one of the fastest growing civil aviation markets in the world and domestic passenger traffic has been rising after being signifi-

cantly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

After cash-strapped Go First stopped flying from May 3, there has been a significant rise in airfares on certain routes that were operated by the budget carrier. The routes include Delhi-Srinagar and Delhi-Pune. Also, the reduction of capacity due to the Go First crisis has come at a time when peak domestic air travel period is round the corner.

The senior civil aviation ministry official told reporters that airlines have been asked to "exercise moderation" and "maintain some kind of balance" in terms of pricing of tickets. There cannot be a situation

where there is a huge gap between the lowest and highest fare buckets, and passengers should not face hardships in terms of exorbitant fares, the official said on the condition of anonymity. There are no plans to regulate airfares, the official said. Go First, which is undergoing voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings, has cancelled flights till May 26. Besides, many planes of IndiGo are grounded due to Pratt & Whitney engine issues while SpiceJet is also facing financial headwinds.

The official noted that capacity is an issue and hoped that resumption of flights by Go First at the earliest would help ease

the situation before the peak travel season in June. In April, domestic airlines flew 128.88 lakh passengers, as per the latest official data.

There has been a steep jump in airfares on certain routes where Go First was operating. For instance, the average one-way spot fare on Delhi-Leh route saw a 125 per cent rise to an average of Rs 13,674 during the May 3-10 period compared to April 20-28 period, as per data shared by travel portal Ixigo. During the same comparable periods, average one-way spot fare witnessed an increase of 86 per cent to Rs 16,898 on Delhi-Srinagar route, the data showed.

Forex kitty jumps USD 3.5 bn to USD 599.53 bn

Mumbai, May 19:

Rising for the second consecutive week, India's forex kitty jumped USD 3.553 billion to USD 599.529 billion for the week ended May 12, the RBI said on Friday. The overall reserves had jumped by USD 7.196 billion to USD 595.976 billion for the previous reporting week. It can be noted that in October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of USD 645 billion.

The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments. For the week ended May 12, the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, in-

creased by nearly USD 3.577 billion to USD 529.598 billion, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the RBI on Friday. Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

Gold reserves increased by USD 38 million to USD 46.353 billion, the RBI said. The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by USD 35 million to USD 18.413 billion, the apex bank added.

The country's reserve position with the IMF was down by USD 28 million to USD 5.164 billion in the reporting week, the apex bank data showed.

Fabindia to bring big Summer celebrations

New Delhi, May 19:

This summer season is going to be different. It will be Big on Choices, Bigger on Offers and the Biggest on Smiles! And it's all happening at Fabindia, across 350+ stores, 129 cities in 30 States/Union Territories. Always loved for their summer styles across Indian and Western Wear for the entire family.

The Big Summer celebrations also offer handcrafted home decor, fine linens, tableware for your home. And there's a host of personal care products which are toxin-free and loaded with Natural Bio-Actives for your skin.

Shop from a curation of contemporarily designed kurtas, saris, shirts, trousers. And complete the look with trendy accessories including fine Indian jewelry, bags and



footwear. The choices also extend to the home collection on soft linens, modern decorative items, sturdy furniture, and chic kitchen wares. And remember, Bigger Bags lead to Bigger Savings.

Talking about the Big Summer at Fabindia, Mr. Ajay Kapoor (President, Sales) of Fabindia said, "Summers have always been a favorite time for our patrons to pick up

their seasons wardrobe - whether its for their everyday looks or for travel and leisure. We wanted to turn the Summer of '23 into a celebration of the curation and experience that Fabindia offers.

Made from consciously procured raw materials and handcrafted by a team of artisans across India, Fabindia is known for its unmatched handcrafted and sustainable products.

PNB Q4 profit jumps over 5-fold to Rs 1,159 cr

New Delhi, May 19:

Punjab National Bank (PNB) on Friday reported over five-fold jump in its net profit to Rs 1,159 crore for the March 2023 quarter, helped by lower bad loans and a rise in interest income.

The state-owned bank had earned a standalone net profit of Rs 202 crore in the year-ago period. During the quarter, the bank's total income increased to Rs 27,269 crore from Rs 21,095 crore a year ago, PNB said in a regulatory filing. Interest income grew to Rs 23,849 crore during the period under review against Rs 18,645 crore in the year-ago period. The bank's board has recommended a dividend of Rs 0.65 per

share or 32.5 per cent of Rs 2 face value out of the net profits for the year ended March 31, 2023. Gross Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) were reduced to 8.74 per cent of gross advances as of March 31, 2023, from 11.78 per cent by the end of March 2022. Net NPAs also came down to 2.72 per cent of the advances from 4.8 per cent at the end of 2022.

The fall in the bad loans ratio helped cut the provisions towards NPAs for Q4FY23 to Rs 3,625 crore compared to Rs 4,564 crore a year ago. However, the bank reported a 27 per cent decline in net profit for the entire financial year 2022-23 to Rs 2,507 crore against Rs 3,457 crore in the same period a year ago.

Kabira Mobility unveils KM5000 e-cruiser bike; deliveries to begin next year

New Delhi, May 19:



Electric two-wheeler maker Kabira Mobility on Friday unveiled its flagship electric bike KM5000, which can attain a top speed of 188 kilometre/hour and comes with a 344 kilometre range on a single charge. The company plans to formally launch the bike later this year with deliveries expected to commence in 2024. Price of the cruiser electric bike is expected to start from Rs 3.15 lakh (ex-showroom Goa). "We are constantly raising the bar of what we can expect from the electric bike segment. KM5000 is a testament to our belief that electric bikes are now on par, if not even better than

their ICE counterparts in terms of performance and safety," Kabira Mobility CEO Jaibir Siwach said in a statement. The company has several products in the pipeline that will be coming to the market very soon, he added. KM5000

comes with two types of charging options: a high-speed boost charger that can charge the vehicle from 0 to 80 per cent in less than two hours and a standard charger for overnight charging, the company said.

RBI approves Rs 87,416 cr dividend payout to Gol for 2022-23

Mumbai, May 19: The Reserve Bank on Friday approved Rs 87,416 crore dividend payout to the central government for 2022-23, nearly triple of what it paid in the previous year. The dividend payout was Rs 30,307 crore for accounting year 2021-22. The decision was taken at the 602nd meeting of the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India held under the chairmanship of Governor Shaktikanta Das.

"The board approved the transfer of Rs 87,416 crore as surplus to the central government for accounting year 2022-23, while deciding to keep the Contingency Risk Buffer at 6 per cent," RBI said in a statement.

AI, AI Express have hired more than 3,900 people this year: Campbell Wilson

New Delhi, May 19:



Air India chief Campbell Wilson on Friday said the airline and Air India Express have hired more than 3,900 people, including over 500 pilots and 2,400 cabin crew members, since the start of this year. Air India, under the stewardship of Tata Group, is revamping the airline group and hiring more people as it expands the fleet as well as operations. "Since the start of the year more than 500 pilots, 2,400 cabin crew and 1,000 other staff have been recruited across AI and AIX. We also saw our 1,000th new cabin crew of the year commence operational duties," Wilson said in a message to Air India

employees on Friday. He also said the teams have done a great job in ramping up the recruitment and training capabilities, travelling the country and grooming the new Air Indians. Air India (AI) has around 11,000 employees and Air India Express (AIX) has about 1,900 people, including third party staff. Wilson is the CEO

and Managing Director of Air India. The airline has embarked on a five-year transformation under which it seeks to expand routes, flights and increase market share in both domestic and international segments. It has also placed firm orders for 470 aircraft, including narrow-body and wide-body planes, with Boeing and Airbus. Last month, the airline said it was hiring more than 1,000 pilots and that more than 500 aircraft will be joining its fleet in the coming years. "We are offering multiple opportunities and accelerated growth across our A320, B777, B787 and B737 fleet for captains and first officers, as well as trainers," it had said.

IIFA Award 2023 to be held in Abu Dhabi on May 26-27

Mumbai, May 19:

(PTI) Actor Rakul Preet Singh on Thursday said she will pay an ode to the black-and-white era of Indian cinema at the upcoming International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards.

The 23rd edition of the awards will be held on May 26 and 27 at Yas Viceroy Hotel, Abu Dhabi, the UAE, for a second consecutive year. Singh, known for films such as "De De Pyaar De" and "Yaariyan", said she is excited about her maiden dance performance at IIFA. "I am very excited as it is my first performance at IIFA. I have always watched the award show at home during my growing-up years. It's an act that has not been done before on the IIFA stage."

"My performance is a tribute to the black-and-white era. I cannot reveal much, the songs will be a surprise," Singh told reporters at the IIFA awards press conference here.

Actor Rajkumar Rao, who is set to co-host the IIFA Rocks event with Farah Khan, said he is



- **Rajkumar Rao to co-host the show with Farah Khan**
- **Rakul Preet Singh to pay tribute to black-and-white era of Indian cinema**

looking forward to sharing the stage with the filmmaker IIFA Rocks, a musical extravaganza, is a grand fusion of song, dance, film, and fashion which will feature live performances by popular artists. "I have never been to Abu Dhabi and I have never been to IIFA either. To get an opportunity to host the award show with Farah ma'am, who I truly admire and love, is very exciting. Besides, she is a friend," Rao added.

Actor Dia Mirza, also an environmental advocate, talked about the urgent ac-

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tions needed to tackle climate change.

"Simple actions like re-fusing single-use plastics, carrying our own bottle and cutlery, celebrating festivals and birthdays more sustainably, choosing sustainable clothing, eating seasonal and local vegetables, practising plant-based diet... The options are many, we need to find them because we don't have an option," Mirza added. With an aim to educate civil society

about water conservation, IIFA also launched the Be Water+ve initiative in partnership with the AquaKraft Foundation.

Union Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, in a live interaction via video-conferencing, said the ministry is pleased to join hands with IIFA. "Looking ahead, the need for water is increasing manifold. While the Jal Shakti Ministry has been doing extensive work that is

being recognised as an inspiring effort across the world, it can only succeed when people join hands with government efforts.

"As our Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji has said, Jal Jan Abhiyaan and Jan Bhagidaari are needed simultaneously to achieve India's Water Vision 2047, thereby ensuring longevity and permanent solutions," Shekhawat further said in a statement.

The United Nations in India joined hands with IIFA to create the first-of-its-kind initiative comprising advocacy, education

and on-ground action on the Sustainable Development Goals, with a focus on sustainability, according to a press release issued by IIFA.

Through this engagement, IIFA proposes to use its platforms and the voices of celebrities and actors to raise awareness about issues of sustainability and climate action in our daily lives. With the knowledge and support of the United Nations in India, IIFA aims to encourage sustainable living, environment and water positivity in India and key regions across the world, it read. Bollywood stars Abhishek Bachchan and Vicky Kaushal will host the IIFA Weekend and Awards, which will see stars including Salman Khan, Varun Dhawan, and Kriti Sanon perform at the ceremony.

The awards will be held in collaboration with the Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi (DCT Abu Dhabi), and Miral, Abu Dhabi's leading curator of immersive destinations and experiences. (PTI)



Sikandar Kher shares BTS pic with Sushmita from 'Aarya 3' sets

Actor Sikandar Kher, who left a mark with his delectable performance in 'Monica, O My Darling', is currently shooting for season 3 of his streaming show 'Aarya' in which he essays the role of Daulat.

The actor recently took to his Instagram to share a picture from the sets of the show in which he can be seen with the lead of the show - actress and former Miss Universe Sushmita Sen, who essays the titular role in 'Aarya 3'.

He captioned the picture, "Daulat always there to serve you, protect and lean on walls. Aarya 3, Dugga Dugga and Thank you (sic)".

The crew and cast recently resumed shooting in Mumbai of the series after wrapping up the schedule in Rajasthan. Sikandar has found immense love for the show helmed by Ram Madhvani and since the release of the show has become one of the most impressive actors in the OTT space.



Anushka Kaushik is in love with aesthetics, culture of Rajasthan

Actress Anushka Kaushik, who is known for her work in 'Maharani 2', 'Ghar Waapsi', 'Crash Course' and 'Garmi' is quite excited to go back to her roots and work in a yet-to-be-titled short film. The actress started her journey with short-format content and coming back to the medium is a heartening experience for her. The actress shot for the project in Rajasthan and she is enamoured by the beauty of the northwestern state.

Walking down the memory lane, she said, "I

started my career by making short films and that was the time when I was doing a lot of short format content on YouTube but it was mainly rom-com. Then I started doing long formats on OTT platforms. In the last two-three years, I had said no to a lot of projects as I didn't find anything exciting in them. But this is the kind of script that I genuinely want to do."

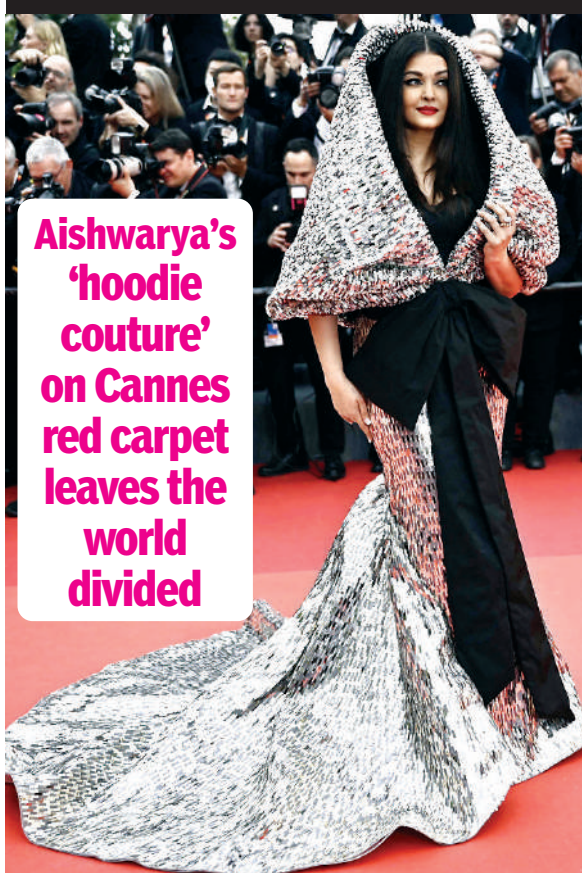
Shedding light on the short film, Anushka revealed, "It's a friendship drama. After reading the script of the short film, I started crying since it's

full of life and the message that it gives is very refreshing and personal, which will also make you emotional. I enjoyed every bit of playing the character." Produced and directed by Dheeraj Jindal, the short film, written by Palak, also features Akashdeep Arora as Anushka's co-star.

Talking about the dynamics between the two characters, the actress shared, "In this short film, we are playing friends and as actors both of us are on the journey to explore how relations between a boy and a girl can be.

The short film has been shot in Jaipur and I have previously shot in Udaipur. I am in love with Rajasthan; its aesthetics and culture." She further

Making her 21st appearance on the Cannes red carpet on Thursday evening (local time), Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, after French photographers mistook Urvashi Rautela for her, left observers flummoxed with her choice of clothing. The less respectful called it 'hoodie couture', some others said it appeared as if she had picked up a flowing sheet of aluminum foil from a kitchen in a hurry to act as a sort of canopy atop her flowing black gown; her fawning fans, however, insisted that she was looking very much like the "Queen of Cannes". In the past, according to media reports, she has shown up in a gold mermaid gown by Roberto Cavalli, accessorised with coral lips and immaculate hair, or as the personification of Cinderella, and last year, Renaissance painter Botticelli's ageless masterpiece, The Birth of Venus, had clearly inspired her look. Earlier in the morning, she wore a little more understandable dress - what looked like a shimmering green cape (reportedly by Valentino) paired with straight hair, light lip liner, and high heels. This look was for a L'Oreal event. Aishwarya has been representing the cosmetics giant for more than two decades.



Aishwarya's 'hoodie couture' on Cannes red carpet leaves the world divided

mentioned, "When I entered the resort (where we were staying), they welcomed me by putting teeka on my forehead and garland and gave me their traditional pagdi. This time, we shot at Pink city and it was a beautiful experience to shoot during nights."

Apart from Arbaaz Khan's 'Patna Shukla' where she will be seen alongside seasoned actors like Raveena Tandon and the late Satish Kaushik, Anushka is also doing an anthology for Netflix, followed by a feature film for Maddock Films.

Kangana claims to lose Rs 30-40 cr per year after speaking against politicians, 'anti-nationals'

Actress Kangana Ranaut has claimed that she was dropped from over 25 brand endorsements and incurred Rs 30-40 crore loss every year as she spoke against "politicians, anti-nationals, tukde-tukde gang".

Kangana took to Instagram, where she shared an interview of Twitter head Elon Musk, which had the headline "Elon Musk: I'll say what I want, and if the consequence of that is losing money, so be it."

She captioned it: "This is a character, true freedom and success, speaking for Hinduism, against politicians/anti-nationals/tukde gang costed me 20-25 brand endorsements, they dropped me overnight and that amounted to a loss of Rs 30-40



crore per year..." Kangana said that nothing can stop her from saying whatever she wants.

"But I am free and nothing should stop me from saying what I want definitely not agenda-driven multinational companies and their corporate brand heads who hate India its culture and integrity..."

I appreciate Elon because everyone displays only weaknesses, at least rich person should not care for money...I see those more rich they get deprived they become..."

On the work front, Kangana will be seen in 'Emergency', 'Tejas', 'Chandramukhi 2', 'Manikarnika Returns: The Legend of Didda' and 'The Incarnation: Sita'.

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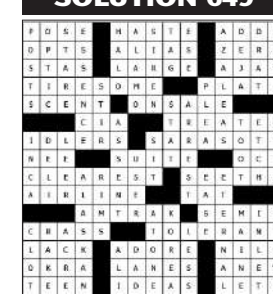
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World Cup Stage 2: Compound archers Ojas, Jyothi confirm first medal, face Korea in final

Shanghai, May 19 (PTI):

India's compound archery team once again brought cheers confirming its first medal from the World Cup Stage 2, as recurve archers continued to falter, here on Friday.

The new-look pair of Ojas Deotale and Jyothi Surekha Vennam remained on course for a second successive World Cup gold when they defeated their Italian rivals 157-157 (19*-19) in a dramatic finish to make the final.

As expected, the sixth seeded Indian duo will run into top-seed Korea in the final on Saturday, in what would be their biggest test since they paired up for the first time, winning the Stage 1 World Cup gold in



India's Ojas Deotale and Jyothi Surekha Vennam will face Korea in the mixed team compound final at the World Cup Stage 2.

Antalya last month. The Indians started off eliminating Bangladesh 158-151 in lopsided pre-quarterfinals, while in the next round they overcame a strong challenge from Turkey to emerge 157-156 winners. Italy's Elisa

Roner and Elia Fregnan had a one-point lead shooting a perfect 40 in the first end. The Italians once again shot a 40 in the third end to extend their lead by two points (117-119). But Ojas and Jyothi showed remarkable com-

posure to drill in two Xs en route to shooting 40 in the fourth end to force a shoot-off where the Indians sealed the issue with their arrows landing near the centre.

However in the Olympic category, the fifth seeded recurve duo of Dhiraj Bommadevara and Simranjeet Kaur failed to live up to expectations and lost to Indonesia 2-6 (39-35, 37-39, 37-38, 34-35) in their opening match.

The Indian duo who got a bye into the second round (prequarterfinals) by virtue of their rankings squandered a 2-0 lead against the lower-ranked Indonesians.

They had a chance in the fourth end but they were wayward and shot in the outer seven-point ring to make an early exit.

Medvedev making progress on clay, to face Tsitsipas in Italian Open semifinals

Rome, May 19 (AP):

Daniil Medvedev's clay-court game keeps improving. First came a run to the French Open quarterfinals in 2021. Then an appearance in the fourth round at Roland Garros a year ago. Now, the third-ranked Russian is making big strides at the Italian Open. Medvedev beat German qualifier Yannick Hanfmann 6-2, 6-2 on Thursday to reach the semifinals in Rome after losing his opener in his three previous appearances at the Foro Italico.

"I said before the tournament that I was feeling really great in practice," Medvedev said. "It's always a danger to say this, because when you lose the first round you're going to be, Why did I say this? But I'm proving it. I feel great."



On an overcast day, Medvedev controlled play with his flat groundstrokes and big first serve to the end of the run of Hanfmann, who upset Monte Carlo Masters champion Andrey Rublev in the previous round after also taking out ninth-seeded Taylor Fritz. Medvedev has dropped

only one set in four matches. His semifinal opponent will be Stefanos Tsitsipas, who defeated Borna Coric 6-3, 6-4 to reach the last four in Rome for the third time. Last year, Tsitsipas lost the final to Novak Djokovic. Tsitsipas has not dropped a set in his four matches, having eliminat-

ed two local hopes, Lorenzo Sonego and Lorenzo Musetti. It will be Medvedev's first semifinal on clay since reaching the final in Barcelona more than four years ago.

Medvedev has long been a threat on hard courts, having won the 2021 U.S. Open and reached three other finals between the U.S. Open and Australian Open which propelled him to the No. 1 ranking. But he struggled with four consecutive first-round exits at Roland Garros from 2017-20. This year's French Open starts in 10 days and there's room for a new champion after 14-time winner Rafael Nadal announced that he won't be competing in the tournament because of a lingering hip injury that has sidelined him since January.

Rafael Nadal to miss French Open with hip injury

Paris, May 19 (AP):

Rafael Nadal announced Thursday that he is pulling out of the French Open because of a lingering hip injury, and he expects 2024 to be the final season of his career.

The owner of a record 14 championships at the clay-court Grand Slam tournament will miss it for the first time since making his debut there in 2005. Nadal, who turns 37 next month, delivered the news of his withdrawal and future plans during a news conference at his tennis academy in Manacor, Spain. He said he does not want to set a date for his return to the tennis tour, but expects it to take months. And then, the 22-time Grand Slam champion added: "You never



know how things will turn out, but my intention is that next year will be my last year."

Play begins at Roland Garros in Paris on May 28. Nadal has a career record of 112-3 across 18 appearances at the French Open, a level of dominance unmatched by any man or woman at any Grand Slam

event in the long annals of a sport that dates to the 1800s. When Nadal won the trophy last year at age 36 while dealing with chronic foot pain, he became the oldest champion in tournament history.

He said he is not sure that taking more time off now will give him a real chance of coming back next season in competitive form, but explained that he knows he can't keep trying to force his body back into match condition now. "I am going to stop, I am not going to train. I am not ready to train," Nadal said, alternating answers in Spanish and English.

"These have been many months with many moments of frustration, and I can handle frustration, but there comes a time when you have to stop."

Ponting feels India should have SKY in WTC squad, backs Kishan to provide X factor

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

Batting great Ricky Ponting is a tad surprised that Suryakumar Yadav doesn't feature in India's main squad for next month's World Test Championship final but backed Ishan Kishan to provide the much-needed 'X' factor in the absence of injured Rishabh Pant.

Suryakumar, who made his Test debut against Australia at home earlier this year, could do the same for the team but he is only among the standby players. An injury to K L Rahul has made way for Kishan, who Ponting thinks can help India play an aggressive brand of cricket in their quest for a first ICC title in 10 years.

Asked if Suryakumar should have been in the



Talks on in ICC to address pay disparity for growth of Test cricket

New Delhi: Australian legend Ricky Ponting feels the International Cricket Council has a role to play in ensuring that players from smaller Test playing nations are paid well for their services in the five-day format. Ponting gave the example of West Indies cricketers who tend to choose franchise cricket over international duty for financial reasons. In an event organised by the ICC ahead of the World Test Championship final between India and Australia at the Oval from June 7, Ponting was asked about youngsters wanting to play the five-day game in an era of T20 leagues.

squad, Ponting expressed surprised and said "yes". "But there is another X factor that has just been added in Ishan Kishan. If you look at the way he plays, he is probably the most like Rishabh Pant with his potential to keep and bat in the middle order.

"If they do play those guys they should be given the right to play an aggressive brand of cricket.

"The best chance for India to achieve a result is by being a bit more adventurous in the way they play and Australia will try to do the same thing," said Ponting in response to a PTI query in an event organised by the International Cricket Council ahead of the WTC final at the Oval from June 7.

Ultimate Table Tennis: Aruna Quadri leads foreign players line-up

Mumbai: Veteran paddler Sharath Kamal, G Sathiyan and Manika Batra will headline the Indian line-up while world no 12 Nigeria's Aruna Quadri will be among the foreign players competing in the upcoming season of .The fourth season is scheduled to be held at the Balewadi Sports Complex in Pune from July 13 to 30 and the player draft will be held in Mumbai next month.

From a pool of 40 available players, each team can choose two foreigners one male and one female and four Indians two male and two female. Every team has the right to retain one player from the previous season. The Indian line-up will also include reigning national champion Sreeja Akula, who has just won back-to-back Nationals Titles, U-19 boys national title holder Payas Jain, Diya Chitale, S Fidel, R Snehit and Ankur Bhattacharjee.

Under-20 World Cup kicks off in Argentina for future soccer stars

Buenos Aires, May 19 (AP):

Argentina will play on the opening day of the Under-20 World Cup on Saturday just over a month since it replaced Indonesia as tournament host and participant. After such a dramatic race to the start line, 24 competing teams and soccer's international governing body can breathe a sigh of relief. Four cities in Argentina will feature some of the sport's best young prospects while the South American nation is still celebrating Lionel Messi and his national team's 2022 World Cup triumph in Qatar.

Protests in Muslim-majority Indonesia against hosting the Israel team forced FIFA into a very late switch of venues. Indonesia does not have formal diplomatic relations with Israel. Defending champion and war-torn Ukraine will not take part, which makes continental champions England, Brazil and Senegal favorites to

lift the title. Argentina, the record six-time champion, failed to qualify initially but FIFA decided it should take the guaranteed spot as tournament host. Coached by Argentina great Javier Mascherano, the hosts are aiming to emulate the team of 2001 and clinch the title on home soil. Mascherano held the Argentine record for most international caps until it was broken by Messi, who won the 2005 under-20 World Cup at the start of illustrious career.

Clubs needed to authorize their contracted players so they could be selected for the Under-20 World Cup, and many talented footballers called by their coaches will not take part in the tournament because they were not allowed.

Champions in 2017, England will bring players who won the Under-19 European title in 2022, including Chelsea midfielder Carney Chukwuemeka.

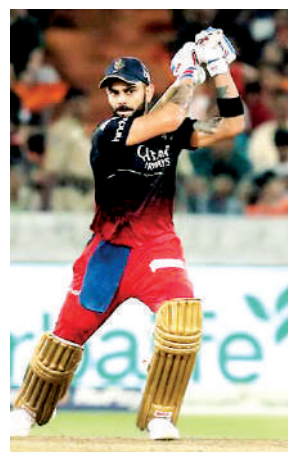
'Haven't given myself enough credit despite six hundreds but don't care what people say'

Hyderabad, May 19 (PTI):

Virat Kohli feels that he doesn't give himself enough credit for scoring six IPL hundreds but he couldn't care less about critics, who are always pointing fingers at his middling strike-rate.

Kohli smashed his way to 100 off 63 balls in a perfect chase as RCB kept itself in play-off contention after chasing a target of 187 against wooden spooners Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Kohli and skipper Faf du Plessis (71) added 172 for the opening stand as RCB won by eight wickets. "I never look at past numbers. I put myself under so much stress already. This is my sixth IPL hundred. I don't give myself enough credit some-



times despite playing impact knocks. (So) I don't care what anyone says on the outside. Because that is their opinion," said Kohli at the post match presentation, when asked about his not-so-great

record against SRH.

Kohli, who has faced criticism for his mid-130s strike-rate, didn't forget to remind people how he has shouldered responsibility of his team in franchise and national cricket.

"When you are in that situation yourself, you know how to win games of cricket. I have done that for a long period of time, it is not like when I play I don't win games for my team. I take pride in playing according to the situation," said Kohli, who was named 'Player of the Match'.

Kohli, who has often been panned for slowing down at the middle overs, said he would want to remain true to his technique and avoid playing fancy shots.

TOPS shooters Gurjoat and Ganemat get MOC approval for training in Italy

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) of the sports ministry has approved shooters Ganemat Sekhon and Gurjoat Singh's proposals to train in Italy under foreign coaches Piero Genga and Ennio Falco respectively. Ganemat, who recently won mixed team event gold in the ISSF World Cup in Cairo and is currently country's number one in the women's skeet event, would spend 11 days training in Bari under Italian coach Genga. Gurjoat will head to Capua, will train at TAV Falco for 10 days. Both the TOPS athletes are preparing for the upcoming ISSF World Championship and the Asian Games, scheduled to be held in Hangzhou later this year.

BCCI set to ratify its POSH policy and form World Cup Working Group at SGM

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

The Indian cricket board will ratify its new Prevention Of Sexual Harassment (POSH) policy at a Special General Meeting (SGM) in Ahmedabad on May 27 while a core "Working Group" will be formed to oversee preparations for the 2023 ODI World Cup in October-November.

The PTI has accessed the five point agenda of the SGM agenda including "Formation of Infrastructure Development and Subsidy Sub-Committee, Guidelines for appointment of Physiotherapists and Trainers in state teams, Formation of Working Group for ICC World Cup 2023,

Formation of committee of Women's Premier League and Ratification of Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy".

After the sexual harassment accusations against former BCCI CEO Rahul Johri, the BCCI had formed a four-member Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) but more members could be included in the new committee as per revised policy.

The Working Group for the ODI World Cup will comprise BCCI president, secretary, treasurer along with acting CEO and other senior officials.

The board has already allocated funds for upgradation of infrastructure of all the stadiums zeroed in for the ODI World Cup.

Listless KKR hoping against hope, LSG eyeing back-to-back playoff berth

Kolkata, May 19 (PTI):

Set to be clad in local giants Mohun Bagan's iconic green and maroon jersey, Lucknow Super Giants would find themselves at home as they look to seal their playoff berth knocking out a hapless Kolkata Knight Riders in the final IPL game, here on Saturday.

The real home team in this case, KKR, have not only complained of being let down by the conditions but their problems go deeper, having struggled to find a perfect winning combination in a topsy-turvy season, enduring seven defeats. Out of those seven, four losses were at the Eden Gardens.

Be it the batting, which still seems to be a work in progress, the bowling, especially pace department, has also looked ter-



ribly short on experience. In fielding, they have made a mockery of themselves with some of the efforts suggesting that the two-time champions have showed they do not 'belong' at this level. KKR batters simply have not been able to adapt to the surface while batting first as they scored below-par totals of 179/7 and 149/8 against Gujarat Titans

and Rajasthan Royals respectively. Putting things into perspective, CSK and SRH scored 235/4 and 228/4 when they were put into bat by KKR at the same venue.

Courtesy, some individual brilliance from Rinku Singh and Varun Chakravathy, the KKR still are lucky to have been able to keep their campaign alive in 'blow hot-n-cold' season. With a

heavy mid-table traffic, there is a possibility of four teams to be locked on 14 points with the one with a superior net run rate making the playoffs. Hanging by the thread, KKR with 12 points would not only need to win by a big margin, but they have to rely on Punjab Kings (vs Rajasthan Royals), Gujarat Titans (vs Royal Challengers Bangalore) and Sunrisers Hyderabad (Mumbai Indians) to win their respective matches.

LSG however do not have to fret so much about the mathematical scenarios as a win would be enough for them to seal their back-to-back playoff berth.

CSK aim at qualification, DC look to end season on a high

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI):

A determined Chennai Super Kings unit wouldn't mind being masters of its own fate in its bid to steamroll the already ousted Delhi Capitals, who are looking to end a forgettable IPL campaign on a high in a final league game, here on Saturday.

At the moment, CSK are on second on the points table with 15 points from 13 games. But a loss against DC along with a string of unfavourable results could see the four-time champions miss out on the last leg of IPL action. A win would, however, confirm a play-off spot but whether they finish in second place or third would depend on the Lucknow Super Giants' result against Kolkata Knight Riders later in the day. CSK have a better net run rate of +0.381 than



LSG's +0.304, who are also on 15 points. The slow nature of Feroz Shah Kotla track will suit CSK's game plan and Mahendra Singh Dhoni, in all likelihood playing his last competitive game in the National Capital will like to make

full use of the conditions against an out-of-sorts team. Batting has been CSK's strong suit. Devon Conway, Ruturaj Gaikwad and Ajinkya Rahane have provided solid starts but CSK need the likes of Ambati Rayudu, Ravindra

Jadeja and Moeen Ali to complement Shivam Dube better in the middle overs.

Dhoni has managed some cameos in the fog end of the innings and the skipper is expected to continue doing so despite calls of him coming up the order. On the bowling front, Tushar Deshpande has been expensive but he gets breakthroughs while young pacer Matheesha Pathirana has been doing a good job. The spin trio of Jadeja, Moeen and Maheesh Theekshana have also been effective in stemming the flow of runs. But standing in CSK's way is an unpredictable Delhi side. After a miserable first half, where they lost five games on the trot, the Capitals did manage to pick up some momentum, winning five out of their next eight games but it came too late in the competition.

PM Modi amid eastern Ladakh border row

'India fully prepared, committed to protecting its sovereignty & dignity'

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

Amid the India-China standoff in eastern Ladakh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said India is fully prepared and committed to protecting its sovereignty and dignity, and emphasised that peace and tranquillity on the border are essential for normal bilateral ties among the neighbours.



world.

He stressed on his country's respect for sovereignty, the rule of law and the peaceful resolution of disputes.

India-China ties have been fraught since the Galwan clashes in 2020. Both sides have been periodically holding meetings to defuse the crisis at the border but a lasting solution has eluded them so far. On Pakistan, the publi-

cation quoted him as saying that India wants "normal and neighborly relations."

"However, it is incumbent upon them to create a conducive environment free from terrorism and hostilities. The onus is on Pakistan to take necessary steps in this regard," he said.

Speaking about the Indian economy, he noted that it has been one of the world's fastest-growing.

"Our progress is evident, as we have risen from being the tenth largest economy in 2014 to now being the fifth largest globally... While it is true that global headwinds pose challenges to growth, we have built a strong foundation in recent years,

which positions us favorably," he said.

On the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Modi said India's position on the matter "is clear and unwavering."

"India stands on the side of peace and will remain firmly there. We are committed to supporting those who face challenges in meeting their basic needs, especially in the face of rising costs of food, fuel, and fertilizers. We maintain communication with both Russia and Ukraine," Modi said.

"Cooperation and collaboration should define our times, not conflict," he told Nikkei Asia.

The Prime Minister is on a three-nation trip to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

VAT SAVITRI PUJA



Married women tie threads around a Banyan tree as part of rituals of 'Vat Savitri Puja', in Nagpur, Friday.

Is Centre 'conspiring' to overturn SC order on services matters, asks Kejriwal

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal asked on Friday whether the Centre was "conspiring" to reverse through an ordinance the Supreme Court verdict giving the elected government executive powers in services matters.

The Delhi government was given executive power in services matters, including transfer and posting of officers, in an important verdict by the Supreme Court last week.

Delhi Services Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj also asked whether the lieutenant governor and the Centre were "conspiring" to reverse the verdict by bringing in an ordinance.

Addressing a press conference, the minister and AAP leader said he requested all his cabinet colleagues to join him for a meeting with Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena to request him to clear the file pertaining to the transfer of Services Secretary Ashish More. Later in a tweet, Kejriwal reiterated Bharadwaj's charge.



Delhi Ministers Gopal Rai, Atishi Marlena, Kailash Gahlot, Imran Hussain and Saurabh Bharadwaj wait outside the residence of Lt. Governor V.K. Saxena to request him to follow the Supreme Court's verdict on matters pertaining to services, in New Delhi, Friday.

"Why is LG sir not obeying the SC order? Why hasn't the file pertaining to Services Secretary been signed for two days? It is being said that the Centre is going to reverse the SC order by bringing an ordinance next week? Is the Centre conspiring to overturn the SC order? Is LG sir waiting for the ordinance and that's why he is not signing the file?" Kejriwal asked in a tweet in Hindi.

Earlier in the day, Bharadwaj requested the lieutenant governor (LG) to clear the file related to the transfer of Services

Secretary More, saying several administrative changes were held up due to the delay.

In a letter to the LG, Bharadwaj said the Delhi government had sent the file two days ago.

More was transferred hours after a Supreme Court order on May 11 put the control of bureaucrats working with the Delhi government — excluding those related to police, public order and land — under the elected government.

Bharadwaj urged Saxena to clear the file soon.

CBI calls TMC's Abhishek Banerjee as part of school jobs' scam probe

Kolkata, May 19 (PTI)

TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee, has been called by the CBI to appear at its Kolkata office on Saturday as part of the probe it is conducting into the school jobs scam. Officials said Banerjee had been sent a missive asking him to join the probe at its offices at Nizam Palace here.

Earlier, on Thursday, Calcutta High Court had dismissed a petition filed

by Banerjee seeking recall of a previous order of the court which said that investigative agencies such as CBI and ED could interrogate him in the teacher recruitment scam.

The TMC leader's name cropped up in a complaint filed by Kuntal Ghosh, an accused in the scam, who alleged that he was being pressured by central investigating agencies to name Abhishek Banerjee in the recruitment case.

Dare CBI to arrest me if there is corruption proof: Abhishek

Bankura (WB), May 19 (PTI) TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee, who has been called by the CBI to appear at its Kolkata office on Saturday as part of its probe into the school jobs scam, dared the central agency to arrest him if it has any proof of corruption or misconduct against him.

Banerjee accused the BJP of "using" the central agency to stop his ongoing mass out-

reach campaign as the saffron party was "afraid of the public support" for the programme.

"I will not bow my head before anyone apart from the masses. The BJP is afraid of the public support for the mass outreach campaign. CBI has summoned me, as they (BJP) want this mass outreach campaign to stop," he said while addressing a road show here.

SC refuses to stay Cal HC order transferring probe to NIA into incidents of Ram Navami violence

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to stay the order of the Calcutta High Court handing over the probe into incidents of violence during Ram Navami celebrations in West Bengal to the NIA.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and KV Viswanathan deferred the hearing on the plea of the West Bengal government challenging the high court order till after the summer vacation.

"We have not stayed the high court order and will take up the matter after summer vacation in the month of July," the bench told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for NIA.

The anti-terror probe agency has registered the case following a high court order.

During the hearing, Senior advocates Abhishek Singhvi and Gopal Sankaranarayanan, representing the West Bengal government, said the high court has in its order referred to only one

FIR related to the Chandan Nagar incident.

"We have instructions that the court may allow the probe of Chandan Nagar FIR to be done by NIA but rest five FIRs be allowed to be investigated by the state police," Sankaranarayanan said.

Singhvi said the NIA cannot be brought in for ordinary cases of violence unless it affects the country's security or sovereignty.

He said the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has a clear bar and it cannot be brought in just because someone says bombs might have been used in an incident.

"Either summoning of police officials by the NIA be stayed or the high court order be stayed till this court has adjudicated the appeal of the state government finally," he said.

The bench told Singhvi and Sankaranarayanan, "Assuming that the high court has referred to one FIR but all these incidents are part and parcel of the same transactions. Police used tear gas to control the situation and the high court has applied its mind

that there is enough material to refer it to the NIA."

The bench said pursuant to the direction of the high court, investigation has been transferred and it is not a case where this court stultifies everything.

Mehta said the NIA has registered a case and, when the probe agency wrote to the state government to hand over the papers, it was told to wait for the decision of the apex court as it has challenged the order of the high court.

"Kindly clarify the position as we have registered the case," he urged the bench.

CJI Chandrachud said the apex court has not stayed the order of the high court.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi and PS Patwalia, appearing for top state BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari, said the NIA has registered a case, and even if the high court order is stayed, the investigation will go on.

The bench then deferred the hearing post summer vacation from May 22 to July 2.

President Murmu appoints 4 additional judges to Madras High Court

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

President Droupadi Murmu on Friday appointed four additional judges to the Madras High Court, including P Dhanabal, the Registrar General of the High Court.

"...the President is pleased to appoint S/Shri (i) Ramasamy Sakthivel, (ii) P. Dhanabal, (iii) C h i n n a s a m y Kumarappan and (iv) Kandasamy Rajasekar, Judicial Officers as Additional Judges of the Madras High Court for a period of two years with effect from the date they assume charge of their respective offices," read a notification issued by the government.

Additional judges usually serve a term of two years before they are made permanent judges of high courts.

The Supreme Court Collegium had recommended the names of the four judicial officers for appointment as judges of the Madras High Court on March 21.

The appointments came a day after Arjun Ram Meghwal assumed charge as the Law Minister replacing Kiren Rijju. The president appointed two Supreme Court judges on Thursday.

Navy begins sea trials of Kalvari class submarine Vaghsheer



Indian Navy's sixth scorpene submarine of Project-75, 'INS Vaghsheer' commences sea trials.

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

The Indian Navy's sixth and final Kalvari class submarine, Vaghsheer, has begun its sea trials and is expected to be commissioned into the force by early next year. The commissioning of the submarine, built under Project-75,

is set to enhance the Navy's combat capability at a time when China has been increasing its presence in the Indian Ocean region.

"The sixth submarine of Project-75 commenced her sea trials on May 18," the Navy said. Vaghsheer is scheduled for delivery to the Indian Navy in early 2024

after completion of the sea trials. The submarine was launched in April last year from the Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL). India has been focusing on bolstering its maritime capability with a focus on the Indian Ocean in the backdrop of concerns over China's growing forays into the region, considered the backyard of the Indian Navy. The Project-75 includes indigenous construction of six submarines. The submarines are being constructed at the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) in Mumbai under a collaboration with the Naval Group of France. Five of the Kalvari class of submarines have already been commissioned into the Indian Navy.

ED seizes funds worth Rs 8.26 crore of Chinese-owned education company in Bengaluru

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

The Enforcement Directorate on Friday said it has seized funds worth Rs 8.26 crore of a Bengaluru-based online education company, fully owned and controlled by Chinese nationals, as part of a probe linked to the alleged contravention of the foreign exchange law.

The funds of Pigeon

Education Technology Private Limited have been seized under Section 37A of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), it said in a statement.

The company provided online education under the brand name "OdaClass", it said. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted searches against

the group in April and "found that the company is 100 per cent owned by Chinese nationals and all the affairs of the company, including financial decisions, are being taken by the persons sitting in China".

It was ascertained, the agency alleged, that the company has siphoned off Rs 82.72 crore to China and Hong Kong in the name of advertise-

New Delhi, May 19 (PTI)

Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud Friday termed Justice Ajay Rastogi, who will be demitting office on June 17, a "great ally" who possessed judicial compassion and sensitivity for every cause.

Justice Rastogi, fourth in seniority at the apex court, was appointed a Supreme Court judge on November 02, 2018. He will retire during the summer vacation, having served as a Supreme Court judge for over four years.

Besides Justice Rastogi, Justices K M Joseph, third in seniority at the Bench, and Justice V Ramasubramanian will also demit office on June 16 and June 29 respective-

ly. These retirements will bring down the number of judges in the Supreme Court from 34 to 31.

With the swearing in of Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra and senior advocate Kalpathy Venkataraman Viswanathan on Friday, the top court regained its full strength for a brief period.

Heading the ceremonial bench, set up to bid farewell to Justice Rastogi, the CJI hailed his contribution to the bench and the collegiums.

"Brother Justice Rastogi, you personified in so many ways the judicial compassion and sensitivity to every cause which came before you. Brother Rastogi draws immense inspiration from

his father Shri Harish Chandra Rastogi who was also an eminent civil lawyer in the same court," the CJI said.

Justice Chandrachud said he often relied on Justice Rastogi's expertise on civil, service and labour laws, among other things.

"Indeed there was a sense of relief and assurance when we see your name in the roster handling these cases or your name as the author of the judgement..." he said, adding, "Brother Rastogi and I sat for a very long period of time in 2019 and 2020 and we shared both on and off the bench a very interesting time and it was a sheer pleasure to sit with you."

ment and marketing expenses "on the instructions" of Chinese director Liu Can.

"The company could not produce any proof of receipt of service on its part and proof of any advertisement published against the said expenses," it said.

The director and accounts manager of the company "admitted" during the investigation

that the payment was made only on the instructions of Can, the ED said. The company's Indian director Vedanta Hamirwasia stated that the Chinese director told them that the advertisements were published through Google and Facebook. However, no confirmation or invoice raised by these platforms has been submitted, it added.

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