

BRIEF



Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan greets fans outside his bungalow Jalsa, at Juhu, in Mumbai, Sunday.

Watery grave

Jabalpur: A total of five persons, including a BJP leader's son and three teenage boys, drowned in two incidents in Jabalpur and Harda districts of Madhya Pradesh, police said on Sunday. In Harda city, three boys aged between 14 years and 15 years ventured into Ajnal river to play in the water and drowned, Sub Divisional Officer of Police Archana Sharma told PTI.

Fire

Nagpur: A major fire destroyed cotton bales stored on the premises of a private yarn manufacturing company in Waroda village in Nagpur district of Maharashtra on Sunday, officials said. Nobody was injured in the incident. The company buys cotton gins from private firms and manufactures yarn, officials said. Company owner Asif Ansari claimed the process of making yarn from cotton bales was going on in the afternoon when smoke started coming out from one of the two sheds on the company premises.

Suspend

Chandigarh: Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij on Sunday suspended five personnel of Jind district's Narwana Sadar police station, including its SHO, for "negligence and carelessness". The minister made a stop at the police station while he was on his way to Hisar from Ambala, and conducted a surprise inspection, according to an official statement issued here. Station House Officer (SHO) Sub-Inspector Balwan Singh, head constables Sandeep Kumar and Ram Niwas, and constables Kuldeep and Raman have been suspended, it said.

Mishap

Prayagraj: Four members of a family, including a minor, died after being run over by a car in this district, police said on Sunday. The incident took place in Dadoli village on Saturday night, they said. Some members of the family were sitting in front of their house when the speeding car hit them and overturned, Pooramuffi Station House Officer (SHO) Ashok Kumar said.

Hooch tragedy

Vilupuram: Five persons, including a woman, died after allegedly consuming spurious liquor in the district, police said on Sunday. Four police personnel were suspended in connection with the incident, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin said.

Weather
High 42 Low 27

Suspense prevails over next K'taka CM

Congress announces oath date, but not the name

Bengaluru, May 14:

The new Karnataka Chief Minister and the cabinet will take oath on Thursday, sources said. The Gandhis and national Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge will attend the event. The Congress has sent invitations to all "like-minded" parties to attend the oath-taking event.

The final contours of the Karnataka cabinet will take shape in a day or two, people with direct knowledge of the matter said.

The BJP has been voted out of power in Karnataka, its only bastion in the south until Saturday, when the Congress took 135 seats in the 224-member house.

The BJP won only 66 seats, down from 104 in the 2018 state election. It did not win a single seat reserved for Scheduled Tribes (ST) category.



Supporters of Congress leader Siddaramaiah demonstrate outside the venue of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting, in Bengaluru, Sunday.

Karnataka has 51 reserved constituencies, out of which 36 are for Scheduled Castes (SC) candidates and 15 for ST candidates.

The Congress called a meeting of its MLAs on Sunday to discuss who would be the Chief Minister.

The Congress Legislature Party (CLP) is expected to pass a resolution leaving it to the Congress national presi-

dent to decide the Chief Minister pick. No final decision will be taken on Sunday, but the views of all MLAs will be ascertained, sources said.

Congress leaders DK Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah have expressed interest for the top post, raising concerns over a stand-off if the matter is not resolved.

Shivakumar has gone with his family and broth-

'High command to take a final call'

As the race for the chief ministership of Karnataka hotted up between Siddaramaiah and D K Shivakumar, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday rushed back to Delhi and said the AICC observers will convey the opinion of the party's MLAs to the high command which will then take a final decision. He also asserted that everything has gone smoothly for the party in the assembly polls and the government will be formed as soon as possible. The newly elected assembly in Karnataka has to be put in place as the term of the previous assembly expires on May 24. This means the swearing-in of the new chief minister and his ministers has to take place a few days before that. Meanwhile, Karnataka Congress president Shivakumar hinted that he is in the chief ministerial race, saying he took everyone along and never sought anything for himself. He also brushed aside speculations about differences between him and former chief minister Siddaramaiah.



Mallikarjun Kharge

er, Congress MP from Bangalore Rural DK Suresh, to a temple 120 km away from the state capital Bengaluru.

Siddaramaiah's supporters have put up a poster outside his home in Bengaluru, referring to

him as "the next Chief Minister of Karnataka".

Posters also came up outside Shivakumar's house, wishing "birthday greetings" to "the new Chief Minister of Karnataka". His birthday is on Tuesday.

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K'taka DGP Praveen Sood is next CBI director

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): Karnataka Director General of Police Praveen Sood has been appointed as the next director of the Central Bureau of Investigation, a government order said on Sunday. The 59-year-old has been appointed to the post for a period of two years from the date of taking charge after Subodh Kumar Jaiswal completes his tenure on May 25, according to officials.



Sood is a 1986-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Karnataka cadre and the senior-most IPS officer in the country after Jaiswal. His name was cleared on Saturday in a meeting of a high-powered committee comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury. Chowdhury, a Congress leader, had reportedly given a dissent note on the selection of Sood as the next CBI director. However, there was no official word on it.

In the order, the Department of Personnel and Training said, "Approval of the competent authority is hereby conveyed to the appointment of Praveen Sood, IPS

(KN:86) as Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for a period of two years from the date of assumption of charge of the office vice Subodh Kumar Jaiswal, IPS (MH:85) consequent upon completion of his tenure." Sood has an impressive educational background. He is an alumna of IIT-Delhi, IIM-Bangalore and Syracuse University in New York. The officer, who was scheduled to retire in 2024, will now have a fixed two-year tenure. Currently the director general of police in Karnataka, Sood was earlier superintendent of police of Bellary and Raichur districts, deputy commissioner of police (law and order) and additional commissioner of police (traffic) in Bengaluru City, and commissioner of police of Mysore City.

CISCE RESULTS

Girls outshine Boys

98.94 % clear Class X, 96.93 % Class XII



Students celebrate their success after the announcement of ICSE Board class 12th exams results, at a school in Dehradun, Sunday.

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): The CISCE on Sunday declared the Class 10 and Class 12 results with 98.94 per cent and 96.93 per cent of students, respectively, clearing the board examinations. Council for the

Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) Secretary Gerry Arathoon said the Class 10 (ICSE) examination was conducted in 63 written subjects of which 21 were Indian, 14 foreign and two clas-

sical languages. "The Class 12 (ISC) examination was conducted in 47 written subjects of which 12 were Indian languages and three were foreign languages and one classical language," he said.

Top rankers....

In Class 10, nine students shared the top rank with 99.80 per cent marks. They are Rushil Kumar, Annanya Karthik, Shreya Upadhyay, Advay Sardesai, Yash Manish Bhasein, Tanay Sushil Shah, Hiya Sanghavi, Avishi Singh and Sambit Mukhopadhyay. In Class 12, five students shared the first rank with 99.75 per cent.

INT'L WOMEN'S DAY: WHO CARES ?



Women labourers, carrying their children, work at a brick kiln factory on the occasion of International Mother's Day, in Nadia district, Sunday.

Sherpa guide climbs Mt Everest for 26th time

Kathmandu, May 14 (PTI): A Sherpa guide scaled the summit of Mount Everest on Sunday for the 26th time, equalling the record set by a Nepalese guide for the most ascents of the world's highest peak.

Pasang Dawa Sherpa, 46, reached the summit (8,849-m peak) on Sunday morning along with a Hungarian climber, according to expedition organiser Imagine Nepal Treks.

Dawa, who made his first successful climb in 1998, matched the record number of summits with Kami Rita Sherpa. Meanwhile, Rita is currently stationed at the Everest base camp and is planning to scale for a

Equalling record set by Nepalese guide

record 27th time. Interestingly, Dawa equalled Rita's record in the year that also marks the 70th anniversary of the first ascent of Mount Everest in 1953 by New Zealander Edmund Hillary and his Sherpa guide Tenzing Norgay. Nineteen mountaineers, including five foreigners, reached the summit of the world's highest peak this weekend.

Sherpa guides fixed ropes and made paths for the hundreds of climbers who will attempt to scale the peak over the next few weeks. "On Saturday a team of nine rope-fixing climbers from Nepal

reached the summit," said Yuvaraj Khatiwada, director at the Department of Tourism, Nepal.

On Sunday, five foreigners climbed the summit of Mount Everest.

They include Naila Kiani and Nadia Liakhosa from Pakistan, Jessica Rai Wadel from the USA, Marton Ceterper from Hungary, and Liansu Cui from China.

Kiani became the second woman from Pakistan to raise the country's flag at the world's highest peak.

Samina Baig was the first woman mountaineer from Pakistan to scale the mighty Everest in 2013.

Nepal has issued a record 466 permits to climb Mount Everest this spring, officials said.

Super Cyclone Mocha hits B'desh, Myanmar coasts

Dhaka, May 14 (PTI): Super cyclone Mocha made landfall along the Myanmar-Bangladesh coasts on Sunday after intensifying into the equivalent of a category-five storm, causing extensive damage to the southeastern coastlines and forcing the evacuation of over five lakh people in low lying areas.

The Cyclone Mocha, one of the most powerful cyclones seen in the country in nearly two decades - made landfall shortly after midday on the Teknaf shorelines before making its way through the Naf River that divides Bangladesh and Myanmar. The powerful wind uprooted trees and damaged roofs of several houses in Teknaf and Saint Martin's



Strong waves crash at the sea-shore, in Port Blair, Sunday.

Island, which is situated about 9-km south of the tip of Cox's Bazar-Teknaf peninsula. There was heavy rain along with strong winds in St. Martin's, an eight-square-kilometre coral-rich island located in the Bay of Bengal.

"The 'eye' or the center point of the cyclone made

its landfall shortly after midday today on the Teknaf shorelines, coming through the Naf River, ahead of its anticipated time," Bangladesh Met office spokesman AKM Nazmul Huda told PTI.

He said the tail or the rest of the severe storm, which was categorised as a very dangerous catego-

Tourists prevented from going to beaches

Kolkata: Disaster Management Force personnel are keeping a watch on the sea resort towns of West Bengal while preventing tourists from going to the beach on Sunday, as cyclone Mocha made landfall along the coasts of Bangladesh and Myanmar, an official said.

ry-five cyclone, might take more time to cross the coastlines.

Citing sources, the Dhaka Tribune newspaper reported that St Martin's Island, Teknaf Sadar and several other coastal areas have been affected by strong winds which uprooted trees, and blown away roofs of houses.

'IOA's decision to take charge of WFI is first step in our fight for justice'

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): The protesting wrestlers on Sunday termed the Indian Olympic Association's (IOA) decision to take charge of all the activities of the Wrestling Federation of India as the "first step" in their fight against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the former WFI chief.

The country's top wrestlers, including Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat, have been protesting at the Jantar Mantar for the last 22 days demanding the arrest of Brij Bhushan for alleged sexual harassment of women wrestlers. The IOA, through its let-



Wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik address the media during their protest against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi, Sunday.

ter on May 12, asked the secretary general of WFI to hand over the official documents including financial instruments to its ad-hoc panel, making it clear the outgoing office

bearers shall have no role in the running of the federation. The WFI said it has no issues in obeying the IOA order since they were already co-operating with the authorities.

CM attends Sant Samagam at Sadguru Kabir Ashram

MGM students shine in CBSE Examinations

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: Students of MGM Senior Secondary School, Sector 6 Bhilai exhibited their mettle once again in the academic field. With grit and constant perseverance the school saw a leap in the overall performance of students in results of CBSE Class 10 and 12 Examinations, 2023.

23 students secured 90% above and 328 students secured 1st division. Martein Gayakwad scored 95.2% while Dilkash Zahaa Khan secured 93.6% hence securing first position in Science and Commerce streams respectively.

In the second position, Ritam Kanjilal and S Banupriya acquired 94.4% followed by Arya Kumar securing 93% and landing in the third position in the science stream. In the commerce



stream, Arpit Karan and Y Yogendra Sai Reddy obtained 90.6% and 90.2% thus acquiring second and third position. 40 students secured 90% and above and 375 students secured 1st division. Arvind Sahu scored 96.4%, Swara

Sharma and Pragya both scored 95.4% and Hamda Jahangir scored 95%. The school management and the principal laud the tireless efforts and extended hearty congratulations to the staff and the students.



Kabir, he said that he was such a great saint who strongly attacked social ostentation and spread the divine light of knowledge to eradicate superstition.

Saint Kabir amritwani is in front of the society and are relevant even today. His couplets will guide society till eternity. After 650 years, his speech is relevant even today.

He used to talk about binding humanity and society in one thread beyond caste and religion. He said, "What is in the universe is also in the body." That's why he asked the people to identify themselves.

CM asked the devotees attending the Sant Samagam to keep their mind empty just like a vessel to imbibe the



speech of the saint and receive the knowledge.

In his address, he said that the government is also working on the development of the state through education, health and culture, following the path shown by saints. In the programme, the Chief Minister announced the construction of a dome shed at the ashram. Sahitya Vedantacharya

Sukrit Saheb Shastri, Chhote Mahant Parmeshwar Das Saheb, President Sant Bhupat Saheb, District Cooperative Central Bank President Rajendra Sahu, District Panchayat Vice President Ashok Sahu, President of Krishi Upaj Mandi Ashwini Sahu and other public representatives, devotees and officials were present.

- Saints are the guide of the society; Baghel
- Announces Dome Shed construction in Ashram

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: A two-day Virat Sant Samagam event was organized by Kabir Panth devotees at Sadguru Kabir Ashram in village Selud from May 13. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel attended the programme as the chief guest on Sunday.

At the outset, he garlanded the statue of Sadhguru Kabir Saheb and offered aarti. Addressing the function, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that saints are the guides of the society.

Referring to Saint

Brilliant performance of GNESSS in CBSE Class 12 exam



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: This year too students of Guru Nanak English Senior Secondary School have performed brilliantly in the CBSE XIIth Board Examination and passed the exams with flying colours.

In Science Stream, Kanishka Singh secured first position, Gaurvi Sharma secured second position and Simran Kaur made the school proud by securing the 3rd position.

In Commerce Stream, Antra Sharma secured first position, Md Zulquarnain secured second position and Richa Randhawa secured third position. For this great achievement, Chairman of the school, S Tara Singh, blessed and congratulated the students for their excellent performance.

On this achievement President of Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Sardar Kulwant Singh, Sardar Manjeet Singh and Sardar

Gurudev Singh (Vice President), Sardar PP Singh Ahluwalia (Co-Secretary), Sardar GS Flora (General Secretary), Sardar Jasbir Singh, Sardar Baljit Singh, (Co-Secretary) and Sardar Harmeet Singh (Secretary), Sardar Baldev Singh, Sardar Majinder Singh (Member), Sardar Amardeep Singh (Member) and the Principal of the school, Mona Singh also congratulated and blessed them for their bright future.

- Gold and silver jewellery worth Rs 03 lakhs recovered
- Two arrested, one absconding

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: With the arrest of two notorious thieves and recovery of stolen booty worth Rs 3 lakhs, Police claimed to have busted a gang of notorious thieves and to have solved two different cases of thefts at locked houses which occurred in Chhawani area of Bhilai.

SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that they had received a complaint from one Pardesi Ram Mahar a resident of Adarsh Nagar Camp 01 regarding theft at his locked house between May 01 to May 09.

Later on May 10, a victim Santosh Kumar Bhandare of Gokul Dham Kurud Jamul lodged a report in the Chhawani

Gang of notorious thieves busted



Police Station regarding theft at his parents' home in Adarsh Nagar Camp 01. Gold, silver jewelry and cash amount were stolen from both the places.

On the instructions of SP Dr Abhishek Pallava, a joint team was constituted which worked under the guidance of ASP (City) Sanjay Dhruv, CSP (Chhawani) Abhishek Banchor and DSP (Crime) Rajeev Sharma. The joint team led by ACCU in-

charge Inspector Santosh Mishra and SHO Chhawani Inspector Navi Monika Pandey started monitoring the suspects and interrogated the habitual criminals and criminals released from jail.

The network of informers was also activated and CCTV footage of places near the crime scenes were checked. The team found the footage of a suspect and with the help of special sources, his identity was confirmed as Rajat

Kumar Manjhi alias Pilli.

He was taken into custody and during interrogation, he confessed to committing theft with his accomplice Jitendra Tiwari. When interrogated strictly, he disclosed the name of another accomplice Mohammad Naushad a resident of Camp 01.

Later, Police arrested Mohammad Naushad while Jitendra Tiwari was not found as he had gone to his native village in Prayagraj after the inci-

dent. Stolen gold and silver jewelry was recovered from the accused.

The accused Rajat Kumar Manjhi alias Pilli (26) s/o Ramsanehi Manjhi r/o Camp 01 Chawani and Mohammad Naushad (33) son of Mohammad Kalam a resident of Jalebi Chowk Camp 01, Chhawani have been arrested.

Searching is on to arrest the absconding accused Jitendra Tiwari, a resident of Adarsh Nagar Camp 01. Further action against the accused is being taken from the Chhawani Police Station.

ASI Shमित Mishra, Rajesh Pandey, Head Constable Nitin Singh, Rinku Soni, Bhavesh Patel, Arvind Mishra, Amit Dubey, Santosh Gupta and SI Ramendra Yadav and ASI Ashok Yadav played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Students of KPS Durg excel in CBSE Class X and XII Board Examination



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: Krishna Public School stands proud as they celebrate the achievement of their students. The achievement reinstates the vision of pursuit of excellence. The School has excelled once again in CBSE class X and XII Board Examination.

Ishita Soni of class XII from Biology stream has topped with 90 percentage, Diksha Sahu from Mathematics stream has secured the highest with 84.8 percentage and Rohan Deshmukh from commerce stream has topped with a percentage of 83.6. Similarly, Sparsh Sahu of Class X has topped with 93.6 percentage followed by Pratham Pandey with 93.4 percentage, Aashika Jain

secured 93 percentage and Mukesh Prasad with 90.6 percentage. The School feels extremely proud to share the outstanding achievement of Aryansh Shrivastava for securing 100 percentage marks in Sanskrit in class X and Teena Sahu for securing 100 percent in Informatics Practices in class XII.

The Director, Mayank Sharma congratulated the students and teachers for the excellent results. The Principal Itri Sharma also congratulated the students on their booming success. The Management and Teacher's congratulated the students for their excellence and hard work.

SUV crashes into truck; two injured



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: A speeding compact SUV crashed into the rear end of a moving truck on the Anjora-Nehru Nagar Bypass Road. Tyre of the truck

burst as an impact of the collision. The compact SUV Hyundai Creta was also badly damaged in the incident and the two passengers in the vehicle suffered fatal injuries.

On information, the

Police Patrolling Party from Pulgaon reached the accident site and the injured were immediately shifted to Sparsh Hospital. Condition of both the victims is reported to be out of danger.

Juvenile arrested for thefts at shops

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: A joint team of Dhamdha Police Station and ACCU arrested a juvenile on charges of thefts at shops. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that thefts occurred at Agricultural Irrigation Machine Shop and Sumeet Plywood and Glass Shop in Dhandha in which the unknown thieves had stolen Rs 35740 and Rs 50000 from the cash box of the shops.

Under the guidance of ASP (Rural) Anant Sahu

and DSP (Crime) Rajeev Sharma and DSP (Crime against juveniles) Sanjay Pundhir; a joint team led by Dhamdha Police Station SHO Inspector Somesh Singh Baghel launched an investigation to trace the unknown thief. The suspect was spotted in the CCTV footage and later the identity of the thief was ascertained.

The juvenile suspect was taken into custody and during interrogation, he confessed to have trespassed into the shops and escaped with cash from the counters. Rs

7000 cash, a motorcycle Glamour, two mobile phones, tester and screw-driver were seized from him. He had spent the remaining money. The juvenile thief will be produced before the Justice Juvenile Board.

Inspector Somesh Singh Baghel, ASI Santuram Thakur, ASI Tansingh Sonwani, Constable Prasanta Sahu, Amit Verma and ASI Rajesh Pandey, ASI Chandrashekhar Soni, Constable Pradeep Singh and Jagjit Singh played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Indu IT School achieves 100% result of CBSE exams

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: The meritorious students of Class 10th and 12th of Indu IT School, with their hard work, dedication and tireless efforts, secured their place in the merit list in CBSE Board Secondary School Examination (Class X). Palak Soni scored 96.5% marks; Harshit Sanghvi scored 91.6% marks; Chakshi Sahu scored 88.3% marks; Meenakshi Dhurve scored 88.3% marks. In the Senior School Certificate Examination (Class 12), Meenakshi Soni scored 93.8%; Pallavi Verma



scored 91.5%; Ramil scored 89% and other students made the school proud with their success.

Expressing happiness on this occasion, the Managing Director of the

school, SM Umak, Madam Meenal Umak, Vice Principal Archana Meshram; Incharge and other teachers congratulated the children and wished them a bright future.

BSP's CSR Department contributes considerably through free health camps

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant has always been upfront in discharging its organizational social responsibility towards the communities within which it works. The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department of Bhilai Steel Plant conducted regular free health camps in its Model Steel Villages during the year 2022-23. Free health check-up, medical consultation and medicines were distributed to the individuals. Patients requiring advanced healthcare are referred to nearby hospitals.

Hundreds of beneficiaries were benefited by such free medical camps organized by the

CSR Department in the previous year, 2022-23. As many as 29 free health camps were organized in the year 2022-23, in almost all the Model Steel Villages within 16 kilometer radius of the plant, including villages Piparchedi, Pauwara, Chetwa, Daniya, Janjigiri, Kanari, Bharda, Borigarka, Chagori etc. A total of 1349 villagers were examined at the Medical Camps and free medicines were distributed to them after medical examination. The beneficiaries examined in the camps include 516 men, 610 women and 223 children.

A string of free health camps have also been organized by the CSR department in the surrounding areas of BSP's mines. The health-camp initiative was



first taken in the Mahamaya Mines on November 24, 2022. Since then, total 5 free health camps have been organized in the mines areas, wherein a total of 664 villagers were benefited, including 222 men, 190 women and 252 children. The free health camps were also initiated at Dulki mines on November 25, 2022. A total of 244 individuals have benefited from the camps

so far, which includes 65 men, 130 women and 49 children. In 2023, 05 free health camps have also been organized so far at Hirri mines, benefiting 642 patients including 360 men and 282 women.

The Corporate Social Responsibility Department (CSR) of Bhilai Steel Plant executes several public welfare activities aimed at social & eco-

economic upliftment, environment sustainability, education, sports, health and well-being in Bhilai and adjoining areas, as a part of the organization's commitment to society. Health Camp is one of the prime initiatives whereby BSP's CSR Department has contributed substantially towards Public Health & Medicine.

The medical team and nursing staff of Bhilai Ispat Kalyan Chikitsalaya has played a key role in successfully organizing all the health camps. The Village Panchayats and villagers who benefited from the camps expressed their gratitude to the CSR team of Bhilai Steel Plant and expressed desire that more such camps be organized in the coming times.



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SCHOOL TOPPER

TOP PERFORMERS - CLASS X



98%
Harshkant Thakur



Arya Kulmitra
97.2%



Jigisha Chauda
97%



Aryan Singh
97%



Princy Verma
97%



Aryan Giri Goswami
96%



Mahek Waswani
95%



Chinmay Upadhyay
95%



Mrunal Voditelwar
94.4%



Yashasvi Sahu
94.4%



Prajjawal Vadher
94.2%



Aadi Verma
93.4%



Swastik Mishra
93.4%



Parnika Singh
93.2%



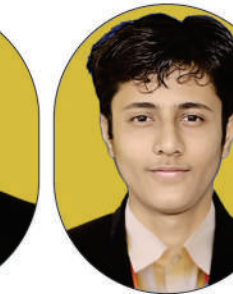
Manya Saxena
93%



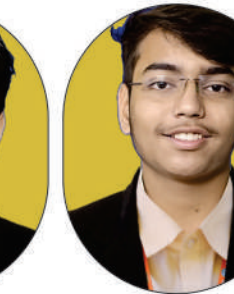
Navdeep Kaur Suri
93%



Kashish Sangani
93%



Shlok Choudhary
92.2%



Soyal Dhawle
92%



Prajjawal Verma
92%



Disha Gupta
92%



Yuvraj Agrawal
92%



Anvi Agrawal
91.2%



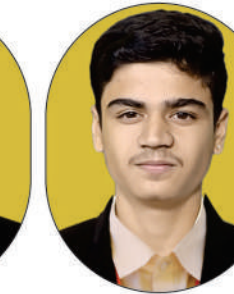
Prakriti Keyar
91%



Mohammed Mahin
90.2%



Daksh Jai Singh
90%



Soumya Patel
90%



Kumud Agrawal
90%



Abhishikta Biswas
90%

SCHOOL TOPPER

TOP PERFORMERS - CLASS XII



96%
(PCM)
Vidhi Sharma



Arya Ojha
95.2%
(PCM)



Prakhar Mishra
95%
(PCM)



Shruti Verma
95%
(PCB)



Vatsal Parmar
94%
(PCM)



Amrit Sinha
92.4%
(PCM)



Shristi Yadav
92%
(PCB)



Naman Gupta
90%
(PCB)



Ritika Bhardwaj
89.4%
(PCM)

Out of
148 students
70 students
secured
above 80%



Pratishtha Agrawal
88%
(PCM)



Sharad Dhruv
85.4%
(PCB)



Ayush Verma
84%
(PCB)



Mahek Patel
83%
(Commerce)



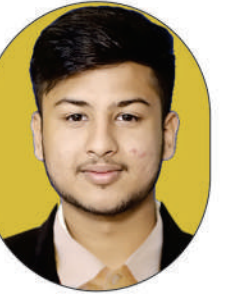
Vedant Garg
82.2%
(Commerce)



Gunit Golchha
82%
(PCB)



Deepraj Tirkey
82%
(PCB)



Vithal Agrawal
80%
(Commerce)

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'Didn't have courage to ban alcohol'

After witnessing deaths due to spurious liquor, other substances during lockdown

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Sunday said he didn't have the courage to ban alcohol in the state when he witnessed deaths due to consumption of spurious liquor and other harmful substances after outlets were shut during the coronavirus-induced lockdown. He stressed the need for running campaigns against not just liquor but all kinds of addiction.

Baghel was speaking at the launch of Nashamukt Chhattisgarh Abhiyaan (addiction free Chhattisgarh campaign) at Prajapita Brahmakumari Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya (PBIV) centre Shanti Sarovar in Raipur here on Sunday.

He also hailed the spiritual and meditation centre's 'Nasha Mukta Bharat

Abhiyan', calling it a commendable initiative towards building society and appealed to people to ensure their participation in making Chhattisgarh addiction-free.

"Addiction usually starts from childhood or young age. Initially they start from 'sutta' (smoking) as a hobby and it gradually becomes a habit. As stress increases it starts smoking more cigarettes. If stress is more in the evening, drinking of liquor starts. Finally they land in the hospital. Addiction is not good in any form. It causes only harm. It is very harmful for all of us physically and mentally. It affects the person, the family and the society as a whole," he said.



Being the Chief Minister, Baghel said he can order prohibition in the entire state "right now" even as he wondered if it will solve the problem of addiction. CM said he learnt about the problems that cropped up when liquor shops were closed during the country-wide lockdown to contain the spread of COVID-19.

"All the shops were closed, transportation was closed, families were staying behind the doors, but com-

plaints of domestic violence started surfacing. Despite the lockdown in force for a long time, it was seen that people managed to arrange stuff for addiction," he said.

When people did not get anything, they even consumed sanitizer and many lost their lives due to it, said the Congress leader.

"I did not have courage then to order a liquor ban after witnessing people dying due to consumption of spurious alcohol and other

substances during the lockdown. I don't want to implement anything that will cost lives," he added.

Organisations that deal with de-addiction can be helpful for persons dependent on various forms of intoxication, he said.

"We have to end this social evil together with the support of people," he said. When it comes to banning intoxicating substances, women immediately favour it as if only men consume them, he said.

"Before the 2018 assembly elections, there was pressure from women to ban liquor. We had then announced to ban liquor (as a poll promise). Liquor ban means we have to move ahead towards an addiction

free society. Even during the Bhent Mulaqaat programme (CM's public interaction drive), some people said that alcohol should be banned," he said.

The CM said they have constituted a committee headed by their party MLA Satyanarayan Sharma to study the issue and it has visited other states where prohibition is in force.

"When women are asked about banning alcohol, they raise both hands in its favour. When I ask whether gudaku' (paste made of tobacco and molasses) should be banned or not, they don't raise their hands as women use it more than men.

The campaign should be against every kind of addiction, not only against liquor," he said. Baghel said people should be addicted to serving humanity and devotion towards God.

Thief lifting Bolero vehicle arrested

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: Raipur police have arrested a thief wanted in connection with the incident of lifting Bolero vehicle in Khamtarai area. With arrest, the police recovered stolen Bolero vehicle (CG 04 MS 1788) from his possession. The total value of the seized vehicle is estimated to be around Rs 9 lakh.

The action has been taken on the complaint lodged by one Daras Nirmalkar, a resident of Pahadi Chowk Gudhiyari. He told police that he had gone for breakfast by parking his Bolero vehicle in front

of a private hotel. When he came back he saw that Bolero missing. He looked for the vehicle nearby but could not find it. He then lodged a report against the unknown vehicle lifter in Khamtarai police station.

The incident of vehicle theft was being investigated by the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and the police team of station in-charge Khamtra. The team members caught one Rahul Yadav, a resident of Bemetara Khamaria in connection with the incident. During strict interrogation him he confessed to stealing the Bolero vehicle.

Students to get textbooks as soon as the schools open

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: The School Education Department has made complete arrangements to provide free textbooks to all the students on the first day of the academic session 2023-24.

For this, books from the Depot of Textbook Corporation have been supplied to high schools and 'Sankuls' for distribution to the students of classes 1 to 10 of government, recognized and private schools.

According to the infor-

mation received from the Education Department, the new academic session in the state will start from June 16. As per the instructions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and Education Minister Dr Premsai Singh Tekam, free books and uniforms are to be distributed ceremonially on the opening day of the academic session itself.

Keeping this in mind, the Education Department has sent the printed books to the de-

pots of the districts and from there to the high schools and 'Sankuls'.

So far books have been sent to 4572 out of 4615 high schools of the state for distribution to the students. Similarly, out of 5703 packages of the state, books have been delivered to the students of primary and secondary schools in 3175 packages. Books are also being sent to Swami Atmanand Utkrisht Vidyalayas as per the demand. So far, books have been sent to students in 369 out of 432 Atmanand schools.

Three nabbed in gold chain looting incidents

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: The capital police has nabbed four of inter-state chain snatchers gang who used to snatch the gold chains from woman roaming around in their bike. The police has also seized 3 gold chains from their possession.

Actually there was sudden rise in the number of chain snatching events and three complaints were filed in Telibandha, Devendra Nagar and Civil Lines police station. SSP Prashant Agrawal took the looting and chain snatching incident seriously and directed Addl. SP Crime Abhishek Maheshwari to nab the ac-



used. On this a combined team of police was formed by Cyber, Crime and Thana police and search for the accused was start-

ed. The police got tip from an informer that the accused in the looting incident are residing in a hotel in Ganj thana area. On this the police raided

the hotel and nabbed all the four accused and seized 3 gold chains from their possession.

On interrogation, all four accepted their crime

in snatching of gold chains and informed that they all are from Kodha Katihar of Jurabajang of Bihar and they have looted the bike from Katihar in Bihar and it is by changing the bike's registration number; they used to loot chains. The accused Chandan Kumar Yadav had being to jail in case of stealing of bikes.

The four accused nabbed are- Guddu Kumar Yadav, S/o Lalwa Yadav, (26), Chandan Kumar Yadav, So Jamuna Yadav (36), Pappu Yadav S/o Late Murli Yadav (32) and Viru Kuamr S/o Shiv Kumar (23) all R/o Naya Tola Jurabganj than Kodha, district Katihar (Bihar).

Three including scrap dealer arrested

For stealing transformer parts and other materials worth lakhs from Kamal Vihar project

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: Three persons including a scrap dealer have been arrested for allegedly stealing transformer parts and other materials worth lakhs from the Kamal Vihar project. They were allegedly involved in incidents of theft in the transformer yard of Raipur Development Authority.

The police have arrested Ram Kalhadiya, Nitin Kamde and Sajid Khan. Sajid Khan used to run a scrap shop in Dumratra Vegetable Mandi Main Road where he used to buy stolen goods in the guise of scrap.

Transformer goods and other stolen materials worth lakhs have been seized from their posses-



sion. Engineer Suresh Kumar Kunjam lodged the report in Raipur Development Authority Kamal Vihar Project at Muzgahan po-

lice station. The applicant's company has about 30-35 transformer yards in Kamal Vihar project, where transformers, feeder pillars, LT panels, HVS

panels, LBS panels etc related to the project are kept. All these parts were stolen in January.

After the report, informers were also appointed in

the case to trace persons involved in the theft. Meanwhile, on the basis of the information received regarding the transformer parts and other items in Muzgahan area near Auto, the team members went to the said place and arrested three persons in an auto with transformer accessories.

On inquiring about the goods of the transformer and demanding valid documents, the trio tried to mislead the team members by giving evasive answers. They did not present any documents. On being strictly interrogated, they accepted to have carried out the theft incident. At the same time they that they had sold stolen goods to scrap dealer Sajid Khan.

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Police launch crackdown against criminals

Raipur, May 14: The SSP Prashant Agrawal held a meeting of all the gazetted officers and station in-charges at Civil Line here over increasing crime in Raipur city. He instructed all the police officers of Raipur to investigate criminal incidents and look into complaints of people.

The SSP directed to lay emphasis on visible policing, special campaign for checking and action against anti-social elements, goons, miscreants and history sheeters. He also instructed to make patrolling, dial 112 and CPP vehicles more effective.

Keeping in mind the marriage season, he instructed to control the incidents of theft in wedding places and keep an eye on outside gangs, local thieves and arrest them. Instructions were given to take action against the DJ and Dhumal Wale violating rules.

Online application for entrance exam for BEd, D El Ed, BSc Nursing underway

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: The wait is about to end for the youth who are looking for admission in professional courses. Local youth of Chhattisgarh can apply online for vocational courses from May 13.

The date has been fixed for the entrance exam for this course. Youth can apply online for Professional Courses Entrance Exam from 13 to 28 May.

For error correction, time has been given from May 29 to

May 31 for Pre BEd, Pre D El Ed, BSc Nursing, MSc Nursing and Post Basic Nursing. Admit card for Pre BEd, Pre D El Ed will be issued on June 9 and for BSc Nursing, MSc Nursing and Post Basic Nursing on June 16.

Exam date has been fixed on June 17 and June 24 for admission to various courses. Pre BEd and D El Ed entrance examinations will be held on June 17.

The examination of BSc Nursing, MSc Nursing and Post Basic Nursing will be conducted on June 24.

CM Baghel takes momentous decision in favor of youth

Posts of I.T.I. training officers increased

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: In accordance with Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's instructions and for the benefit of youth, the number of

posts advertised for the recruitment of I.T.I. training officers has been increased from 366 to 920. The Director of Employment and Training has issued a revised advertisement, and candidates who have already applied need not reapply. Eligible candidates from Chhattisgarh will be considered for recruitment.

The Chhattisgarh Professional Examination Board will conduct recruitment for these posts, for which the online application process started on May 8. It is noteworthy that following the order of the

Honourable Supreme Court, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has given necessary instructions in this regard to the higher officials after conducting a meeting with them. The recruitment process is in progress.

According to the revised advertisement issued by the department for the recruitment of training officers, the number of posts for electricians has been increased from 51 to 90. Likewise, the number of posts for computer operator and programming assistant has been increased from 86 to 242, for carpenter from 2 posts to 10, for turner from 6 posts to 10, for fitter from 48 posts to 100, for mechanic (tractor) from 2 posts to 3, for mechanic (diesel) from 32 posts to 90, for mechanic (motor vehicle) from 5 posts to 7, for workshop calculation and engineering drawing from 72 posts to 234, for wireman from 2 posts to 6, for welder from 30 posts to 89, for sheet metal worker from 1

post to 3, for sewing technology from 6 posts to 12, and for hospital housekeeping from 2 posts to 4.

No changes have been made in the number of posts for information and communication technology system maintenance (1 post), driver cum mechanic (6 posts), draftsman mechanical (1 post), machinist (4 posts), machinist grinder (1 post), mason (building constructor) (1 post), mechanic refrigeration and air conditioner (2 posts), secretarial practice (English) (2 posts), and employability skill (3 posts).

Recruitment will be conducted for a total of 920 posts, and important details such as required qualifications, educational experience, age limit, instructions, selection process, syllabus, and reservation of posts can be found in the detailed advertisement on <http://vyapam.cgstate.gov.in>. The number of vacancies and subjects may be subject to change.

SXHS students shine in ICSE and ISC exams



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: Students of St. Xavier's Raipur once again proved themselves by scaling new heights in this year's board examinations. The results were declared on 14th of May at 3:00 pm and it proved to be a moment of pride for everyone at St. Xavier's Raipur. The outstanding performances by the students have made the school proud.

The performance of students in ICSE (std 10) has been brilliant with Vinamra Agrawal standing first with 97.6% marks followed closely by Dhruv Prakash with

97.2% marks. Suhani Khandelwal stands third in science stream with 96.4% marks.

In the commerce stream of ICSE (std 10) Rajeshwari Chakraborty stands first with 97.2%. Sanyam Bengani has scored 93.8% marks followed closely by Ahana Jain with 93.4% marks.

Individual performance in different subjects have been exceptional. Students have scored 100 marks in various subjects Dhruv Prakash, Prafull Tharwani and Sahitya Kumar have scored full marks in History Civics. In Biology Dhruv Prakash, Soumallya Mukherjee,

Disha Solanki and Suhani Khandelwal have scored a neat 100. Aarushi Deorankar, Vinamra Agrawal and Gourangi Ranjan have passed with full marks in Physical Education while Disha Solanki has scored full marks in Computer science. In Commerce stream, Sanyam Bengani, Disha Soni and Rajeshwari Chakraborty have scored 100 marks in Commercial Studies.

In ISC (Std 12) also the students have shown excellent performance. In Commerce stream, the first three positions have been bagged by Rasika Agrawal with an overall score of 95.75% followed

by Akriti Agrawal scoring 91% and Yukti Dewangan standing third with 90.75%. In the Science stream, highest scorer is Harsh Matlani with overall 94.75%.

Sanskriti Thawrani stands second with 94% and Krishna Ahuja has scored 91.5%. The school owes the outstanding performance to the Chairman Dr. A. F. Pinto and the Managing Director Madam Dr. Grace Pinto for being a constant source of inspiration. The school wishes all the students a very bright and glorious future.

Classifieds

APPOINTMENT

A Ca Firm invites applications from B.Com graduates and post-graduates for position of Office Staff and Assistant Accountant having experience in Audit/Accounts. Knowledge of excel will be given additional preference. Rasik Chauhan Associates Shop No. 20 Ground Floor RDA Complex New Rajendra Nagar, Raipur Mobile 7714280715

Contact for Classified Advertisement : **94242 03139**

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Contractual employees demand timely payment Collector conducts surprise inspection in CHC

● Stages sit-in outside Tulsī Nagar office

Central Chronicle News

Korba, May 14: The contractual employees of the Electricity Department are on pen-down strike and are staging sit-in outside the office in Tulsī Nagar in support of their five point demands.

Prominent among their demands include payment together to all the operators of 33/11 KV sub-stations of Korba district (urban and rural). They informed that till date the payment was together.

But after the new contractor, the payment is now being made on different dates. The employees informed that the payment of Urban area for operators is made once in two months and that of



rural operators once in three months.

As per the tender, the payment has to be made on 7th of every month and 8.33% of the bonus amount has to be paid in every six months. The payment to the operators in

Urban areas has come just few days back and to rural operators it has not being paid.

Further contractual employees informed that their ESIC card has not been made till date. The information about the fami-

ly members has been given, but names not included in the ESIC card.

Further the employees demanded good quality torch, gumboots, gloves, helmet in all the sub-stations and to provide one copy of the tender to all

the operators.

The contractual employees have urged the seniors of the department to sort out their problems at the earliest and warned that if their demands are not fulfilled on time, they all will be forced to go on strike after 7 days.

Employee leader Lalit informed that the three Companies of CSPC viz. CGSPDCL, CGSPGCL and CGSPTCL always delay their payment. The payment by CSPGCL is not being made as per the Collector's rate, nor the deposit of EPF is done at the correct rate in EPF.

The employee organization charged that on-making of payment at the correct rate by CSPTCL, there is demand to repay the amount by contractual employee or else they are transferred or removed from the job.

Central Chronicle News

Manendragarh, May 14: Collector Manendragarh Narendra Kumar Dugga conducted surprise inspection of Community Health Centre (CHC) in Manendragarh on Friday.

During the inspection, Collector directed to pay special attention towards cleaning in the CHC and ensure sufficient availability of water in the Hospital premises.

He also directed to write-off the old and unused material kept in the premises and install a jumbo cylinder in the ICU ward for emergency situation.

He asked the PWD officers to prepare a shed for the patients and their fam-



ily members coming to CHC and asked to complete the ongoing construction work speedily.

During this inspection, Dugga also visited different wards in the CHC and

held talks with the patients admitted and inquired about their health and directed the CHMO to provide better health care and treatment to the patients.

Footpaths of city fall prey to encroachment

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, May 14: The footpaths of the city are going victims of encroachment and in the city, the number of roadside stalls including fruits, vegetables, mobile water, tea, coconut accessories, snacks, non-veg, juices, clothes has increased manifold. All the big complexes of the city, showrooms, gardens, there is no space left for parking, and there is no pavement left for the roads to be broadened.

Traders are facing trouble for parking due to stalls in front of business establishments, and instead of going to big shops, it is convenient for customers to buy goods from small shops, if a survey of carts



is done in the city, then the figures are shocking. There are about 1779 carts and kiosks in the urban area; therefore there is a need to give proper arrangement to the number of carts and spreaders. If space is made available

to all after taking the consent of all traders, then a middle way can be found which will be supported by all sections of traders and with the construction of Chowpatty, the problem can be solved to some extent.

RK Sharma conducts inspection of public grievances camp

● In ward No. 7 & 8 of Nagar Palika
● Conduct

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, May 14: Nagar Palika President Kawardha Rishi Kumar Sharma reached the public grievances camp in ward No. 7 and 8 and meeting the beneficiaries in the camp tried to sort out their complaint. On this occasion he also conducted inspection of Pradhan Mantri Aawas Yojana (PMAY) work in the ward.

Nagar Palika President Rishi reached to beneficiaries of PMAY in ward No. 7 and meeting Birjo Bai and Sandeep Kumar Sharam extended greetings to them on getting the house. Holding talks with them, Rishi Kumar took photographs of



the painting done in the house at the time of white-washing and uploaded it on the social media of the state government and it was hailed by one & all.

He informed that the sanction letter for PMAY has been issued by Cabinet Minister Mohammed Akbar that this public grievances camp is being organised and he is holding meeting with the beneficiaries and trying to solve their grievances.

houses too are getting ready.

It is notable here that under the guidance and instructions of the Cabinet Minister Mohammed Akbar that this public grievances camp is being organised and he is holding meeting with the beneficiaries and trying to solve their grievances.

Lottery drawn for admission in RBPE School



Central Chronicle News

Rajim, May 14: In Ram Bishal Pandey Excellent (RBPE) English Medium School, Rajim, a lottery draw was held for admission to 50 seats in class 1 and vacant seats in other classes.

Prior to this, Principal Sanjay Ekka told about the achievements of the school's last session in the welcome address and told about the plans for the

next session and assured that the next session will give many times better results than the present.

Nagar Panchayat President Rekha Sonkar in her address praised Principal Sanjay Ekka and said that he is constantly striving for the development of the school and to bring quality in education and in view of the activism of the principal and teachers, it was announced to give a very

necessary projector to the school.

Society president and former Janbhagidari president Vikas Tiwari, stating the purpose of opening Swami Atmanand Excellent School by the Chhattisgarh government, said that with its opening, economically weaker sections will also be able to get excellent education.

For 50 seats in Class 1, lottery was conducted for

selection from BPL, girls and unreserved classes against the available vacant seats in all classes up to class 9th. Along with this, a lottery was also conducted for the waiting list in all the classes.

First Rekha Sonkar President Nagar Panchayat Rajim and Pooja Bansal SDM, and Vikas Tiwari President, Chandan Mankar CMO inaugurated the lottery by taking out coupons from the box.

Shivraj Dewangan, President Parent Committee, Manju Sahu, Vice President, Parent Committee, Ramendra Joshi BEO, Tikendra Yadu BRCC, Buddha Vilas Singh ADPO, Kripal Pankra ADEO, Santosh Suryavanshi and a number of parents were present.

Nishad Samaj building inaugurated



Central Chronicle News

Singa, May 14: No one is greater than the society and society hails the reforms done, said MLA Shivratn Sharma as Chief Guest in the inauguration program of the newly constructed building of Nishad Samaj. With the eulogy of Bhaktaraj Guha Nishad, addressing the people present in the program, he said that no one is bigger than the society; it is the duty of every person of the society to respect the decision of the society.

If the society has to be developed, then the young men and women of the society have to be educated; the elders of the society will also have to worry about how the youth should stay away from

drugs, he said. Along with this, he also talked about Biranpur village of Bemetara district where 11 Hindu girls were converted to their religion by allurements. Dayalu Nishad also addressed the program and thanked the MLA for the building and termed him the Vikas Purush of Chhattisgarh.

At the end of the program, MLA Shivratn Sharma felicitated Hemnath Nishad's daughter-in-law Kumari Durgeshwari Nishad for getting gold medal in state level kickboxing. BJP Divisional President Keju Ram Baghel, General Secretary Chhotu Yadav, District Member Dhaneshwar Nishad, Chandramani Tiwari, Narayan Nishad and many others were present.

Bhawana Bohara meets merit-list holders of CGBSE

Extends greetings to them and felicitated them with Smart Watch going to their residence

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, May 14: On declaration of CGBSE Class 10th and 12th Board exam results, the girls of the district maintained their dominance.

The most important thing here was that in the top 10 of the merit list of Class 10th, 4 students are from Kabirdham district and in Class 12th Board merit list, one student from the district was able to secure berth in the list.

On this achievement of 5 students from Kawardha district, the BJP state secretary and Kabirdham District Panchayat Speaker Bhawana Bohara went to the residence of all five students and met them and their family members and handed over a citation certificate and smart watch to all five of



them as an honour.

Among the students from Class 10th to whom Bhawana Bohara met included Bhumī Warate of Gram Samnapur with 95.67% marks and securing 5th place in the merit list; the other is Ujjwal Soni with 97.33% marks and is at 7th place; Kislay Mishra with 96.83 marks is at the 10th place and

Khushboo Gupta with 96.83% marks.

Among the Class 12th student, she met included Anand Kumar Aadile with 95.80% marks in the Class 12th and securing 8th place in the merit list in the state. She went to the residence of all the students and met them and felicitated them with a flower bouquet, citation

certificate for bringing laurels to the district and their parents and wished them all the best in their future endeavours and presented them with Smart Watch as a gift.

On this occasion she also met the parents of the school children and extended greetings to them. Bhawana Bohara said that the exam warriors of the

district have got this achievement through sheer hard work and brought laurels to entire Kabirdham district and to their parents.

These children would render service to the society, state and nation in country and abroad in the near future and would again bring laurels to the district.

The youth are the strong foundation of the nation and it is on their shoulders that the country future rests upon. She also extended greetings to all the teachers, who provided good quality and timely education to children and are part of their success.

It is notable here that Bhawana Bohara through Bhawana Bohara Samaj Sewa Sansthan (BSSS) render public service to needy and free of cost and

this include running of three buses free of cost to bring and drop the girl students to schools; mobile health path lab for better health facilities to citizens of the district; ambulance service; Arogya-dham Health camp just to name a few.

FORM NO. CAA. 2
[Pursuant to Section 230 (3) and rule 6 and 7]
C.A. (CAA) No.4/CB/2023

In the matter of: The Companies Act 2013; And
In the matter of: An application under Sections 230 to 232 of the said Act; And
In the matter of: The Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules 2016 And
IN THE MATTER OF: Shivalki Auto Engineering Private Limited U29120CT2011PTC022522, C-33, 3rd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1 Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferor Company 1 And
IN THE MATTER OF: Neelkamal Vanijya Private Limited U51909MH2008PTC316779, Flat No. C2, 602, VIP Karishma Apartment, Shankar Nagar, Khamardih, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferor Company 2 And
IN THE MATTER OF: Adopt Commotrade Private Limited U51101CT2010PTC014089, Flat No. C2, 602, VIP Karishma Apartment, Shankar Nagar, Khamardih, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferor Company 3 And
IN THE MATTER OF: Goldmoon Vinimay Private Limited U52190CT2010PTC014090, Flat No. C2, 602, VIP Karishma Apartment, Shankar Nagar, Khamardih, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferor Company 4 And
IN THE MATTER OF: Shivalki Power and Steel Private Limited U27109CT2004PTC016584, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1 Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Demerged Company And
IN THE MATTER OF: Shivalki Engineering Industries Limited U27107CT2011PLC022353, C-33, 3rd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Ring Road No. 1, Rajendra Nagar Chowk, Near Shailendra Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferee / Resulting Company

Advertisement of notice of the meeting of Equity Shareholders

NOTICE is hereby given that by an order dated 2nd day of May, 2023, the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bench at Cuttack ("NCLT") has directed a meeting to be held of the equity share holders of Shivalki Power and Steel Private Limited, (here in after referred to as the "Demerged Company" or "SPSPL") for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving, with or without modification, the proposed Composite Scheme of Arrangement for Amalgamation of Shivalki Auto Engineering Private Limited (here in after referred to as "Transferor Company 1" or "SAEPL"), Neelkamal Vanijya Private Limited (here in after referred to as "Transferor Company 2" or "NVPL"), Adopt Commotrade Private Limited (here in after referred to as "Transferor Company 3" or "ACPL"), Goldmoon Vinimay Private Limited (here in after referred to as "Transferor Company 4" or "GVPL") with Shivalki Engineering Industries Limited (here in after referred to as the "Transferee/Resulting Company" or "SEIL") and Demerger of "Casting Division" or "Demerged Undertaking" of Shivalki Power and Steel Private Limited (here in after referred to as the "Demerged Company" or "SPSPL") and vesting of the same into Shivalki Engineering Industries Limited (here in after referred to as the "Transferee / Resulting Company" or "SEIL") and their respective shareholders and creditors.

In pursuance of the said order and as directed there in further notice is hereby given that a meeting of the equity share holders of the Demerged Company will be held at C-33, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001 on Saturday the 17th day of June, 2023 at 11:30 AM at which place, day, date and time the said equity share holders of the Demerged Company are requested to attend.

Copies of the Scheme and of the Statement under Sections 230(3) and 102 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 6 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016 can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Demerged Company at C-33, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1 Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001.

Persons entitled to attend and vote at the meeting, may vote in person or by proxy, provided that all proxies in the prescribed form are deposited at the registered office of the Demerged Company at C-33, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1, Raipur, Chhattisgarh 492001 not later than 48 hours before the meeting.

Forms of Proxy can be obtained from the registered office of the Demerged Company.

NCLT has appointed Mr. Nimish Ramesh Mehta, Practising Company Secretary, Proprietor of N.M. & Co. Company Secretaries as Chairperson of the said meeting. The above mentioned Composite Scheme of Arrangement, if approved by the meeting, will be subject to the subsequent approval of the tribunal.

Sd/-
Nimish Ramesh Mehta
Dated this 15th day of May 2023 Chairperson appointed for the meeting

SI No.	Name of the Borrower	Demand Notice Dt. (1) 06.03.2023 (2) 09.05.2023	Outstanding Amount	Properties Details
1.	Borrower:- Mr. Hari Kumar Verma S/o Mr. Lt. Tahal Singh Verma		Rs. 20,13,395.00 + Interest & Other Charges as on 09.05.2023	Plot No. 5, Kh No. part of 998/2/3, Ispat Nagar, Risali, Ph. No. 19, admeasuring built up area- 2000 sq.ft. Risali, Bhilai, Dist-Durg.

Boundaries: North: House of Odiya, East: Seller's remaining Land, South: Seller's remaining Land, West: 20ft. Road

Date: 15.05.2023, Place: Bhilai
Authorized Officer, State Bank of India

Adarsh K Malviya tops in Class 12th with 93.4% marks

Of DAV Public School, Bachel

Prince Rath tops in Class 10th with 83% marks

Bachel, May 14:

Keeping intact with the tradition of soaring high with every effort, DAV Public School, Bachel yet again captivated on the CBSE Board Exams 2022-23 when its students came out with flying colours by giving outstanding performance. With their pronounced performance students brought laurels to the school.

In science stream, Adarsh Kumar Malviya topped with 93.4% marks followed by Unnati Sagar (90.2%) and Krishna Kumar Verma (87.2%).

Mohd. Azaan Khan



(83%), Ankita Kesharwani (81.6%) and Piyush Paul (79.2%) have topped the Commerce Stream.

Toppers of class X are Prince Rath (84.4%), Sourabh Gendre (84.2%) and Niyati Singh (83.8%). Feeling immensely proud at the academic achievement, the Principal, Dr. Chetna Sharma, congratulated the students for their

stupendous success and wished them a great future ahead.

She applauded the teachers and Parents for their tremendous efforts in making this feat possible.

Additionally, the Principal, Dr. Chetna Sharma thanked the management of BIOM, Bachel Complex for their unwavering support.

Noble initiative to honour talents



Raipur, May 14: It was possibly one of the rarest initiative taken by an institution head to honour its talent who have shown their mettle in the recently declared CBSE Board Examination results of Class X and XII on May 12. The institution in discussion is Shri Gujrati English Medium School at Devendra Nagar and its dynamic Principal Dr Shailesh Sharma thought upon a noble way to felicitate the 10th and 12th Class toppers. Breaking the protocol he himself personally called all the toppers (Class X and XII) and after congratulating them invited them to visit the school next day. A pleasant sur-

prise was waiting for them when they reached the school next day. All of them were made to stand before a cake specially prepared for this occasion and 'Achiever's Cake' was inscribed on it.

All these toppers jointly cut the cake and before the cutting of cake all of them were given a floral welcome by institution head. Further Principal Dr Sharma himself offered sweets to them and made their day a memorable one. These toppers when asked about their feelings confirmed that they felt like kings and queens being given a royal treatment on their arrival at the venue.

Banpreet Kaur Arora with 93.2% tops in Class XII

Arushi Gupta with 93.6% tops in Class X of CBSE

From 'The Holy Kingdom School'



Kawardha, May 14: 'Repeating the history and carry forwarding the legacy of being in merit ones the again The Holy Kingdom School has listed its name on the top of Higher Secondary and High School result of CBSE Board'.

Describing the result of XII Commerce Section Banpreet Kaur Arora with 93.2%, Nilesh Chandravanshi with 88.2% and Khushi Agrawal with 87.6% holds the 1st, 2nd and 3rd position respectively and from Class X Arushi Gupta with 93.6%, Yash Parihar with 90% and Anushka Jha with 87% holds the 1st, 2nd and 3rd position respectively. Director Pastor Jose Thomas shares this joyous moment and congratu-

lates to all the top performers and students.

Continuing with his words he told that behind this wonderful result there is an important role of our hard working teachers and their hard work paid off. He especially congratulated the parents of Banpreet Kaur Arora from XII and Arushi Gupta of X who holds the merit position and told that these students are studying since nursery and fulfilled

the hopes of school and also showers his blessing on them.

All the pass out students are blessed and congratulated by Assistant Director Liji Thomas, Vice Principal John Pradeep, Commerce Lecturers Sakshi Kesharwani and Pragati Soni, Computer Lecturer Sourabh Parimal and Media In charge Mr. Ashok Inwati, informs a press release issued from The Holy Kingdom School.

IIT-NR Students selected for 'Google Summer of Code Internship'

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: IIT-Naya Raipur students Soumya Ranjan Patnaik and Deepanshu Pratik have been selected for the Google Summer of Code 2023 internship program (GSoC'23). They are among 967 students selected globally out of 43,765 applicants from 160 countries.

Google Summer of Code (GSoC) is a global online paid internship program that enables students to work on open-source software projects. Students are paired with a mentor from the participating organization, giving them exposure to real-world software development and techniques.

Both the students of IIT-NR have been selected for the organization C C E x t r a c t o r Development, which is a leading provider of tools for subtitle extraction and processing.

Soumya's project is about building a desktop component for



Linux that allows users to connect their VR headsets to their computers and get virtual desktops. This will enable users to enjoy a more immersive way to interact with their desktops, where they can view the real and virtual displays that are connected to their computers. The users may also customize the placement and size of the virtual monitors.

The goal is to come up with a working prototype that is good enough for early adopters to play with and other developers to join the effort.

Deepanshu's project is about creating a desktop



application that helps users learn keyboard shortcuts and workflows for Regolith, a keyboard-based desktop environment.

This will enable users to improve their efficiency and productivity by relying less on the mouse and embracing a keyboard-centric approach to working with their computers.

The application helps users learn various keyboard-based workflows that they can execute by following a sequence of key bindings for performing tasks such as navigating windows, launching applications,

modifying window size and orientation, and session management. The selection procedure for the Google Summer of Code program entails students submitting proposals to the mentor organizations they want to work with, on ideas the organization has suggested. On the basis of these proposals, organizations select the most promising applications. In contributing to open-source organizations, communication is the key and mentors are a core part of the program.

Once accepted, GSoC contributors spend a few weeks becoming familiar with the community norms and codebase while determining expected milestones with their mentor. GSoC contributors then spend 12+ weeks coding on their projects.

The opportunity will help the students learn new skills and technologies, as well as contribute to the open source community.

At Amity University

Raipur, May 14: Amity University Chhattisgarh's annual 'AmisPark-2023' a mega Techno-cultural Festival came to end in a grand and pompous show on, May 11, at Raipur's Pandit Dindayal Upadhyay Auditorium after three days of events. On the last day, students from the Amity University and other Universities in the State competed in a variety of events. The students from various Universities presented a spirited effort to showcase their creative and cultural selves by revealing their latent abilities at the festival.

Scintillating events such as Amivibe (singing), Heat Wave (dancing), a fashion show, and a performance by the band Rhythm Plus were a few of the highlights of the closing ceremony. A fantastic live band performance by renowned guest artist, Bollywood playback singer from Mumbai, Abhinav Shekhar was also arranged for later that evening, and the students had a blast dancing and singing along.

The student participation in



the program was very enthusiastic in a wide range of activities, including the Amity Battleground Series, ClueMinati, Comedy Sutra, Corporate Roadies, Nakabposh, Drain Your Brain, Ek Jut, Abhikalp, Fashion Show, Funathlon, Gaze the Maze, Face off Royale, Rhythh Riot, Heatwaves, Dance Drama the D-D Show, Lex Clip, The Rope Warriors, Mobile Photography, Munch Ka MuQadar, Digital

Photography etc.

In the category of solo dancing, Satyam Jaal came out on top. With their performance to "Koi Mil Gaya," Dipti Choudhary, Rohan Mandhani, Tushar Gurubakshani, Mahesh Goyal, Kunal Isswani, Palak Goyal, Kashvi Jain, and Vaishnavi Soni took home first place in the group dance category. Mandeep Kaur won the solo singing competition, and Mc Flu won the rap competition. Bandish the Band won the Battle of Bands, and Siddhant Kumar Das took home first place in the Beatboxing category at the 'AmiSpark 2023', which was supported by Aneet Foods, Ambience, Express Tracecom, and Sandwich Jn. The Vice Chancellor of the Amity University, Prof. (Dr.) Piyush Kant Pandey expressed his delight that the cultural festival has greatly contributed to the students' technical and



artistic growth at Amity University and throughout the state's academic institutions. On the final day, the students expressed their gratitude to the university administration for hosting such a successful event.

The Deputy Pro-VC's, Deans, Directors, Head of Institutions and numerous other administrators and faculty members were present on this mega occasion.

Awareness on necessity of Pension, Insurance is the call of the hour: Bandyopadhyay

'Insureind Chhattisgarh' organised by CII Chhattisgarh State Council

Raipur, May 14: CII Chhattisgarh State Council successfully held its Insurance Conference "Insureind Chhattisgarh" on May 11, 2023, aimed at emphasizing the significance of insurance and its long-lasting positive impact on the industry members of Chhattisgarh. The conference provided a platform for industry experts to discuss the importance of increased insurance penetration, product and process innovation, and most importantly, customer experience. The event was attended by industry leaders, regulators, and policymakers who shared their views and experiences on the latest trends and developments in the insurance sector.

The conference highlighted the need for insurers to adopt digital technology and data analytics to improve customer experience and increase penetration. It also emphasized the importance of product innovation to meet the evolving needs of customers in Chhattisgarh.

"Awareness on necessity of Pension / Insurance is the call of the hour. More training and Capacity building measures to be taken up for building financial literacy across all cross



sections of the society" said Mr Supratim Bandyopadhyay, Former Chairman, PFRDA & Chairman, Consultative Committee on Investments, IRDAI during his speech at the conference.

The insurance sector has experienced a significant transformation in recent years, including demographic changes, evolving customer expectations, and advancements in digital technology. The COVID-19 pandemic has further accelerated the adoption of new technologies and tools, and market players are rethinking their long-term strategies to address societal purpose and trust in the industry" said Mr Siddharth Agrawal, Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council & Director, Godawari Power & Ispat Ltd

Mr T Babu Paul, General Manager, National Insurance Co Ltd. During his address at inaugural session deliberated that "As an insurance professional, I recognize the critical issue of protection gap in insurance, where many individuals and businesses remain

uninsured or underinsured. At National Insurance Co Ltd., we strive to bridge this gap by offering innovative products and services that meet the diverse needs of our customers."

The speakers of the technical session Mr Debasis Chatterjee, Executive Vice President & Chief of Bancassurance, SBI Life Insurance Co Ltd, Mr Rajiv Gupta, President, PB Fintech Ltd(Policy Bazar.com) and Mr Bhaskar Nerurkar, Head - Health Administration Team, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance emphasized the significance of collaborations among insurers, policymakers, and regulators to ensure the growth of the industry in the state.

The conference concluded by formal Vote of Thanks by Mr Umesh Chitlangia, Immediate Past Chairman & CMD, Polybond Insulation Pvt Ltd with a call to action for all stakeholders to work together to create a sustainable insurance ecosystem that can contribute to the growth and development of Chhattisgarh.

Accused nabbed for looting 12 gold chains



From jewelers shop

Jagdalpur, May 14: The police have arrested the accused involved in theft of motorcycle and robbery in Devendra Jewels in Balaji ward under police station Kotwali area of Bastar district. Among the arrested accused, Ramnarayan alias Raju Nishad S/o Kamlesh Nishad, (22) and Suraj Mishra alias Ish Dutt Mishra S/o Shyam Bihari Mishra (19). Both the accused have been arrested from Uttar Pradesh. 12 pieces of gold chain, 1 motorcycle, a mobile phone have been recovered from their possession.

According to the information received from the police, on May 3, 2023, the motorcycle number CG 17 KP 4740 of the applicant Sheikh Asraf was stolen from Balaji Ward. On May 5, 2023, the applicant Prithviraj Tatia lodged a report that two unknown persons looted 12 pieces of gold chain from Devendra Jewelers and ran away. Separate offenses under section 379 and 392,34 IPC were registered against

the accused and taken into investigation.

On the basis of circumstantial evidence at the spot, it was found that they were both the perpetrators of the robbery and the ones who stole the motor cycle. On 3 May 2023, a silver colored motorcycle bearing number CG 17 KPY 4740 was stolen near Aman Mobile in Jagdalpur. After this, after planning to rob the jewellery shop, first the conducted 'reiki' in two-three shops. Between 7-8 pm on May 5, 2023, Devendra went to the jewellery shop posing as a customer to buy a gold chain. And after getting a chance, he looted 12 pieces of gold chain and fled on a motorcycle. After committing the robbery, Lalbagh was running fast towards Amaguda Chowk, while on the way he was hit by a girl riding a bicycle coming from the front. And leaving the motorcycle there, both the suspects fled to Uttar Pradesh. The team arrested both the accused from Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh and brought them to Jagdalpur on transit remand and were produced in the court and sent on remand.

Liquor scam has exposed political character of Cong: BJP

BJP stage protest against liquor scam, demands CM's resignation

Jagdalpur, May 14: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) organized a district-level protest against the Congress government regarding the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam unearthed by ED in Chhattisgarh. Attacking the Congress government fiercely in their addresses, the BJP leaders accused the Congress government of looting the money of the toiling residents of Chhattisgarh through scams. At Sanjay Market area, the BJP protested by sitting in the district level Mahadharna from 12 noon to 3 pm. Addressing the dharna, former MP Dinesh Kashyap charged that this Congress government is a government of scams and Rs 2000 cr liquor scam stands testimony to it. Chief Minister of the Congress government, Bhupesh Baghel, should resign immediately on moral grounds.

Former BJP State General Secretary Kiran Dev said that development in Chhattisgarh is stalled under the rule of the Congress government. The public is scared, the law and order is on the sidelines and the Bhupesh government is indulging in black acts of cor-



ruption. BJP is going among the general public regarding the Rs 2000 cr scam that came to the fore for the ED's action. Such a corrupt government has no right to continue in power, he added.

BJP district president Roop Singh Mandavi said that the true face of the state government has become public due to the liquor scam. Without the patronage of power, such a huge scam cannot happen right under the nose of the government. After the Rs 2000 crore liquor scam was busted, CM Baghel should resign immediately on the basis of morality.

Former Forest Development Corporation President Srinivas Rao Maddi said that after coal, sand, land, ration, now the 2000 crore liquor scam has exposed the political character of Congress. Similarly, in the DMFT scam too, there was a hoax, and the State Congress President Mohan Markam himself has disclosed this in the Vidhan Sabha.

BJP State Working Committee member Shivnarayan Pandey said that it is very unfortunate that the state government itself is involved in liquor scam worth crores. As revealed from the proceedings of ED, money for the development of the state of Chhattisgarh and health, education and other facilities of the people is falling prey to scams. State chief Bhupesh Baghel should take responsibility for this and tender resignation.

Mahadharna was also addressed by District Panchayat Vice President Maniram Kashyap, Srinivas Mishra, Rajneesh Panigrahi, Sudha Mishra, Avinash Srivastava, Rajendra Bajpai, Alok Awasthi, Subroto Vishwas, Rajaram Todem, Narsingh Rao, Sangram Singh Rana, Laxman Jha. Operation was done by Ramashray Singh and gratitude was done by Shridhar Ojha. On this occasion all BJP office bearers of district-level and mandal level were also present.

Ukrainian president says counter offensive does not aim to attack Russian territory

Berlin, May 14 (AP)

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Sunday that his country is preparing a counteroffensive designed to liberate areas occupied by Russia, not to attack Russian territory. Speaking during a news conference with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Berlin, Zelenskyy said Ukraine's goal is to free the territories within its internationally recognised borders. There has been speculation that Ukraine might try to capture areas in Russia proper and use them as bargaining chips in possible peace negotiations to end the war launched by Moscow in February 2022. Pressed by reporters on the issue, Zelenskyy said: "We don't attack Russian territory, we liberate our own legitimate



Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz, second left, and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, center, walk past soldiers during an official reception with military honors at the chancellery in Berlin, Germany, Sunday, May 14.

territory." "We have neither the time nor the strength to attack Russia," he said, according to an official interpreter. "And we also don't have weapons to spare, with which we could do this." "We are preparing a counterattack for the illegally

occupied areas based on our constitutionally defined legitimate borders, which are recognised internationally," Zelenskyy said. The Ukrainian president is visiting allies in search of further arms to help his country fend off the Russian invasion, and

funds to rebuild what's been destroyed by more than a year of devastating conflict. A Luftwaffe jet flew Zelenskyy to the German capital from Rome, where he had met Saturday with Pope Francis and Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni. It is his first visit to Berlin since the start of the war and comes a day after the German government announced a new package of military aid for Ukraine worth more than 2.7 billion euros (USD 3 billion), including tanks, anti-aircraft systems and ammunition. Zelenskyy thanked Scholz for Germany's political, financial and military support, saying the country is now second only behind the United States in providing aid to Ukraine and joked that he is working to make it the biggest donor. Scholz made clear that Kyiv can

expect German aid to keep flowing. "We will support you for as long as necessary," he said, adding that it is up to Russia to end the war by withdrawing its troops. After initially hesitating to provide Ukraine with lethal weapons, Germany has become one of the biggest suppliers of arms to Ukraine, including Leopard 1 and 2 battle tanks, and the sophisticated IRIS-T SLM air-defense system. Modern Western hardware is considered crucial if Ukraine is to succeed in its planned counteroffensive against Russian troops. Zelenskyy first met with President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Germany's head of state, who was snubbed by Kyiv last year, apparently over his previous close ties to Russia, causing a chill in diplomatic relations between Ukraine and Germany.

Erdogan's leadership in the balance as Turkiye votes in pivotal elections

Ankara, May 14:

Turkiye is voting Sunday in landmark parliamentary and presidential elections that are expected to be tightly contested and could be the biggest challenge President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has faced in his two decades in power. The vote will either grant the increasingly authoritarian Erdogan a new five-year term in office or set the NATO member country on what his opposition contender calls a more democratic path. Polling began at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) and will close at 5 p.m. (local time). Media organizations are barred from reporting partial results until an embargo is lifted at 9 p.m. (1800 GMT). There are no exit polls. For the first time in his 20 years in office, opinion polls indicate that the populist Erdogan, 69, is entering a race trailing behind an



opponent. Opinion surveys have given a slight lead to Kemal Kilicdaroglu, the 74-year-old leader of the center-left, pro-secular Republican People's Party, or CHP, and the joint candidate of a united opposition alliance. If neither candidate receives more than 50 per cent of the votes, the presidential race will be determined in a run-off on May 28. More than 64 million people, including 3.4 million overseas voters, are eligible to vote in the elections, which are taking place the year

Turkiye marks the centenary of the establishment of the republic. Voter turnout in Turkiye is traditionally strong, showing continued belief in this type of civic participation in a country where freedom of expression and assembly have been suppressed.

The elections come as the country is wracked by economic turmoil that critics blame on the government's mishandling of the economy and a steep cost-of-living crisis. Turkiye is also reeling from the effects of a powerful earthquake that caused devastation in 11 southern provinces in February, killing more than 50,000 people in unsafe buildings.

Erdogan's government has been criticised for its delayed and stunted response to the disaster as well as the lax implementation of building codes that exacerbated the misery.

Cease-fire between Israel and militants in Gaza appears to hold after days of fighting

Gaza City, May 14:

A fragile cease-fire between Israeli forces and militants in the Gaza Strip appeared to be holding after a five-day clash that killed 33 Palestinians and two people in Israel. The latest round of Gaza fighting was sparked on Tuesday when Israeli jets killed three top commanders from the Islamic Jihad militant group in response to earlier rocket launches from Gaza. Those killings set off a barrage of militant fire and the conflagration threatened to drag the region into another all-out war until an Egyptian-brokered cease-fire took hold late Saturday. While the calm appeared to bring a sense of relief to Gaza's 2 million people and hundreds of thousands of Israelis who had been largely confined to bomb



shelters in recent days, the agreement did nothing to address the underlying issues that have fuelled numerous rounds of fighting between Israel and Palestinian militant groups in the Gaza Strip over the years.

In Gaza, residents surveyed the latest damage caused to their surroundings, with gaping holes left in the apartments serving

as what Israel said were hideouts for the six senior Islamic Jihad members killed during this round. Gaza's main cargo crossing with Israel reopened Sunday after warnings that keeping it closed would force Gaza's sole power plant to shut down, deepening a power crisis. Israel was gradually lifting restrictions on residents in southern Israel, which had

borne the brunt of the rocket fire. Israeli officials have expressed satisfaction with the latest battle, having eliminated many of Islamic Jihad's top brass in what it says were pinpointed strikes based on solid intelligence. But at least 13 of those killed in Gaza were civilians, among them children as young as 4 years old, as well as women. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the targeted attacks on the militants' hideouts would reverberate around the region. "Israel's enemies in Gaza and much farther than Gaza know that even if they try to hide, we are able and prepared to reach them at any time," he told a meeting of his Cabinet. Israel has faced criticism in the past from rights groups over the civilian casualties in its bombardments in Gaza.

Multipolar world is feasible only by a multipolar Asia: EAM Jaishankar

Stockholm/London, May 14:

Globalisation is the overwhelming reality of our times and there must be a respective appreciation of multipolarity because a multipolar world is feasible only by a multipolar Asia, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said in his address to the European Union (EU) Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum (EIPMF) in Stockholm. He also had discussions with several of his EU counterparts on a range of bilateral issues, including strengthening ties amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict. In his address at the EIPMF, Jaishankar called for "regular, comprehensive and candid dialogue" between India and the EU that is not just limited to the crisis of the day. "Globalisation is the overwhelming reality of our



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with other dignitaries during the EU Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum, in Stockholm, Sweden.

times. However, far apart, regions and nations cannot be impervious to significant events elsewhere. Nor can we cherry-pick them to our convenience," he said. "Indo-Pacific itself is increasingly central to the direction of global politics. The more the European Union and

Indo-Pacific deal with each other, the stronger will be the respective appreciation of multipolarity, and remember, a multipolar world, which the EU prefers, is feasible only by a multipolar Asia," he said. Jaishankar said that while there may be historical and

cultural divergences, at the end of the day India and the EU are made up of political democracies, market economies, and pluralistic societies. Transformations underway in India, like digital public delivery, or green growth initiative, merit the EU's attention and as India rapidly expands its global footprint, it will intersect with that of the EU more in the coming years, he noted. Jaishankar also raised the Quad the grouping comprising India, the US, Japan, and Australia as a platform for global growth which is important to any evaluation of the Indo-Pacific, with its "agenda and impact" steadily expanding. "Geographically, the Indo-Pacific is a complex and differentiated landscape that is best understood through more intensive engagement.

Imran Khan slams Pak Army for jumping into politics

Lahore, May 14:

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan hit out at the country's powerful army in his first address after an Islamabad court set him free, saying it should be ashamed of jumping into politics and could form its own political party. Addressing the nation from his Lahore home on Saturday, Khan took strong exception to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) allegations against him and said the spokesperson of the army's military wing was not even born when he represented Pakistan in the world. "I kept Pakistan's flag high world over. Never has ISPR

made such a statement. You should be ashamed of yourself. You have jumped into politics. Why don't you make a political party," Khan said in an hour-long maiden speech after the Islamabad High Court gave him blanket relief in all 145 cases registered against him. His remarks came in response to ISPR Director-General Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry's statement in which he called Khan a "hypocrite". "Listen to me Mr DG ISPR you were not even born when I was representing my country in the world and earning a good name for it. You need to be ashamed of yourself for calling me a hypocrite and anti-Army," he said in a



harsh rejoinder. A triumphant Khan returned to his Zaman Park home in Lahore on Saturday after having locked himself in the Islamabad High Court (IHC) premises for hours for fear of re-arrest despite being granted bail on Friday. Before leaving for Lahore, the 70-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief hit out at the "imported government for kidnapping"

him despite the IHC granting him bail in all cases. The 70-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief also tore into Pakistan's Army chief General Asim Munir and blamed him for his "abduction" after a court set him free. In a major relief to Khan, the Islamabad High Court on Friday granted him protective bail for two weeks in a corruption case and barred the authorities from arresting the former Pakistan prime minister in any case registered anywhere in the country until Monday. During Khan's address, video clips were shown of how army trucks dropped unidentified plainclothesmen, who joined PTI protesters and

provoked them to unleash violence and ransack public property. Khan distanced himself from violent protests that erupted in the wake of his arrest on Tuesday from IHC premises by Pakistan Rangers, asserting that "violence and vandalism is not my philosophy". Khan's arrest triggered unrest in Pakistan that continued till Friday and led to several deaths and dozens of military and state installations being destroyed by the protesters. For the first time in Pakistan's history, the protesters stormed the army headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi and also torched a corps commander's house in Lahore.

Kenya cult death toll hits 200, with more than 600 reported missing

Nairobi, May 14:

The death toll linked to a doomsday cult in Kenya hit 201 on Saturday after police exhumed 22 more bodies, most of them bearing signs of starvation, according to the coast regional commissioner. The bodies are believed to be those of followers of a pastor based in coastal Kenya, Paul Mackenzie. He's alleged (avoiding repetition of "believed") to have ordered congregants to starve to death in order to meet Jesus. More than 600 people are still missing. Mackenzie, who was arrested last month, remains

in custody. Police plan to charge him with terrorism-related offenses. Hundreds of bodies have been dug up from dozens of mass graves spread across his 800-acre property, located in the coastal county of Kilifi. Mackenzie insists that he closed his church in 2019 and moved to his property in a forested area to farm. Autopsies conducted on more than 100 bodies last week showed the victims died of starvation, strangulation, suffocation and injuries sustained from blunt objects. Local media outlets have been reporting cases of missing internal body or-

gans, quoting investigators in the case. Mackenzie, his wife and 16 other suspects will appear in court at the end of the month. Coast regional commissioner Rhoda Onyancha on Saturday said the total number of those arrested stood at 26, with 610 people reported as missing by their families. It is unclear how many survivors have been rescued so far from the search and rescue operations on Mackenzie's vast property. Some of them were too weak to walk when they were found. Cults are common in Kenya, which has a religious society.

Suspected Islamic extremists kill 33 in Burkina Faso

Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), May 14: An attack by suspected Islamic extremists on a village in the west of Burkina Faso killed 33 civilians, the provincial governor's office said. The provisional death toll from the Thursday evening attack on the village of Youlou in Mouhoun province was announced in a press release. Provincial governor Babo Pierre Bassinga called the attack "cowardly and barbaric". He said in the statement that the attack happened around 5 pm as residents were at work in their fields beside the Mouhoun river. The governor said security actions were underway to counter the extremists. Bassinga urged the population to increase their vigilance and to collaborate with security forces.

India plans repatriation of Kohinoor, colonial artefacts from UK: Report

London/New Delhi, May 14:

India is planning a repatriation campaign for artefacts dating back to the colonial era, including the controversial Kohinoor diamond and other idols and sculptures in museums across the UK, according to a British media report on Saturday. "The Daily Telegraph" newspaper claims the issue is among the priorities of the Narendra Modi-led government, with it likely to spill over into diplomatic and trade talks between the two countries. While the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is said to be leading efforts to reclaim objects "trafficked" out of the country since independence, officials in New Delhi are believed to be coor-

inating with diplomats in London to make formal requests to institutions holding artefacts seized as "spoils of war" or collected by enthusiasts during colonial rule.

"The long work of repatriation will begin with what is considered the easiest targets, small museums and private collectors, who may be more willing to voluntarily hand over Indian artefacts, and then efforts will turn to larger institutions and Royal collections," the newspaper report said. Senior officials in New Delhi believe that such historical artefacts can reinforce a strong national cultural identity, with Lily Pandeya, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, quoted as saying:



"Antiquities have both physical and intangible value, they are part of the continuity of cultural heritage, of community and national identity. By robbing these artefacts, you are robbing this value, and breaking the continuity of knowledge and community." The Kohinoor, also known as Koh-i-Noor or mountain of

light in Persian, was in the spotlight at last week's Coronation with Queen Camilla averting a diplomatic row by choosing alternative diamonds for her consort's crown.

The 105-carat diamond was held by rulers in India before landing in the hands of the East India Company from Maharaja Ranjit

Singh's treasury and then being presented to Queen Victoria following the annexation of Punjab. "The return of such a historically significant artefact would be deeply symbolic," according to ministerial circles in New Delhi, and there is understood to be a political will to achieve such a symbolic post-colonial victory," the report said.

The British Museum could face claims for its collection of Hindu statues and the Amaravati Marbles, which were taken from a Buddhist stupa by civil servant Sir Walter Elliot and the Victoria and Albert Museum's Indian collection could also be subject to claims.

The newspaper describes this drive to reclaim Indian artefacts

as a "reckoning" with the country's colonial past, with Secretary for the Indian Ministry of Culture Govind Mohan being quoted as saying that returning antiquities would form a key part of India's policy-making. "It is of huge importance to the government. The thrust of this effort to repatriate India's artefacts comes from the personal commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has made it a major priority," the newspaper quoted Mohan as saying. There have been other cultural trends in recent years toward repatriation, with Greece seeking the Elgin Marbles and Nigeria the Benin Bronzes.

Last year, Glasgow Life a charitable organi-

sation which runs the Scottish city's museums signed an agreement with the Indian government to repatriate seven stolen artefacts to India.

Most of these objects were removed from temples and shrines in different states in northern India during the 19th century, while one was purchased following a theft from the owner. All seven artefacts were gifted to Glasgow's collections, according to Glasgow Life. In New Delhi, a senior official of the ASI said concerted efforts are being made to repatriate artefacts from out of the country. "Since Independence, 251 artefacts have been brought back to India, and 238 of these have been repatriated since 2014," ASI spokesperson Vasant Swarnkar said.



CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 219

Upholding Federalism

Supreme Court's Landmark Verdict Empowers State Governments

The landmark judgment by the Supreme Court, resolving an eight-year-old dispute between the Centre and the Delhi government, holds immense significance for the country. With a unanimous ruling, the court emphasized the preservation of constitutional principles of federalism and affirmed the elected government's legislative and executive powers over administration of services, except for public order, police, and land. This decision not only has implications for Delhi but also sends a strong message to non-BJP-ruled states that the Centre cannot encroach upon their powers. The court's ruling addresses the issue of administrative control, specifically over transfers and postings of civil servants in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. By affirming that the elected government must retain real power and that the Centre cannot assume governance control, the verdict safeguards the principles of democracy and decentralization. It establishes that ministers must have authority over bureaucrats to effectively implement executive decisions and maintain the principle of collective responsibility. The judgment also clarifies the role of the Lieutenant Governor (LG), highlighting that their powers do not extend to interfering with the legislative powers of the Delhi assembly and the elected government. This is significant, as several opposition-ruled states have faced challenges with their Governors, who are appointed by the Centre. The ruling asserts that states possess power as well, with their executive power subject to existing Union laws, ensuring that governance is not overtaken by the Union of India. For the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the ruling is a significant victory, validating their long-standing concerns about interference from the Centre. It gives them greater control over administrative services in Delhi, allowing them to prioritize the interests of the city's residents and execute public works smoothly. However, the implications of this verdict extend beyond Delhi, serving as a reminder to the Centre that it must respect the autonomy and authority of elected state governments across the country. Decentralization of power and maintaining a balance between the Centre and the states are vital for the functioning of a vibrant democracy like India. States play a crucial role in addressing regional issues and formulating policies tailored to the specific needs of their citizens. The Supreme Court's decision curbs the Centre's overreach and reaffirms the importance of democratic governance and federalism. Moving forward, it is essential for the Centre and the states to adopt a collaborative and cooperative approach. They must work together to build a stronger and more inclusive India, guided by the principles of federalism and democratic governance. Power should not be concentrated in the hands of a few but shared among elected representatives at both the Centre and the states. By upholding the principles of decentralization, India can ensure that the diverse interests and aspirations of its citizens are effectively addressed. This historic verdict serves as a cause for celebration not only for the AAP but for the entire opposition, as it reaffirms the principles of democracy and federalism. It is a reminder that the Centre must exercise its powers within the boundaries defined by the Constitution, respecting the rights and authority of state governments. The ruling paves the way for a more balanced distribution of power, enabling states to govern effectively and meet the needs of their people.

Addressing the Menace of Food and Medicine Adulteration in India

Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

In recent years, the problem of food and medicine adulteration has reached alarming levels in India, posing significant risks to the health and safety of consumers. Adulterated food products, contaminated with harmful substances to enhance appearance and shelf life, are being sold to unsuspecting individuals. Similarly, adulterated medicines, containing incorrect ingredients or dangerous substances, jeopardize the well-being of consumers. There has been a surge in the number of cases related to adulterated, substandard, or misbranded food items across India. Food safety authorities have observed an increase in both civil and criminal cases, indicating the widespread prevalence of food adulteration. Shockingly, a substantial portion of food samples analyzed by these authorities failed to comply with prescribed standards, demonstrating the gravity of the adulteration issue. Some samples were even deemed unsafe for consumption. The FSSAI, established in 2006, plays a pivotal role in addressing this problem. As the apex food safety regulatory body, it sets science-based standards for food articles and oversees their manufacturing, storage, distribution, sale, and import. The Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act of 2006 mandates that no person can engage in any food business without a license. State and union territory governments actively conduct surveillance to ensure compliance with these regulations. The BIS contributes to food safety by establishing standards for food articles and awarding the ISI mark, a symbol of compliance with these standards. The ISI mark serves as a reassurance to consumers regarding the quality and safety of the food products they purchase. To consolidate efforts related to food safety and standards, the FSSAI was established, bringing together legislation and authorities in this domain. The FSSAI undertakes various measures to ensure the safety of food products. It is responsible for the registration of food businesses, enforcement of standards, and issuance of licenses to eligible operators. The FSSAI also regulates packaging and labeling requirements to provide consumers with accurate information. Additionally, the FSSAI conducts laboratory analyses to detect and combat adulteration practices, ensuring the integrity of the food industry. For food products intended for medical purposes, such as protein powder, the FSSAI has specific regulations known as the FSS (Food or Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Foods Special Dietary Use, Foods for Special Medical Purpose, Functional Foods, and Novel Foods) Regulations of 2016. These regulations outline the provisions necessary to regulate these products, and compliance with the labeling requirements stated in the FSS (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations of 2011 is mandatory. The Government of India enacted the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in 1954, with subsequent amendments in 1964, 1976, and 1986. This act aims to provide consumers with pure and wholesome food while protecting them from fraudulent and deceptive trade practices. The responsibility for implementing and enforcing the FSS Act primarily lies with state and union territory governments. Food safety officers play a crucial role in taking penal action against non-compliant food business operators based on the provisions and regulations of the Act. Strict laws are essential to effectively address the issue of adulteration and impose penalties on those involved in such practices. By enforcing these laws, authorities can protect consumers and ensure the availability of safe and authentic food and medicine products. The implementation of stringent measures, combined with regular surveillance, compliance promotion.

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

SHARING SUCCESS

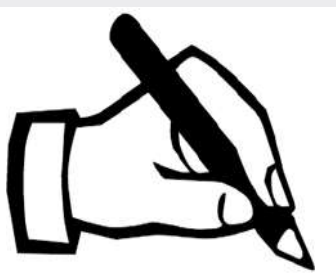


Students celebrate their success after declaration of ICSE and ISC exams results, at a school in Kolkata, Sunday.

A Triumph for the Ages: Saluting Kapil's Devils 40 years of History



PROF. VASISHT MC



It was the summer of 1983 On June 25, 1983, India scripted history and stunned the world by rallying against odds and winning the prestigious trophy at the home of cricket, the Lord's Cricket Ground. Under the captaincy of Kapil Dev, a team of underdogs shocked the world by winning the prestigious ICC Cricket Trophy. It was a momentous occasion for Indian cricket, and the victory is still celebrated and revered by cricket enthusiasts across the nation. As the 40th anniversary of the triumph approaches, the nation is gearing up to pay homage to the legendary team that put Indian cricket on the global map.

To commemorate the historic occasion, Prof. Vasisht, an Associate Professor at the Department of History in Malabar Christian College Calicut, a renowned cricket historian and a cricket poet from Kerala, has compiled a song and created a calendar. The objective behind the song and calendar is to promote the message of Cricket for National Integration. Prof. Vasisht's evocative lyrics have been beautifully tuned and

sung by his former student Mr. Sai Giridhar, adding a musical tribute to the celebration. The 1983 World Cup victory was a watershed moment in Indian cricket



history. The team had to overcome formidable odds to triumph in the tournament. In the lead-up to the World Cup, the Indian cricket team was not considered a serious con-

tender for the title. The West Indies, led by the legendary Clive Lloyd, were the reigning champions and hot favorites to retain the crown. The other top teams, like England and Australia, were also expected to put up a strong fight.

However, the Indian team, which was written off as underdogs, played with great determination and grit. The team's performance improved with every match, and they went on to beat the likes of Australia, Zimbabwe, and the West Indies on way to final. The victory was a testament to the team's resilience and spirit, and it instilled a newfound sense of pride and confidence in Indian cricket.

The 1983 World Cup victory is still

remembered for the remarkable performances of the players who formed the team. Kapil Dev's leadership was exemplary, and his all-round performance in the final against the West

Indies is still talked about in reverential tones. Mohinder Amarnath's heroics in the crucial matches earned him the player of the tournament award. The likes of Sunil Gavaskar, Dilip Vengsarkar, Sandeep Patil, and Roger Binny also played crucial roles in the team's success.

The victory had a profound impact on Indian cricket. It inspired a new generation of players, and the Indian team went on to become a dominant force in world cricket in the following years. The triumph also marked a turning point in the way cricket was perceived in India. The sport was no longer seen as a game played by the elites, but as a unifying force that could bring the nation together.

As the nation prepares to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory, there is a renewed sense of pride and admiration for the team that achieved the seemingly impossible. Prof. Vasisht's tribute in the form of a song and calendar is a fitting tribute to the team that brought glory to Indian cricket. The song, which speaks about the unity and diversity of India, captures the essence of the victory and its impact on the nation. The calendar, which features images of the team and highlights of their journey, is a beautiful reminder of the team's legacy. The 1983 World Cup victory will always be remembered as a triumph for the ages. It was a moment that brought a nation together and inspired a generation of cricket enthusiasts. The team's remarkable achievements will continue to be celebrated and honored, and their legacy will endure for generations to come.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reviving Forgotten Heroes

Karni Sena's recent procession in Nagpur to commemorate Maharana Pratap Jayanti was heartening to witness. However, it raises an important question: Is one day of celebration enough to remember our long-forgotten heroes? The answer is a resounding no. Our future generations need to be acquainted with these remarkable figures because Indian history extends beyond the Mughals and Delhi Sultanate. It encompasses the valour of Maharana Pratap, Rana Sangha, Vijaynagar Kingdom, The Cholas, and countless others. It is imperative for us, as Indians, to reengage with our rich history, explore our cultural heritage, and ensure that the stories of our heroes are not lost in oblivion. Otherwise, we risk repeating unfortunate incidents like the recent Kerala saga. Let us embark on a journey of cultural rediscovery and preserve our heritage for generations to come.

Chandni Shrivastava, Durg

Uncovering Tensions in Manipur

The violence in Manipur has exposed the deep-rooted divide between the Meiteis and other ethnic groups, transcending political and geographic boundaries. While protests acted as a trigger, the underlying tensions have been brewing for years, fueled by issues such as land rights and discrimination against minority communities. The dominance of Meiteis in state government positions and their greater economic and infrastructural progress have further exacerbated the divide. In response to the escalating violence, the Central government invoked Article 355 of the Constitution. However, the ruling BJP's focus on electoral success has overshadowed the urgent need to protect people's lives, reflecting a lack of trust in the government.

MK Nair, Raipur

IAF's Compelled MiG Operations

The recent tragedy resulting in the loss of three innocent lives is a saddening event. It once again highlights the challenging predicament faced by the Indian Air Force (IAF) in operating aging MiG aircraft, which have surpassed their intended lifespan of 40 years by two decades. Aircraft accidents can occur due to various factors, including weather conditions, human error, and technical malfunctions. Unfortunately, technical failures often contribute to MiG crashes. Although the life-extension upgrades may offer some technical benefits, it is crucial to acknowledge that the underlying airframe remains outdated, with cosmetic enhancements. Nonetheless, the IAF finds itself compelled to continue operating these aging aircraft due to a severe shortage of squadrons and limited alternatives.

Krish Kumar, Kannur

Karnataka Assembly Elections: A Resounding Triumph for Democratic Values



Yash pal Raihan

In a country that prides itself on its strong democracy, the Karnataka assembly elections have once again affirmed the power of the people's voice. The election results were in line with the state's historical trend, where no government has been repeated for the past 35 years. This continuity is a testament to the resilience and maturity of democracy in India, reminiscent of Himachal Pradesh, which recently witnessed a similar pattern over 37 years. These election outcomes call for introspection by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). A matured democracy like India demands that political parties not take voters for granted, assuming

that freebies and promises alone will secure votes. It is essential to reflect upon Prime Minister Modi's claims during his speech in the Rajya Sabha, where he asserted that freebies would translate into electoral success. The recent decisions by the Supreme Court further emphasize the need for self-reflection within the BJP.

The Supreme Court rulings in two significant cases showcased the court's independence and highlighted instances where the BJP's actions were questioned. In the Shiv Sena case, it was revealed that if Uddhav Thackeray had not submitted a resignation letter, his government might have been reinstated. This judgment underscores the irregularities that occurred during that period. Similarly, the court granted more powers to the Delhi government, challenging the BJP-led central government's authority. Additionally, the court's directive for SEBI to submit a report on the Adani episode prior to the 2024 parliamentary elections demonstrates the court's commitment to ensuring transparency and accountability.

The Karnataka elections offer a significant lesson to all political parties. It is a clear indication that exploiting the sentiments of voters

based on caste, creed, and religion is ineffective. BJP's attempt to transform the Bajrang Dal into the Bajrang Bali Hanuman party in hopes of gaining more votes was rejected by the discerning voters. This rejection serves as a reminder to all political parties to refrain from exploiting the vulnerabilities of the common man.

The significance of grand roadshows and demonstrations has been undermined by the results of the Karnataka assembly elections. Instead, it is crucial for parties to address the burning issues faced by the common man. The recent advisory from the Supreme Court urging the government to focus on helping the needy and mediating disputes rather than engaging in unnecessary litigation reinforces the importance of prioritizing the welfare of citizens.

For opposition parties, the Karnataka election results serve as a crucial lesson. It is imperative for them to unite and present a formidable front in the upcoming parliamentary elections. A united opposition, fielding a single candidate against the BJP candidate, is essential to avoid a repeat of past scenarios where the Congress party failed to secure enough seats to claim the

position of Leader of the Opposition. The victories of the Congress party in the assembly elections of Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh should not be misconstrued as a guarantee of success in parliamentary elections. The recent by-election in Punjab, where the Congress lost the Jalandhar parliamentary seat it held for 24 years to the AAP party, highlights the need for parties to be vigilant and adaptive.

This is an opportune moment for the BJP to engage in deep introspection and establish clear guidelines for the upcoming parliamentary elections in April 2024. The party needs to evaluate its strategies, address the concerns of the common people, and present a comprehensive vision for the future. Similarly, opposition parties must prioritize national interests over individual agendas and work together to strengthen and mature our democracy.

The lessons from the Karnataka assembly elections extend beyond political parties. They serve as a reminder to every citizen of the power they hold in shaping the destiny of the nation. The electorate has shown that they are not swayed by empty promises or divisive tac-

tics based on caste, creed, or religion. It is essential for voters to remain vigilant, analyze the track records and agendas of candidates, and cast their votes wisely.

Moreover, the Karnataka elections highlight the significance of state-level governance. While state assembly elections may follow different patterns and trends than national parliamentary elections, they play a crucial role in shaping the overall political landscape of the country. State governments have the responsibility to address local issues, provide effective governance, and set an example for the nation as a whole.

Moving forward, it is crucial for political parties, the government, and the citizens to prioritize the welfare of the common man. The focus should be on inclusive policies, equitable development, and addressing the pressing issues faced by different sections of society. By fostering an environment of unity, empathy, and respect for diversity, we can build a stronger and more prosperous India.

(The opinions expressed in this article solely reflect the views of the author and not necessarily those of Central Chronicle.)

BRIEF

Green power



New Delhi: Union New and Renewable Energy Minister R K Singh directed the industry to set targets under Green Open Access Rules 2022. In June 2023, the government notified the Green Open Access Rules 2022 to further accelerate India's renewable energy programmes. These rules were notified for promoting generation, purchase and consumption of green energy including through waste-to-energy plants. It also enables a simplified procedure for the open access to green power. Singh chaired a meeting with Industry and other stakeholders in New Delhi on Green Energy Open Access Rules, an official statement said. "The minister exhorts industry leaders to set targets for going green."

Data Patterns

Chennai: Data Patterns (India) Ltd was actively pursuing new product development aligning with sectoral opportunities, a top company official has said. The city based electronics solution provider in the defence and aerospace sectors, reported a profit after tax at Rs 55.34 crore for the quarter ending March 31, 2023. The company had registered a profit after tax at Rs 61.63 crore during the corresponding quarter of previous year. The total income during the quarter under review grew to Rs 188.90 crore from Rs 173.07 crore registered in the corresponding period of last year.

Digital Infra



New Delhi: Inter-governmental body Shanghai Cooperation Organization members, which includes China and Pakistan, have unanimously adopted India's proposal for developing Digital Public Infrastructure, Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Saturday. India has developed Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) like unified payment interface, Aadhaar etc to make services available to people in a convenient manner.

Container capacity

New Delhi: JSW Infrastructure will invest Rs 152 crore for the expansion of its container capacity at New Mangalore Port Trust, according to sources. In June 2022, the company commissioned its first container terminal at New Mangalore Port Trust (NMPT) in Karnataka, having a cargo capacity of 2.4 lakh twenty equipment units (TEU).

Govt to roll out lost mobile blocking, tracking system pan-India on May 17

New Delhi, May 14:

People will be able to block and track their lost or stolen mobile phones across India with the roll-out of a tracking system by the government this week, a senior government official said. Technology development body Centre for Department of Telematics (CDoT) has been running the pilot of the CEIR system in some of the telecom circles, including Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and North East region, and the system is now ready for pan-India deployment, a DoT official, who did not wish to be identified, told PTI. "CEIR system is scheduled for pan-India launch on May 17," the official said. When contacted, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman Project Board at CDoT Rajkumar Upadhyay did not confirm the date but confirmed

that the technology is ready for pan-India deployment. "The system is ready and now it will be deployed across India in this quarter. This will enable people to block and track their lost mobile phones," Upadhyay said. CDoT has been able to add features to check the use of cloned mobile phones across all telecom networks. The government has made it mandatory to disclose IMEI — a 15-digit unique numeric identifier — of mobile devices before their sale in India.

The mobile networks will have access to the list of approved IMEI numbers which will check the entry of any unauthorised mobile phones on their network. Telecom operators and CEIR system will have visibility into IMEI number of the device and mobile number linked to it, and the information is being used in some states to track your lost or stolen

mobiles through CEIR. "One of the common practices is that miscreants change IMEI number of stolen mobile phones which prevents tracking and blocking of such handsets.

It was a national security issue. The CEIR will be able to block any cloned mobile phones on the network with the help of various databases," Upadhyay said. The basic purpose of CEIR is to ease reporting of stolen and lost mobiles and block the use of mobiles all over the country.

This will discourage the theft of mobile phones, enable the tracing of the stolen and lost mobiles to the police, detection of cloned or counterfeit mobiles, restrict the use of such cloned mobiles, as well as protect the interest of the consumers by making them aware of the information related to fake and cloned mobile phones.

India-EU trade, technology council first meeting at Brussels on May 16

New Delhi: The first ministerial level meeting of India-European Union Trade and Technology Council (TTC) will be held on May 16 in Brussels to discuss ways to increase cooperation in strategic technologies, digital connectivity, clean energy, trade and investments, an official statement said on Sunday. Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal is one of the co-chairs along with external affairs minister S Jaishankar and Union minister of state for electronics and information technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar, the commerce ministry said in a statement. The EU side is co-chaired by Executive Vice Presidents (EVPS) Dombrovskis and Vestager. It said that three working groups under the mechanism will report on roadmaps for future cooperation between the two sides — Working Group on Strategic Technologies, Digital Governance and Digital Connectivity; Working Group on Green and Clean Energy Technologies; and Working Group on Trade, Investment and Resilient Value Chains.

MILLET FESTIVAL



Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami speaks during the inauguration of the four-day Uttarakhand Shree Anna (Millet) Festival, at Survey of India Stadium in Dehradun.

Meeting with Walmart CEO fruitful one, had insightful discussions: PM Modi



New Delhi, May 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said his recent meeting with Walmart CEO Doug McMillon was a fruitful one during which they had insightful discussions on different subjects. Modi also said he was happy to see India emerge as an attractive destination for investment. McMillon had called on Modi last week.

"The meeting with Mr. Doug McMillon, CEO of @Walmart, was a fruitful one. We had insightful discussions on different subjects. Happy to see India emerge as an attractive destination for investment," Modi tweeted.

On May 11, Walmart Inc. had tweeted, "Thank you Prime Minister @narendramodiji for a great conversation. We are working toward exporting USD 10B per year from India by 2027 and are committed to strengthening logistics, skill development & supply chains to make India a global export leader in toys, seafood & other goods." "The visit with Prime Minister @narendramodiji reinforces the shared value we bring working alongside India.

Enough growth opportunities within facilities to take capacity to 40 MT in India: Narendran

Ranchi, May 14:

Tata Steel sees enough growth opportunities within its existing facilities to actualise an expansion plan to achieve 40 million tonne capacity in India by 2030, almost double of its current capability in the country, CEO and Managing Director T V Narendran said. The steel giant will continue to hold talks with the UK government over a financial package for operations there, he said. The company has planned capital expenditure to the tune of Rs 12,000 crore for India operations, he said.

"In India, basically we want to increase the capacity. We have already around 21 MT. It will be 25 MT soon because the Kalinganagar expansion



is going on. We have a few more plans - Neelachal, Kalinganagar and Meramandali or Angul to achieve 40 million tonne capacity by 2030," Narendran told PTI in an interview here. There are multiple ongoing projects at various locations in India and the company has "prioritised completion of the 5 MTPA Kalinganagar expansion", he said. The company is in the process of expanding its plant capacity in Odisha's Kalinganagar to 8 MT from 3 MT. "Within nine months of acquisition,

we have successfully ramped up (the capacity of) Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd to one million tonne on annualised basis," he said. The steel company, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Tata Steel Long Products Ltd, had completed the acquisition of Odisha-based one million tonne per annum steel mill NINL for a consideration of Rs 12,100 crore in July 2022. On capacity expansion, he said, "Basically the capex (capital expenditure) which you see is Rs 12,000 crore in India. It will be at that level for the next three years at least." In reply to a query, he categorically said that the entire growth plan is based on "organic" expansion, and there is no plan for any "inorganic" growth in the near future.

Changes in anti-money laundering law can adversely impact foreign investment facilitation, say CAs

New Delhi, May 14:

Chartered accountants are seeking clarifications on the finance ministry's recent notification on extending the ambit of anti-money laundering law as it can adversely impact ease of doing business and the facilitation of foreign investments. According to industry sources, chartered accountants (CAs) and company secretaries often act as formation agents for foreign companies setting up businesses in India and often provide their own address for communication in the initial phase. They also act as resident directors of the foreign company trying to establish presence in the country and also operate bank accounts on behalf

of their clients. Industry sources said there is no way that an accountant can know whether the money that an investor is bringing into India is bonafide or laundered money and verify its source. In view of the pending review by the global watchdog on terror financing and money laundering scheduled later this year, the finance ministry has in recent months tightened and expanded the scope of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

As part of the exercise, chartered and cost accountants and company secretaries have been included in the ambit of the PMLA, if they undertake specified activities on behalf of their clients.

Pidilite expects better margin and volume-driven growth in FY24: MD Bharat Puri

New Delhi, May 14:

Pidilite Industries is "cautiously optimistic" and expects a better margin with a volume-driven growth in FY24, helped by a comeback of rural and semi-urban demand and increased activities in the real estate sector, said its Managing Director Bharat Puri.

Leading adhesive, waterproofing solutions and construction chemicals company said now the inflation has come to a "manageable level" though it has not come back to pre-Covid levels. Besides, the company which recently announced foraying into the decorative paints segment, said it has a long-term perspective for it



and would utilise its existing sales network. Pidilite is already present in the coatings business. When asked about FY24, Puri told PTI: "From a margin perspective, FY24 will definitely be better than FY23, barring any black swan events or something new happening in the world." Pidilite, which owns adhesives brands such as Fevicol, FeviKwik, M-Seal and Dr

Fixit, has already consumed the raw material which was earlier sourced at higher prices. "As far as the top line is concerned, we should be cautiously optimistic. We are seeing the return of rural and semi-urban demand and overall, therefore, a tailwind," Puri added.

Construction in real estate is clearly seeing a lot more of action. "So, therefore, from a top line, we will like to grow one to twice GDP depending on the year. It should be profitable volume growth with better margins than FY23," he added. About the nature of growth, Puri said, "There will be very little pricing growth, most of the growth will from the volume side."

Govt to make Rs 300 crore equity infusion in Alliance Air

New Delhi, May 14: The government is set to make an equity infusion of Rs 300 crore in regional carrier Alliance Air, which is facing financial headwinds, according to a senior official. Alliance Air, earlier part of Air India, is now owned by AI Assets Holding Ltd (AIAHL), a special-purpose vehicle formed by the central government. The disinvestment-bound Alliance Air operates around 130 flights daily. In recent months, there have been instances of strikes by pilots to protest against non-restoration of salaries to the pre-Covid level and non-payment of allowance, among other issues.

Hero MotoCorp set to roll out record number of products this year: CEO

New Delhi, May 14:

Hero MotoCorp is gearing up for highest ever model introductions this fiscal as it looks to consolidate market share especially in the premium bike segment, according to the company's CEO Nirranjan Gupta.

The country's largest two-wheeler maker plans to introduce new bikes, including the first product under the Hero MotoCorp-Harley Davidson tie-up, during the ongoing financial year.

The company has leadership in the budget bike segment (100-110cc) and is looking to enhance presence in the 125 cc and also drive in models to bring in volumes and enhance profitability in the 160-cc and



above space. "We'll have product launches every quarter of this fiscal year. Probably this fiscal, we'll see the maximum number of launches ever seen in the company's history," Gupta said in an analyst call. The company is bullish on growth prospects this year with plans to further enhance its market

share across segments, he noted.

"We are excited about the fiscal and expect to build on our market share and margin recovery. We have a host of new launches lined up, and we will be launching new products every quarter in this fiscal," Gupta said.

He noted that there would be "a lot of launches in the premium segment" during the course of the year.

"There will be big launches...which will then ensure that we can build the right premium portfolio and get our market share on that," Gupta said. He noted that the company is focusing on the premium segment bikes, with power ranging between 150cc and 450cc.

KSB Limited finishes first quarter of 2023 with strong performance



Mumbai, May 14: KSB Limited finishes the first quarter of 2023 with strong performance. The Sales value for Q1 2023 is registered at INR 4,896 million which is about an 17% increase over the corresponding quarter of 2022. The Operating profit margin is at 12%. The FGD orders worth INR 339 Mio received of which 276 Mio from K C Cottrell. The All India Dealer Conference held at Istanbul, Turkey. The company in a u g u r a t e d Mechanical Seal Assembly Line

at IPD Pimpri and the groundbreaking ceremony of Sinner new shed was also organised. Summarising the Q1'23 performance, Mr. Farrokh Bhatena, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, KSB Limited said, "This quarter we have registered stellar performance with highest ever order intake of INR 6764 Mio in Q1 2023 from conventional business. Our sales achieved for the quarter are 17% higher than that of the corresponding Q1 2022. Despite the complex macroeconomic environment and shrinking margins, we are poised to leverage growth opportunities in our key markets. These impressive results are due to our strong focus on growth strategy. In addition, the greater customer trust in our product portfolio and our strong execution capabilities also add up to KSB's growth momentum.

Housing sales in FY23 up 48 pc to Rs 3.47 lakh crore driven: Anarock

New Delhi, May 14:

Housing sales rose 48 per cent year-on-year to Rs 3.47 lakh crore during the last fiscal across seven major cities on higher volumes and better price realisation, according to Anarock. Real estate consultant Anarock reported that sales of residential properties in value terms increased to Rs 3,46,960 crore last fiscal from Rs 2,34,850 crore in 2021-22. In volume terms, sales grew 36 per cent to 3,79,095 units in 2022-23 from 2,77,783 units in the previous year. The data pertains to the transactions of primary (fresh sale) housing market. "India's residential real estate segment contin-

By higher volumes & prices



ues to show boundless forward momentum, and is setting unprecedented benchmarks," said Anuj Puri, Chairman, Anarock Group. According to the data, housing sales in Delhi-NCR rose 42 per cent to Rs 50,620 crore last fiscal from Rs 35,610 crore in the previous year. In Mumbai

Metropolitan Region (MMR), sales grew 46 per cent to Rs 1,67,210 crore from Rs 1,14,190 crore. Housing sales in Bengaluru increased 49 per cent to Rs 38,870 crore from Rs 26,100 crore. In Pune, housing sales rose 77 per cent to Rs 33,730 crore from Rs 19,100 crore.

NHB asks large housing finance companies to adopt early warning signals framework

New Delhi, May 14:

Regulator for housing finance firms NHB has asked housing finance companies with asset size of over Rs 1,000 crore to adopt an early warning signals (EWS) framework to check financial frauds and also to prevent accounts from turning into non-performing assets. National Housing Bank (NHB), in a recent circular, said analysis of the frauds reported by the housing finance companies (HFCs) has revealed that the reasons behind accounts being identified as fraud accounts are seller impersonation, submission of fake income/ employment documents, submission of fake title deeds, a collusion

of the builder and borrower. It has also been observed that such deficiencies are identified only when the borrower stops paying the EMIs after the disbursement of the loans, NHB said.

"It has been therefore decided that an Early Warning Signals (EWS) Framework should be adopted by the HFCs so that an alert is triggered before the account turns into non-performing asset (NPA) or declared as a fraud account," it said. NHB circular further said that tracking of the EWS must be integrated with the credit monitoring process in the systems of the HFCs so that it becomes a continuous activity.

'I now understand what my mom went through'



Sony Entertainment Television's 'Sapnon Ki Chhalaang brings viewers an engaging narrative about Radhika, a girl from Jhansi who takes a leap of faith to the maximum city of Mumbai. Starring Megha Ray as the protagonist, the show has seen Radhika convince her parents, especially her father, to let her pursue a career in Mumbai. She now faces the challenge of living in an alien city, adjusting with roomies from diverse backgrounds and trying to handle the pressures of her first job while appeasing her tough boss. The 'coming of age drama' has viewers anticipating what will happen next in Radhika's life as she balances her work and the concerns of her family back in Jhansi. Radhika has stepped out of a sheltered environment for the first time as a young adult and despite having faith in her daughter's abilities, it's a mother's prerogative to worry about her child. Talking about a mother's feeling after the child leaves the nest, Kashish Duggal relates to her character Suman Yadav and recalls similar instances of her own life. In the upcoming track, Radhika's boss, Priyal (Benaf Dadachandji) will announce an office offsite in Goa, that will be mandatory to attend for all the employees. While Radhika is keen to go on this trip, she knows that her parents would not agree to such an undertaking. Will Radhika's parents allow her to go on the offsite? Tune in to watch Sapnon Ki Chhalaang, every Monday to Friday at 9:30 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television!



Ruhee Dosani to showcase genderless fashion on Cannes red carpet

Content creator and social media influencer Ruhee Dosani is set to make her debut on the red carpet of the Cannes Film Festival. Ruhee, who also has a 9-to-5 job, will be redefining genderless fashion during her Cannes appearance.

Talking about it, Dosani said: "Starting with my We Desi group, then coming back to my country, I had no idea how my journey as an artiste would grow. Taking one Reel at a time, my vision was always to again go global with my craft."

"This milestone opportunity given by the Cannes Film Festival is an artiste's dream! It feels like my talent is being

recognised by one of the most prestigious film festivals in the world." Sharing her feelings, Dosani added: "I believe that this is my chance to showcase how India has always been progressive in its approach. My vision with Cannes this year is to promote the idea of genderless fashion and make a global mark. I will always be grateful to this platform for helping me showcase and support my love for fashion and my country."

Vijay Varma, Anushka Sharma, Manushi Chhillar and Aditi Rao Hydari will also be attending the film festival, which is set to be held from May 16 to May 27.

Alia Bhatt Gucci's global brand ambassador



First it was Deepika Padukone, who was appointed as the first Indian to represent luxury giant Louis Vuitton internationally, and now Italian high-end luxury fashion house Gucci has appointed Alia Bhatt as their first Indian global ambassador.

The fashion house from Florence used Instagram to make the formal announcement with a photo and a comment stating, "Alia Bhatt is the House's newest Global Brand Ambassador. To mark the occasion, the actress, producer and entrepreneur was captured with the Gucci Bamboo 1947 bag," read Gucci's official social media post.

Alia Bhatt stated, "I'm honoured to represent the house of Gucci, not only in India but at a global stage. Gucci's legacy has always inspired and intrigued me and I'm looking forward to the many sartorial milestones we create together."

Gucci further commented on its social media handle that Alia Bhatt was chosen, "an example of a creative talent fostering empowerment and self expression within the next generation" and is recognised by the House as the latest Global Brand Ambassador."

Alia will reportedly attend the fashion house Cruise 2024 show, which will take place in Seoul, South Korea, next week, after being named the brand's worldwide ambassador. The event will reportedly commemorate Gucci's 25 years in South Korea and will be held in the city's Gyeongbokgung Palace.

Alia will make her Hollywood debut alongside Gal Gadot and Jamie Dornan in the Netflix spy thriller "Heart of Stone" on the professional front. The film will make its debut in August of this year.

BREAKING THE STEREOTYPES

Female writers who gave emotionally available and vulnerable male characters



in love with the character.

• **Zoya Akhtar and Reema Kagti - Sunny Gill in Dil Dhadakne Do**

One simply can't forget the scene in the film where Sunny played by Farhan Akhtar calls out Aisha's husband (played by Rahul Bose) for passing a sexist comment very casually. Emphasising on not letting go the "small-things", Sunny portrayed the male feminist, proving instrumental in the journey of self empowerment for Aisha (played by Priyanka Chopra). Sunny struck a chord with every woman and served as an idealistic example for the men to follow.

• **Kanika Dhillon- Robbie in Manmarziyaan**

Robbie from Manmarziyaan is the epitome of the ideal man every woman craves for. Played by Abhishek Bachchan, Robbie is not only emotionally available, but he also ticks all the boxes for a perfect partner. From being understanding, caring to being non-judgemental, Robbie is every girl's dream man. In the world of immature and misogynistic MCPs, Robbie never character assassinated Rumi (played by Taapsee Pannu), in fact, the way he dealt with the Rumi-Vicky situation with utmost maturity and sensitivity, had every girl rooting for him.

around masculinity, by creating male characters who are sensitive, understanding and would cheer for women. It is important to write wholesome men for cinema because when the general public sees women through the lens of these men a lot of their mindsets, and impressions get realigned. Here's a look at the women who have greatly contributed to the shift of male representation in Indian Cinema:

• **Gauri Shinde- Dr Jug in Dear Zindagi:**

Dr Jug is simply the ideal therapist for every woman. Beaming with sensitivity, Jug played by Shah Rukh Khan has an irresistible charm owing to his non-judgemental portrayal. Ditching the orthodox mentality, Dr Jug not only embraces but also propagates the modern, feminist rationale making us fall

Raghav Chadha, Parineeti get engaged at a glittering ceremony

On a day he would have loved to be in Jalandhar to celebrate the Aam Aadmi Party's return to the Lok Sabha via the byelection caused by its former Congress MP's death, Raghav Chadha got engaged to Bollywood actress Parineeti Chopra, better known as the sister of Priyanka Chopra Jonas.

It was a hot Saturday afternoon, yet the normally somnolent Kapurthala House -- once the sprawling Delhi home of Kapurthala's Maharaja Paramjit Singh and now the official residence of Punjab's Governor and Chief Minister whenever they're in Delhi -- was a beehive of activity.

Photographers and videographers jostled for the right angles, shouted out requests to the arriving guests to pose for pictures and excitedly exchanging names, workmen walked in with last-minute deliverables, the evening's granthi sauntered in, and Bollywood favourite designer Manish Malhotra darted in and out with Parineeti's dress for the occasion before returning to formally join the party. For the paparazzi who



were waiting for a rush of Bollywood and political celebrities, the action started only after the evening descended on this quieter part of Lutyens's Delhi just across the road from the Taj Mahal Hotel. Earlier in the evening, the two families did keep it a low-key affair meant

for loved ones and close friends. Parineeti, who was with her sister at The Lodhi hotel after flying in from Mumbai in the morning, zipped in, flashing a victory sign from her car.

Before she arrived, Chadha's seniors in the Rajya Sabha, both representing

West Bengal in the Upper House -- ace Supreme Court advocate and Congress spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi with wife, Ghazal and Sufi singer Anita Singhvi, and Derek O'Brien, also with wife, Dr Tonuca Basu -- walked in and happily posed for the photographers. Singhvi, who even showed the paper bag in which he was carrying a gift for a couple. Then came the political bigwigs -- Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann flaunting his trademark yellow turban and ever-ready smile, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal with his wife, Sunita Kejriwal, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and Uddhav Thackeray's son, Aditya Thackeray, and former finance minister and Congress Rajya Sabha MP, P. Chidambaram, straight off his television appearances post the party's victory in Karnataka.

On a day when the Karnataka election results were consuming the mind-space of the nation, these politicians were taking a well-deserved break, though, without doubt, their conversation must all have been about the changing political narrative.

Temple Jewellery Collection: Embracing Tradition

Temple jewellery is a stunning and intricate style of handcrafted jewellery that has a rich history dating back to the 9th century A.D. in South India. Although traditionally used to adorn temple deities or worn by royalty, it has now become a popular choice for brides and for special occasions. The process of creating traditional temple jewellery requires skill, precision, and an understanding of the symbolism behind each design.

The creation of temple jewellery involves several stages, starting with designing the jewellery. The designs are often inspired by ancient Hindu scriptures and each piece is imbued with meaning and significance.

The next step is embossing, where a thin sheet of gold is placed on a melted wax base and the design is embossed onto the gold sheet using special tools. The jewellery is then embellished with precious and semi-precious stones and polished to achieve a flawless finish. In conclusion, the making of traditional



temple jewellery in gold is a time-honoured craft that requires a great deal of skill and dedication. The end result is a stunning work of art that serves as a symbol of India's rich heritage and craftsmanship.

However, there have been unfounded rumors questioning the process and materials used in creating temple jew-

ellery, which undermine the reputation of the skilled craftsmen who make these pieces and cast doubt on the credibility of the entire industry.

Such narratives do a disservice to the artistry and cultural significance of temple jewellery. In response to these concerns, Kalyan Jewellers, a renowned jewellery brand in India, has introduced its 4-Level Assurance Certificate, a customer-centric initiative that guarantees the best value, quality, and service for its patrons.

Kalyan Jewellers follows fair and transparent business practices, as evidenced by the 4-Level Assurance plan's product information section.

The brand only charges customer's gold rate on the total value of the gold used after deducting the weight of other materials such as lac, gemstones, glass, wood, enamel, etc., from the total weight of the product. The plan also promises great value on the exchange and resale of jewellery, ensuring that customers get the best deal possible.

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

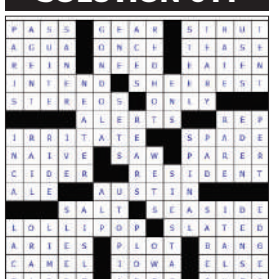
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- Landlord's income
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- Roosters' mates
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- Blunder
- Metre out
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- Eave hanger
- Glance
- Hot drink
- Misleading clue (2 wds.)
- Slant
- Edgar _____ Poe
- Completed
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- Dozed
- "The Way We _____"
- Wallet stuffers
- Detachment
- Prophetic sign
- Box tops
- Between
- Average skirt
- Prepare to propose
- Become old
- Moose's horn
- Roof problem
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- Cook's oil
- Copier's need
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- _____ phone
- Not busy
- Gent
- Fairy-tale fiend
- Paddle a boat
- Sis's sibling

SOLUTION 644



RCB defeat RR by 112 runs

Jaipur, May 14 (PTI):

Royal Challengers Bangalore notched up a comprehensive 112-run win over Rajasthan Royals to strengthen their IPL play-off chances, here on Sunday.

Opting to bat, skipper Faf du Plessis (55 off 44) and Glenn Maxwell (54 of 33) scored half-centuries to help RCB post a competitive 171 for five.

Their bowlers, led by Wayne Parnell (3/10) then put up scintillating display to bowl out Rajasthan for a paltry 59 in 10.3 overs.

Michael Bracewell (2/16) and Karn Sharma (2/19) picked two wickets each.

Earlier, du Plessis and Maxwell stitched a 69-run partnership for the second wicket to set the platform for the total.

But the middle order once again failed to fire as RCB lost four wickets for just 18 runs.



Royal Challengers Bangalore players celebrate the wicket of Rajasthan Royals batter Jos Buttler during the IPL 2023 cricket match between Rajasthan Royals and Royal Challengers Bangalore, at Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur, Sunday.

Brief Scores

Royal Challengers Bangalore 171 for 5 in 20 overs (Faf du Plessis 55, Glenn Maxwell 54; Adam Zampa 2/25; KM Asif 2/42) Rajasthan Royals 59 all out in 10.3 overs (Shimron Hetmyer 35; Wayne Parnell 3/10)

Spinner Adam Zampa and medium pacer KM

Asif picked two wickets apiece for Rajasthan.

Pramod bags two gold, Suhas too win

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): Tokyo Paralympic champion Pramod Bhagat capped off his impressive run with two gold medals at the Thailand Para Badminton International tournament here on Sunday.

Pramod defeated England's Daniel Bethell in the men's singles SL3 final to secure gold before pairing up with fellow Indian Sukant Kadam to claim the yellow metal in men's doubles SL3-SL4 category.

Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj emerged champion in SL4 category after beating fellow Indian Sukant 21-14 17-21 21-11 in the men's singles final.

In women's singles, Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan and Thulasimathi Murugesan signed off with silver medals in SH6 and SU5 class respectively.

In the SL3 singles final, Pramod had won the opening game 21-18 when Daniel decided to retire because of an injury.



Pramod Bhagat

In the doubles category final, Pramod and Sukant won the gold medal by defeating compatriot Nitesh Kumar and Tarun 18-21 21-14 21-19 in a keenly contested game.

"I am happy with my performance in the tournament. I was playing well and was implementing everything I had trained and planned," Pramod said in a press release.

"I hope Daniel recovers soon as it is always fun facing him as he gets the best out of me. In the doubles Nitesh and Tarun pushed up and I am happy the way we responded and finished the match."

SUDIRAM CUP

India lose to Chinese Taipei

Suzhou, May 14 (PTI): Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu's gallant fight ended in agony as India made a dismal start to their Sudirman Cup campaign, going down to the formidable Chinese Taipei 1-4 in their group C opening round tie here on Sunday. There was, however, no lack of fight from the Indian players as Tanisha Crasto and K Sai Prateek started on a positive note in the mixed doubles contest but they ran out of steam in the end, losing 21-18 24-26 6-21 to world no. 30 Yang Po-Hsuan and Hu Ling Fang.

World Number 9 HS Prannoy then couldn't find his 'A' game, going down 19-21 15-21 to world no. 5 Chou Tien Chen as India lagged 0-2 after the first two matches.

Sindhu was then handed the responsibility to bring India back into the tie but it was always going to be a tough task with her nemesis and former world no. 1 Tai Tzu Ying standing in the net.

The 27-year-old from Hyderabad, who hasn't been in the best of form



India's Prateek K. Sai and Tanisha Crasto in action against Chinese Taipei's Yang Po-Hsuan and Hu Ling Fang in the Mixed Doubles round-robin match on Day 1 of the Sudirman Cup, at the Suzhou Olympic Sports Center Gymnasium in Suzhou, China

lately, produced a gritty performance after the opening game reversal but couldn't go the distance with Tai Tzu managing a 21-14 18-21 21-17 win in an hour and four minutes.

It allowed Chinese Taipei take an unassailable 3-0 lead in the five-match tie. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty then fought hard before losing 13-21 21-17 18-21 to Lee Yang and Ye Hong Wei in the men's doubles match in a little over an hour as India further slumped to 0-4.

World No 17 Treena Jolly and P Gayatri Gopichand then showed tremendous grit as they recovered from an opening game loss to eke out a 21-15 18-21 13-21 win over Lee Chia Hsin and Teng Chun Hsun in the final women's doubles tie to help India avoid a clean sweep. India will face Commonwealth Games mixed team champion Malaysia in their second Group C match on Monday.

Malaysia beat Australia 5-0 to top the group on Sunday.

Gujarat Titans look to seal play off berth after rare blip

Ahmedabad, May 14 (PTI): Gujarat Titans pride themselves on consistency and would be expected to produce a solid show against Sunrisers Hyderabad in the IPL here on Monday after a rare "flat" performance.

Another win should be enough for defending champions Gujarat Titans to seal a play-off berth while Sunrisers, who have only four wins from 11 games, are all but out of the reckoning.

Barring Rashid Khan, who starred with both ball and bat against Mumbai Indians, the bowlers had a forgettable outing and no one had answers to the special hitting ability of Suryakumar Yadav.

Gujarat remain the table leaders and tend to quickly learn from their mistakes.

"As a group we weren't there. In bowling also we were very flat. Didn't have clear plans or didn't execute," skipper Hardik

Pandya had said after their fourth loss in 12 games.

With the bat, the prolific top-order could not get going and despite a blinder from Rashid Khan at number 8, the Titans fell short. The star spinner was back at his best with the bowl to end up with his best figures of the season.

The skillful Mohammed Shami had a rare off day and he would be expected to conjure up magic with the new ball. Mohit Sharma, who was used in the middle and death overs earlier in the season, bowled with the new ball against Mumbai but the move did not play off.

Sunrisers, on the other hand, will be at the mercy of other teams after losing to Lucknow Super Giants from a winning position. They could not defend 80 runs off the last six overs with Nicholas Pooran playing a game changing innings. The failure of the

top-order and the star bowlers not performing as per expectations has let Sunrisers down this season. Anmolpreet Singh has replaced Mayank Agarwal at the top but is yet to make an impact.

Rahul Tripathi too has not set the stage on fire, having totalled 199 runs in 11 games at an underwhelming strike rate of 129.14. The skipper, Aiden Markram, has not led from the front with 207 runs from 10 games at a strike rate of 129.37.

The handling of pacer Umran Malik, who last played on April 29, has also been questioned.

The positive has been the performance of Abdul Samad, who is finally living up to his potential after years of promise.

Squads: Sunrisers Hyderabad: Aiden Markram (c), Abdul Samad, Rahul Tripathi, Glenn Phillips, Abhishek

Sharma, Marco Jansen, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Kartik Tyagi, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, T. Natarajan, Umran Malik, Harry Brook, Mayank Agarwal, Heinrich Klaasen, Adil Rashid, Mayank Markande, Vivrant Sharma, Samarth Vyas, Sanvir Singh, Upendra Yadav, Mayank Dagar, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Akeal Hosein and Anmolpreet Singh.

Gujarat Titans: Hardik Pandya (c), Shubman Gill, David Miller, Abhinav Manohar, Sai Sudharsan, Wriddhiman Saha, Matthew Wade, Rashid Khan, Rahul Tewatia, Vijay Shankar, Mohammed Shami, Alzarri Joseph, Yash Dayal, Pradeep Sangwan, Darshan Nalkande, Jayant Yadav, R. Sai Kishore, Noor Ahmad, Dasun Shanaka, Odean Smith, KS Bharat, Shivam Mavi, Urvil Patel, Joshua Little and Mohit Sharma.

Match starts 7.30 IST.

Pak was on boil following Imran's arrest but Indian bridge team get royal treatment

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): When the whole of Pakistan was on the edge following the dramatic arrest of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, bridge players from India were being treated like royalty in a five-star hotel in Lahore.

Part of a 32-member Indian bridge contingent were well-known philanthropist Kiran Nadar, wife of HCL founder Shiv Nadar, and another veteran in the sport, Rajeshwar Tiwari.

Tiwari, who has also taken part in the Asian Games among other international events around the world, was in the team that won the gold in the open category of the Bridge Federation of Asia and Middle East Championships. India swept the event by win-



Members of Indian bridge team in Lahore, Pakistan.

ning all four gold medals on offer. With Pakistan witnessing nationwide violence following Khan's arrest earlier this week, a few nerves in the visiting Indian team's camp were expected but speaking to PTI, Tiwari said the organisers made sure they felt completely safe in the confines of the Pearl Continental hotel.

"They made us feel special ever since we crossed the Wagah border to enter Pakistan. The president of Pakistan Bridge Federation came to the border to welcome us.

"The competition was not of the highest standards but in terms of hospitality, this is the best experience we have had out of all the overseas tourna-

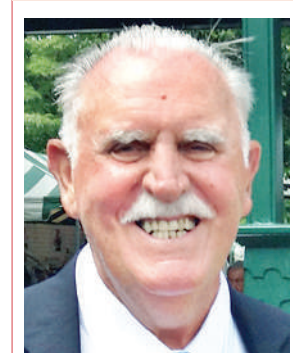
ments we have taken part in. "We too are known for our hospitality in India but when they come here, it will be difficult for us to match them," Tiwari told PTI before boarding a flight from Amritsar airport. The contingent had reached Lahore on May 4 and majority of the members returned home on Sunday. A batch of seven including Kiran Nadar had returned on Saturday.

After the arrest of Khan, the Indian team was told to stay indoors but before that Tiwari and his teammates got multiple sightseeing opportunities in Lahore.

The Indian team members visited the Lahore Fort in the walled city, explored the famous food street and dined at restaurants close to the Badshahi Mosque and the Samadhi of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Aussie tennis player Davidson dies at 79

Had won 13 Grand Slam doubles titles



Australian Open with Ken Rosewall and the 1973 U.S. Open with John Newcombe when they beat Rod Laver and Rosewall.

In singles, he reached the 1966 semifinals of Wimbledon by upsetting two-time defending champion Roy Emerson. Davidson also reached the quarterfinals in singles at seven other majors five times at the Australian Championships and twice at the U.S. Nationals, a precursor to the U.S. Open. Davidson played in the first match of the Open Era, defeating John Clifton in the first round of the British Hard Court Championships on April 22, 1968.

Davidson and King combined to win four major titles at Wimbledon, three at the U.S. Open and one at the French Open. In the 1971 Wimbledon finals, they outlasted Margaret Court and Marty Riessen 3-6, 6-2, 15-13. He was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2010.

Davidson was born in Melbourne on Oct. 4, 1943. He was coached by Hall of Famer Mervyn Rose and worked with Davis Cup captain Harry Hopman as a member of the Australian Davis Cup team. Davidson coached the British Davis Cup team from 1967-70.

He is survived by his son Cameron and brother Trevor Davidson. AP

PBKS knock out DC with 31-run win

New Delhi, May 13 (PTI):

Spin twins Harpreet Brar and Rahul Chahar shared six wickets between them to power Punjab Kings to a 31-run win over Delhi Capitals in the IPL here on Saturday.

This was bottom-placed DC's eighth loss from 12 matches as they became the first team to be eliminated, while PBKS kept their playoff hopes alive, climbing to sixth spot.

David Warner smashed a 23-ball 50, his 60th fifty in the IPL, en route to his 54 (27b; 10x4, 1x6) to give DC's 168-run chase a flying start.

From being 69 for no loss in the power-play, DC came crashing down with Brar (4/30) and Chahar (2/16) ripping Delhi apart



Punjab Kings bowler Harpreet Brar celebrates the wicket of Delhi Capitals batter Manish Pandey during the IPL 2023 cricket match between Delhi Capitals and Punjab Kings, at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi, Saturday.

from seventh to 11th over. Brar dismissed Warner with a successful review and there was no looking back as DC were restricted 136/8 on a slow-turner.

Put into bat, PBKS rode on Prabhsimran Singh's 103, his first century in the IPL, to post 167 for seven.

Veteran Indian pacer

Warner blames batters' lack of application

As DC are knocked out of play-off contention

New Delhi, May 13 (PTI): Delhi Capitals captain David Warner rued his side's poor batting approach as they were knocked out of IPL play-offs contention after suffering a 31-run loss to Punjab Kings here on Saturday.

Chasing 168 on a slow-turner, the Australia left-handed batter gave DC a perfect start as his side reached 69 for no loss at the end of powerplay, but



they crashed to 88 for 6 in 10.1 overs and were ultimately restricted to 136 for 8. "The way we started and then losing six for 30, you are not going to win many games," Warner said at the post-match presentation. "Another disappointing effort with the bat after the start we had." DC will

play their two remaining matches for pride only.

"I think we found the right combination but we keep losing 4-5 wickets in the middle and that is something you cannot do at this level." He also rued the drop chance of Prabhsimran Singh who got a reprieve on 68 from Rilee Rossouw.

"A few dropped chances cost us a few runs," Warner said. "You have to play with pride, belief in yourself and play with freedom," he said about DC's approach in the upcoming games.

95-year-old sportsman recalls early days of cricket

Guwahati, May 14 (PTI): When 19-year-old Naba Kamal Bhuyani took guard at the crease for Assam in 1948 against the United Provinces team, he unwittingly entered the record books. He became the batter to face the first ball for this Northeastern state in its maiden Ranji Trophy outing, playing at Garrison Field in the then state capital city of Shillong. The youngster was asked to face the first balls so that his opening partner, the more experienced B B Bose, could get an understanding of the pitch and the bowler before taking on them.

Messi returns to PSG lineup but Mbapp grabs spotlight

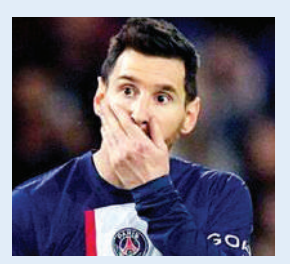
As Ajaccio routed

Paris, May 14 (AP): Lionel Messi returned to the Paris Saint-Germain lineup after a brief suspension and Kylian Mbapp grabbed the spotlight with two goals as Ajaccio was routed 5-0.

PSG moved closer to a record 11th French league title by leading second-placed Lens by six points with three games left. Defeat relegated 18th-placed Ajaccio.

Mbapp's second-half brace moved him onto a league-leading 26 goals and two ahead of Lyon striker Alexandre Lacazette, whose side plays on Sunday.

World Cup winner Messi missed PSG's previous game because the club suspended him for traveling to Saudi Arabia for commercial reasons without authorization. He apologized and the suspension was lifted this week. Messi received a mixed reception. Some fans jeered the superstar, but the absence of PSG's hardcore "ultra" fans made for a largely subdued atmosphere at Parc des Princes. The Paris Ultras Collective who usually stand behind one of the goals are boycotting matches until further notice amid growing tensions with PSG president Nasser al-Khelaifi.



Lionel Messi



Kylian Mbapp

Midfielder Fabien Ruiz and right back Achraf Hakimi put PSG 2-0 up by halftime. Mbapp made it 3-0 in the 47th minute and volleyed in superbly from the edge of the area in the 54th.

Central defender Marquinhos hit a deflected shot that led to an own goal. Hakimi was sent off for the second straight home game when he was red-carded along with Ajaccio midfielder Thomas Mangani following a brief scuffle in the 77th.

SC to hear plea of BLA for action against VP, Rijiju

Over remarks on judiciary

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI):

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Monday a plea of Bombay Lawyers Association (BLA) against Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar over their remarks on judiciary and the collegium system for appointment of judges.

The lawyers' body has moved the top court challenging the Bombay High Court's February 9 order dismissing its plea on the ground that it was not a fit case to invoke the writ jurisdiction under Article

226 of the Constitution.

As per the apex court web-site, the appeal of the BLA is listed for hearing before a bench comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Ahsanuddin Amanullah.

The Bombay Lawyers Association (BLA) had claimed that Rijiju and Dhankhar showed lack of faith in the Constitution with their remarks and conduct. It had sought orders to restrain Dhankhar from discharging duty as the vice president, and Rijiju as the cabinet minister for the central government. In an appeal, the lawyers body said the "frontal attack not just on the judiciary but the Constitution" by the two

executive officials has lowered the prestige of the Supreme Court in public.

Rijiju had said the collegium system of appointing judges was "opaque and not transparent".

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar had questioned the landmark 1973 Kesavananda Bharati judgement that gave the basic structure doctrine.

Dhankhar had said the verdict set a bad precedent and, if any authority questions Parliament's power to amend the Constitution, it would be difficult to say "we are a democratic nation". "It is submitted that the Petitioner herein filed the PIL before the High Court of Judicature at Bombay praying therein

to declare the Respondent no 1 and 2 as disqualified candidates to hold any constitutional posts of Vice President and Minister of the Union Cabinet, respectively, based on their behaviour, conduct and utterances made in public," the petition has said.

The two constitutional functionaries, it said, showed lack of faith in the Constitution by their conduct and utterances made in public and by attacking its institutions, including the Supreme Court, and showing scant regard for the law laid down by the Supreme Court. "The conduct of Respondent Nos 1 and 2 appeared to have shaken public faith in the

Supreme Court and the Constitution," it said.

The plea said the vice president and the Union minister have affirmed oaths that they will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution. "However, their conduct has shown lack of faith in the Constitution of India," it said assailing the high court's order dismissing its PIL. They have launched a frontal attack on the institution of judiciary, particularly the Supreme Court, in most derogatory language without any recourse which is available under the constitutional scheme to change the status quo as per the law laid down by the Supreme Court, it said.

WORLD LUPUS DAY



Actor Mamta Mohandas clicks a selfie with patients suffering from lupus disease during an event to observe World Lupus Day, in Kochi, Sunday.

ALL FOR LIVELIHOOD

Tripura tribal woman turns to fish farming

Agartala, May 14 (PTI):

Forty-five-year-old Jaminisari Molsom's life changed after a large water body was created by constructing a check dam in Tripura's Gomati district to create livelihood for tribal people living in the forest and to boost fish production in the state.

Molsom, a tribal who earlier used to cultivate crops on the slopes of hills in the Gomati district as a shifting cultivator is now settled in a village on the foot of the hills and earns a livelihood for her five member family by fishing in the newly created waterbody.

The large water body of more than one hectare of land was created in the forest land under Tripura JICA project of the forest department to create livelihood, mainly for the tribal people living in the forests and to boost the fish production by scientific fish farming. Visibly de-

lighted, Molsom said after getting this alternative livelihood her family has got a settled life and gave up the strenuous nomadic life of a 'Jhumiya' cultivator (shifting cultivator). She is now a member of Khumpui Self Help Group (SHG) and cultivates fish in the lake along with other nine tribal women in the village and the group earns more than Rs five lakh per year. "Now we are settled so we can rear pigs and cultivate vegetables in our own land, besides fish farming and live a life without worry", she said.

"A large number of water areas have been created by constructing check dams in the forests of Tripura under Tripura JICA Project. These water areas if utilised to the fullest extent may increase fish production and side by side may ensure livelihood generation for the poor forest fringe dwellers. Forest dependent communities may get an opportu-

nity to give up their traditional practices like jhuming as it degrades forest and adopt pisciculture as their livelihood", Dr Avinash M Kanfode, Chief Executive Officer and Project Director Tripura JICA Project, said in a written note.

Superintendent of Fisheries, Bappi Basfore, who is on deputation from the state fisheries department for this project said, "People in the state are among the highest fish consumers in the country. Per capita fish consumption in the state is 26.26 kg and per capita fish production is 19.47 kg per year. So there is a deficit.

This project is aimed at meeting the gap". According to the data provided by the department, the total demand of fish in the state is 96,454 MT and total production of fish in the state is 72,273 MT, so the total deficit of fish in the state is 24,181 MT. He said, "the state govern-

ment has decided to construct minimum 430 check dams, which would tentatively create a water stock area of 500 hectare and 1,400 MT fish would be produced, which costs at least Rs 2,240 lakh per annum".

Basfore said, this project is aimed at rehabilitating the tribals from Jhuming to settled cultivation, make the state self-sufficient in fish productions and generate employment for 4,300 indigenous people, who are members of 430 Self Help Groups (SHGs). One of the primary challenges in Tripura's fish farming sector is the lack of suitable water bodies for fish farming.

Therefore, the first step towards making Tripura fish abundant is to create more water areas. This can be achieved by identifying suitable locations for fish farming and creating new water bodies by building small dams or reservoirs.

Six-month-old undergoes metal-free spine fixation surgery

At AIIMS

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI):

Doctors at AIIMS here have conducted a successful metal-free spine fixation surgery on a six-month-old boy using a bone graft from his mother, making him the youngest infant in Asia to undergo such surgery, the hospital said.

The infant was kept on a ventilator for 11 months after undergoing the 15-hour surgery on June 10 last year and was discharged on May 10, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) said in a statement.

The child had sustained spinal cord and brachial plexus injury during normal vaginal delivery at another hospital. He weighed 4.5 kg (macrosomia) at birth, said Dr Deepak Gupta, professor of neurosurgery at AIIMS.

After birth, the child was put on oxygen support and had episodes of aspi-

ration pneumonia in another hospital.

"At the time of presentation to us in May 2022 at 5 months of age, the child had respiratory distress and minimal movement of all three limbs (left upper and lower limbs, right lower limb) and no movement of right upper limb. Examination revealed an injury to the spinal cord and cervical spine dislocation (cervical spondyloptosis)," Gupta explained.

"It is almost impossible to fix such young spines using metallic implants/cages due to the very small size of cartilaginous bones in such young infants... the mother consented to give part of her iliac crest bone for her child," he added.

The boy's mother was put under general anaesthesia and the infant was undergoing surgery in parallel operation theatres. Interestingly, the mother's blood group was B positive and the boy's was A positive but there was no rejection of the

bone graft. Good bony fusion and spine stability has been achieved at the time of discharge, Gupta said.

"As per literature search, this happens to be the youngest infant in Asia and the second youngest in the world to undergo cervical spine fixation surgery at such a young age," he said.

"Only one such case in a younger infant has been reported from the USA in 2016 of a similar injury fixed using autograft," he added. Gupta said, "Looking at the age of the child and the urgent need of surgery, we improvised and used mother iliac crest graft for fusion of child spine (cervical spine cord decompression and 360 degrees fusion) and fixed it with absorbable 2.5 mm PLLA plates (front of spine) and special suture tapes for back of spine to allow for growth avoiding complications of metallic implants." At this young age, most bones are cartilaginous, very small in

size and unsuitable for any available metallic screws, rods or cage fixations, he said. The child needs prolonged rehabilitation support and was discharged on a tracheostomy tube prophylactically, the statement said.

He is interacting well with his parents, feeding well and has shown partial neurological recovery in his limb movements after surgery, it said.

He celebrated his first birthday in December 2022 in JPN Apex Trauma Centre (AIIMS) and stayed in TC5 ward of the trauma centre for 11 months while he was being weaned off ventilatory support and undergoing neurorehabilitation support, it added.

The boy was looked after by a team of doctors including neuroanaesthesia professor Dr G P Singh, neurophysiology professor Dr Ashok Jaryal, and Dr Sheffali Gulati, Dr Rakesh Lodha and Dr Jhuma Shankar from paediatrics department besides Dr Gupta.

Atal Residential Schools in UP to start functioning from July

Free education for children of labourers

Lucknow, May 14 (PTI):

Children of labourers and those orphaned during the COVID-19 pandemic in Uttar Pradesh will soon get access to state-of-the-art educational facilities, with the state government starting the admission process for the maiden session of the Atal Residential Schools.

The residential schools named after BJP stalwart and former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee will provide free education to children from classes 6 to 12. Students will also get full residential facilities.

Students will need to

clear an entrance exam for admission in the 18 such schools in each administrative division of the state. The session will start for class 6 in July, Uttar Pradesh Minister of Labour and Employment Anil Rajbhar said.

The schools will be managed by the Uttar Pradesh labour department.

"Children of parents holding e-shramik cards for at least three years and registered with the Uttar Pradesh Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (UPBOCW), are eligible for admissions to the school. Children, who lost either or both of their parents, Covid are also eligible," he added.

Children born between

May 1, 2010 and April 30, 2013 will only be eligible for admission to Class 6 in Atal schools. The government has made provision to admit a maximum of only two children from a family in the schools.

Speaking about the objective behind setting up of such schools, the minister said, "The aim of establishing Atal Residential Schools is to ensure overall development of children of registered labourers. This will help them join the mainstream and provide a better future for themselves and their families."

Special Secretary, Labour Department, Rajendra Singh, said, "The schools will work on the lines of Navodya

Vidyalayas and follow the CBSE curriculum. Each of the schools have around 10 sanctioned posts for teachers. The process of appointment of teachers is underway and the appointment letters will be issued in the coming week."

According to officials of the Labour department, while the construction of 16 of the proposed schools has almost been completed, the construction of schools in Moradabad and Bareilly are running behind schedule.

Labour department officials said this delay will not affect the admission process.

"The admission will be held in all the 18 schools. We will make separate arrangements on a tempo-

rary basis for students of Atal school in Bareilly and Moradabad," said Singh.

In the state capital, the newly constructed Atal school is spread across 17 acres in Sithorikala of Mohanlalganj block. The school was constructed at a cost of 70 crore.

School Principal Sukhvir Singh said, "The school has an academic block, separate hostels for boys and girls, mess, teachers quarters and principal's residence. The school has all the amenities to provide a suitable environment for teaching."

Raghu Nath Verma, a Lucknow-based mason registered with UPBOCW has submitted the admission form of two of his four children.

Differently-abled AP student aces CAT to bag IIM seat

Visakhapatnam (AP), May 14 (PTI):

Demonstrating indomitable spirit and zeal despite all odds, a differently-abled 27-year-old man from a remote village near Narsipatnam town in Andhra Pradesh managed to secure an MBA seat in the prestigious Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A).

Dwarapudi Chandramouli, a resident of Pedda Bodepalli village, lost all his limbs after getting electrocuted in 2018 while trying to retrieve his younger sister's ring from a tin roof. "I tried to retrieve the ring using a rod which got pulled by the magnetic force

of the power lines abutting our home, leading to the shock and subsequent amputation," Chandramouli told PTI. After three months of hospitalisation, Chandramouli, who studied engineering in Kakinada, was starting at a hopeless future when one of his father's friends and a well-wisher advised him to study law, instilling in him the ambition of becoming a judicial magistrate in the future.

Heading these wise words, Chandramouli enrolled for an LLB course at Anakapalli while his unwavering bunch of friends cheered him up ensuring that his sudden disability did not come in the

way.

However, the disability poured cold water on his magisterial ambitions as he had learnt that under the existing rules, only a person with at least one functioning hand is eligible to become a magistrate. Despite these dampeners, Chandramouli said he took it on the chin and worked for e-commerce giant Amazon from home to support his family. A conversation with a friend who graduated from IIM Calcutta changed his outlook as to why he could not pursue MBA cracking the tough CAT examination in search of a corporate job which does not require physical strain.

WARM WELCOME



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar accompanied by his wife Sudesh Dhankhar during his visit to the Brahma temple in Pushkar, Sunday.

Alarm bells ring among scientists after Alligator Gar Fish found

After COVID hiatus

Srinagar, May 14 (PTI):

The discovery of a carnivorous Alligator Gar fish in Kashmir's famous Dal Lake has set the alarm bells ringing among scientists and authorities as its presence poses a great threat to the native fish species.

The ray-finned euryhaline fish having a mouth like that of an alligator was caught during a dewatering operation in the famous lake.

"This is an Alligator Gar fish which is normally found in North America and some parts of India like Bhopal upper lake and Kerala backwaters. Being a predator fish and a carni-



vore, it poses a threat to native species of Dal Lake," Dr Shafeeqa Peer, a scientist at the Lake Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) told PTI.

Peer said it was a matter of concern as to how this fish has invaded the water system of Kashmir.

"What will be the fate of our native fishes? In certain places like Bhopal, it has been banned as it thrives on other small fishes. It poses a threat to other species and we have not yet come across this type of

species here," she added. Peer said the LCMA has now collaborated with the Department of Fisheries and Fisheries division of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) to look for any other Alligator Gar fish in the lake.

"We will launch a massive hunt to ascertain whether it is just one fish, is it accidental or somebody has played mischief? There are a lot of questions, especially from the ecology and biodiversity point of view," Peer said.

Attaullah Khan, Senior project officer at the fisheries department, said as of now, two Alligator Gar fishes have been caught.

"These fishes are native

to America but Aquarium keepers somehow get these fishes for their Aquarium and when they overgrow they take these fishes and put them in nearest water bodies," Khan said.

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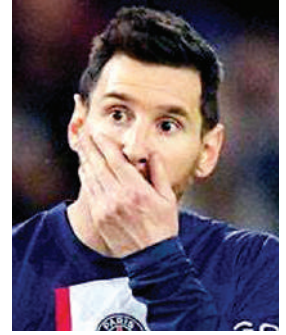
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BRIEF



Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan greets fans outside his bungalow Jalsa, at Juhu, in Mumbai, Sunday.

Watery grave

Jabalpur: A total of five persons, including a BJP leader's son and three teenage boys, drowned in two incidents in Jabalpur and Harda districts of Madhya Pradesh, police said on Sunday. In Harda city, three boys aged between 14 years and 15 years ventured into Ajnal river to play in the water and drowned, Sub Divisional Officer of Police Archana Sharma told PTI.

Fire

Nagpur: A major fire destroyed cotton bales stored on the premises of a private yarn manufacturing company in Waroda village in Nagpur district of Maharashtra on Sunday, officials said. Nobody was injured in the incident. The company buys cotton gins from private firms and manufactures yarn, officials said. Company owner Asif Ansari claimed the process of making yarn from cotton bales was going on in the afternoon when smoke started coming out from one of the two sheds on the company premises.

Suspend

Chandigarh: Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij on Sunday suspended five personnel of Jind district's Narwana Sadar police station, including its SHO, for "negligence and carelessness". The minister made a stop at the police station while he was on his way to Hisar from Ambala, and conducted a surprise inspection, according to an official statement issued here. Station House Officer (SHO) Sub-Inspector Balwan Singh, head constables Sandeep Kumar and Ram Niwas, and constables Kuldeep and Raman have been suspended, it said.

Mishap

Prayagraj: Four members of a family, including a minor, died after being run over by a car in this district, police said on Sunday. The incident took place in Dadoli village on Saturday night, they said. Some members of the family were sitting in front of their house when the speeding car hit them and overturned, Pooramuffi Station House Officer (SHO) Ashok Kumar said.

Hooch tragedy

Vilupuram: Five persons, including a woman, died after allegedly consuming spurious liquor in the district, police said on Sunday. Four police personnel were suspended in connection with the incident, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin said.

Weather
High 42 Low 27

Suspense prevails over next K'taka CM

Congress announces oath date, but not the name

Bengaluru, May 14:

The new Karnataka Chief Minister and the cabinet will take oath on Thursday, sources said. The Gandhis and national Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge will attend the event. The Congress has sent invitations to all "like-minded" parties to attend the oath-taking event.

The final contours of the Karnataka cabinet will take shape in a day or two, people with direct knowledge of the matter said.

The BJP has been voted out of power in Karnataka, its only bastion in the south until Saturday, when the Congress took 135 seats in the 224-member house.

The BJP won only 66 seats, down from 104 in the 2018 state election. It did not win a single seat reserved for Scheduled Tribes (ST) category.



Supporters of Congress leader Siddaramaiah demonstrate outside the venue of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting, in Bengaluru, Sunday.

Karnataka has 51 reserved constituencies, out of which 36 are for Scheduled Castes (SC) candidates and 15 for ST candidates.

The Congress called a meeting of its MLAs on Sunday to discuss who would be the Chief Minister.

The Congress Legislature Party (CLP) is expected to pass a resolution leaving it to the Congress national presi-

dent to decide the Chief Minister pick. No final decision will be taken on Sunday, but the views of all MLAs will be ascertained, sources said.

Congress leaders DK Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah have expressed interest for the top post, raising concerns over a stand-off if the matter is not resolved.

Shivakumar has gone with his family and broth-

'High command to take a final call'

As the race for the chief ministership of Karnataka hotted up between Siddaramaiah and D K Shivakumar, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday rushed back to Delhi and said the AICC observers will convey the opinion of the party's MLAs to the high command which will then take a final decision. He also asserted that everything has gone smoothly for the party in the assembly polls and the government will be formed as soon as possible. The newly elected assembly in Karnataka has to be put in place as the term of the previous assembly expires on May 24. This means the swearing-in of the new chief minister and his ministers has to take place a few days before that. Meanwhile, Karnataka Congress president Shivakumar hinted that he is in the chief ministerial race, saying he took everyone along and never sought anything for himself. He also brushed aside speculations about differences between him and former chief minister Siddaramaiah.



Mallikarjun Kharge

er, Congress MP from Bangalore Rural DK Suresh, to a temple 120 km away from the state capital Bengaluru.

Siddaramaiah's supporters have put up a poster outside his home in Bengaluru, referring to

him as "the next Chief Minister of Karnataka".

Posters also came up outside Shivakumar's house, wishing "birthday greetings" to "the new Chief Minister of Karnataka". His birthday is on Tuesday.

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K'taka DGP Praveen Sood is next CBI director

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): Karnataka Director General of Police Praveen Sood has been appointed as the next director of the Central Bureau of Investigation, a government order said on Sunday. The 59-year-old has been appointed to the post for a period of two years from the date of taking charge after Subodh Kumar Jaiswal completes his tenure on May 25, according to officials.



Sood is a 1986-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Karnataka cadre and the senior-most IPS officer in the country after Jaiswal. His name was cleared on Saturday in a meeting of a high-powered committee comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury. Chowdhury, a Congress leader, had reportedly given a dissent note on the selection of Sood as the next CBI director. However, there was no official word on it.

In the order, the Department of Personnel and Training said, "Approval of the competent authority is hereby conveyed to the appointment of Praveen Sood, IPS

(KN:86) as Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for a period of two years from the date of assumption of charge of the office vice Subodh Kumar Jaiswal, IPS (MH:85) consequent upon completion of his tenure." Sood has an impressive educational background. He is an alumna of IIT-Delhi, IIM-Bangalore and Syracuse University in New York. The officer, who was scheduled to retire in 2024, will now have a fixed two-year tenure. Currently the director general of police in Karnataka, Sood was earlier superintendent of police of Bellary and Raichur districts, deputy commissioner of police (law and order) and additional commissioner of police (traffic) in Bengaluru City, and commissioner of police of Mysore City.

CISCE RESULTS

Girls outshine Boys

98.94 % clear Class X, 96.93 % Class XII



Students celebrate their success after the announcement of ICSE Board class 12th exams results, at a school in Dehradun, Sunday.

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): The CISCE on Sunday declared the Class 10 and Class 12 results with 98.94 per cent and 96.93 per cent of students, respectively, clearing the board examinations. Council for the

Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) Secretary Gerry Arathoon said the Class 10 (ICSE) examination was conducted in 63 written subjects of which 21 were Indian, 14 foreign and two clas-

sical languages. "The Class 12 (ISC) examination was conducted in 47 written subjects of which 12 were Indian languages and three were foreign languages and one classical language," he said.

Top rankers....

In Class 10, nine students shared the top rank with 99.80 per cent marks. They are Rushil Kumar, Annanya Karthik, Shreya Upadhyay, Advay Sardesai, Yash Manish Bhasein, Tanay Sushil Shah, Hiya Sanghavi, Avishi Singh and Sambit Mukhopadhyay. In Class 12, five students shared the first rank with 99.75 per cent.

INT'L WOMEN'S DAY: WHO CARES ?



Women labourers, carrying their children, work at a brick kiln factory on the occasion of International Mother's Day, in Nadia district, Sunday.

Sherpa guide climbs Mt Everest for 26th time

Kathmandu, May 14 (PTI): A Sherpa guide scaled the summit of Mount Everest on Sunday for the 26th time, equalling the record set by a Nepalese guide for the most ascents of the world's highest peak.

Pasang Dawa Sherpa, 46, reached the summit (8,849-m peak) on Sunday morning along with a Hungarian climber, according to expedition organiser Imagine Nepal Treks.

Dawa, who made his first successful climb in 1998, matched the record number of summits with Kami Rita Sherpa.

Meanwhile, Rita is currently stationed at the Everest base camp and is planning to scale for a

Equalling record set by Nepalese guide

record 27th time. Interestingly, Dawa equalled Rita's record in the year that also marks the 70th anniversary of the first ascent of Mount Everest in 1953 by New Zealander Edmund Hillary and his Sherpa guide Tenzing Norgay.

Nineteen mountaineers, including five foreigners, reached the summit of the world's highest peak this weekend. Sherpa guides fixed ropes and made paths for the hundreds of climbers who will attempt to scale the peak over the next few weeks. "On Saturday a team of nine rope-fixing climbers from Nepal

reached the summit," said Yuvaraj Khatiwada, director at the Department of Tourism, Nepal.

On Sunday, five foreigners climbed the summit of Mount Everest.

They include Naila Kiani and Nadia Liakhos from Pakistan, Jessica Rai Wadel from the USA, Marton Ceterper from Hungary, and Liansu Cui from China.

Kiani became the second woman from Pakistan to raise the country's flag at the world's highest peak.

Samina Baig was the first woman mountaineer from Pakistan to scale the mighty Everest in 2013.

Nepal has issued a record 466 permits to climb Mount Everest this spring, officials said.

Super Cyclone Mocha hits B'desh, Myanmar coasts

Dhaka, May 14 (PTI): Super cyclone Mocha made landfall along the Myanmar-Bangladesh coasts on Sunday after intensifying into the equivalent of a category-five storm, causing extensive damage to the southeastern coastlines and forcing the evacuation of over five lakh people in low lying areas.

The Cyclone Mocha, one of the most powerful cyclones seen in the country in nearly two decades - made landfall shortly after midday on the Teknaf shorelines before making its way through the Naf River that divides Bangladesh and Myanmar.

The powerful wind uprooted trees and damaged roofs of several houses in Teknaf and Saint Martin's



Strong waves crash at the sea-shore, in Port Blair, Sunday.

Island, which is situated about 9-km south of the tip of Cox's Bazar-Teknaf peninsula. There was heavy rain along with strong winds in St. Martin's, an eight-square-kilometre coral-rich island located in the Bay of Bengal.

"The 'eye' or the center point of the cyclone made

RAY OF HOPE

'IOA's decision to take charge of WFI is first step in our fight for justice'

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): The protesting wrestlers on Sunday termed the Indian Olympic Association's (IOA) decision to take charge of all the activities of the Wrestling Federation of India as the "first step" in their fight against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the former WFI chief.

The country's top wrestlers, including Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat, have been protesting at the Jantar Mantar for the last 22 days demanding the arrest of Brij Bhushan for alleged sexual harassment of women wrestlers. The IOA, through its let-



Wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik address the media during their protest against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi, Sunday.

ter on May 12, asked the secretary general of WFI to hand over the official documents including financial instruments to its ad-hoc panel, making it clear the outgoing office

bearers shall have no role in the running of the federation. The WFI said it has no issues in obeying the IOA order since they were already co-operating with the authorities.

Tourists prevented from going to beaches

Kolkata: Disaster Management Force personnel are keeping a watch on the sea resort towns of West Bengal while preventing tourists from going to the beach on Sunday, as cyclone Mocha made landfall along the coasts of Bangladesh and Myanmar, an official said.

ry-five cyclone, might take more time to cross the coastlines.

Citing sources, the Dhaka Tribune newspaper reported that St Martin's Island, Teknaf Sadar and several other coastal areas have been affected by strong winds which uprooted trees, and blown away roofs of houses.

CM attends Sant Samagam at Sadguru Kabir Ashram

MGM students shine in CBSE Examinations

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: Students of MGM Senior Secondary School, Sector 6 Bhilai exhibited their mettle once again in the academic field. With grit and constant perseverance the school saw a leap in the overall performance of students in results of CBSE Class 10 and 12 Examinations, 2023.

23 students secured 90% above and 328 students secured 1st division. Martein Gayakwad scored 95.2% while Dilkash Zahaa Khan secured 93.6% hence securing first position in Science and Commerce streams respectively.

In the second position, Ritam Kanjilal and S Banupriya acquired 94.4% followed by Arya Kumar securing 93% and landing in the third position in the science stream. In the commerce



stream, Arpit Karan and Y Yogendra Sai Reddy obtained 90.6% and 90.2% thus acquiring second and third position. 40 students secured 90% and above and 375 students secured 1st division. Arvind Sahu scored 96.4%, Swara

Sharma and Pragya both scored 95.4% and Hamda Jahangir scored 95%. The school management and the principal laud the tireless efforts and extended hearty congratulations to the staff and the students.



Kabir, he said that he was such a great saint who strongly attacked social ostentation and spread the divine light of knowledge to eradicate superstition.

Saint Kabir amritwani is in front of the society and are relevant even today. His couplets will guide society till eternity. After 650 years, his speech is relevant even today.

He used to talk about binding humanity and society in one thread beyond caste and religion. He said, "What is in the universe is also in the body." That's why he asked the people to identify themselves.

CM asked the devotees attending the Sant Samagam to keep their mind empty just like a vessel to imbibe the



speech of the saint and receive the knowledge.

In his address, he said that the government is also working on the development of the state through education, health and culture, following the path shown by saints. In the programme, the Chief Minister announced the construction of a dome shed at the ashram.

Sahitya Vedantacharya

Sukrit Saheb Shastri, Chhote Mahant Parmeshwar Das Saheb, President Sant Bhupat Saheb, District Cooperative Central Bank President Rajendra Sahu, District Panchayat Vice President Ashok Sahu, President of Krishi Upaj Mandi Ashwini Sahu and other public representatives, devotees and officials were present.

- Saints are the guide of the society; Baghel
- Announces Dome Shed construction in Ashram

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: A two-day Virat Sant Samagam event was organized by Kabir Panth devotees at Sadguru Kabir Ashram in village Selud from May 13. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel attended the programme as the chief guest on Sunday.

At the outset, he garlanded the statue of Sadhguru Kabir Saheb and offered aarti. Addressing the function, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that saints are the guides of the society.

Referring to Saint

Brilliant performance of GNESSS in CBSE Class 12 exam



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: This year too students of Guru Nanak English Senior Secondary School have performed brilliantly in the CBSE XIIth Board Examination and passed the exams with flying colours.

In Science Stream, Kanishka Singh secured first position, Gaurvi Sharma secured second position and Simran Kaur made the school proud by securing the 3rd position.

In Commerce Stream, Antra Sharma secured first position, Md Zulquarnain secured second position and Richa Randhawa secured third position. For this great achievement, Chairman of the school, S Tara Singh, blessed and congratulated the students for their excellent performance.

On this achievement President of Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Sardar Kulwant Singh, Sardar Manjeet Singh and Sardar

Gurudev Singh (Vice President), Sardar PP Singh Ahluwalia (Co-Secretary), Sardar GS Flora (General Secretary), Sardar Jasbir Singh, Sardar Baljit Singh, (Co-Secretary) and Sardar Harmeet Singh (Secretary), Sardar Baldev Singh, Sardar Majinder Singh (Member), Sardar Amardeep Singh (Member) and the Principal of the school, Mona Singh also congratulated and blessed them for their bright future.

- Gold and silver jewellery worth Rs 03 lakhs recovered
- Two arrested, one absconding

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: With the arrest of two notorious thieves and recovery of stolen booty worth Rs 3 lakhs, Police claimed to have busted a gang of notorious thieves and to have solved two different cases of thefts at locked houses which occurred in Chhawani area of Bhilai.

SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that they had received a complaint from one Pardesi Ram Mahar a resident of Adarsh Nagar Camp 01 regarding theft at his locked house between May 01 to May 09.

Later on May 10, a victim Santosh Kumar Bhandare of Gokul Dham Kurud Jamul lodged a report in the Chhawani



Police Station regarding theft at his parents' home in Adarsh Nagar Camp 01. Gold, silver jewelry and cash amount were stolen from both the places.

On the instructions of SP Dr Abhishek Pallava, a joint team was constituted which worked under the guidance of ASP (City) Sanjay Dhruv, CSP (Chhawani) Abhishek Banchor and DSP (Crime) Rajeev Sharma. The joint team led by ACCU in-

Gang of notorious thieves busted

charge Inspector Santosh Mishra and SHO Chhawani Inspector Navi Monika Pandey started monitoring the suspects and interrogated the habitual criminals and criminals released from jail.

The network of informers was also activated and CCTV footage of places near the crime scenes were checked. The team found the footage of a suspect and with the help of special sources, his identity was confirmed as Rajat

Kumar Manjhi alias Pilli. He was taken into custody and during interrogation, he confessed to committing theft with his accomplice Jitendra Tiwari. When interrogated strictly, he disclosed the name of another accomplice Mohammad Naushad a resident of Camp 01.

Later, Police arrested Mohammad Naushad while Jitendra Tiwari was not found as he had gone to his native village in Prayagraj after the inci-

dent. Stolen gold and silver jewelry was recovered from the accused.

The accused Rajat Kumar Manjhi alias Pilli (26) s/o Ramsanehi Manjhi r/o Camp 01 Chawani and Mohammad Naushad (33) son of Mohammad Kalam a resident of Jalebi Chowk Camp 01, Chhawani have been arrested.

Searching is on to arrest the absconding accused Jitendra Tiwari, a resident of Adarsh Nagar Camp 01. Further action against the accused is being taken from the Chhawani Police Station.

ASI Shamit Mishra, Rajesh Pandey, Head Constable Chandrashekhar Banjeer, Santendra Madharia, Constable Nitin Singh, Rinku Soni, Bhavesh Patel, Arvind Mishra, Amit Dubey, Santosh Gupta and SI Ramendra Yadav and ASI Ashok Yadav played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Students of KPS Durg excel in CBSE Class X and XII Board Examination



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: Krishna Public School stands proud as they celebrate the achievement of their students. The achievement reinstates the vision of pursuit of excellence. The School has excelled once again in CBSE class X and XII Board Examination.

Ishita Soni of class XII from Biology stream has topped with 90 percentage, Diksha Sahu from Mathematics stream has secured the highest with 84.8 percentage and Rohan Deshmukh from commerce stream has topped with a percentage of 83.6. Similarly, Sparsh Sahu of Class X has topped with 93.6 percentage followed by Pratham Pandey with 93.4 percentage, Aashika Jain

secured 93 percentage and Mukesh Prasad with 90.6 percentage. The School feels extremely proud to share the outstanding achievement of Aryansh Shrivastava for securing 100 percentage marks in Sanskrit in class X and Teena Sahu for securing 100 percent in Informatics Practices in class XII.

The Director, Mayank Sharma congratulated the students and teachers for the excellent results. The Principal Itri Sharma also congratulated the students on their booming success. The Management and Teacher's congratulated the students for their excellence and hard work.

SUV crashes into truck; two injured



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: A speeding compact SUV crashed into the rear end of a moving truck on the Anjora-Nehru Nagar Bypass Road. Tyre of the truck

burst as an impact of the collision. The compact SUV Hyundai Creta was also badly damaged in the incident and the two passengers in the vehicle suffered fatal injuries.

On information, the

Police Patrolling Party from Pulgaon reached the accident site and the injured were immediately shifted to Sparsh Hospital. Condition of both the victims is reported to be out of danger.

Juvenile arrested for thefts at shops

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: A joint team of Dhamdha Police Station and ACCU arrested a juvenile on charges of thefts at shops. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava informed that thefts occurred at Agricultural Irrigation Machine Shop and Sumeet Plywood and Glass Shop in Dhandha in which the unknown thieves had stolen Rs 35740 and Rs 50000 from the cash box of the shops.

Under the guidance of ASP (Rural) Anant Sahu

and DSP (Crime) Rajeev Sharma and DSP (Crime against juveniles) Sanjay Pundhir; a joint team led by Dhamdha Police Station SHO Inspector Somesh Singh Baghel launched an investigation to trace the unknown thief. The suspect was spotted in the CCTV footage and later the identity of the thief was ascertained.

The juvenile suspect was taken into custody and during interrogation, he confessed to have trespassed into the shops and escaped with cash from the counters. Rs

7000 cash, a motorcycle Glamour, two mobile phones, tester and screw-driver were seized from him. He had spent the remaining money. The juvenile thief will be produced before the Justice Juvenile Board.

Inspector Somesh Singh Baghel, ASI Santuram Thakur, ASI Tansingh Sonwani, Constable Prasanta Sahu, Amit Verma and ASI Rajesh Pandey, ASI Chandrashekhar Soni, Constable Pradeep Singh and Jagjit Singh played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Indu IT School achieves 100% result of CBSE exams

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: The meritorious students of Class 10th and 12th of Indu IT School, with their hard work, dedication and tireless efforts, secured their place in the merit list in CBSE Board Secondary School Examination (Class X). Palak Soni scored 96.5% marks; Harshit Sanghvi scored 91.6% marks; Chakshi Sahu scored 88.3% marks; Meenakshi Dhurve scored 88.3% marks. In the Senior School Certificate Examination (Class 12), Meenakshi Soni scored 93.8%; Pallavi Verma



scored 91.5%; Ramil scored 89% and other students made the school proud with their success.

Expressing happiness on this occasion, the Managing Director of the

school, SM Umak, Madam Meenal Umak, Vice Principal Archana Meshram; Incharge and other teachers congratulated the children and wished them a bright future.

BSP's CSR Department contributes considerably through free health camps

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 14: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant has always been upfront in discharging its organizational social responsibility towards the communities within which it works. The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department of Bhilai Steel Plant conducted regular free health camps in its Model Steel Villages during the year 2022-23. Free health check-up, medical consultation and medicines were distributed to the individuals. Patients requiring advanced healthcare are referred to nearby hospitals.

Hundreds of beneficiaries were benefited by such free medical camps organized by the

CSR Department in the previous year, 2022-23. As many as 29 free health camps were organized in the year 2022-23, in almost all the Model Steel Villages within 16 kilometer radius of the plant, including villages Piparchedi, Pauwara, Chetwa, Daniya, Janjigiri, Kanari, Bharda, Borigarka, Chagori etc. A total of 1349 villagers were examined at the Medical Camps and free medicines were distributed to them after medical examination. The beneficiaries examined in the camps include 516 men, 610 women and 223 children.

A string of free health camps have also been organized by the CSR department in the surrounding areas of BSP's mines. The health-camp initiative was



first taken in the Mahamaya Mines on November 24, 2022. Since then, total 5 free health camps have been organized in the mines areas, wherein a total of 664 villagers were benefited, including 222 men, 190 women and 252 children. The free health camps were also initiated at Dulki mines on November 25, 2022. A total of 244 individuals have benefited from the camps

so far, which includes 65 men, 130 women and 49 children. In 2023, 05 free health camps have also been organized so far at Hirri mines, benefiting 642 patients including 360 men and 282 women.

The Corporate Social Responsibility Department (CSR) of Bhilai Steel Plant executes several public welfare activities aimed at social & eco-

nomical upliftment, environment sustainability, education, sports, health and well-being in Bhilai and adjoining areas, as a part of the organization's commitment to society. Health Camp is one of the prime initiatives whereby BSP's CSR Department has contributed substantially towards Public Health & Medicine.

The medical team and nursing staff of Bhilai Ispat Kalyan Chikitsalaya has played a key role in successfully organizing all the health camps. The Village Panchayats and villagers who benefited from the camps expressed their gratitude to the CSR team of Bhilai Steel Plant and expressed desire that more such camps be organized in the coming times.



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110 students secured **above 80%**

SCHOOL TOPPER

TOP PERFORMERS - CLASS X



98%
Harshkant Thakur



Arya Kulmitra
97.2%



Jigisha Chauda
97%



Aryan Singh
97%



Princy Verma
97%



Aryan Giri Goswami
96%



Mahek Waswani
95%



Chinmay Upadhyay
95%



Mrunal Voditelwar
94.4%



Yashasvi Sahu
94.4%



Prajjawal Vadher
94.2%



Aadi Verma
93.4%



Swastik Mishra
93.4%



Parnika Singh
93.2%



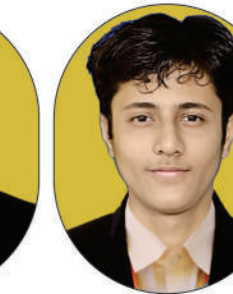
Manya Saxena
93%



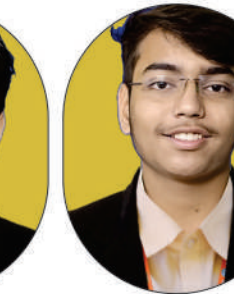
Navdeep Kaur Suri
93%



Kashish Sangani
93%



Shlok Choudhary
92.2%



Soyal Dhawle
92%



Prajjawal Verma
92%



Disha Gupta
92%



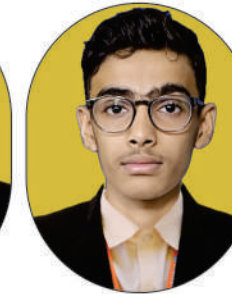
Yuvraj Agrawal
92%



Anvi Agrawal
91.2%



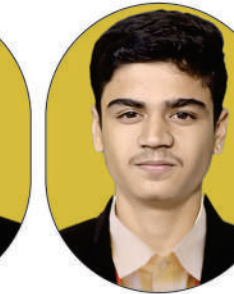
Prakriti Keyar
91%



Mohammed Mahin
90.2%



Daksh Jai Singh
90%



Soumya Patel
90%



Kumud Agrawal
90%



Abhishikta Biswas
90%

SCHOOL TOPPER

TOP PERFORMERS - CLASS XII



96%
(PCM)
Vidhi Sharma



Arya Ojha
95.2%
(PCM)



Prakhar Mishra
95%
(PCM)



Shruti Verma
95%
(PCB)



Vatsal Parmar
94%
(PCM)



Amrit Sinha
92.4%
(PCM)



Shristi Yadav
92%
(PCB)



Naman Gupta
90%
(PCB)



Ritika Bhardwaj
89.4%
(PCM)

Out of
148 students
70 students
secured
above 80%



Pratishtha Agrawal
88%
(PCM)



Sharad Dhruw
85.4%
(PCB)



Ayush Verma
84%
(PCB)



Mahek Patel
83%
(Commerce)



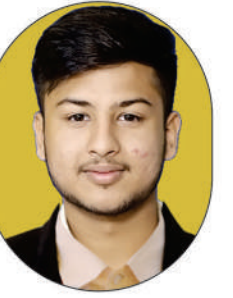
Vedant Garg
82.2%
(Commerce)



Gunit Golchha
82%
(PCB)



Deepraj Tirkey
82%
(PCB)



Vithal Agrawal
80%
(Commerce)

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We congratulate our students, Parents and Teachers for the outstanding performance.

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'Didn't have courage to ban alcohol'

After witnessing deaths due to spurious liquor, other substances during lockdown

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Sunday said he didn't have the courage to ban alcohol in the state when he witnessed deaths due to consumption of spurious liquor and other harmful substances after outlets were shut during the coronavirus-induced lockdown. He stressed the need for running campaigns against not just liquor but all kinds of addiction.

Baghel was speaking at the launch of Nashamukt Chhattisgarh Abhiyaan (addiction free Chhattisgarh campaign) at Prajapita Brahmakumari Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya (PBIV) centre Shanti Sarovar in Raipur here on Sunday.

He also hailed the spiritual and meditation centre's 'Nasha Mukta Bharat

Abhiyan', calling it a commendable initiative towards building society and appealed to people to ensure their participation in making Chhattisgarh addiction-free.

"Addiction usually starts from childhood or young age. Initially they start from 'sutta' (smoking) as a hobby and it gradually becomes a habit. As stress increases it starts smoking more cigarettes. If stress is more in the evening, drinking of liquor starts. Finally they land in the hospital. Addiction is not good in any form. It causes only harm. It is very harmful for all of us physically and mentally. It affects the person, the family and the society as a whole," he said.



Being the Chief Minister, Baghel said he can order prohibition in the entire state "right now" even as he wondered if it will solve the problem of addiction. CM said he learnt about the problems that cropped up when liquor shops were closed during the country-wide lockdown to contain the spread of COVID-19.

"All the shops were closed, transportation was closed, families were staying behind the doors, but com-

plaints of domestic violence started surfacing. Despite the lockdown in force for a long time, it was seen that people managed to arrange stuff for addiction," he said.

When people did not get anything, they even consumed sanitizer and many lost their lives due to it, said the Congress leader.

"I did not have courage then to order a liquor ban after witnessing people dying due to consumption of spurious alcohol and other

substances during the lockdown. I don't want to implement anything that will cost lives," he added.

Organisations that deal with de-addiction can be helpful for persons dependent on various forms of intoxication, he said.

"We have to end this social evil together with the support of people," he said. When it comes to banning intoxicating substances, women immediately favour it as if only men consume them, he said.

"Before the 2018 assembly elections, there was pressure from women to ban liquor. We had then announced to ban liquor (as a poll promise). Liquor ban means we have to move ahead towards an addiction

free society. Even during the Bhent Mulaqaat programme (CM's public interaction drive), some people said that alcohol should be banned," he said.

The CM said they have constituted a committee headed by their party MLA Satyanarayan Sharma to study the issue and it has visited other states where prohibition is in force.

"When women are asked about banning alcohol, they raise both hands in its favour. When I ask whether gudaku' (paste made of tobacco and molasses) should be banned or not, they don't raise their hands as women use it more than men.

The campaign should be against every kind of addiction, not only against liquor," he said. Baghel said people should be addicted to serving humanity and devotion towards God.

Thief lifting Bolero vehicle arrested

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: Raipur police have arrested a thief wanted in connection with the incident of lifting Bolero vehicle in Khamtarai area. With arrest, the police recovered stolen Bolero vehicle (CG 04 MS 1788) from his possession. The total value of the seized vehicle is estimated to be around Rs 9 lakh.

The action has been taken on the complaint lodged by one Daras Nirmalkar, a resident of Pahadi Chowk Gudhiyari. He told police that he had gone for breakfast by parking his Bolero vehicle in front

of a private hotel. When he came back he saw that Bolero missing. He looked for the vehicle nearby but could not find it. He then lodged a report against the unknown vehicle lifter in Khamtarai police station.

The incident of vehicle theft was being investigated by the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and the police team of station in-charge Khamtra. The team members caught one Rahul Yadav, a resident of Bemetara Khamaria in connection with the incident. During strict interrogation him he confessed to stealing the Bolero vehicle.

Students to get textbooks as soon as the schools open

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: The School Education Department has made complete arrangements to provide free textbooks to all the students on the first day of the academic session 2023-24.

For this, books from the Depot of Textbook Corporation have been supplied to high schools and 'Sankuls' for distribution to the students of classes 1 to 10 of government, recognized and private schools.

According to the infor-

mation received from the Education Department, the new academic session in the state will start from June 16. As per the instructions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and Education Minister Dr Premsai Singh Tekam, free books and uniforms are to be distributed ceremonially on the opening day of the academic session itself.

Keeping this in mind, the Education Department has sent the printed books to the de-

pots of the districts and from there to the high schools and 'Sankuls'.

So far books have been sent to 4572 out of 4615 high schools of the state for distribution to the students. Similarly, out of 5703 packages of the state, books have been delivered to the students of primary and secondary schools in 3175 packages. Books are also being sent to Swami Atmanand Utkrisht Vidyalayas as per the demand. So far, books have been sent to students in 369 out of 432 Atmanand schools.

Three nabbed in gold chain looting incidents

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: The capital police has nabbed four of inter-state chain snatchers gang who used to snatch the gold chains from woman roaming around in their bike. The police has also seized 3 gold chains from their possession.

Actually there was sudden rise in the number of chain snatching events and three complaints were filed in Telibandha, Devendra Nagar and Civil Lines police station. SSP Prashant Agrawal took the looting and chain snatching incident seriously and directed Addl. SP Crime Abhishek Maheshwari to nab the ac-



used. On this a combined team of police was formed by Cyber, Crime and Thana police and search for the accused was start-

ed. The police got tip from an informer that the accused in the looting incident are residing in a hotel in Ganj thana area. On this the police raided

the hotel and nabbed all the four accused and seized 3 gold chains from their possession.

On interrogation, all four accepted their crime

in snatching of gold chains and informed that they all are from Kodha Katihar of Jurabajang of Bihar and they have looted the bike from Katihar in Bihar and it is by changing the bike's registration number; they used to loot chains. The accused Chandan Kumar Yadav had being to jail in case of stealing of bikes.

The four accused nabbed are- Guddu Kumar Yadav, S/o Lalwa Yadav, (26), Chandan Kumar Yadav, So Jamuna Yadav (36), Pappu Yadav S/o Late Murli Yadav (32) and Viru Kuamr S/o Shiv Kumar (23) all R/o Naya Tola Jurabganj than Kodha, district Katihar (Bihar).

Three including scrap dealer arrested

For stealing transformer parts and other materials worth lakhs from Kamal Vihar project

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: Three persons including a scrap dealer have been arrested for allegedly stealing transformer parts and other materials worth lakhs from the Kamal Vihar project. They were allegedly involved in incidents of theft in the transformer yard of Raipur Development Authority.

The police have arrested Ram Kalhadiya, Nitin Kamde and Sajid Khan. Sajid Khan used to run a scrap shop in Dumratra. Vegetable Mandi Main Road where he used to buy stolen goods in the guise of scrap.

Transformer goods and other stolen materials worth lakhs have been seized from their posses-



sion. Engineer Suresh Kumar Kunjam lodged the report in Raipur Development Authority Kamal Vihar Project at Muzgahan po-

lice station. The applicant's company has about 30-35 transformer yards in Kamal Vihar project, where transformers, feeder pillars, LT panels, HVS

panels, LBS panels etc related to the project are kept. All these parts were stolen in January.

After the report, informers were also appointed in

the case to trace persons involved in the theft. Meanwhile, on the basis of the information received regarding the transformer parts and other items in Muzgahan area near Auto, the team members went to the said place and arrested three persons in an auto with transformer accessories.

On inquiring about the goods of the transformer and demanding valid documents, the trio tried to mislead the team members by giving evasive answers. They did not present any documents. On being strictly interrogated, they accepted to have carried out the theft incident. At the same time they that they had sold stolen goods to scrap dealer Sajid Khan.

Police launch crackdown against criminals

Raipur, May 14: The SSP Prashant Agrawal held a meeting of all the gazetted officers and station in-charges at Civil Line here over increasing crime in Raipur city. He instructed all the police officers of Raipur to investigate criminal incidents and look into complaints of people.

The SSP directed to lay emphasis on visible policing, special campaign for checking and action against anti-social elements, goons, miscreants and history sheeters. He also instructed to make patrolling, dial 112 and CPP vehicles more effective.

Keeping in mind the marriage season, he instructed to control the incidents of theft in wedding places and keep an eye on outside gangs, local thieves and arrest them. Instructions were given to take action against the DJ and Dhimal Wale violating rules.

Online application for entrance exam for BEd, D El Ed, BSc Nursing underway

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: The wait is about to end for the youth who are looking for admission in professional courses. Local youth of Chhattisgarh can apply online for vocational courses from May 13.

The date has been fixed for the entrance exam for this course. Youth can apply online for Professional Courses Entrance Exam from 13 to 28 May.

For error correction, time has been given from May 29 to

May 31 for Pre BEd, Pre D El Ed, BSc Nursing, MSc Nursing and Post Basic Nursing. Admit card for Pre BEd, Pre D El Ed will be issued on June 9 and for BSc Nursing, MSc Nursing and Post Basic Nursing on June 16.

Exam date has been fixed on June 17 and June 24 for admission to various courses. Pre BEd and D El Ed entrance examinations will be held on June 17.

The examination of BSc Nursing, MSc Nursing and Post Basic Nursing will be conducted on June 24.

CM Baghel takes momentous decision in favor of youth

Posts of I.T.I. training officers increased

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: In accordance with Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's instructions and for the benefit of youth, the number of

posts advertised for the recruitment of I.T.I. training officers has been increased from 366 to 920. The Director of Employment and Training has issued a revised advertisement, and candidates who have already applied need not reapply. Eligible candidates from Chhattisgarh will be considered for recruitment.

The Chhattisgarh Professional Examination Board will conduct recruitment for these posts, for which the online application process started on May 8. It is noteworthy that following the order of

Honourable Supreme Court, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has given necessary instructions in this regard to the higher officials after conducting a meeting with them. The recruitment process is in progress.

According to the revised advertisement issued by the department for the recruitment of training officers, the number of posts for electricians has been increased from 51 to 90. Likewise, the number of posts for computer operator and programming assistant has been increased from 86 to 242, for carpenter from 2 posts to 10, for turner from 6 posts to 9, for fitter from 48 posts to 100, for mechanic (tractor) from 2 posts to 3, for mechanic (diesel) from 32 posts to 90, for mechanic (motor vehicle) from 5 posts to 7, for workshop calculation and engineering drawing from 72 posts to 234, for wireman from 2 posts to 6, for welder from 30 posts to 89, for sheet metal worker from 1

post to 3, for sewing technology from 6 posts to 12, and for hospital housekeeping from 2 posts to 4.

No changes have been made in the number of posts for information and communication technology system maintenance (1 post), driver cum mechanic (6 posts), draftsman mechanical (1 post), machinist (4 posts), machinist grinder (1 post), mason (building constructor) (1 post), mechanic refrigeration and air conditioner (2 posts), secretarial practice (English) (2 posts), and employability skill (3 posts).

Recruitment will be conducted for a total of 920 posts, and important details such as required qualifications, educational experience, age limit, instructions, selection process, syllabus, and reservation of posts can be found in the detailed advertisement on <http://vyapam.cgstate.gov.in>. The number of vacancies and subjects may be subject to change.

SXHS students shine in ICSE and ISC exams



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: Students of St. Xavier's Raipur once again proved themselves by scaling new heights in this year's board examinations. The results were declared on 14th of May at 3:00 pm and it proved to be a moment of pride for everyone at St. Xavier's Raipur. The outstanding performances by the students have made the school proud.

The performance of students in ICSE (std 10) has been brilliant with Vinamra Agrawal standing first with 97.6% marks followed closely by Dhruv Prakash with

97.2% marks. Suhani Khandelwal stands third in science stream with 96.4% marks.

In the commerce stream of ICSE (std 10) Rajeshwari Chakraborty stands first with 97.2%. Sanyam Bengani has scored 93.8% marks followed closely by Ahana Jain with 93.4% marks.

Individual performance in different subjects have been exceptional. Students have scored 100 marks in various subjects Dhruv Prakash, Prafull Tharwani and Sahitya Kumar have scored full marks in History Civics. In Biology Dhruv Prakash, Soumallya Mukherjee,

Disha Solanki and Suhani Khandelwal have scored a neat 100. Aarushi Deorankar, Vinamra Agrawal and Gourangi Ranjan have passed with full marks in Physical Education while Disha Solanki has scored full marks in Computer science. In Commerce stream, Sanyam Bengani, Disha Soni and Rajeshwari Chakraborty have scored 100 marks in Commercial Studies.

In ISC (Std 12) also the students have shown excellent performance. In Commerce stream, the first three positions have been bagged by Rasika Agrawal with an overall score of 95.75% followed

by Akriti Agrawal scoring 91% and Yukti Dewangan standing third with 90.75%. In the Science stream, highest scorer is Harsh Matlani with overall 94.75%.

Sanskriti Thawrani stands second with 94% and Krishna Ahuja has scored 91.5%. The school owes the outstanding performance to the Chairman Dr. A. F. Pinto and the Managing Director Madam Dr. Grace Pinto for being a constant source of inspiration. The school wishes all the students a very bright and glorious future.

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Contractual employees demand timely payment Collector conducts surprise inspection in CHC

● Stages sit-in outside Tulsī Nagar office

Central Chronicle News

Korba, May 14: The contractual employees of the Electricity Department are on pen-down strike and are staging sit-in outside the office in Tulsī Nagar in support of their five point demands.

Prominent among their demands include payment together to all the operators of 33/11 KV sub-stations of Korba district (urban and rural). They informed that till date the payment was together.

But after the new contractor, the payment is now being made on different dates. The employees informed that the payment of Urban area for operators is made once in two months and that of



rural operators once in three months.

As per the tender, the payment has to be made on 7th of every month and 8.33% of the bonus amount has to be paid in every six months. The payment to the operators in

Urban areas has come just few days back and to rural operators it has not being paid.

Further contractual employees informed that their ESIC card has not been made till date. The information about the fami-

ly members has been given, but names not included in the ESIC card.

Further the employees demanded good quality torch, gumboots, gloves, helmet in all the sub-stations and to provide one copy of the tender to all

the operators.

The contractual employees have urged the seniors of the department to sort out their problems at the earliest and warned that if their demands are not fulfilled on time, they all will be forced to go on strike after 7 days.

Employee leader Lalit informed that the three Companies of CSCP viz. CGSPDCL, CGSPGCL and CGSPTCL always delay their payment. The payment by CSPGCL is not being made as per the Collector's rate, nor the deposit of EPF is done at the correct rate in EPF.

The employee organisation charged that on-making of payment at the correct rate by CSPTCL, there is demand to repay the amount by contractual employee or else they are transferred or removed from the job.

Central Chronicle News

Manendragarh, May 14: Collector Manendragarh Narendra Kumar Dugga conducted surprise inspection of Community Health Centre (CHC) in Manendragarh on Friday.

During the inspection, Collector directed to pay special attention towards cleaning in the CHC and ensure sufficient availability of water in the Hospital premises.

He also directed to write-off the old and unused material kept in the premises and install a jumbo cylinder in the ICU ward for emergency situation.

He asked the PWD officers to prepare a shed for the patients and their fam-



ily members coming to CHC and asked to complete the ongoing construction work speedily.

During this inspection, Dugga also visited different wards in the CHC and

held talks with the patients admitted and inquired about their health and directed the CHMO to provide better health care and treatment to the patients.

Footpaths of city fall prey to encroachment

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, May 14: The footpaths of the city are going victims of encroachment and in the city, the number of roadside stalls including fruits, vegetables, mobile water, tea, coconut accessories, snacks, non-veg, juices, clothes has increased manifold. All the big complexes of the city, showrooms, gardens, there is no space left for parking, and there is no pavement left for the roads to be broadened.

Traders are facing trouble for parking due to stalls in front of business establishments, and instead of going to big shops, it is convenient for customers to buy goods from small shops, if a survey of carts



is done in the city, then the figures are shocking. There are about 1779 carts and kiosks in the urban area; therefore there is a need to give proper arrangement to the number of carts and spreaders. If space is made available

to all after taking the consent of all traders, then a middle way can be found which will be supported by all sections of traders and with the construction of Chowpatty, the problem can be solved to some extent.

- In ward No. 7 & 8 of Nagar Palika
- Conduct

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, May 14: Nagar Palika President Kawardha Rishi Kumar Sharma reached the public grievances camp in ward No. 7 and 8 and meeting the beneficiaries in the camp tried to sort out their complaint. On this occasion he also conducted inspection of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) work in the ward.

Nagar Palika President Rishi reached to beneficiaries of PMAY in ward No. 7 and meeting Birjo Bai

and Sandeep Kumar Sharam extended greetings to them on getting the house. Holding talks with them, Rishi Kumar took photographs of the painting done in the house at the time of white-washing and uploaded it on the social media of the state government and it was hailed by one & all.

He informed that the sanction letter for PMAY has been issued by Cabinet Minister Mohammed Akbar through the Collector Kawardha and now the houses too are getting ready.



It is notable here that under the guidance and instructions of the Cabinet Minister Mohammed Akbar that this public

grievances camp is being organised and he is holding meeting with the beneficiaries and trying to solve their grievances.

Rishi Kumar directed the officers in-charge of the camp to take the applications submitted seriously. On this occasion Nagar Palika President Rishi Kumar Sharma, Narendra Dewangan, Sushma Sinha, Kaushal Kaushik, Daljeet Pahuja, Santosh Namdeo, Mukesh Sinha, Chief Nagar Palika Officer Naresh Kumar Verma, EE ML Kurre and large number of beneficiaries were present.

Lottery drawn for admission in RBPE School



Central Chronicle News

Rajim, May 14: In Ram Bishal Pandey Excellent (RBPE) English Medium School, Rajim, a lottery draw was held for admission to 50 seats in class 1 and vacant seats in other classes.

Prior to this, Principal Sanjay Ekka told about the achievements of the school's last session in the welcome address and told about the plans for the

next session and assured that the next session will give many times better results than the present.

Nagar Panchayat President Rekha Sonkar in her address praised Principal Sanjay Ekka and said that he is constantly striving for the development of the school and to bring quality in education and in view of the activism of the principal and teachers, it was announced to give a very

necessary projector to the school.

Society president and former Janbhagidari president Vikas Tiwari, stating the purpose of opening Swami Atmanand Excellent School by the Chhattisgarh government, said that with its opening, economically weaker sections will also be able to get excellent education.

For 50 seats in Class 1, lottery was conducted for

selection from BPL, girls and unreserved classes against the available vacant seats in all classes up to class 9th. Along with this, a lottery was also conducted for the waiting list in all the classes.

First Rekha Sonkar President Nagar Panchayat Rajim and Pooja Bansal SDM, and Vikas Tiwari President, Chandan Mankar CMO inaugurated the lottery by taking out coupons from the box.

Shivraj Dewangan, President Parent Committee, Manju Sahu, Vice President, Parent Committee, Ramendra Joshi BEO, Tikendra Yadu BRCC, Buddha Vilas Singh ADPO, Kripal Pankra ADEO, Santosh Suryavanshi and a number of parents were present.

Nishad Samaj building inaugurated



Central Chronicle News

Singa, May 14: No one is greater than the society and society hails the reforms done, said MLA Shivratna Sharma as Chief Guest in the inauguration program of the newly constructed building of Nishad Samaj. With the eulogy of Bhaktaraj Guha Nishad, addressing the people present in the program, he said that no one is bigger than the society; it is the duty of every person of the society to respect the decision of the society.

If the society has to be developed, then the young men and women of the society have to be educated; the elders of the society will also have to worry about how the youth should stay away from

drugs, he said. Along with this, he also talked about Biranpur village of Bemetara district where 11 Hindu girls were converted to their religion by allurements. Dayalu Nishad also addressed the program and thanked the MLA for the building and termed him the Vikas Purush of Chhattisgarh.

At the end of the program, MLA Shivratna Sharma felicitated Hemmath Nishad's daughter-in-law Kumari Durgeshwari Nishad for getting gold medal in state level kickboxing. BJP Divisional President Keju Ram Baghel, General Secretary Chhotu Yadav, District Member Dhaneshwar Nishad, Chandramani Tiwari, Narayan Nishad and many others were present.

FORM NO. CAA. 2
[Pursuant to Section 230 (3) and rule 6 and 7)]
C.A. (CAA) No.4/CB/2023

In the matter of: The Companies Act 2013; And
In the matter of: An application under Sections 230 to 232 of the said Act;
And In the matter of: The Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules 2016 And

IN THE MATTER OF : Shivalik Auto Engineering Private Limited U29120CT2011PTC022522, C-33, 3rd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1 Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferee Company 1 And

IN THE MATTER OF: Neelkamal Vanijya Private Limited U51909MH2008PTC316779, Flat No. C2, 602, VIP Karishma Apartment, Shankar Nagar, Khamardih, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferee Company 2 And

IN THE MATTER OF: Adopt Comtrade Private Limited U51101CT2010PTC014089, Flat No. C2, 602, VIP Karishma Apartment, Shankar Nagar, Khamardih, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferee Company 3 And

IN THE MATTER OF: Goldmoon Vinimay Private Limited U52190CT2010PTC014090, Flat No. C2, 602, VIP Karishma Apartment, Shankar Nagar, Khamardih, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferee Company 4 And

IN THE MATTER OF: Shivalik Power and Steel Private Limited U27109CT2004PTC016584, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1 Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Demerged Company And

IN THE MATTER OF: Shivalik Engineering Industries Limited U27107CT2011PLC022353, C-33, 3rd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Ring Road No. 1, Rajendra Nagar Chowk, Near Shailendra Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492 001
...Applicant Transferee / Resulting Company

Advertisement of notice of the meeting of Equity Shareholders
NOTICE is hereby given that by an order dated 2nd day of May, 2023, the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bench at Cuttack ("NCLT") has directed a meeting to be held of the equity share holders of Shivalik Power and Steel Private Limited, (here in after referred to as the "Demerged Company" or "SPSPL") for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving, with or without modification, the proposed Composite Scheme of Arrangement for Amalgamation of Shivalik Auto Engineering Private Limited (here in after referred to as "Transferee Company 1" or "SAEPL"), Neelkamal Vanijya Private Limited (here in after referred to as "Transferee Company 2" or "NVPL"), Adopt Comtrade Private Limited (here in after referred to as "Transferee Company 3" or "ACPL"), Goldmoon Vinimay Private Limited (here in after referred to as "Transferee Company 4" or "GVPL") with Shivalik Engineering Industries Limited (here in after referred to as the "Transferee/Resulting Company" or "SEIL") and Demerged of "Casting Division" or "Demerged Undertaking" of Shivalik Power and Steel Private Limited (here in after referred to as the "Demerged Company" or "SPSPL") and vesting of the same into Shivalik Engineering Industries Limited (here in after referred to as the "Transferee / Resulting Company" or "SEIL") and their respective shareholders and creditors.

In pursuance of the said order and as directed there in further notice is hereby given that a meeting of the equity share holders of the Demerged Company will be held at C-33, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001 on Saturday the 17th day of June, 2023 at 11:30 AM at which place, day, date and time the said equity share holders of the Demerged Company are requested to attend.

Copies of the Scheme and of the Statement under Sections 230(3) and 102 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 6 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016 can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Demerged Company at C-33, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1 Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001.

Persons entitled to attend and vote at the meeting, may vote in person or by proxy, provided that all proxies in the prescribed form are deposited at the registered office of the Demerged Company at C-33, 2nd Floor, Ashoka Millennium, Near Shailendra Nagar, Ring Road No. 1, Raipur, Chhattisgarh 492001 not later than 48 hours before the meeting.

Forms of Proxy can be obtained from the registered office of the Demerged Company.

NCLT has appointed Mr. Nimish Ramesh Mehta, Practising Company Secretary, Proprietor of N.M. & Co., Company Secretaries as Chairperson of the said meeting. The above mentioned Composite Scheme of Arrangement, if approved by the meeting, will be subject to the subsequent approval of the tribunal.

Sd/-
Nimish Ramesh Mehta
Dated this 15th day of May 2023 Chairperson appointed for the meeting

Bhawana Bohara meets merit-list holders of CGBSE

Extends greetings to them and felicitated them with Smart Watch going to their residence

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, May 14: On declaration of CGBSE Class 10th and 12th Board exam results, the girls of the district maintained their dominance. The most important thing here was that in the top 10 of the merit list of Class 10th, 4 students are from Kabirdham district and in Class 12th Board merit list, one student from the district was able to secure berth in the list.

On this achievement of 5 students from Kawardha district, the BJP state secretary and Kabirdham District Panchayat Speaker Bhawana Bohara went to the residence of all five students and met them and their family members and handed over a citation certificate and smart watch to all five of them as an honour. Among the students



from Class 10th to whom Bhawana Bohara met included Bhumī Warate of Gram Samnapur with 95.67% marks and securing 5th place in the merit list; the other is Ujjwal Soni with 97.33% marks and is at 7th place; Kislay Mishra with 96.83 marks is at the

10th place and Khushboo Gupta with 96.83% marks. Among the Class 12th student, she met included Anand Kumar Aadile with 95.80% marks in the Class 12th and securing 8th place in the merit list in the state. She went to the residence of all the students and met

them and felicitated them with a flower bouquet, citation certificate for bringing laurels to the district and their parents and wished them all the best in their future endeavours and presented them with Smart Watch as a gift. On this occasion she also met the par-

ents of the school children and extended greetings to them. Bhawana Bohara said that the exam warriors of the district have got this achievement through sheer hard work and brought laurels to entire Kabirdham district and to their parents. These children would ren-

der service to the society, state and nation in country and abroad in the near future and would again bring laurels to the district. The youth are the strong foundation of the nation and it is on their shoulders that the country future rests upon. She also extended greetings to all the teachers, who provided good quality and timely education to children and are part of their success.

It is notable here that Bhawana Bohara through Bhawana Bohara Samaj Sewa Sansthan (BSSS) render public service to needy and free of cost and this include running of three buses free of cost to bring and drop the girl students to schools; mobile health path lab for better health facilities to citizens of the district; ambulance service; Arogyadham Health camp just to name a few.

Adarsh K Malviya tops in Class 12th with 93.4% marks

Of DAV Public School, Bachel
Prince Rath tops in Class 10th with 83% marks

Bachel, May 14:

Keeping intact with the tradition of soaring high with every effort, DAV Public School, Bachel yet again captivated on the CBSE Board Exams 2022-23 when its students came out with flying colours by giving outstanding performance. With their pronounced performance students brought laurels to the school.

In science stream, Adarsh Kumar Malviya topped with 93.4% marks followed by Unnati Sagar (90.2%) and Krishna Kumar Verma (87.2%).

Mohd. Azaan Khan



(83%), Ankita Kesharwani (81.6%) and Piyush Paul (79.2%) have topped the Commerce Stream.

Toppers of class X are Prince Rath (84.4%), Sourabh Gendre (84.2%) and Niyati Singh (83.8%). Feeling immensely proud at the academic achievement, the Principal, Dr. Chetna Sharma, congratulated the students for their

stupendous success and wished them a great future ahead.

She applauded the teachers and Parents for their tremendous efforts in making this feat possible.

Additionally, the Principal, Dr. Chetna Sharma thanked the management of BIOM, Bachel Complex for their unwavering support.

Noble initiative to honour talents



Raipur, May 14: It was possibly one of the rarest initiative taken by an institution head to honour its talent who have shown their mettle in the recently declared CBSE Board Examination results of Class X and XII on May 12. The institution in discussion is Shri Gujrati English Medium School at Devendra Nagar and its dynamic Principal Dr Shailesh Sharma thought upon a noble way to felicitate the 10th and 12th Class toppers. Breaking the protocol he himself personally called all the toppers (Class X and XII) and after congratulating them invited them to visit the school next day. A pleasant sur-

prise was waiting for them when they reached the school next day. All of them were made to stand before a cake specially prepared for this occasion and 'Achiever's Cake' was inscribed on it.

All these toppers jointly cut the cake and before the cutting of cake all of them were given a floral welcome by institution head. Further Principal Dr Sharma himself offered sweets to them and made their day a memorable one. These toppers when asked about their feelings confirmed that they felt like kings and queens being given a royal treatment on their arrival at the venue.

Banpreet Kaur Arora with 93.2% tops in Class XII

Arushi Gupta with 93.6% tops in Class X of CBSE
From 'The Holy Kingdom School'

Kawardha, May 14: 'Repeating the history and carry forwarding the legacy of being in merit ones the again The Holy Kingdom School has listed it's name on the top of Higher Secondary and High School result of CBSE Board'.

Describing the result of XII Commerce Section Banpreet Kaur Arora with 93.2%, Nilesh Chandravanshi with 88.2% and Khushi Agrawal with 87.6% holds the 1st, 2nd and 3rd position respectively and from Class X Arushi Gupta with 93.6%, Yash Parihar with 90% and Anushka Jha with 87% holds the 1st, 2nd and 3rd position respectively. Director Pastor Jose Thomas shares this joyous moment and congratu-



Banpreet Kaur

Nilesh Chandravanshi

Khushi Agrawal



Yash Parihar

Anushka Jha

lates to all the top performers and students.

Continuing with his words he told that behind this wonderful result there is an important role of our hard working teachers and their hard work paid off. He especially congratulated the parents of Banpreet Kaur Arora from XII and Arushi Gupta of X who holds the merit position and told that these students are studying since nursery and fulfilled

the hopes of school and also showers his blessing on them.

All the pass out students are blessed and congratulated by Assistant Director Liji Thomas, Vice Principal John Pradeep, Commerce Lecturers Sakshi Kesharwani and Pragati Soni, Computer Lecturer Sourabh Parimal and Media In charge Mr. Ashok Inwati, informs a press release issued from The Holy Kingdom School.

IIT-NR Students selected for 'Google Summer of Code Internship'

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 14: IIT-Naya Raipur students Soumya Ranjan Patnaik and Deepanshu Pratik have been selected for the Google Summer of Code 2023 internship program (GSoC'23). They are among 967 students selected globally out of 43,765 applicants from 160 countries.

Google Summer of Code (GSoC) is a global online paid internship program that enables students to work on open-source software projects. Students are paired with a mentor from the participating organization, giving them exposure to real-world software development and techniques.

Both the students of IIT-NR have been selected for the organization C C E x t r a c t o r Development, which is a leading provider of tools for subtitle extraction and processing.

Soumya's project is about building a desktop component for



Linux that allows users to connect their VR headsets to their computers and get virtual desktops. This will enable users to enjoy a more immersive way to interact with their desktops, where they can view the real and virtual displays that are connected to their computers. The users may also customize the placement and size of the virtual monitors.

The goal is to come up with a working prototype that is good enough for early adopters to play with and other developers to join the effort.

Deepanshu's project is about creating a desktop



application that helps users learn keyboard shortcuts and workflows for Regolith, a keyboard-based desktop environment.

This will enable users to improve their efficiency and productivity by relying less on the mouse and embracing a keyboard-centric approach to working with their computers.

The application helps users learn various keyboard-based workflows that they can execute by following a sequence of key bindings for performing tasks such as navigating windows, launching applications,

modifying window size and orientation, and session management. The selection procedure for the Google Summer of Code program entails students submitting proposals to the mentor organizations they want to work with, on ideas the organization has suggested. On the basis of these proposals, organizations select the most promising applications. In contributing to open-source organizations, communication is the key and mentors are a core part of the program.

Once accepted, GSoC contributors spend a few weeks becoming familiar with the community norms and codebase while determining expected milestones with their mentor. GSoC contributors then spend 12-weeks coding on their projects.

The opportunity will help the students learn new skills and technologies, as well as contribute to the open source community.

At Amity University

Raipur, May 14: Amity University Chhattisgarh's annual 'Amispark-2023' a mega Techno-cultural Festival came to end in a grand and pompous show on, May 11, at Raipur's Pandit Dindayal Upadhyay Auditorium after three days of events. On the last day, students from the Amity University and other Universities in the State competed in a variety of events. The students from various Universities presented a spirited effort to showcase their creative and cultural selves by revealing their latent abilities at the festival.

Scintillating events such as Amivibe (singing), Heat Wave (dancing), a fashion show, and a performance by the band Rhythm Plus were a few of the highlights of the closing ceremony. A fantastic live band performance by renowned guest artist, Bollywood playback singer from Mumbai, Abhinav Shekhar was also arranged for later that evening, and the students had a blast dancing and singing along.

The student participation in



Photography etc. In the category of solo dancing, Satyam Jaal came out on top. With their performance to "Koi Mil Gaya," Dipti Choudhary, Rohan Mandhani, Tushar Gurubakshani, Mahesh Goyal, Kunal Isswani, Palak Goyal, Kashvi Jain, and Vaishnavi Soni took home first place in the group dance category. Mandeep Kaur won the solo singing competition, and Mc Flu won the rap competition.



artistic growth at Amity University and throughout the state's academic institutions. On the final day, the students expressed their gratitude to the university administration for hosting such a successful event.

The Deputy Pro-VC's, Deans, Directors, Head of Institutions and numerous other administrators and faculty members were present on this mega occasion.

Awareness on necessity of Pension, Insurance is the call of the hour: Bandyopadhyay

'Insureind Chhattisgarh' organised by CII Chhattisgarh State Council

Raipur, May 14: CII Chhattisgarh State Council successfully held its Insurance Conference "Insureind Chhattisgarh" on May 11, 2023, aimed at emphasizing the significance of insurance and its long-lasting positive impact on the industry members of Chhattisgarh. The conference provided a platform for industry experts to discuss the importance of increased insurance penetration, product and process innovation, and most importantly, customer experience. The event was attended by industry leaders, regulators, and policymakers who shared their views and experiences on the latest trends and developments in the insurance sector.

The conference highlighted the need for insurers to adopt digital technology and data analytics to improve customer experience and increase penetration. It also emphasized the importance of product innovation to meet the evolving needs of customers in Chhattisgarh.

"Awareness on necessity of Pension / Insurance is the call of the hour. More training and Capacity building measures to be taken up for building financial literacy across all cross



sections of the society" said Mr Supratim Bandyopadhyay, Former Chairman, PFRDA & Chairman, Consultative Committee on Investments, IRDAI during his speech at the conference.

The insurance sector has experienced a significant transformation in recent years, including demographic changes, evolving customer expectations, and advancements in digital technology. The COVID-19 pandemic has further accelerated the adoption of new technologies and tools, and market players are rethinking their long-term strategies to address societal purpose and trust in the industry" said Mr Siddharth Agrawal, Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council & Director, Godawari Power & Ispat Ltd

Mr T Babu Paul, General Manager, National Insurance Co Ltd. During his address at inaugural session deliberated that "As an insurance professional, I recognize the critical issue of protection gap in insurance, where many individuals and businesses remain

uninsured or underinsured. At National Insurance Co Ltd., we strive to bridge this gap by offering innovative products and services that meet the diverse needs of our customers."

The speakers of the technical session Mr Debasis Chatterjee, Executive Vice President & Chief of Bancassurance, SBI Life Insurance Co Ltd, Mr Rajiv Gupta, President, PB Fintech Ltd (Policy Bazar.com) and Mr Bhaskar Nerurkar, Head - Health Administration Team, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance emphasized the significance of collaborations among insurers, policymakers, and regulators to ensure the growth of the industry in the state.

The conference concluded by formal Vote of Thanks by Mr Umesh Chitlangia, Immediate Past Chairman & CMD, Polybond Insulation Pvt Ltd with a call to action for all stakeholders to work together to create a sustainable insurance ecosystem that can contribute to the growth and development of Chhattisgarh.

Accused nabbed for looting 12 gold chains



From jewelers shop

Jagdalpur, May 14: The police have arrested the accused involved in theft of motorcycle and robbery in Devendra Jewels in Balaji ward under police station Kotwali area of Bastar district. Among the arrested accused, Ramnarayan alias Raju Nishad S/o Kamlesh Nishad, (22) and Suraj Mishra alias Ish Dutt Mishra S/o Shyam Bihari Mishra (19). Both the accused have been arrested from Uttar Pradesh. 12 pieces of gold chain, 1 motorcycle, a mobile phone have been recovered from their possession.

According to the information received from the police, on May 3, 2023, the motorcycle number CG 17 KP 4740 of the applicant Sheikh Asraf was stolen from Balaji Ward. On May 5, 2023, the applicant Prithviraj Tatia lodged a report that two unknown persons looted 12 pieces of gold chain from Devendra Jewelers and ran away. Separate offenses under section 379 and 392,34 IPC were registered against

the accused and taken into investigation.

On the basis of circumstantial evidence at the spot, it was found that they were both the perpetrators of the robbery and the ones who stole the motor cycle. On 3 May 2023, a silver colored motorcycle bearing number CG 17 KPY 4740 was stolen near Aman Mobile in Jagdalpur. After this, after planning to rob the jewellery shop, first the conducted 'reiki' in two-three shops. Between 7-8 pm on May 5, 2023, Devendra went to the jewellery shop posing as a customer to buy a gold chain. And after getting a chance, he looted 12 pieces of gold chain and fled on a motorcycle. After committing the robbery, Lalbagh was running fast towards Amaguda Chowk, while on the way he was hit by a girl riding a bicycle coming from the front. And leaving the motorcycle there, both the suspects fled to Uttar Pradesh. The team arrested both the accused from Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh and brought them to Jagdalpur on transit remand and were produced in the court and sent on remand.

Liquor scam has exposed political character of Cong: BJP

BJP stage protest against liquor scam, demands CM's resignation

Jagdalpur, May 14: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) organized a district-level protest against the Congress government regarding the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam unearthed by ED in Chhattisgarh. Attacking the Congress government fiercely in their addresses, the BJP leaders accused the Congress government of looting the money of the toiling residents of Chhattisgarh through scams. At Sanjay Market area, the BJP protested by sitting in the district level Mahadharna from 12 noon to 3 pm. Addressing the dharna, former MP Dinesh Kashyap charged that this Congress government is a government of scams and Rs 2000 cr liquor scam stands testimony to it. Chief Minister of the Congress government, Bhupesh Baghel, should resign immediately on moral grounds.

Former BJP State General Secretary Kiran Dev said that development in Chhattisgarh is stalled under the rule of the Congress government. The public is scared, the law and order is on the sidelines and the Bhupesh government is indulging in black acts of cor-



ruption. BJP is going among the general public regarding the Rs 2000 cr scam that came to the fore for the ED's action. Such a corrupt government has no right to continue in power, he added.

BJP district president Roop Singh Mandavi said that the true face of the state government has become public due to the liquor scam. Without the patronage of power, such a huge scam cannot happen right under the nose of the government. After the Rs 2000 crore liquor scam was busted, CM Baghel should resign immediately on the basis of morality.

Former Forest Development Corporation President Srinivas Rao Maddi said that after coal, sand, land, ration, now the 2000 crore liquor scam has exposed the political character of Congress. Similarly, in the DMFT scam too, there was a hoax, and the State Congress President Mohan Markam himself has disclosed this in the Vidhan Sabha.

BJP State Working Committee member Shivnarayan Pandey said that it is very unfortunate that the state government itself is involved in liquor scam worth crores. As revealed from the proceedings of ED, money for the development of the state of Chhattisgarh and health, education and other facilities of the people is falling prey to scams. State chief Bhupesh Baghel should take responsibility for this and tender resignation.

Mahadharna was also addressed by District Panchayat Vice President Maniram Kashyap, Srinivas Mishra, Rajneesh Panigrahi, Sudha Mishra, Avinash Srivastava, Rajendra Bajpai, Alok Awasthi, Subroto Vishwas, Rajaram Todem, Narsingh Rao, Sangram Singh Rana, Laxman Jha. Operation was done by Ramashray Singh and gratitude was done by Shridhar Ojha. On this occasion all BJP office bearers of district-level and mandal level were also present.

Ukrainian president says counter offensive does not aim to attack Russian territory

Berlin, May 14 (AP)

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Sunday that his country is preparing a counteroffensive designed to liberate areas occupied by Russia, not to attack Russian territory. Speaking during a news conference with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Berlin, Zelenskyy said Ukraine's goal is to free the territories within its internationally recognised borders. There has been speculation that Ukraine might try to capture areas in Russia proper and use them as bargaining chips in possible peace negotiations to end the war launched by Moscow in February 2022. Pressed by reporters on the issue, Zelenskyy said: "We don't attack Russian territory, we liberate our own legitimate



Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz, second left, and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, center, walk past soldiers during an official reception with military honors at the chancellery in Berlin, Germany, Sunday, May 14.

territory." "We have neither the time nor the strength to attack Russia," he said, according to an official interpreter. "And we also don't have weapons to spare, with which we could do this." "We are preparing a counterattack for the illegally

occupied areas based on our constitutionally defined legitimate borders, which are recognised internationally," Zelenskyy said. The Ukrainian president is visiting allies in search of further arms to help his country fend off the Russian invasion, and

funds to rebuild what's been destroyed by more than a year of devastating conflict. A Luftwaffe jet flew Zelenskyy to the German capital from Rome, where he had met Saturday with Pope Francis and Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni. It is his first visit to Berlin since the start of the war and comes a day after the German government announced a new package of military aid for Ukraine worth more than 2.7 billion euros (USD 3 billion), including tanks, anti-aircraft systems and ammunition. Zelenskyy thanked Scholz for Germany's political, financial and military support, saying the country is now second only behind the United States in providing aid to Ukraine and joked that he is working to make it the biggest donor. Scholz made clear that Kyiv can

expect German aid to keep flowing. "We will support you for as long as necessary," he said, adding that it is up to Russia to end the war by withdrawing its troops. After initially hesitating to provide Ukraine with lethal weapons, Germany has become one of the biggest suppliers of arms to Ukraine, including Leopard 1 and 2 battle tanks, and the sophisticated IRIS-T SLM air-defense system. Modern Western hardware is considered crucial if Ukraine is to succeed in its planned counteroffensive against Russian troops. Zelenskyy first met with President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Germany's head of state, who was snubbed by Kyiv last year, apparently over his previous close ties to Russia, causing a chill in diplomatic relations between Ukraine and Germany.

Erdogan's leadership in the balance as Turkiye votes in pivotal elections

Ankara, May 14:

Turkiye is voting Sunday in landmark parliamentary and presidential elections that are expected to be tightly contested and could be the biggest challenge President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has faced in his two decades in power. The vote will either grant the increasingly authoritarian Erdogan a new five-year term in office or set the NATO member country on what his opposition contender calls a more democratic path. Polling began at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) and will close at 5 p.m. (local time). Media organizations are barred from reporting partial results until an embargo is lifted at 9 p.m. (1800 GMT). There are no exit polls. For the first time in his 20 years in office, opinion polls indicate that the populist Erdogan, 69, is entering a race trailing behind an



opponent. Opinion surveys have given a slight lead to Kemal Kilicdaroglu, the 74-year-old leader of the center-left, pro-secular Republican People's Party, or CHP, and the joint candidate of a united opposition alliance. If neither candidate receives more than 50 per cent of the votes, the presidential race will be determined in a run-off on May 28. More than 64 million people, including 3.4 million overseas voters, are eligible to vote in the elections, which are taking place the year

Turkiye marks the centenary of the establishment of the republic. Voter turnout in Turkiye is traditionally strong, showing continued belief in this type of civic participation in a country where freedom of expression and assembly have been suppressed.

The elections come as the country is wracked by economic turmoil that critics blame on the government's mishandling of the economy and a steep cost-of-living crisis. Turkiye is also reeling from the effects of a powerful earthquake that caused devastation in 11 southern provinces in February, killing more than 50,000 people in unsafe buildings.

Erdogan's government has been criticised for its delayed and stunted response to the disaster as well as the lax implementation of building codes that exacerbated the misery.

Cease-fire between Israel and militants in Gaza appears to hold after days of fighting

Gaza City, May 14:

A fragile cease-fire between Israeli forces and militants in the Gaza Strip appeared to be holding after a five-day clash that killed 33 Palestinians and two people in Israel. The latest round of Gaza fighting was sparked on Tuesday when Israeli jets killed three top commanders from the Islamic Jihad militant group in response to earlier rocket launches from Gaza. Those killings set off a barrage of militant fire and the conflagration threatened to drag the region into another all-out war until an Egyptian-brokered cease-fire took hold late Saturday. While the calm appeared to bring a sense of relief to Gaza's 2 million people and hundreds of thousands of Israelis who had been largely confined to bomb



shelters in recent days, the agreement did nothing to address the underlying issues that have fuelled numerous rounds of fighting between Israel and Palestinian militant groups in the Gaza Strip over the years.

In Gaza, residents surveyed the latest damage caused to their surroundings, with gaping holes left in the apartments serving

as what Israel said were hideouts for the six senior Islamic Jihad members killed during this round. Gaza's main cargo crossing with Israel reopened Sunday after warnings that keeping it closed would force Gaza's sole power plant to shut down, deepening a power crisis. Israel was gradually lifting restrictions on residents in southern Israel, which had

borne the brunt of the rocket fire. Israeli officials have expressed satisfaction with the latest battle, having eliminated many of Islamic Jihad's top brass in what it says were pinpointed strikes based on solid intelligence. But at least 13 of those killed in Gaza were civilians, among them children as young as 4 years old, as well as women. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the targeted attacks on the militants' hideouts would reverberate around the region. "Israel's enemies in Gaza and much farther than Gaza know that even if they try to hide, we are able and prepared to reach them at any time," he told a meeting of his Cabinet. Israel has faced criticism in the past from rights groups over the civilian casualties in its bombardments in Gaza.

Multipolar world is feasible only by a multipolar Asia: EAM Jaishankar

Stockholm/London, May 14:

Globalisation is the overwhelming reality of our times and there must be a respective appreciation of multipolarity because a multipolar world is feasible only by a multipolar Asia, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said in his address to the European Union (EU) Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum (EIPMF) in Stockholm. He also had discussions with several of his EU counterparts on a range of bilateral issues, including strengthening ties amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict. In his address at the EIPMF, Jaishankar called for "regular, comprehensive and candid dialogue" between India and the EU that is not just limited to the crisis of the day. "Globalisation is the overwhelming reality of our



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with other dignitaries during the EU Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum, in Stockholm, Sweden.

times. However, far apart, regions and nations cannot be impervious to significant events elsewhere. Nor can we cherry-pick them to our convenience," he said. "Indo-Pacific itself is increasingly central to the direction of global politics. The more the European Union and

Indo-Pacific deal with each other, the stronger will be the respective appreciation of multipolarity, and remember, a multipolar world, which the EU prefers, is feasible only by a multipolar Asia," he said. Jaishankar said that while there may be historical and

cultural divergences, at the end of the day India and the EU are made up of political democracies, market economies, and pluralistic societies. Transformations underway in India, like digital public delivery, or green growth initiative, merit the EU's attention and as India rapidly expands its global footprint, it will intersect with that of the EU more in the coming years, he noted. Jaishankar also raised the Quad the grouping comprising India, the US, Japan, and Australia as a platform for global growth which is important to any evaluation of the Indo-Pacific, with its "agenda and impact" steadily expanding. "Geographically, the Indo-Pacific is a complex and differentiated landscape that is best understood through more intensive engagement.

Imran Khan slams Pak Army for jumping into politics

Lahore, May 14:

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan hit out at the country's powerful army in his first address after an Islamabad court set him free, saying it should be ashamed of jumping into politics and could form its own political party. Addressing the nation from his Lahore home on Saturday, Khan took strong exception to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) allegations against him and said the spokesperson of the army's military wing was not even born when he represented Pakistan in the world. "I kept Pakistan's flag high world over. Never has ISPR

made such a statement. You should be ashamed of yourself. You have jumped into politics. Why don't you make a political party," Khan said in an hour-long maiden speech after the Islamabad High Court gave him blanket relief in all 145 cases registered against him. His remarks came in response to ISPR Director-General Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry's statement in which he called Khan a "hypocrite". "Listen to me Mr DG ISPR you were not even born when I was representing my country in the world and earning a good name for it. You need to be ashamed of yourself for calling me a hypocrite and anti-Army," he said in a



harsh rejoinder. A triumphant Khan returned to his Zaman Park home in Lahore on Saturday after having locked himself in the Islamabad High Court (IHC) premises for hours for fear of re-arrest despite being granted bail on Friday. Before leaving for Lahore, the 70-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief hit out at the "imported government for kidnapping"

him despite the IHC granting him bail in all cases. The 70-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief also tore into Pakistan's Army chief General Asim Munir and blamed him for his "abduction" after a court set him free. In a major relief to Khan, the Islamabad High Court on Friday granted him protective bail for two weeks in a corruption case and barred the authorities from arresting the former Pakistan prime minister in any case registered anywhere in the country until Monday. During Khan's address, video clips were shown of how army trucks dropped unidentified plainclothesmen, who joined PTI protesters and

provoked them to unleash violence and ransack public property. Khan distanced himself from violent protests that erupted in the wake of his arrest on Tuesday from IHC premises by Pakistan Rangers, asserting that "violence and vandalism is not my philosophy". Khan's arrest triggered unrest in Pakistan that continued till Friday and led to several deaths and dozens of military and state installations being destroyed by the protesters. For the first time in Pakistan's history, the protesters stormed the army headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi and also torched a corps commander's house in Lahore.

Kenya cult death toll hits 200, with more than 600 reported missing

Nairobi, May 14:

The death toll linked to a doomsday cult in Kenya hit 201 on Saturday after police exhumed 22 more bodies, most of them bearing signs of starvation, according to the coast regional commissioner. The bodies are believed to be those of followers of a pastor based in coastal Kenya, Paul Mackenzie. He's alleged (avoiding repetition of "believed") to have ordered congregants to starve to death in order to meet Jesus. More than 600 people are still missing. Mackenzie, who was arrested last month, remains

in custody. Police plan to charge him with terrorism-related offenses. Hundreds of bodies have been dug up from dozens of mass graves spread across his 800-acre property, located in the coastal county of Kilifi. Mackenzie insists that he closed his church in 2019 and moved to his property in a forested area to farm. Autopsies conducted on more than 100 bodies last week showed the victims died of starvation, strangulation, suffocation and injuries sustained from blunt objects. Local media outlets have been reporting cases of missing internal body or-

gans, quoting investigators in the case. Mackenzie, his wife and 16 other suspects will appear in court at the end of the month. Coast regional commissioner Rhoda Onyanha on Saturday said the total number of those arrested stood at 26, with 610 people reported as missing by their families. It is unclear how many survivors have been rescued so far from the search and rescue operations on Mackenzie's vast property. Some of them were too weak to walk when they were found. Cults are common in Kenya, which has a religious society.

Suspected Islamic extremists kill 33 in Burkina Faso

Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), May 14: An attack by suspected Islamic extremists on a village in the west of Burkina Faso killed 33 civilians, the provincial governor's office said. The provisional death toll from the Thursday evening attack on the village of Youlou in Mouhoun province was announced in a press release. Provincial governor Babo Pierre Bassinga called the attack "cowardly and barbaric". He said in the statement that the attack happened around 5 pm as residents were at work in their fields beside the Mouhoun river. The governor said security actions were underway to counter the extremists. Bassinga urged the population to increase their vigilance and to collaborate with security forces.

India plans repatriation of Kohinoor, colonial artefacts from UK: Report

London/New Delhi, May 14:

India is planning a repatriation campaign for artefacts dating back to the colonial era, including the controversial Kohinoor diamond and other idols and sculptures in museums across the UK, according to a British media report on Saturday. "The Daily Telegraph" newspaper claims the issue is among the priorities of the Narendra Modi-led government, with it likely to spill over into diplomatic and trade talks between the two countries. While the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is said to be leading efforts to reclaim objects "trafficked" out of the country since independence, officials in New Delhi are believed to be coor-

inating with diplomats in London to make formal requests to institutions holding artefacts seized as "spoils of war" or collected by enthusiasts during colonial rule.

"The long work of repatriation will begin with what is considered the easiest targets, small museums and private collectors, who may be more willing to voluntarily hand over Indian artefacts, and then efforts will turn to larger institutions and Royal collections," the newspaper report said. Senior officials in New Delhi believe that such historical artefacts can reinforce a strong national cultural identity, with Lily Pandeya, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, quoted as saying:



"Antiquities have both physical and intangible value, they are part of the continuity of cultural heritage, of community and national identity. By robbing these artefacts, you are robbing this value, and breaking the continuity of knowledge and community." The Kohinoor, also known as Koh-i-Noor or mountain of

light in Persian, was in the spotlight at last week's Coronation with Queen Camilla averting a diplomatic row by choosing alternative diamonds for her consort's crown.

The 105-carat diamond was held by rulers in India before landing in the hands of the East India Company from Maharaja Ranjit

Singh's treasury and then being presented to Queen Victoria following the annexation of Punjab. "The return of such a historically significant artefact would be deeply symbolic," according to ministerial circles in New Delhi, and there is understood to be a political will to achieve such a symbolic post-colonial victory," the report said.

The British Museum could face claims for its collection of Hindu statues and the Amaravati Marbles, which were taken from a Buddhist stupa by civil servant Sir Walter Elliot and the Victoria and Albert Museum's Indian collection could also be subject to claims.

The newspaper describes this drive to reclaim Indian artefacts

as a "reckoning" with the country's colonial past, with Secretary for the Indian Ministry of Culture Govind Mohan being quoted as saying that returning antiquities would form a key part of India's policy-making. "It is of huge importance to the government. The thrust of this effort to repatriate India's artefacts comes from the personal commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has made it a major priority," the newspaper quoted Mohan as saying. There have been other cultural trends in recent years toward repatriation, with Greece seeking the Elgin Marbles and Nigeria the Benin Bronzes.

Last year, Glasgow Life a charitable organi-

sation which runs the Scottish city's museums signed an agreement with the Indian government to repatriate seven stolen artefacts to India.

Most of these objects were removed from temples and shrines in different states in northern India during the 19th century, while one was purchased following a theft from the owner. All seven artefacts were gifted to Glasgow's collections, according to Glasgow Life. In New Delhi, a senior official of the ASI said concerted efforts are being made to repatriate artefacts from out of the country. "Since Independence, 251 artefacts have been brought back to India, and 238 of these have been repatriated since 2014," ASI spokesperson Vasant Swarnkar said.



CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 11 No. 45

Upholding Federalism

Supreme Court's Landmark Verdict Empowers State Governments

The landmark judgment by the Supreme Court, resolving an eight-year-old dispute between the Centre and the Delhi government, holds immense significance for the country. With a unanimous ruling, the court emphasized the preservation of constitutional principles of federalism and affirmed the elected government's legislative and executive powers over administration of services, except for public order, police, and land. This decision not only has implications for Delhi but also sends a strong message to non-BJP-ruled states that the Centre cannot encroach upon their powers. The court's ruling addresses the issue of administrative control, specifically over transfers and postings of civil servants in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. By affirming that the elected government must retain real power and that the Centre cannot assume governance control, the verdict safeguards the principles of democracy and decentralization. It establishes that ministers must have authority over bureaucrats to effectively implement executive decisions and maintain the principle of collective responsibility. The judgment also clarifies the role of the Lieutenant Governor (LG), highlighting that their powers do not extend to interfering with the legislative powers of the Delhi assembly and the elected government. This is significant, as several opposition-ruled states have faced challenges with their Governors, who are appointed by the Centre. The ruling asserts that states possess power as well, with their executive power subject to existing Union laws, ensuring that governance is not overtaken by the Union of India. For the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the ruling is a significant victory, validating their long-standing concerns about interference from the Centre. It gives them greater control over administrative services in Delhi, allowing them to prioritize the interests of the city's residents and execute public works smoothly. However, the implications of this verdict extend beyond Delhi, serving as a reminder to the Centre that it must respect the autonomy and authority of elected state governments across the country. Decentralization of power and maintaining a balance between the Centre and the states are vital for the functioning of a vibrant democracy like India. States play a crucial role in addressing regional issues and formulating policies tailored to the specific needs of their citizens. The Supreme Court's decision curbs the Centre's overreach and reaffirms the importance of democratic governance and federalism. Moving forward, it is essential for the Centre and the states to adopt a collaborative and cooperative approach. They must work together to build a stronger and more inclusive India, guided by the principles of federalism and democratic governance. Power should not be concentrated in the hands of a few but shared among elected representatives at both the Centre and the states. By upholding the principles of decentralization, India can ensure that the diverse interests and aspirations of its citizens are effectively addressed. This historic verdict serves as a cause for celebration not only for the AAP but for the entire opposition, as it reaffirms the principles of democracy and federalism. It is a reminder that the Centre must exercise its powers within the boundaries defined by the Constitution, respecting the rights and authority of state governments. The ruling paves the way for a more balanced distribution of power, enabling states to govern effectively and meet the needs of their people.

Addressing the Menace of Food and Medicine Adulteration in India

Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

In recent years, the problem of food and medicine adulteration has reached alarming levels in India, posing significant risks to the health and safety of consumers. Adulterated food products, contaminated with harmful substances to enhance appearance and shelf life, are being sold to unsuspecting individuals. Similarly, adulterated medicines, containing incorrect ingredients or dangerous substances, jeopardize the well-being of consumers. There has been a surge in the number of cases related to adulterated, substandard, or misbranded food items across India. Food safety authorities have observed an increase in both civil and criminal cases, indicating the widespread prevalence of food adulteration. Shockingly, a substantial portion of food samples analyzed by these authorities failed to comply with prescribed standards, demonstrating the gravity of the adulteration issue. Some samples were even deemed unsafe for consumption. The FSSAI, established in 2006, plays a pivotal role in addressing this problem. As the apex food safety regulatory body, it sets science-based standards for food articles and oversees their manufacturing, storage, distribution, sale, and import. The Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act of 2006 mandates that no person can engage in any food business without a license. State and union territory governments actively conduct surveillance to ensure compliance with these regulations. The BIS contributes to food safety by establishing standards for food articles and awarding the ISI mark, a symbol of compliance with these standards. The ISI mark serves as a reassurance to consumers regarding the quality and safety of the food products they purchase. To consolidate efforts related to food safety and standards, the FSSAI was established, bringing together legislation and authorities in this domain. The FSSAI undertakes various measures to ensure the safety of food products. It is responsible for the registration of food businesses, enforcement of standards, and issuance of licenses to eligible operators. The FSSAI also regulates packaging and labeling requirements to provide consumers with accurate information. Additionally, the FSSAI conducts laboratory analyses to detect and combat adulteration practices, ensuring the integrity of the food industry. For food products intended for medical purposes, such as protein powder, the FSSAI has specific regulations known as the FSS (Food or Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Foods Special Dietary Use, Foods for Special Medical Purpose, Functional Foods, and Novel Foods) Regulations of 2016. These regulations outline the provisions necessary to regulate these products, and compliance with the labeling requirements stated in the FSS (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations of 2011 is mandatory. The Government of India enacted the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in 1954, with subsequent amendments in 1964, 1976, and 1986. This act aims to provide consumers with pure and wholesome food while protecting them from fraudulent and deceptive trade practices. The responsibility for implementing and enforcing the FSS Act primarily lies with state and union territory governments. Food safety officers play a crucial role in taking penal action against non-compliant food business operators based on the provisions and regulations of the Act. Strict laws are essential to effectively address the issue of adulteration and impose penalties on those involved in such practices. By enforcing these laws, authorities can protect consumers and ensure the availability of safe and authentic food and medicine products. The implementation of stringent measures, combined with regular surveillance, compliance promotion.

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

SHARING SUCCESS



Students celebrate their success after declaration of ICSE and ISC exams results, at a school in Kolkata, Sunday.

A Triumph for the Ages: Saluting Kapil's Devils 40 years of History



PROF. VASISHT MC



It was the summer of 1983 On June 25, 1983, India scripted history and stunned the world by rallying against odds and winning the prestigious trophy at the home of cricket, the Lord's Cricket Ground. Under the captaincy of Kapil Dev, a team of underdogs shocked the world by winning the prestigious ICC Cricket Trophy. It was a momentous occasion for Indian cricket, and the victory is still celebrated and revered by cricket enthusiasts across the nation. As the 40th anniversary of the triumph approaches, the nation is gearing up to pay homage to the legendary team that put Indian cricket on the global map.

To commemorate the historic occasion, Prof. Vasisht, an Associate Professor at the Department of History in Malabar Christian College Calicut, a renowned cricket historian and a cricket poet from Kerala, has compiled a song and created a calendar. The objective behind the song and calendar is to promote the message of Cricket for National Integration. Prof. Vasisht's evocative lyrics have been beautifully tuned and

sung by his former student Mr. Sai Giridhar, adding a musical tribute to the celebration. The 1983 World Cup victory was a watershed moment in Indian cricket



history. The team had to overcome formidable odds to triumph in the tournament. In the lead-up to the World Cup, the Indian cricket team was not considered a serious con-

tender for the title. The West Indies, led by the legendary Clive Lloyd, were the reigning champions and hot favorites to retain the crown. The other top teams, like England and Australia, were also expected to put up a strong fight.

However, the Indian team, which was written off as underdogs, played with great determination and grit. The team's performance improved with every match, and they went on to beat the likes of Australia, Zimbabwe, and the West Indies on way to final. The victory was a testament to the team's resilience and spirit, and it instilled a newfound sense of pride and confidence in Indian cricket.

The 1983 World Cup victory is still

*In a sunny afternoon in June
Against the mighty caribbeans
Kapil's eleven devils
Set out for a fight
like soliders with a will
they fought like heroes
dreaming of victory
turned all their odds
carved out a fairytale
In the pages of cricket legends
When the last wicket fall
fireworks flashed in the sky
Bangra steps float the Indian streets
Kapil's Devils at Lords
drew a new face for Indian cricket
Kapil's Devils at Lords
In the wink of an eye
became demi Gods*

remembered for the remarkable performances of the players who formed the team. Kapil Dev's leadership was exemplary, and his all-round performance in the final against the West

Indies is still talked about in reverential tones. Mohinder Amarnath's heroics in the crucial matches earned him the player of the tournament award. The likes of Sunil Gavaskar, Dilip Vengsarkar, Sandeep Patil, and Roger Binny also played crucial roles in the team's success.

The victory had a profound impact on Indian cricket. It inspired a new generation of players, and the Indian team went on to become a dominant force in world cricket in the following years. The triumph also marked a turning point in the way cricket was perceived in India. The sport was no longer seen as a game played by the elites, but as a unifying force that could bring the nation together.

As the nation prepares to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory, there is a renewed sense of pride and admiration for the team that achieved the seemingly impossible. Prof. Vasisht's tribute in the form of a song and calendar is a fitting tribute to the team that brought glory to Indian cricket. The song, which speaks about the unity and diversity of India, captures the essence of the victory and its impact on the nation.

The calendar, which features images of the team and highlights of their journey, is a beautiful reminder of the team's legacy. The 1983 World Cup victory will always be remembered as a triumph for the ages. It was a moment that brought a nation together and inspired a generation of cricket enthusiasts. The team's remarkable achievements will continue to be celebrated and honored, and their legacy will endure for generations to come.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reviving Forgotten Heroes

Karni Sena's recent procession in Nagpur to commemorate Maharana Pratap Jayanti was heartening to witness. However, it raises an important question: Is one day of celebration enough to remember our long-forgotten heroes? The answer is a resounding no. Our future generations need to be acquainted with these remarkable figures because Indian history extends beyond the Mughals and Delhi Sultanate. It encompasses the valour of Maharana Pratap, Rana Sangha, Vijaynagar Kingdom, The Cholas, and countless others. It is imperative for us, as Indians, to reengage with our rich history, explore our cultural heritage, and ensure that the stories of our heroes are not lost in oblivion. Otherwise, we risk repeating unfortunate incidents like the recent Kerala saga. Let us embark on a journey of cultural rediscovery and preserve our heritage for generations to come.

Chandni Shrivastava, Durg

Uncovering Tensions in Manipur

The violence in Manipur has exposed the deep-rooted divide between the Meiteis and other ethnic groups, transcending political and geographic boundaries. While protests acted as a trigger, the underlying tensions have been brewing for years, fueled by issues such as land rights and discrimination against minority communities. The dominance of Meiteis in state government positions and their greater economic and infrastructural progress have further exacerbated the divide. In response to the escalating violence, the Central government invoked Article 355 of the Constitution. However, the ruling BJP's focus on electoral success has overshadowed the urgent need to protect people's lives, reflecting a lack of trust in the government.

MK Nair, Raipur

IAF's Compelled MiG Operations

The recent tragedy resulting in the loss of three innocent lives is a saddening event. It once again highlights the challenging predicament faced by the Indian Air Force (IAF) in operating aging MiG aircraft, which have surpassed their intended lifespan of 40 years by two decades. Aircraft accidents can occur due to various factors, including weather conditions, human error, and technical malfunctions. Unfortunately, technical failures often contribute to MiG crashes. Although the life-extension upgrades may offer some technical benefits, it is crucial to acknowledge that the underlying airframe remains outdated, with cosmetic enhancements. Nonetheless, the IAF finds itself compelled to continue operating these aging aircraft due to a severe shortage of squadrons and limited alternatives.

Krish Kumar, Kannur

Karnataka Assembly Elections: A Resounding Triumph for Democratic Values



Yash pal Raihan

In a country that prides itself on its strong democracy, the Karnataka assembly elections have once again affirmed the power of the people's voice. The election results were in line with the state's historical trend, where no government has been repeated for the past 35 years. This continuity is a testament to the resilience and maturity of democracy in India, reminiscent of Himachal Pradesh, which recently witnessed a similar pattern over 37 years. These election outcomes call for introspection by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). A matured democracy like India demands that political parties not take voters for granted, assuming

that freebies and promises alone will secure votes. It is essential to reflect upon Prime Minister Modi's claims during his speech in the Rajya Sabha, where he asserted that freebies would translate into electoral success. The recent decisions by the Supreme Court further emphasize the need for self-reflection within the BJP.

The Supreme Court rulings in two significant cases showcased the court's independence and highlighted instances where the BJP's actions were questioned. In the Shiv Sena case, it was revealed that if Uddhav Thackeray had not submitted a resignation letter, his government might have been reinstated. This judgment underscores the irregularities that occurred during that period. Similarly, the court granted more powers to the Delhi government, challenging the BJP-led central government's authority. Additionally, the court's directive for SEBI to submit a report on the Adani episode prior to the 2024 parliamentary elections demonstrates the court's commitment to ensuring transparency and accountability.

The Karnataka elections offer a significant lesson to all political parties. It is a clear indication that exploiting the sentiments of voters

based on caste, creed, and religion is ineffective. BJP's attempt to transform the Bajrang Dal into the Bajrang Bali Hanuman party in hopes of gaining more votes was rejected by the discerning voters. This rejection serves as a reminder to all political parties to refrain from exploiting the vulnerabilities of the common man.

The significance of grand roadshows and demonstrations has been undermined by the results of the Karnataka assembly elections. Instead, it is crucial for parties to address the burning issues faced by the common man. The recent advisory from the Supreme Court urging the government to focus on helping the needy and mediating disputes rather than engaging in unnecessary litigation reinforces the importance of prioritizing the welfare of citizens.

For opposition parties, the Karnataka election results serve as a crucial lesson. It is imperative for them to unite and present a formidable front in the upcoming parliamentary elections. A united opposition, fielding a single candidate against the BJP candidate, is essential to avoid a repeat of past scenarios where the Congress party failed to secure enough seats to claim the

position of Leader of the Opposition. The victories of the Congress party in the assembly elections of Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh should not be misconstrued as a guarantee of success in parliamentary elections. The recent by-election in Punjab, where the Congress lost the Jalandhar parliamentary seat it held for 24 years to the AAP party, highlights the need for parties to be vigilant and adaptive.

This is an opportune moment for the BJP to engage in deep introspection and establish clear guidelines for the upcoming parliamentary elections in April 2024. The party needs to evaluate its strategies, address the concerns of the common people, and present a comprehensive vision for the future. Similarly, opposition parties must prioritize national interests over individual agendas and work together to strengthen and mature our democracy.

The lessons from the Karnataka assembly elections extend beyond political parties. They serve as a reminder to every citizen of the power they hold in shaping the destiny of the nation. The electorate has shown that they are not swayed by empty promises or divisive tac-

tics based on caste, creed, or religion. It is essential for voters to remain vigilant, analyze the track records and agendas of candidates, and cast their votes wisely.

Moreover, the Karnataka elections highlight the significance of state-level governance. While state assembly elections may follow different patterns and trends than national parliamentary elections, they play a crucial role in shaping the overall political landscape of the country. State governments have the responsibility to address local issues, provide effective governance, and set an example for the nation as a whole.

Moving forward, it is crucial for political parties, the government, and the citizens to prioritize the welfare of the common man. The focus should be on inclusive policies, equitable development, and addressing the pressing issues faced by different sections of society. By fostering an environment of unity, empathy, and respect for diversity, we can build a stronger and more prosperous India.

(The opinions expressed in this article solely reflect the views of the author and not necessarily those of Central Chronicle.)

BRIEF

Green power



New Delhi: Union New and Renewable Energy Minister R K Singh directed the industry to set targets under Green Open Access Rules 2022. In June 2023, the government notified the Green Open Access Rules 2022 to further accelerate India's renewable energy programmes. These rules were notified for promoting generation, purchase and consumption of green energy including through waste-to-energy plants. It also enables a simplified procedure for the open access to green power. Singh chaired a meeting with Industry and other stakeholders in New Delhi on Green Energy Open Access Rules, an official statement said. "The minister exhorts industry leaders to set targets for going green."

Data Patterns

Chennai: Data Patterns (India) Ltd was actively pursuing new product development aligning with sectoral opportunities, a top company official has said. The city based electronics solution provider in the defence and aerospace sectors, reported a profit after tax at Rs 55.34 crore for the quarter ending March 31, 2023. The company had registered a profit after tax at Rs 61.63 crore during the corresponding quarter of previous year. The total income during the quarter under review grew to Rs 188.90 crore from Rs 173.07 crore registered in the corresponding period of last year.

Digital Infra



New Delhi: Inter-governmental body Shanghai Cooperation Organization members, which includes China and Pakistan, have unanimously adopted India's proposal for developing Digital Public Infrastructure, Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Saturday. India has developed Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) like unified payment interface, Aadhaar etc to make services available to people in a convenient manner.

Container capacity

New Delhi: JSW Infrastructure will invest Rs 152 crore for the expansion of its container capacity at New Mangalore Port Trust, according to sources. In June 2022, the company commissioned its first container terminal at New Mangalore Port Trust (NMPT) in Karnataka, having a cargo capacity of 2.4 lakh twenty equipment units (TEU).

Govt to roll out lost mobile blocking, tracking system pan-India on May 17

New Delhi, May 14:

People will be able to block and track their lost or stolen mobile phones across India with the roll-out of a tracking system by the government this week, a senior government official said. Technology development body Centre for Department of Telematics (CDoT) has been running the pilot of the CEIR system in some of the telecom circles, including Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and North East region, and the system is now ready for pan-India deployment, a DoT official, who did not wish to be identified, told PTI. "CEIR system is scheduled for pan-India launch on May 17," the official said. When contacted, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman Project Board at CDoT Rajkumar Upadhyay did not confirm the date but confirmed

that the technology is ready for pan-India deployment. "The system is ready and now it will be deployed across India in this quarter. This will enable people to block and track their lost mobile phones," Upadhyay said. CDoT has been able to add features to check the use of cloned mobile phones across all telecom networks. The government has made it mandatory to disclose IMEI — a 15-digit unique numeric identifier — of mobile devices before their sale in India.

The mobile networks will have access to the list of approved IMEI numbers which will check the entry of any unauthorised mobile phones on their network. Telecom operators and CEIR system will have visibility into IMEI number of the device and mobile number linked to it, and the information is being used in some states to track your lost or stolen

mobiles through CEIR. "One of the common practices is that miscreants change IMEI number of stolen mobile phones which prevents tracking and blocking of such handsets.

It was a national security issue. The CEIR will be able to block any cloned mobile phones on the network with the help of various databases," Upadhyay said. The basic purpose of CEIR is to ease reporting of stolen and lost mobiles and block the use of mobiles all over the country.

This will discourage the theft of mobile phones, enable the tracing of the stolen and lost mobiles to the police, detection of cloned or counterfeit mobiles, restrict the use of such cloned mobiles, as well as protect the interest of the consumers by making them aware of the information related to fake and cloned mobile phones.

Meeting with Walmart CEO fruitful one, had insightful discussions: PM Modi



New Delhi, May 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said his recent meeting with Walmart CEO Doug McMillon was a fruitful one during which they had insightful discussions on different subjects. Modi also said he was happy to see India emerge as an attractive destination for investment. McMillon had called on Modi last week.

"The meeting with Mr. Doug McMillon, CEO of @Walmart, was a fruitful one. We had insightful discussions on different subjects. Happy to see India emerge as an attractive destination for investment," Modi tweeted.

On May 11, Walmart Inc. had tweeted, "Thank you Prime Minister @narendramodi for a great conversation. We are working toward exporting USD 10B per year from India by 2027 and are committed to strengthening logistics, skill development & supply chains to make India a global export leader in toys, seafood & other goods." "The visit with Prime Minister @narendramodi reinforces the shared value we bring working alongside India.

Pidilite expects better margin and volume-driven growth in FY24: MD Bharat Puri

New Delhi, May 14:

Pidilite Industries is "cautiously optimistic" and expects a better margin with a volume-driven growth in FY24, helped by a comeback of rural and semi-urban demand and increased activities in the real estate sector, said its Managing Director Bharat Puri.

Leading adhesive, waterproofing solutions and construction chemicals company said now the inflation has come to a "manageable level" though it has not come back to pre-Covid levels. Besides, the company which recently announced foraying into the decorative paints segment, said it has a long-term perspective for it



and would utilise its existing sales network. Pidilite is already present in the coatings business. When asked about FY24, Puri told PTI: "From a margin perspective, FY24 will definitely be better than FY23, barring any black swan events or something new happening in the world." Pidilite, which owns adhesives brands such as Fevicol, FeviKwik, M-Seal and Dr

Fixit, has already consumed the raw material which was earlier sourced at higher prices. "As far as the top line is concerned, we should be cautiously optimistic. We are seeing the return of rural and semi-urban demand and overall, therefore, a tailwind," Puri added.

Construction in real estate is clearly seeing a lot more of action. "So, therefore, from a top line, we will like to grow one to twice GDP depending on the year. It should be profitable volume growth with better margins than FY23," he added. About the nature of growth, Puri said, "There will be very little pricing growth, most of the growth will from the volume side."

KSB Limited finishes first quarter of 2023 with strong performance



Mumbai, May 14: KSB Limited finishes the first quarter of 2023 with strong performance. The Sales value for Q1 2023 is registered at INR 4,896 million which is about an 17% increase over the corresponding quarter of 2022. The Operating profit margin is at 12%. The FGD orders worth INR339 Mio received of which 276 Mio from K C Cottrell. The All India Dealer Conference held at Istanbul, Turkey. The company in a u g u r a t e d Mechanical Seal Assembly Line

at IPD Pimpri and the groundbreaking ceremony of Sinner new shed was also organised. Summarising the Q1'23 performance, Mr. Farrokh Bhatena, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, KSB Limited said, "This quarter we have registered stellar performance with highest ever order intake of INR6764 Mio in Q1 2023 from conventional business. Our sales achieved for the quarter are 17% higher than that of the corresponding Q1 2022. Despite the complex macroeconomic environment and shrinking margins, we are poised to leverage growth opportunities in our key markets. These impressive results are due to our strong focus on growth strategy. In addition, the greater customer trust in our product portfolio and our strong execution capabilities also add up to KSB's growth momentum."

Housing sales in FY23 up 48 pc to Rs 3.47 lakh crore driven: Anarock

New Delhi, May 14:

Housing sales rose 48 per cent year-on-year to Rs 3.47 lakh crore during the last fiscal across seven major cities on higher volumes and better price realisation, according to Anarock. Real estate consultant Anarock reported that sales of residential properties in value terms increased to Rs 3,46,960 crore last fiscal from Rs 2,34,850 crore in 2021-22. In volume terms, sales grew 36 per cent to 3,79,095 units in 2022-23 from 2,77,783 units in the previous year. The data pertains to the transactions of primary (fresh sale) housing market. "India's residential real estate segment contin-

India-EU trade, technology council first meeting at Brussels on May 16

New Delhi: The first ministerial level meeting of India-European Union Trade and Technology Council (TTC) will be held on May 16 in Brussels to discuss ways to increase cooperation in strategic technologies, digital connectivity, clean energy, trade and investments, an official statement said on Sunday. Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal is one of the co-chairs along with external affairs minister S Jaishankar and Union minister of state for electronics and information technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar, the commerce ministry said in a statement. The EU side is co-chaired by Executive Vice Presidents (EVPS) Dombrovskis and Vestager. It said that three working groups under the mechanism will report on roadmaps for future cooperation between the two sides — Working Group on Strategic Technologies, Digital Governance and Digital Connectivity; Working Group on Green and Clean Energy Technologies; and Working Group on Trade, Investment and Resilient Value Chains.

MILLET FESTIVAL



Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami speaks during the inauguration of the four-day Uttarakhand Shree Anna (Millet) Festival, at Survey of India Stadium in Dehradun.

Enough growth opportunities within facilities to take capacity to 40 MT in India: Narendran

Ranchi, May 14:



Tata Steel sees enough growth opportunities within its existing facilities to actualise an expansion plan to achieve 40 million tonne capacity in India by 2030, almost double of its current capability in the country, CEO and Managing Director T V Narendran said. The steel giant will continue to hold talks with the UK government over a financial package for operations there, he said. The company has planned capital expenditure to the tune of Rs 12,000 crore for India operations, he said.

"In India, basically we want to increase the capacity. We have already around 21 MT. It will be 25 MT soon because the Kalinganagar expansion

is going on. We have a few more plans - Neelachal, Kalinganagar and Meramandali or Angul to achieve 40 million tonne capacity by 2030," Narendran told PTI in an interview here. There are multiple ongoing projects at various locations in India and the company has "prioritised completion of the 5 MTPA Kalinganagar expansion", he said. The company is in the process of expanding its plant capacity in Odisha's Kalinganagar to 8 MT from 3 MT. "Within nine months of acquisi-

tion, we have successfully ramped up (the capacity of) Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd to one million tonne on annualised basis," he said. The steel company, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Tata Steel Long Products Ltd, had completed the acquisition of Odisha-based one million tonne per annum steel mill NINL for a consideration of Rs 12,100 crore in July 2022. On capacity expansion, he said, "Basically the capex (capital expenditure) which you see is Rs 12,000 crore in India. It will be at that level for the next three years at least." In reply to a query, he categorically said that the entire growth plan is based on "organic" expansion, and there is no plan for any "inorganic" growth in the near future.

Changes in anti-money laundering law can adversely impact foreign investment facilitation, say CAs

New Delhi, May 14:

Chartered accountants are seeking clarifications on the finance ministry's recent notification on extending the ambit of anti-money laundering law as it can adversely impact ease of doing business and the facilitation of foreign investments. According to industry sources, chartered accountants (CAs) and company secretaries often act as formation agents for foreign companies setting up businesses in India and often provide their own address for communication in the initial phase. They also act as resident directors of the foreign company trying to establish presence in the country and also operate bank accounts on behalf

of their clients. Industry sources said there is no way that an accountant can know whether the money that an investor is bringing into India is bonafide or laundered money and verify its source. In view of the pending review by the global watchdog on terror financing and money laundering scheduled later this year, the finance ministry has in recent months tightened and expanded the scope of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

As part of the exercise, chartered and cost accountants and company secretaries have been included in the ambit of the PMLA, if they undertake specified activities on behalf of their clients.

Govt to make Rs 300 crore equity infusion in Alliance Air

New Delhi, May 14: The government is set to make an equity infusion of Rs 300 crore in regional carrier Alliance Air, which is facing financial headwinds, according to a senior official. Alliance Air, earlier part of Air India, is now owned by AI Assets Holding Ltd (AIAHL), a special-purpose vehicle formed by the central government. The disinvestment-bound Alliance Air operates around 130 flights daily. In recent months, there have been instances of strikes by pilots to protest against non-restoration of salaries to the pre-Covid level and non-payment of allowance, among other issues.

Hero MotoCorp set to roll out record number of products this year: CEO

New Delhi, May 14:



Hero MotoCorp is gearing up for highest ever model introductions this fiscal as it looks to consolidate market share especially in the premium bike segment, according to the company's CEO Niranjana Gupta.

The country's largest two-wheeler maker plans to introduce new bikes, including the first product under the Hero MotoCorp-Harley Davidson tie-up, during the ongoing financial year.

The company has leadership in the budget bike segment (100-110cc) and is looking to enhance presence in the 125 cc and also drive in models to bring in volumes and enhance profitability in the 160-cc and

share across segments, he noted.

"We are excited about the fiscal and expect to build on our market share and margin recovery. We have a host of new launches lined up, and we will be launching new products every quarter in this fiscal," Gupta said.

He noted that there would be "a lot of launches in the premium segment" during the course of the year.

"There will be big launches...which will then ensure that we can build the right premium portfolio and get our market share on that," Gupta said. He noted that the company is focusing on the premium segment bikes, with power ranging between 150cc and 450cc.

NHB asks large housing finance companies to adopt early warning signals framework

New Delhi, May 14:

Regulator for housing finance firms NHB has asked housing finance companies with asset size of over Rs 1,000 crore to adopt an early warning signals (EWS) framework to check financial frauds and also to prevent accounts from turning into non-performing assets. National Housing Bank (NHB), in a recent circular, said analysis of the frauds reported by the housing finance companies (HFCs) has revealed that the reasons behind accounts being identified as fraud accounts are seller impersonation, submission of fake income/employment documents, submission of fake title deeds, a collusion

of the builder and borrower. It has also been observed that such deficiencies are identified only when the borrower stops paying the EMIs after the disbursement of the loans, NHB said.

"It has been therefore decided that an Early Warning Signals (EWS) Framework should be adopted by the HFCs so that an alert is triggered before the account turns into non-performing asset (NPA) or declared as a fraud account," it said. NHB circular further said that tracking of the EWS must be integrated with the credit monitoring process in the systems of the HFCs so that it becomes a continuous activity.



ues to show boundless forward momentum, and is setting unprecedented benchmarks," said Anuj Puri, Chairman, Anarock Group. According to the data, housing sales in Delhi-NCR rose 42 per cent to Rs 50,620 crore last fiscal from Rs 35,610 crore in the previous year. In Mumbai

Metropolitan Region (MMR), sales grew 46 per cent to Rs 1,67,210 crore from Rs 1,14,190 crore. Housing sales in Bengaluru increased 49 per cent to Rs 38,870 crore from Rs 26,100 crore. In Pune, housing sales rose 77 per cent to Rs 33,730 crore from Rs 19,100 crore.

'I now understand what my mom went through'



Sony Entertainment Television's 'Sapnon Ki Chhalaang brings viewers an engaging narrative about Radhika, a girl from Jhansi who takes a leap of faith to the maximum city of Mumbai. Starring Megha Ray as the protagonist, the show has seen Radhika convince her parents, especially her father, to let her pursue a career in Mumbai. She now faces the challenge of living in an alien city, adjusting with roomies from diverse backgrounds and trying to handle the pressures of her first job while appeasing her tough boss. The 'coming of age drama' has viewers anticipating what will happen next in Radhika's life as she balances her work and the concerns of her family back in Jhansi. Radhika has stepped out of a sheltered environment for the first time as a young adult and despite having faith in her daughter's abilities, it's a mother's prerogative to worry about her child. Talking about a mother's feeling after the child leaves the nest, Kashish Duggal relates to her character Suman Yadav and recalls similar instances of her own life. In the upcoming track, Radhika's boss, Priyal (Benaf Dadachandji) will announce an office offsite in Goa, that will be mandatory to attend for all the employees. While Radhika is keen to go on this trip, she knows that her parents would not agree to such an undertaking. Will Radhika's parents allow her to go on the offsite? Tune in to watch Sapnon Ki Chhalaang, every Monday to Friday at 9:30 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television!



Ruhee Dosani to showcase genderless fashion on Cannes red carpet

Content creator and social media influencer Ruhee Dosani is set to make her debut on the red carpet of the Cannes Film Festival. Ruhee, who also has a 9-to-5 job, will be redefining genderless fashion during her Cannes appearance.

Talking about it, Dosani said: "Starting with my We Desi group, then coming back to my country, I had no idea how my journey as an artiste would grow. Taking one Reel at a time, my vision was always to again go global with my craft."

"This milestone opportunity given by the Cannes Film Festival is an artiste's dream! It feels like my talent is being

recognised by one of the most prestigious film festivals in the world." Sharing her feelings, Dosani added: "I believe that this is my chance to showcase how India has always been progressive in its approach. My vision with Cannes this year is to promote the idea of genderless fashion and make a global mark. I will always be grateful to this platform for helping me showcase and support my love for fashion and my country."

Vijay Varma, Anushka Sharma, Manushi Chhillar and Aditi Rao Hydari will also be attending the film festival, which is set to be held from May 16 to May 27.

Alia Bhatt Gucci's global brand ambassador



First it was Deepika Padukone, who was appointed as the first Indian to represent luxury giant Louis Vuitton internationally, and now Italian high-end luxury fashion house Gucci has appointed Alia Bhatt as their first Indian global ambassador.

The fashion house from Florence used Instagram to make the formal announcement with a photo and a comment stating, "Alia Bhatt is the House's newest Global Brand Ambassador. To mark the occasion, the actress, producer and entrepreneur was captured with the Gucci Bamboo 1947 bag," read Gucci's official social media post.

Alia Bhatt stated, "I'm honoured to represent the house of Gucci, not only in India but at a global stage. Gucci's legacy has always inspired and intrigued me and I'm looking forward to the many sartorial milestones we create together."

Gucci further commented on its social media handle that Alia Bhatt was chosen, "an example of a creative talent fostering empowerment and self expression within the next generation" and is recognised by the House as the latest Global Brand Ambassador.

Alia will reportedly attend the fashion house Cruise 2024 show, which will take place in Seoul, South Korea, next week, after being named the brand's worldwide ambassador. The event will reportedly commemorate Gucci's 25 years in South Korea and will be held in the city's Gyeongbokgung Palace.

Alia will make her Hollywood debut alongside Gal Gadot and Jamie Dornan in the Netflix spy thriller 'Heart of Stone' on the professional front. The film will make its debut in August of this year.

BREAKING THE STEREOTYPES

Female writers who gave emotionally available and vulnerable male characters



in love with the character.

• **Zoya Akhtar and Reema Kagti - Sunny Gill in Dil Dhadakne Do**

One simply can't forget the scene in the film where Sunny played by Farhan Akhtar calls out Aisha's husband (played by Rahul Bose) for passing a sexist comment very casually. Emphasising on not letting go the "small-things", Sunny portrayed the male feminist, proving instrumental in the journey of self empowerment for Aisha (played by Priyanka Chopra). Sunny struck a chord with every woman and served as an idealistic example for the men to follow.

• **Kanika Dhillon- Robbie in Manmarziyaan**

Robbie from Manmarziyaan is the epitome of the ideal man every woman craves for. Played by Abhishek Bachchan, Robbie is not only emotionally available, but he also ticks all the boxes for a perfect partner. From being understanding, caring to being non-judgemental, Robbie is every girl's dream man. In the world of immature and misogynistic MCPs, Robbie never character assassinated Rumi (played by Taapsee Pannu), in fact, the way he dealt with the Rumi-vicky situation with utmost maturity and sensitivity, had every girl rooting for him.

• **Gauri Shinde- Dr Jug in Dear Zindagi:**

Dr Jug is simply the ideal therapist for every woman. Beaming with sensitivity, Jug played by Shah Rukh Khan has an irresistible charm owing to his non-judgemental portrayal. Ditching the orthodox mentality, Dr Jug not only embraces but also propagates the modern, feminist rationale making us fall

around masculinity, by creating male characters who are sensitive, understanding and would cheer for women. It is important to write wholesome men for cinema because when the general public sees women through the lens of these men a lot of their mindsets, and impressions get realigned. Here's a look at the women who have greatly contributed to the shift of male representation in Indian Cinema:

Raghav Chadha, Parineeti get engaged at a glittering ceremony

On a day he would have loved to be in Jalandhar to celebrate the Aam Aadmi Party's return to the Lok Sabha via the byelection caused by its former Congress MP's death, Raghav Chadha got engaged to Bollywood actress Parineeti Chopra, better known as the sister of Priyanka Chopra Jonas.

It was a hot Saturday afternoon, yet the normally somnolent Kapurthala House -- once the sprawling Delhi home of Kapurthala's Maharaja Paramjit Singh and now the official residence of Punjab's Governor and Chief Minister whenever they're in Delhi -- was a beehive of activity.

Photographers and videographers jostled for the right angles, shouted out requests to the arriving guests to pose for pictures and excitedly exchanging names, workmen walked in with last-minute deliverables, the evening's granthi sauntered in, and Bollywood favourite designer Manish Malhotra darted in and out with Parineeti's dress for the occasion before returning to formally join the party. For the paparazzi who



were waiting for a rush of Bollywood and political celebrities, the action started only after the evening descended on this quieter part of Lutyens's Delhi just across the road from the Taj Mahal Hotel. Earlier in the evening, the two families did keep it a low-key affair meant

for loved ones and close friends. Priyanka, who was with her sister at The Lodhi hotel after flying in from Mumbai in the morning, zipped in, flashing a victory sign from her car.

Before she arrived, Chadha's seniors in the Rajya Sabha, both representing

West Bengal in the Upper House -- ace Supreme Court advocate and Congress spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi with wife, Ghazal and Sufi singer Anita Singhvi, and Derek O'Brien, also with wife, Dr Tonuca Basu -- walked in and happily posed for the photographers. Singhvi, who even showed the paper bag in which he was carrying a gift for a couple. Then came the political bigwigs -- Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann flaunting his trademark yellow turban and ever-ready smile, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal with his wife, Sunita Kejriwal, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and Uddhav Thackeray's son, Aditya Thackeray, and former finance minister and Congress Rajya Sabha MP, P. Chidambaram, straight off his television appearances post the party's victory in Karnataka.

On a day when the Karnataka election results were consuming the mind-space of the nation, these politicians were taking a well-deserved break, though, without doubt, their conversation must all have been about the changing political narrative.

Temple Jewellery Collection: Embracing Tradition

Temple jewellery is a stunning and intricate style of handcrafted jewellery that has a rich history dating back to the 9th century A.D. in South India. Although traditionally used to adorn temple deities or worn by royalty, it has now become a popular choice for brides and for special occasions. The process of creating traditional temple jewellery requires skill, precision, and an understanding of the symbolism behind each design.

The creation of temple jewellery involves several stages, starting with designing the jewellery. The designs are often inspired by ancient Hindu scriptures and each piece is imbued with meaning and significance.

The next step is embossing, where a thin sheet of gold is placed on a melted wax base and the design is embossed onto the gold sheet using special tools. The jewellery is then embellished with precious and semi-precious stones and polished to achieve a flawless finish. In conclusion, the making of traditional



temple jewellery in gold is a time-honoured craft that requires a great deal of skill and dedication. The end result is a stunning work of art that serves as a symbol of India's rich heritage and craftsmanship.

However, there have been unfounded rumors questioning the process and materials used in creating temple jew-

ellery, which undermine the reputation of the skilled craftsmen who make these pieces and cast doubt on the credibility of the entire industry.

Such narratives do a disservice to the artistry and cultural significance of temple jewellery. In response to these concerns, Kalyan Jewellers, a renowned jewellery brand in India, has introduced its 4-Level Assurance Certificate, a customer-centric initiative that guarantees the best value, quality, and service for its patrons.

Kalyan Jewellers follows fair and transparent business practices, as evidenced by the 4-Level Assurance plan's product information section.

The brand only charges customer's gold rate on the total value of the gold used after deducting the weight of other materials such as lac, gemstones, glass, wood, enamel, etc., from the total weight of the product. The plan also promises great value on the exchange and resale of jewellery, ensuring that customers get the best deal possible.

CROSSWORD

645



ACROSS

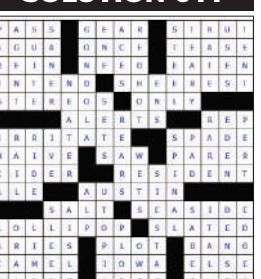
- Treaty
- Fence door
- Nurse _____ Barton
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DOWN

- Verse makers
- Confess
- _____ shopping
- Make a stab at
- Rubberneck
- Siren
- Chest
- Wriggly fish
- Moon feature
- Peruvian capital
- One who mimics
- Landlord's income
- _____ and crafts
- Tel Aviv's locale
- Roosters' mates
- Struggle roughly
- Selected
- Affirm

- Want
- Slants
- Eating alcove
- Blunder
- Metre out
- _____ of Two Cities" (2 wds.)
- Eave hanger
- Glance
- Hot drink
- Misleading clue (2 wds.)
- Slant
- Edgar _____ Poe
- Completed
- Ramble
- Dozed
- "The Way We _____"
- Wallet stuffers
- Detachment
- Prophetic sign
- Box tops
- Between
- Average skirt
- Prepare to propose
- Become old
- Moose's horn
- Roof problem
- Skill
- Cook's oil
- Copier's need
- Take off
- Slackens
- Retirement accts.
- _____ phone
- Not busy
- Gent
- Fairy-tale fiend
- Paddle a boat
- Sis's sibling

SOLUTION 644



RCB defeat RR by 112 runs

Jaipur, May 14 (PTI):

Royal Challengers Bangalore notched up a comprehensive 112-run win over Rajasthan Royals to strengthen their IPL play-off chances, here on Sunday.

Opting to bat, skipper Faf du Plessis (55 off 44) and Glenn Maxwell (54 of 33) scored half-centuries to help RCB post a competitive 171 for five.

Their bowlers, led by Wayne Parnell (3/10) then put up scintillating display to bowl out Rajasthan for a paltry 59 in 10.3 overs.

Michael Bracewell (2/16) and Karn Sharma (2/19) picked two wickets each.

Earlier, du Plessis and Maxwell stitched a 69-run partnership for the second wicket to set the platform for the total.

But the middle order once again failed to fire as RCB lost four wickets for just 18 runs.



Royal Challengers Bangalore players celebrate the wicket of Rajasthan Royals batter Jos Buttler during the IPL 2023 cricket match between Rajasthan Royals and Royal Challengers Bangalore, at Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur, Sunday.

Brief Scores

Royal Challengers Bangalore 171 for 5 in 20 overs (Faf du Plessis 55, Glenn Maxwell 54; Adam Zampa 2/25; KM Asif 2/42) Rajasthan Royals 59 all out in 10.3 overs (Shimron Hetmyer 35; Wayne Parnell 3/10)

Spinner Adam Zampa and medium pacer KM

Asif picked two wickets apiece for Rajasthan.

Pramod bags two gold, Suhastoo win

THAILAND PARA BADMINTON
New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): Tokyo Paralympic champion Pramod Bhagat capped off his impressive run with two gold medals at the Thailand Para Badminton International tournament here on Sunday.

Pramod defeated England's Daniel Bethell in the men's singles SL3 final to secure gold before pairing up with fellow Indian Sukant Kadam to claim the yellow metal in men's doubles SL3-SL4 category.

Suhastoo Lalinakere Yathiraj emerged champion in SL4 category after beating fellow Indian Sukant 21-14 17-21 21-11 in the men's singles final.

In women's singles, Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan and Thulasimathi Murugesan signed off with silver medals in SH6 and SU5 class respectively.

In the SL3 singles final, Pramod had won the opening game 21-18 when Daniel decided to retire because of an injury.



Pramod Bhagat

In the doubles category final, Pramod and Sukant won the gold medal by defeating compatriot Nitesh Kumar and Tarun 18-21 21-14 21-19 in a keenly contested game.

"I am happy with my performance in the tournament. I was playing well and was implementing everything I had trained and planned," Pramod said in a press release.

"I hope Daniel recovers soon as it is always fun facing him as he gets the best out of me. In the doubles Nitesh and Tarun pushed up and I am happy the way we responded and finished the match."

SUDIRAM CUP

India lose to Chinese Taipei

Suzhou, May 14 (PTI): Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu's gallant fight ended in agony as India made a dismal start to their Sudirman Cup campaign, going down to the formidable Chinese Taipei 1-4 in their group C opening round tie here on Sunday. There was, however, no lack of fight from the Indian players as Tanisha Crasto and K Sai Prateek started on a positive note in the mixed doubles contest but they ran out of steam in the end, losing 21-18 24-26 6-21 to world no. 30 Yang Po-Hsuan and Hu Ling Fang.

World Number 9 HS Prannoy then couldn't find his 'A' game, going down 19-21 15-21 to world no. 5 Chou Tien Chen as India lagged 0-2 after the first two matches.

Sindhu was then handed the responsibility to bring India back into the tie but it was always going to be a tough task with her nemesis and former world no. 1 Tai Tzu Ying standing in the net.

The 27-year-old from Hyderabad, who hasn't been in the best of form



India's Prateek K. Sai and Tanisha Crasto in action against Chinese Taipei's Yang Po-Hsuan and Hu Ling Fang in the Mixed Doubles round-robin match on Day 1 of the Sudirman Cup, at the Suzhou Olympic Sports Center Gymnasium in Suzhou, China

lately, produced a gritty performance after the opening game reversal but couldn't go the distance with Tai Tzu managing a 21-14 18-21 21-17 win in an hour and four minutes.

It allowed Chinese Taipei take an unassailable 3-0 lead in the five-match tie. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty then fought hard before losing 13-21 21-17 18-21 to Lee Yang and Ye Hong Wei in the men's doubles match in a little over an hour as India further slumped to 0-4.

World No 17 Tressa Jolly and P Gayatri Gopichand then showed tremendous grit as they recovered from an opening game loss to eke out a 21-15 18-21 13-21 win over Lee Chia Hsin and Teng Chun Hsun in the final women's doubles tie to help India avoid a clean sweep. India will face Commonwealth Games mixed team champion Malaysia in their second Group C match on Monday.

Malaysia beat Australia 5-0 to top the group on Sunday.

Gujarat Titans look to seal play off berth after rare blip

Ahmedabad, May 14 (PTI): Gujarat Titans pride themselves on consistency and would be expected to produce a solid show against Sunrisers Hyderabad in the IPL here on Monday after a rare "flat" performance.

Another win should be enough for defending champions Gujarat Titans to seal a play-off berth while Sunrisers, who have only four wins from 11 games, are all but out of the reckoning.

Barring Rashid Khan, who starred with both ball and bat against Mumbai Indians, the bowlers had a forgettable outing and no one had answers to the special hitting ability of Suryakumar Yadav.

Gujarat remain the table leaders and tend to quickly learn from their mistakes.

"As a group we weren't there. In bowling also we were very flat. Didn't have clear plans or didn't execute," skipper Hardik

Pandya had said after their fourth loss in 12 games.

With the bat, the prolific top-order could not get going and despite a blinder from Rashid Khan at number 8, the Titans fell short. The star spinner was back at his best with the bowl to end up with his best figures of the season.

The skillful Mohammed Shami had a rare off day and he would be expected to conjure up magic with the new ball. Mohit Sharma, who was used in the middle and death overs earlier in the season, bowled with the new ball against Mumbai but the move did not play off.

Sunrisers, on the other hand, will be at the mercy of other teams after losing to Lucknow Super Giants from a winning position. They could not defend 80 runs off the last six overs with Nicholas Pooran playing a game changing innings. The failure of the

top-order and the star bowlers not performing as per expectations has let Sunrisers down this season. Anmolpreet Singh has replaced Mayank Agarwal at the top but is yet to make an impact.

Rahul Tripathi too has not set the stage on fire, having totalled 199 runs in 11 games at an underwhelming strike rate of 129.14. The skipper, Aiden Markram, has not led from the front with 207 runs from 10 games at a strike rate of 129.37.

The handling of pacer Umran Malik, who last played on April 29, has also been questioned.

The positive has been the performance of Abdul Samad, who is finally living up to his potential after years of promise.

Squads: Sunrisers Hyderabad: Aiden Markram (c), Abdul Samad, Rahul Tripathi, Glenn Phillips, Abhishek

Sharma, Marco Jansen, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Kartik Tyagi, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, T. Natarajan, Umran Malik, Harry Brook, Mayank Agarwal, Heinrich Klaasen, Adil Rashid, Mayank Markande, Vivrant Sharma, Samarth Vyas, Sanvir Singh, Upendra Yadav, Mayank Dagar, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Akeal Hosein and Anmolpreet Singh.

Gujarat Titans: Hardik Pandya (c), Shubman Gill, David Miller, Abhinav Manohar, Sai Sudharsan, Wriddhiman Saha, Matthew Wade, Rashid Khan, Rahul Tewatia, Vijay Shankar, Mohammed Shami, Alzarri Joseph, Yash Dayal, Pradeep Sangwan, Darshan Nalkande, Jayant Yadav, R. Sai Kishore, Noor Ahmad, Dasun Shanaka, Odean Smith, KS Bharat, Shivam Mavi, Urvil Patel, Joshua Little and Mohit Sharma.

Match starts 7.30 IST.

Pak was on boil following Imran's arrest but Indian bridge team get royal treatment

CHANGE OF HEART
New Delhi, May 14 (PTI): When the whole of Pakistan was on the edge following the dramatic arrest of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, bridge players from India were being treated like royalty in a five-star hotel in Lahore.

Part of a 32-member Indian bridge contingent were well-known philanthropist Kiran Nadar, wife of HCL founder Shiv Nadar, and another veteran in the sport, Rajeshwar Tiwari.

Tiwari, who has also taken part in the Asian Games among other international events around the world, was in the team that won the gold in the open category of the Bridge Federation of Asia and Middle East Championships. India swept the event by win-



Members of Indian bridge team in Lahore, Pakistan.

ning all four gold medals on offer. With Pakistan witnessing nationwide violence following Khan's arrest earlier this week, a few nerves in the visiting Indian team's camp were expected but speaking to PTI, Tiwari said the organisers made sure they felt completely safe in the confines of the Pearl Continental hotel.

"They made us feel special ever since we crossed the Wagah border to enter Pakistan. The president of Pakistan Bridge Federation came to the border to welcome us.

"The competition was not of the highest standards but in terms of hospitality, this is the best experience we have had out of all the overseas tourna-

ments we have taken part in. "We too are known for our hospitality in India but when they come here, it will be difficult for us to match them," Tiwari told PTI before boarding a flight from Amritsar airport. The contingent had reached Lahore on May 4 and majority of the members returned home on Sunday. A batch of seven including Kiran Nadar had returned on Saturday.

After the arrest of Khan, the Indian team was told to stay indoors but before that Tiwari and his teammates got multiple sightseeing opportunities in Lahore.

The Indian team members visited the Lahore Fort in the walled city, explored the famous food street and dined at restaurants close to the Badshahi Mosque and the Samadhi of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Aussie tennis player Davidson dies at 79

Had won 13 Grand Slam doubles titles

Australian Open with Ken Rosewall and the 1973 U.S. Open with John Newcombe when they beat Rod Laver and Rosewall.

In singles, he reached the 1966 semifinals of Wimbledon by upsetting two-time defending champion Roy Emerson. Davidson also reached the quarterfinals in singles at seven other majors five times at the Australian Championships and twice at the U.S. Nationals, a precursor to the U.S. Open. Davidson played in the first match of the Open Era, defeating John Clifton in the first round of the British Hard Court Championships on April 22, 1968.

Davidson and King combined to win four major titles at Wimbledon, three at the U.S. Open and one at the French Open. In the 1971 Wimbledon finals, they outlasted Margaret Court and Marty Riessen 3-6, 6-2, 15-13. He was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2010.

Davidson was born in Melbourne on Oct. 4, 1943. He was coached by Hall of Famer Mervyn Rose and worked with Davis Cup captain Harry Hopman as a member of the Australian Davis Cup team. Davidson coached the British Davis Cup team from 1967-70.

He is survived by his son Cameron and brother Trevor Davidson. AP

PBKS knock out DC with 31-run win

New Delhi, May 13 (PTI):

Spin twins Harpreet Brar and Rahul Chahar shared six wickets between them to power Punjab Kings to a 31-run win over Delhi Capitals in the IPL here on Saturday.

This was bottom-placed DC's eighth loss from 12 matches as they became the first team to be eliminated, while PBKS kept their playoff hopes alive, climbing to sixth spot.

David Warner smashed a 23-ball 50, his 60th fifty in the IPL, en route to his 54 (27b; 10x4, 1x6) to give DC's 168-run chase a flying start.

From being 69 for no loss in the power-play, DC came crashing down with Brar (4/30) and Chahar (2/16) ripping Delhi apart



Punjab Kings bowler Harpreet Brar celebrates the wicket of Delhi Capitals batter Manish Pandey during the IPL 2023 cricket match between Delhi Capitals and Punjab Kings, at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi, Saturday.

from seventh to 11th over. Brar dismissed Warner with a successful review and there was no looking back as DC were restricted 136/8 on a slow-turner.

Put into bat, PBKS rode on Prabhsimran Singh's 103, his first century in the IPL, to post 167 for seven.

Veteran Indian pacer

Warner blames batters' lack of application

As DC are knocked out of play-off contention

New Delhi, May 13 (PTI): Delhi Capitals captain David Warner rued his side's poor batting approach as they were knocked out of IPL play-offs contention after suffering a 31-run loss to Punjab Kings here on Saturday.

Chasing 168 on a slow-turner, the Australia left-handed batter gave DC a perfect start as his side reached 69 for no loss at the end of powerplay, but



they crashed to 88 for 6 in 10.1 overs and were ultimately restricted to 136 for 8. "The way we started and then losing six for 30, you are not going to win many games," Warner said at the post-match presentation. "Another disappointing effort with the bat after the start we had." DC will

play their two remaining matches for pride only.

"I think we found the right combination but we keep losing 4-5 wickets in the middle and that is something you cannot do at this level." He also rued the drop chance of Prabhsimran Singh who got a reprieve on 68 from Rilee Rossouw.

"A few dropped chances cost us a few runs," Warner said. "You have to play with pride, belief in yourself and play with freedom," he said about DC's approach in the upcoming games.

Ishant Sharma (2/27, 3 overs) claimed the prized scalps of Shikhar Dhawan (7) and Liam Livingstone (4), while left-arm spinner Axar Patel (1/27) dismissed the in-form Jitesh Sharma (5).

But Prabhsimran kept ticking along and hit 10 fours and six sixes in his 65-ball knock to help PBKS recover from being 45/3.

Sam Curran (20) gave him the support in the middle overs to stich a 72-run (54 balls) partnership.

Brief Scores: Punjab Kings: 167 for 7 in 20 overs (Prabhsimran Singh 103; Ishant Sharma 2/27).

Delhi Capitals: 136 for 8 in 20 overs (David Warner 54; Harpreet Brar 4/30; Rahul Chahar 2/16).

95-year-old sportsman recalls early days of cricket

Guwahati, May 14 (PTI): When 19-year-old Naba Kamal Bhuyyan took guard at the crease for Assam in 1948 against the United Provinces team, he unwittingly entered the record books. He became the batter to face the first ball for this Northeastern state in its maiden Ranji Trophy outing, playing at Garrison Field in the then state capital city of Shillong. The youngster was asked to face the first balls so that his opening partner, the more experienced B B Bose, could get an understanding of the pitch and the bowler before taking on them.

Messi returns to PSG lineup but Mbapp grabs spotlight

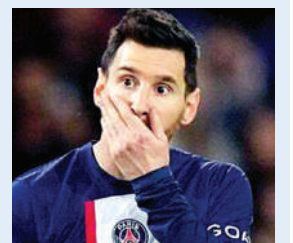
As Ajaccio routed

Paris, May 14 (AP): Lionel Messi returned to the Paris Saint-Germain lineup after a brief suspension and Kylian Mbapp grabbed the spotlight with two goals as Ajaccio was routed 5-0.

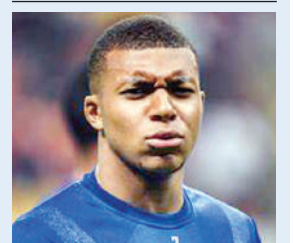
PSG moved closer to a record 11th French league title by leading second-placed Lens by six points with three games left. Defeat relegated 18th-placed Ajaccio.

Mbapp's second-half brace moved him onto a league-leading 26 goals and two ahead of Lyon striker Alexandre Lacazette, whose side plays on Sunday.

World Cup winner Messi missed PSG's previous game because the club suspended him for traveling to Saudi Arabia for commercial reasons without authorization. He apologized and the suspension was lifted this week. Messi received a mixed reception. Some fans jeered the superstar, but the absence of PSG's hardcore "ultra" fans made for a largely subdued atmosphere at Parc des Princes. The Paris Ultras Collective who usually stand behind one of the goals are boycotting matches until further notice amid growing tensions with PSG president Nasser al-Khelaifi.



Lionel Messi



Kylian Mbapp

Midfielder Fabien Ruiz and right back Achraf Hakimi put PSG 2-0 up by halftime. Mbapp made it 3-0 in the 47th minute and volleyed in superbly from the edge of the area in the 54th.

Central defender Marquinhos hit a deflected shot that led to an own goal. Hakimi was sent off for the second straight home game when he was red-carded along with Ajaccio midfielder Thomas Mangani following a brief scuffle in the 77th.

SC to hear plea of BLA for action against VP, Rijiju

WORLD LUPUS DAY



Actor Mamta Mohandas clicks a selfie with patients suffering from lupus disease during an event to observe World Lupus Day, in Kochi, Sunday.

Over remarks on judiciary

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI):

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Monday a plea of Bombay Lawyers Association (BLA) against Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar over their remarks on judiciary and the collegium system for appointment of judges. The lawyers' body has moved the top court challenging the Bombay High Court's February 9 order dismissing its plea on the ground that it was not a fit case to invoke the writ jurisdiction under Article

226 of the Constitution. As per the apex court web-site, the appeal of the BLA is listed for hearing before a bench comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Ahsanuddin Amanullah. The Bombay Lawyers Association (BLA) had claimed that Rijiju and Dhankhar showed lack of faith in the Constitution with their remarks and conduct. It had sought orders to restrain Dhankhar from discharging duty as the vice president, and Rijiju as the cabinet minister for the central government. In an appeal, the lawyers body said the "frontal attack not just on the judiciary but the Constitution" by the two

executive officials has lowered the prestige of the Supreme Court in public. Rijiju had said the collegium system of appointing judges was "opaque and not transparent". Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar had questioned the landmark 1973 Kesavananda Bharati judgement that gave the basic structure doctrine. Dhankhar had said the verdict set a bad precedent and, if any authority questions Parliament's power to amend the Constitution, it would be difficult to say "we are a democratic nation". "It is submitted that the Petitioner herein filed the PIL before the High Court of Judicature at Bombay praying therein

to declare the Respondent no 1 and 2 as disqualified candidates to hold any constitutional posts of Vice President and Minister of the Union Cabinet, respectively, based on their behaviour, conduct and utterances made in public," the petition has said. The two constitutional functionaries, it said, showed lack of faith in the Constitution by their conduct and utterances made in public and by attacking its institutions, including the Supreme Court, and showing scant regard for the law laid down by the Supreme Court. "The conduct of Respondent Nos 1 and 2 appeared to have shaken public faith in the

Supreme Court and the Constitution," it said. The plea said the vice president and the Union minister have affirmed oaths that they will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution. "However, their conduct has shown lack of faith in the Constitution of India," it said assailing the high court's order dismissing its PIL. They have launched a frontal attack on the institution of judiciary, particularly the Supreme Court, in most derogatory language without any recourse which is available under the constitutional scheme to change the status quo as per the law laid down by the Supreme Court, it said.

Six-month-old undergoes metal-free spine fixation surgery

At AIIMS

New Delhi, May 14 (PTI):

Doctors at AIIMS here have conducted a successful metal-free spine fixation surgery on a six-month-old boy using a bone graft from his mother, making him the youngest infant in Asia to undergo such surgery, the hospital said. The infant was kept on a ventilator for 11 months after undergoing the 15-hour surgery on June 10 last year and was discharged on May 10, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) said in a statement. The child had sustained spinal cord and brachial plexus injury during normal vaginal delivery at another hospital. He weighed 4.5 kg (macrosomia) at birth, said Dr Deepak Gupta, professor of neurosurgery at AIIMS. After birth, the child was put on oxygen support and had episodes of aspi-

ration pneumonia in another hospital. "At the time of presentation to us in May 2022 at 5 months of age, the child had respiratory distress and minimal movement of all three limbs (left upper and lower limbs, right lower limb) and no movement of right upper limb. Examination revealed an injury to the spinal cord and cervical spine dislocation (cervical spondyloptosis)," Gupta explained. "It is almost impossible to fix such young spines using metallic implants/cages due to the very small size of cartilaginous bones in such young infants... the mother consented to give part of her iliac crest bone for her child," he added. The boy's mother was put under general anaesthesia and the infant was undergoing surgery in parallel operation theatres. Interestingly, the mother's blood group was B positive and the boy's was A positive but there was no rejection of the

bone graft. Good bony fusion and spine stability has been achieved at the time of discharge, Gupta said. "As per literature search, this happens to be the youngest infant in Asia and the second youngest in the world to undergo cervical spine fixation surgery at such a young age," he said. "Only one such case in a younger infant has been reported from the USA in 2016 of a similar injury fixed using autograft," he added. Gupta said, "Looking at the age of the child and the urgent need of surgery, we improvised and used mother iliac crest graft for fusion of child spine (cervical spine cord decompression and 360 degrees fusion) and fixed it with absorbable 2.5 mm PLLA plates (front of spine) and special sutures for back of spine to allow for growth avoiding complications of metallic implants." At this young age, most bones are cartilaginous, very small in

size and unsuitable for any available metallic screws, rods or cage fixations, he said. The child needs prolonged rehabilitation support and was discharged on a tracheostomy tube prophylactically, the statement said. He is interacting well with his parents, feeding well and has shown partial neurological recovery in his limb movements after surgery, it said. He celebrated his first birthday in December 2022 in JPN Apex Trauma Centre (AIIMS) and stayed in TC5 ward of the trauma centre for 11 months while he was being weaned off ventilatory support and undergoing neurorehabilitation support, it added. The boy was looked after by a team of doctors including neuroanaesthesia professor Dr G P Singh, neurophysiology professor Dr Ashok Jaryal, and Dr Sheffali Gulati, Dr Rakesh Lodha and Dr Jhuma Shankar from paediatrics department besides Dr Gupta.

ALL FOR LIVELIHOOD Tripura tribal woman turns to fish farming

Agartala, May 14 (PTI):

Forty-five-year-old Jaminisari Molsom's life changed after a large water body was created by constructing a check dam in Tripura's Gomati district to create livelihood for tribal people living in the forest and to boost fish production in the state. Molsom, a tribal who earlier used to cultivate crops on the slopes of hills in the Gomati district as a shifting cultivator is now settled in a village on the foot of the hills and earns a livelihood for her five member family by fishing in the newly created waterbody. The large water body of more than one hectare of land was created in the forest land under Tripura JICA project of the forest department to create livelihood, mainly for the tribal people living in the forests and to boost the fish production by scientific fish farming. Visibly de-

lighted, Molsom said after getting this alternative livelihood her family has got a settled life and gave up the strenuous nomadic life of a 'Jhumiya' cultivator (shifting cultivator). She is now a member of Khumpui Self Help Group (SHG) and cultivates fish in the lake along with other nine tribal women in the village and the group earns more than Rs five lakh per year. "Now we are settled so we can rear pigs and cultivate vegetables in our own land, besides fish farming and live a life without worry", she said. "A large number of water areas have been created by constructing check dams in the forests of Tripura under Tripura JICA Project. These water areas if utilised to the fullest extent may increase fish production and side by side may ensure livelihood generation for the poor forest fringe dwellers. Forest dependent communities may get an opportu-

nity to give up their traditional practices like jhuming as it degrades forest and adopt pisciculture as their livelihood", Dr Avinash M Kanfode, Chief Executive Officer and Project Director Tripura JICA Project, said in a written note. Superintendent of Fisheries, Bappi Basfore, who is on deputation from the state fisheries department for this project said, "People in the state are among the highest fish consumers in the country. Per capita fish consumption in the state is 26.26 kg and per capita fish production is 19.47 kg per year. So there is a deficit. This project is aimed at meeting the gap". According to the data provided by the department, the total demand of fish in the state is 96,454 MT and total production of fish in the state is 72,273 MT, so the total deficit of fish in the state is 24,181 MT. He said, "the state govern-

ment has decided to construct minimum 430 check dams, which would tentatively create a water stock area of 500 hectare and 1,400 MT fish would be produced, which costs at least Rs 2,240 lakh per annum". Basfore said, this project is aimed at rehabilitating the tribals from Jhuming to settled cultivation, make the state self-sufficient in fish productions and generate employment for 4,300 indigenous people, who are members of 430 Self Help Groups (SHGs). One of the primary challenges in Tripura's fish farming sector is the lack of suitable water bodies for fish farming. Therefore, the first step towards making Tripura fish abundant is to create more water areas. This can be achieved by identifying suitable locations for fish farming and creating new water bodies by building small dams or reservoirs.

Atal Residential Schools in UP to start functioning from July

Free education for children of labourers

Lucknow, May 14 (PTI):

Children of labourers and those orphaned during the COVID-19 pandemic in Uttar Pradesh will soon get access to state-of-the-art educational facilities, with the state government starting the admission process for the maiden session of the Atal Residential Schools. The residential schools named after BJP stalwart and former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee will provide free education to children from classes 6 to 12. Students will also get full residential facilities. Students will need to

clear an entrance exam for admission in the 18 such schools in each administrative division of the state. The session will start for class 6 in July, Uttar Pradesh Minister of Labour and Employment Anil Rajbhar said. The schools will be managed by the Uttar Pradesh labour department. "Children of parents holding e-shramik cards for at least three years and registered with the Uttar Pradesh Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (UPBOCW), are eligible for admissions to the school. Children, who lost either or both of their parents, Covid are also eligible," he added. Children born between

May 1, 2010 and April 30, 2013 will only be eligible for admission to Class 6 in Atal schools. The government has made provision to admit a maximum of only two children from a family in the schools. Speaking about the objective behind setting up of such schools, the minister said, "The aim of establishing Atal Residential Schools is to ensure overall development of children of registered labourers. This will help them join the mainstream and provide a better future for themselves and their families." Special Secretary, Labour Department, Rajendra Singh, said, "The schools will work on the lines of Navodya

Vidyalayas and follow the CBSE curriculum. Each of the schools have around 10 sanctioned posts for teachers. The process of appointment of teachers is underway and the appointment letters will be issued in the coming week". According to officials of the Labour department, while the construction of 16 of the proposed schools has almost been completed, the construction of schools in Moradabad and Bareilly are running behind schedule. Labour department officials said this delay will not affect the admission process. "The admission will be held in all the 18 schools. We will make separate arrangements on a tempo-

rary basis for students of Atal school in Bareilly and Moradabad," said Singh. In the state capital, the newly constructed Atal school is spread across 17 acres in Sithorikala of Mohanlalganj block. The school was constructed at a cost of 70 crore. School Principal Sukhvir Singh said, "The school has an academic block, separate hostels for boys and girls, mess, teachers quarters and principal's residence. The school has all the amenities to provide a suitable environment for teaching." Raghunath Verma, a Lucknow-based mason registered with UPBOCW has submitted the admission form of two of his four children.

Differently-abled AP student aces CAT to bag IIM seat

Visakhapatnam (AP), May 14 (PTI):

Demonstrating indomitable spirit and zeal despite all odds, a differently-abled 27-year-old man from a remote village near Narsipatnam town in Andhra Pradesh managed to secure an MBA seat in the prestigious Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A). Dwarapudi Chandramouli, a resident of Pedda Bodepalli village, lost all his limbs after getting electrocuted in 2018 while trying to retrieve his younger sister's ring from a tin roof. "I tried to retrieve the ring using a rod which got pulled by the magnetic force

of the power lines abutting our home, leading to the shock and subsequent amputation," Chandramouli told PTI. After three months of hospitalisation, Chandramouli, who studied engineering in Kakinada, was starting at a hopeless future when one of his father's friends and a well-wisher advised him to study law, instilling in him the ambition of becoming a judicial magistrate in the future. Heading these wise words, Chandramouli enrolled for an LLB course at Anakapalli while his unwavering bunch of friends cheered him up ensuring that his sudden disability did not come in the

way. However, the disability poured cold water on his magisterial ambitions as he had learnt that under the existing rules, only a person with at least one functioning hand is eligible to become a magistrate. Despite these dampeners, Chandramouli said he took it on the chin and worked for e-commerce giant Amazon from home to support his family. A conversation with a friend who graduated from IIM Calcutta changed his outlook as to why he could not pursue MBA cracking the tough CAT examination in search of a corporate job which does not require physical strain.

WARM WELCOME



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar accompanied by his wife Sudesh Dhankhar during his visit to the Brahma temple in Pushkar, Sunday.

Alarm bells ring among scientists after Alligator Gar Fish found

After COVID hiatus

Srinagar, May 14 (PTI):

The discovery of a carnivorous Alligator Gar fish in Kashmir's famous Dal Lake has set the alarm bells ringing among scientists and authorities as its presence poses a great threat to the native fish species. The ray-finned euryhaline fish having a mouth like that of an alligator was caught during a dewatering operation in the famous lake. "This is an Alligator Gar fish which is normally found in North America and some parts of India like Bhopal upper lake and Kerala backwaters. Being a predator fish and a carni-



vore, it poses a threat to native species of Dal Lake," Dr Shafeeqa Peer, a scientist at the Lake Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) told PTI. Peer said it was a matter of concern as to how this fish has invaded the water system of Kashmir. "What will be the fate of our native fishes? In certain places like Bhopal, it has been banned as it thrives on other small fishes. It poses a threat to other species and we have not yet come across this type of

species here," she added. Peer said the LCMA has now collaborated with the Department of Fisheries and Fisheries division of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) to look for any other Alligator Gar fish in the lake. "We will launch a massive hunt to ascertain whether it is just one fish, is it accidental or somebody has played mischief? There are a lot of questions, especially from the ecology and biodiversity point of view," Peer said. Attaullah Khan, Senior project officer at the fisheries department, said as of now, two Alligator Gar fishes have been caught. "These fishes are native

to America but Aquarium keepers somehow get these fishes for their Aquarium and when they overgrow they take these fishes and put them in nearest water bodies," Khan said. "We will launch a massive hunt to ascertain whether it is just one fish, is it accidental or somebody has played mischief? There are a lot of questions, especially from the ecology and biodiversity point of view," Peer said. Attaullah Khan, Senior project officer at the fisheries department, said as of now, two Alligator Gar fishes have been caught. "These fishes are native

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