



BRIEF



Actor Akshay Kumar during his pilgrimage to the Kedarnath Temple, in Rudrapur district, Tuesday.

Boat capsizes

■ **Ballia (UP):** The death toll in the boat capsized at Maldepur Ghat here has risen to four with rescue teams fishing out the body of a youth from the Ganga river on Tuesday, officials said. Two boatmen have been arrested in connection with the incident, police said. Three women had drowned on Monday after the engine of the boat developed a snag and it overturned due to strong winds.

Man detained

■ **Mumbai:** Mumbai Police has received a threat to "blast" the city on their official Twitter handle and launched the investigation which led to the detention of a man from Nanded in Maharashtra, an official said on Tuesday. The tweet stating "I am going to blast Mumbai very soon" was posted by an unidentified person on Monday, the official said.

Illicit affair

■ **Prakasam (AP):** Two people allegedly died by suicide by jumping in front of a train near the Sydapuram railway gate in this district on Tuesday, police said. Police suspect that the man and woman (who were in their twenties), residents of Badveedu Cherlopalli village in the district, were closely related and having an extra-marital affair. Preliminary investigations revealed that the duo took the extreme step after their relationship came out in the open. The bodies were found on the railway track, police said and added that further investigation is on.

Constable dismissed

■ **Nagpur:** A police constable has been dismissed from service for taking an official car of a High Court judge for a joyride and crashing it into an electric pole, a senior official said here on Tuesday. Besides dismissing him, Nagpur police commissioner Amitesh Kumar also directed recovery of the car's repairs cost from the constable's pocket, he said. The constable, who had joined the police force in 2016, was posted on guard duty at the official bungalow of Justice Valmiki Sa Menezes of the Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court.

'PM Modi is the boss'

Sydney, May 23 (PTI):

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Tuesday described Narendra Modi as "the boss" and said his Indian counterpart was accorded a welcome that even American rock star Bruce Springsteen did not get while performing at the same venue here in 2017.

Prime Minister Modi was accorded a rousing welcome by thousands of Indians across Australia at a diaspora event at the Qudos Bank Arena here, one of the country's biggest indoor stadiums.

Albanese gave Modi a bear hug when the Indian prime minister arrived at the venue to address the audience before introducing him as someone who "gets a rock star reception wherever he goes". "The last time I saw someone on this stage was Bruce Springsteen and he did not get the welcome that Prime Minister Modi has got.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the Indian community event, in Sydney, Tuesday.

Prime Minister Modi is the boss," he said at the event, referring to Springsteen's famous performance at the Qudos Bank Arena in 2017. Springsteen, 73, is known to his fans as the 'Boss'. Ahead of his bilateral meeting with Modi on Wednesday, Albanese said Australia and India are closer friends and partners than ever before.

"Welcome to Australia, Prime Minister @naren-

'India will open consulate in Brisbane'

Sydney: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday announced that India will open a consulate in Brisbane to fulfil the long-pending demand by the diaspora. Modi made the announcement while addressing a packed Qudos Bank Arena here. The event was also attended by his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese. India currently has three consulates in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. Brisbane currently has an Honorary Consulate of India. "A new Indian Consulate will be opened soon in Brisbane," he said. "An absolute delight connecting with Indian diaspora at the community programme," Modi said at the event attended by more than 21,000 people from across Australia.

PM Modi, Aus counterpart jointly lay foundation stone of 'Little India'

Sydney: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart on Tuesday jointly laid the foundation stone of 'Little India' gateway to be built in Harris Park here as a symbol of the friendship between the two nations and to recognise the diaspora's immense contribution. Harris Park is a hub in Western Sydney where the Indian community celebrates festivals and events such as Diwali and Australia Day. "Recognising diaspora's role as a bridge between India & Australia. PM @narendramodijoin PM @AlboMP for the foundation stone laying ceremony of Little India Gateway to be built in Harris Park, Parramatta, Sydney, inhabited by a large Indian community," the Ministry of External Affairs tweeted.

dramodi," he tweeted.

In his brief remarks at the event in Sydney, he thanked his "dear friend" Modi for "bringing the spirit of the world's biggest democracy to Australia", saying he had helped "make our democ-

racy stronger and more inclusive." He described the cheering audience, made up mainly of members of the Australian-Indian community, as friends and said he was proud they had made Australia their home.

MRSAM successfully test-fired from INS Mormugao

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

The Indian Navy has successfully test-fired a Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) from its frontline guided missile destroyer INS Mormugao, officials said on Tuesday. It successfully carried out the engagement of a "sea-skimming supersonic target", they said. Sea skimming is a technique that many anti-ship missiles and some fighter or strike aircraft use to avoid radar or infrared detection.

"Indian Navy's latest indigenous guided missile destroyer INS Mormugao successfully carried out engagement of a sea-skimming supersonic target.

Ishita Kishore tops civil services exam

■ **Garima Lohia, Uma Harathi N get 2nd and 3rd ranks: UPSC**

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

Women bagged the top four ranks in the civil services examination 2022 with Delhi University graduate Ishita Kishore securing the first spot, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) announced on Tuesday.

Lohia and Mishra are graduates of the

Two-month-old cheetah cub dies in Kuno National Park

Bhopal, May 23 (PTI):

A cheetah cub, born at Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh two months back, died on Tuesday, the forest department said. The latest fatality took the death toll of cheetahs in KNP to four in the last two months, including three felines translocated from African countries.

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7 cases related to Gyanvapi dispute to be heard together: Varanasi court

Varanasi (UP), May 23 (PTI):

The Varanasi district court on Tuesday ordered that seven cases of the same nature related to the Gyanvapi dispute will be heard together.

District Judge AK Vishwesh, while exercising his special power, consolidated the cases, despite objections from the opposition, special advocate for Gyanvapi and Adi Vishweshwar cases Rajesh Mishra said. The district

judge, in his order, said if all these cases remain pending in different courts, there is a possibility that contradictory orders may be passed. Whereas if all these cases remain in one court, there will be no possibility of any contradictory judgment or order in all these cases, Mishra said. Citing Order 4A of the CPC, the judge said it has been provided that when two or more cases are pending in the same court and the court is of the opinion that it is in the interest of

justice, their joint hearing may be ordered, Mishra said. The judge said in his order that it would be in the interest of justice that all these cases be heard together, he said.

Advocate Mohammad Tohid Khan, who appeared for the Muslim side, opposed the hearing of all the seven cases together stressing that the issues related to Gyanvapi had not yet reached the stage that a decision should be taken to hear them together.

NIA declares Rs 10 lakh reward on info leading to arrest of Khalistani terrorist

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI):

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday announced a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on information leading to the arrest of a Khalistani terrorist wanted in a case of conspiracy to wage war against the country, an official said.

According to the NIA, Kashmir Singh Galwaddi alias "Balbir Singh", a resident of Ludhiana, is wanted in the case registered here on August 20 last year under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Unlawful Activities

(Prevention) Act, the official said. The case relates to the conspiracy hatched by the Khalistan Liberation Front, Babbar Khalsa International and the International Sikh Youth Federation to wage war against the country.

"Galwaddi is absconding and wanted in the NIA case (related to terrorist activities of proscribed terrorist organisations in various parts of the country). NIA has declared a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh against Galwaddi," a spokesperson of the federal agency said, releasing two pictures of the accused.

Chaos, confusion on first day of Rs 2,000 note exchange

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI):

Chaos and confusion were reported from several parts of Delhi on the first day of exchange of Rs 2,000 currency notes on Tuesday with people complaining that banks were instead asking to deposit them and also demanding identity proofs.

While the notes will still be considered legal tender, people have been instructed to either deposit existing Rs 2,000 notes in their bank accounts or exchange them at the banks.

The first day of the process saw long queues, disgruntled customers and growing concerns among elderly citizens. Though the exchange or deposit facility will be available till September 30, people rushed to the banks in significant



An employee counts Rs 2000 currency notes given by customers at a petrol pump in Ghaziabad, Tuesday.

numbers on the first day itself. The punishing heatwave sweeping through Delhi exacerbated the situation, making it particularly challenging for the elderly, who complained of having to wait for hours.

Tempers flared, and heated arguments erupted be-

tween the people and staff members at Punjab National Bank's Lajpat Nagar branch. "The authorities should have anticipated the immense inconvenience this would cause. Standing in this scorching heat is taking a toll on us, especially the elderly," Shivani Gupta

said while standing in a queue at the branch. People faced hurdles even when attempting to use Rs 2,000 notes at petrol pumps. Many people complained that while ATMs continue to dispense Rs 2,000 notes, fuel stations were refusing to accept them and seeking payment through online transactions. "I tried to refuel my car at the nearby petrol pump, but they refused to accept my Rs 2,000 notes. They insisted on digital transactions through mobile apps. This is a hassle for those of us who rely on cash for our daily transactions," a motorist alleged.

Several banks reportedly refused to exchange Rs 2,000 notes, directing customers to deposit them instead due to lower cash retention limits.

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'Glaring illegalities in judgment acquitting A Raja and others'

■ **CBI tells Delhi HC**

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

The CBI contended before the Delhi High Court on Tuesday that there were glaring illegalities in the trial court judgment that acquitted former telecom minister A Raja and others in the 2G spectrum allocation scam case.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which was making submissions on its appeal challenging the acquittal of the accused individuals and firms, argued that the evidence placed before the special court was disreputable. Justice Dinesh

2G scam case

Kumar Sharma, after hearing part arguments, listed the matter for further proceedings on May 29.

"I will demonstrate that there are glaring illegalities in the (trial court) judgment. The evidence placed by the CBI was disregarded. Appreciation of evidence was completely wrong. I will show that the judgment was perverse and there were flaws in it," advocate Neeraj Jain, who appeared in the court on behalf of the CBI, argued.

On Monday, the CBI counsel had said the trial court judgment was based on "wrong conclusions" and was "untenable in

law". Although the CBI had earlier concluded its submissions on the issue of "leave to appeal", it is now arguing the matter afresh due to a change of the judge. Leave to appeal is a formal permission granted by a court to a party to challenge a decision in a higher court.

The lawyer for the CBI had said the case concerned "five points" of irregularities -- association between government officials and telecom operators, fixation of a cut-off, violation of the first-come-first-serve principle, non-revision of the entry fee and a money trail of Rs 200 crore.

Three Indian peacekeepers to be honoured posthumously with prestigious UN medal

United Nations, May 23 (PTI):

Three Indian peacekeepers, who lost their lives serving under the UN flag last year, are among the 103 military, police, and civilian peacekeepers who will be honoured posthumously with a prestigious medal here for their service and supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

The three Indians include Border Security Force personnel Head Constables Shishupal Singh and Sanwala Ram Vishnoi, who served with the Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the

Congo, and Shaber Taher Ali, employed in a civilian capacity with the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq. They will be honoured with the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal at a solemn ceremony to be held at the UN headquarters on May 25.

India is currently the third largest contributor of uniformed personnel to UN Peacekeeping with more than 6,000 military and police personnel deployed to Abyei, the Central African Republic, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon, the Middle East, and Western Sahara. In his message honouring the extraordinary

contributions of UN peacekeepers to international peace and security, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said: "United Nations peacekeepers are the beating heart of our commitment to a more peaceful world. For 75 years, they have supported people and communities rocked by conflict and upheaval across the globe."

Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix said in his message that peacekeeping is a powerful example of how strong partnerships and collective political will can result in meaningful change.

DU: 3 colleges to adopt centre's four-year integrated teacher education programme

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

Three colleges of Delhi University will adopt the centre's four-year integrated teacher education programme from 2023-24 and will accept admission through entrance exams conducted by the National Testing Agency instead of the Common University Entrance Test (CUET), a senior varsity official informed on Tuesday.

Shyama Prasad Mukherji College for Women, Mata Sundari College for Women and Jesus and Mary College have been granted approval by National Council for

Teacher Education (NCTE) for offering Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) for the upcoming academic year.

Until now, these colleges were amongst the eight offering a unique Bachelor of Elementary Education (B.El.Ed.) programme. Meanwhile, Aditi Mahavidyalaya, Gargi College, Institute of Home Economics, Lady Shri Ram College for Women and Miranda House are hoping to offer the ITEP next year.

ITEP will be replacing B.El.Ed. programme, which was introduced in 1994. Delhi University was the

only varsity to have its own integrated four-year programme. Admission for the ITEP will be carried out by the National Testing Agency (NTA) through the NCET. Last year, the admission for B.El.Ed. was conducted through CUET.

ITEP is a flagship programme of the NCET under NEP 2020. DU vice-chancellor Yogesh Singh on May 4 accorded approval to the implementation of the programme. Delhi University will hold an academic council meeting on Friday during which the varsity will discuss about the implementation of the ITEP. ITEP, as no-

tified on 26 October 2021, is a four-year dual-major holistic undergraduate degree offering B.A. B.Ed./ B. Sc. B. Ed. and B.Com. B.Ed.

This course will prepare teachers for the four stages of the new school structure -- foundational, preparatory, middle and secondary (5+3+3+4).

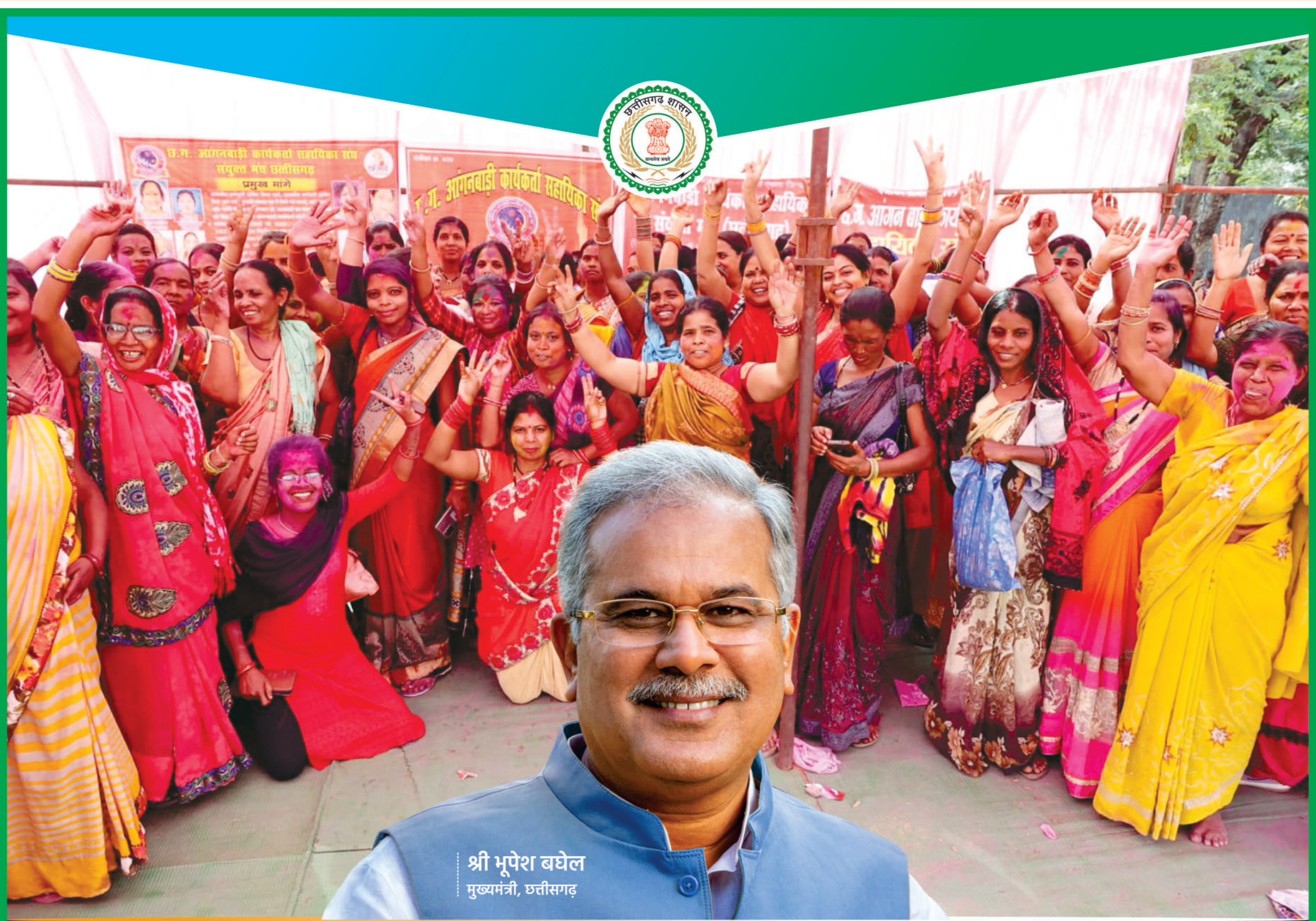
"The design of the ITEP is based on the design of teacher preparation stated in the NEP 2020. It combines rigorous educational understanding, disciplinary depth and a strong focus on school practice while taking into account existing ground realities," the agenda read.

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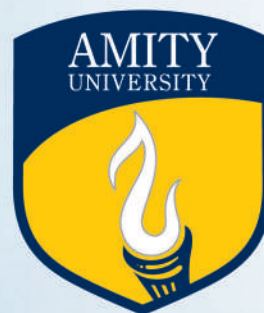
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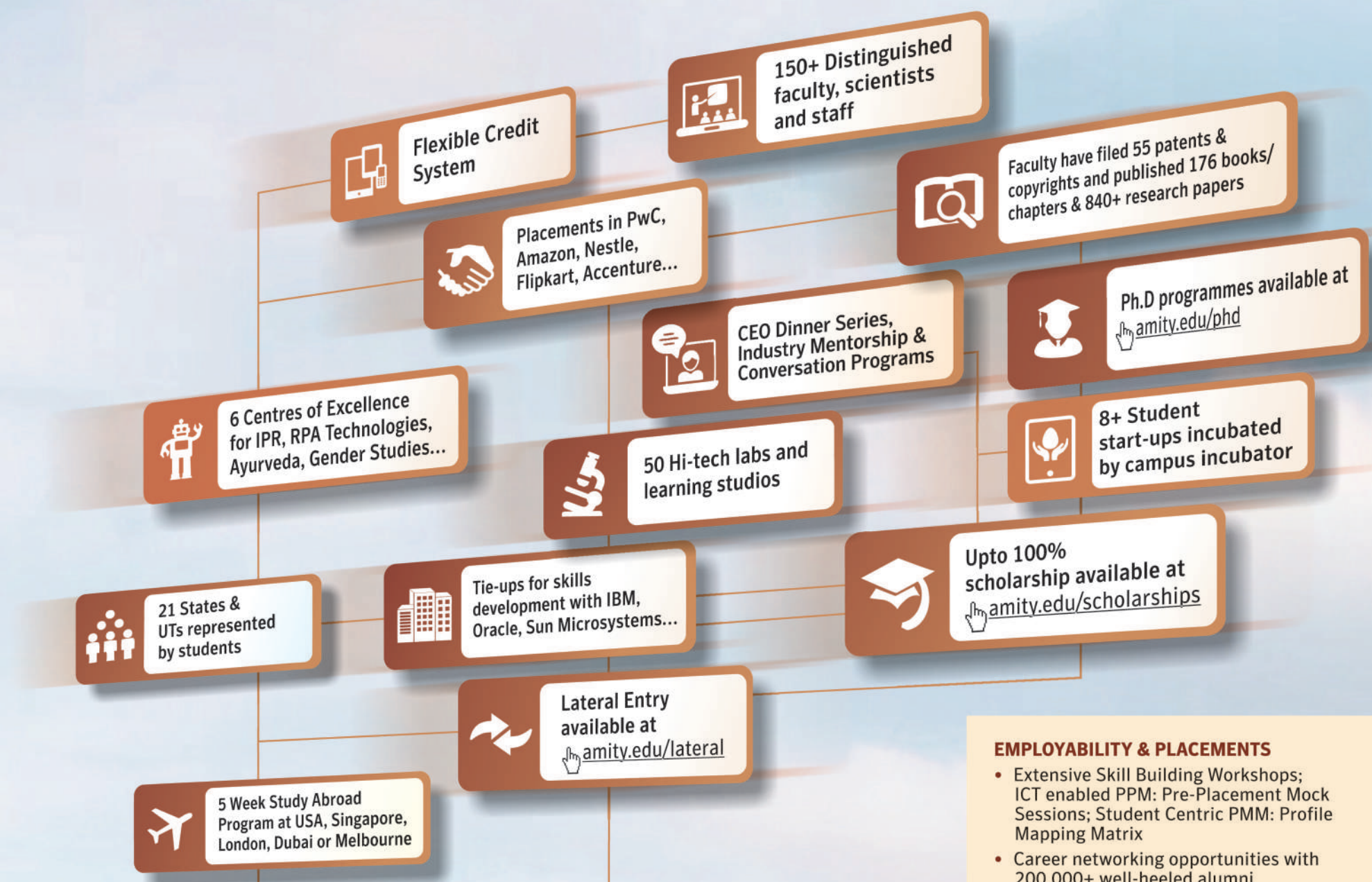
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Court extends 3 days ED's remand of AP Tripathi

● And two days for Trilok Singh Dhillon

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 23: The mastermind of the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam, an officer from the Indian Telecom Department and Special Secretary Excise Department Arun Pati Tripathi, liquor and hotel businessman Trilok Singh Dhillon alias Pappu Dhillon will remain in the ED's custody, as the Special Judge Ajay Singh Rajput has granted 3 days remand of AP Tripathi and two days remand of

Pappu Dhillon to ED. The advocates of both the accused strongly opposed it in the Court of Special Judge and after hearing into ED's version, the Court granted approval of remand for 3 and 2 days more for the two respectively.

It is notable here that ED has attached the property worth Rs 121.87 crore that of the IAS Anil Tuteja, businessman Anwar Dhebar, AP Tripathi, Arvind Singh and Vikas Agrawal and others for their alleged involvement in the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam in the state.

According to ED, there are total of 14 properties of IAS officer Anil Tuteja worth Rs 8.83 crore. In the same way Anwar Dhebar has 69 properties that has been attached and it is estimated to be around Rs 98.78 cr. ED in its authorised Twitter handle has even posted the photo of Wellington Hotel, owned by Anwar Dhebar. In addition to this there are 3 properties of Vikas Agrawal worth Rs 1.54 cr; 32 properties of Arvind Singh worth Rs 11.35 cr which has been attached. So far a total property worth Rs 180 cr has been attached.

UNEVEN ROADS



The digging for laying of pipeline and other has left the road uneven and posing threat to some accident during slipping of tyres.

Meeting of CSCPC to be presided by Food Minister Bhagat

Raipur, May 23: The first meeting of the Chhattisgarh State Consumer Protection Council has been organized on 26 May at 12 noon in the committee room S-2-12 at Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhawan. The Minister of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection, Mr. Amarjeet Bhagat, will preside over the meeting. Representatives of various departments, including the concerned departmental secretaries, Managing Director of the state electricity company, members of the Insurance Regulatory Authority of India in Chhattisgarh, Manager of Lead Bank, Director of the Department of Telecommunications, and the registrar of the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission will participate in the meeting.

Results of Ch'garh State Open School declared

For High School and Higher Secondary School Examination

Raipur, May 23: The results of High School and Higher Secondary School Certificate Examination of the Chhattisgarh State Open School were declared today. The pass percentage of high school was 54.09 and the pass percentage of higher secondary was 65.46. A total of 37 thousand 471 students were registered for the high school examination, out of which 34 thousand 161 candidates appeared. The result of 34 thousand 132 candidates was released, of which 18 thousand 465 have passed. The result of 29 candidates has been withheld due to various reasons. In the high school examinations, 4 thousand 13 students passed under first division, 7 thousand 320 students under the second division and 6 thousand 923 students under the third division. A total of 18 thousand 465 students

have passed. Similarly, 65 thousand 557 students were registered for the Higher Secondary Examination, out of which 62 thousand 51 candidates appeared. Results of 57 thousand 105 candidates were released today, of which 9 thousand 653 candidates passed under the first division, 15 thousand 180 candidates passed under the second division and 11 thousand 801 candidates passed under third division. A total of 37 thousand 383 students passed. 4 thousand 883 students appeared in the examination under the RTD scheme. The result of 63 candidates has been withheld due to various reasons. Students can check the results of the aforementioned examinations on the website <http://www.sos.cg.nic.in> and the unsuccessful students can submit the application form for the upcoming examination at their study center.

Fire breaks out in a bogie of Durg-Lucknow Garib Rath



Brought under control well on time Was standing in the platform No. 6 of Raipur Rly Station

Raipur, May 23: Fire broke out in the bogie No. G-4 of Durg-Lucknow Garib Rath standing in the platform No. 6 of the Raipur Railway Station due to some short-circuit. The fire was brought

under control and the bogie is being separated from the entire rake and the train was departed from the state with considerable delay. The railway officers reached the site on hearing about the news of fire breaking out in the bogie of this train and used the water pipelines nearby to douse the fire. It was brought under control on time and no casualty was reported till the writing of these lines.

Police seize Rs 41 lakh in Rs 20000 theft case!

IT and police re-starts investigation

Two mastermind in this case are absconding

Were planning to keep Rs 20-25 lakh, disclosing only Rs 45 lakhs before police

Police suspects it to be black-money

Bilaspur, May 23: The Bilaspur police has made a surprising revelation in the Rs 20000 and two gold chains theft which took place in city few days back. When the police nabbed the accused involved in this case, they were taken back as they found cash worth Rs 45 lakh and gold ornaments in possession of the thieves. In this case the story does not ends here, as the thieves tried to befool the police and it was foiled, as the amount



was much higher than the police found and rest they were planning to manage otherway around. The police has seized cash of Rs 41 lakh and other jewelleryes in their possession. The case is that of Sarojini Sahu W/o Tulsiram (30) who is a house wife and lives in Abhishek Nagar Phase-1 of Civil Lines area of city. Filing a complaint in the thana, she informed that on Sunday she had been to the waterpark along with her husband and after some times she received a call from her neighbour that theft has taken place in their house. They immediately

came back and found the main lock of the door broken and cash of Rs 20000 and two gold chains were missing. When the Bilaspur police started investigation into the case, they found three different CCTV footages and after this the police found cash of Rs 45 lakh and gold jewelleryes. The police later called the complainant and she gave an offer to the police not to show all the jewelleryes found and instead they can keep the half with them along with some cash. On this the police again questioned the complainant as to

how much was the cash and gold ornaments and this led to start of Bollywood film story. The complainant informed that the total stolen cash amount is around Rs 65-70 lakh and jewellery. The police was taken aback, as they found only Rs 45 lakh and jewelleryes in possession of the accused. After this the police strongly interrogated the accused and they came to know that this was just the plan and the thieves were dummy and there are two other mastermind in this game, who chalked out this plan. Those who made this plan have either cleared this cash amount over some time or this money is that of black-money and therefore even if they were caught, then the police would have recovered only Rs 45 lakh and rest 20-25 lakh they would have distributed among themselves and need not give it to the police. In this case, the police and even the IT department is conducting investigation as to whose cash is this and from where the jewelleryes were stolen.

NSUI stages demonstration at Raipur railway station

● Passengers upset due to frequent cancellation of trains

Raipur, May 23: Thousands of passengers traveling in the capital Raipur are facing inconvenience due to frequent cancellation of trains. Considering the problems of the passengers NSUI staged demonstration at Raipur railway station. NSUI leaders interacted with troubled passengers. The NSUI workers raised slogans against the central government for increasing ticket prices. NSUI leaders said that they will run a similar campaign for 7 days after the cancellation of trains. "Trains are being canceled continuously. Yesterday also the Railway Board canceled 8 trains. Even before this, the operation of trains has been affected continuously for a week.



Moreover many trains are running late' NSUI state president Neeraj Pandey said. He said that NSUI leaders and workers reached Raipur railway station today and interacted with the general public, knowing their problems. NSUI will stage protest for 7 consecutive days over cancellation and late running of trains, he said. Neeraj Pandey said that NSUI's

protest will continue till the trains are not operated on time and the trains which are getting canceled do not run on their scheduled time. NSUI, State President Neeraj Pandey, State Vice President Amit Sharma, Organization Incharge Hemant Pal, District President Rural Prashant Goswami, District President City Shantanu Jha, General

Secretary Akhtar Ali, Media Department Chairman Sankalp Mishra, Nikhil Vanjari, Monu Tiwari, Harsh Raj Sharma, Puneshwar Lahare, Gavesh Sahu, Anuj Shukla, Rajat Thakur, Prashant Chandrakar, Divyansh Srivastava, Sandeep Vishwakarma, Rupendra Jangde, Krish Sahare and others participated in the demonstration.

Singhdeo and team got information about EMR system at Australia

● At Gold Coast University Hospital, Australia

Raipur, May 23: State Health and Medical Education Minister T.S. Singhdeo along with the Health Department team, which went on a study tour to Australia, on Tuesday held a detailed discussion with the officials of the Gold Coast University Hospital. The team visited Gold Coast University Hospital, one of the largest hospitals in Queensland, on May 20. The team that went on a study tour to Australia along with Health Minister Mr. Singhdeo includes Secretary, Health Department, Mr. Prasanna R., Director of Health Services, Mr. Bhim Singh, Director, National Health Mission, Mr. Bhoskar Vilas Sandipan and State Nodal Officer, Dr. Kamlesh Jain. The team on Tuesday met with officials



and experts at Gold Coast University Hospital to learn about the EMR (Electronic Medical Record) system developed and implemented there. The hospital officials made a presentation in front of the team. The experts there also gave a presentation on the robust IT system of the hospital which uses artificial intelligence and machine learning. This helps in planning for treatment and management of human resources along with forecasting of diseases and case load. The study team from the state was also shown the Virtual Hospital by the

Gold Coast University Hospital management, where patients can access all the health services they receive at the hospital from the comfort of their homes. After consultation, diagnosis and providing medicines by the virtual hospital, home access service is also provided by the staff nurse or concerned health worker where necessary. This saves patient time and increases efficiency by reducing patient pressure in the hospital. Virtual hospital service is used for critical patients. The health department team observed the state-of-the-art command and control system

of the hospital and understood its functioning. Its use has improved the efficiency of hospital management there and better health services are being provided to the patients. This system provides timely information about problems at low cost and helps in planning and solving them. The state team was also briefed about non-invasive neurosurgery and its benefits by the Gold Coast hospital management. The Health Department team, after detailed discussion with the experts there, has decided to take initiative for the possibility of partnership to implement it in Chhattisgarh. The team studied the functioning and arrangements of the hospital in the presence of Mr. Ron Calvert, Chief Executive Officer, Health Facilities at Gold Coast University, Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Executive Director and Mr. Prabhu Kannan, Senior Manager.

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Chronicle



● 1555 unauthorised construction works regularised

Raipur, May 23: Collector Dr Sarveshwar Bhure today reviewed the unauthorised construction works in Raipur district and gave necessary instructions to the officers. He directed to present the land documents along with recommendations to the authorized officer after examining all the cases of regularization received. Similarly, the CMOs and sub-divisional officers of all the urban bodies of the district were asked to take regularization action within the time limit. He also asked the officials to give notice regarding regularization after taking information about the commercial and residential properties of all the wards of the zone. So

far 5841 unauthorised buildings or parts in Raipur Municipal Corporation have been regularized. Approval was given to regularize unauthorised constructions in 20 urban investment areas, 03 each in Tilda and Arang areas along with 104 cases in Birgaon Municipal Corporation area, apart from Raipur Municipal Corporation area. Approval was given for regularization considering the cases under the provisions of the Chhattisgarh Unauthorised Development Regularization Act. The meeting was attended by Municipal Commissioner Mayank Chaturvedi and Assistant Collector Jayant Nahata, Zone Commissioners of all zones of Raipur Municipal Corporation, Commissioner of Birgaon Municipal Corporation Kirtiman Rathore and other officials.

30 women farmer participated in International Dialogue

● On the role of Women Horticulture Farmers in Sustainable Agriculture at Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur

Raipur, May 23: Women are proving themselves in every field. Their work in horticulture is also being appreciated. Viewing their expertness in this field, The Existence organised an international dialogue on the role of Women Horticulture Farmers in Sustainable Agriculture at the Indira Gandhi Agricultural University. In this, 30 women farmers of the state were included. Parmanand Pandey, CEO of international company Jivagro and other members were



involved in the programme. West Africa Miss Agriculture 2019, Margaret Afrie from Ghana State and Dr Ashwini Falnkar, Post Doctoral Fellow SCAN Health from Toronto Canada also expressed their views in the function. 30 women horticulture farmers from Goinda, Nisda, Chaubebandha, Ravana, Limtra, Nardha, Gopalpur and Kampa shared their experiences. Venu from Goinda said, "Generally training has been given to male farmers but for the first time,

Existence and Jivagro thought of training for female farmers. We got a lot of information. Not only this, we have also been linked to a WhatsApp group in which solution to crop related problems will be found immediately. Kiran Verma, who came from Limtra, said, the method of caution, use and maintenance was explained at the time of spraying insecticide. Dr Bijiashree Satpathy, Founder and Director of Existence, said, "We have partnered with Jivagro to provide three sessions to around 350 women from eight villages of Arang, Mahasamund, Gariaband and Durg districts to provide information on health safety and product management, updated crop information and en-

trepreneurship development and financial independence. Four students of IGKV - Usha Patel, Shashikala Lakra, Dnyaneshwar Jaiswal and Gulshan Pandey also participated in the function. IGKV's cooperation was there for agriculture related knowledge and technical assistance.

OBITUARY

Pramod Dammani
Raipur: Pramod Dammani, R/o Geetanjali Nagar, Sector-1, breathed his last here on Tuesday. The final rites were performed in the Marwari Crematorium in the evening. He was brother of Vijay Kumar Dammani and father of Basant and Parikshit Dammani.

More than 10000 villagers benefitted

Health projects started for 'Swasthya Grams'

The health condition of the villagers is very pitiable due to lack of health awareness and insufficient health services and traditional daily routine. RRUVNL under its CSR works in order to remove the hindrances faced in health services and to ensure participation of beneficiaries, has launched 'Swasthya Gram' project. Adani Foundation in order to positive effect of health services among people, has established and running health services centre, holding Rural Medical camps; specialty and multi-specialty health camps. With support of Adani Foundation, the local NGO Gram Udhayami are running both the health centres. In these centres the villagers are being provided free of cost treatment and medicines. With this they are getting positive contribution in community development. In the health centres by Adani Foundation, the patients are being provided with Allopathy, Ayurvedic and Homeopathic system of primary health treatment. Not only this in order to keep a track of record of patient's diseases, Swasthya card has also been distributed among the villagers in Salhi and Parsa. This helps in identifying the health background of the patients and provide them proper treatment.

Dr Rangnath of Health Service Centre in Gram Salhi informed that if this health centre would not have been there in Salhi, then the wife of Hari Singh (name changed) who was suffering from Typhoid would have to travel 22 kms to CHC Udaipur to get the treatment.

In this he would have faced the trouble of travelling and on top of it the medical expenditure and mental pressure. But now she has completely recovered. Here not only the treatment, but even the medicine is provided free of cost to the patients.

And all this has been possible due to presence of Adani Foundation, which has taken up the initiative of provided health services to the door-steps of the rural patients and even provides Ambulance facility for emergency situation.

- From 'Swasthya Gram' project of Adani Foundation
- In Gram Salhi and Parsa of PKEB Open Mine Project of RRUVNL



Ambikapur, May 23: The wife of a person named Hari Singh (name changed) living in Gram Salhi of Udaipur block of Ambikapur district, age 45, was suffering for long with headache and fever for last many days and feeling lot of weakness as well. On this Hari Singh took him to the health facility centre of Adani Foundation in Salhi. Here Dre Rangnath

Upadhyay offered him treatment and on undergoing that treatment she has recovered fully and is now leading a normal life. On asking about the same, Hari Singh's wife said that the health facility by Adani Foundation is highly satisfactory and expressed happiness for the treatment offered. Under the health serv-

ices programme of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of Rajasthan Raja Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRUVNL), now it is possible to provide health services, necessary medical facility and timely diagnosis to the rural populace in the region. In around 15 villages of Gram Parsa, Salhi,

Basen, Ghatbarra, Janardapur, Hariharpur, Fatehpur, and others from the open mining project of Parsa East Kete Basen (PKEB), the Adani Foundation is not only provide door-to-door medical facility through mobile medical van, but is also offered health examination and distribution of medi-

cines. Rather it is also establishing health service centre with basic medical facility in the expansion of its services in Parsa and Salhi village. Not only this, under CSR, an Ambulance facility is also being provided, lased with all the facilities to handle any emergency situation.

Upasana selected for Eklavya Residential School

Central Chronicle News

Kareli Badi, May 23: Eklavya Residential School selection test results have been announced, in which Upasana Dhruv's D/o Rupsingh Dhruv from P.S. Kundel has secured first position in the district by scoring 75% marks. She has also been selected for Jawahar Utkarsh Vidyalaya. The girl has been meritorious in the field of studies since the beginning. The hard work and devotion on part of Jitendra Pal and other teachers' has paid off and the result was good. Family members, teachers



and committee members said Upasana has brought laurels to the school and the village. Upasana is the niece of Sarpanch Phageshwari Dhruv.

Clogged drains causing overflow of stale water on streets

Due to lack of cleaning by the Panchayat admn

Central Chronicle News

Churrikala, May 23: With drain water coming on the streets of School lane going to the Bus Stand, near the ward No.7 Water ATM, turns into muddy terrain and both the Panchayat administration and representatives are not paying any attention for its cleaning.

Due to awful odor, it has become difficult for the shopkeeper and nearby residents even to come out on the street and the insects

from the drains are creeping into nearby houses as well. Under the GoI Swachhata Mission, desanitation campaign has been launched at many places and due stress is on the cleaning. But the Panchayat administration and the local public representatives are least bothered about it, as majority of the drains in the city are clogged and the drain water turning stale is emitting awful odor. Cleaning it appears is only on papers and mere formality is done in the name of cleaning drains.

A drainage has been constructed in front of the ward No. 7 Primary School to



Water ATM and Passenger waiting room by the Nagar Panchayat. But due to lack of cleaning of this drain, the entire drain water is overflowing on the streets, posing problems to the pedestrians and nearby residents and shopkeepers. It is learnt that the School's lane and the drainage has been so far constructed three times and without maintaining proper flow of the drain, the water is not flowing out on its own. On top of it with drains being packed with foreign materials and waste, it has become clogged and due to which stale water is overflowing from the drains

and coming onto the streets. Though the Panchayat has got sufficient number of sanitary employees and supervisors, but the sanitary workers do cleaning only at one or two places and then leave without cleaning in other wards. In the same way, there is no proper cleaning the next day in the 'Haat Bazars' held once every week in the city and due to which it becomes simply uncomfortable to walk or pass from the lane during this peak of summer season with awful odor coming out from throw and waste vegetables.

SP conducts inspection of Nandini Thana

Central Chronicle News

Nandini-Ahirwara, May 23: SP Durg Dr Abhishekh Pallav conducted inspection of Nandini Thana on Tuesday and during this he closely checked different cases registered in the thana and got acquainted with the grievances of the police staff. SP also inspected the 'Malkhana', 'Hawalat', and thana premises and its cleaning. SP Pallav took information about the thana and its working from the TI Rajesh Mishra. SP directed to update the diary and intensify police vigil and patrolling to put a check on crime.



the earliest. During this inspection Addl. SP (Rural) Anant Sahu, IPS

Prabhat Kumar and entire staff of Nandini Thana were present.

IDBI BANK CIN:161590MH2004601148838, Website: www.idbibank.in

REQUIRE BUSINESS CORRESPONDENTS

IDBI BANK Limited Invites applications for acting as Bank's Business Correspondent in Samta Colony Branch of Raipur Region, Bhubaneswar Zone. Address: 104 R.B. Towers, Samta Colony, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001

Eligibility: Retired bank employees, retired teachers, retired government employees and ex-servicemen, individual owners of kirana/ medical/ Fair Price shops, individual Public Call Office (PCO) operators, agents of Small Savings schemes of Government of India/ Insurance Companies, individuals who own Petrol Pumps, authorized functionaries of well-run Self Help Groups (SHGs) which are linked to banks, and individuals including those operating Common Service Centres (CSCs) subject to Bank's comfort level and carrying out suitable due diligence on them.

Age: 21-50 years.

Education Qualification:

i) Minimum Class X Pass ii) Basic certification from IIBF

Scope of the Work for Business Correspondents (BCs):

The scope of activities for the BC will include: 1) Collection of small value deposits and delivery of cash from their deposit accounts to customers, on their demand. 2) Disbursal of small value credit. 3) Recovery of principal/ collection of interest. 4) Sale of micro insurance/ mutual fund products/ pension products/ other third party products. 5) Receipt and delivery of small value remittances/cash/ other payment instruments. 6) Any other service on behalf of the Bank, duly authorized by the appropriate authority.

Application forms are available at IDBI Bank's Branches. Eligible candidates may submit duly filled forms in IDBI Bank's notified Branches on or before 27.05.2023

BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
Cuttack Bench, AT Cuttack
FORM NO. NCLT. 3A
Advertisement detailing petition
[see rule 35]
Company Petition (CAA) No. 4/CB/2023
Connected with
Company Application (CAA) No. 10/CB/2022
In the matter of the Companies Act, 2013;

And
In the matter of Sections 230-232 read with other relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 2013;

And
In the Matter of:
Rameshwar Marketing Private Limited (CIN: U51909CT2009PTC007786), a Private company incorporated on 28-April-2009 under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, having its registered office at Flat. No-409, Balaji Garden New Timber Market, Post-Fafadhi Raipur-492001.

.....Transferor Company No. 1/ Petitioner Company No. 1/ RMPL
And
Valerian Goods Private Limited (CIN: U52390CT2009PTC008601), a Private company incorporated on 16-April-2009 under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, having its registered office at Flat.No-409, Balaji Garden New Timber Market, Post-Fafadhi Raipur-492001.

.....Transferee Company No. 2/ Petitioner Company No. 2/VGPL
And
Ultra Aluminium Private Limited (CIN: U28113CT2009PTC021382) a Private company incorporated on 17-September-2009 under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, having its registered office at 10-Gondwara Industrial Area Urla Raipur-493221.

.....Transferee Company / Petitioner Company No. 3/ UAPL
In the matter of the Scheme of Amalgamation among Rameshwar Marketing Private Limited, Valerian Goods Private Limited, with Ultra Aluminium Private Limited and their respective members.

Notice of petition

A petition under section 230-232 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, for sanctioning the Scheme of Amalgamation amongst Rameshwar Marketing Private Limited, Valerian Goods Private Limited, with Ultra Aluminium Private Limited and their respective members, was presented by the Petitioner Companies on 25-03-2023, and the said petition is fixed for hearing before Cuttack Bench of Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal on 19-06-2023. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition/application/reference should send to the petitioner's/ Authorised Representative, the undersigned, notice of his intention, signed by him/her or their Advocate, with his/her name and address, so as to reach the petitioner's/ Authorised Representative not later than 2 (Two) days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition/application/reference. Where he seeks to oppose the petition/application/reference, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the petition/application/reference will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.

Dated:
Sd/-
Manohar Kedia,
Director, DIN: 09444811
Authorised Representative for Petitioner Companies
Address: VILLA-104, Maruti Life Style Behind R K Mall,
Kota Road, Talibandh, Raipur Chhattisgarh-492099

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
Corporate Office: 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400069, Maharashtra
Bhilai Branch : Hall No-1, 2nd Floor Crescent Plaza, Gurdwara Road, Opp. Utsav Palace Durg-491001, (CG).
Raipur Branch : 1A & 1B, 2nd Floor, Shyam Plaza, Pandari, Raipur-491001, Chhattisgarh.
Dhamtari Branch : 2nd Floor Beside Dr. Panjwani Clinic Ratnabandha Road Dhamtari-493773, (CG).
Authorised Officer : Satyanand Pandey, Mob.: 9981504545

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE

Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 for the recovery of amount due from borrower/s, offers are invited by the undersigned in sealed covers for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis', Particulars of which are given below:-

S. No.	Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (RP)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)
1	(App. No. 00051825/ Bhilai Branch) Alif Hussain (Borrower), Ajim Fatema (Co-Borrower)	16-05-2019 ₹ 3,02,530/-	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, Village- Motipur, Ramnagar Ward No. 5, P.H No. 28, K.H No.151/1 & 151/7 (Part), Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh-491441. Boundaries: East: 17 Feet Road Space left by self, West: Sellers Land, North: 12 Feet Road left by Self, South: Remaining Land	₹ 2,54,150/- (Two Lacs Fifty Four Thousand One Hundred Fifty Only)	₹ 25,415/- (Twenty Five Thousand Four Hundred Fifteen Only)
2	(App. No. 00058324/ Raipur Branch) Tika Ram Sahu (Borrower), Mamta Sahu (Co-Borrower)	18-04-2019 ₹ 4,70,926/-	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, Kh No-756 Part, Ph No-02, Nr By Nitin, Kirana Store, Village-Mandeli, Tehsil-Kurud, Dist-Dhamtari, Village - Mandeli, Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh -493773. Boundaries: East: House of Jeevan, West: Road, North: House of Kumbhkar, South: House of Shivkumar	₹ 3,91,170/- (Three Lacs Ninety One Thousand One Hundred Seventy Only)	₹ 39,117/- (Thirty Nine Thousand One Hundred Seventeen Only)
3	(App. No. 00097833/ Bhilai Branch) Santoshi Mishra (Borrower), Vineeta Mishra (Co-Borrower)	05-11-2018 ₹ 15,50,056/-	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, Tower D, Flat No. 215, Kh.N. 74/1 & 74/2(P), Raj Mahal Green Town, Jamul Bhilai, Dist- Durg, Chhattisgarh-490024. Boundaries: East: Open to Sky, West: Flat No. 213, North: Open to Sky, South: Flat No. 216	₹ 9,60,000/- (Nine Lacs Sixty Thousand Only)	₹ 96,000/- (Ninety Six Thousand Only)
4	(Loan Code No. 03000000860/ Bhilai Branch) Shivkumar Verma (Borrower), Neelam Verma (Co-Borrower)	13-05-2022 ₹ 7,89,806/-	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, Plot N 06 P H N 14 19 Kh No 705 5 Ward No 14 Tehsil District Durg Near Of Budaha Talab Kohka, Durg, Chhattisgarh, 490023. Boundaries: East: Remaining land of seller, West: Remaining land of seller, North: Praveen land, South: Road	₹ 8,16,000/- (Eight Lacs Sixteen Thousand Only)	₹ 81,600/- (Eighty One Thousand Six Hundred Only)
5	(App. No. 00088253/ Dhamtari Branch) Ruby Parveen (Borrower), Shadab Mohammad (Co-Borrower)	12-09-2017 ₹ 16,71,906/-	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, P.N. 20 & 21, P.H.N. 14/19, Kh.N. 1417/5(P), Ph No 14/19 Kurud, Durg, Chhattisgarh-490001 Boundaries: East: Flat No. 16, 17, West: Road 25 Ft, North: Flat No. 19, South: Flat No. 21	₹ 8,92,500/- (Eight Lacs Ninety Two Thousand Five Hundred Only)	₹ 89,250/- (Eighty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Only)

NAME CHANGE

It is hereby being informed to general public that I Mukesh Parakh, S/o Late Shri Kamal Parakh, R/o Ward No. 9, Abhanpur, do hereby solemnly affirm that my son Kavy Parakh name in the passport has been published as Kavya Parakh in place of Kavy Parakh. In all other documents like Aadhar Card, School card his name has got registered as Kavya Parakh.

Therefore I should be known and identified as Kavy Parakh only.

DEPONENT

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
Corporate Office: Unit No. 802, Natraj Rustomjee, Western Express Highway and M.V. Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400069
Dhamtari Branch : 2nd Floor Beside Dr. Panjwani Clinic Ratnabandha Road Dhamtari-493773, (CG).

POSSESSION NOTICE Appendix Iv (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co Borrower(s) (Name of the Branch)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Date of Possession
1.	(Loan Code No. 11100000007/ Dhamtari Branch) Kumeshwar Sahu (Borrower) Manohar Sahu (Co-Borrower)	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, P.H. No 14 Kh No 102 2 Vill Dongardula Tehsil Nagri Dist. Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, 493773. Boundaries: East: Land of Birendra, West: land of Nandlal Sahu, North: Road, South : Land of Navlu Ram	13-03-2023 & ₹ 2,13,727/-	20-05-2023

Place : Dhamtari
Date : 24.05.2023

Authorised Officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

- Last Date of Submission of Sealed Bid/Offer in the prescribed tender forms along with EMD and KYC is 07-06-2023 within 5:00 PM at the Branch Office address mentioned herein above. Tenders that are not filled up or tenders received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.
 - Date of Opening of the Bid/Offer for Property is 08-06-2023 at the above mentioned branch office address at 3:00 PM. The tender will be opened in the presence of the Authorised Officer.
 - The notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s), to remain present personally at the time of sale and they can bring the intending buyers/purchasers for purchasing the immovable property as described herein above, as per the particulars of Terms and Conditions of Sale.
 - This is 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFASIA ACT, 2002 is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the above described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and to the amount due to Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd., in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped.
 - The immovable property will be sold to the highest tenderer. However, the Authorised Officer reserves the absolute discretion to allow inter se bidding, if deemed necessary. The Property as mentioned will not be sold below Reserve Price.
 - AHFL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the property as mentioned above. The Property shall be auctioned on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis'.
 - The Demand Draft Should be made in favor of 'Aadhar Housing Finance Limited' Only.
 - The detail terms and conditions of the auction sale are incorporated in the prescribed tender form. Tender forms are available at the above mentioned Branch office. Authorised officer reserve the rights to extend the date of tender or change the terms & conditions of bidding. For further details & other terms & conditions of bidding please visit our branch and website : www.aadharhousing.com
- For further details, contact the Authorised Officer, at the above mentioned Office address.
- Place : Chhattisgarh
Date : 24-05-2023
- Sd/- Authorised Officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

Villagers demand removal of electric poles from pond in Semaria

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: An application in public interest was submitted at Collector Jandarshan on Monday. Sarpanch of village Semaria submitted an application seeking removal of the electric poles from the Bandha Talab of the village. The Sarpanch said that the villagers use this pond for their daily chores. JK Lakshmi Cement Company provides water to this pond round the year through pipelines. The villagers are worried about the presence of electric poles in the pond. The electric poles in water bodies can be dangerous for the people.

The villagers demanded that these electric poles



should be removed from the pond before the arrival of monsoon. The application was forwarded to the concerned officer of the Electricity Department.

In another application received in Jandarshan, a

resident of Rajendra Vihar sought refund of the security deposit amount of temporary electricity connection. The applicant said that he visited the Electricity Department

several times in the last

one year to get the refund of security deposit.

He said that he had applied for a temporary connection in July 2021 on the occasion of house warming in his new house and got a permanent connec-

tion from the Electricity Department after about 7 months.

After getting the permanent connection, he applied several times to the department for refund of the security deposit or to make an adjustment of the deposited amount. He has submitted the documents sought by the department, but his problem was not resolved.

His application was forwarded to the concerned officer of the Electricity Department with instructions to return the security deposit as soon as possible. A total of 185 applications were received in Collector Jandarshan, which have been sent to the concerned departments for quick action.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: Public Relations Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, in association with the Town Services Department is organizing a three-day solo exhibition of paintings made by Indu Chatterjee, under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' initiative at Nehru Art Gallery, Indira Place (Civic Center).

The exhibition will be inaugurated by S Mukhopadhyay, ED (Projects) with Additional Charge of (P&A) on May 25, 2022 in the evening. Indu Chatterjee, a social worker and artist, is the founder of 'Ishmaa', an organization engaged in various social works for the



past 20 years. After her retirement from the Bank, she again took up painting to pursue her hobby. Her solo painting exhibitions have also been exhibited a few times at the Raipur Airport in the past. Chatterjee said that the responses given by art lovers encourage her a lot. Indu Chatterjee's name has also

been recorded in the Limca Book for the world's largest Rangoli. Besides working as a counsellor in women's cell of the Central Jail, she has trained the women inmates in various subjects. Chatterjee has also worked for the health and education of the children of Raipur Railway Station.

Chatterjee has been felicitated by Shekhar Dutt, the then Governor of the state and Chief Minister Raman Singh in 2010 under the aegis of Chhattisgarh State Women's Commission Raipur. This three-day painting exhibition will be open to public during May 25-27, 2023 from 17:30 hrs to 20:30 hrs.

Employees of URM felicitated with Pali and Karm Shiromani Awards



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: Employees of Universal Rail Mill of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant were felicitated with 'Pali Shiromani' and 'Karm Shiromani' Awards for their exemplary work performance under the 'Shiromani Puraskar Yojana' of Bhilai Steel Plant. The Award Ceremony was organized on May 20, 2023. Anish Sengupta, CGM (URM) was the chief guest of the Award Ceremony.

Nageshwar Rao, Manager was awarded 'Pali Shiromani Award.' 'Karm

Shiromani Award' winners included Arvind Kumar Bharti, MOCT and Rajesh Deshmukh, Chief MOCT.

Chief Guest Sengupta felicitated the awardees with Mementos and Certificates along with Letter of Appreciation and Gift Voucher of Sweets for their respective spouses. The awardees were appreciated for their achievements and contributions at workplace.

Present during the programme were the General Managers of URM, Rahul Srivastav, Elias Ahmed, Rajat Mukherjee, Pankaj Kuril, Santosh Oswal,

Vishal Gupta and other officers and personnel of URM.

The main objective behind felicitating employees with Karm Shiromani and Pali Shiromani Award is to acknowledge and honour them for their sincere efforts and hard-work at the workplace to help meet the organizational objectives while adhering to standard parameters of safety. The programme was conducted by Narendra Ingle, Senior Manager (Personnel).

Jasbir Singh, Additional Labour Welfare Officer also contributed in making the program successful.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: BJP corporators have announced agitation on May 24, 2023 to register protest against shortage of potable water in the city. An important meeting of BJP corporators was conducted in the BJP office on Tuesday in the presence of District BJP President Jitendra Verma and under the chair of Leader of Opposition Ajay Verma.

The meeting discussed that due to the corrupt policies of MLA Durg (Urban) Arun Vora and Durg Mayor Dheeraj Bakliwal, people in the city are facing acute water crisis. Therefore, accompanied by the people of the city a vigorous demonstration "Halla Bol" will be organised on May 24, 2023 at 12 noon.

On this occasion District BJP General Secretary Surendra Kaushik, Former Speaker Dinesh Dewangan,

DMC: BJP corporators to stage 'halla bol' today against water crisis



Dr Devnarayan Tandri, Senior Councilor Gayatri Sahu, Devnarayan Chandrakar, Narendra Banjare, Chandrashekhar Chandrakar, Kashiram Kosre, Arun Singh, Naresh Tejwani, Omprakash Sen, Manish Sahu, Ajit Vaidya, Chameli Sahu, Leena Dinesh Dewangan, Kavita Tandri, Shashi Sahu, Pushpa Gulab Verma, Kumari Sahu, Hema Sharma, Yogendra Sahu, Rakesh Sahu, Jagdish Sharma were present.

District BJP President Jitendra Verma while addressing all the corporators said that the people of the

city residing under Durg Corporation, are yearning for basic facilities. The Congress government has not been able to fulfill even the needs like water and electricity, and this problem is bigger in Durg area as the MLA and the Mayor are completely inactive.

Therefore, all the corporators of the BJP should unite against the problems of the city and raise a strong voice against the MLA and Mayor duo, so that the people of the city become aware of their inefficiency. Opposition leader Ajay Verma said that the capacity of all four motor

pumps of Sheonath river intake well has exhausted way back due to which the 42 MLD filter plant is not getting enough water to fill the water tanks and as a result there is not enough pressure in taps.

To get rid of this problem, four motors had to be replaced which amounts to a cost of Rs 1 crore 60 lakhs. As this has not been done, the people of the city are now suffering in the scorching heat for water and are wandering. Full responsibility for this lies with MLA Arun Vora and Mayor Dhiraj Bakliwal who could not arrange new motor

pump in time and people are wandering door to door for water.

BJP will not sit silent and agitate for the people. Former Chairman Dinesh Dewangan said that the problem of water has worsened in many wards and added it is unfortunate for the people that even after giving an amount of 153 crores under the Amrit Mission by the Central Government, the corrupt policies of the Congress-ruled Corporation Council and under the patronage of MLA Arun Vora, the whole plan has collapsed here and people are not even getting drinking water.

In many wards, discrimination is also being done in distribution of water. In Mathpara ward, Rajiv Nagar ward, Gaya Nagar, Ram Nagar, Vijay Nagar, Shakti Nagar, Kutchery Ward, Raipur Naka Borsi, people are yearning for drinking water.

Police Beat Box inaugurated at Dabrapara Triangle

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: Dabrapara Triangle on National Highway has been identified as black spot where 9 people have died and 10 people were seriously injured in 14 road accidents in the last 3 years. Few days ago, hydraulic jacks and other construction material was stolen from the flyover construction site in Dabrapara.

In order to reduce the accidents, to take strict action against those who do not follow the traffic rules as well as in order to curb such crimes in future, SP Dr Abhishek Pallava had instructed the construction agency to install CCTV cameras and construct a tempo-



rary police beat box to ensure 24-hour police presence. The construction company has constructed a temporary police beat box and installed CCTV cameras in the entire area. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava inaugurated the beat box and the CCTV cameras on Monday.

Chief Guest Dr Abhishek

Pallava was welcomed by Deputy Superintendent of Police (Crime) Rajeev Sharma, Councillor Tulsi Dhruv and Piyush of Royal Infra. SP said that the 24-hour presence of police in Dabrapara Triangle will definitely improve the traffic system as well as curb the illegal activities. After the in-

auguration program, SP led a traffic checking drive and instructed the two wheeler riders to wear helmets and four wheeler drivers to wear seat belts.

Additional Superintendent of Police (Rural) Anant Sahu, City Superintendent of Police (Durg) Prabhat Kumar, Deputy Superintendent of Police (Crime) Rajeev Sharma, City Superintendent of Police (Chhawani) Manish Banchor, DSP (Traffic) Satish Thakur, traffic zone in-charge Anish Sarathi, traffic zone in-charge Bodhiram Ghrirhe, Inspector Navi Monica Pandey, Inspector Virendra Srivastava, Inspector Manish Sharma, transporters and locals were present.

10000 health card holders of NTPC to get cashless facility at Sparsh Hospital

Bhilai, May 23: Sparsh Multi-speciality Hospital Bhilai has signed an agreement with NTPC as part of its corporate expansion. With this agreement, cashless treatment will be provided to NTPC employees and their dependent family members living in Chhattisgarh.

The card holder will have to bring only the health card. In the last 10 years, Sparsh Hospital is the only hospital of the region which is providing all facilities and best service to its patients.

The hospital has Department of Cardiology, Department of Cancer Surgery, Department of Gastroenterology,



Department of Neuroscience, Department of Orthopedics and Rheumatology, Department of Renal Disease, Department of Urology, Department of

Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Laparoscopy and General Surgery as well as Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care.

The team of more than

40 experienced doctors is ready for 24 hours service. To serve patients coming from urban as well as remote forest areas, the hospital has tied up with more than 36 health insurance companies for the convenience of the patients.

The employees of all central and state government departments are treated at CGHS rate. Cashless treatment facility is also available for Railway Raipur Zone, Railway Nagpur Zone, Food Corporation of India, Hindustan Copper Limited, Power Grid Corporation, NSPCL and other major government non-government institutions.

DISHA meeting emphasises on social security

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: A meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) was held in the District Panchayat meeting hall. MP Vijay Baghel chaired this meeting. Department-wise review of central schemes was done in the meeting. The status of road repair, drinking water, health, education and social security pension etc was reviewed and guidelines were given to complete the remaining works in a planned manner.

Baghel asked the departments to focus on schemes related to social security so that weaker sections get better opportunities and inclusive growth is promoted. In order to ensure that the amount of social security pension is paid on time, he said that the concerned officers



should coordinate with the bank management. Apart from this, where basic facilities like banks are not available, he instructed the officers to ensure payment through Bank Sakshis.

Baghel gave special instructions to the Chief Medical and Health Officer regarding health sector related management so that the people of the district get the best health services. He asked to ensure availability of doctors, adequate stock of

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana, National Social Assistance Program, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission, National Rural Drinking Water Program, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Digital India, Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana etc.

The members of the committee gave suggestions for the implementation of public welfare schemes and to benefit more and more people. District Panchayat CEO Ashwini Dewangan gave detailed information about the status of implementation of departmental schemes in the district. Durg MLA Arun Vora, District Panchayat President Pushpa Yadav and other public representatives, members of DISHA Committee and other officers were present.

OBITUARY Pt Atindra Narayan Tiwari

Bhilai: Retired Joint Director of Education Department, Pt Atindra Narayan Tiwari left for heavenly abode at the age of 86 years. Funeral procession will be taken out from his residence situated at Subhash Nagar, Kasaridih on May 24 around 10:00 hrs and last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at Sheonath Muktidham. He was the father of Anjani Kumar Tiwari, BJP leader Ajay Tiwari, Abhay Tiwari and Amit Tiwari.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, conducts several public welfare activities as part of its organizational social responsibility towards the community in and around its areas of operations.

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department of the plant organized a one-day free Health Camp, which started at 10:00 hrs on May 23, 2023 at Village Patora.

The expert medical team from CSR department, comprising health experts, Dr. Isha Kujur, Pharmacist, Shri. Khilawan Kumbhkar, Smt.



Rekha Dev for Blood-sugar and BP examination, Shri. Shambhu for registration volunteered their services for the camp. Shri A.K. Soni, CSR Assistant, from the department and Village Sarpanch Smt. Anjita Gopesh was also

present during the Health Camp. A total of 26 villagers from Village Patora, including 16 men, 09 women and 01 child availed health services at the day long Health Camp and free medicines were distributed to them.

Radio is most effective medium amidst geographical diversities: Guv

Inaugurates news bulletin in Gondi dialect from All India Radio



Raipur, May 23: Governor Bishwabhusan Harichandan virtually inaugurated the weekly news bulletin in Gondi, the main dialect of the tribal community of Chhattisgarh, from Raj Bhavan. Speaking on the occasion, he said that radio remains the most effective medium in the state of Chhattisgarh which has geographical diversities. At the inauguration ceremony, the Governor said that All India Radio is broadcasting news bulletins in

Hindi and Chhattisgarhi languages across the state. After 'Halbi' dialect, the telecast of weekly news bulletin in 'Gondi' dialect is being started from today. Now not only will you get to hear the news of the country and the world in Gondi dialect, but you will also get information about the schemes and steps being taken by the government in the interest of the general public.

Gaurav Dwivedi, Chief Executive Officer, Prasar Bharati addressed the pro-

gram through video conferencing. This weekly news bulletin in Gondi dialect will be broadcast from Akashvani Kendra at Jagdalpur every Sunday from 6.30 pm on medium wave at 756 KHz frequency. This bulletin can be heard in all the 7 districts of Bastar division. On this occasion, Mr. Amrit Khalkhon, Secretary to the Governor, Mr. Deepak Agarwal, Deputy Secretary, and officers of various units of Prasar Bharati were present.

Consolidated measures are being taken: Akbar

For conservation and promotion of biodiversity in Ch'garh Awards announced in various categories for biodiversity conservation



Raipur, May 23: On the occasion of International Biodiversity Day i.e. on 22 May 2023, Chhattisgarh State Biodiversity Board organized a program at Aranya Bhawan, Nava Raipur. Forest and Climate Change Minister Mr. Mohammad Akbar attended the program as Chief Guest of the occasion. This year's theme for the International Day for Biodiversity was 'Rebuilding Biodiversity from Agreement to Implementation'. On this occasion, Chairman of State Biodiversity Board Rakesh Chaturvedi, Principal Secretary (Forest) Manoj Pingua, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests V. Srinivasa Rao, Member Secretary Arun Kumar Pandey and a large number of Biodiversity Awardedees were present.

the program and the awards were bestowed upon the selected institutions and individuals at hands of Forest Minister Mr. Akbar. These include Biodiversity Management Committee Dhamni Balodabazar, Shivkumar Chandravanshi from village Koko, Maa Roopai Eco Club Kasekeri Mahasamund Dr. Jasmeet Singh Assistant Professor Kamdhenu University Durg, People for Animal Wildlife Trust of India, Conservation Corps Society Bilaspur, Virendra Singh Green Commando District Balod, Dr. Vishwanath Panigrahi Bagbahra, Anup Ranjan Pandey, Rajwade village Sonpurkhurd were given prizes in different categories. On this occasion, Member Secretary Arun Kumar Pandey. The book 'Biodiversity of Chhattisgarh' prepared by

Scientist M.L. Nayak, Dr. R.P. Mishra was also released by the Forest Minister. Moreover, Chief Guest also distributed prizes to the winners of the online essay, poster and slogan competitions organized for school and college students to create awareness on biodiversity. Addressing the program, Forest Minister Akbar said that Chhattisgarh is rich in biodiversity. Several steps have been taken by the state government for the conservation and promotion of biodiversity here. He laid special emphasis on the need to start a public awareness campaign for conservation and promotion of biodiversity in the state and to speed it up. He further said that the state government is taking consolidated measures towards activating the Biodiversity Committees

in the state. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests V.K. Srinivasa Rao, Chairman Biodiversity Board Rakesh Chaturvedi, Principal Secretary (Forest) Manoj Pingua was also addressed the program. At the onset of the program, Arun Kumar Pandey, Member Secretary, Biodiversity Board gave a brief presentation on the activities of the Board. During the presentation, the Member Secretary informed that about 12000 PBRs (Public Biodiversity Register) have been set up by the Board in the state. Against the given target of preparing PBR, 8382 PBRs have been prepared. The work of making a bird interpretation and awareness center in Gidhwa Parsada area, which will also function as a bird safari in future, is also in progress. The design of the

proposed Bird Safari building was also presented by the member secretary. The Member Secretary informed that the work of conservation of selected wetlands has also started in the state. In the previous year, State Government declared the office of the Biodiversity Board as the secretariat of the newly formed Chhattisgarh Wetland Authority. Nature Trail, Biodiversity Awareness Walk are also being developed in selected locations of the state. Development of Manav forest near Gangrel dam in Dhamtari forest division, eco-nature camp in Kharora circle of Bilaspur and construction of nature trail in Dalha hill of Janjgir-Champa forest division is also in progress. The Board is also developing Shahbada village of Kanker forest division as a bird tourism center. The Member Secretary also informed that in the last one year, the State officials and scientists have been sent on tour to study the Cactus Garden established at Kevadia Gandhi Nagar in Gujarat and Ramsar sites in Orissa, in addition to this, national-level seminars and conferences on various topics have been organized.

Cataract Surgeries conducted every week in the district hospital

24 cataract Surgeries were performed in May

Kawardha, May 23: The district hospital performs cataract surgeries as per the directive of Collector Mr. Janmejaj Mahobe every week. Dr. Sujoy Mukherjee, the CMHO, and ophthalmologist, emphasized that cataracts cause vision blurry

ness, making it challenging for individuals to see objects beyond a distance of six meters. It is recommended that individuals above the age of forty undergo regular eye check-ups to ensure timely detection of any eye-related issues. Retina specialist Dr. Monis Saxena examined the eyes of 32 patients and found retinal defects in 4 of them. The patients were given the necessary advice. Civil surgeon Dr. Mahesh Suryavanshi said that Cataract patients are operated every week on Tuesday and Friday. 24 cataract surgery has been conducted in the month of May, Ophthalmologist Dr. Kshama Chopra, Eye Assistant Officer Ashwani Sharma, and their staff perform cataract surgery in the district hospital.

for separate panchayat status from Dhangaon, Gosai to Khairwar, construction of CC road, construction of street drainage, establishment of health center Demand for construction of dilapidated school building, demand for construction of new Anganwadi, were also made in the memorandum.

Women reach Collectorate demanding resolution of problems



Mungeli, May 23: Social worker Dr. Sarita Bhardwaj submitted a memorandum to the collectorate demanding redressal of the problems in the rural areas. She said that the biggest problem in the remote areas of the district are dilapidated roads and it was told in the memorandum that about 200 meters of CC road is necessary from the house

of village Motimpur Bholaram to the main road, and also the cultural stage is in a very dilapidated condition, along with a building for arranging meetings for women's groups of Bihaan Yojana. Demand for construction of public water tank, Gram Panchayat Dhangaon, demand for repair of Khairwar road due to dilapidation, demand

Those who submitted the memorandum included Genduram Khunte, Sumitra, Panchobai Yadav, Kalyani, Anant Kunwar, Hirabai Yadav, Shaikumari Yadav, Saraswati Yadav, Kusum Yadav, Phoolbai Motin Yadav, Bina Shyam, Kamani Yadav, Yadav and many others.

Flagship schemes of state govt should be better implemented: Kawasi

Bastar Development Authority meeting in Sukma

Raipur, May 23: State Industries Minister Mr. Kawasi Lakhma said in the meeting of Bastar Development Authority that the flagship schemes of the state government should be better implemented. He said that with the better implementation of government schemes at the grassroots level, more and more people will get the benefit of the schemes. Lakhma was addressing the review meeting of Bastar Development Authority at



District Headquarters Sukma on Tuesday. In the meeting held in the assembly hall of District Panchayat Sukma, Industries Minister Mr. Lakhma said that due to better monitoring of

Sukma district administration, the result of class X and class XII examination has been better in the district. Similarly, in the field of health, the district hospital has received the national award. Vidhan

Sabha Deputy Speaker Mr. Santram Netam also addressed the meeting and emphasized on speeding up the development works and better implementation of the schemes. It is notable that for the first time a meeting of the Bastar Development Authority was convened at the district headquarters Sukma. Bastar Development Authority Chairman Mr. Lakheshwar Baghel, Vice President Mr. Vikram Mandavi, Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Rekchhand Jain, several public representatives and commissioners of Bastar division and

other senior officers including collectors from districts were present in the meeting. In the meeting, Chairman of Bastar Area Development Authority Mr. Lakheshwar Baghel said that a very good work has been done in all the districts of the division in the announcements of the Chief Minister, in giving forest rights recognition letters to Devgudi. He said that our public representatives also need to constantly monitor the implementation of the schemes. Along with this, encourage people to join the economic activities conducted in Gouthans.

Orientation program cum training concludes

Of Electoral and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers

Raipur, May 23: As per the direction of the Election Commission of India, the certification and orientation training programme for Electoral Registration Officers and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers of the state was organised by Chhattisgarh's Chief Electoral Office, on May 20 and 21 at Thakur Pyare Lal Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development located in Nimora. All the state's Electoral Registration Officers and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers attended the programme, and they were provided with detailed information about the constitutional and

legal provisions related to the preparation of electoral rolls. Addressing the officers present in the training programme, Chief Electoral Officer Mrs. Reena Babasaheb Kangale emphasised that the successful conduct of any election depends on the correctness of the electoral roll of that constituency. The trainees showed keen interest in the training organised for all the participants for the upcoming assembly election. Highlighting its importance, the Chief Electoral Officer further stated that the training programme will provide better knowledge of the rules and regulations to the participants regarding the preparation of the electoral roll of their constituency and train them to perform good electoral work in their area



Over 50 applications received at 'Jan Choupal' Raipur, May 23: Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure today heard grievances of people from urban and rural areas of district at 'Jan Choupal' conducted at Collectorate conference hall. More than 50 applications on public grievances and demands were received at Jan Choupal today. Municipal Commissioner Mayank Chaturvedi, District Panchayat CEO Akash Chhikara, Assistant Collector Jayant Nahata, Additional Collector BB Panchbhai, SDM and other officials were present at 'Jan Choupal'.

V-C Prof Chakrawal meets Union Minister Kaushal Kishore

Union Minister Appreciates the efforts of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakrawal

Bilaspur, May 23: Vice-Chancellor of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal paid a courtesy visit to Honorable Kaushal Kishore, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India in New Delhi on May 23, 2023. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Alok Kumar Chakrawal honored Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Honorable Kaushal Kishore by presenting him with a bouquet and shawl. Professor Chakrawal gave detailed information to Honorable Minister Mr. Kaushal Kishore about various positive efforts being made which are related to the academic activities, research and innova-



tion, infrastructure development and social concerns of the university. The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakrawal said that keeping in view the complete implementation of the National Education Policy 2020, a three-day workshop was recently organized on the subject of character building and overall development of personality. He said that the primary objective of the National Education Policy 2020 is to provide value based education to the

youth for character building and overall development of personality. Appraising the Minister about the "Nasha Mukta Samaj Andolan Abhiyan Kaushal Ka", Vice-Chancellor Professor Chakrawal said that such programs should be organized in all higher education institutions of the country with the aim of spreading awareness among the youth. He said that we have to motivate the youth to cooperate in works related to nation building and social concerns. Hon'ble Minister assured of his support for such worthy enterprises. Kaushal Kishore, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India assured continuous guidance and cooperation for the development of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.W.D. KANKER CIRCLE KANKER (C.G.)

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited for Construction Of Road/Bridge work, up to Date 29/05/2023

Sr No.	NIT No.	System Tender No.	Name of work	Probable Amount of Contract.	Tender Downloaded upto
1	2	3	4	5	6
01	12	134774	Construction of High Level Solid Slab Across Kinkadi Nala at Kanga to Hiramandala Mungapadar road Work.	147.15 Lakh	29.05.2023

All Documents related to Tender are to be submitted by Tenderers online only, failing which the tenderer can not participate in the bidding, for tender details please visit <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Note-2nd Call

Superintending Engineer P.W.D. Kanker Circle Kanker

G-01510/1

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता, ग्रामीण यांत्रिकी सेवा

संभाग अम्बिकापुर, जिला-सयुजा (छ.ग.)

(ZONAL TENDER - FIRST CALL)

क्रमांक/817/व.ले.लि./ग्रायांसेवा/2023-24 अम्बिकापुर, दिनांक 19.05.2023

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अन्तर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में विद्युतीकरण हेतु पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ऑन लाईन (Online) निविदा दिनांक 05.06.2023 तक आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

क्र.	ऑन लाईन निविदा क्रमांक	कार्य का नाम	निविदा की अनुमानित लागत (लाख में)	6
1	134984, 134985, 134987 & 134989	Electrification works under zonal tender up to Rs. 0.15 to 10.00 lakh at Janpad Panchayat area Lakhanpur, Batouli, Sitapur & Lundra.	40.00 For Each Tender	

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य के निविदा सम्बंधी शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेब पोर्टल <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> अथवा विभागीय वेब साईट से दिनांक 22.05.2023 से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

(आर.पी. कुटार) कार्यपालन अभियंता ग्रामीण यांत्रिकी सेवा संभाग अम्बिकापुर

G-01556/1

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER MAHANADI PROJECT, RAIPUR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

(Third Call)

System Tender No. : 134138/NIT No. : 01/SAC/2023-24, Dated : 18.05.2023

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 05.06.2023 at 17.30 Hour

Name of Work: Construction of Protection Wall and Damaged Pitching on D/S of New Rudri Barrage

Probable Amount of Contract: Rs. 287.04 Lakhs (As per SOR Dated 01.08.2010 and amended upto Dated 01.08.2014)

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from Date 25.05.2023, at 17.31 Hours. (IST) onwards.

NOTE :- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Executive Engineer Water Management Dn., Rudri Code No. 38 For Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Project, Raipur (C.G.)

G-01494/1

संचालनालय महिला एवं बाल विकास, छत्तीसगढ़

ब्लॉक-1, द्वितीय तल, इंद्रावती भवन, नया रायपुर

दूरभाष क्रमांक 0771-2234192 2234188 (Fax) email:dirwcd.cg@nic.in

// निविदा सूचना //

महिला बाल विकास विभाग छत्तीसगढ़ द्वारा आधार एनरोलमेंट (नया/सुधार) हेतु पात्र मानव संसाधन सेवा देने वाली एजेंसी/फर्मों से मानव संसाधन की पूर्ति के लिए ऑनलाइन (ई-प्रॉक) पर निविदा आमंत्रित है। निविदा संबंधी विवरण व शर्तें ऑनलाइन ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल के माध्यम से की जा रही है। निविदा संबंधी विवरण निम्नानुसार है -

नोट :-

- ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि 17.05.2023
- निविदा की अंतिम तिथि 08.06.2023
- ई-प्रॉक पर निविदा क्रमांक 134501
- आवेदन शुल्क (रूपये में) 5,000
- अमानत राशि 2,00,000

उपरोक्त विवरण की जानकारी जनसमर्पक के विभागीय वेबसाईट पर अवलोकन किया जा सकता है।

निविदा संबंधी सभी शर्तें डाक डायक्ट में उल्लेखित है। तथापि कतिपय मुख्य शर्तें निम्नानुसार है -

- निविदाकार का छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य का जीएसटी पंजीकरण अनिवार्य है।
- निविदाकार किसी भी सामग्री प्रदाय के लिये किसी भी राज्य में ब्लैकलिस्टेड न हो तथा ऐसी कोई कार्यवाही उसके विरुद्ध विद्यमान न हो। निविदाकार को इस आशय का शपथपत्र अन्य दस्तावेज के साथ ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करना होगा।
- राज्य में बैंड MSME को सुसंगत दस्तावेज प्रस्तुत करने व क्रय सक्ति द्वारा मान्य करके की दशा में सुस्ता निधि में नियमानुसार छूट देने पर विचार किया जाएगा।
- निविदा की जा रही सामग्री के लिये केन्द्र/राज्य के संबंधित विभाग द्वारा निर्धारित वैधानिक प्रावधानों के अनुसार सभी दस्तावेज निविदाकार के पास उपलब्ध होना चाहिए तथा निविदा संबंधी दस्तावेज के साथ ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करना होगा।
- कार्य के दौरान उपयोगी स्टेशनरी एवं प्रिंटर इंक कार्ट्रिज आदि कन्स्यूमेबल आयटम पर अनुमानित व्यय राशि की गणना कर ऑफ़रेटर के दर के साथ उक्त व्यय के साथ शामिल किया जाए।

निविदा संबंधी विवरण व सभी जानकारी <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> पर ऑनलाइन उपलब्ध है।

उप संचालक (आईसीडीएस) संवा. महिला एवं बाल विकास नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, छत्तीसगढ़

G-01577/1

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER MAHANADI GODAVARI BASIN, RAIPUR (C.G.)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

(2nd CALL)

System Tender No. : 134708/NIT No. : 04/SAC/2023-24, Chhuikhadan, Dated : 22.05.2023

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 09.06.2023 at 17:30 Hour

Name of Work: Construction of Feeder main canal from R.D. 0 m to R.D. 2820 m including construction of 04 Nos. Inlet, 05 Nos. D.C., 05 Nos. Fall, 1 No VRB, 1 No. Minor Head, 1 No. DRB, 1 No. Escape and fixing of 11 Nos. Collaba of Sidhhababa tank scheme in block Chhuikhadan of District Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai

Probable Amount of Contract: - Rs. 484.37 Lakhs (As per S.O.R Dated 01.08.2010 (As amended dated 01.08.2014))

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from Date 29.05.2023, at 17:31 Hours (IST) onwards.

NOTE :- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Executive Engineer Water Resources Division, Chhuikhadan For, Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Godavari Basin Raipur (C.G.)

G-01504/1



CENTRAL Chronicle

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Delhi's Power Struggle

Call for Collaborative Governance

The ongoing power struggle between the Centre and the Delhi government over control of the state's bureaucracy has escalated, raising concerns about the democratic process and effective governance. The recent Supreme Court ruling in favor of the Arvind Kejriwal-led government, granting it legislative and executive power over services, except in matters of public order, police, and land, was seen as a victory for the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). However, the Centre's response to the verdict and subsequent actions have further complicated the situation. One key development was the prompt transfer of Services Secretary Ashish More by the Kejriwal government, which saw the Supreme Court ruling as validation of its position. In an attempt to overturn the court's decision, the Centre swiftly promulgated an ordinance to establish the National Capital Civil Service Authority. This authority would have control over officers' postings and transfers, with the final say resting with the Centre-appointed Lieutenant Governor (L-G), despite the Chief Minister chairing the authority. Shortly after, the Centre sought a review of the May 11 verdict by approaching the Supreme Court. The timing of the Centre's actions has raised eyebrows, as they displayed undue haste instead of allowing the events to unfold as directed by the Supreme Court. The decision to issue an ordinance on the eve of the court's six-week break, rather than waiting for Parliament to be in session to introduce a Bill, has added to the concerns of the AAP and those observing the situation. The Centre should have respected the legal process and, if it had reservations, intervened after giving due consideration to the SC's directions. It is worth noting that the Centre-Delhi tussle is not a new phenomenon. Since the revival of the Delhi Assembly in 1993, clashes between different political parties in power at the Centre and in Delhi have often affected governance and created power struggles. This pattern persists in the current scenario as well. However, it is imperative to recognize that the interests of the people of Delhi should take precedence over political rivalries. The primary focus should be on ensuring effective governance and delivering quality services to the citizens. Both the Centre and the Delhi government must move beyond the power games and prioritize collaboration to address the challenges faced by the state. Transparency, accountability, and the smooth functioning of administrative machinery are crucial elements of a healthy democracy. The need of the hour is for both parties to engage in constructive dialogue and work towards a mutually agreeable solution that upholds the principles of democratic governance and respects the autonomy of the elected government. Delhi, as the national capital, plays a pivotal role in the country's governance and development. The people of Delhi deserve a government that can function efficiently and effectively without unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles or political interference. It is essential for the Centre and the Delhi government to rise above partisan interests and prioritize the welfare of the citizens they are elected to serve. The power struggle between the Centre and the Delhi government over control of the state's bureaucracy must be resolved through dialogue and collaborative efforts. Upholding democratic principles and ensuring effective governance should be the shared goal. It is time to move beyond political rivalries and work towards a harmonious relationship that benefits the people of Delhi and sets a positive precedent for cooperative federalism in the country.

India's IT and BPO Services

Powering Global Export Growth

Dr Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

India has emerged as a dominant global exporter, particularly in the IT and BPO services sectors, with an impressive 14% growth rate over the past two decades. In the fiscal year 2021-2022, India's services exports reached a significant value of US\$254.5 billion, primarily fueled by IT services amounting to US\$106 billion and BPO services valued at US\$51 billion. These exports have played a pivotal role in generating 5.1 million direct jobs and over 12 million indirect jobs. The services sector in India, particularly the IT and BPO services, accounts for more than 60% of the country's service exports. The establishment of Global Capability Centers (GCCs) in India has further enhanced its success. With a substantial number of over 1,500 GCCs employing approximately 1.3 million people (expected to rise to 2-3 million by 2025), India has become the preferred destination for global corporations. This transformation has turned India from a cost-driven choice into a hub of exceptional talent and innovation. India's appeal as an outsourcing destination stems from several factors, including proficiency in the English language, historical ties with the UK, a large and young population, and competitive salary levels. Initially, the outsourcing trend began with global airlines outsourcing their back-office operations to India, attracting subsequent involvement from IT companies. As a result, India's outsourcing industry has experienced substantial growth, catering to the increasing demand from businesses seeking a globally connected workforce to meet their operational needs. Currently, organizations of all sizes and origins, spanning various sectors, actively consider outsourcing as a strategic solution. The thriving BPO industry in India plays a critical role in driving the country's prosperous economy. India's workforce is well-equipped to handle complex tasks, positioning the country as an ideal location for robotics and AI services. Moreover, India holds the potential to become a powerhouse for platforms and products, as evident from successful B2B SaaS companies and a thriving ecosystem. These factors, along with India's strong IT and BPO exports, position the country as a hub for technology and innovation. To further expand its services exports, India should diversify into skill-based and digitized sectors such as healthcare, education, and tourism. With a large working-age population and a focus on emerging services, India can leverage its competitive advantages and tap into new opportunities. Overall, India's IT and BPO services have been instrumental in driving economic growth, creating employment opportunities, and establishing India as a significant player in the global services trade.

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.

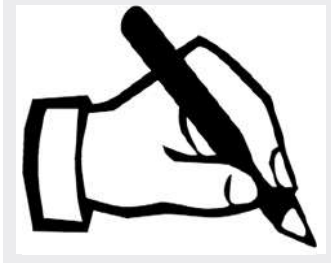
AFTERNOON SIESTA



A fruit vendor takes afternoon siesta during a hot summer day, in New Delhi, Tuesday, May 23.

Ensuring Quality and Efficiency of Road and Tunnel Projects

MANOJ KUMAR K P



Importance of Road Projects and Tunnels

The Indian government has made remarkable strides in prioritizing the development and expansion of the road infrastructure nationwide. This commitment aims to enhance connectivity, stimulate economic growth, and improve transportation efficiency. Notably, initiatives like the Bharatmala Pariyojana envision the strategic construction and upgrade of thousands of kilometers of highways, including the creation of new motorways, economic corridors, and border roads. Tunnels play a vital role in road projects, particularly in challenging terrains and congested areas. They provide efficient and direct transport links through mountains, hills, and rivers. Tunnels offer safer passages, especially in regions prone to natural hazards such as landslides, avalanches, or adverse weather conditions. Moreover, tunnels help minimize the environmental impact of road development by preserving natural landscapes and habitats. Additionally, they ensure the seamless movement of military personnel, equipment, and supplies,

thereby strengthening national security and border management. **Government Initiatives to Ensure Transparency and Accountability** To combat corruption and foster transparency in road projects, the Indian government has implemented several measures. The adoption of e-tendering and online bidding processes has significantly reduced human intervention and minimized the potential for corruption, creating a fair and transparent system for contract awards. Leveraging technology, such as GPS tracking, satellite imagery, and digital surveying, has become mandatory in road projects. These tools facilitate effective monitoring of project progress, ensuring construction quality, and preventing deviations from approved plans. Independent agencies and authorities have been established to monitor and evaluate road projects, promoting accountability in the sector. The digitization of processes, including land acquisition, payment systems, and project management, has streamlined operations, reduced human interface, and mitigated the risk

of corruption. By embracing automation, the government has achieved greater transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the execution of road projects.

Areas for Improvement

While commendable progress has been made, there are areas where further improvement is necessary to optimize road and tunnel projects. Thorough planning and robust design are essential for successful outcomes. Conducting comprehensive feasibility studies, accurate traffic projections, and effective geotechnical investigations can minimize project delays, cost overruns, and design flaws. Streamlining decision-making processes, particularly regarding land acquisition, environmental clearances, and approvals, is vital to avoid unnecessary delays. Efficient and prompt decision-making can significantly accelerate project timelines. Maintaining strict quality control standards throughout the construction process is crucial to ensure the durability and safety of infrastructure. Regular inspections, strict adherence to specifications, and the adoption of modern construction tech-

niques and materials will enhance project outcomes.

Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms play a crucial role in tracking project progress, identifying bottlenecks, and ensuring adherence to timelines. Regular inspections, independent audits, and real-time monitoring technologies can help promptly identify and address issues. By leveraging technology, such as artificial intelligence and data analytics, project managers can gain valuable insights and make informed decisions, further optimizing project execution.

Conclusion

In conclusion, addressing the quality of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) is crucial for the success of road and tunnel projects in India. The government's commitment to transparency, accountability, and technology-driven solutions is commendable. By implementing comprehensive planning, stringent quality control measures, and effective monitoring systems, India can further enhance its infrastructure development and ensure that road and tunnel projects meet global standards.

(Views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cyber Safety

With the escalating frequency of cyberattacks, it is imperative to acknowledge the pressing need for comprehensive legal frameworks. As technology advances and our reliance on digital systems deepens, cybercriminals continually exploit vulnerabilities for personal gain. It is crucial to recognize the gravity of this issue and proactively safeguard ourselves and our systems. Despite implementing robust security measures, authorities often lag behind cybercriminals. India must adopt new-age cyber laws and proactive measures to combat this menace effectively. Strengthening the regulatory mechanism becomes paramount in preventing the theft or manipulation of computer data. Let us prioritize cyber safety and modernize our legal landscape.

Ashok Nambiar, Kannur

Performance of new government is vital

Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been vocal in his opposition to political parties offering freebies in order to win votes, but polls show that the Congress victory in Karnataka had a lot to do with them. Karnataka new chief minister Siddaramaiah's long tenure as an administrator should help the party keep its promises. The Karnataka victory has infused new energy into the minds of the Congress cadre in a year when five state assemblies will be elected: Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, and Mizoram. The Congress has a lot riding on these states. The performance of the party's government in Karnataka and its ability to keep promises may have an impact on voters in other states. The BJP has learned that artificial slogans in Assembly elections cannot cover up real-life issues, and it may change course. If the Congress leadership hopes to approach the 2024 Lok Sabha elections with a creditable performance in the upcoming Assembly elections, it must remain vigilant about its government's performance in Karnataka from the start.

Dr. Vijay Kumar H K, Raichur, Karnataka

Demonitisation of Rs 2000 note

The government's decision to demonetize the Rs 2000 note can be seen as a strategic move, aimed at reducing reliance on high denomination currency and promoting digital payments. While this decision brings concerns for the public, with limited exchange amounts and no information requirements, its purpose and effectiveness remain a topic of debate. The high value and limited circulation of Rs 2000 notes have raised suspicions of hoarding black money, prompting the RBI to discourage such practices and promote financial transparency. With most of these notes reaching the end of their lifespan, the government must ensure a smooth operation, considering the convenience of the common man. India's demonetization serves as a valuable lesson for other nations, emphasizing the importance of thorough planning and implementation.

Yash Pal Raihan, Jalandhar

Pakistan's Political Turmoil Has Implications For Global Security MA Hossain

Pakistan is currently in a critical juncture of political turmoil which is posing a threat to its sovereignty as well as growing concerns about global security. Not only that, if Pakistan fails to address the crisis, then definitely it will be the beginning of the extinction of democratic values regionally. Pakistan has also been spiraling towards a severe economic catastrophe and struggling to meet the basic needs of its population. Now Pakistan is in a state of critical emergency after 1971, where the elite class should not repeat their apocalyptic mistake of ignoring the voices of the people.

The Root of the Crisis

The power struggle of the current stalemate began when Imran Khan was ousted in April 2022 following a parliamentary vote of no-confidence. However, this im-

broglie is hardly a scenario that has arisen overnight. This is a result of bankrupt political regimes. Needless to say, Pakistan's ruling power has generally been characterized by its preference for one side of the Pakistan Army. Each of the five prime ministers has been indicted or imprisoned after leaving office. The military-dominated Pakistan has a long record of engineering the electoral playing field to achieve the Army's preferred result.

Corruption and Economic Challenges

Corruption has long been a pressing issue in Pakistan's political landscape, with high-profile corruption cases involving influential politicians and bureaucrats. These scandals have eroded public trust in the government and raised concerns about the misuse of public funds. The economic condition in Pakistan was facing a severe crisis. Now the devastating flood of 2022, 50-years high inflation, food and energy shortage, collapsed in-

vestment, critically low exports, and foreign exchange reserve, mounting foreign debt, and the failure of international lenders have further exacerbated the situation. Furthermore, Covid-19 and the invasion of Ukraine by Russia put tremendous pressure on world food and energy prices, which has had a negative impact on Pakistan's economy.

Social Unrest and Islamic Jihadist Organizations

Pakistan is experiencing violent social unrest. Economic challenges, rising inflation, polarized politics, and unemployment have contributed to the frustration and discontent among the populace, especially the youth where over 60% of the population is under the age of 30. A weaponized society with nothing to lose has grown a new ability to touch the un-touchable elite institutions. Furthermore, ethnic and sectarian tensions, mass reform movements recently by religio-political parties, and engagement between

Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and security forces clearly spelled out the public frustration with elite institutions or ruling systems.

The Global Security Implications

The pressing question that demands attention from global leaders is why Pakistan should be a cause for concern. We must not forget that Pakistan is a nuclear-armed nation. Drawing upon my extensive two-decade study of Islamic militant organizations, it is evident that the Islamic jihadist movement will emerge at full throttle in Pakistan. In my opinion, Pakistan will be Afghanistan 2.0 today or tomorrow unless the crisis is not dealt with appropriately. This ideological warfare is just like cancer in the human body. If we fail to recognize it at an early stage, it would leave us no choice but to surrender. Now, if we compare the situation of Pakistan with earlier Afghanistan, Iraq, Burkina Faso, and Mali, then it becomes evident that Pakistan is at the last stage of

ideological cancer. I assume that the next Islamic jihadist movement is likely to extend its reach to Kashmir and Yemen. If this movement gains traction in Pakistan, then it will be a matter of time to establish a strong jihadist bastion in South Asia and the Middle East.

The role of global leaders is crucial in addressing the political turmoil in Pakistan. They must recognize the potential implications for global security and act proactively. It is imperative for them to prioritize engagement against Islamic militant organizations and support efforts to restore stability and democracy in Pakistan. Encouraging and facilitating timely, free, and fair elections without interference is vital. Global leaders should collaborate to provide assistance, guidance, and diplomatic pressure to ensure the restoration of confidence in Pakistan's institutions. The restoration of peace and stability in Pakistan not only benefits the country itself but also contributes to regional and global security. (Views are personal).

BRIEF

Atmanirbhar Bharat



Washington: Describing "Atmanirbhar Bharat" as a brilliant initiative which was long overdue, a top Indian-American CEO has said that the US is a natural partner in India's initiative to make the country self-reliant in various fields, particularly in defence. The remarks by Vivek Lall, Chief Executive of General Atomics Global Corporation, came ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's State visit to the US in June. "I think it (Atmanirbhar Bharat) is a brilliant initiative by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Atmanirbhar Bharat is a long overdue process that needs to evolve and, in its definition, itself is a lot of collaboration, a lot of R&D (Research and Development), joint R&D, and a lot of technologies that need to be incubated for the betterment of India," Lall told PTI in an interview.

FAME-II subsidy

New Delhi: The government has reduced the subsidy provided under FAME-II (Faster Adoption of Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India) scheme applicable on electric two-wheelers registered on or after June 1, 2023. The Heavy Industries Ministry notified the changes. For electric two-wheelers, the demand incentive will be Rs 10,000 per kWh. The cap on incentives for electric two-wheelers will be 15 per cent of the ex-factory price of vehicles from 40 per cent at present. photo Piyush

Serious commitment

New Delhi: Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said that online retailers who want to join the government-promoted Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) should come with a serious commitment, and not for namesake. ONDC, a non-profit company, formulates a set of standards for voluntary adoption by sellers or logistics providers or payment gateway operators.

India will not have a monopoly or duopoly in telecom sector: Ashwini Vaishnaw

New Delhi, May 23:



India will not see a monopoly or duopoly in the telecom sector with state-owned BSNL emerging as a 'very stable' player, Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has said. Speaking at the Express Adda on Saturday, he allayed concerns of a duopoly emerging in the market with weakening financials and dropping market share of Vodafone Idea Ltd. "No, we are not heading towards a monopoly. Even a duopoly will not be there. BSNL is coming up as a very stable player in the market," he said when asked whether the state of affairs in Vodafone Idea and the current financial struggles faced by Airtel would leave Reliance Jio

the single dominant mobile telephony player.

The telecom market currently has three private players - billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea Ltd. Jio's disruptive entry has helped it to become the largest operator in the country and it is now leading the 5G rollout. Sunil Bharti Mittal's Airtel is competing with Jio while

Vodafone Idea is yet to announce a 5G rollout plan due to financial stress. Vaishnaw said state-owned BSNL is stabilising operationally. "They have started making operating profits now. It's a turnaround story for BSNL," the minister said. He said the technology BSNL is going to use, India's 4G and 5G stack, is a step above similar technologies across the world. When asked whether there would be four thriving players or three thriving players and one struggling player, Vaishnaw replied that the market would decide.

The minister said India will become the biggest semiconductor manufacturing destination in the next five years with the government ensuring that

the right ecosystem is built. The government in December 2021 announced a scheme worth Rs 76,000 crore for attracting semiconductor and display fabs factories in the country. "We know for sure that in the coming 4-5 years, India will become the biggest semiconductor manufacturing destination in the world if you have the ecosystem in place. Our focus is making sure that the right ecosystem is built," he said.

He said semiconductor manufacturing faces several challenges, including the availability of special raw materials and a reliable power supply. "When we are creating a new industry, people have a tendency to wait and watch, which is very natural," he said.

I-T dept enables online filing of ITRs 1, 4

New Delhi, May 23:

The Income Tax department has enabled online filing of income tax returns (ITRs) 1 and 4, filed by individuals, professionals and small businesses, for 2022-23 fiscal. In a tweet, the income tax department said, the software/utilities for preparing other ITRs/Forms will be enabled shortly. "ITR 1 and 4 for A.Y. 2023-24 are enabled for filing in online mode at e-filing portal," the department said in reply to a tweet by an individual. The last date for filing Income Tax returns for fiscal 2022-23 for people who do not need to get their accounts audited is July 31. ITR-1 is filed by individuals, including salaried class and senior citizens. ITR-2 is filed by businesses and professionals who have opted for presumptive taxation and those individuals whose annual income doesn't exceed Rs 50 lakh.

Govt rules out lifting ban on wheat export

New Delhi, May 23:

The Centre on Tuesday ruled out lifting the ban on wheat exports but said the shipments of the foodgrain through diplomatic channels will be considered on a case-to-case basis. India, the world's second-largest wheat producer, banned wheat exports in May 2022 as part of measures to control rising domestic prices. Asked if wheat exports will be allowed, Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh said, "No chance at all." The government is supplying some quantity of wheat to a few countries like Nepal and Bhutan via a government-to-government trade arrangement. "We will take a call if there is a request from the Ministry of External Affairs," he added. Citing reasons for continuing the export ban, Additional Secretary of the Food Ministry Subodh Kumar said India is not a traditional wheat exporting nation. However, the country exported wheat in the



last three years owing to surplus supplies. The country exported wheat in the range of 2-7 million tonnes annually in the last three years. Last year, wheat exports were 5 million tonnes, he said.

"The wheat production remained lower during last year because of climatic reasons. However, production this year is higher than last year and availability is expected to be 10 million tonnes more when compared to last year," he said. This is required for local consumption and to make available wheat at reasonable prices in the domestic market, he added.

RBI Governor asks public sector banks to strengthen governance

New Delhi, May 23:

Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das asked public sector banks to further strengthen their governance and risk management with a view to identify and mitigate risks at an early stage. The governor was addressing a Conference for the Directors on the Boards of Public Sector Bank in the national capital. 'Governance in Banks - Driving Sustainable Growth and Stability' was the theme of the conference. In a statement, the central bank said Das acknowledged the role played by the banks in supporting the economy and maintaining resilience along with improved financial performance in the face of several adverse shocks in recent



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das during a meeting, in New Delhi, Tuesday, May 23.

times. "He (Das) exhorted the directors of banks to further strengthen the governance and assurance functions (risk management, compliance and internal audit) so that the banks are able to identify and mitigate risks at an early stage," it said. Das also emphasised the need for banks to ensure

continued financial and operational resilience.

Deputy Governors M K Jain and M Rajeshwar Rao along with executive directors representing RBI's department of supervision and department of regulation, and other senior officials, also participated in the conference.

PM Modi meets prominent Australian business leaders in Sydney

Invites investments in India
Sydney, May 23:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday met business leaders of top Australian companies here and called for enhancing cooperation with the Indian industry in areas such as technology, skilling, and clean energy. Modi arrived in Sydney on Monday for the third and final leg of his three-nation tour during which he will hold talks with his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese and attend a community event to celebrate the country's dynamic, diverse Indian diaspora. He is visiting Australia as a guest of the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Nobel laureate Dr. Brian Paul Schmidt, in Sydney, Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

Australian Government. Modi held bilateral meetings with Hancock Prospecting Executive Chairman Gina Rinehart, Fortescue Future Industry Executive

Chairman Andrew Forrest, and AustraliaSuper CEO Paul Schroder. During his meeting with Rinehart, the prime minister highlighted the reforms and

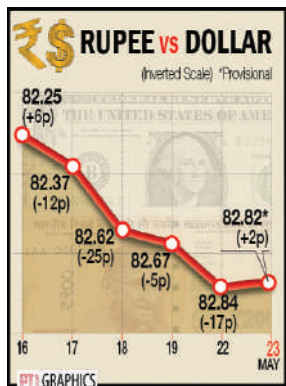
initiatives being undertaken in India and invited her to partner in technology, investment and skilling in the mining and minerals sector, a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi said. In a meeting with Schroder, he said that India is one of the most preferred major economies for foreign investments in the world and invited AustralianSuper to partner with India, it said. AustralianSuper is an Australian superannuation fund headquartered in Melbourne. Similarly, during his meeting with Forrest, he welcomed the Group's plans to work with Indian companies in the field of Green Hydrogen.

Rupee settles on flat note at 82.82 against US dollar

Mumbai, May 23:

The rupee traded in a narrow range and settled for the day 2 paise higher at 82.82 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, amid a muted trend in domestic equities. Forex traders said the strength of the American currency capped sharp gains for the local unit. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 82.82 against the US currency and witnessed a high of 82.76 and a low of 82.84 during intra-day trade. The local unit settled at 82.82 (provisional), registering a gain of 2 paise over its previous close.

On Monday, the rupee closed at 82.84 against the



US currency. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.32 per cent to 103.52. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures fell 0.03 per cent to USD 75.97 per barrel.

Stock markets settle with marginal gains amid weak global cues

Mumbai, May 23:

Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty eked out gains in volatile trade to extend the winning streak to a third straight day on Tuesday amid weak trends in global markets as investors preferred to remain on the sidelines ahead of the release of the US Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting minutes.

Fag-end volatility dragged the 30-share BSE Sensex lower from its intraday high level and it finally settled at 61,981.79, a marginal gain of 18.11 points or 0.03 per cent. During the day, it jumped 281.51 points or 0.45 per cent to 62,245.19.



The NSE Nifty went up by 33.60 points or 0.18 per cent to end at 18,348, driven by gains in Adani group stocks. Among the Sensex firms, Bajaj Finserv, Tata Motors, Asian Paints, ITC, IndusInd Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Steel, Wipro, Infosys and Maruti were the major gainers. Tech

Mahindra, HCL Technologies, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Titan and Larsen & Toubro were the major laggards. In Asian markets, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower, while Seoul ended in the green. Markets in Europe were trading mostly lower. The US market ended mostly with gains on Monday. US President Joe Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy both said they had a productive debt ceiling discussion late Monday at the White House, but there was no agreement as negotiators strained to raise the nation's borrowing limit in time to avert a potentially chaotic federal default.

Samsung Solve for tomorrow gets overwhelming response

With over 50,000 registrations; applications to close on May 31

Gurugram, May 23:

Samsung India's national education and innovation competition Solve for Tomorrow has seen overwhelming participation from youth across India with over 50,000 registrations coming in from across India. Youth, especially from smaller towns of the country, such as Begusarai, Chitradurga, Dharwad, Gulbarga, Jalpaiguri, Khurda, North 24 Parganas, Madhubani and Pathanamthitta have sent in their ideas, highlighting their growing desire to find innova-

tive technology solutions to solve real-world problems that will have a positive social impact on the lives of people around them. The top 3 teams in the competition stand a chance to win INR 1.5 crore to turn their ideas into action. Youth can apply for Solve for Tomorrow till 5 pm on May 31, 2023 on www.samsung.com/in/solvefortomorrow. The flagship CSR program of India's largest electronics brand recognizes the power of innovative solutions and their ability to transform lives, and is inviting ideas from youth aged 16-22 years around 4 key themes - Education & Learning, Environment & Sustainability, Health & Wellness and Diversity & Inclusion.

India GDP crosses \$3.5 tln in 2022: Moody's

Bureaucracy in decision making may reduce attractiveness as FDI destination

New Delhi, May 23:

India's GDP has crossed USD 3.5 trillion in 2022 and will be the fastest-growing G-20 economy over the next few years, but reform and policy barriers could hamper investment, Moody's said on Tuesday. In a research report, the US-based rating agency said bureaucracy could slow approval processes in obtaining licences and setting up businesses, prolonging project

gestation. "India's higher bureaucracy in decision-making will reduce its attractiveness as a destination for foreign direct investment (FDI), especially when competing with other developing economies in the region, such as Indonesia and Vietnam," Moody's Investors Service said.

It said a large young and educated workforce, increasing nuclear families and urbanization will fuel demand for housing, cement and new cars. Government infrastructure spending will bolster steel and cement, while India's net-zero commitment will drive investment in renewable energy, it said. "While

demand across the manufacturing and infrastructure sectors will grow 3-12 per cent annually for the rest of the decade, India's capacity will still rank well behind China's by 2030," Moody's said. It said despite the economy's strong potential, there is a risk that the pace of investment in India's manufacturing and infrastructure sectors could slow because of limited economic liberalization or slower policy implementation. "Lack of certainty around the amount of time needed for land acquisition approvals, regulatory clearances, obtaining licenses and setting up businesses can materially prolong project gestation.

Orientbell Tiles uses technology to simplify tile-buying experience

Mumbai, May 23:

Orientbell Tiles, a leading tile manufacturer in India, has been at the forefront of innovation in the tile industry for 45+ years. With a focus on technology, the company has recently launched several new initiatives to make shopping for tiles simpler for customers across the country.

As consumers are increasingly time-starved, Orientbell Tiles has responded with state-of-art range of digital tools to simplify the tile-shopping process. The company's website (www.orientbell.com) features advanced e-commerce-like search filters to help you sift through 3000+ SKUs. You can even try

your selected tile in your own room by uploading a picture! "We all lead busy lives. And www.orientbell.com offers the most convenient way of shopping the latest range of tiles. You & your loved ones can browse this from the comfort of your homes at your own convenience. You can explore tiles by color or size or room. You can even find tiles similar to any other inspiring picture you have. Try it & you will love it," said Alok Agarwal, CMO at Orientbell Tiles. Customers can uploading this inspiring picture from Instagram or Pinterest (Sameelook) and find tiles similar to it. If you want to touch and feel the tile, you can also order samples directly from the website.

NMDC first iron ore producer to cross 40 MnT production mark

Steady FY23 by India's mining major NMDC

Hyderabad, May 23:

Country's largest iron ore producer, NMDC declared its FY23 results today. In the financial year 2022-23, the company produced 40.82 million tonnes and sold

38.22 million tonnes of iron ore. NMDC is the first iron ore producer in India to cross the 40 MnT production mark for the second consecutive fiscal.

Government of India's profit making PSE recorded a turnover of Rs.17667 crore, with Profit Before Tax (PBT) at Rs.7637 crore and Profit After Tax (PAT)



at Rs.5529 crore in FY23. The mining major has also announced 2nd and final dividend of Rs.2.85 per share. The total dividend including 1st interim dividend (Rs.3.75 per share) is Rs.6.6 per share for FY23. Concluding the year with a strong performance, NMDC registered iron ore production of 14.13 MnT and sales of 12.41 MnT in the fourth quarter of FY23 which is

the highest for any quarter since inception. For Q4 of the financial year, turnover stood at Rs.5851 crore while PBT and PAT clocked Rs.3285 crore and Rs.2277 crore respectively.

Commenting on the company's performance, Shri Amitava Mukherjee, CMD (Additional Charge) said, "NMDC's strong core and technical affinity has helped us report steady volumes and margins in the face of challenges like heavy rainfall, dull demand and price volatility. With Government of India's fillip to infrastructure, NMDC is committed to fuel the increase in domestic steel production and consumption by ensuring raw material security."

Historic silver-bronze finish by Ganemat and Darshna in women's skeet

Almaty, May 23 (PTI):

Ganemat Sekhon won silver while Darshna Rathore claimed bronze as India bagged two senior individual medals for the first time in women's skeet at an ISSF World Cup here on Tuesday.

Local favourite Assem Orynbay of Kazakhstan won gold through a shoot-off after both Ganemat and herself ended the 60-shot final with 50 hits each.

Ganemat missed one out of the first two shoot-off targets after Orynbay had shot both down. It was Ganemat's second individual world cup medal and a first-ever for Darshna who appeared in her maiden senior final.

Earlier on competition day two, Darshna qualified for the six-woman final in second spot, equalling the national record with a score of 120 while Ganemat was fourth, shooting 117.



Ganemat Sekhon celebrates on the podium.

Orynbay topped with 121 while among the other qualifiers was world number 10 from Cyprus, Konstantina Nikolaou. The Cypriot however was the

only shooter to miss three of her first four targets in the final, while the other five missed one each. At the end of the first 10 targets Orynbay was the most accurate with eight hits with four others including Darshna and Ganemat following with seven.

Nikolaou was the first to be eliminated after 20 targets as Ganemat and Barbora continued to chase the Kazakh Orynbay, with Darshna trying to catch up.

After 30 hits, the field was down to four with Ganemat leading with 25, followed by Orynbay with 24 and Darshna and Barbora tied at 22.

It was heartening to see the two Indians, in particular Ganemat, getting stronger as the match progressed. The Czech was next to fall at the 40-target mark with 29 to her name, confirming a historic double for the Indians.

10 teams to take part in ODI World Cup qualifier in Zimbabwe from June 18

Dubai, May 23 (PTI):

Ten teams will take part in the 2023 ODI World Cup Qualifier in Zimbabwe from June 18 to July 9, the ICC announced on Tuesday.

Each match will be high stakes, with teams contesting for two places at the World Cup in India in October-November.

The 10 teams taking part in the qualifier are split into two groups of five teams. Hosts Zimbabwe, the West Indies, the Netherlands, Nepal and the United States make up Group A, while Sri Lanka, Ireland, Scotland, Oman and the United Arab Emirates form Group B.

Each side will play the other teams in their group once with the top three from each group progressing to the Super Six stage. In the Super Six, they will play the sides they did not meet in the group stage. All points won in the group stage will be carried over to the Super



Six stage apart from those gained against the teams that fail to make it to the Super Six stage. The finalists will both progress to the World Cup 2023. Queen's Sports Club and Bulawayo Athletic Club in Bulawayo, Harare Sports Club and Takashinga Cricket Club in Harare will share 34 matches between them, with Harare Sports Club staging the final on July 9. Old Hararians Cricket Club will also host warm-up fixtures.

Hosts Zimbabwe will feature on the opening match-day at Harare Sports Club against Nepal, who are aiming to qualify for the World Cup for the first time. Two-time champions West Indies will also be in action on June 18 against neighbours USA at Takashinga Cricket Club. Group B commences on June 19 in Bulawayo with 1996 World Cup champions Sri Lanka facing the UAE at Queen's Sports Club, while in the

other match at Bulawayo Athletic Club, Ireland will face off against Oman.

The Netherlands will open their campaign against Zimbabwe on June 20 at Harare Sports Club, while Scotland face rivals Ireland in Bulawayo on June 21 at Queens Sports Club. The Super Six stage will commence on June 29, while the bottom two teams from each group will compete in the Playoff.

For the first time in this tournament, DRS will be used for all matches from the Super Six stage onwards.

The Qualifier is the culmination of four years of hard-fought competition that brings together the bottom five teams from the ICC Men's CWC Super League, three automatic qualifiers from the ICC Men's CWC League 2 and two teams who gained entry from the ICC Men's CWC Qualifier Play-off.

Anand, Carlsen, Ding Liren and Hou Yifan to feature in Global Chess League

Dubai, May 23 (PTI):

The upcoming inaugural edition of the Global Chess League (GCL) will feature the sport's icons such as Viswanathan Anand, Magnus Carlsen, Hou Yifan and Ding Liren.

GCL is a joint venture between Tech Mahindra and the international chess federation FIDE. The complete list of players was announced on Tuesday.

The first season of the Global Chess League will be held at the Dubai Chess & Culture Club from June 21 to July 2 in association with the Dubai Sports Council.

Carlsen and Ding will join as two of six 'icon' players, along with Indian



grandmaster Viswanathan Anand and Poland's Jan-Krzysztof Duda. The final two names will be confirmed at a later date, organisers said.

"Global Chess League will be a great new event in over-the-board chess that has never been done before," Carlsen, who has been the world's top-ranked player for over a decade, said in a statement. "I'm excited to be a part of this unique mixed-team format." China's

Ding, 30, became world champion in April, taking the crown from Carlsen, after the 32-year-old Norwegian said last year he would not defend his title. Dubai also staged the 2021 world championship, when Carlsen won his fifth title. Russian grandmaster Alexander Grischuk, France's Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, and Hou Yifan of China, a four-time women's world champion, will also participate in the tournament.

With MI's batting finally clicking, LSG bowlers have task cut out

Chennai, May 23 (PTI):

The batting unit finally clicking and a rather dramatic entry into the IPL play-offs will make Mumbai Indians a more confident side when they meet the plucky Lucknow Super Giants in the Eliminator here on Wednesday.

Mumbai Indians have come a long from their woeful performance last year, when they came up with one of their worst showings in IPL, finishing last.

Having come this far in IPL 2023 after Gujarat Titans did them a good turn by defeating Royal Challengers Bangalore and pitch-forking the five-time champions into the Eliminator against



Lucknow Super Giants, the Rohit Sharma-led side would like to make the most of the proverbial 'life' to go the distance and win their sixth title.

Lucknow Super Giants

would know all too well that they were eliminated at the same stage last year by RCB after being one of the most dominating sides.

They have looked a co-

hesive side despite the absence of regular skipper KL Rahul but the way Krunal Pandya has tactfully marshalled his resources would once again be crucial as they meet the most successful IPL side that seems to have found its mojo after striking success at the back-end of the tournament.

One cannot overestimate the contribution of tall Australian all-rounder Cameron Green, who smacked an unbeaten century to help MI win their last league game against Sunrisers Hyderabad before GT defeated RCB.

Green (381 runs), along with a resurgent Suryakumar Yadav (511 runs, one century, four fifties), skipper Rohit

(313) and Ishan Kishan (439), will be their key batters when they taken on LGS in the do-or-die clash. With Mumbai's batting puzzle finally falling in place, LSG bowlers will be aware that they have a task on hand to contain the likes of Rohit and Co. if they get going.

Here, leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi will have a big role to play if the team hopes to keep MI in check. Bishnoi (16 wickets from 14 matches) has been the leading bowler for LSG and he would be skipper Krunal's go-to bowler. But it would also be important for the likes of Naveen-ul-Haq and Avesh Khan, besides Krunal himself and veteran Amit Mishra, to step up.

Root 'predicts' many more productive years for teammate Anderson

London, May 23 (PTI)

Former England Test skipper Joe Root has given teammate and the leading wicket-taking pacer in the world James Anderson a big reason to go all out in the upcoming Ashes series, saying he wants to see the veteran bowler go on performing for many more years.

Anderson, who is two months shy of turning 41, is just 15 wickets short of touching the 700-wicket mark, and the Ashes, commencing on June 16 at Birmingham, is a great opportunity for him to once again emerge as the hosts' leading bowler and guide the team to victory after their 0-4 drubbing in Australia two years back.

Root, who was the



England captain when the team toured Australia in 2021, posted a collage of five images of Anderson right from his early days with the England side in the 2000s to how he would look like two decades from now - all salt and pepper with a grey beard, a bespectacled wrinkled face, but still celebrating a Test wicket on the pitch.

"He keeps getting better and better. Can't wait for the next 20 @jimmy9," tweeted Root.

Australia's decision to not play warm-up games ahead of WTC final 'fraught with danger', says Border

Sydney, May 23 (PTI):

Questioning Australia's decision to not play any warm-up games ahead of the World Test Championship final against India and the Ashes series, former captain Allan Border said the move is "fraught with danger".

The WTC final is scheduled to be held at The Oval in London from June 7-11, following which Australia will take on arch-rivals England in the five-match Ashes from June 16 to July 31. The Australian team will prepare for the six Tests by undergoing a high-intensity training camp in Beckenham, featuring centre-wicket practice and net sessions. "I don't care how



hard you work in the nets, nothing replaces game time," Border told 'Fox Cricket'. "It just doesn't feel right not to play any cricket leading into an Ashes series. I just think that's fraught with danger..

there's something gnawing at me saying it's the wrong decision," he added.

The Indian team too won't play any warm-up game as the English County Championship is on and also the WTC being an ICC

event, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) is under no obligation to arrange practice matches for the visiting teams.

However, it will be the first time in Ashes history that the men from 'Down Under' won't face any local county sides before or during this winter's tour of England. Even before the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in India earlier this year, Australia had opted for simulation training instead of playing warm-up games.

The visitors had ended up losing the fixture 1-2.

"I'm really surprised we're just allowing the Ashes tour to be so condensed with no cricket between the games, but that's the way it is."

Former world No. 1 Halep accuses tennis integrity body of double standard

London, May 23 (PTI):

Former world No. 1 and two-time grand slam winner Simona Halep has accused the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) of double standards while dealing with the charge of irregularities it has levelled on her in connection with her Athlete Biological Passport (ABP).

The 31-year-old Romanian, winner of the French Open and Wimbledon singles titles, has been accused of a second doping offense by the ITIA for alleged discrepancies in her ABP.

The latest ITIA charge announced on Friday last is "separate and in addition to" the provisional



suspension Halep received last year after failing a drug test during the US Open, the ITIA said.

Halep alleged on Monday that while the ITIA was stating on one hand that it wanted to engage her in a timely manner, on the other, it was asking the tribunal to delay the hearing.

Alcaraz jumps Djokovic, returns to No. 1 in ATP rankings

Paris, May 23 (AP):

Carlos Alcaraz replaced Novak Djokovic at No. 1 in the ATP rankings, earning the top seeding at the French Open, and Daniil Medvedev's Italian Open title moved him up to No. 2 ahead of the year's second Grand Slam tournament.

Djokovic's loss in the fourth round as the defending champion in Rome dropped him to No. 3. That means he and Alcaraz could end up in the same half of the Roland Garros bracket and be set up for a potential semifinal showdown, depending on what happens in Thursday's draw in Paris. The French Open, which begins on



Sunday, will mark the first chance to be seeded No. 1 at a major tournament for Alcaraz, a Spaniard who turned 20 this month. He is 30-3 with four titles in 2023. Alcaraz ascended to the ATP's top spot for the first

time by winning the U.S. Open last September and, at 19, became the youngest man to finish a year there. But a leg injury kept him out of the Australian Open in January, when Djokovic won the title for his 22nd at

a Slam event, tying Rafael Nadal for the men's record.

Djokovic has spent more weeks at No. 1 than anyone man or woman in the history of the sport's computerized rankings.

Iga Swiatek, the defending champion in Paris, remained at No. 1 in the WTA rankings, which she has led for more than a year, followed by No. 2 Aryna Sabalenka, the Australian Open champion.

Swiatek stopped playing in the third set of her quarterfinal in Rome against reigning Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina because of a hurt right thigh. Swiatek said afterward the problem "shouldn't be anything serious."

Newcastle qualifies for Champions League for first time in 20 years

Newcastle, May 23 (AP):

Newcastle qualified for the first time in 20 years after drawing with Leicester 0-0 in the English Premier League, a milestone moment for a Saudi-controlled club with the resources and ambition to become a major force in European soccer.

The point ensured Newcastle cannot be denied a top-four finish heading into its final game of the season, at Chelsea on Sunday. Leicester's campaign-closing game has far more riding on it, with the



team still in the relegation zone and needing a win at home to West Ham to avoid falling into the second-tier Championship seven years after winning the Premier League at preseason odds

of 5,000-1 in a sporting fairytale. Newcastle swarmed all over Leicester at St. James' Park, hitting the post on three occasions through Callum Wilson, Miguel Almiron and Bruno

Guimaraes and forcing a series of saves from goalkeeper Daniel Iversen.

Still, it was job done for Newcastle, which was last in Europe's top club competition in 2003 when it reached the second group stage before finishing below Barcelona and Inter Milan. These are the types of European heavyweights Newcastle's players will be mixing with next season.

"We beat Juventus here 1-0 and I've seen that on DVDs to hopefully be a part of it and be involved in those nights is something special," Newcastle midfielder Sean Longstaff said.

Mamata assures support to Kejriwal in fight against Central ordinance

Kolkata, May 23 (PTI)

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday assured her counterpart from Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal, that her party would support him in his fight against the Central ordinance to control appointments and transfer of bureaucrats in that city state. After a nearly hour-long meeting here, Banerjee told newsmen that a forthcoming vote in Rajya Sabha on a bill to convert the central ordinance on control of services in Delhi into law, will be a "semi-final before the 2024 elections."

Kejriwal who came to Kolkata along with Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann as part of a nationwide tour to garner support for his fight also launched an attack against the BJP.

He alleged the saffron party "buys MLAs, uses CBI, ED to try to break" opposition governments, besides using Governors to disturb non-BJP governments such as "Bengal and Punjab". Banerjee told



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in a meeting with Delhi Chief Minister and AAP Convener Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, in Kolkata, Tuesday.

newsmen, "We support AAP in the fight against the Central ordinance...Request all parties not to vote for BJP's law (on controlling appointments in Delhi)".

She also said, "Request all parties not to vote for BJP's law (on controlling appointments in Delhi)... this (contest in the Parliament) will be a semi-final before the 2024 elections." The feisty TMC leader also quipped "The double engine (BJP rule in both state and centre) has

become a troubled engine." Kejriwal and Mann also turned the impromptu press conference held after the meeting of the two leaders, into an attack on the BJP and central government. The AAP leader and Delhi chief minister said "BJP has made a mockery of democracy where it cannot form a government, it buys MLAs, uses CBI, ED to try to break the government Governors to disturb non-BJP governments such as Bengal and Punjab".

The bone of contention between the AAP government and the BJP has been the Central government ordinance setting up a National Capital Civil Service Authority which overturned a Supreme Court order last week giving control of services, excluding those related to police, public order and land, to the elected government in Delhi. The new ordinance takes away these powers from the Delhi state government and gives them to a committee which would be effectively controlled by the Centre.

A central law has to be brought to replace the ordinance and opposition parties are hoping to stall that in the upper house or Rajya Sabha when it comes up for debate.

The AAP has already sought the support of all non-BJP parties saying this is a "time for agni pariksha" for opposition parties, and that they should come together if they want to save the country's democracy and Constitution.

SUMMER AFTERNOON



A flower vendor drinks water to quench his thirst on a hot summer afternoon, in Prayagraj, Tuesday.

Siddaramaiah will be CM for 5 years, says K'taka minister

Shivakumar points at Congress high command

Bengaluru, May 23 (PTI)

Karnataka Minister M B Patil's statement that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will complete full five years in office has created some flutter in the ruling Congress circles, as it came days after the government being sworn-in following marathon discussions in Delhi over who will lead the state.

Among the possible scenarios that did the rounds last week ahead of the government formation was "power sharing or rotational CM" formula to accommodate both Siddaramaiah and state

Congress chief and now deputy CM DK Shivakumar in the top post in turns.

Denying any proposed arrangement that Shivakumar will take over as CM after two-and-half years or post-2024 Lok Sabha polls, Patil on Monday said Siddaramaiah will lead the government for a full five year term.

Seemingly upset by the statement, Shivakumar did not want to react to Patil but said the party high command will take care of it. However, his brother and Bangalore Rural MP D K Suresh said he too can respond sharply to what Patil has said, but will not do so.

With both chief ministerial aspirants Siddaramaiah and

Shivakumar digging in their heels post Congress' victory in the May 10 Assembly polls, prolonged parleys involving the grand old party's central leadership had preceded their appointment as CM and deputy CM, respectively, last week.

There have been reports quoting party sources that the high command had put forward the proposal of rotational chief ministers to break the deadlock then.

"Siddaramaiah will be chief minister for five years. If there was power sharing or anything, our leadership would have told you (media). There is no such thing. As our AICC General Secretary has said things are continuing," Patil had told reporters in Mysuru on Monday, responding to a

question if Siddaramaiah will remain as CM for five years or is there a power sharing formula.

To a question on discussions over a change in CM after the 2024 Parliamentary polls and whether Shivakumar will be given a chance, Patil said, "If such things were there, our AICC General Secretary would have told you, when he did the press conference. He said there is no such thing."

On Tuesday, Patil sought to clarify that his statement before the media on May 22 was a reiteration of what AICC General Secretary K C Venugopal had told the press, soon after announcing the names of Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar to the two top posts on May 18. "When asked about

power sharing, he (Venugopal) had said there is no power sharing. Power sharing is with the people... I have said what Venugopal had said," he told reporters here.

On Patil's statement, Shivakumar said: "Let any one say anything they want. The AICC General Secretary is there, the Chief Minister is there and the AICC President (Mallikarjun Kharge) is there..." However, his brother Suresh openly expressed displeasure over Patil's statement. "Siddaramaiah is the chief minister; if you want more information and reply to M B Patil's statement, you can meet our AICC General Secretary Surjewala (Randeep Singh Surjewala) and gather information."

India working on small modular reactors: Jitendra Singh

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

India is working on new technologies such as the small modular reactors that can be factory-built and help make clean energy transition, Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh said here. Singh, in an interview to PTI, also said the government had opened up the nuclear power sector for joint ventures with public sector undertakings but not for the private sector. Small Modular Reactors (SMR), with up to 300 MW capacity are flexible in design and require a smaller footprint. Being mobile

and agile technology, SMR can be factory-built unlike the conventional nuclear reactors that are built on-site. A recent NITI Aayog report said, as many SMR designs were under various stages of research, development and licensing in different countries, global regulatory harmonisation, developing the manufacturing ecosystem and bringing in public as well as private capital would be the key for growth of the SMR industry. "We are already working on it. I think as times come, we have to move with the global world. SMR may become the order of the day. We are

open to these new technologies and we are also adapting to them very fast," Singh said.

The minister said for the first time, the Modi government had approved a proposal to build 10 nuclear reactors under "fleet mode". The state-run Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) builds and operates almost all of the atomic power plants in the country. In 2015, the government amended the Atomic Energy Act to enable joint ventures between the NPCIL and public sector companies to build nuclear power projects.

custody battle

'Girl child must be in mother's care while approaching puberty'

Indore, May 23 (PTI)

It is in a child's best interest to be in her mother's care while she approaches puberty so that her feelings and emotions can be better dealt with, a family court in Madhya Pradesh's Indore observed while granting the custody of a 10-year-old girl to her mother in a custody case.

Additional principal judge of the family court Praveena Vyas, in an order passed on April 25, observed that the girl is moving towards puberty, and in such a situation, it is in her

best interest to be in the custody of her mother for her all-round development and to understand her feelings.

The court further stated that the girl's father will be able to meet her on weekends and during special festivals and summer vacations for a specified period of time, subject to the mother's consent, said Jitendra Purohit, the counsel for the 46-year-old woman, on Tuesday.

The child's parents are gazetted officers of the state government and they got divorced in 2021, he said.

Rs 200 cr money laundering case

Delhi court allows Jacqueline Fernandez to travel abroad

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

A Delhi court on Tuesday allowed Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez, accused in a money laundering case also involving alleged conman Sukesh Chandrasekar, to travel abroad from May 25 to June 12.

Special Judge Shailendra Malik allowed the application moved by Fernandez claiming she needed to travel to Abu Dhabi from May 25 to May 27 to attend IIFA Awards.

The judge also allowed her to travel to Milan, Italy from May 28 to June 12 after the actress said she was required to participate in the shooting of a film. The court had on



November 15 last year granted bail to Fernandez, who is an accused in the case but was not arrested.

The ED had lodged the case based on an FIR filed by Delhi Police's Economic Offences Wing (EOW) against Chandrasekar, who has been accused of cheating

Huge quantities of explosives, fire crackers seized

Kolkata, May 23 (PTI) Police seized a huge quantity of explosives and banned firecrackers during raids in different locations in rural West Bengal and arrested at least 100 people for their alleged involvement in running illegal manufacturing factories, a senior state police official said on Tuesday.

A total 132 cases have been lodged by the police for the seizures, the official said. The raids started on Monday and continued in the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday in different places mainly in Nadia, North and South 24 Parganas districts, he said.

"So far we have seized nearly 34,000 kg of explosives and banned firecrackers and arrested at least 100 people for allegedly storing them and running their businesses. These arrests were made during last night's raids conducted at different districts mainly Nadia, South and North 24 Parganas," the official said.

The police of the various districts have been asked by the authorities to file reports on seizures of explosives and firecrackers and arrests to the state secretariat by May 29, he said. The raids were conducted in the backdrop of back-to-back incidents of

blasts at illegal firecracker manufacturing units in rural Bengal within a span of eight days.

At least 17 people died in Bengal in three incidents of blasts and a devastating fire at a godown in the state. The explosion at Egra in Purba Medinipur on May 16 claimed 12 lives, including that of the prime accused, while three members of a family succumbed in Budge Budge in South 24 Parganas on Monday and none in another blast at Dubrajpur in Birbhum district the same day. The fire at a carbide godown in Malda district on Tuesday killed two.

SC notice to Centre, Assam on plea to declare eco-sensitive zone around Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

The Supreme Court has asked the Centre and the Assam government to respond to a plea seeking directions to declare the area around Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary an eco-sensitive zone and remove all encroachments.

A three-judge bench of Justices B R Gavai, Vikram Nath and Sanjay Karol has issued notices to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the state government with regard to the wildlife sanctuary in Assam. "Issue notice, returnable on July 12, 2023. Liberty to serve the standing counsel for the State of Assam is granted," the bench said.

The top court was hear-

ing a plea filed by environmental activist Rohit Choudhury seeking directions to precisely demarcate the boundary of the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary without any further delay.

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BRIEF



Actor Akshay Kumar during his pilgrimage to the Kedarnath Temple, in Rudrapur district, Tuesday.

Boat capsizes

Ballia (UP): The death toll in the boat capsized at Maldepur Ghat here has risen to four with rescue teams fishing out the body of a youth from the Ganga river on Tuesday, officials said. Two boatmen have been arrested in connection with the incident, police said. Three women had drowned on Monday after the engine of the boat developed a snag and it overturned due to strong winds.

Man detained

Mumbai: Mumbai Police has received a threat to "blast" the city on their official Twitter handle and launched the investigation which led to the detention of a man from Nanded in Maharashtra, an official said on Tuesday. The tweet stating "I am going to blast Mumbai very soon" was posted by an unidentified person on Monday, the official said.

Illicit affair

Prakasam (AP): Two people allegedly died by suicide by jumping in front of a train near the Sydapuram railway gate in this district on Tuesday, police said. Police suspect that the man and woman (who were in their twenties), residents of Badveedu Cherlopalli village in the district, were closely related and having an extra-marital affair. Preliminary investigations revealed that the duo took the extreme step after their relationship came out in the open. The bodies were found on the railway track, police said and added that further investigation is on.

Constable dismissed

Nagpur: A police constable has been dismissed from service for taking an official car of a High Court judge for a joyride and crashing it into an electric pole, a senior official said here on Tuesday. Besides dismissing him, Nagpur police commissioner Amitesh Kumar also directed recovery of the car's repairs cost from the constable's pocket, he said. The constable, who had joined the police force in 2016, was posted on guard duty at the official bungalow of Justice Valmiki Sa Menezes of the Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court.

Weather
High 42 Low 27

MARKET
NIFTY 18,348.00
SENSEX 61,981.79

BULLION
GOLD 60,000
SILVER 72,080

'PM Modi is the boss'

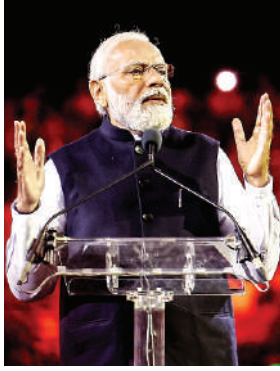
Sydney, May 23 (PTI):

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Tuesday described Narendra Modi as "the boss" and said his Indian counterpart was accorded a welcome that even American rock star Bruce Springsteen did not get while performing at the same venue here in 2017.

Prime Minister Modi was accorded a rousing welcome by thousands of Indians across Australia at a diaspora event at the Qudos Bank Arena here, one of the country's biggest indoor stadiums.

Albanese gave Modi a bear hug when the Indian prime minister arrived at the venue to address the audience before introducing him as someone who "gets a rock star reception wherever he goes".

"The last time I saw someone on this stage was Bruce Springsteen and he did not get the welcome that Prime Minister Modi has got.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the Indian community event, in Sydney, Tuesday.

Prime Minister Modi is the boss," he said at the event, referring to Springsteen's famous performance at the Qudos Bank Arena in 2017. Springsteen, 73, is known to his fans as the 'Boss'. Ahead of his bilateral meeting with Modi on Wednesday, Albanese said Australia and India are closer friends and partners than ever before.

"Welcome to Australia, Prime Minister @narendramodi," he tweeted.

'India will open consulate in Brisbane'

Sydney: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday announced that India will open a consulate in Brisbane to fulfil the long-pending demand by the diaspora. Modi made the announcement while addressing a packed Qudos Bank Arena here. The event was also attended by his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese. India currently has three consulates in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. Brisbane currently has an Honorary Consulate of India. "A new Indian Consulate will be opened soon in Brisbane," he said. "An absolute delight connecting with Indian diaspora at the community programme," Modi said at the event attended by more than 21,000 people from across Australia.

PM Modi, Aus counterpart jointly lay foundation stone of 'Little India'

Sydney: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart on Tuesday jointly laid the foundation stone of 'Little India' gateway to be built in Harris Park here as a symbol of the friendship between the two nations and to recognise the diaspora's immense contribution. Harris Park is a hub in Western Sydney where the Indian community celebrates festivals and events such as Diwali and Australia Day. "Recognising diaspora's role as a bridge between India & Australia. PM @narendramodijoin PM @AlboMP for the foundation stone laying ceremony of Little India Gateway to be built in Harris Park, Paramatta, Sydney, inhabited by a large Indian community," the Ministry of External Affairs tweeted.

dramodi," he tweeted.

In his brief remarks at the event in Sydney, he thanked his "dear friend" Modi for "bringing the spirit of the world's biggest democracy to Australia", saying he had helped "make our democ-

racy stronger and more inclusive." He described the cheering audience, made up mainly of members of the Australian-Indian community, as friends and said he was proud they had made Australia their home.

MRSAM successfully test-fired from INS Mormugao

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

The Indian Navy has successfully test-fired a Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) from its frontline guided missile destroyer INS Mormugao, officials said on Tuesday. It successfully carried out the engagement of a "sea-skimming supersonic target", they said. Sea skimming is a technique that many anti-ship missiles and some fighter or strike aircraft use to avoid radar or infrared detection.

"Indian Navy's latest indigenous guided missile destroyer INS Mormugao successfully carried out engagement of a sea-skimming supersonic target.

Ishita Kishore tops civil services exam

Garima Lohia, Uma Harathi N get 2nd and 3rd ranks: UPSC

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

Women bagged the top four ranks in the civil services examination 2022 with Delhi University graduate Ishita Kishore securing the first spot, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) announced on Tuesday.

Garima Lohia, Uma Harathi N and Smriti Mishra secured the second, third and fourth ranks respectively in the examination, results of which were declared on Tuesday.

Lohia and Mishra are graduates of the

Two-month-old cheetah cub dies in Kuno National Park

Bhopal, May 23 (PTI):

A cheetah cub, born at Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh two months back, died on Tuesday, the forest department said. The latest fatality took the death toll of cheetahs in KNP to four in the last two months, including three felines translocated from African countries.

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7 cases related to Gyanvapi dispute to be heard together: Varanasi court

Varanasi (UP), May 23 (PTI):

The Varanasi district court on Tuesday ordered that seven cases of the same nature related to the Gyanvapi dispute will be heard together.

District Judge AK Vishwesh, while exercising his special power, consolidated the cases, despite objections from the opposition, special advocate for Gyanvapi and Adi Vishweshwar cases Rajesh Mishra said. The district

judge, in his order, said if all these cases remain pending in different courts, there is a possibility that contradictory orders may be passed. Whereas if all these cases remain in one court, there will be no possibility of any contradictory judgment or order in all these cases, Mishra said. Citing Order 4A of the CPC, the judge said it has been provided that when two or more cases are pending in the same court and the court is of the opinion that it is in the interest of

justice, their joint hearing may be ordered, Mishra said. The judge said in his order that it would be in the interest of justice that all these cases be heard together, he said.

Advocate Mohammad Tohid Khan, who appeared for the Muslim side, opposed the hearing of all the seven cases together stressing that the issues related to Gyanvapi had not yet reached the stage that a decision should be taken to hear them together.

NIA declares Rs 10 lakh reward on info leading to arrest of Khalistani terrorist

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI):

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday announced a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on information leading to the arrest of a Khalistani terrorist wanted in a case of conspiracy to wage war against the country, an official said.

According to the NIA, Kashmir Singh Galwaddi alias "Balbir Singh", a resident of Ludhiana, is wanted in the case registered here on August 20 last year under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Unlawful Activities

(Prevention) Act, the official said. The case relates to the conspiracy hatched by the Khalistan Liberation Front, Babbar Khalsa International and the International Sikh Youth Federation to wage war against the country.

"Galwaddi is absconding and wanted in the NIA case (related to terrorist activities of proscribed terrorist organisations in various parts of the country). NIA has declared a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh against Galwaddi," a spokesperson of the federal agency said, releasing two pictures of the accused.

Chaos, confusion on first day of Rs 2,000 note exchange

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI):

Chaos and confusion were reported from several parts of Delhi on the first day of exchange of Rs 2,000 currency notes on Tuesday with people complaining that banks were instead asking to deposit them and also demanding identity proofs.

While the notes will still be considered legal tender, people have been instructed to either deposit existing Rs 2,000 notes in their bank accounts or exchange them at the banks.

The first day of the process saw long queues, disgruntled customers and growing concerns among elderly citizens. Though the exchange or deposit facility will be available till September 30, people rushed to the banks in significant



An employee counts Rs 2000 currency notes given by customers at a petrol pump in Ghaziabad, Tuesday.

numbers on the first day itself. The punishing heatwave sweeping through Delhi exacerbated the situation, making it particularly challenging for the elderly, who complained of having to wait for hours.

Tempers flared, and heated arguments erupted be-

tween the people and staff members at Punjab National Bank's Lajpat Nagar branch. "The authorities should have anticipated the immense inconvenience this would cause. Standing in this scorching heat is taking a toll on us, especially the elderly," Shivani Gupta

said while standing in a queue at the branch. People faced hurdles even when attempting to use Rs 2,000 notes at petrol pumps. Many people complained that while ATMs continue to dispense Rs 2,000 notes, fuel stations were refusing to accept them and seeking payment through online transactions. "I tried to refuel my car at the nearby petrol pump, but they refused to accept my Rs 2,000 notes. They insisted on digital transactions through mobile apps. This is a hassle for those of us who rely on cash for our daily transactions," a motorist alleged.

Several banks reportedly refused to exchange Rs 2,000 notes, directing customers to deposit them instead due to lower cash retention limits.

Three Indian peacekeepers to be honoured posthumously with prestigious UN medal

United Nations, May 23 (PTI):

Three Indian peacekeepers, who lost their lives serving under the UN flag last year, are among the 103 military, police, and civilian peacekeepers who will be honoured posthumously with a prestigious medal here for their service and supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

The three Indians include Border Security Force personnel Head Constables Shishupal Singh and Sanwala Ram Vishnoi, who served with the Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the

Congo, and Shaber Taher Ali, employed in a civilian capacity with the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq. They will be honoured with the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal at a solemn ceremony to be held at the UN headquarters on May 25.

India is currently the third largest contributor of uniformed personnel to UN Peacekeeping with more than 6,000 military and police personnel deployed to Abyei, the Central African Republic, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon, the Middle East, and Western Sahara. In his message honouring the extraordinary

contributions of UN peacekeepers to international peace and security, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said: "United Nations peacekeepers are the beating heart of our commitment to a more peaceful world. For 75 years, they have supported people and communities rocked by conflict and upheaval across the globe."

Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix said in his message that peacekeeping is a powerful example of how strong partnerships and collective political will can result in meaningful change.

DU: 3 colleges to adopt centre's four-year integrated teacher education programme

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

Three colleges of Delhi University will adopt the centre's four-year integrated teacher education programme from 2023-24 and will accept admission through entrance exams conducted by the National Testing Agency instead of the Common University Entrance Test (CUET), a senior varsity official informed on Tuesday.

Shyama Prasad Mukherji College for Women, Mata Sundari College for Women and Jesus and Mary College have been granted approval by National Council for

Teacher Education (NCTE) for offering Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) for the upcoming academic year.

Until now, these colleges were amongst the eight offering a unique Bachelor of Elementary Education (B.El.Ed.) programme. Meanwhile, Aditi Mahavidyalaya, Gargi College, Institute of Home Economics, Lady Shri Ram College for Women and Miranda House are hoping to offer the ITEP next year.

ITEP will be replacing B.El.Ed. programme, which was introduced in 1994. Delhi University was the

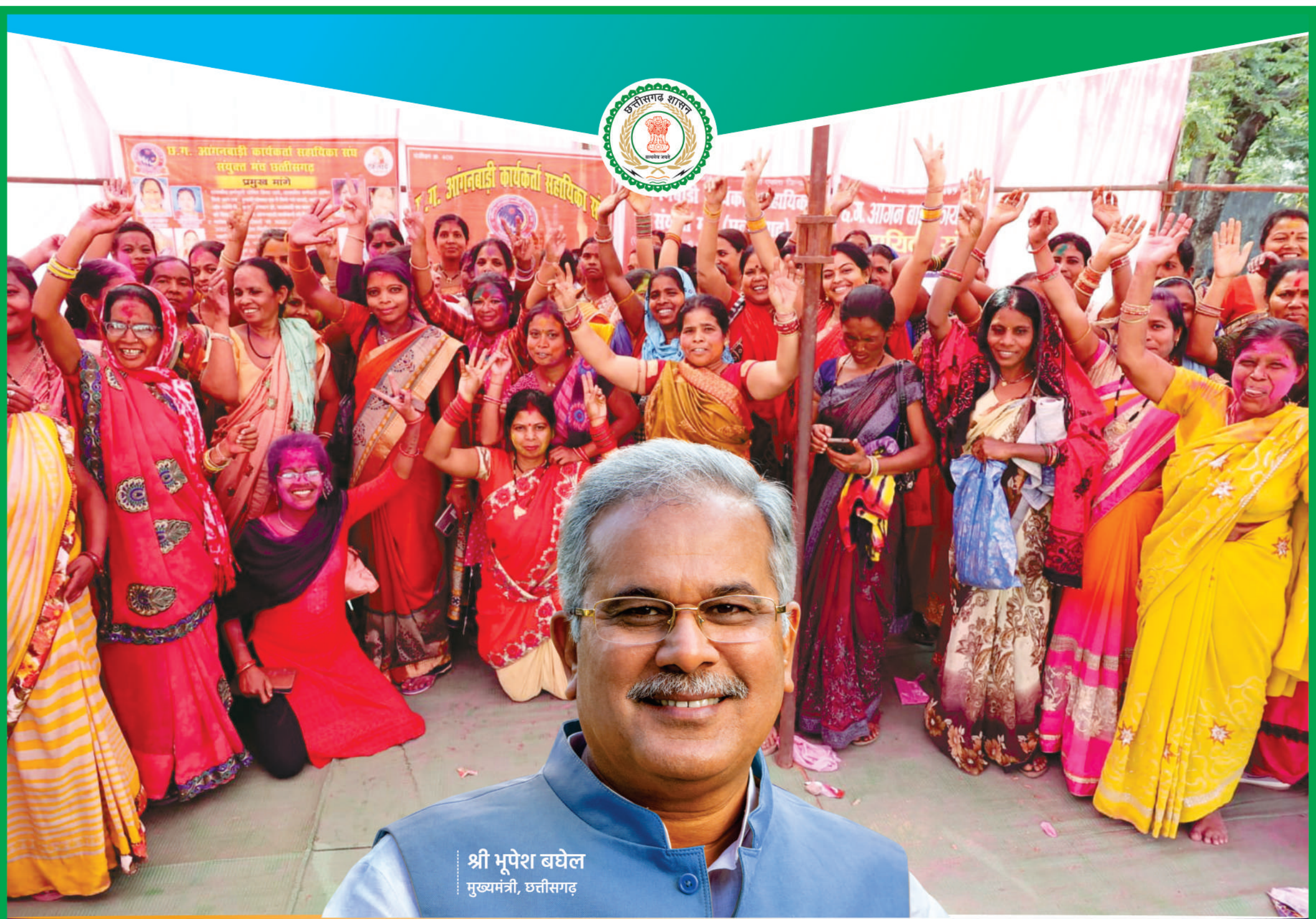
only varsity to have its own integrated four-year programme. Admission for the ITEP will be carried out by the National Testing Agency (NTA) through the NCET. Last year, the admission for B.El.Ed. was conducted through CUET.

ITEP is a flagship programme of the NCTE under NEP 2020. DU vice-chancellor Yogesh Singh on May 4 accorded approval to the implementation of the programme. Delhi University will hold an academic council meeting on Friday during which the varsity will discuss about the implementation of the ITEP. ITEP, as no-

tified on 26 October 2021, is a four-year dual-major holistic undergraduate degree offering B.A. B.Ed./ B. Sc. B. Ed. and B.Com. B.Ed.

This course will prepare teachers for the four stages of the new school structure - foundational, preparatory, middle and secondary (5+3+3+4).

"The design of the ITEP is based on the design of teacher preparation stated in the NEP 2020. It combines rigorous educational understanding, disciplinary depth and a strong focus on school practice while taking into account existing ground realities," the agenda read.



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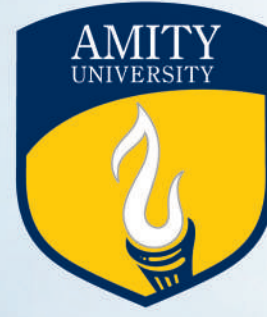
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Court extends 3 days ED's remand of AP Tripathi

● And two days for Trilok Singh Dhillon

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, May 23: The mastermind of the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam, an officer from the Indian Telecom Department and Special Secretary Excise Department Arun Pati Tripathi, liquor and hotel businessman Trilok Singh Dhillon alias Pappu Dhillon will remain in the ED's custody, as the Special Judge Ajay Singh Rajput has granted 3 days remand of AP Tripathi and two days remand of

Pappu Dhillon to ED. The advocates of both the accused strongly opposed it in the Court of Special Judge and after hearing into ED's version, the Court granted approval of remand for 3 and 2 days more for the two respectively.

It is notable here that ED has attached the property worth Rs 121.87 crore that of the IAS Anil Tuteja, businessman Anwar Dhebar, AP Tripathi, Arvind Singh and Vikas Agrawal and others for their alleged involvement in the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam in the state.

According to ED, there are total of 14 properties of IAS officer Anil Tuteja worth Rs 8.83 crore. In the same way Anwar Dhebar has 69 properties that has been attached and it is estimated to be around Rs 98.78 cr. ED in its authorised Twitter handle has even posted the photo of Wellington Hotel, owned by Anwar Dhebar. In addition to this there are 3 properties of Vikas Agrawal worth Rs 1.54 cr; 32 properties of Arvind Singh worth Rs 11.35 cr which has been attached. So far a total property worth Rs 180 cr has been attached.

UNEVEN ROADS



The digging for laying of pipeline and other has left the road uneven and posing threat to some accident during slipping of tyres.

Meeting of CSCPC to be presided by Food Minister Bhagat

Raipur, May 23: The first meeting of the Chhattisgarh State Consumer Protection Council has been organized on 26 May at 12 noon in the committee room S-2-12 at Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhawan. The Minister of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection, Mr. Amarjeet Bhagat, will preside over the meeting. Representatives of various departments, including the concerned departmental secretaries, Managing Director of the state electricity company, members of the Insurance Regulatory Authority of India in Chhattisgarh, Manager of Lead Bank, Director of the Department of Telecommunications, and the registrar of the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission will participate in the meeting.

Results of Ch'garh State Open School declared

For High School and Higher Secondary School Examination

Raipur, May 23: The results of High School and Higher Secondary School Certificate Examination of the Chhattisgarh State Open School were declared today. The pass percentage of high school was 54.09 and the pass percentage of higher secondary was 65.46. A total of 37 thousand 471 students were registered for the high school examination, out of which 34 thousand 161 candidates appeared. The result of 34 thousand 132 candidates was released, of which 18 thousand 465 have passed. The result of 29 candidates has been withheld due to various reasons. In the high school examinations, 4 thousand 13 students passed under first division, 7 thousand 320 students under the second division and 6 thousand 923 students under the third division. A total of 18 thousand 465 students

have passed. Similarly, 65 thousand 557 students were registered for the Higher Secondary Examination, out of which 62 thousand 51 candidates appeared. Results of 57 thousand 105 candidates were released today, of which 9 thousand 653 candidates passed under the first division, 15 thousand 180 candidates passed under the second division and 11 thousand 801 candidates passed under third division. A total of 37 thousand 383 students passed. 4 thousand 883 students appeared in the examination under the RTD scheme. The result of 63 candidates has been withheld due to various reasons. Students can check the results of the aforementioned examinations on the website <http://www.sos.cg.nic.in> and the unsuccessful students can submit the application form for the upcoming examination at their study center.

Fire breaks out in a bogie of Durg-Lucknow Garib Rath



Brought under control well on time Was standing in the platform No. 6 of Raipur Rly Station

Raipur, May 23: Fire broke out in the bogie No. G-4 of Durg-Lucknow Garib Rath standing in the platform No. 6 of the Raipur Railway Station due to some short-circuit. The fire was brought

under control and the bogie is being separated from the entire rake and the train was departed from the state with considerable delay. The railway officers reached the site on hearing about the news of fire breaking out in the bogie of this train and used the water pipelines nearby to douse the fire. It was brought under control on time and no casualty was reported till the writing of these lines.

Police seize Rs 41 lakh in Rs 20000 theft case!

IT and police re-starts investigation

Two mastermind in this case are absconding

Were planning to keep Rs 20-25 lakh, disclosing only Rs 45 lakhs before police

Police suspects it to be black-money

Bilaspur, May 23: The Bilaspur police has made a surprising revelation in the Rs 20000 and two gold chains theft which took place in city few days back. When the police nabbed the accused involved in this case, they were taken aback as they found cash worth Rs 45 lakh and gold ornaments in possession of the thieves. In this case the story does not ends here, as the thieves tried to befool the police and it was foiled, as the amount



was much higher than the police found and rest they were planning to manage otherway around. The police has seized cash of Rs 41 lakh and other jewelleryes from their possession. The case is that of Sarojini Sahu W/o Tulsiram (30) who is a house wife and lives in Abhishek Nagar Phase-1 of Civil Lines area of city. Filing a complaint in the thana, she informed that on Sunday she had been to the waterpark along with her husband and after some times she received a call from her neighbour that theft has taken place in their house. They immediately

came back and found the main lock of the door broken and cash of Rs 20000 and two gold chains were missing. When the Bilaspur police started investigation into the case, they found three different CCTV footages and after this the police found cash of Rs 45 lakh and gold jewelleryes. The police later called the complainant and she gave an offer to the police not to show all the jewelleryes found and instead they can keep the half with them along with some cash. On this the police again questioned the complainant as to

how much was the cash and gold ornaments and this led to start of Bollywood film story. The complainant informed that the total stolen cash amount is around Rs 65-70 lakh and jewellery. The police was taken aback, as they found only Rs 45 lakh and jewelleryes in possession of the accused. After this the police strongly interrogated the accused and they came to know that this was just the plan and the thieves were dummy and there are two other mastermind in this game, who chalked out this plan. Those who made this plan have either cleared this cash amount over some time or this money is that of black-money and therefore even if they were caught, then the police would have recovered only Rs 45 lakh and rest 20-25 lakh they would have distributed among themselves and need not give it to the police. In this case, the police and even the IT department is conducting investigation as to whose cash is this and from where the jewelleryes were stolen.

NSUI stages demonstration at Raipur railway station

Passengers upset due to frequent cancellation of trains

Raipur, May 23: Thousands of passengers traveling in the capital Raipur are facing inconvenience due to frequent cancellation of trains. Considering the problems of the passengers NSUI staged demonstration at Raipur railway station. NSUI leaders interacted with troubled passengers. The NSUI workers raised slogans against the central government for increasing ticket prices. NSUI leaders said that they will run a similar campaign for 7 days after the cancellation of trains. "Trains are being canceled continuously. Yesterday also the Railway Board canceled 8 trains. Even before this, the operation of trains has been affected continuously for a week.



Moreover many trains are running late' NSUI state president Neeraj Pandey said. He said that NSUI leaders and workers reached Raipur railway station today and interacted with the general public, knowing their problems. NSUI will stage protest for 7 consecutive days over cancellation and late running of trains, he said. Neeraj Pandey said that NSUI's

protest will continue till the trains are not operated on time and the trains which are getting canceled do not run on their scheduled time. NSUI, State President Neeraj Pandey, State Vice President Amit Sharma, Organization Incharge Hemant Pal, District President Rural Prashant Goswami, District President City Shantanu Jha, General

Secretary Akhtar Ali, Media Department Chairman Sankalp Mishra, Nikhil Vanjari, Monu Tiwari, Harsh Raj Sharma, Puneshwar Lahare, Gavesh Sahu, Anuj Shukla, Rajat Thakur, Prashant Chandrakar, Divyansh Srivastava, Sandeep Vishwakarma, Rupendra Jangde, Krish Sahare and others participated in the demonstration.

Singhdeo and team got information about EMR system at Australia

At Gold Coast University Hospital, Australia

Raipur, May 23: State Health and Medical Education Minister T.S. Singhdeo along with the Health Department team, which went on a study tour to Australia, on Tuesday held a detailed discussion with the officials of the Gold Coast University Hospital. The team visited Gold Coast University Hospital, one of the largest hospitals in Queensland, on May 20. The team that went on a study tour to Australia along with Health Minister Mr. Singhdeo includes Secretary, Health Department, Mr. Prasanna R., Director of Health Services, Mr. Bhim Singh, Director, National Health Mission, Mr. Bhoskar Vilas Sandipan and State Nodal Officer, Dr. Kamlesh Jain. The team on Tuesday met with officials



and experts at Gold Coast University Hospital to learn about the EMR (Electronic Medical Record) system developed and implemented there. The hospital officials made a presentation in front of the team. The experts there also gave a presentation on the robust IT system of the hospital which uses artificial intelligence and machine learning. This helps in planning for treatment and management of human resources along with forecasting of diseases and case load. The study team from the state was also shown the Virtual Hospital by the

Gold Coast University Hospital management, where patients can access all the health services they receive at the hospital from the comfort of their homes. After consultation, diagnosis and providing medicines by the virtual hospital, home access service is also provided by the staff nurse or concerned health worker where necessary. This saves patient time and increases efficiency by reducing patient pressure in the hospital. Virtual hospital service is used for critical patients. The health department team observed the state-of-the-art command and control system

of the hospital and understood its functioning. Its use has improved the efficiency of hospital management there and better health services are being provided to the patients. This system provides timely information about problems at low cost and helps in planning and solving them. The state team was also briefed about non-invasive neurosurgery and its benefits by the Gold Coast hospital management. The Health Department team, after detailed discussion with the experts there, has decided to take initiative for the possibility of partnership to implement it in Chhattisgarh. The team studied the functioning and arrangements of the hospital in the presence of Mr. Ron Calvert, Chief Executive Officer, Health Facilities at Gold Coast University, Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Executive Director and Mr. Prabhu Kannan, Senior Manager.

Cases received for regularization be scrutinised: Collector

Classifieds

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Chronicle



● 1555 unauthorised construction works regularised

Raipur, May 23: Collector Dr Sarveshwar Bhure today reviewed the unauthorized construction works in Raipur district and gave necessary instructions to the officers. He directed to present the land documents along with recommendations to the authorized officer after examining all the cases of regularization received. Similarly, the CMOs and sub-divisional officers of all the urban bodies of the district were asked to take regularization action within the time limit. He also asked the officials to give notice regarding regularization after taking information about the commercial and residential properties of all the wards of the zone. So

far 5841 unauthorized buildings or parts in Raipur Municipal Corporation have been regularized. Approval was given to regularize unauthorized constructions in 20 urban investment areas, 03 each in Tilda and Arang areas along with 104 cases in Birgaon Municipal Corporation area, apart from Raipur Municipal Corporation area. Approval was given for regularization considering the cases under the provisions of the Chhattisgarh Unauthorized Development Regularization Act. The meeting was attended by Municipal Commissioner Mayank Chaturvedi and Assistant Collector Jayant Nahata, Zone Commissioners of all zones of Raipur Municipal Corporation, Commissioner of Birgaon Municipal Corporation Kirtiman Rathore and other officials.

30 women farmer participated in International Dialogue

● On the role of Women Horticulture Farmers in Sustainable Agriculture at Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur

Raipur, May 23: Women are proving themselves in every field. Their work in horticulture is also being appreciated. Viewing their expertness in this field, The Existence organised an international dialogue on the role of Women Horticulture Farmers in Sustainable Agriculture at the Indira Gandhi Agricultural University. In this, 30 women farmers of the state were included. Parmanand Pandey, CEO of international company Jivagro and other members were



involved in the programme. West Africa Miss Agriculture 2019, Margaret Afrie from Ghana State and Dr Ashwini Falnkar, Post Doctoral Fellow SCAN Health from Toronto Canada also expressed their views in the function. 30 women horticulture farmers from Goinda, Nisda, Chaubebandha, Ravana, Limtra, Nardha, Gopalpur and Kampa shared their experiences. Venu from Goinda said, "Generally training has been given to male farmers but for the first time,

Existence and Jivagro thought of training for female farmers. We got a lot of information. Not only this, we have also been linked to a WhatsApp group in which solution to crop related problems will be found immediately. Kiran Verma, who came from Limtra, said, the method of caution, use and maintenance was explained at the time of spraying insecticide. Dr Bijiashree Satpathy, Founder and Director of Existence, said, "We have partnered with Jivagro to provide three sessions to around 350 women from eight villages of Arang, Mahasamund, Gariaband and Durg districts to provide information on health safety and product management, updated crop information and en-

trepreneurship development and financial independence. Four students of IGKV - Usha Patel, Shashikala Lakra, Dnyaneshwar Jaiswal and Gulshan Pandey also participated in the function. IGKV's cooperation was there for agriculture related knowledge and technical assistance.

OBITUARY

Pramod Dammani
Raipur: Pramod Dammani, R/o Geetanjali Nagar, Sector-1, breathed his last here on Tuesday. The final rites were performed in the Marwari Crematorium in the evening. He was brother of Vijay Kumar Dammani and father of Basant and Parikshit Dammani.

More than 10000 villagers benefitted

- From 'Swasthya Gram' project of Adani Foundation
- In Gram Salhi and Parsa of PKEB Open Mine Project of RRVUNL



going that treatment she has recovered fully and is now leading a normal life. On asking about the same, Hari Singh's wife said that the health facility by Adani Foundation is highly satisfactory and expressed happiness for the treatment offered. Under the health services programme of

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of Rajasthan Raja Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL), now it is possible to provide health services, necessary medical facility and timely diagnosis to the rural populace in the region. In around 15 villages of Gram Parsa, Salhi, Basen,



Ghatbarra, Janardanpur, Hariharpur, Fatehpur, and others from the opening project of Parsa East Kete Basen (PKEB), the Adani Foundation is not only provide door-to-door medical facility through mobile medical van, but is also offered health examination and distribution of medicines.

Rather it is also establishing health service centre with basic medical facility in the expansion of its services in Parsa and Salhi village. Not only this, under CSR, an Ambulance facility is also being provided, lased with all the facilities to handle any emergency situation.

Health projects started for 'Swasthya Grams'

The health condition of the villagers is very pitiable due to lack of health awareness and insufficient health services and traditional daily routine. RRVUNL under its CSR works in order to remove the hindrances faced in health services and to ensure participation of beneficiaries, has launched 'Swasthya Gram' project. Adani Foundation in order to positive effect of health services among people, has established and running health services centre, holding Rural Medical camps; specialty and multi-specialty health camps. With support of Adani Foundation, the local NGO Gram Udhmya are running both the health centres. In these centres the villagers are being provided free of cost treatment and medicines. With this they are getting positive contribution in community development. In the health centres by Adani Foundation, the patients are being provided with Allopathy, Ayurvedic and Homeopathic system of primary health treatment. Not only this in order to keep a track of record of patient's diseases, Swasthya card has also been distributed among the villagers in Salhi and Parsa. This helps in identifying the health background of the patients and provide them proper treatment.

Dr Rangnath of Health Service Centre in Gram Salhi informed that if this health centre would not have been there in Salhi, then the wife of Hari Singh (name changed) who was suffering from Typhoid would have to travel 22 kms to CHC Udaipur to get the treatment. In this he would have faced the trouble of travelling and on top of it the medical expenditure and mental pressure. But now she has completely recovered. Here not only the treatment, but even the medicine is provided free of cost to the patients.

And all this has been possible due to presence of Adani Foundation, which has taken up the initiative of provided health services to the door-steps of the rural patients and even provides Ambulance facility for emergency situation.

Central Chronicle News

Ambikapur, May 23:

The wife of a person named Hari Singh (name changed) living in Gram Salhi of Udaipur block of Ambikapur district, age 45, was suffering for long with headache and fever for last many days and feeling lot of weakness as well. On this Hari Singh took him to the health facility centre of Adani Foundation in Salhi. Here Dre Rangnath Upadhyay offered him treatment and on under-

SP conducts inspection of Nandini Thana



Central Chronicle News

Nandini-Ahirwara, May 23:

SP Durg Dr Abhishek Pallav conducted inspection of Nandini Thana on Tuesday and during this he closely checked different cases registered in the thana and got acquainted with the grievances of the police staff.

SP also inspected the 'Malkhana', 'Hawalat', and thana premises and its cleaning. SP Pallav took information about the thana and its working from the TI Rajesh Mishra. SP directed to update the diary and intensify police vigil and patrolling to put a check on crime. He also saw the crime

graph of Nandini Police station. In view of the cases of the Court, he asked to sort it out soon and ensure arrest of the accused in the crimes at the earliest. During this inspection Addl. SP (Rural) Anant Sahu, IPS Prabhat Kumar and entire staff of Nandini Thana were present.

- Due to lack of cleaning by the Panchayat admn

Central Chronicle News

Churrikala, May 23:

With drain water coming on the streets of School lane going to the Bus Stand, near the ward No.7 Water ATM, turns into muddy terrain and both the Panchayat administration and representatives are not paying any attention for its cleaning.

Due to awful odor, it has become difficult for the shopkeeper and nearby residents even to come out on the street and the in-

sects from the drains are creeping into nearby houses as well.

Under the GoI Swachhata Mission, sanitation campaign has been launched at many places and due stress is on the cleaning.

But the Panchayat administration and the local public representatives are least bothered about it, as majority of the drains in the city are clogged and the drain water turning stale is emitting awful odor. Cleaning it appears is only on papers and mere formality is done in the name of cleaning drains.

A drainage has been constructed in front of the



ward No. 7 Primary School to Water ATM and Passenger waiting room by the Nagar Panchayat. But due to lack of cleaning of this drain, the entire drain water is overflowing on the streets, posing problems to the pedestrians and nearby residents and shopkeepers.

It is learnt that the School's lane and the drainage has been so far constructed three times and without maintaining proper flow of the drain, the water is not flowing out on its own. On top of it with drains being packed with foreign materials and waste, it has become clogged and due to which

stale water is overflowing from the drains and coming onto the streets.

Though the Panchayat has got sufficient number of sanitary employees and supervisors, but the sanitary workers do cleaning only at one or two places and then leave without cleaning in other wards.

In the same way, there is no proper cleaning the next day in the 'Haat Bazars' held once every week in the city and due to which it becomes simply uncomfortable to walk or pass from the lane during this peak of summer season with awful odor coming out from throw and waste vegetables.

Santosh Banjare appointed 'Jila Mahant'



Nandini-Ahirwara, May 23:

The President of Ahirwara Vidhan Sabha Santosh Samaj Santosh Banjare has been appointed as 'Jila Mahant' by the President of Bharatiya Satnami Samaj and owner of Telasipuri Dhaam Trust Guru Gosai Guru Aasamdas. Santosh Banjare is expected to work as per the policies and rules of Satnami Samaj and for its upliftment.

Meeting of Satnami Samaj held



Central Chronicle News

Nandini-Ahirwara, May 23:

A meeting of chief of office bearers of Satnami Samaj was held in Gram Rampur under Ahirwara VS area here on Tuesday.

In this President of Satnami Samaj and District 'Mahant' Santosh Banjare, V-P Jagrut Banjare, Treasurer-Sadai Bandhe, general secy. Chunnulal Banjare, Secretary Rakesh Kurre

were present. In this meeting discussions were held in context of social unity, mutual brotherhood and taking the Samaj towards Education and about its development.

Upasana selected for Eklavya Residential School



Central Chronicle News

Kareli Badi, May 23:

Eklavya Residential School selection test results have been announced, in which Upasana Dhruv's D/o Rupsing Dhruv from P.S. Kundel has secured first position in the district by scoring 75% marks.

She has also been selected for Jawahar Utkarsh Vidyalaya. The girl has been meritorious in the field of studies since the beginning. The hard work and devotion on part of Jitendra Pal and other teachers' has paid off and the result was good. Family members, teach-

ers and committee members said Upasana has

brought laurels the school and the village. Upasana is

the niece of Sarpanch Phageshwari Dhruv.

Collector gives patient hearing to grievances of villagers

- In Janchaupal organised under shade of a tree

Central Chronicle News

Jagdarpur, May 23:

Collector Vijay Dayaram K. Planted a Chaupal under the shade of a tree at Rautpara in Lalaguda village of Bastanar development block. In Chaupal, the Collector took stock of the problems of the village and the ground reality of the implementation of the schemes for the villagers. Collector was accorded warm welcome on his arrival in the village by the villagers and he interacted directly with the villagers, pointing out the similarities between the local dialect and the dialect of his home state of Karnataka. He sat on the ground with the villagers and discussed their problems and demands. The Collector said that employment opportunities are available at the village level. And the villagers



no longer need to go to other states in search of employment. The women of our village are getting employment opportunities through self-help groups and doing economic development. The youth and men of the village should also get employment opportunities by taking advantage of the schemes of the government. He took information about timely payment of pension amount from villagers, making of ration cards and the status of ration material being received from fair price shops, employment opportunities under MN-REGA, health facilities, Ayushman card making, registration under

Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, production of Kodo, Kutki, Kosra, Kulthi under Millet Mission, planting other crops instead of paddy, incentive amount given by the government to Gaita, Pujari, Sirhaguniya, status of forest produce collection and sale, operation of Chief Minister's Haat Bazar Clinic and took information about the status of vaccination from the villagers. Collector directed the officer of the Public Health Engineering Department to solve the problem of drinking water in the village at the earliest. Based on the demand of the villagers, instructions were

given to take necessary action for distribution of forest rights lease and also to check the payment of amount under Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana.

Collector had lunch with the villagers

Jagdarpur: After the chaupal in Lalaguda, Collector Vijay had lunch with the villagers sitting in the 'pangat'. Local delicacies were served on Dona-Pattal to the villagers including the Collector. On this occasion, Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat Prakash Survey, SDM Tokapal Rituraj Bisen, District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer of Tokapal Virendra Bahadur, Tehsildar Madhukar Sirmour, Naib Tehsildar Ashish APO MNREGA Pawan Singh, along with officers of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Food Department Block officers were present.

CHANGE OF NAME

IT IS INFORMED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT I AMIT KUMAR JHA S/O NAGENDRA CHANDRA JHA RESIDENT OF HNO R-13, RAMA LIFE CITY, PHASE III, SADAKPARA, SAKRI, BILASPUR (C.G.) 495003 HAVE CHANGED MY OLD NAME AMIT KUMAR JHA S/O NAGENDRA CHANDRA JHA IN ALL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS. AMIT JHA HNO R-13, RAMA LIFE CITY, PHASE III SADAKPARA, SAKRI, BILASPUR (C.G.) 495003

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
 Corporate Office: 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400069, Maharashtra
 Bilaspur Branch : 1st Floor Krishna Sonchatra Compound Near Rnt Squire Tarbahar Road Bilaspur-495004,(CG).
 Authorised Officer : Salyanand Pandey, Mob..- 9981504545

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE

Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited under the **Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002** for the recovery of amount due from borrower/s, offers are invited by the undersigned in sealed covers for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis', Particulars of which are given below:-

S. No.	Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (RP)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)
1	(App. No. 00048024/ Bilaspur Branch) Narendra Pal Dahare (Borrower), Meena Dahare (Co-Borrower)	07-12-2017 ₹ 7,25,565/-	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, Mouja Kirari Ph No 25 Gram-Kirari Kh No 82 Kh No 418/31 Tehsil Masturi Bilaspur Chhattisgarh 495551, Boundaries: East: House of Vijay Kumar, West: House of Premnays, North: Road, South: Land of Kaushalya Bai	₹ 6,45,150/- (Six Lacs Forty Five Thousand One Hundred Fifty Only)	₹ 64,515/- (Sixty Four Thousand Five Hundred Fifteen Only)
2	(Loan Code No. 0100000695/ Bilaspur Branch) Late. Bhupendra Kumar Koshale (Represented Through the Legal Heir) (Borrower), Rukmini Devi Khoshley (Co-Borrower)	11-07-2022 ₹ 12,71,041/-	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, Mauja Ameri Ph No 26 Ameri Sheet No. 2 19 Plot No Near Sai Anandam Marriage Garden Geeta Palce Kh No 22 74 Part, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, 495001, Boundaries: East: Remaining Seller of land, West: Gore Singh, North: Road, South: Drainage	₹ 9,28,200/- (Nine Lacs Twenty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Only)	₹ 92,820/- (Ninety Two Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Only)
3	(Loan Code No. 01000001151/ Bilaspur Branch) Bhoopendra Kumar Devangan (Borrower), Sunita Dewangan (Co-Borrower)	13-06-2022 ₹ 7,73,232/-	All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing, Kh No 233 1 Part Ameri Ph No 43 Kh No 233 1 Part RRNM Sakri, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, 495006, Boundaries: East: Land of Patle, West: Seller's Remaining Land, North: Road, South: Land of Durga	₹ 6,04,000/- (Six Lacs Four Thousand Only)	₹ 60,400/- (Sixty Thousand Four Hundred Only)

- (1) Last Date of Submission of Sealed Bid/Offer in the prescribed tender forms along with EMD and KYC is 07-06-2023 within 5:00 PM at the Branch Office address mentioned herein above. Tenders that are not filled up or tenders received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.
 - (2) Date of Opening of the Bid/Offer (Auction Date) for Property is 08-06-2023 at the above mentioned branch office address at 3:00 PM. The tender will be opened in the presence of the Authorised Officer.
 - (3) The notice is hereby given to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s, to remain present personally at the time of sale and they can bring the intending buyers/purchasers for purchasing the immovable property as described herein above, as per the particulars of Terms and Conditions of Sale.
 - (4) This is 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002 is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the above described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and to the amount due to Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd., in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped.
 - (5) The immovable property will be sold to the highest tenderer. However, the Authorised Officer reserves the absolute discretion to allow inter se bidding, if deemed necessary. The Property as mentioned will not be sold below Reserve Price.
 - (6) AHFL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the property as mentioned above. The Property shall be auctioned on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis'.
 - (7) The Demand Draft Should be made in favor of 'Aadhar Housing Finance Limited' Only.
 - (8) The detail terms and conditions of the auction sale are incorporated in the prescribed tender form. Tender forms are available at the above mentioned Branch office. Authorised officer reserve the rights to extend the date of tender or change the terms & conditions of bidding. For further details & other terms & conditions of bidding please visit our branch and website : www.aadharhousing.com
For further details, contact the Authorised Officer, at the abovementioned Office address.
- Place : Chhattisgarh
Date : 24-05-2023
- Sd/- Authorised Officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

Villagers demand removal of electric poles from pond in Semaria

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: An application in public interest was submitted at Collector Jandarshan on Monday. Sarpanch of village Semaria submitted an application seeking removal of the electric poles from the Bandha Talab of the village. The Sarpanch said that the villagers use this pond for their daily chores. JK Lakshmi Cement Company provides water to this pond round the year through pipelines. The villagers are worried about the presence of electric poles in the pond. The electric poles in water bodies can be dangerous for the people.



The villagers demanded that these electric poles should be removed from the pond before the arrival of monsoon. The application was forwarded to the concerned officer of the Electricity Department.

In another application received in Jandarshan, a

resident of Rajendra Vihar sought refund of the security deposit amount of temporary electricity connection. The applicant said that he visited the Electricity Department

several times in the last

one year to get the refund of security deposit.

He said that he had applied for a temporary connection in July 2021 on the occasion of house warming in his new house and got a permanent connec-

tion from the Electricity Department after about 7 months.

After getting the permanent connection, he applied several times to the department for refund of the security deposit or to make an adjustment of the deposited amount. He has submitted the documents sought by the department, but his problem was not resolved.

His application was forwarded to the concerned officer of the Electricity Department with instructions to return the security deposit as soon as possible. A total of 185 applications were received in Collector Jandarshan, which have been sent to the concerned departments for quick action.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: Public Relations Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, in association with the Town Services Department is organizing a three-day solo exhibition of paintings made by Indu Chatterjee, under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' initiative at Nehru Art Gallery, Indira Place (Civic Center).



The exhibition will be inaugurated by S Mukhopadhyay, ED (Projects) with Additional Charge of (P&A) on May 25, 2022 in the evening. Indu Chatterjee, a social worker and artist, is the founder of 'Ishmaa', an organization engaged in various social works for the

past 20 years. After her retirement from the Bank, she again took up painting to pursue her hobby. Her solo painting exhibitions have also been exhibited a few times at the Raipur Airport in the past. Chatterjee said that the responses given by art lovers encourage her a lot. Indu Chatterjee's name has also

been recorded in the Limca Book for the world's largest Rangoli. Besides working as a counsellor in women's cell of the Central Jail, she has trained the women inmates in various subjects. Chatterjee has also worked for the health and education of the children of Raipur Railway Station.

Chatterjee has been felicitated by Shekhar Dutt, the then Governor of the state and Chief Minister Raman Singh in 2010 under the aegis of Chhattisgarh State Women's Commission Raipur. This three-day painting exhibition will be open to public during May 25-27, 2023 from 17:30 hrs to 20:30 hrs.

Employees of URM felicitated with Pali and Karm Shiromani Awards

Central Chronicle News



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: Employees of Universal Rail Mill of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant were felicitated with 'Pali Shiromani' and 'Karm Shiromani' Awards for their exemplary work performance under the 'Shiromani Puraskar Yojana' of Bhilai Steel Plant. The Award Ceremony was organized on May 20, 2023. Anish Sengupta, CGM (URM) was the chief guest of the Award Ceremony.

Nageshwar Rao, Manager was awarded 'Pali Shiromani Award.' 'Karm

Shiromani Award' winners included Arvind Kumar Bharti, MOCT and Rajesh Deshmukh, Chief MOCT.

Chief Guest Sengupta felicitated the awardees with Mementos and Certificates along with Letter of Appreciation and Gift Voucher of Sweets for their respective spouses. The awardees were appreciated for their achievements and contributions at workplace.

Present during the programme were the General Managers of URM, Rahul Srivastav, Elias Ahmed, Rajat Mukherjee, Pankaj Kuril, Santosh Oswal,

Vishal Gupta and other officers and personnel of URM.

The main objective behind felicitating employees with Karm Shiromani and Pali Shiromani Award is to acknowledge and honour them for their sincere efforts and hard-work at the workplace to help meet the organizational objectives while adhering to standard parameters of safety. The programme was conducted by Narendra Ingle, Senior Manager (Personnel).

Jasbir Singh, Additional Labour Welfare Officer also contributed in making the program successful.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: BJP corporators have announced agitation on May 24, 2023 to register protest against shortage of potable water in the city. An important meeting of BJP corporators was conducted in the BJP office on Tuesday in the presence of District BJP President Jitendra Verma and under the chair of Leader of Opposition Ajay Verma.

The meeting discussed that due to the corrupt policies of MLA Durg (Urban) Arun Vora and Durg Mayor Dheeraj Bakliwal, people in the city are facing acute water crisis. Therefore, accompanied by the people of the city a vigorous demonstration "Halla Bol" will be organised on May 24, 2023 at 12 noon.

On this occasion District BJP General Secretary Surendra Kaushik, Former Speaker Dinesh Dewangan,

DMC: BJP corporators to stage 'halla bol' today against water crisis



Dr Devnarayan Tandri, Senior Councilor Gayatri Sahu, Devnarayan Chandrakar, Narendra Banjare, Chandrashekhar Chandrakar, Kashiram Kosre, Arun Singh, Naresh Tejwani, Omprakash Sen, Manish Sahu, Ajit Vaidya, Chameli Sahu, Leena Dinesh Dewangan, Kavita Tandri, Shashi Sahu, Pushpa Gulab Verma, Kumari Sahu, Hema Sharma, Yogendra Sahu, Rakesh Sahu, Jagdish Sharma were present.

District BJP President Jitendra Verma while addressing all the corporators said that the people of the

city residing under Durg Corporation, are yearning for basic facilities. The Congress government has not been able to fulfill even the needs like water and electricity, and this problem is bigger in Durg area as the MLA and the Mayor are completely inactive.

Therefore, all the corporators of the BJP should unite against the problems of the city and raise a strong voice against the MLA and Mayor duo, so that the people of the city become aware of their inefficiency. Opposition leader Ajay Verma said that the capacity of all four motor

pumps of Sheonath river intake well has exhausted way back due to which the 42 MLD filter plant is not getting enough water to fill the water tanks and as a result there is not enough pressure in taps.

To get rid of this problem, four motors had to be replaced which amounts to a cost of Rs 1 crore 60 lakhs. As this has not been done, the people of the city are now suffering in the scorching heat for water and are wandering. Full responsibility for this lies with MLA Arun Vora and Mayor Dhiraj Bakliwal who could not arrange new motor

pump in time and people are wandering door to door for water.

BJP will not sit silent and agitate for the people. Former Chairman Dinesh Dewangan said that the problem of water has worsened in many wards and added it is unfortunate for the people that even after giving an amount of 153 crores under the Amrit Mission by the Central Government, the corrupt policies of the Congress-ruled Corporation Council and under the patronage of MLA Arun Vora, the whole plan has collapsed here and people are not even getting drinking water.

In many wards, discrimination is also being done in distribution of water. In Mathpara ward, Rajiv Nagar ward, Gaya Nagar, Ram Nagar, Vijay Nagar, Shakti Nagar, Kutchery Ward, Raipur Naka Borsi, people are yearning for drinking water.

Police Beat Box inaugurated at Dabrapara Triangle

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: Dabrapara Triangle on National Highway has been identified as black spot where 9 people have died and 10 people were seriously injured in 14 road accidents in the last 3 years. Few days ago, hydraulic jacks and other construction material was stolen from the flyover construction site in Dabrapara.

In order to reduce the accidents, to take strict action against those who do not follow the traffic rules as well as in order to curb such crimes in future, SP Dr Abhishek Pallava had instructed the construction agency to install CCTV cameras and construct a tempo-



rary police beat box to ensure 24-hour police presence. The construction company has constructed a temporary police beat box and installed CCTV cameras in the entire area. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava inaugurated the beat box and the CCTV cameras on Monday.

Chief Guest Dr Abhishek

Pallava was welcomed by Deputy Superintendent of Police (Crime) Rajeev Sharma, Councillor Tulsi Dhruv and Piyush of Royal Infra. SP said that the 24-hour presence of police in Dabrapara Triangle will definitely improve the traffic system as well as curb the illegal activities. After the in-

auguration program, SP led a traffic checking drive and instructed the two wheeler riders to wear helmets and four wheeler drivers to wear seat belts.

Additional Superintendent of Police (Rural) Anant Sahu, City Superintendent of Police (Durg) Prabhat Kumar, Deputy Superintendent of Police (Crime) Rajeev Sharma, City Superintendent of Police (Chhawani) Manish Banchor, DSP (Traffic) Satish Thakur, traffic zone in-charge Anish Sarathi, traffic zone in-charge Bodhiram Ghrirhe, Inspector Navi Monica Pandey, Inspector Virendra Srivastava, Inspector Manish Sharma, transporters and locals were present.

10000 health card holders of NTPC to get cashless facility at Sparsh Hospital

Bhilai, May 23: Sparsh Multi-speciality Hospital Bhilai has signed an agreement with NTPC as part of its corporate expansion. With this agreement, cashless treatment will be provided to NTPC employees and their dependent family members living in Chhattisgarh.

The card holder will have to bring only the health card. In the last 10 years, Sparsh Hospital is the only hospital of the region which is providing all facilities and best service to its patients.

The hospital has Department of Cardiology, Department of Cancer Surgery, Department of Gastroenterology,



Department of Neuroscience, Department of Orthopedics and Rheumatology, Department of Renal Disease, Department of Urology, Department of

Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Laparoscopy and General Surgery as well as Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care.

The team of more than

40 experienced doctors is ready for 24 hours service. To serve patients coming from urban as well as remote forest areas, the hospital has tied up with more than 36 health insurance companies for the convenience of the patients.

The employees of all central and state government departments are treated at CGHS rate. Cashless treatment facility is also available for Railway Raipur Zone, Railway Nagpur Zone, Food Corporation of India, Hindustan Copper Limited, Power Grid Corporation, NSPCL and other major government non-government institutions.

Bhilai Steel Plant organises free Medical camp at Village Patora

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, conducts several public welfare activities as part of its organizational social responsibility towards the community in and around its areas of operations.

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department of the plant organized a one-day free Health Camp, which started at 10:00 hrs on May 23, 2023 at Village Patora.

The expert medical team from CSR department, comprising health experts, Dr. Isha Kujur, Pharmacist, Shri. Khilawan Kumbhkar, Smt.



Rekha Dev for Blood-sugar and BP examination, Shri. Shambhu for registration volunteered their services for the camp. Shri A.K. Soni, CSR Assistant, from the department and Village Sarpanch Smt. Anjita Gopesh was also

present during the Health Camp. A total of 26 villagers from Village Patora, including 16 men, 09 women and 01 child availed health services at the day long Health Camp and free medicines were distributed to them.

DISHA meeting emphasises on social security

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 23: A meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) was held in the District Panchayat meeting hall. MP Vijay Baghel chaired this meeting. Department-wise review of central schemes was done in the meeting. The status of road repair, drinking water, health, education and social security pension etc was reviewed and guidelines were given to complete the remaining works in a planned manner.

Baghel asked the departments to focus on schemes related to social security so that weaker sections get better opportunities and inclusive growth is promoted. In order to ensure that the amount of social security pension is paid on time, he said that the concerned officers



should coordinate with the bank management. Apart from this, where basic facilities like banks are not available, he instructed the officers to ensure payment through Bank Sakshis.

Baghel gave special instructions to the Chief Medical and Health Officer regarding health sector related management so that the people of the district get the best health services. He asked to ensure availability of doctors, adequate stock of

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana, National Social Assistance Program, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission, National Rural Drinking Water Program, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Digital India, Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana etc.

The members of the committee gave suggestions for the implementation of public welfare schemes and to benefit more and more people. District Panchayat CEO Ashwini Dewangan gave detailed information about the status of implementation of departmental schemes in the district. Durg MLA Arun Vora, District Panchayat President Pushpa Yadav and other public representatives, members of DISHA Committee and other officers were present.

OBITUARY

Pt Atindra Narayan Tiwari

Bhilai: Retired Joint Director of Education Department, Pt Atindra Narayan Tiwari left for heavenly abode at the age of 86 years. Funeral procession will be taken out from his residence situated at Subhash Nagar, Kasaridih on May 24 around 10:00 hrs and last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at Sheonath Muktidham. He was the father of Anjani Kumar Tiwari, BJP leader Ajay Tiwari, Abhay Tiwari and Amit Tiwari.

Radio is most effective medium amidst geographical diversities: Guv

Inaugurates news bulletin in Gondi dialect from All India Radio



Raipur, May 23: Governor Bishwabhusan Harichandan virtually inaugurated the weekly news bulletin in Gondi, the main dialect of the tribal community of Chhattisgarh, from Raj Bhavan. Speaking on the occasion, he said that radio remains the most effective medium in the state of Chhattisgarh which has geographical diversities. At the inauguration ceremony, the Governor said that All India Radio is broadcasting news bulletins in

Hindi and Chhattisgarhi languages across the state. After 'Halbi' dialect, the telecast of weekly news bulletin in 'Gondi' dialect is being started from today. Now not only will you get to hear the news of the country and the world in Gondi dialect, but you will also get information about the schemes and steps being taken by the government in the interest of the general public.

Gaurav Dwivedi, Chief Executive Officer, Prasar Bharati addressed the pro-

gram through video conferencing. This weekly news bulletin in Gondi dialect will be broadcast from Akashvani Kendra at Jagdalpur every Sunday from 6.30 pm on medium wave at 756 KHz frequency. This bulletin can be heard in all the 7 districts of Bastar division. On this occasion, Mr. Amrit Khalkhon, Secretary to the Governor, Mr. Deepak Agarwal, Deputy Secretary, and officers of various units of Prasar Bharati were present.

Consolidated measures are being taken: Akbar

For conservation and promotion of biodiversity in Ch'garh Awards announced in various categories for biodiversity conservation



Raipur, May 23: On the occasion of International Biodiversity Day i.e. on 22 May 2023, Chhattisgarh State Biodiversity Board organized a program at Aranya Bhawan, Nava Raipur. Forest and Climate Change Minister Mr. Mohammad Akbar attended the program as Chief Guest of the occasion. This year's theme for the International Day for Biodiversity was 'Rebuilding Biodiversity from Agreement to Implementation'. On this occasion, Chairman of State Biodiversity Board Rakesh Chaturvedi, Principal Secretary (Forest) Manoj Pingua, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests V. Srinivasa Rao, Member Secretary Arun Kumar Pandey and a large number of Biodiversity Awardees were present.

the program and the awards were bestowed upon the selected institutions and individuals at hands of Forest Minister Mr. Akbar. These include Biodiversity Management Committee Dhamni Balodabazar, Shivkumar Chandravanshi from village Koko, Maa Roopai Eco Club Kasekera Mahasamund Dr. Jasmeet Singh Assistant Professor Kamdhenu University Durg, People for Animal Wildlife Trust of India, Conservation Corps Society Bilaspur, Virendra Singh Green Commando District Balod, Dr. Vishwanath Panigrahi Bagbahra, Anup Ranjan Pandey, Rajwade village Sonpurkurd were given prizes in different categories. On this occasion, Member Secretary Arun Kumar Pandey. The book 'Biodiversity of Chhattisgarh' prepared by

Scientist M.L. Nayak, Dr. R.P. Mishra was also released by the Forest Minister. Moreover, Chief Guest also distributed prizes to the winners of the online essay, poster and slogan competitions organized for school and college students to create awareness on biodiversity. Addressing the program, Forest Minister Akbar said that Chhattisgarh is rich in biodiversity. Several steps have been taken by the state government for the conservation and promotion of biodiversity here. He laid special emphasis on the need to start a public awareness campaign for conservation and promotion of biodiversity in the state and to speed it up. He further said that the state government is taking consolidated measures towards activating the Biodiversity Committees

in the state. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests V.K. Srinivasa Rao, Chairman Biodiversity Board Rakesh Chaturvedi, Principal Secretary (Forest) Manoj Pingua was also addressed the program. At the onset of the program, Arun Kumar Pandey, Member Secretary, Biodiversity Board gave a brief presentation on the activities of the Board. During the presentation, the Member Secretary informed that about 12000 PBRs (Public Biodiversity Register) have been set up by the Board in the state. Against the given target of preparing PBR, 8382 PBRs have been prepared. The work of making a bird interpretation and awareness center in Gidhwa Parsada area, which will also function as a bird safari in future, is also in progress. The design of the

proposed Bird Safari building was also presented by the member secretary. The Member Secretary informed that the work of conservation of selected wetlands has also started in the state. In the previous year, State Government declared the office of the Biodiversity Board as the secretariat of the newly formed Chhattisgarh Wetland Authority. Nature Trail, Biodiversity Awareness Walk are also being developed in selected locations of the state. Development of Manav forest near Gangrel dam in Dhamtari forest division, eco-nature camp in Kharora circle of Bilaspur and construction of nature trail in Dalha hill of Janjgir-Champa forest division is also in progress. The Board is also developing Shahbada village of Kanker forest division as a bird tourism center. The Member Secretary also informed that in the last one year, the State officials and scientists have been sent on tour to study the Cactus Garden established at Kevadia Gandhi Nagar in Gujarat and Ramsar sites in Orissa, in addition to this, national-level seminars and conferences on various topics have been organized.

Cataract Surgeries conducted every week in the district hospital

24 cataract Surgeries were performed in May

Kawardha, May 23: The district hospital performs cataract surgeries as per the directive of Collector Mr. Janmejay Mahobe every week. Dr. Sujoy Mukherjee, the CMHO, and ophthalmologist, emphasized that cataracts cause vision blurriness, making it challenging for individuals to see objects beyond a distance of six meters. It is recommended that individuals above the age of forty undergo regular eye check-ups to ensure timely detection of any eye-related issues.

Retina specialist Dr. Monis Saxena examined the eyes of 32 patients and found retinal defects in 4 of them. The patients were given the necessary advice. Civil surgeon Dr. Mahesh Suryavanshi said that Cataract patients are operated every week on Tuesday and Friday. 24 cataract surgery has been conducted in the month of May, Ophthalmologist Dr. Kshama Chopra, Eye Assistant Officer Ashwani Sharma, and their staff perform cataract surgery in the district hospital.

for separate panchayat status from Dhangaon, Gosai to Khairwar, construction of CC road, construction of street drainage, establishment of health center Demand for construction of dilapidated school building, demand for construction of new Anganwadi, were also made in the memorandum.

Women reach Collectorate demanding resolution of problems



Mungeli, May 23: Social worker Dr. Sarita Bhardwaj submitted a memorandum to the collectorate demanding redressal of the problems in the rural areas. She said that the biggest problem in the remote areas of the district are dilapidated roads and it was told in the memorandum that about 200 meters of CC road is necessary from the house

of village Motimpur Bholaram to the main road, and also the cultural stage is in a very dilapidated condition, along with a building for arranging meetings for women's groups of Bihaan Yojana. Demand for construction of public water tank, Gram Panchayat Dhangaon, demand for repair of Khairwar road due to dilapidation, demand

Those who submitted the memorandum included Genduram Khunte, Sumitra, Panchobai Yadav, Kalyani, Anant Kunwar, Hirabai Yadav, Shaikumari Yadav, Saraswati Yadav, Kusum Yadav, Phoolbai Motin Yadav, Bina Shyam, Kamani Yadav, Yadav and many others.

Flagship schemes of state govt should be better implemented: Kawasi

Bastar Development Authority meeting in Sukma

Raipur, May 23: State Industries Minister Mr. Kawasi Lakhma said in the meeting of Bastar Development Authority that the flagship schemes of the state government should be better implemented. He said that with the better implementation of government schemes at the grassroots level, more and more people will get the benefit of the schemes. Lakhma was addressing the review meeting of Bastar Development Authority at



District Headquarters Sukma on Tuesday. In the meeting held in the assembly hall of District Panchayat Sukma, Industries Minister Mr. Lakhma said that due to better monitoring of

Sukma district administration, the result of class X and class XII examination has been better in the district. Similarly, in the field of health, the district hospital has received the national award. Vidhan

Sabha Deputy Speaker Mr. Santram Netam also addressed the meeting and emphasized on speeding up the development works and better implementation of the schemes. It is notable that for the first time a meeting of the Bastar Development Authority was convened at the district headquarters Sukma. Bastar Development Authority Chairman Mr. Lakheshwar Baghel, Vice President Mr. Vikram Mandavi, Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Rekchhand Jain, several public representatives and commissioners of Bastar division and

other senior officers including collectors from districts were present in the meeting. In the meeting, Chairman of Bastar Area Development Authority Mr. Lakheshwar Baghel said that a very good work has been done in all the districts of the division in the announcements of the Chief Minister, in giving forest rights recognition letters to Devgudi. He said that our public representatives also need to constantly monitor the implementation of the schemes. Along with this, encourage people to join the economic activities conducted in Gouthans.

Orientation program cum training concludes

Of Electoral and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers

Raipur, May 23: As per the direction of the Election Commission of India, the certification and orientation training programme for Electoral Registration Officers and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers of the state was organised by Chhattisgarh's Chief Electoral Officer, on May 20 and 21 at Thakur Pyare Lal Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development located in Nimora. All the state's Electoral Registration Officers and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers attended the programme, and they were provided with detailed information about the constitutional and

legal provisions related to the preparation of electoral rolls. Addressing the officers present in the training programme, Chief Electoral Officer Mrs. Reena Babasaheb Kangale emphasised that the successful conduct of any election depends on the correctness of the electoral roll of that constituency. The trainees showed keen interest in the training organised for all the participants for the upcoming assembly election. Highlighting its importance, the Chief Electoral Officer further stated that the training programme will provide better knowledge of the rules and regulations to the participants regarding the preparation of the electoral roll of their constituency and train them to perform good electoral work in their area



Over 50 applications received at 'Jan Choupal'
Raipur, May 23: Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure today heard grievances of people from urban and rural areas of district at 'Jan Choupal' conducted at Collectorate conference hall. More than 50 applications on public grievances and demands were received at Jan Choupal today. Municipal Commissioner Mayank Chaturvedi, District Panchayat CEO Akash Chhikara, Assistant Collector Jayant Nahata, Additional Collector BB Panchbhai, SDM and other officials were present at 'Jan Choupal'.

V-C Prof Chakrawal meets Union Minister Kaushal Kishore

Union Minister Appreciates the efforts of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakrawal

Bilaspur, May 23: Vice-Chancellor of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal paid a courtesy visit to Honorable Kaushal Kishore, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India in New Delhi on May 23, 2023. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Alok Kumar Chakrawal honored Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Honorable Kaushal Kishore by presenting him with a bouquet and shawl. Professor Chakrawal gave detailed information to Honorable Minister Mr. Kaushal Kishore about various positive efforts being made which are related to the academic activities, research and innova-



tion, infrastructure development and social concerns of the university. The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakrawal said that keeping in view the complete implementation of the National Education Policy 2020, a three-day workshop was recently organized on the subject of character building and overall development of personality. He said that the primary objective of the National Education Policy 2020 is to provide value based education to the

youth for character building and overall development of personality. Appraising the Minister about the "Nasha Mukta Samaj Andolan Abhiyan Kaushal Ka", Vice-Chancellor Professor Chakrawal said that such programs should be organized in all higher education institutions of the country with the aim of spreading awareness among the youth. He said that we have to motivate the youth to cooperate in works related to nation building and social concerns. Hon'ble Minister assured of his support for such worthy enterprises. Kaushal Kishore, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India assured continuous guidance and cooperation for the development of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.W.D. KANKER CIRCLE KANKER (C.G.)

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited for Construction Of Road/Bridge work, up to Date 29/05/2023

Sr No	NIT No.	System Tender No.	Name of work	Probable Amount of Contract.	Tender Downloaded upto
1	2	3	4	5	6
01	12	134774	Construction of High Level Solid Slab Across Kinkadi Nala at Kanga to Hiramandala Mungapadar road Work.	147.15 Lakh	29.05.2023

All Documents related to Tender are to be submitted by Tenderers online only, failing which the tenderer can not participate in the bidding, for tender details please visit <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Note-2nd Call

Superintending Engineer P.W.D. Kanker Circle Kanker

G-01510/1

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता, ग्रामीण यांत्रिकी सेवा
संभाग अम्बिकापुर, जिला-सयुजा (छ.ग.)

(ZONAL TENDER - FIRST CALL)

क्रमांक / 817 / व.ले.लि. / ग्रायांसेवा / 2023-24 अम्बिकापुर, दिनांक 19.05.2023

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अन्तर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में विद्युतीकरण हेतु पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु हेतु ऑन लाईन (Online) निविदा दिनांक 05.06.2023 तक आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

क्र.	ऑन लाईन निविदा क्रमांक	कार्य का नाम	निविदा की अनुमानित लागत (लाख में)	6
1	134984, 134985, 134987 & 134989	Electrification works under zonal tender up to Rs. 0.15 to 10.00 lakh at Janpad Panchayat area Lakhanpur, Batouli, Sitapur & Lundra.	40.00 For Each Tender	

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य के निविदा सम्बन्धी शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विवरण, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेब पोर्टल <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> अथवा विभागीय वेब साईट से दिनांक 22.05.2023 से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

(आर.पी. कुटार)
कार्यपालन अभियंता
ग्रामीण यांत्रिकी सेवा संभाग अम्बिकापुर

G-01556/1

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER MAHANADI PROJECT, RAIPUR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

(Third Call)

System Tender No. : 134138/NIT No. : 01/SAC/2023-24, Dated : 18.05.2023

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 05.06.2023 at 17.30 Hour

Name of Work : Construction of Protection Wall and Damaged Pitching on D/S of New Rudri Barrage

Probable Amount of Contract : Rs. 287.04 Lakhs
(As per SOR Dated 01.08.2010 and amended upto Dated 01.08.2014)

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from Date 25.05.2023, at 17.31 Hours. (IST) onwards.

NOTE - All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Executive Engineer Water Management Dn., Rudri Code No. 38 For Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Project, Raipur (C.G.)

G-01494/1

संचालनालय महिला एवं बाल विकास, छत्तीसगढ़
ब्लॉक-1, द्वितीय तल, इंद्रावती भवन, नया रायपुर
दूरभाष क्रमांक 0771-2234192 2234188 (Fax) email: dirwcd.cg@nic.in

// निविदा सूचना //

महिला बाल विकास विभाग छत्तीसगढ़ द्वारा आधार एनरोलमेंट (नया/सुधार) हेतु पात्र मानव संसाधन सेवा देने वाली एजेंसी/फर्मों से मानव संसाधन की पूर्ति के लिए ऑनलाइन (ई-प्रॉक) पर निविदा आमंत्रित है। निविदा संबंधी विवरण व शर्तें ऑनलाइन ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल के माध्यम से की जा रही है। निविदा संबंधी विवरण निम्नानुसार है -

नोट :-1. ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि 17.05.2023
2. निविदा की अंतिम तिथि 08.06.2023
3. ई-प्रॉक पर निविदा क्रमांक 134551
4. आवेदन शुल्क (रुपये में) 5,000
5. अमानत राशि 2,00,000

उपरोक्त विवरण की जानकारी जनसमर्पक के विभागीय वेबसाईट पर अवलोकन किया जा सकता है।

निविदा संबंधी सभी शर्तें डाक्यूमेंट में उल्लिखित है। तथापि कतिपय मुख्य शर्तें निम्नानुसार है -

- निविदाकार का छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य का जीएसटी पंजीकरण अनिवार्य है।
- निविदाकार किसी भी सामग्री प्रदाय के लिये किसी भी राज्य में ब्लैकलिस्टेड न हो तथा ऐसी कोई कार्यवाही उसके विरुद्ध विद्यमान न हो। निविदाकार को इस आशय का शपथपत्र अन्य दस्तावेज के साथ ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करना होगा।
- राज्य में वैध MSME को सुसंगत दस्तावेज प्रस्तुत करने व क्रय सशक्ति द्वारा मान्य करने की वशा में सुस्ता निधि में नियमानुसार छूट देने पर विचार किया जाएगा।
- निविदा की जा रही सामग्री के लिये केन्द्र/राज्य के संबंधित विभाग द्वारा निर्धारित वैधानिक प्रावधानों के अनुसार सभी दस्तावेज निविदाकार के पास उपलब्ध होना चाहिए तथा निविदा संबंधी दस्तावेज के साथ ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करना होगा।
- कार्य के दौरान उपयोगी स्टेशनरी एवं प्रिंटर इंक कार्ट्रिज आदि कन्स्यूमेबल आयटम पर अनुमानित व्यय राशि की गणना कर ऑफ़रेटर के दर के साथ उक्त व्यय के साथ शामिल किया जाए।

निविदा संबंधी विवरण व सभी जानकारी <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> पर ऑनलाइन उपलब्ध है।

उप संचालक (आईसीडीएस) संचा. महिला एवं बाल विकास नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, छत्तीसगढ़

G-01577/1

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER MAHANADI GODAVARI BASIN, RAIPUR (C.G.)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

(2nd CALL)

System Tender No. : 134708/NIT No. : 04/SAC/2023-24, Chhuikhadan, Dated : 22.05.2023

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 09.06.2023 at 17:30 Hour

Name of Work : Construction of Feeder main canal from R.D. 0 m to R.D. 2820 m including construction of 04 Nos. Inlet, 05 Nos. D.C., 05 Nos. Fall, 1 No VRB, 1 No. Minor Head, 1 No. DRB, 1 No. Escape and fixing of 11 Nos. Collaba of Sidhhababa tank scheme in block Chhuikhadan of District Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai

Probable Amount of Contract : -Rs. 484.37 Lakhs
(As per S.O.R Dated 01.08.2010 (As amended dated 01.08.2014))

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from Date 29.05.2023, at 17:31 Hours (IST) onwards.

NOTE - All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Executive Engineer Water Resources Division, Chhuikhadan For, Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Godavari Basin Raipur (C.G.)

G-01504/1



CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 11 No. 54

Delhi's Power Struggle

Call for Collaborative Governance

The ongoing power struggle between the Centre and the Delhi government over control of the state's bureaucracy has escalated, raising concerns about the democratic process and effective governance. The recent Supreme Court ruling in favor of the Arvind Kejriwal-led government, granting it legislative and executive power over services, except in matters of public order, police, and land, was seen as a victory for the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). However, the Centre's response to the verdict and subsequent actions have further complicated the situation. One key development was the prompt transfer of Services Secretary Ashish More by the Kejriwal government, which saw the Supreme Court ruling as validation of its position. In an attempt to overturn the court's decision, the Centre swiftly promulgated an ordinance to establish the National Capital Civil Service Authority. This authority would have control over officers' postings and transfers, with the final say resting with the Centre-appointed Lieutenant Governor (L-G), despite the Chief Minister chairing the authority. Shortly after, the Centre sought a review of the May 11 verdict by approaching the Supreme Court. The timing of the Centre's actions has raised eyebrows, as they displayed undue haste instead of allowing the events to unfold as directed by the Supreme Court. The decision to issue an ordinance on the eve of the court's six-week break, rather than waiting for Parliament to be in session to introduce a Bill, has added to the concerns of the AAP and those observing the situation. The Centre should have respected the legal process and, if it had reservations, intervened after giving due consideration to the SC's directions. It is worth noting that the Centre-Delhi tussle is not a new phenomenon. Since the revival of the Delhi Assembly in 1993, clashes between different political parties in power at the Centre and in Delhi have often affected governance and created power struggles. This pattern persists in the current scenario as well. However, it is imperative to recognize that the interests of the people of Delhi should take precedence over political rivalries. The primary focus should be on ensuring effective governance and delivering quality services to the citizens. Both the Centre and the Delhi government must move beyond the power games and prioritize collaboration to address the challenges faced by the state. Transparency, accountability, and the smooth functioning of administrative machinery are crucial elements of a healthy democracy. The need of the hour is for both parties to engage in constructive dialogue and work towards a mutually agreeable solution that upholds the principles of democratic governance and respects the autonomy of the elected government. Delhi, as the national capital, plays a pivotal role in the country's governance and development. The people of Delhi deserve a government that can function efficiently and effectively without unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles or political interference. It is essential for the Centre and the Delhi government to rise above partisan interests and prioritize the welfare of the citizens they are elected to serve. The power struggle between the Centre and the Delhi government over control of the state's bureaucracy must be resolved through dialogue and collaborative efforts. Upholding democratic principles and ensuring effective governance should be the shared goal. It is time to move beyond political rivalries and work towards a harmonious relationship that benefits the people of Delhi and sets a positive precedent for cooperative federalism in the country.

India's IT and BPO Services

Powering Global Export Growth

Dr Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

India has emerged as a dominant global exporter, particularly in the IT and BPO services sectors, with an impressive 14% growth rate over the past two decades. In the fiscal year 2021-2022, India's services exports reached a significant value of US\$254.5 billion, primarily fueled by IT services amounting to US\$106 billion and BPO services valued at US\$51 billion. These exports have played a pivotal role in generating 5.1 million direct jobs and over 12 million indirect jobs. The services sector in India, particularly the IT and BPO services, accounts for more than 60% of the country's service exports. The establishment of Global Capability Centers (GCCs) in India has further enhanced its success. With a substantial number of over 1,500 GCCs employing approximately 1.3 million people (expected to rise to 2-3 million by 2025), India has become the preferred destination for global corporations. This transformation has turned India from a cost-driven choice into a hub of exceptional talent and innovation. India's appeal as an outsourcing destination stems from several factors, including proficiency in the English language, historical ties with the UK, a large and young population, and competitive salary levels. Initially, the outsourcing trend began with global airlines outsourcing their back-office operations to India, attracting subsequent involvement from IT companies. As a result, India's outsourcing industry has experienced substantial growth, catering to the increasing demand from businesses seeking a globally connected workforce to meet their operational needs. Currently, organizations of all sizes and origins, spanning various sectors, actively consider outsourcing as a strategic solution. The thriving BPO industry in India plays a critical role in driving the country's prosperous economy. India's workforce is well-equipped to handle complex tasks, positioning the country as an ideal location for robotics and AI services. Moreover, India holds the potential to become a powerhouse for platforms and products, as evident from successful B2B SaaS companies and a thriving ecosystem. These factors, along with India's strong IT and BPO exports, position the country as a hub for technology and innovation. To further expand its services exports, India should diversify into skill-based and digitized sectors such as healthcare, education, and tourism. With a large working-age population and a focus on emerging services, India can leverage its competitive advantages and tap into new opportunities. Overall, India's IT and BPO services have been instrumental in driving economic growth, creating employment opportunities, and establishing India as a significant player in the global services trade.

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.

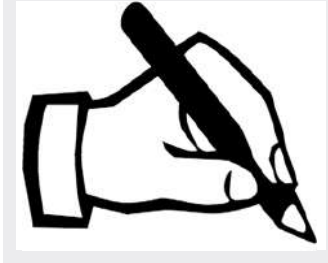
AFTERNOON SIESTA



A fruit vendor takes afternoon siesta during a hot summer day, in New Delhi, Tuesday, May 23.

Ensuring Quality and Efficiency of Road and Tunnel Projects

MANOJ KUMAR K P



Importance of Road Projects and Tunnels

The Indian government has made remarkable strides in prioritizing the development and expansion of the road infrastructure nationwide. This commitment aims to enhance connectivity, stimulate economic growth, and improve transportation efficiency. Notably, initiatives like the Bharatmala Pariyojana envision the strategic construction and upgrade of thousands of kilometers of highways, including the creation of new motorways, economic corridors, and border roads. Tunnels play a vital role in road projects, particularly in challenging terrains and congested areas. They provide efficient and direct transport links through mountains, hills, and rivers. Tunnels offer safer passages, especially in regions prone to natural hazards such as landslides, avalanches, or adverse weather conditions. Moreover, tunnels help minimize the environmental impact of road development by preserving natural landscapes and habitats. Additionally, they ensure the seamless movement of military personnel, equipment, and supplies,

thereby strengthening national security and border management. *India's road and tunnel projects have been key drivers of economic growth and connectivity across the country. However, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari's recent concerns about the inadequate quality of detailed project reports (DPRs) prepared by Indian companies highlight the need for improvement. Substandard DPRs not only lead to project delays but also pose risks to road safety. In light of this, Gadkari's suggestion to give preference to international companies for preparing DPRs deserves serious consideration. With a significant number of tunnel projects in progress, it becomes imperative to establish a transparent, time-bound, result-oriented, and corruption-free system to ensure that India's tunnel infrastructure meets global standards.*

Government Initiatives to Ensure Transparency and Accountability

To combat corruption and foster transparency in road projects, the Indian government has implemented several measures. The adoption of e-tendering and online bidding processes has significantly reduced human intervention and minimized the potential for corruption, creating a fair and transparent system for contract awards. Leveraging technology, such as GPS tracking, satellite imagery, and digital surveying, has become mandatory in road projects. These tools facilitate effective monitoring of project progress, ensuring construction quality, and preventing deviations from approved plans. Independent agencies and authorities have been established to monitor and evaluate road projects, promoting accountability in the sector. The digitization of processes, including land acquisition, payment systems, and project management, has streamlined operations, reduced human interface, and mitigated the risk

of corruption. By embracing automation, the government has achieved greater transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the execution of road projects.

Areas for Improvement

While commendable progress has been made, there are areas where further improvement is necessary to optimize road and tunnel projects. Thorough planning and robust design are essential for successful outcomes. Conducting comprehensive feasibility studies, accurate traffic projections, and effective geotechnical investigations can minimize project delays, cost overruns, and design flaws. Streamlining decision-making processes, particularly regarding land acquisition, environmental clearances, and approvals, is vital to avoid unnecessary delays. Efficient and prompt decision-making can significantly accelerate project timelines. Maintaining strict quality control standards throughout the construction process is crucial to ensure the durability and safety of infrastructure. Regular inspections, strict adherence to specifications, and the adoption of modern construction tech-

niques and materials will enhance project outcomes.

Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms play a crucial role in tracking project progress, identifying bottlenecks, and ensuring adherence to timelines. Regular inspections, independent audits, and real-time monitoring technologies can help promptly identify and address issues. By leveraging technology, such as artificial intelligence and data analytics, project managers can gain valuable insights and make informed decisions, further optimizing project execution.

Conclusion

In conclusion, addressing the quality of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) is crucial for the success of road and tunnel projects in India. The government's commitment to transparency, accountability, and technology-driven solutions is commendable. By implementing comprehensive planning, stringent quality control measures, and effective monitoring systems, India can further enhance its infrastructure development and ensure that road and tunnel projects meet global standards.

(Views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cyber Safety

With the escalating frequency of cyberattacks, it is imperative to acknowledge the pressing need for comprehensive legal frameworks. As technology advances and our reliance on digital systems deepens, cybercriminals continually exploit vulnerabilities for personal gain. It is crucial to recognize the gravity of this issue and proactively safeguard ourselves and our systems. Despite implementing robust security measures, authorities often lag behind cybercriminals. India must adopt new-age cyber laws and proactive measures to combat this menace effectively. Strengthening the regulatory mechanism becomes paramount in preventing the theft or manipulation of computer data. Let us prioritize cyber safety and modernize our legal landscape.

Ashok Nambiar, Kannur

Performance of new government is vital

Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been vocal in his opposition to political parties offering freebies in order to win votes, but polls show that the Congress victory in Karnataka had a lot to do with them. Karnataka new chief minister Siddaramaiah's long tenure as an administrator should help the party keep its promises. The Karnataka victory has infused new energy into the minds of the Congress cadre in a year when five state assemblies will be elected: Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, and Mizoram. The Congress has a lot riding on these states. The performance of the party's government in Karnataka and its ability to keep promises may have an impact on voters in other states. The BJP has learned that artificial slogans in Assembly elections cannot cover up real-life issues, and it may change course. If the Congress leadership hopes to approach the 2024 Lok Sabha elections with a creditable performance in the upcoming Assembly elections, it must remain vigilant about its government's performance in Karnataka from the start.

Dr. Vijay Kumar H K, Raichur, Karnataka

Demonitisation of Rs 2000 note

The government's decision to demonetize the Rs 2000 note can be seen as a strategic move, aimed at reducing reliance on high denomination currency and promoting digital payments. While this decision brings concerns for the public, with limited exchange amounts and no information requirements, its purpose and effectiveness remain a topic of debate. The high value and limited circulation of Rs 2000 notes have raised suspicions of hoarding black money, prompting the RBI to discourage such practices and promote financial transparency. With most of these notes reaching the end of their lifespan, the government must ensure a smooth operation, considering the convenience of the common man. India's demonetization serves as a valuable lesson for other nations, emphasizing the importance of thorough planning and implementation.

Yash Pal Raihan, Jalandhar

Pakistan's Political Turmoil Has Implications For Global Security MA Hossain

Pakistan is currently in a critical juncture of political turmoil which is posing a threat to its sovereignty as well as growing concerns about global security. Not only that, if Pakistan fails to address the crisis, then definitely it will be the beginning of the extinction of democratic values regionally. Pakistan has also been spiraling towards a severe economic catastrophe and struggling to meet the basic needs of its population. Now Pakistan is in a state of critical emergency after 1971, where the elite class should not repeat their apocalyptic mistake of ignoring the voices of the people.

The Root of the Crisis

The power struggle of the current stalemate began when Imran Khan was ousted in April 2022 following a parliamentary vote of no-confidence. However, this im-

broglie is hardly a scenario that has arisen overnight. This is a result of bankrupt political regimes. Needless to say, Pakistan's ruling power has generally been characterized by its preference for one side of the Pakistan Army. Each of the five prime ministers has been indicted or imprisoned after leaving office. The military-dominated Pakistan has a long record of engineering the electoral playing field to achieve the Army's preferred result.

Corruption and Economic Challenges

Corruption has long been a pressing issue in Pakistan's political landscape, with high-profile corruption cases involving influential politicians and bureaucrats. These scandals have eroded public trust in the government and raised concerns about the misuse of public funds. The economic condition in Pakistan was facing a severe crisis. Now the devastating flood of 2022, 50-years high inflation, food and energy shortage, collapsed in-

vestment, critically low exports, and foreign exchange reserve, mounting foreign debt, and the failure of international lenders have further exacerbated the situation. Furthermore, Covid-19 and the invasion of Ukraine by Russia put tremendous pressure on world food and energy prices, which has had a negative impact on Pakistan's economy.

Social Unrest and Islamic Jihadist Organizations

Pakistan is experiencing violent social unrest. Economic challenges, rising inflation, polarized politics, and unemployment have contributed to the frustration and discontent among the populace, especially the youth where over 60% of the population is under the age of 30. A weaponized society with nothing to lose has grown a new ability to touch the untouchable elite institutions. Furthermore, ethnic and sectarian tensions, mass reform movements recently by religio-political parties, and engagement between

Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and security forces clearly spelled out the public frustration with elite institutions or ruling systems.

The Global Security Implications

The pressing question that demands attention from global leaders is why Pakistan should be a cause for concern. We must not forget that Pakistan is a nuclear-armed nation. Drawing upon my extensive two-decade study of Islamic militant organizations, it is evident that the Islamic jihadist movement will emerge at full throttle in Pakistan. In my opinion, Pakistan will be Afghanistan 2.0 today or tomorrow unless the crisis is not dealt with appropriately. This ideological warfare is just like cancer in the human body. If we fail to recognize it at an early stage, it would leave us no choice but to surrender. Now, if we compare the situation of Pakistan with earlier Afghanistan, Iraq, Burkina Faso, and Mali, then it becomes evident that Pakistan is at the last stage of

ideological cancer. I assume that the next Islamic jihadist movement is likely to extend its reach to Kashmir and Yemen. If this movement gains traction in Pakistan, then it will be a matter of time to establish a strong jihadist bastion in South Asia and the Middle East.

The role of global leaders is crucial in addressing the political turmoil in Pakistan. They must recognize the potential implications for global security and act proactively. It is imperative for them to prioritize engagement against Islamic militant organizations and support efforts to restore stability and democracy in Pakistan. Encouraging and facilitating timely, free, and fair elections without interference is vital. Global leaders should collaborate to provide assistance, guidance, and diplomatic pressure to ensure the restoration of confidence in Pakistan's institutions. The restoration of peace and stability in Pakistan not only benefits the country itself but also contributes to regional and global security. (Views are personal).

BRIEF

Atmanirbhar Bharat



Washington: Describing "Atmanirbhar Bharat" as a brilliant initiative which was long overdue, a top Indian-American CEO has said that the US is a natural partner in India's initiative to make the country self-reliant in various fields, particularly in defence. The remarks by Vivek Lall, Chief Executive of General Atomics Global Corporation, came ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's State visit to the US in June. "I think it (Atmanirbhar Bharat) is a brilliant initiative by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Atmanirbhar Bharat is a long overdue process that needs to evolve and, in its definition, itself is a lot of collaboration, a lot of R&D (Research and Development), joint R&D, and a lot of technologies that need to be incubated for the betterment of India," Lall told PTI in an interview.

FAME-II subsidy

New Delhi: The government has reduced the subsidy provided under FAME-II (Faster Adoption of Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India) scheme applicable on electric two-wheelers registered on or after June 1, 2023. The Heavy Industries Ministry notified the changes. For electric two-wheelers, the demand incentive will be Rs 10,000 per kWh. The cap on incentives for electric two-wheelers will be 15 per cent of the ex-factory price of vehicles from 40 per cent at present. photo Piyush

Serious commitment

New Delhi: Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said that online retailers who want to join the government-promoted Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) should come with a serious commitment, and not for namesake. ONDC, a non-profit company, formulates a set of standards for voluntary adoption by sellers or logistics providers or payment gateway operators.

India will not have a monopoly or duopoly in telecom sector: Ashwini Vaishnaw

New Delhi, May 23:



India will not see a monopoly or duopoly in the telecom sector with state-owned BSNL emerging as a 'very stable' player, Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has said. Speaking at the Express Adda on Saturday, he allayed concerns of a duopoly emerging in the market with weakening financials and dropping market share of Vodafone Idea Ltd. "No, we are not heading towards a monopoly. Even a duopoly will not be there. BSNL is coming up as a very stable player in the market," he said when asked whether the state of affairs in Vodafone Idea and the current financial struggles faced by Airtel would leave Reliance Jio

the single dominant mobile telephony player.

The telecom market currently has three private players - billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea Ltd. Jio's disruptive entry has helped it to become the largest operator in the country and it is now leading the 5G rollout. Sunil Bharti Mittal's Airtel is competing with Jio while

Vodafone Idea is yet to announce a 5G rollout plan due to financial stress. Vaishnaw said state-owned BSNL is stabilising operationally. "They have started making operating profits now. It's a turnaround story for BSNL," the minister said. He said the technology BSNL is going to use, India's 4G and 5G stack, is a step above similar technologies across the world. When asked whether there would be four thriving players or three thriving players and one struggling player, Vaishnaw replied that the market would decide.

The minister said India will become the biggest semiconductor manufacturing destination in the next five years with the government ensuring that

the right ecosystem is built. The government in December 2021 announced a scheme worth Rs 76,000 crore for attracting semiconductor and display fabs factories in the country. "We know for sure that in the coming 4-5 years, India will become the biggest semiconductor manufacturing destination in the world if you have the ecosystem in place. Our focus is making sure that the right ecosystem is built," he said.

He said semiconductor manufacturing faces several challenges, including the availability of special raw materials and a reliable power supply. "When we are creating a new industry, people have a tendency to wait and watch, which is very natural," he said.

I-T dept enables online filing of ITRs 1, 4

New Delhi, May 23:

The Income Tax department has enabled online filing of income tax returns (ITRs) 1 and 4, filed by individuals, professionals and small businesses, for 2022-23 fiscal. In a tweet, the income tax department said, the software/utilities for preparing other ITRs/Forms will be enabled shortly. "ITR 1 and 4 for A.Y. 2023-24 are enabled for filing in online mode at e-filing portal," the department said in reply to a tweet by an individual. The last date for filing Income Tax returns for fiscal 2022-23 for people who do not need to get their accounts audited is July 31. ITR-1 is filed by individuals, including salaried class and senior citizens. ITR-2 is filed by businesses and professionals who have opted for presumptive taxation and those individuals whose annual income doesn't exceed Rs 50 lakh.

Govt rules out lifting ban on wheat export

New Delhi, May 23:

The Centre on Tuesday ruled out lifting the ban on wheat exports but said the shipments of the foodgrain through diplomatic channels will be considered on a case-to-case basis. India, the world's second-largest wheat producer, banned wheat exports in May 2022 as part of measures to control rising domestic prices. Asked if wheat exports will be allowed, Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh said, "No chance at all." The government is supplying some quantity of wheat to a few countries like Nepal and Bhutan via a government-to-government trade arrangement. "We will take a call if there is a request from the Ministry of External Affairs," he added. Citing reasons for continuing the export ban, Additional Secretary of the Food Ministry Subodh Kumar said India is not a traditional wheat exporting nation. However, the country exported wheat in the



last three years owing to surplus supplies. The country exported wheat in the range of 2-7 million tonnes annually in the last three years. Last year, wheat exports were 5 million tonnes, he said.

"The wheat production remained lower during last year because of climatic reasons. However, production this year is higher than last year and availability is expected to be 10 million tonnes more when compared to last year," he said. This is required for local consumption and to make available wheat at reasonable prices in the domestic market, he added.

RBI Governor asks public sector banks to strengthen governance

New Delhi, May 23:

Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das asked public sector banks to further strengthen their governance and risk management with a view to identify and mitigate risks at an early stage. The governor was addressing a Conference for the Directors on the Boards of Public Sector Bank in the national capital. 'Governance in Banks - Driving Sustainable Growth and Stability' was the theme of the conference. In a statement, the central bank said Das acknowledged the role played by the banks in supporting the economy and maintaining resilience along with improved financial performance in the face of several adverse shocks in recent



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das during a meeting, in New Delhi, Tuesday, May 23.

times. "He (Das) exhorted the directors of banks to further strengthen the governance and assurance functions (risk management, compliance and internal audit) so that the banks are able to identify and mitigate risks at an early stage," it said. Das also emphasised the need for banks to ensure

continued financial and operational resilience.

Deputy Governors M K Jain and M Rajeshwar Rao along with executive directors representing RBI's department of supervision and department of regulation, and other senior officials, also participated in the conference.

PM Modi meets prominent Australian business leaders in Sydney

Invites investments in India
Sydney, May 23:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday met business leaders of top Australian companies here and called for enhancing cooperation with the Indian industry in areas such as technology, skilling, and clean energy. Modi arrived in Sydney on Monday for the third and final leg of his three-nation tour during which he will hold talks with his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese and attend a community event to celebrate the country's dynamic, diverse Indian diaspora. He is visiting Australia as a guest of the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Nobel laureate Dr. Brian Paul Schmidt, in Sydney, Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

Australian Government. Modi held bilateral meetings with Hancock Prospecting Executive Chairman Gina Rinehart, Fortescue Future Industry Executive

Chairman Andrew Forrest, and AustraliaSuper CEO Paul Schroder. During his meeting with Rinehart, the prime minister highlighted the reforms and

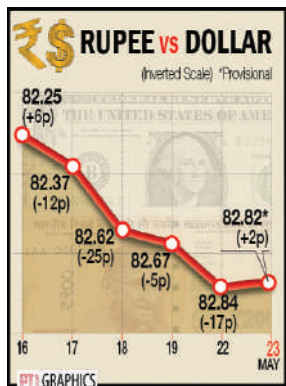
initiatives being undertaken in India and invited her to partner in technology, investment and skilling in the mining and minerals sector, a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi said. In a meeting with Schroder, he said that India is one of the most preferred major economies for foreign investments in the world and invited AustralianSuper to partner with India, it said. AustralianSuper is an Australian superannuation fund headquartered in Melbourne. Similarly, during his meeting with Forrest, he welcomed the Group's plans to work with Indian companies in the field of Green Hydrogen.

Rupee settles on flat note at 82.82 against US dollar

Mumbai, May 23:

The rupee traded in a narrow range and settled for the day 2 paise higher at 82.82 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, amid a muted trend in domestic equities. Forex traders said the strength of the American currency capped sharp gains for the local unit. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 82.82 against the US currency and witnessed a high of 82.76 and a low of 82.84 during intra-day trade. The local unit settled at 82.82 (provisional), registering a gain of 2 paise over its previous close.

On Monday, the rupee closed at 82.84 against the



US currency. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.32 per cent to 103.52. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures fell 0.03 per cent to USD 75.97 per barrel.

Stock markets settle with marginal gains amid weak global cues

Mumbai, May 23:

Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty eked out gains in volatile trade to extend the winning streak to a third straight day on Tuesday amid weak trends in global markets as investors preferred to remain on the sidelines ahead of the release of the US Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting minutes.

Fag-end volatility dragged the 30-share BSE Sensex lower from its intraday high level and it finally settled at 61,981.79, a marginal gain of 18.11 points or 0.03 per cent. During the day, it jumped 281.51 points or 0.45 per cent to 62,245.19.



The NSE Nifty went up by 33.60 points or 0.18 per cent to end at 18,348, driven by gains in Adani group stocks. Among the Sensex firms, Bajaj Finserv, Tata Motors, Asian Paints, ITC, IndusInd Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Steel, Wipro, Infosys and Maruti were the major gainers. Tech

Mahindra, HCL Technologies, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Titan and Larsen & Toubro were the major laggards. In Asian markets, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower, while Seoul ended in the green. Markets in Europe were trading mostly lower. The US market ended mostly with gains on Monday. US President Joe Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy both said they had a productive debt ceiling discussion late Monday at the White House, but there was no agreement as negotiators strained to raise the nation's borrowing limit in time to avert a potentially chaotic federal default.

Samsung Solve for tomorrow gets overwhelming response

With over 50,000 registrations; applications to close on May 31

Gurugram, May 23:

Samsung India's national education and innovation competition Solve for Tomorrow has seen overwhelming participation from youth across India with over 50,000 registrations coming in from across India. Youth, especially from smaller towns of the country, such as Begusarai, Chitradurga, Dharwad, Gulbarga, Jalpaiguri, Khurda, North 24 Parganas, Madhubani and Pathanamthitta have sent in their ideas, highlighting their growing desire to find innova-

tive technology solutions to solve real-world problems that will have a positive social impact on the lives of people around them. The top 3 teams in the competition stand a chance to win INR 1.5 crore to turn their ideas into action. Youth can apply for Solve for Tomorrow till 5 pm on May 31, 2023 on www.samsung.com/in/solvefortomorrow. The flagship CSR program of India's largest electronics brand recognizes the power of innovative solutions and their ability to transform lives, and is inviting ideas from youth aged 16-22 years around 4 key themes - Education & Learning, Environment & Sustainability, Health & Wellness and Diversity & Inclusion.

India GDP crosses \$3.5 tln in 2022: Moody's

Bureaucracy in decision making may reduce attractiveness as FDI destination

New Delhi, May 23:

India's GDP has crossed USD 3.5 trillion in 2022 and will be the fastest-growing G-20 economy over the next few years, but reform and policy barriers could hamper investment, Moody's said on Tuesday. In a research report, the US-based rating agency said bureaucracy could slow approval processes in obtaining licences and setting up businesses, prolonging project

gestation. "India's higher bureaucracy in decision-making will reduce its attractiveness as a destination for foreign direct investment (FDI), especially when competing with other developing economies in the region, such as Indonesia and Vietnam," Moody's Investors Service said.

It said a large young and educated workforce, increasing nuclear families and urbanization will fuel demand for housing, cement and new cars. Government infrastructure spending will bolster steel and cement, while India's net-zero commitment will drive investment in renewable energy, it said. "While

demand across the manufacturing and infrastructure sectors will grow 3-12 per cent annually for the rest of the decade, India's capacity will still rank well behind China's by 2030," Moody's said. It said despite the economy's strong potential, there is a risk that the pace of investment in India's manufacturing and infrastructure sectors could slow because of limited economic liberalization or slower policy implementation. "Lack of certainty around the amount of time needed for land acquisition approvals, regulatory clearances, obtaining licenses and setting up businesses can materially prolong project gestation.

Orientbell Tiles uses technology to simplify tile-buying experience

Mumbai, May 23:

Orientbell Tiles, a leading tile manufacturer in India, has been at the forefront of innovation in the tile industry for 45+ years. With a focus on technology, the company has recently launched several new initiatives to make shopping for tiles simpler for customers across the country.

As consumers are increasingly time-starved, Orientbell Tiles has responded with state-of-art range of digital tools to simplify the tile-shopping process. The company's website (www.orientbell.com) features advanced e-commerce-like search filters to help you sift through 3000+ SKUs. You can even try

your selected tile in your own room by uploading a picture! "We all lead busy lives. And www.orientbell.com offers the most convenient way of shopping the latest range of tiles. You & your loved ones can browse this from the comfort of your homes at your own convenience. You can explore tiles by color or size or room. You can even find tiles similar to any other inspiring picture you have. Try it & you will love it," said Alok Agarwal, CMO at Orientbell Tiles. Customers can uploading this inspiring picture from Instagram or Pinterest (Sameelook) and find tiles similar to it. If you want to touch and feel the tile, you can also order samples directly from the website.

NMDC first iron ore producer to cross 40 MnT production mark

Steady FY23 by India's mining major NMDC

Hyderabad, May 23:

Country's largest iron ore producer, NMDC declared its FY23 results today. In the financial year 2022-23, the company produced 40.82 million tonnes and sold

38.22 million tonnes of iron ore. NMDC is the first iron ore producer in India to cross the 40 MnT production mark for the second consecutive fiscal.

Government of India's profit making PSE recorded a turnover of Rs.17667 crore, with Profit Before Tax (PBT) at Rs.7637 crore and Profit After Tax (PAT)



at Rs.5529 crore in FY23. The mining major has also announced 2nd and final dividend of Rs.2.85 per share. The total dividend including 1st interim dividend (Rs.3.75 per share) is Rs.6.6 per share for FY23. Concluding the year with a strong performance, NMDC registered iron ore production of 14.13 MnT and sales of 12.41 MnT in the fourth quarter of FY23 which is

the highest for any quarter since inception. For Q4 of the financial year, turnover stood at Rs.5851 crore while PBT and PAT clocked Rs.3285 crore and Rs.2277 crore respectively.

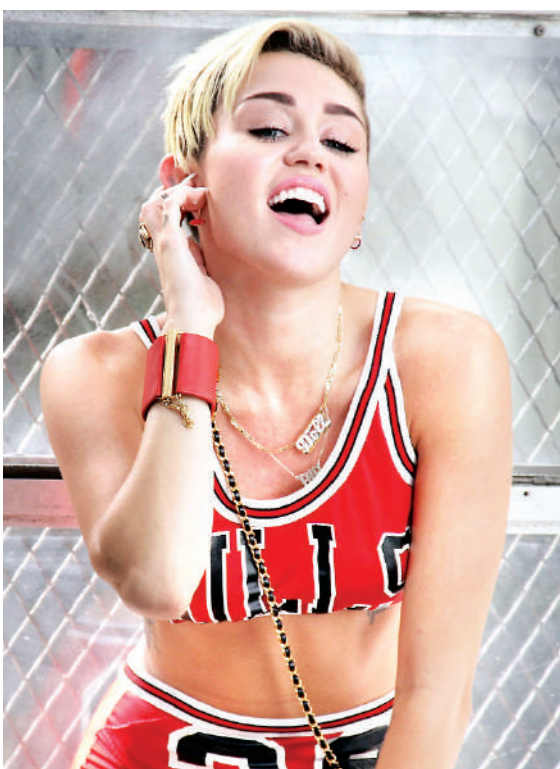
Commenting on the company's performance, Shri Amitava Mukherjee, CMD (Additional Charge) said, "NMDC's strong core and technical affinity has helped us report steady volumes and margins in the face of challenges like heavy rainfall, dull demand and price volatility. With Government of India's fillip to infrastructure, NMDC is committed to fuel the increase in domestic steel production and consumption by ensuring raw material security."



Tamannaah Bhatia denies rumors of conflict with Anil Ravipudi over item song

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia has put an end to the rumors surrounding her alleged fallout with filmmaker Anil Ravipudi over an item song in Nandamuri Balakrishna's highly anticipated 108th film. Speculations had been circulating that Tamannaah had a disagreement with Ravipudi regarding the fee for the song, but the actress has now come forward to dismiss these claims. Taking to her Twitter profile, Tamannaah expressed her disappointment with media portals for spreading "baseless allegations" and urged them to conduct thorough research before making unfounded claims. She further clarified that she has always enjoyed working with Ravipudi and holds immense respect for both him and Nandamuri Balakrishna. Tamannaah's statement aims to put an end to the rumors and maintain a positive working relationship with the director and the esteemed actor. The news of a supposed fallout between Tamannaah Bhatia and Anil Ravipudi gained significant attention, particularly due to Tamannaah's previous item song "Daang Daang" in the Mahesh Babu-starrer "Sarileru Neekevvaru." Reports suggested that Ravipudi approached Tamannaah for an item song in Balakrishna's upcoming film, but the alleged disagreement over the fee caused a rift between them. However, Tamannaah's statement refutes these claims and emphasizes her professional respect for the director and actor.

Miley Cyrus reflects on the seasonality of success



Miley Cyrus, the renowned singer behind hits like 'Wrecking Ball,' has expressed her unique perspective on success. According to reports from 'Female First UK,' her eighth album 'Endless Summer Vacation,' featuring the chart-topping single 'Flowers,' broke streaming records and spent eight weeks at number one on the US Billboard Hot 100, becoming her second top-charting song in the country. However, during an interview with British Vogue, Cyrus revealed that she had a peculiar realization about the transient nature of success. She recounted a conversation at the Sunset Club in The West Hollywood Edition hotel, where she was informed of 'Flowers' topping the charts. Despite not drinking alcohol, Cyrus celebrated the moment, but also acknowledged that it would be fleeting. Recalling an intriguing question posed by Lil Nas X during their encounter at the club, Cyrus said, "He asked me, 'Are you so anxious about how successful 'Flowers' is?' I replied, 'No. I might be No. 1 now, but No. 2 is on its way.' Everything is seasonal."

Radhika Madan wins Best Actor Female

Currently with the success of Saas Bahu Aur Flamingo and rounds of international film festivals for her film Sanaa, and the release of Kacchey Limbu, Radhika Madan is on a prowl to make a mark with her varied and versatile choices of projects. Winning the Best Actress Award at the UK Asian Film Festival, Radhika Madan also received a standing ovation at the New York Indian Film Festival for Sanaa. At the 25th UK Asian Film Festival, Radhika Madan has bagged the Best Actor Female Award for her phenomenally remarkable performance in Sanaa. Radhika Madan shares, "It is a surreal feeling! The overwhelming response to the film has been truly gratifying and humbling and winning the Best Actress Award for Sanaa at the UK Asian Film Festival is one of my most special personal victories. To go for Sanaa is closest to my heart and most importantly it is a story that needs to be told and heard. I am glad that the film has been resonating with the audience across the globe." Striking chords with the audience across the globe, Radhika Madan has been delivering marks of quality with her projects back to back. Recently, film-maker Sudhanshu Saria's introspective drama 'Sanaa' starring Radhika Madan opened the UK Asian Film Festival, wherein the film also received a special shout-out from Rishi Sunak, the Prime



Minister of the UK. 'Sanaa' follows the story of a headstrong and ambitious woman (Madan), who is raging against an internal battle that is rooted in unhealed trauma. The film also stars Sohumi Shah, Shikha Talsania, and Pooja Bhatt. From Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota premiering and winning awards at the TIFF to Kacchey Limbu winning hearts at the same festival years later, Radhika Madan has been emerging as an international favourite. Her other upcoming film Sanaa has been relentlessly doing the rounds of film festivals as well, from Tallin Black Nights Film Festival, Santa Barbara International Film Festival, Mosaic International South Asian Festival and now the UK Asian Film Festival, as well as the New York Indian Film Festival. This year, Radhika Madan has earned appreciation for her bold and unabashed avatar in Kuttey as well as impactful performance in Saas Bahu Aur Flamingo. Currently gearing for the releases of Kacchey Limbu, Sanaa, Soorari Pottru remake tentatively called Production No. 27, Happy Teacher's Day and Rumi Ki Sharafat, Radhika Madan has carved her name amongst the most versatile and bankable actors of the business today.

Zee Studios releases 'Nazaare' from their upcoming 'Godday Godday Chaa'

Weddings in Punjab are nothing less than a festivity filled with fun and frolic! After releasing much-loved tracks like 'Sakhiye Saheliye,' 'Allarhan Ve,' the makers of 'Godday Godday Chaa,' Zee Studios and V.H Entertainment have now released the third track from the film titled 'Nazaare.' The song essentially captures the wedding craze enjoyed by the Punjabi men back in the day. While the song brings the old world charm with gun shots fired in the air, insane dance steps and notes flying all over! Vocals have been lent by Kulwinder Billa, Kaptaan has written the song and music has been given by N Vee. The film stars Sonam Bajwa, Tania, Gitaj Bindrakhia, Gurjazz, Sardar Sohi, Nirmal Rishi and Rupinder Rupri in pivotal roles. 'Godday Godday Chaa' revolves around women challenging the patriarchal rituals of the society prevalent in Punjab back in the day. The summer holiday entertainer shall be released on the 26th of May.



Aahana Kumra expresses outrage as fan invades personal space

Prominent actress Aahana Kumra, known for her roles in films like 'Lipstick Under My Burkha,' 'Inside Edge,' and 'Rangbaaz,' recently found herself in an upsetting situation when a fan crossed the line and touched her during a paparazzi shoot. The incident occurred at an event in Mumbai, and a video shared by a paparazzi account captured the moment. The video reveals a fan placing his hand around Aahana Kumra's waist while she was posing for photographs. The actress was visibly taken aback by the intrusion and immediately turned towards the fan, firmly stating, "Don't touch me!" The video quickly went viral, with numerous netizens expressing their support for the actress and condemning the fan's inappropriate behavior.



and condemning the fan's inappropriate behavior.

'Thalapathy' Vijay teams up with director Venkat Prabhu for next film

One of Tamil cinema's most beloved actors, 'Thalapathy' Vijay, has made an exciting announcement regarding his upcoming project. He revealed that his next film will be directed by acclaimed filmmaker Venkat Prabhu, creating much anticipation among fans. Tentatively titled "Thalapathy 68," the movie is scheduled for release in 2024. While further details about the cast and crew remain undisclosed at this point, fans are eagerly awaiting updates from the production team. Taking to social media on Sunday, Vijay shared that the film, produced by Kalpathi S. Aghoram's AGS Entertainment, will encompass all the elements expected from a young superstar of Kollywood. This



collaboration marks AGS Entertainment's second venture with Vijay, following the success of "Bigil." Director Venkat Prabhu, known for his distinct filmmaking style, is expected to bring a captivating experience to audiences through this project with Vijay. This collaboration adds another milestone to Vijay's illustrious career, as "Thalapathy 68" will be his 68th film, solidifying his position as one of the most popular actors in South Indian cinema, second only to superstar Rajinikanth. The music for the Venkat Prabhu-directed film will be composed by Yuvan Shankar Raja, who is credited with revolutionizing remixes in Kollywood. This marks the second collaboration between Yuvan Shankar Raja and Vijay, the first being the 2003 film "Pudhiya Geethai." Prior to "Thalapathy 68," fans can look forward to Vijay's upcoming release, "Leo," directed by renowned Tamil filmmaker Lokesh Kanagaraj.

Sandeep Modi, all set to present the second season of 'The Night Manager'

Sandeep Modi, creator of 'The Night Manager' is all set for the second part of the most viewed OTT show on the platform 'The Night Manager' managed to woo the audiences and leave them wanting for more! The palatial, thrilling drama proved that audiences approve of a gripping drama always! Very few makers succeed in striking the chord with the audiences. One of them is Sandeep Modi. Basking in the success of the much-celebrated show 'The Night Manager,' Sandeep is currently gearing up for the launch of the second part of the series which is an



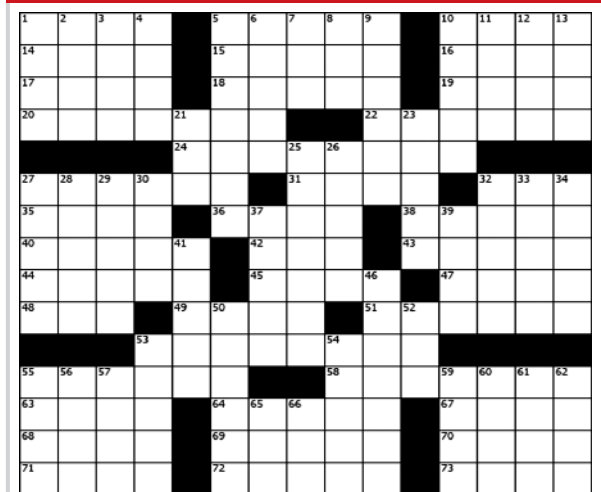
adaptation of a BBC show of the same name. Sandeep Modi is one of the emerging directors of the Indian entertainment industry who continues to garner accolades for

giving two of the biggest OTT shows without any connections in the industry. His gripping direction is accredited with the massive success of the Sushmita Sen-starrer 'Aarya' and now, 'The Night Manager.' Sandeep, the show's creator and director has successfully managed to win over the audiences with the first part of the high-octane drama. As the release date for the second part has recently been announced, we have got Sandeep sharing his delight for the same. He added, "The response to the first part was stupendous. We are chuffed to bring the sec-

ond part to the audiences. Wherever we go, we are asked, 'Second part kab aa Raha hai?' It's almost like 'Kattappa ne Baahubali ko kyun maara?' Such adulation is heart-warming. It has happened for the first time in India wherein a show has been split like this and yet has received so much love. It's been a roller coaster ride for me!" 'The Night Manager' is a Hindi adaptation of the British show 'The Night Manager,' which in turn was a screen adaptation of the novel by John le Carré. The opulent drama stars Aditya Roy Kapur, Anil Kapoor, Sobhita Dhulipala and Tillotama Shome in pivotal roles.

CROSSWORD

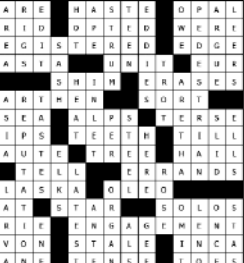
654



- ACROSS**
- Pollution problem
 - Hard metal
 - Lubricates
 - Yearn
 - National bird
 - Vietnam's continent
 - Eve's home
 - Small particles
 - Group of players
 - Malady
 - Orb
 - Having endless energy
 - Washed away
 - Da Vinci's "___ Lisa"
 - Contains
 - Comedian ___ Carvey
 - Significant times
 - Reluctant
 - Counts calories
 - Compass direction (abbr.)
 - Grinding tooth
 - Author ___ Asimov
- DOWN**
- Hastened
 - Average skirt
 - Singles
 - Kelly or Autry
 - Beach
 - Starchy veggie (sl.)
 - Id's partner
 - Graceful tree
 - Reduce
 - Sworn statements
 - Words of understanding (2 wds.)
 - Untruthful one
 - Unchanged
 - Dined
 - Sacred song
 - Radiate
 - Misplaces

- Young woman
- ___ vault
- Lamprey
- Leave out
- Threw
- Astronaut
- TV part
- Lecturers
- Excuse me!
- Metal bar
- Argument
- Mongolian desert
- Mistreat
- Horse's gait
- Resorts
- Provide food
- Large amount
- Comedian ___ Murphy
- Salary boost
- Basketball's Shaquille ___
- Computer output
- Angelic symbols
- Start of a Dickens title (2 wds.)
- Fragment
- Antique
- Dropper's word
- Range
- Appetizer
- Lunatic
- ___ wing and a prayer (2 wds.)
- Truckers' vehicles
- Elk's kin
- Droops
- Cut wood
- Singer ___ McEntire
- Chef's measures (abbr.)
- Milky gem
- Track event
- Fret
- Hoops league (abbr.)
- Stomach

SOLUTION 653



Historic silver-bronze finish by Ganemat and Darshna in women's skeet

Almaty, May 23 (PTI):

Ganemat Sekhon won silver while Darshna Rathore claimed bronze as India bagged two senior individual medals for the first time in women's skeet at an ISSF World Cup here on Tuesday.

Local favourite Assem Orynbay of Kazakhstan won gold through a shoot-off after both Ganemat and herself ended the 60-shot final with 50 hits each.

Ganemat missed one out of the first two shoot-off targets after Orynbay had shot both down. It was Ganemat's second individual world cup medal and a first-ever for Darshna who appeared in her maiden senior final.

Earlier on competition day two, Darshna qualified for the six-woman final in second spot, equalling the national record with a score of 120 while Ganemat was fourth, shooting 117.



Ganemat Sekhon celebrates on the podium.

Orynbay topped with 121 while among the other qualifiers was world num-

ber 10 from Cyprus, Konstantina Nikolaou. The Cypriot however was the

only shooter to miss three of her first four targets in the final, while the other five missed one each. At the end of the first 10 targets Orynbay was the most accurate with eight hits with four others including Darshna and Ganemat following with seven.

Nikolaou was the first to be eliminated after 20 targets as Ganemat and Barbora continued to chase the Kazakh Orynbay, with Darshna trying to catch up.

After 30 hits, the field was down to four with Ganemat leading with 25, followed by Orynbay with 24 and Darshna and Barbora tied at 22.

It was heartening to see the two Indians, in particular Ganemat, getting stronger as the match progressed. The Czech was next to fall at the 40-target mark with 29 to her name, confirming a historic double for the Indians.

10 teams to take part in ODI World Cup qualifier in Zimbabwe from June 18

Dubai, May 23 (PTI):

Ten teams will take part in the 2023 ODI World Cup Qualifier in Zimbabwe from June 18 to July 9, the ICC announced on Tuesday.

Each match will be high stakes, with teams contesting for two places at the World Cup in India in October-November.

The 10 teams taking part in the qualifier are split into two groups of five teams. Hosts Zimbabwe, the West Indies, the Netherlands, Nepal and the United States make up Group A, while Sri Lanka, Ireland, Scotland, Oman and the United Arab Emirates form Group B.

Each side will play the other teams in their group once with the top three from each group progressing to the Super Six stage. In the Super Six, they will play the sides they did not meet in the group stage. All points won in the group stage will be carried over to the Super



Six stage apart from those gained against the teams that fail to make it to the Super Six stage. The finalists will both progress to the World Cup 2023. Queen's Sports Club and Bulawayo Athletic Club in Bulawayo, Harare Sports Club and Takashinga Cricket Club in Harare will share 34 matches between them, with Harare Sports Club staging the final on July 9. Old Hararians Cricket Club will also host warm-up fixtures.

Hosts Zimbabwe will feature on the opening match-day at Harare Sports Club against Nepal, who are aiming to qualify for the World Cup for the first time. Two-time champions West Indies will also be in action on June 18 against neighbours USA at Takashinga Cricket Club. Group B commences on June 19 in Bulawayo with 1996 World Cup champions Sri Lanka facing the UAE at Queen's Sports Club, while in the

other match at Bulawayo Athletic Club, Ireland will face off against Oman.

The Netherlands will open their campaign against Zimbabwe on June 20 at Harare Sports Club, while Scotland face rivals Ireland in Bulawayo on June 21 at Queens Sports Club. The Super Six stage will commence on June 29, while the bottom two teams from each group will compete in the Playoff.

For the first time in this tournament, DRS will be used for all matches from the Super Six stage onwards.

The Qualifier is the culmination of four years of hard-fought competition that brings together the bottom five teams from the ICC Men's CWC Super League, three automatic qualifiers from the ICC Men's CWC League 2 and two teams who gained entry from the ICC Men's CWC Qualifier Play-off.

Anand, Carlsen, Ding Liren and Hou Yifan to feature in Global Chess League

Dubai, May 23 (PTI):

The upcoming inaugural edition of the Global Chess League (GCL) will feature the sport's icons such as Viswanathan Anand, Magnus Carlsen, Hou Yifan and Ding Liren.

GCL is a joint venture between Tech Mahindra and the international chess federation FIDE. The complete list of players was announced on Tuesday.

The first season of the Global Chess League will be held at the Dubai Chess & Culture Club from June 21 to July 2 in association with the Dubai Sports Council.

Carlsen and Ding will join as two of six 'icon' players, along with Indian



grandmaster Viswanathan Anand and Poland's Jan-Krzysztof Duda. The final two names will be confirmed at a later date, organisers said.

"Global Chess League will be a great new event in over-the-board chess that has never been done before," Carlsen, who has been the world's top-ranked player for over a decade, said in a statement. "I'm excited to be a part of this unique mixed-team format." China's

Ding, 30, became world champion in April, taking the crown from Carlsen, after the 32-year-old Norwegian said last year he would not defend his title. Dubai also staged the 2021 world championship, when Carlsen won his fifth title. Russian grandmaster Alexander Grischuk, France's Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, and Hou Yifan of China, a four-time women's world champion, will also participate in the tournament.

With MI's batting finally clicking, LSG bowlers have task cut out

Chennai, May 23 (PTI):

The batting unit finally clicking and a rather dramatic entry into the IPL play-offs will make Mumbai Indians a more confident side when they meet the plucky Lucknow Super Giants in the Eliminator here on Wednesday.

Mumbai Indians have a come a long from their woeful performance last year, when they came up with one of their worst showings in IPL, finishing last.

Having come this far in IPL 2023 after Gujarat Titans did them a good turn by defeating Royal Challengers Bangalore and pitch-forking the five-time champions into the Eliminator against



Lucknow Super Giants, the Rohit Sharma-led side would like to make the most of the proverbial 'life' to go the distance and win their sixth title.

Lucknow Super Giants

would know all too well that they were eliminated at the same stage last year by RCB after being one of the most dominating sides.

They have looked a co-

hesive side despite the absence of regular skipper KL Rahul but the way Krunal Pandya has tactfully marshalled his resources would once again be crucial as they meet the most successful IPL side that seems to have found its mojo after striking success at the back-end of the tournament.

One cannot overestimate the contribution of tall Australian all-rounder Cameron Green, who smacked an unbeaten century to help MI win their last league game against Sunrisers Hyderabad before GT defeated RCB.

Green (381 runs), along with a resurgent Suryakumar Yadav (511 runs, one century, four fifties), skipper Rohit

(313) and Ishan Kishan (439), will be their key batters when they taken on LGS in the do-or-die clash. With Mumbai's batting puzzle finally falling in place, LSG bowlers will be aware that they have a task on hand to contain the likes of Rohit and Co. if they get going.

Here, leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi will have a big role to play if the team hopes to keep MI in check. Bishnoi (16 wickets from 14 matches) has been the leading bowler for LSG and he would be skipper Krunal's go-to bowler. But it would also be important for the likes of Naveen-ul-Haq and Avesh Khan, besides Krunal himself and veteran Amit Mishra, to step up.

Root 'predicts' many more productive years for teammate Anderson

London, May 23 (PTI)

Former England Test skipper Joe Root has given teammate and the leading wicket-taking pacer in the world James Anderson a big reason to go all out in the upcoming Ashes series, saying he wants to see the veteran bowler go on performing for many more years.

Anderson, who is two months shy of turning 41, is just 15 wickets short of touching the 700-wicket mark, and the Ashes, commencing on June 16 at Birmingham, is a great opportunity for him to once again emerge as the hosts' leading bowler and guide the team to victory after their 0-4 drubbing in Australia two years back.

Root, who was the



England captain when the team toured Australia in 2021, posted a collage of five images of Anderson right from his early days with the England side in the 2000s to how he would look like two decades from now - all salt and pepper with a grey beard, a bespectacled wrinkled face, but still celebrating a Test wicket on the pitch.

"He keeps getting better and better. Can't wait for the next 20 @jimmy9," tweeted Root.

Australia's decision to not play warm-up games ahead of WTC final 'fraught with danger', says Border

Sydney, May 23 (PTI):

Questioning Australia's decision to not play any warm-up games ahead of the World Test Championship final against India and the Ashes series, former captain Allan Border said the move is "fraught with danger".

The WTC final is scheduled to be held at The Oval in London from June 7-11, following which Australia will take on arch-rivals England in the five-match Ashes from June 16 to July 31. The Australian team will prepare for the six Tests by undergoing a high-intensity training camp in Beckenham, featuring centre-wicket practice and net sessions. "I don't care how



hard you work in the nets, nothing replaces game time," Border told 'Fox Cricket'. "It just doesn't feel right not to play any cricket leading into an Ashes series. I just think that's fraught with danger..

there's something gnawing at me saying it's the wrong decision," he added.

The Indian team too won't play any warm-up game as the English County Championship is on and also the WTC being an ICC

event, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) is under no obligation to arrange practice matches for the visiting teams.

However, it will be the first time in Ashes history that the men from 'Down Under' won't face any local county sides before or during this winter's tour of England. Even before the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in India earlier this year, Australia had opted for simulation training instead of playing warm-up games.

The visitors had ended up losing the fixture 1-2.

"I'm really surprised we're just allowing the Ashes tour to be so condensed with no cricket between the games, but that's the way it is."

Former world No. 1 Halep accuses tennis integrity body of double standard

London, May 23 (PTI):

Former world No. 1 and two-time grand slam winner Simona Halep has accused the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) of double standards while dealing with the charge of irregularities it has levelled on her in connection with her Athlete Biological Passport (ABP).

The 31-year-old Romanian, winner of the French Open and Wimbledon singles titles, has been accused of a second doping offense by the ITIA for alleged discrepancies in her ABP.

The latest ITIA charge announced on Friday last is "separate and in addition to" the provisional



suspension Halep received last year after failing a drug test during the US Open, the ITIA said.

Halep alleged on Monday that while the ITIA was stating on one hand that it wanted to engage her in a timely manner, on the other, it was asking the tribunal to delay the hearing.

Alcaraz jumps Djokovic, returns to No. 1 in ATP rankings

Paris, May 23 (AP):

Carlos Alcaraz replaced Novak Djokovic at No. 1 in the ATP rankings, earning the top seeding at the French Open, and Daniil Medvedev's Italian Open title moved him up to No. 2 ahead of the year's second Grand Slam tournament.

Djokovic's loss in the fourth round as the defending champion in Rome dropped him to No. 3. That means he and Alcaraz could end up in the same half of the Roland Garros bracket and be set up for a potential semifinal showdown, depending on what happens in Thursday's draw in Paris. The French Open, which begins on



Sunday, will mark the first chance to be seeded No. 1 at a major tournament for Alcaraz, a Spaniard who turned 20 this month. He is 30-3 with four titles in 2023. Alcaraz ascended to the ATP's top spot for the first

time by winning the U.S. Open last September and, at 19, became the youngest man to finish a year there. But a leg injury kept him out of the Australian Open in January, when Djokovic won the title for his 22nd at

a Slam event, tying Rafael Nadal for the men's record.

Djokovic has spent more weeks at No. 1 than anyone man or woman in the history of the sport's computerized rankings.

Iga Swiatek, the defending champion in Paris, remained at No. 1 in the WTA rankings, which she has led for more than a year, followed by No. 2 Aryna Sabalenka, the Australian Open champion.

Swiatek stopped playing in the third set of her quarterfinal in Rome against reigning Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina because of a hurt right thigh. Swiatek said afterward the problem "shouldn't be anything serious."

Newcastle qualifies for Champions League for first time in 20 years

Newcastle, May 23 (AP):

Newcastle qualified for the Champions League for the first time in 20 years after drawing with Leicester 0-0 in the English Premier League, a milestone moment for a Saudi-controlled club with the resources and ambition to become a major force in European soccer.

The point ensured Newcastle cannot be denied a top-four finish heading into its final game of the season, at Chelsea on Sunday. Leicester's campaign-closing game has far more riding on it, with the



team still in the relegation zone and needing a win at home to West Ham to avoid falling into the second-tier Championship seven years after winning the Premier League at preseason odds

of 5,000-1 in a sporting fairytale. Newcastle swarmed all over Leicester at St. James' Park, hitting the post on three occasions through Callum Wilson, Miguel Almiron and Bruno

Guimaraes and forcing a series of saves from goalkeeper Daniel Iversen.

Still, it was job done for Newcastle, which was last in Europe's top club competition in 2003 when it reached the second group stage before finishing below Barcelona and Inter Milan. These are the types of European heavyweights Newcastle's players will be mixing with next season.

"We beat Juventus here 1-0 and I've seen that on DVDs to hopefully be a part of it and be involved in those nights is something special," Newcastle midfielder Sean Longstaff said.

Mamata assures support to Kejriwal in fight against Central ordinance

Kolkata, May 23 (PTI)

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday assured her counterpart from Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal, that her party would support him in his fight against the Central ordinance to control appointments and transfer of bureaucrats in that city state. After a nearly hour-long meeting here, Banerjee told newsmen that a forthcoming vote in Rajya Sabha on a bill to convert the central ordinance on control of services in Delhi into law, will be a "semi-final before the 2024 elections."

Kejriwal who came to Kolkata along with Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann as part of a nationwide tour to garner support for his fight also launched an attack against the BJP.

He alleged the saffron party "buys MLAs, uses CBI, ED to try to break" opposition governments, besides using Governors to disturb non-BJP governments such as "Bengal and Punjab". Banerjee told



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in a meeting with Delhi Chief Minister and AAP Convener Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, in Kolkata, Tuesday.

newsmen, "We support AAP in the fight against the Central ordinance...Request all parties not to vote for BJP's law (on controlling appointments in Delhi)".

She also said, "Request all parties not to vote for BJP's law (on controlling appointments in Delhi)... this (contest in the Parliament) will be a semi-final before the 2024 elections." The feisty TMC leader also quipped "The double engine (BJP rule in both state and centre) has

become a troubled engine." Kejriwal and Mann also turned the impromptu press conference held after the meeting of the two leaders, into an attack on the BJP and central government. The AAP leader and Delhi chief minister said "BJP has made a mockery of democracy where it cannot form a government, it buys MLAs, uses CBI, ED to try to break the government Governors to disturb non-BJP governments such as Bengal and Punjab".

The bone of contention between the AAP government and the BJP has been the Central government ordinance setting up a National Capital Civil Service Authority which overturned a Supreme Court order last week giving control of services, excluding those related to police, public order and land, to the elected government in Delhi. The new ordinance takes away these powers from the Delhi state government and gives them to a committee which would be effectively controlled by the Centre.

A central law has to be brought to replace the ordinance and opposition parties are hoping to stall that in the upper house or Rajya Sabha when it comes up for debate.

The AAP has already sought the support of all non-BJP parties saying this is a "time for agni pariksha" for opposition parties, and that they should come together if they want to save the country's democracy and Constitution.

SUMMER AFTERNOON



A flower vendor drinks water to quench his thirst on a hot summer afternoon, in Prayagraj, Tuesday.

Siddaramaiah will be CM for 5 years, says K'taka minister

Shivakumar points at Congress high command

Bengaluru, May 23 (PTI)

Karnataka Minister M B Patil's statement that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will complete full five years in office has created some flutter in the ruling Congress circles, as it came days after the government being sworn-in following marathon discussions in Delhi over who will lead the state.

Among the possible scenarios that did the rounds last week ahead of the government formation was "power sharing or rotational CM" formula to accommodate both Siddaramaiah and state

Congress chief and now deputy CM DK Shivakumar in the top post in turns.

Denying any proposed arrangement that Shivakumar will take over as CM after two-and-half years or post-2024 Lok Sabha polls, Patil on Monday said Siddaramaiah will lead the government for a full five year term.

Seemingly upset by the statement, Shivakumar did not want to react to Patil but said the party high command will take care of it. However, his brother and Bangalore Rural MP D K Suresh said he too can respond sharply to what Patil has said, but will not do so.

With both chief ministerial aspirants Siddaramaiah and

Shivakumar digging in their heels post Congress' victory in the May 10 Assembly polls, prolonged parleys involving the grand old party's central leadership had preceded their appointment as CM and deputy CM, respectively, last week.

There have been reports quoting party sources that the high command had put forward the proposal of rotational chief ministers to break the deadlock then.

"Siddaramaiah will be chief minister for five years. If there was power sharing or anything, our leadership would have told you (media). There is no such thing. As our AICC General Secretary has said things are continuing," Patil had told reporters in Mysuru on Monday, responding to a

question if Siddaramaiah will remain as CM for five years or is there a power sharing formula.

To a question on discussions over a change in CM after the 2024 Parliamentary polls and whether Shivakumar will be given a chance, Patil said, "If such things were there, our AICC General Secretary would have told you, when he did the press conference. He said there is no such thing."

On Tuesday, Patil sought to clarify that his statement before the media on May 22 was a reiteration of what AICC General Secretary K C Venugopal had told the press, soon after announcing the names of Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar as the two top posts on May 18. "When asked about

power sharing, he (Venugopal) had said there is no power sharing. Power sharing is with the people... I have said what Venugopal had said," he told reporters here.

On Patil's statement, Shivakumar said: "Let any one say anything they want. The AICC General Secretary is there, the Chief Minister is there and the AICC President (Mallikarjun Kharge) is there..." However, his brother Suresh openly expressed displeasure over Patil's statement. "Siddaramaiah is the chief minister; if you want more information and reply to M B Patil's statement, you can meet our AICC General Secretary Surjewala (Randeep Singh Surjewala) and gather information."

India working on small modular reactors: Jitendra Singh

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

India is working on new technologies such as the small modular reactors that can be factory-built and help make clean energy transition, Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh said here. Singh, in an interview to PTI, also said the government had opened up the nuclear power sector for joint ventures with public sector undertakings but not for the private sector. Small Modular Reactors (SMR), with up to 300 MW capacity are flexible in design and require a smaller footprint. Being mobile

and agile technology, SMR can be factory-built unlike the conventional nuclear reactors that are built on-site. A recent NITI Aayog report said, as many SMR designs were under various stages of research, development and licensing in different countries, global regulatory harmonisation, developing the manufacturing ecosystem and bringing in public as well as private capital would be the key for growth of the SMR industry. "We are already working on it. I think as times come, we have to move with the global world. SMR may become the order of the day. We are

open to these new technologies and we are also adapting to them very fast," Singh said.

The minister said for the first time, the Modi government had approved a proposal to build 10 nuclear reactors under "fleet mode". The state-run Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) builds and operates almost all of the atomic power plants in the country. In 2015, the government amended the Atomic Energy Act to enable joint ventures between the NPCIL and public sector companies to build nuclear power projects.

custody battle

'Girl child must be in mother's care while approaching puberty'

Indore, May 23 (PTI)

It is in a child's best interest to be in her mother's care while she approaches puberty so that her feelings and emotions can be better dealt with, a family court in Madhya Pradesh's Indore observed while granting the custody of a 10-year-old girl to her mother in a custody case.

Additional principal judge of the family court Praveena Vyas, in an order passed on April 25, observed that the girl is moving towards puberty, and in such a situation, it is in her

best interest to be in the custody of her mother for her all-round development and to understand her feelings.

The court further stated that the girl's father will be able to meet her on weekends and during special festivals and summer vacations for a specified period of time, subject to the mother's consent, said Jitendra Purohit, the counsel for the 46-year-old woman, on Tuesday.

The child's parents are gazetted officers of the state government and they got divorced in 2021, he said.

Rs 200 cr money laundering case

Delhi court allows Jacqueline Fernandez to travel abroad

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

A Delhi court on Tuesday allowed Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez, accused in a money laundering case also involving alleged conman Sukesh Chandrasekar, to travel abroad from May 25 to June 12.

Special Judge Shailendra Malik allowed the application moved by Fernandez claiming she needed to travel to Abu Dhabi from May 25 to May 27 to attend IIFA Awards.

The judge also allowed her to travel to Milan, Italy from May 28 to June 12 after the actress said she was required to participate in the shooting of a film. The court had on



November 15 last year granted bail to Fernandez, who is an accused in the case but was not arrested.

The ED had lodged the case based on an FIR filed by Delhi Police's Economic Offences Wing (EOW) against Chandrasekar, who has been accused of cheating

Kolkata, May 23 (PTI) Police seized a huge quantity of explosives and banned firecrackers during raids in different locations in rural West Bengal and arrested at least 100 people for their alleged involvement in running illegal manufacturing factories, a senior state police official said on Tuesday.

A total 132 cases have been lodged by the police for the seizures, the official said. The raids started on Monday and continued in the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday in different places mainly in Nadia, North and South 24 Parganas districts, he said.

"So far we have seized nearly 34,000 kg of explosives and banned firecrackers and arrested at least 100 people for allegedly storing them and running their businesses. These arrests were made during last night's raids conducted at different districts mainly Nadia, South and North 24 Parganas," the official said.

The police of the various districts have been asked by the authorities to file reports on seizures of explosives and firecrackers and arrests to the state secretariat by May 29, he said. The raids were conducted in the backdrop of back-to-back incidents of

blasts at illegal firecracker manufacturing units in rural Bengal within a span of eight days.

At least 17 people died in Bengal in three incidents of blasts and a devastating fire at an explosion in the state. The explosion at Egra in Purba Medinipur on May 16 claimed 12 lives, including that of the prime accused, while three members of a family succumbed in Budge Budge in South 24 Parganas on Monday and none in another blast at Dubrajpur in Birbhum district the same day. The fire at a carbide godown in Malda district on Tuesday killed two.

SC notice to Centre, Assam on plea to declare eco-sensitive zone around Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary

New Delhi, May 23 (PTI)

The Supreme Court has asked the Centre and the Assam government to respond to a plea seeking directions to declare the area around Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary an eco-sensitive zone and remove all encroachments.

A three-judge bench of Justices B R Gavi, Vikram Nath and Sanjay Karol has issued notices to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the state government with regard to the wildlife sanctuary in Assam. "Issue notice, returnable on July 12, 2023. Liberty to serve the standing counsel for the State of Assam is granted," the bench said. The top court was hearing a plea filed by environmental activist

Rohit Choudhury seeking directions to precisely demarcate the boundary of the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary without any further delay. The petition contended that the boundary of the sanctuary notified in 1998 under the Wildlife Protection Act is yet to be precisely marked and the control of a part of the sanctuary area, the Khas land (government controlled land), is yet to be handed over to the Forest department by the district administration.

The petition alleged the authorities have taken no effective measures to declare the area around the sanctuary an eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) in blatant disregard for a Supreme Court order dated December 11, 2018.

Actor Aditya Singh Rajput death

Police await postmortem report; yet to confirm cause of death

Mumbai, May 23 (PTI)

The Mumbai police are awaiting the postmortem report to know the exact cause for the death of actor, model and casting director Aditya Singh Rajput, who collapsed and died in the bathroom of his apartment in suburban Andheri, an official said on Tuesday.

According to the police, Rajput (33) collapsed in the bathroom of his apartment in Oshiwara area of Andheri on Monday after-



Family and friends of actor Aditya Singh Rajput at a hospital where his post-mortem being done a day after he was found dead at his apartment, in Mumbai, Tuesday.

noon and was found by his maid. He was rushed to a

nearby hospital where doctors declared him dead. "The actor's viscera sample was sent for examination and we are awaiting the report. If anything is found in the report, the investigation will move ahead in that direction, but till now nothing suspicious has been found," the official from Oshiwara police station said.

The medical report will make it clear if Rajput had consumed alcohol or any other substance, he said.

Not in PM race, working to get Opposition parties together: Pawar

Pune, May 23 (PTI)

Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar has said he is not in the race to become prime minister and asserted the Opposition wants a leadership that would work for the betterment of the country. Speaking on Monday at a condolence meet for Ram Takawale, the Pune University's vice chancellor who passed away recently, Pawar said opposition parties might face a little task of projecting one person as the prime ministerial candidate if they come together. "I am putting efforts to get the Opposition together. I am not in the race to become the prime minister as I am not contesting the next (Lok Sabha) election," he told reporters.

On seat-sharing with the Congress and the Shiv Sena (UBT), which are part of the Maha Vikas Aghadi, Pawar said, "Recently, a meeting was held at my residence. Leaders from the Maha Vikas Aghadi will decide on it."

"Uddhav Thackeray, Sonia Gandhi or Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, and I will sit together to discuss more about it," he said on seat-sharing.

The tenure of several civic bodies in Maharashtra got over early 2022, but polls were not held due to the coro-

navirus pandemic. The Lok Sabha elections are due in 2024, and the Maharashtra Assembly polls are also due in the later part of next year.

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