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### BRIEF



**Former Lok Sabha speaker Meira Kumar with other Congress party leaders pays tribute at Martyrs memorial on the occasion of Telangana Formation Day, at Gun Park, in Hyderabad, Friday, June 2.**

### Life sentence

**Kota (Rajasthan):** A court here on Friday sentenced three persons to life imprisonment for the murder of a man over a monetary dispute nearly nine years ago, a prosecution lawyer said. The court also slapped fine of Rs 20,000 on each of the three convicts. Gulshan, 22, a resident of Suket police station area in Rajasthan's Kota district, was stoned to death in October 2014. His body was recovered from near the bank of the Patli river on October 3. A case was registered against three people based on a complaint filed by Gulshan's father.

### Heavy rains

**Thane:** Several electric poles were twisted or uprooted in Maharashtra's Thane district due to heavy rains and strong winds on Thursday evening, state-owned power distribution company MSEDCL said on Friday. A release by the Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL) said that a spell of heavy showers and gusty winds lashed Asangaon in Shahpur taluka. As many as 25 electric poles, including nine high-tension ones, and 38 km of electric wires were damaged.

### Criminal killed

**Lucknow:** A notorious criminal carrying a reward of Rs 50,000 on his head was killed in an encounter with police in Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad district on Friday, officials here said. Two policemen were also injured in the exchange of fire, they said. Monu Choudhury of Ghaziabad's Muradnagar area was killed in an encounter with police. Two police personnel sustained injuries in the operation, Special Director General of Police (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar said.

**Weather**

High 42 Low 28

**MARKET**

NIFTY 18,534.10

SENSEX 62,547.11

**BULLION**

GOLD 59,800

SILVER 72,213

## Coromandel Express derails, 50 feared dead, over 300 injured

Balasure, Jun 02:

At least 50 people were dead and over 300 injured when a passenger train hit the derailed coaches of another train in Odisha's Balasure this evening. Many are feared trapped. Coromandel Express, which was going from Kolkata to Chennai, rammed into the derailed coaches of the other train, which was going from Bengaluru to Kolkata, Railway Ministry spokesperson Amitabh Sharma said. The details of the two trains are 12841 Shalimar-Chennai Coromandel Express and 12864 Yashwantpur-Howrah Superfast Express. Odisha Fire Services

*The accident took place near Bahanaga railway station, resulting in a significant number of casualties among the passengers. Many individuals are feared to have lost their lives, and several are said to be trapped inside the overturned coaches of the superfast train.*



chief Sudhanshu Sarangi is supervising rescue operations. Medical colleges and hospitals in and around Balasure have been alerted. Over a hundred personnel of the National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF) and its state counterpart are looking for trapped passengers and cutting through the debris to reach them. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee tweeted she is monitoring the situation continually personally with the Chief Secretary and other senior officers. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has told Revenue Minister Pramila Malik to go to the accident site, news agency PTI reported.

## Over 140 weapons surrendered in Manipur after Shah's appeal

**Imphal, Jun 02:** More than 140 weapons have been surrendered in different places in Manipur after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's appeal a day ago, sources said on Friday. Shah, on the last day of his four-day visit to Manipur on Thursday, appealed to all concerned to surrender their weapons to the security forces and administration. He had also warned that a search-and-combing operation would be carried out in the state soon and anyone found to possess



**Weapons surrendered at different locations in Manipur after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's appeal, on Friday, June 2.**

any weapon would be prosecuted. After the home minister's appeal in Imphal, more than 140 weapons have been surrendered till Friday morning, sources said. They said the situation in Manipur was by and large peaceful in most districts and sporadic incidents of firing at or torching of empty houses by miscreants were becoming rare now as coordinated effort was made by different security agencies. The surrendered weapons included self-loading rifles, carbine, AK and INSAS rifles, light machine guns, pistols, M16 rifles, smoke gun/tear gas, sten gun and grenade launcher.

## ED freezes bank deposits, cash worth over Rs 18 Cr

**New Delhi:** Bank deposits and cash worth more than Rs 18 crore of a Pune-based company and a linked entity have been frozen after the ED recently raided them in a case linked to alleged foreign exchange violation, illegal crypto exchange trade, wallet services and "hawala", the agency said on Friday. The searches were carried out under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) on May 25 in Pune and the neighbouring district of Ahmednagar in Maharashtra against the VIPS Group of companies and Global Affiliate Business "managed and controlled" by Vinod Khute and his relatives, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said.

## Arrest Brij Bhushan till June 9: Khap Mahapanchayat

**Kurukshetra, Jun 02:** A "khap mahapanchayat" Haryana's Kurukshetra on Friday demanded the arrest of outgoing Wrestling Federation of India chief and Bharatiya Janata Party MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, accused of sexually harassing some women wrestlers, and gave the government time till June 9 to act on its demand. The meet deliberated on the next steps to be taken in the agitation pertaining to the wrestlers' issue. Talking to reporters after the "mahapanchayat",



**Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait with other union leaders during a 'Khap Mahapanchayat' to deliberate on the next steps to be taken in the agitation pertaining to the ongoing wrestlers' issue, in Kurukshetra, Friday, June 2.**

else the agitation will be intensified by holding panchayats across the country and the wrestlers will return to Jantar Mantar in Delhi for protest.

## LEGACY HONORED TOGETHER



**Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis perform rituals during a celebration marking the 350th anniversary of the coronation of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at the Raigad fort, in Raigarh, Friday, June 2.**

## Groping, Intimidation, Stalking: Charges against wrestling chief in FIRs

**New Delhi, Jun 02 (PTI):** The two FIRs registered by Delhi Police against outgoing WFI chief and BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh based on complaints of six adult wrestlers and father of a minor narrate several alleged instances of sexual harassment, inappropriate touching, groping, stalking and intimidation by him at different times and places including in foreign countries, over a decade. The Delhi Police had on April 28 registered the two FIRs at Connaught Place police station, including one by the father of a minor wrestler invoking POCSO Act that entails prison term up to seven years on conviction.

The FIRs registered following a Supreme Court order have charged Singh under various IPC sections including assaulting a woman to outrage her modesty (Section 354), sexual harassment (354 A), stalking (354 D) that are punishable with jail terms of two-three years. Some of the complainants also alleged that Singh made advances to seek "sexual favours" promising to help them in their professional careers. Singh has denied all the charges and said he will hang himself even if a single allegation is proved against him. He has also maintained that all wrestlers are like his children

and he will not blame them as his blood and sweat have also gone into their success. The FIR filed by the six wrestlers also names Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) secretary Vinod Tomar as an accused. In the FIR filed on the basis of complaints by the adult wrestlers, one of them alleged, "While I was training, the accused called me separately, to which I refused since the accused was touching other girls also inappropriately. However, I was again called by the accused who then pulled up my T-shirt and slid his hand down my stomach and put his hand on my navel on the pretext of checking my breath.

## Karnataka Cabinet rolls out Cong's 5 poll guarantees

**New Delhi, Jun 02 (PTI):** With the law commission backing the sedition law, the Congress on Friday accused the BJP government of planning to make it more "draconian" and giving a message ahead of the general elections that it will be used against opposition leaders. Allying that the BJP uses the sedition law as a tool of "subversing, subjugating, and silencing dissent", the opposition party also asked why the government has not yet had the courage to do away with the law despite the apex court rendering it inoperative and making strong ob-



**Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy DK Shivakumar and cabinet colleagues during a cabinet meeting, at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru, Friday, June 2.**

servations in that regard. Addressing a press conference at the AICC headquarters here, Congress spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi said, "A message of colonial mindset has been given that there will be a distance between the ruler

and the ruled and through this law, the foundations of the republic will be uprooted. A message has been given ahead of the general election that we will use this in a one-sided manner particularly against opposition leaders."

## My idea of India is different from BJP's: Rahul



Stanford, Jun 02:

Rahul Gandhi speaking at Stanford University, US on his idea of India. "I have a completely different concept of India. I don't see India the way they do. They see India as a top-down centralised system, whereas I see India as

a diverse nation with multiple cultures, religions, and languages. I see it as a decentralised system. "While we were walking in the Bharat Jodo Yatra, we had no force; the force was on the other side. The BJP had the police, institutions, media, and social media. "All the force at the disposal of the Modi government could do nothing. The more they tried to apply force, the less it worked. "Power comes when you get close to the truth. They have the force, but they don't have power."

## Court sentences man to 7 years rigorous imprisonment

**New Delhi:** A court here Friday sentenced a man to rigorous imprisonment for seven years and his father to three years of simple imprisonment in two separate cases, saying the father, instead of showing the "right path" to his son, himself "acted ghostly". The court, which was hearing the cases related to the 2020 north-east Delhi riots, also observed that communal riots are among the most violent forms of public disorder that afflicts society. Additional Sessions Judge Pulastya Pramachala was hearing two cases against Mithan Singh and his son Jony Kumar who were convicted of various offences, including those under IPC sections 147 (rioting) and 436 (mischief by fire or explosive substance with intent to destroy house, etc.)

## Notorious thieves arrested with Rs 11 lakh booty

## SRGOI felicitates pharmacy toppers in the college

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 02:** With the arrest of three notorious thieves, police claimed to have solved six cases of thefts which occurred in Amleshwar Police Station area. The accused moved around on a scooter to conduct recon and selected the locked houses as their targets. With the help of CCTV footage, cops managed to trace their whereabouts and nab them. Booty worth Rs 11 lakh was recovered from them.

SP Shalabh Sinha informed that under the supervision of ASP (Rural) Anant Sahu, SDOP (Patan) Devansh Singh Rathore and DSP (Crime) Rajeev Sharma, a joint team of ACCU and Amleshwar Police Station led by Inspector Santosh Mishra and Inspector Jagdeesh Prasad Sidar conducted investigations on the com-



plaints of thefts. The suspects and criminals recently released from the jail were quizzed. After examining the CCTV recordings of the places near the

crime scenes, police got some footage of the suspects. Police chased the suspects with the help of CCTV recordings of other places and found that the

suspects had moved towards Mana Raipur after crossing Pachpedi Naka. Finally a suspect Surendra Vishwakarma was arrested from Housing Board

Colony, Boriakala. During interrogation, he confessed to committing thefts at different places in Amleshwar. One Jitendra Vishwakarma assisted him in the crimes. The accused had sold the stolen booty to one Shivshankar Rai of Raipur. Police arrested all the three and recovered 145 grams gold, 700 grams silver ornaments and Rs 10000 cash from the accused.

The accused Surendra Vishwakarma (29) son of Late Vinay Kumar Vishwakarma a resident of Housing Board Colony, Boriakala, Raipur; Jitendra Kumar Vishwakarma (54) son of Vijay Kumar a resident of Laxmi Nagar, Raipur and Shivshankar Rai (43) son of Anil Krishnan Rai a resident of Tikrapara, Raipur have been booked under the provisions mentioned in sections 457, 380 of IPC.



Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 02:** The topper students of Pharmacy were felicitated at a ceremony held in Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy (SRGOI) Kumhari on Friday. The students were felicitated at the hands of Vice Chairman, SRGOI Dr JK Upadhyay. The program began with a welcome speech by the Principal Dr Alankar Srivastava, congratulating the toppers for their excellent performance through-

out the academic year, adding that this success definitely took the collaborative effort of the students, parents, faculty and the college. He also advised the students to maintain the same momentum and achieve higher. Dr JK Upadhyay, Vice Chairman-SRGOI, Dr Preeti Gurnani, Director-SRI Kumhari appreciated the performance of the students in the examinations and toppers of B Pharma Semester (Seven) Neeraj Sahu, Priyanka Sahu, Srishti, Kirti, Bholeshwar,

Ashish from B Pharma Semester V, Jitendra Sonkar, Ritu Sahu and Saroj Sahu from D Pharma 1st year were awarded with citation along with certificate. Roshan Kumar Jha, a student of B Pharma Semester VIII, was awarded as the Student Artist of the Year 2022-23. The program was successfully conducted by Vinita Goti, Aanchal Verma and Aastha Verma. Students of D Pharma, B Pharma and M Pharma courses were present on the occasion.

## Free Medical camp organised at Village Konari Bharda

## Man arrested for abetting girl's suicide

## Adopt eco-conscious lifestyle that is in harmony with our planet: Munish Goyal

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 02:** 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, at Village Konari Bharda, which started at 10 am, on May 31, 2023. The Medical Team from CSR department, comprising of, 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. Smt. Sita Sinha, CSR Assistant, from the depart-



ment was also present during the Health Camp. A total of 37 villagers from Konari Bharda, including 07 men, 20 women and 10 Children, availed free health services at the day long Health Camp and free medicines were distributed to them. It is noteworthy that Health Camp is one of the prime initiatives, through which BSP's

CSR Department has contributed substantially towards Public Health & Medicine. The CSR Department of Bhilai Steel Plant, conducts health camps on regular basis in the adjoining areas or mines, with the aim of ensuring adequate medical & Health facilities to the communities within which it works.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 02:** Police arrested a 25-year-old man on charges of abetting suicide of a girl. The girl had allegedly committed suicide by hanging self at her home at Sector 4 on May 29. CSP Nikhil Rakhecha informed that they recorded the statements of the family members of the deceased and came to know that one Ravi Singh of Pragati Nagar Risali often harassed the girl and raised questions on her character. He often spoke to her on mobile and used to say that a girl having bad character should com-



mit suicide. Police examined the call recordings and later arrested Ravi Singh (25) son of Late Jitendra Singh a resident of Pragati nagar, Risali for abetting the girl's suicide. A case has been lodged against him under sections 306, 294, 506 of IPC.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 02:** SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's, Merchant and Wire Rod Mill of Mills Zone-1 organized a Shop Communication Forum on "Mission Life-Lifestyle for Environment", a one-day event on environmental awareness, at the MWRM Conference Hall. Munish Kumar Goyal, CGM (MWRM) was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The "Mission Life" programme was organized to spread environmental awareness and increase individual and community participation in environment conservation. Goyal administered an oath of "Commitment to the Environment" to the senior officers and employees present

on this occasion. Highlighting the importance of environment in his address, Goyal said that "Mission Life" initiative has been launched with an aim to spread environmental awareness and inspire people, communities and organizations around the world to adopt an eco-conscious lifestyle that is in harmony with our planet and brings about, positive changes which helps in reducing environmental imbalance. This event should not remain merely symbolic but should continue in the future, Goyal said. Addressing the gathering, SK Hariramani, GM (M Mill) said that every individual has to take steps with a firm will, to lead a lifestyle that involves

safe environment practices in our daily routine, to achieve the objective of environmental protection. Expressing her views, Samayla Ansari, Asst Mgr (Personnel Mills Zone-1), said that we need to bring about, positive changes in our lifestyle which helps in maintaining the environmental balance, such as avoiding the use of Single-use plastic, water conservation, encouraging use of environmental-friendly modes of transport, using cloth carry-bags etc. She appealed everyone to plant more trees and encourage others to do the same. Rajesh Kumar Pandey ALWO of Personnel Department and Ashish Rao Kale also contributed to organizing the program successfully.

॥ जय सियाराम ॥

जिनके आगमन से धन्य हुआ छत्तीसगढ़ धाम

इस धरा के कण-कण में बसते हैं भांचा राम

सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम - 3 जून, शनिवार

दोपहर 2:00 - शाम 8:30 बजे

अंतरराष्ट्रीय रामायण प्रतियोगिता  
केरल | उत्तर प्रदेश | पश्चिम बंगाल | छत्तीसगढ़

शाम 6:00 - 6:30 बजे

कंबोडिया के कलाकारों की विशेष प्रस्तुति

शाम 6:30 - 7:00 बजे

केलो महाआरती, दिव्य दीपदान

शाम 7:15 - 7:30 बजे

दीप प्रज्वलन, राजगीत  
सामूहिक हनुमान चालीसा

रात 8:30 - 9:00 बजे

इंडोनेशिया के कलाकारों की विशेष प्रस्तुति

शाम 7:30 - 8:30 बजे

विजेता दलों को पुरस्कार वितरण

❖

विदेश से पधारे कलाकार दलों का सम्मान

❖

प्रतियोगिता के निर्णायकों का सम्मान

❖

विजेता दलों की प्रस्तुतियां

भजन संध्या

रात 9:00 बजे

मैथिली ठाकुर

कुमार विश्वास

समापन समारोह

3 जून, शाम 7:30 से 8:30 बजे

रामलीला मैदान, रायगढ़

भूपेश बघेल

मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़

## Judicial remand of all four accused extended till June 13

**Decision on bail application of Anwar kept reserved till 13th**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** The Court has extended the judicial remand of the four accused in the Rs 2000 cr Liquor scam unearthed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) here on Friday. All the four accused viz. Anwar Dhebar, Nitesh Purohit, Trilok Singh Dhillion alias Pappu and Telecom Officer and Excise officer AP Tripathi were produced in the Special Court and after hearing the views of advo-



ates of both the party's, the Court kept the decision on granting of bail reserved till June 13. Along with this all the judicial remand of all the four accused has been extended till June 13.

It is notable here that advocates of Anwar Dhebar had filed a bail application in the Court and on which

after the hearing the Special Judge Ajay Singh Rajput will take final decision on June 13.

It is notable here that ED had produced all the above four accused in the alleged Rs 2000 cr liquor scam last on Friday in the Special Court and after day-long hearing into the case, the accused Anwar Dhebar was sent on 14 days judicial remand and ED took remand of Nitesh Purohit and AP Tripathi. After four days of ED's remand, both were produced in the Special Court and were again sent on judicial remand and now would be produced in the Court on June 13.

### AUDIENCE SPELLBOUND



The presentation by 21 team of artists from Assam, out of which 16 are girls, left the audience spellbound on their presentation based upon the epic Ramayan under the National Ramayan Festival in Raigarh here on Friday.

## Speeding truck crushes elderly man to death

**Raipur, Jun 02:** A speeding truck crushed an elderly man on scooter to death in Jora area of the capital Raipur. The elderly man died on the spot after his head came under the wheel of the truck. After accident, truck driver fled, leaving the vehicle. Police seized the truck.

According to information available, 65-year-old Rajkumar Shivkani was going from Raipur to his village Pirda on his scooter. On Thursday night at 9 pm, a speeding truck hit his scooter near Hotel Courtyard Marriott in Jora falling under jurisdiction of Telibandha police. The elderly came under the wheels of the truck in accident and his head was badly crushed. After hitting him the truck dragged him to a short distance and the scooter was thrown at some dis-

tance after collision.

After going some distance, the truck driver fled leaving the vehicle on the spot. On the information of the passers-by, the police reached the spot and seized the truck. Police started search to nab absconding truck driver. Police learned from the people present near the spot during accident that truck driver was driving rashly at a very high speed and hit the scooter rider hard in the dark. Further action is being taken in the matter. Telibandha police station said that the relatives of the deceased have been informed. After the post-mortem on Friday, the body has been handed over to the relatives for the last rites. Police started scanning CCTV cameras to arrest the absconding truck driver.

## Journalist arrested in Raipur, accused of blackmailing

**Raipur, Jun 02:** Police have arrested journalist Manoj Pandey of Buland Chhattisgarh on charges of extorting lakhs of rupees by blackmailing in the guise of journalism in the capital. Police said that action against Manoj Pandey had been taken on complaint lodged by Amit Jaiswal, resident of Mowa Raipur and the operator of a firm named M/s Shring Construction.

Jaiswal, through his firm, obtained the contract for the construction work issued from time to time by the Chhattisgarh government through tender. His firm also undertakes contracts from other big contractors of the government as per the departmental rules. Manoj Pandey met Jaiswal about a year ago and subsequently Manoj told himself to be a journalist of Buland Chhattisgarh Press.

Meanwhile, about 3 months ago, Manoj Pandey started demanding lakhs of rupees from the complainant citing irregularities in government work.

Manoj Pandey went on making phone calls and WhatsApp calls from his mobile number to the complainant threatening Jaiswal and getting it printed in his paper besides defaming him and obstructing his works. He also threatened him to ruin his career by filing case against him in the court. Claiming that all officers and other contractors were afraid of him Pandey started blackmailing and threatening Jaiswal continuously. In this way, Manoj Pandey blackmailed the complainant and collected a total of Rs 2 lakh from him. He also demanded Rs 20 lakh from Jaiswal.

### Congress Bilaspur divisional Sammelan on 7th

**Raipur, Jun 02:** The divisional sammelan of Congress in view of the forthcoming VS polls 2023 will be held in Bilaspur on June 7 at CIMS Auditorium, Medical College premises, Sadar Bazar from 11:00 am. In this AICC secy and PCC State in-charge Kumari Selja, PCC Chief Mohan Markam, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, Chhattisgarh Assembly Speaker Dr Charandas Mahant, AICC secy, and state in-charge PCC Dr Chandan Yadav, Saptgiri Shankar Ulka, Joint Secy. Vijay Jangid, and all the Ministers, MLAs, MPs and Parliamentary Secretaries of the division will be taking part in it.

## Fitness test of school buses on June 11

**Instructions issued to send vehicles to Police Parade Ground at 9 am**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** A camp will be organized on June 11 for fitness test of vehicles used for transportation of students in all schools and educational institutions running in Raipur district. This camp will start from 9 am at the Police Parade Ground. According to the information received from the Regional Transport Officer of Raipur, all educational institutions will have to send all the vehicles of their institutions to this fitness check-up camp with complete documents. Necessary instructions have also been issued in this regard from the RTO office.

Regional Transport Officer Shalabh Sahu said that if the vehicles are not sent to this fitness check-up camp, then it will be considered that the vehicle is not operable in the educational institution. He also informed that in such a situation action will be taken to suspend the certificate of fitness and license of the vehicle and if the same vehicle is found to be operating then it will be detained.

From the date of cancellation of fitness certificate, tax assessment action will be taken considering the vehicle as normal category. The Regional Transport Officer has also appealed to the operators of all educational institutions to compulsorily send their vehicles for fitness check-up at Police Parade Ground, Raipur on June 11.

## Students to get free textbooks, uniforms and cycles

**On the day of 'Shala Praveshotsav'**

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 02:** According to the instructions of the state government, free textbooks, uniforms and cycles will be distributed to the students as per their eligibility on the day of 'Shala Praveshotsav' (school entrance festival) on 16th June in the academic session 2023-24. Director Public Instructions Sunil Kumar Jain has instructed all the Divisional Joint Directors of School Education Department, District Education Officer and DMC of Samagra Shiksha

Abhiyan to ensure its implementation.

The concerned officers have been instructed to distribute text books, uniforms and bicycles in presence of the School Development Committee, School Development and Management Committee, dignitaries, elected public representatives and parents, compulsorily on the day of Shala Praveshotsav on June 16, as per all prior instructions by the Directorate of Public Instructions. Free textbooks and one set of uniforms have been supplied in all the districts. Some remaining textbooks and uniforms will be supplied before June 15. According to the information given by all the

District Education Officers, the purchase order of the bicycles has already been given to the concerned company as per the rules to provide free bicycles to the eligible girls of class 9th. Bicycles will be compulsorily supplied to them within 45 days as per the condition. The concerned officers have been asked to ensure that all necessary preparations are made in this regard well in advance like in the previous years. The distribution register should be mandatorily maintained by all the institution heads and its entry should be made on the designated portal compulsorily within 7 days after distribution.

## National Ramayana festival will see one epic with different interpretations, say artistes

By Ankit Mishra

**Raigarh, Jun 2 (PTI)** The story of 'Ramayana' is the same in India and Indonesia, but cultural factors give rise to different interpretations of the epic, said Indonesian dancer Ni Wayan Sriyani, who has come to Chhattisgarh to perform at 'National Ramayana Festival' here.

Sriyani portrays the character of Lord Ram and loves the fact that he fought so hard to bring his beloved wife Sita back to the family. Rama's character requires a lot of improvisation, as it involves a lot of body movement, she said. "The story of Ramayana is same in India and Bali, but cultural factors make it different," Sriyani told PTI on the sidelines of the three-day festival organised at Ramleela Maidan in

Raigarh city.

In the Balinese interpretation, there are three types of characters male, female and a middle character, she said.

"Rama's character falls in the middle category, as it is not an extreme male form. Women can also portray Rama, as his expressions are not extreme like that of Ravan," Sriyani said.

"Ramayana" provides lessons about good, evil, love and several other aspects of life, she said, explaining why she was drawn to the epic.

Penh Chunnit, who heads the Cambodian dance troupe, said there are 27 regions in Cambodia and each has added some unique factor to "Reamerk" (Cambodian Ramayana).

Among performers from other states, K S Hegde, who leads the Yakshagana group from Karnataka, said this is

probably for the first time that such a large-scale event on "Ramayana" is being held.

A sixth generation Yakshagana performer, Hegde said that while the epic is famous in South Asia, during their performances in western countries, dancers have to employ more theatrical elements for the audiences' enjoyment.

Yakshagana is a popular form of folk theatre in Karnataka, which originated more than 500 years ago.

Hegde's team has performed in the US, UK, UAE, Indonesia and others. "Ramayana is a good medium of cultural exchange", he said.

The National Ramayana Festival, which started on Thursday, will see performances by artistes from 12 states and two international troupes Cambodia and Indonesia.

## One person killed, another injured

**After being run over by train in Kanker**

**Kanker, Jun 02 (PTI):** A 29-year-old man was killed and another injured after they were run over by a train while resting on a railway track in Chhattisgarh's Kanker district on Friday, police said.

The incident took place in the early hours of the day near Salhe village under Bhanupratappur police station limits on Antagarh-Durg route, an official here said.

Rate Singh Korram and

his friend Harichandra Uikey (30) had gone to answer nature's call in the wee hours and later rested on the railway track near when the Antagarh-Raigarh passenger train ran over them, he said.

Korram died on the spot, while Uikey, a resident of Dabkatta village, was seriously injured, the official said. Some locals spotted the duo in the morning and called an ambulance and informed the police, he said, adding that the injured man is undergoing treatment at a hospital in neighbouring Balod district.

### Control rooms set up for quick redressal of drinking water problems

**Raipur, Jun 02:** Control rooms have been set up at the sub-division level and at the development block level for quick redressal of drinking water problems at field level during summer season and for maintaining smooth arrangement of drinking water in the district.

## Raipur students shine at Olympiad awards 2022-23



**Raipur, Jun 01:** Three students from Raipur have achieved international ranks in the SOF Olympiad exam 2022-23. Aviral Tetwar, a student of Third grade at Krishna public School, earned International Mathematics Olympiad rank 1, received an International Gold medal and a merit certificate whereas Ojasvi Nidhi Soni, of Fifth grade from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's R.K Sarda Vidya Mandir, secured International Knowledge Olympiad rank 2 received an International Silver medal and a merit and

Hiya Chandrakar, a student of grade Twelfth at the Krishna Public School, earned International Cyber Olympiad rank 3, received Rs.25,000 International Bronze medal and a merit certificate.

In the SOF Olympiad Examination 2022-23, approximately 60 lakh students from 70 countries participated, with more than 65,000 students from Raipur alone. Schools such as Brighton International School, Rajkumar College were among the participants.

The Science Olympiad Foundation conducted an

awards ceremony at Delhi to honour and present awards to the Olympiad exam winners, teachers, and principals for the academic year 2022-2023. Mahabir Singh, Founder and Director of SOF said, SOF has conducted Olympiad exams for 25 years. Over 70000 schools from 1400 cities in 70 different countries took part in the seven SOF Olympiad exams from February 22-23, and millions of students registered to sit for them. The top state level rankings of more than 81,000 pupils from 6300 schools have earned them awards."

## Ch'garh's epic extravaganza 'National Ramayana Festival' goes global

**International Ramayana troupes steal the show**

**Raipur, June 02:** Chhattisgarh has transformed into a divine realm, resonating with the spirit of Lord Shri Ram, as the magnificent 'National Ramayana Festival' kicked off in Raigarh, the cultural capital of the state. The air is filled with an aura of devotion and reverence, as the state eagerly welcomes devotees and artists from across the nation and abroad to celebrate the epic saga of Ramayana. The three-day event will conclude on June 3.

The festival has become an international attraction with Ramayana Mandlis from abroad cap-

### Cambodian Ramayana troupe enthalls the audience with a captivating performance



A 12-member troupe of artists, who traveled a long distance of 4,500 km from Cambodia to Chhattisgarh, captured the hearts of the audience with their captivating 25-minute performance adorning their exotic costumes on the inaugural day of the three-day long festival. The Cambodian Ramayana team presented a musical

rendition of the story of Ahiravan Vadh in Ramayana, where Ravana's brother, Ahiravan, renders Lord Shri Ram unconscious and takes him to Patal Lok. Shri Hanuman ventures into Patal Lok to safely rescue Lord Shri Ram, encountering his son, Makardhwaj, along the way. A battle ensues between them, but no victory or defeat is attained. Eventually, Hanuman successfully brings back Lord Shri Ram. This incident from the Ramayana was presented in a profoundly soulful manner by the international troupe.

performing. Chief Minister Shri Bhupesh Baghel said

"For the first time in the country, a national-level Ramayana Festival is being organized in Chhattisgarh. This prestigious event aims to promote the teachings and ideals of Lord Shri Ram's exemplary character. While it is a national event, foreign delegations from countries like Cambodia and Indonesia are also participating, elevating it to an international festival."

**Reamker: Cambodia's National Epic Unveiling the Glory of Rama**

In Cambodia, the epic poem Reamker, based on the Sanskrit Ramayana, has been recognized as the national epic. The name Reamker literally means "Glory of Rama," and it holds significant cultural and historical value in

Cambodia. The earliest known manuscript of Reamker in Cambodia dates back to the 7th century, with the surviving text originating from the 16th century. Reamker combines Hindu and Buddhist elements, adapting the Ramayana's narrative to incorporate Buddhist themes and philosophies. It explores the concept of the balance between good and evil in the world. The epic conveys philosophical allegories centered around justice and fidelity through the journey of King Rama and Queen Sita. It is widely celebrated and performed during various festivals across Cambodia. While Reamker shares similarities with the original Ramayana, it distinguishes itself by featuring additional scenes and placing emphasis on char-

### The World on Stage: Indonesian Troupe to deliver captivating performance on day three



acters like Hanuman and Suvannamaccha. **Kakawin Ramayana: The Alluring Indonesian Adaptation of Ramayana** The Kakawin Ramayana is an ancient Javanese

An attractive performance by the Indonesian troupe will take center stage on the third day of the festival i.e. on June 3. Their performance will showcase the diverse and universal aspects of Lord Shri Ram's epic tale, providing a glimpse into the countless global interpretations of the Ramayana.

poem that serves as a rendition of the Sanskrit Ramayana, composed in the kakawin meter. It is believed to have been written during the late ninth or early tenth century in Central Java

(modern Indonesia), during the era of the Mataram Kingdom. The Javanese Ramayana differs significantly from the original Hindu version, particularly in the latter half of the tale. Notable changes include the inclusion of the Javanese indigenous deity dhayana Guardian God of Java Semar and his misshapen sons, Gareng, Petruk, and Bagong, who are known as the Punokawan or "clown servants." This modified version of the epic has gained popularity and is regularly performed in wayang performances.

It is worth mentioning that this grand event has attracted the participation of 270 artists from 12 different states.

## Over 12.38 lakh people pledge to protect environment

**Central Chronicle News**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** Nearly 12 lakh 38 thousand 116 people have set a world record by taking the pledge of environment protection in Chhattisgarh today, on June 01. The program of oath was organized by the Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board under the Mission Life program on June 1, 2023 from 8 am to 5 pm.

It was an innovative initiative of Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board, EIACP to bring awareness through public participation in the field of environmental conservation, in which a target was set to take a pledge to bring changes in our daily life for

environmental protection in a single day. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel while appealing to the people for participation in this campaign of the Environment Conservation Board said that this is not

only an oath but a public campaign, which will set a record in new Chhattisgarh.

The Chief Minister's appeal had an effect and people of every section of the state supported the campaign of the Chhattisgarh

Environment Conservation Board. More than 12 lakh 38 thousand 116 people set a world record by taking the oath of environment protection on a single day. In Raipur district, the world record of maximum num-

ber of oaths in a day was broken and Board registered its name in Limca Book of Records with 1 lakh 75 thousand 209 oaths.

More than 12 lakh 38 thousand 116 people registered their names in India Star Book of Records and World Record Book by taking oath in the entire state. Housing and Environment Minister of Chhattisgarh Mohammad Akbar and Chairman of Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board Subrat Sahoo have congratulated the officers and employees of the board while thanking the people of the state. Member Secretary of the Board RP Tiwari thanked all those involved in this public campaign.

## Rehabilitation of Pandri shopkeepers begins

**Central Chronicle News**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** Allotment of shops has been started for the traders of the Pandri bus stand in the vending zone constructed by the District Urban Public Service Society, Raipur at

Interstate Bus Terminal Bhatagaon. A decision has been taken regarding 90 shops out of 102 constructed in the new bus terminal of Bhatagaon. Out of these 90 shops, the process of allotting shops to 66 licensed shopkeepers has been started. As many as

24 shops have been reserved for the shopkeepers who are running shops through encroachment in Pandri bus stand. Shops will be allotted to them on payment of specified amount of fees. The 12 vacant shops will be allotted through open tender.

## Prof. (Dr.) T. Rama Rao becomes first V-C of Anjaneya University

**Central Chronicle News**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** Chhattisgarh Governor Anuj Sharma has appointed Prof. (Dr.) T. Rama Rao as the first Vice-Chancellor of Anjaneya University on 1st June 2023 (Wednesday). Notably, Prof. T. Rama Rao, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, has been associated with education and research for more than 38 years.

Along with this, he has worked as Dean, Dean Administration and Institute Director in various colleges and universities. Anjaneya University was established in 2022 as the 16th private university of Chhattisgarh state. The University is located near



Chhattisgarh State Assembly in the heart of the state capital Raipur. Various professional courses are being conducted by the university. Chancellor of Anjaneya University Abhishek Agarwal and management committee conveyed his best wishes on the appointment of the new Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) T. Rama Rao. Congratulations.

## Election notification issued for 3 Sarpanch and 22 Panch posts

**In Raipur district; voting on June 27, result on June 30****Central Chronicle News**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** Voting will be held on June 27 for vacant sarpanch posts in three gram panchayats and vacant panch posts in 22 gram panchayats in Raipur district. Notification has been issued by the Chhattisgarh State Election Commission for the three-tier panchayat by-election.

With the announcement of the election schedule by the State Election Commission, the Model Code of Conduct has come into force from the date of announcement of the election till the declaration of the result in the areas of the concerned Gram Panchayats where elections are to be held. The schedule for

Panchayat by-election has also been issued by the State Election Commission. According to the notification issued, the publication of the election information will be on June 2 at 10.30 am. Information regarding reservation of seats and list of polling stations will also be published on the same day. Nomination papers will be received by the Returning Officer from 10.30 am to 3 pm on June 2. The last date for receiving nominations will be June 9 till 3 pm.

The nomination papers will be scrutinized on June 10 from 10.30 am. Candidates will be able to withdraw their names till 3 pm on June 12. Preparing and publishing the list of contesting candidates and

allotment of election symbols will be done on June 12 only. If necessary, voting will be held for the three-tier panchayat by-election on June 27 from 7 am to 3 pm. The counting of votes will be done at the polling stations after the polling ends on June 27.

If necessary, counting of votes will be done at tehsil or development block headquarters from 3 pm on June 28. The announcement and tabulation of election results will be done at block headquarters on June 30 at 9 am. By-election will be held for the post of Sarpanch in Gram Panchayat Giraula and Jodi in Abhanpur development block of Raipur district. Election will be held to elect Sarpanch in Gram

Panchayat Bhumiya in Tilda development block.

Election will be held for the post of Panch in Gram Panchayat Munrethi, Khorsi, Majitha, Gaurbath and Nara in Arang development block of the district. Election will be held for vacant Panch posts in Sonpari, Madlaur, Parsada Soth, Tuta, Khatti and Bhatgaon gram panchayats in Abhanpur development block. Election will be held for vacant Panch posts in Bahesar, Bana, Sakari, Temri, Murra, Nagargaon gram panchayats in Dharsiwan development block. By-elections will be held for Panchs in Mohrenga, Tildadih, Adnsa, Beldar Seoni, Ganiyari gram panchayats in Tilda development block.

## CM Baghel launches a chatbot for the sale of RIPA goods

**RIPA entrepreneurs will have no trouble selling their goods****Central Chronicle News**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched a chatbot for ordering various types of products under the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Industrial Park (RIPA) in Raigarh on Thursday. The District Administration Raigarh activated this bot through Nirman and Fasal Bazar after it was created by ATMIK BHARAT - vertex suit. The entrepreneurs of the Rural Industrial Park will now be able to offer their goods directly to customers over WhatsApp by using this chatbot.

Various types of products are manufactured in 14 dif-

ferent RIPA gram panchayats that operate under the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Industrial Park, an ambitious scheme of the Chhattisgarh Government. The manufacturing of different items includes jute bags, kosa cloth, terracotta, jawaphool sarees, ragi products, bamboo crafts, spices, ready-to-eat food, cow dung paint, sambalpuri sarees, clothes, dhokra art, pickles, badi papad, artificial jewelry, etc. Chatbots are very user-friendly and function similarly to WhatsApp. Orders and payments can be made with the help of this bot. Selling the product is simple and highly profitable for rural business owners. Additionally, people can purchase the products made in RIPA through online marketplaces like Amazon and Flipkart.

## Actor Anuj, ex-IAS, folk dancer Barle and others join BJP

**Central Chronicle News**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** Popular Chhattisgarhi film actor Anuj Sharma and folk dancer Radheshyam Barle, both Padma Shri awardees, were on Thursday inducted into Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ahead of the Chhattisgarh Assembly polls scheduled at the end of this year.

Sharma, retired IAS officer Rajpal Singh Tyagi, state chief of 'Akhil Bharatiya Marar, Mali, Kushwaha, Maurya, Saini Mahasabha' Rajendra Nayak Patel, were among the 450 persons from different fields who joined the BJP in the presence

of state unit chief Arun Sao, state in-charge Om Mathur and former chief minister Raman Singh.

Welcoming them, Sao said this is an auspicious sign for his party and also a signal to the ruling Congress that its countdown has begun as people were fed up of the misrule and corruption of the Bhupesh Baghel government.

The achievements and good governance of the Union government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi had instilled confidence in the people of the country in the last nine years, Sao claimed.

Barle joined the party along with 309 folk

artistes while Sharma was inducted along with 52 persons, including artists, producers, directors, production manager of Chhattisgarh Film Industries and farmers, a BJP release said. Similarly, as many as 28 heads of different Other Backward Classes (OBC) communities in Raipur division led by Nayak joined the party, it said.

In 2018, the Congress had registered a landslide victory winning 68 out of 90 Assembly seats, ending the 15-year rule of the BJP, which could get only 15 seats. Bypoll victories have taken the Congress' current strength to 71, while the BJP's tally is down to 14.

## Societies with zero shortage to get incentive : Chandrakar

**Three-day training of newly appointed presidents of cooperative societies concludes****Central Chronicle News**

**Raipur, Jun 02:** A three-day training session for newly appointed presidents of cooperative societies was organized from May 30 to June 1 at Chhattisgarh Cooperative Training Institute, Pandri, Raipur.

Presidents (authorities) of 27 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies from Raigarh, Pusaur and Dharamjaygarh were trained by the subject experts on leadership development, societies bylaws, powers of the president, society's capital, funds, management, loan distribution and recovery.

Efforts are being made to improve the financial condition of cooperative societies in the state as per the



wish of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. Cooperative societies where there has been zero shortage in procurement of paddy on the support price in the procurement marketing year 2022-23, will be given incentives, said Apex Bank Chairman Bajinath Chandrakar while addressing a training session of the newly appointed presidents of cooperative societies.

Chandrakar further said that 725 new societies were formed by restructuring cooperative societies in Chhattisgarh by the government. Through cooperative societies and co-operative banks, the amount of Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana and Godhan Nyay is being transferred regularly to the farmers' accounts, he said.

Under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, farmers producing horticulture crops, Kodo-Kutki, Ragi including all Kharif crops are being provided agricultural input assistance on per acre basis in the state. With these practical policies, the villages, the poor and the farmers of Chhattisgarh prospered and the societies became stronger.

Various types of employ-

ment-oriented works are being done in Gothans, due to which rural women are becoming self-reliant. Apex Bank's DGM and Director of Training Institute Bhupesh Chandravanshi, Deputy Director AK Lahre, AGM and Branch Manager Pandri Ajay Bhagat, Administrative Officer Vimal Singh and Accounts Officer Prabhakar Kant Yadav were present.

## Lakhma inaugurates community building of GCC

**CC road and boundary wall were also gifted in the building built at a cost of 1 cr****Central Chronicle News****Bijapur, Jun 02:** Commerce Tax,

Industry and Excise Minister of Chhattisgarh Government and Minister in-charge of Bijapur district Kawasi Lakhma is on a two-day stay in Bijapur district. On the first day of his stay, he inaugurated the community building of Gondwana Coordination Committee (GCC), Bijapur built at a cost of Rs 1 cr. During the inauguration, CC road and boundary wall were announced from the main road to the building on the demand of tribal society.

Addressing the inauguration program, Minister Kawasi Lakhma said that the tribals are the owners of water-forests and land and the state government is committed to all-round development along with giving them ownership rights. Lakhma said that today there is an atmosphere of prosperity among the tribals of the entire Bastar division. As per the intention of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, not only Bastar, the work is being done to make the tribals, poor, farmers, women and youth sections of Chhattisgarh financially empowered by benefiting from various schemes.

The district participated in Karsad and duly worshiped the deities, while Minister Lakhma and former MP Nand Kumar Sai, who arrived as a special guest, also worshiped the deities. They praised the Gods and Goddesses by participating in 'Kar Rela' and other traditional dances.

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Paddy is being procured from the farmers on MSP highest in any state so far and under the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, Rs 9,000 per acre is being given as grant assistance. As a result of the increase in paddy production, now instead of 15, 20 quintals per acre of paddy will be purchased. With

the increase in the honorarium of various categories of employees including Kotwar, Anganwadi workers, assistants, trust in the government has increased. Apart from farmers, landless agricultural labourers, priests are being given Rs 7,000 per year. There is an air of happiness among the forest produce collectors and the

tribals by making the standard bag Rs 4 thousand to the Tendupatta collectors.

Even Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has given consent for cash payment on the demand of Tendupatta collectors of Bijapur district. Work is being done to restore the Devguri, Ghotul dead pillar, the symbol of faith of the

tribals. Due to which there is a wave of happiness among the tribals. On the instructions of the Chief Minister, new schemes are being brought for the conservation, promotion and development of tribal culture so that all-round development of the tribals can take place and the society can be connected with the main-

stream. During the meeting of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in Bijapur district, funds were made available to all the people of the society who demanded social buildings. Contemplating on tribal culture, social building is also an important contribution towards taking the society forward. By holding necessary meetings in the building, it will be easy to give a new direction to the society and it will be convenient to conduct social activities.

Addressing the program, former MP Nand Kumar Sai praised the beauty of Bijapur and the simplicity of the villagers and said that Bijapur has to be made even more beautiful. The pace of development has to be accelerated. On the other hand, we all will work together for the progress and development of tribals, social strengthening and economic strengthening.

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Chronicle

Regularisation 'Rathyatra' to reach Balod on June 8

Central Chronicle News

Balod/Doundilohara, Jun 02: The members of Chhattisgarh Sarv Vibhagiya Samvidha Karamchari Mahsangh (CSVSKM) took out a symbolic regularisation 'Rathyatra' in all the 33 districts of the state in view of their ongoing strike started last from 16 May 2023 to June 21, 2023 in support of promise made by the state government in their election manifesto prior to winning the elections and demanded its immediate fulfillment.

This 'Rathyatra' will be reaching District Balod on June 8 and in this the contractual employees are according warm welcome amidst drum-beats and



music and busting of fire-cracker in the block-headquarters in-between. CSVSKM members charged that even after four & half years of completion of Congress government, this demand of

regularisation of contractual employee has not been fulfilled and due to which there is great deal of resentment among the employees. By taking out this 'Rathyatra', the employees want to draw attention of

the state government. There is lot of enthusiasm among the contractual employees related to this 'Rathyatra' and the employees are gathering together prior to arrival of this 'Rathyatra' in their block or district. Preparations are in full swing to welcome this 'Rathyatra' in Balod district on June 8.

To welcome this Rathyatra, the contractual employees from Health, Panchayat, Women and Child Development, PMGSY, CREDA, Labour Department, ITI, Agriculture, Skill Upgradation, and other departments would be taking part, informs district convener of this Yatra in a press release.

World Tobacco Prohibition Day celebrated

Central Chronicle News

Sukma, Jun 02: On the occasion of World Tobacco Prohibition Day, information was given about the ill-effects of tobacco, beedi, cigarette, gutkha and alcohol through Mitans at the Health and Wellness Center of Gram Panchayat Jhapra. District Hospital's dentist Dr. Yogesh Paikra, development block programme manager Shashwat Singh, program leader of Piramal Foundation Stephen Mascanali while sharing the side effects of smoking with Mitans and general public said that tobacco consumption can be fatal for health.

Tobacco or smoking negatively affects a person's mental health as well



as physical health. Beedi cigarette and gutkha etc. increases the risk of many diseases and smoking weakens the arteries and can lead to coronary heart disease and stroke and at the same time, smoking has also been considered a possible factor for increased heart attacks glob-

ally, they collectively said. On this occasion, ANM Manju Yadav, ANM Sangeeta Baghel CHO Jhapra Neha Nag, Development Block Coordinator Champa Padma, Sanjula Joseph Mitanin Instructor and others were present. It is noteworthy that every

year World No Tobacco Day is celebrated on 31 May. In 1988, a resolution was passed to celebrate it on the last day of May, since then, every year on May 31, World No Tobacco Day was celebrated to stop the consumption of tobacco and to make aware of the problems caused by it.

Complete construction works within time limit as per CM's announcement: Collector

Central Chronicle News

Manendragarh, Jun 02: Under the chairmanship of Collector Narendra Kumar Dugga, a weekly deadline meeting was organized in the collectorate hall here and in the meeting, the Collector after taking information about the implementation of various construction works approved under the Chief Minister's announcement, gave instructions to start and complete the approved works within the quality time limit and review the applications received in Jan Chaupal department-wise and resolve them immediately.



He asked the department officials to provide updated information about the Chief Minister's announcement. In the meeting, he also instructed to complete transparency in the ongoing contract recruitment process in Swami Atmanand English Medium School and com-

plete the construction works of the school at the earliest. Taking information about election-related preparations and verification of polling stations, he instructed not to be negligent in the work of election, as well as asking all department heads

for PPES of officers-employees.

He also gave instructions to Public Health Engineering Department to bring quality progress in the ongoing works under Jal Jeevan Mission and also asked to take necessary action from time to

time to provide relief to the villagers from the problem of electricity bill and low voltage.

He instructed the District Program Manager to bring progress in making Ayushman cards so that more and more people can get the benefit of Ayushman card scheme.

Applications related to revenue matters, electricity related problems, encroachment, demarcation, employment, MN-REGA and other matters were mainly received in Jandarshan. Collector Mr. Dugga instructed the officers of all the departments to dispose of the applications received soon.

Central Chronicle News

Bagbahra, Jun 02: Standing tall to his marriage vows Labourer Bishat Yadav of nearby village Bodri Dadar, brought the mortal remains of his wife to his native place here, some thousand kilometers from UP, and performed the last rites.

As per information Yadav's wife Punia Bai 45 years, died suddenly on the intervening night of 23-24 May in Banshapukha brick kiln of Sultanpur UP. The couple was working in the kiln, as their children were back in the village.

After the untimely death of his wife, Yadav



with the help of the kiln owner, who arranged an ambulance, brought the remains of his wife and performed her last rites, in the presence of her children.

The couple has three

daughters' and a son, of which the boy runs a food handcart, while the eldest daughter is married. The villagers have demanded financial aid to the family from the administration to sustain the family.

MLA, Nishad Samaj extends best wishes to RK Nishad

Going on foot for second time to Maa Vaishnav Devi



Central Chronicle News

Balod, Jun 02: One Rajendra Kumar Nishad R/o Gram Iraguda of Balod district started his pilgrimage to Maa Vaishnav Devi on foot and for this the MLA Kunwar Singh Nishad and other members of Nishad Samaj departed him after prayers at Maa Chandani Mata's mandir from Gunderdehi.

Rajendra Kumar is just 46 yrs and on completion of his wish, he again left for 'darshan' to Maa Vaishnav Devi on foot for the second time.

Rajendra Kumar informed that prior to this it was in 2018 he went on foot to Vaishnav Devi's

darbar from his hometown and it was very successful. Parliamentary Secy. extends assistance

Parliamentary Secy and MLA Gunderdehi VS Kunwar Singh Nishad and Danteshwari Nishad took part in the departure programme of RK Nishad along with huge crowd from his community and 'Jas-Mandali'. During this people from Nishad Samaj and villagers were present.

Speaking on the occasion MLA KS Nishad said that RK Nishad is an honour for the Samaj and power of 'Mata Vaishnav Devi' is reflected on his face and added that he always keep motivating

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Jun 02: The first divisional worker's conference of Congress was held at Krishna Garden in Jagdalpur on Friday in view of preparations for the forthcoming assembly elections in the state. CM Baghel inaugurated it. From this conference, Chief Minister

CM inaugurates first divisional worker's conference of Congress

Bhupesh Baghel and PCC State in-Charge Kumari Selja, PCC State President Mohan Markam, Assembly Speaker Dr Charandas Mahant, Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Excise

Minister Kawaii Lakhma, MP Deepak Bajj and around two thousand party workers, office bearers and leaders from across the division from 12 assemblies of seven districts of Bastar division

are taking part in it. Congress MLAs from 12 Vidhan Sabhas of seven districts of Bastar division, Congress councillors, presidents, mayors, city panchayat presidents and district

panchayat president level leaders have been called. The first divisional worker's conference of the Congress is being considered as the conch shell for the assembly elections.

Public Notice

Be it known to all people that Shri Jashanmal W/o Harimal Tanwani R/o Gudiyari, Raipur who has sold the A Open Land bearing the Part No. 353/2-4, 354/355 & 386/F, Sheet No. 63 Plot No. 01, Area 12480 Sqft or 0.029 Dismil. Situated at Mauza - Ramsagar Para, P.H. No. 47, Tah. - Raipur, Distt. Raipur to Shri Basantlal, S/o Shri Ratansi Bhal Korani R/o Ramsagarpara, Raipur by registered Sale deed Dt. 23.10.1973.

NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that, I, PREETI SINGH D/O RAJENDRA PRASAD SINGH resident of 421/A, Harshit Tower, Near Panchdham Mandir, Tatibandh, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, 492099 have changed my old name PREETI SINGH D/O RAJENDRA PRASAD SINGH. So, in future I should be recognised by my new name that is PREETI MANISH W/O MANISH SHIVRAM in all Government and other documents.

PREETI MANISH 421/A, HARSHIT TOWER NEAR PANCHDHAM MANDIR TATIBANDH, RAIPUR CHHATTISGARH 492099

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all General Public that A S Housing Company Through Partners 1 Shri Jagjit Singh Bhatnaya 2 Shri Surendra Rathi 3 M/s R L T Developers (Pvt) Ltd are going to Sale the Property Plot No. 28, 29, Block No. 30, Diverted Residential Land Kh No 114/2 (part), after merger (संश्लेषण) Kh No changed to 15036/1 (part), Area 1200 + 1200 Total Area 2400 sq ft situated at Sezbahar (4407271), "Gol Greens Phase II", P H No. 82, RIC Raipur 18, Tehsil & Dist Raipur C.G. which is being Purchase by my Client & after Purchase he is going to Mortgage the above said Property to Bank of Baroda where he has applied for the Financial Facility.

Nitin Kedia (Advocate) Shop No GFS 82, Bhalai Mata Karna Parisar RDA Building, New Raipura Nagar Raipur C.G. Cell No. 9993238653, 9425515881

नाम परिवर्तन

नाम परिवर्तन के लिए शपथ पत्र सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि मैं अश्वनी कुमार अग्रवाल (ASHWANI KUMAR AGRAWAL) पिता दर्शन लाल अग्रवाल (DARSHAN LAL AGRAWAL) उम्र 46 वर्ष, निवासी 14/सी, पत्रकार कॉलोनी, सुपेला भिलाई तहसील व जिला दुर्ग 490023 अपना पुराना नाम को बदलकर नया नाम अश्वनी अग्रवाल (ASHWANI AGRAWAL) पिता दर्शन लाल अग्रवाल (DARSHAN LAL AGRAWAL) रख लिया हूँ अतः मुझे भविष्य में समस्त शासकीय, अशासकीय व अन्य दस्तावेजों में नया नाम अश्वनी अग्रवाल (ASHWANI AGRAWAL) पिता दर्शन लाल अग्रवाल (DARSHAN LAL AGRAWAL) से जाना पहचाना जावे। यह शपथ पत्र अन्य सापेक्षों में नाम परिवर्तन हेतु श्रीमान सक्षम प्राधिकारी के समक्ष प्रस्तुत है। शपथकर्ता अश्वनी अग्रवाल (ASHWANI AGRAWAL) 14/सी, पत्रकार कॉलोनी, सुपेला भिलाई तहसील व जिला दुर्ग (छ.प्र.) 490023

NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I, ANNU SARDA D/o KISHAN LAL RATHI R/o. Sadar Road, Ward No. 12, Gobra Nawapara, Teh. Gobra Nawapara, Distt. Raipur (C.G.) have changed my old name ANNU SARDA D/o KISHAN LAL RATHI. So in future I should be recognized by my new name that is SMT. ANURADHA SARDA W/o SRI KRISHNA SARDA in all Government and other documents.

SMT. ANURADHA SARDA Sadar Road, Ward No. 12, Gobra Nawapara, Teh. Gobra Nawapara, Distt. Raipur (C.G.)

Cong organization is strong in Bastar: Selja

Jagdalpur, Jun 02: Congress's state in-charge Kumari Selja, who reached Bastar to attend the first divisional workers conference of Congress, said that the elections are near, we are ready for this. The Congress organization is strong in Bastar, we work together, that's why we win elections. She said that when Priyanka Gandhi had come to stay in Bastar, the people here gave her a lots of love. And had made the 'Bharose Ka Sameman' a grand success. People have faith in the Congress party, she claimed. She said that BJP's politics is different. We work, whereas those people (BJPs) talk wrong, spread lies.

Bank of India BOI Bhalai Branch, Plot No. 6 Indira Place, Civic Centre, Bhalai, Tel 0788-2264778/2264517, 0788-2264778/2264517, Email: Bhalai.Raipur@bankofindia.co.

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) The notices are hereby given that the following Borrower(s) (Borrower), and guarantor have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, now they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A scheduled commercial bank) Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Dhamra, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaighatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/ Mortgage, Loan Account No. & Loan Amount, Details of the Security to be enforced, Date of NPA & Demand Notice date, Amount Due in Rs. / as on.

## Richa makes it to semi-final of Word Power Ch'ship



Organised by NSPELLF of SCERT

**Kawardha, Jun 02:** Once again the students of Government Primary School, Gunjheta under Pandaria block have shown their talent. As per orders by SCERT, Nihar Shanti Pathshala English Literacy Programme LLE, organised Word Power Championship 2023 in English subject online and through video conference for the students from Class 4-5 from Govt Primary School, Gunjheta from Pandaria block actively participated under guidance of teacher Bharat Kumar Dore. In the block-level selection round, a total of 33 students

secured their place and in the district-level also four students gave exemplary performance and secured berth for the state-level.

At the same time, Richa Nirmalkar of Class 5th from Govt Primary School, Gunjheta, got selected for this championship at state level and reached upto semi-final. On this achievement of the student, there is lot of happiness among the school management and parents. A total of 33 students from this School by getting selected including Richa, created a record of its own and for which the teachers Primary School Gunjheta Shaile Soyam, Manisha Mangeshkar, and others and parents and students have expressed happiness and wished her all the best for the finals.

## 4G mobile network started in Kolaiguda and Karigundam

Comes under worst naxal affected areas of Sukma district

**Konta, Jun 02:** For the purpose of connecting the internal areas of district Sukma of Chhattisgarh state with mobile connectivity and providing better internet facilities, a total of 116 new Jio towers have been established by the administration under the USOF PROJECT LWE-II scheme for 100 percent 4G connectivity.

In this sequence, Sundarraaj P. Inspector General of Police, Bastar Range Jagdalpur and Kiran Chavan, Superintendent of Police, District Sukma, and Narendra Pal, Commandant 50 V Vahini CRPF, Sarang Commandant 150 V Vahini CRPF, Gaurav Mandal, Adi. Under the direction of Superintendent of Police Konta and under



the supervision of Girija Shankar Sao, Deputy Superintendent of Police Naxal Ops Konta, Vijay Singh Rajput Police Sub-Divisional Officer Jagargunda, Rohit Shukla, Police Sub-Divisional Officer Konta and with the joint efforts of police and

district administration in Naxal affected areas of Sukma district that Jio's new towers are being installed. Under this scheme, the tower of Jio 4G mobile network was established on 30.05.2023 in Kolaiguda and Karigundam, the worst naxal affected areas

of the district. Many nearby villages including Kolaiguda, Karigundam will be benefited by the commencement of mobile connectivity, due to which there is an atmosphere of joy among the villagers. The installation of mobile towers in the area will also help school students to study online, as well as the villagers will be aware of the information about the country and abroad through the Internet.

Due to the continuous efforts of Sukma Police, it has been possible to install mobile towers in the interior areas. With the commencement of mobile connectivity in the said villages, the villagers in Bheji, Chintagufa Axis and the soldiers of the security forces deployed in the camps of the said area will not have any problem of mobile network. The security forces were thanked by the local villagers for the installation of the tower.

## Woman's body found in farm with burnt stubble

Police suspects it to be death due to suffocation

**Balod, Jun 02:** A woman falling prey to stubble burning in the field died in Gram Aarop under Balod thana here on Wednesday. As per information in this regard, the woman left from her house at 12:00 noon and did not reached late at night.

In the morning when the family members went to the field, they found her singed body lying in the middle of the field with burnt stubble and this news created sensation in the entire region.

**Died of suffocation**  
In this entire case the police is suspecting it to be death due to suffocation and now they have become active and went to the site and checked. The singed woman's body was sent for post-mortem to District Hospital Balod and after which it was handed over to the family member.

Cases on the rise due to stubble burning

Despite ban on stubble burning by the local administration and state government and even action by the Agriculture Department, but the people are still burning the stubble in their farms. A woman died of stubble burning in Gram Aarop and the villagers said that it might have been due to suffocation from the smoke. Actually there are lots of damages caused due to stubble burning, as it emits Carbon Dioxide and causes damage to soil and its fertility as well.

**Had gone to see her farm**  
The family members and villagers informed that the woman went to her farm to see her land and just near her farm, there is farm of another person and the stubble was burning in it. As to how this woman came in contact with fire and stubble burning is a point to be investigated. The police is checking into all the angles and after the post-mortem report the final action will be taken.

## Pleasure to see children of remote areas, learning activities by joining the mainstream: Lakhma

One thousand children of more than two hundred re-run schools are learning various activities after reaching Bijapur for the first time

**Bijapur, Jun 02:** Industry, Commerce Tax and Excise Minister and Minister in-charge of Bijapur district Kawasi Lakhma during his visit observed the district administration's innovative initiative Summer Camp. It was an emotional moment when he reached among the children and became emotional because more than one thousand children who are from remote and sensitive areas were seen together for the first time in Bijapur enthusiastically learning activities.

It may be noted that thousands of schools were closed during Salwa Judum in 2005, in which



only 300 schools in Bijapur were closed. Giving priority to the better future of tribal children, Minister Kawasi Lakhma and Regional MLA Vikram Mandavi tried and Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel took a sensitive initiative. Everyone has the right to education, so why tribal children were deprived of education, these closed schools were re-operated with the help of local villagers. Now 200 schools have been re-opened in Bijapur. In order to instill confidence in the children

of those schools, to enhance their talents, one thousand children are being taught various activities in the summer camp, in which all kinds of sports, dance, musical instruments, sculpture, painting are given to them according to the interest of the children. Efforts are being made to make them proficient in education. Minister Kawasi Lakhma said that he himself has been deprived of education, so he understands the importance of education very well and he does

not want any poor, tribal child to be deprived of education.

Giving priority to education, we have opened schools with the help of local educated youth and have connected those youth with employment by selecting them as education ambassadors. The entire administration team deserves congratulations. On the other hand, Minister Kawasi Lakhma danced along with the children, praised the children after listening to songs in English, Hindi and Gondi, Halbi by small children and expressed heartfelt gratitude to the head of the state Bhupesh Baghel for this commendable work.

During this, Regional MLA Vikram Shah Mandavi gave detailed information to the Minister regarding the organization of the summer camp. Along with public representatives and officers-employees were present.

## Bemetara's new SP Bhavna Gupta takes charge

Central Chronicle News

**Bemetara, Jun 02:** The new Superintendent of Police of the district Bhavna Gupta (I.P.S.) reached the District Police Office on Thursday, June 01, 2023, to take charge of the Superintendent of Police, Bemetara, where she was given a guard of honour, after which she took charge of the district. A d d i t i o n a l Superintendent of Police Pankaj Patel handed over the charge of the district to newcomer Superintendent of Police Bhavna Gupta by giving necessary information regarding the situation and law and order in the district. After taking charge, the newly posted SP Bemetara inspected all the branches of the District Police Office.

Mrs Bhavna Gupta is an Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of 2014 batch. Prior to this, she has been posted as Superintendent of

Police in District-Surajpur and Ambikapur (Surguja). After taking charge of the district, the newly appointed Superintendent of Police asked all the gazetted officers and station/outpost in-charges of the district to lay emphasis on better policing and crime control.

During this, Additional Superintendent of Police Pankaj Patel, Deputy Superintendent of Police (Headquarters) Rajesh Kumar Jha, Sub-Divisional Officer of Police Bemetara Manoj Tirkey, Sub-Divisional Officer of Police Berla Tejram Patel, Deputy Superintendent of Police Kamal Narayan Sharma, Deputy Superintendent of Police Crime Against Women Kaushalya Sahu and Trainee Deputy Superintendent of Police Brij Kishore Yadav along with all police station/outpost in-charge were present.

## Road accident in Injaram



Jawans of 219 CRPF Battalion saved the lives of the passengers

**Konta, Jun 02:** A vehicle Tata Magic No. AP31TC5520 on National Highway-30 which was going from village-Kolaiguda via Injaram-Bheji road towards Konta in which men, women and children including about 18-20 passengers were traveling when suddenly the vehicle lost control in front of village Injaram and overturned on the right side of the road.

As soon as the news was received by the villagers, the spot was near, 219 Battalion CRPF jawans, taking immediate action, reached the spot and helped the passengers trapped inside the vehicle

along with the villagers to get out and all the injured passengers were immediately given first aid. They offered help to take them to Government Hospital Konta by another vehicle at the earliest. In this accident, about 5-6 passengers/villagers were seriously hurt while others were unhurt with minor scratches.

The prompt action taken by the jawans of 219th CRPF Battalion along with the villagers prevented the incident from turning into a major accident. With this quick action taken by CRPF the feeling of always standing firm for their safety and helping them at the earliest in any emergency will increase their trust in the rural people towards the government and the security forces.

## Tribal lifestyle is the basis of nature: Choubey

**Amarkantak, Jun 02:** International conference organized by Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, (IGNTU) Amarkantak under Y20 on the topic "Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability a Way of Life" was inaugurated by Vice Chancellor of the University and Minister Ashwini Choubey. On this occasion, Minister Ashwini Choubey gave his lecture on environment and climate change. He said that action is being taken only and only by the Government of India with immediate effect on the climate change happening all over the world. You mentioned that 65% of the population comes under the G-20 summit, it is very important for the development and prosperity of the world. Showing his concern for the youth of his country and how youth can benefit themselves from this event, he said that it is our duty to protect and preserve the elements of nature. India is the fifth largest economy in the world. Our thoughts are taking us forward and we are on our way to become the best in the world, not only we are changing but the whole world is moving forward on the thoughts told by India. India is such a country where India is called mother, there is no such economy in the world which is called as mother's mother.



Chancellor of the University Prof. Sri Prakash Mani Tripathi gave a lecture on why sustainable development is important. He said that what is happening today is due to climate change and uncontrollable weather quality of nature which is the origin of forests. It also results in over harvesting and degradation of lifestyle. India is important in restoring the natural order of the earth and has become an important link in it. This university is situated in the region of Maa Narmada. It is a place where nature meets culture, youth is the strength of our country today, it is such a force that can turn any complex disaster into opportunity. It requires will power and purpose, the way of which is emerging from the education that the university is living. I have full faith that this event will present the ways of living eternal life in front of the world. In today's program,

Secretary in the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Mita Rajeev Lochan said that India is a leader in sustainable development. Why is India the best? If you want to know this, then you have to read the religious books of India. Today, this discussion in Amarkantak has become ideal for the whole world because the environment here tells what the nature was like and how it is changing. The relationship between nature and faith is very important, if nature is healthy, then humans will be healthy, you have seen a living example of this, Covid-19, that nature and life are made for each other. If we did not preserve the nature then our life would not be possible. Another aspect of this is to keep the rivers safe and clean. If the rivers remain safe then our lives will also be safe. India is moving forward as a youth driven country where one third of the Chief Ministers are also young.

In the program, Yajnavalkya Shukla Shukla gave his speech around the geographical factors of Amarkantak, he said that this world conference is being organized in Amarkantak, it is the best place. You know that only nature can save people, for this we ourselves have to come forward. Be it think tanks of metros or people of villages, everyone is sharing their views on climate change. But today we need to take action along with thoughts. We are blessed with the legacy of the Vedas which tell the way of life. This place is full of tribal areas where they have an important place in climate protection. We should go in the lap of nature. At the end of the program, Dr. Ishwar Mukul Shah, Chancellor of the University, while giving his lecture on this event in this University, said that biodiversity and conservation are the basis of this earth.

He told that the old way of living was very important, youth will have to come forward to adopt that eternal lifestyle, and not only will have to come forward, but that lifestyle will not be sitting far and wide in the minds of the people, which was practiced by the previous generations. Mistakes have been made, they have to be rectified and what we have inherited from nature has to be carried forward. What our religious book says on Sanatan lifestyle has to be told to the whole world only then we can conserve the environment and save the world.

At the end of the program, a memorandum of thanks was given to everyone by Professor Murthy, Registrar of the University. The program was organized at Laxman Havanur Auditorium. Conventor Prof. Bhuminath Tripathi welcomed, Dr. Rahil conducted and vote of thanks was given by Acting Registrar Professor Murthy. Various international and national participants shared their views in the technical sessions at the event. 20 scholars and researchers from seven countries, more than 300 delegates from across the country, 20 sarpanches, members of self-help groups, volunteers and program officers of various units of National Service Scheme, NCC cadets, students etc. are participating in this important conference.

## Give information about Indian Red Cross Society to all students: Ashok

At the time of admission-Ashok Aggarwal\* Indian Red Cross Society meeting concludes



**Bemetara, June 02:** Indian Red Cross Society meeting was organized on Wednesday at New Circuit House Bemetara. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of MK Raut, Chief Executive Officer cum General Secretary and Ashok Aggarwal, Chairman. The meeting took place in the presence of Collector Padum Singh Elma, Additional Collector Dr. Anil Bajpai, Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. Ganesh Lal Tandon, Civil Surgeon cum Chief Hospital Superintendent Dr. Santram Churendra. In the said meeting, the

Chief Executive Officer cum General Secretary directed that at the time of admission in all the schools and colleges, all the students should be directed by the College Principal and the Education Department to take information and membership of the Indian Red Cross Society. From time to time, the members of the Red Cross Society should be trained.

To get rid of TB, a target has been set by 2024 to provide food supplement by adopting it to the patients. At the same time, the Deputy Director of Social Welfare Barkha Kasu was asked to serve the old people living in the Old Age

Home, the quality of food and health tests from time to time. He asked the officers to make people aware for maximum blood donation and organize health check-up camps along with blood donation camps in schools and colleges. Make people aware to join the Indian Red Cross Society.

In the meeting, Principal in-charge of Government Girls College Dr. D. Dey, Principal of Government PG College PP Chandravanshi, District NSS Officer N.R. Nirmalkar, Sunil Tiwari, Assistant Director from Education Department and other officers/employees were present.

## Action taken against 13 under COTPA Act



**Simga, June 01:** Under guidance of SSP and DIG and Addl. SP and SDOP Bhatapara, the police took action against 13 persons under COTPA Act 2003 in the pan shops and other tobacco products and fined them with Rs 2600. In the above action, TI Simga thana Amit Kumar Tiwari and 'Pradhan' Chandrabhan Pandey, constable Arvind Kaushik and Babbu Sahu were present.

# No Ukraine cease-fire without a peace deal that includes Russia's withdrawal: Blinken

Kyiv, Jun 02:

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Friday that there can be no cease-fire in the war in Ukraine unless it is part of a "just and lasting" peace deal that includes Russia's military withdrawal. Blinken said that "a cease-fire that simply freezes current lines in place - and enables Putin to consolidate control over the territory he has seized, and rest, rearm, and reattack - that is not a just and lasting peace." Russia must also pay a share of Ukraine's reconstruction and be held accountable for launching its full-scale invasion of its neighbour in February 2022, Blinken said in a speech during a visit to Finland, which recently joined NATO and shares a long border with Russia. Allowing Moscow to keep the one-fifth of Ukraine territory it has occupied would send the wrong message to Russia



and to "other would-be aggressors around the world," according to Blinken. Washington is ready to support peace efforts by other countries, including recent overtures from China and Brazil, he said. But any peace agreement must uphold the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence. The United States is a leading Western ally and supplier of arms to Kyiv to help it push back against the Kremlin's forces. China, which says it is neutral and wants to serve as a mediator but has supported Moscow po-

litically, on Friday urged countries to stop sending weapons to Ukraine.

In Ukraine, air defenses shot down more than 30 Russian cruise missiles and drones Friday in Moscow's sixth air attack in six days on Kyiv, local officials said. The Ukrainian capital was simultaneously attacked from different directions by Iranian-made Shahed drones and cruise missiles from the Caspian region, senior Kyiv official Serhii Popko wrote on Telegram. A 68-year-old man and an 11-year-old child were wounded in the attack, with private houses, outbuildings and cars sustaining damage from falling debris, according to Ukraine's Prosecutor General's Office. A recent spate of attacks on the capital has put strain on residents and tested the strength of Ukraine's air defenses while Kyiv officials plot what they say is an upcoming counterof-

fensive to push back the Kremlin's forces 15 months after their full-scale invasion. Kyiv was the target of drone and missile attacks on 17 days last month, including daylight attacks. Moscow's strategy could backfire, however, according to the Institute for the Study of War, a Washington-based think tank. The air campaign aims to "degrade Ukrainian counteroffensive capabilities, but... the Russian prioritisation of Kyiv is likely further limiting the campaign's ability to meaningfully constrain potential Ukrainian counteroffensive actions," it said in an assessment late Thursday. Ukrainian air defenses intercepted all 15 cruise missiles and 21 attack drones, Ukraine's chief of staff, Valerii Zaluzhnyi, said. Ukraine's presidential office said on Friday that at least four civilians were killed and 42 wounded over the previous 24 hours.

## REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS



The Freccie Tricolori (Tricolor Arrows) aerobatic squad of the Italian Air Force flies over the unknown soldier monument to start the celebrations for the 77th Republic Day in Rome, Friday, June 2.

## EAM Jaishankar says BRICS no longer an alternative but an 'established feature' of global landscape



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar poses for a group photo at the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting, in Cape Town, Friday, June 2.

Cape Town, Jun 02:

The BRICS grouping is not only an expression of multipolarity but of the many ways of meeting international challenges, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Friday, asserting that the five-nation bloc is an "established feature" of the global landscape. Addressing the Friends of

BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting here, he said the message of reform that BRICS embodies must permeate the world of multilateralism. "BRICS is no longer an alternative", it is an established feature of the global landscape," he tweeted.

He said the five-nation grouping comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa is

not only an expression of multipolarity but of the many and diverse ways of meeting international challenges. "Its focus is on building a fairer, inclusive and open international architecture with sustainable development at its core. "Creating resilient and reliable supply chains is central to ensuring that no one is left behind," he tweeted.

Jaishankar said the 'Friends of BRICS' strongly support the reform of the United Nations Security Council. India has been at the forefront of the years-long efforts aimed at reforming the Security Council. India says it rightly deserves a place as a permanent member of the Council, which in its current form does not represent the geopolitical realities of the 21st Century.

## Indian democracy is a 'global public good'; its 'collapse' will have an impact on world: Rahul Gandhi

Washington, Jun 02:

Asserting that Indian democracy is a "global public good", Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said that its "collapse" will have an impact on the world and is not in America's national interest. At the same time, Gandhi, who is currently on a six-day tour of the United States, said in multiple settings that the issue of democracy is an internal matter of the country. "It's our job, it's our business, and it's our work to fight the battle for democracy in India. "And it's something that we understand, we accept, and we do," he told reporters at a news conference here at the National Press Club on Thursday. "But the thing to remember is that



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during an interactive session at the National Press Club, in Washington, USA.

Indian democracy is a global public good. Because India is large enough that a collapse in democracy in India will affect...will have an impact on the world. So that

is for you to think about how much you have to value Indian democracy. But for us, it's an internal matter, and it's a fight that we are committed to, and we are going to, we are going to win," Gandhi said.

He gave a similar answer to questions on democracy at a reception hosted for him by eminent Indian American Frank Islam.

Responding to a question, Gandhi said that there is a need to broaden the India-US relationship and it should not be restricted to just defence relationships alone. "India has to do what's in its interest. And that's what will guide us... So, I am not entirely convinced about the sort of autocratic vision that is being promoted. I think

that it's very important that democracy is protected on the planet. So, India has a role there. India, of course, has its view on things, and I think that that view should be put on the table, but I don't think one should think about these things as the centre of things. I think that's, that would be arrogant," he said. "We understand the strengths that we bring to the table: democratic values, data, these are some of the things that technology, a highly educated, technically educated population. These are our strengths. I think we have to chart our course based on these strengths," he said in response to a question on the India-US relationship.

## UN warns of aid shortage, looming food crisis in wake of devastating cyclone that hit Myanmar

Berlin, Jun 02: The United Nations warned Friday that far too little aid is reaching cyclone-hit areas of Myanmar and the country could face a major food crisis soon if farmers are unable to plant crops. Cyclone Mocha struck the western state of Rakhine and nearby regions last month, killing hundreds of people and damaging thousands of dwellings. "The devastation is truly immense," said Tilton Mitra, a U.N. representative in Yangon, Myanmar's biggest city. Strong winds "twisted telecom towers, snapped concrete poles in half and uprooted even 100-year-old trees," he said. An estimated 700,000 homes have been damaged and rains, combined with storm surges, have wreaked havoc on the agricultural and fisheries sector, according to the U.N. Among those hardest hit are members of the Rohingya minority who have been living in crowded displacement camps since losing their homes in a brutal 2017 counterinsurgency campaign led by Myanmar security forces.

## Tropical Storm Mawar intensifies rains for Japan

Naha, Jun 02:

Heavy rains intensified by Tropical Storm Mawar fell on Japan's main archipelago on Friday, halting trains and transit and threatening floods and

mudslides in central and western regions, while residents were urged to use caution. Warnings were issued in parts of western and central Japan, with up to 25 centimeters (10 inches) of

rain forecast through Saturday evening. Residents in vulnerable areas, including those in Mie, Wakayama, Aichi and Shizuoka prefectures in central Japan, were warned of the potential for flooding and mudslides and advised to go to evacuation centers if possible. Television footage showed swollen rivers in residential areas in Wakayama city, including one where brown water rose as high as the bottom of a bridge over it. In Tokyo, the few pedestrians on the rainy streets clutched umbrellas as winds blew tree branches around. Afternoon classes were also cancelled at some schools. Ferry operations in the Tokyo Bay were cancelled for the rest of Friday.

Heavy rain and mudslide warnings were also issued in the nearby city of Yokohama, where a number of evacuation centers were opened.

Shinkansen super-ex-

press trains were suspended between Tokyo and Shin Osaka in western Japan due to heavy rain, according to the Central Japan Railway Co. Flights and ferries in southern Japan also were canceled due to continuing strong winds. More than 17,500 homes in seven of the nine prefectures serviced by the Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings lost power. Mawar remained well offshore in the Pacific Ocean, but its winds were strong enough as it passed Okinawa to cause injuries. An older woman who fell had a serious head injury in Nishihara city, while the injuries to seven other people were slight. The tropical storm had sustained winds blowing up to 82 kph (51 mph) Friday afternoon and was blowing east-northeast at 25 kph (15 mph), the Japan Meteorological Agency said. It was near Amami-Oshima Island, about 1,500 kilometers (930 miles) southwest of Tokyo. The warm and damp air from the tropical storm was intensifying seasonal rains, and a linear band of heavy rain was hovering over the islands, the meteorological agency said. Mawar largely skirted Taiwan and the Philippines earlier this week. It sent waves crashing into Taiwan's east coast and brought heavy rains to the northern Philippines, though no major damage was reported. Mawar was the strongest typhoon to hit Guam in more than two decades.

## US: Tanks, F-16 jets part of long-term strategy for Ukraine, won't be ready for upcoming offensive

Paris, Jun 02:

Training for Ukrainian forces on advanced U.S. Abrams tanks has begun, and while those systems will not be ready in time for the imminent counteroffensive, those weapons will be critical in the longer-term to Ukraine ultimately pushing Russia out of its occupied territories, Joint Chiefs chairman Gen. Mark Milley said. Tank training began as the U.S. and allies began to work out agreements to train Ukrainians

on F-16 fighter jets another long-wished-for advanced capability. Ultimately, while the tanks are needed to expel Russian forces from Ukrainian territory, the F-16s would be part of a longer-term security plan to deter future attacks, Milley said Thursday. "Everyone recognises Ukraine needs a modernised Air Force," Milley said. "It's going to take a considerable amount of time." Milley said detailed planning on class sizes, the types of flying tactics and locations

for training was underway now between the U.S. and allies such as the Netherlands and the U.K. that have already pledged to provide F-16s.

The U.S. has not said yet whether or not it will provide jets, but President Joe Biden has said the U.S. will support F-16 training.

As those details get

worked out, Abrams tank training moved ahead. About 200 Ukrainian soldiers began an approximately 12-week training course in Germany on the U.S. tanks over the weekend to teach them how to maneuver, fire and conduct combined arms operations with the advanced armoured system.

**कार्यालय, नगर पालिका निगम, भिलाई**

**निविदा सूचना**

क्र./वाहन/न.नि./2023/220/122 भिलाई, दिनांक 31.05.2023

आयुक्त, नगर पालिका निगम, भिलाई की ओर से निर्मात्री संस्थान/अधिकृत संस्थापक/स्थानीय संस्थापकता से मुहरबंद निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र हेतु आवेदन निवेदन तिथि को सायं 5.30 बजे तक इस कार्यालय में आवेदन के साथ निर्धारित राशि नगद जमा किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

- निविदा जारी करने की तिथि- दिनांक 31/05/2023
- आवेदन की अंतिम तिथि- दिनांक 14/06/2023 सायं 5.30 बजे तक
- निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि- दिनांक 21/06/2023 सायं 5.30 बजे तक
- निविदा खोले जाने की तिथि- दिनांक 22/06/2023

क्र.	कार्य का नाम	निविदा लागत (रुपये में)	अधिकतम राशि	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	समयावधि	फार्म
1	वाहन क्र. CG07/C/8220 (सुपर) में पुरानी टायर, दूध एवं फलप बदलकर 06 नया नया टायर, दूध एवं फलप लगाकर संभारण कार्य करना वाहन।	1,80,000.00	2,000.00	300.00	30 दिन	फार्म-बी

**नियम एवं शर्तें:-** (1) सरल निविदा प्रपत्र ही की जाएगी। (2) निविदा महीनद अथवा निकायों द्वारा से वाहन वाहन, भिलाई नगर पालिका निगम के पास, कोमा नगर, भिलाई 490003 में सौंपकर दिये जाएंगे। (3) अधिकतम राशि के रूप में कार्यालय अभिलेख, नगर पालिका निगम, भिलाई एवं संशोधन एंजिनरी संस्थापकता के नाम से किसी शाखाओं में जमा किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा। (4) सरल निविदा प्रपत्र हेतु निविदा प्रपत्र पर सहित निवेदन "क" में प्रस्तुत करना होगा। (5) समस्त कर सहित दर् प्रस्तुत करना होगा। (6) यदि निगम द्वारा निर्धारित निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि निविदा खोलने की तिथि को किसी अपरिहार्य कारणवश अवरुद्ध होना है तो एसी स्थिति में अंतिम तिथि खोलने की तिथि आगामी कार्य दिवस को माना जाएगा। (7) नुकसान दर् आवेदन दर् में स्वीकार की जाएगी। (8) अन्य निगम शर्तों एवं मापदण्ड की जानकारी कार्यालय अभिलेख (वाहन) के कार्यालय में कार्यालयीन समय में उपस्थित होकर प्राप्त की जा सकती है साथ ही यह जानकारी नगर पालिका निगम भिलाई की वेबसाइट [www.bhilainagarnigam.com](http://www.bhilainagarnigam.com) संवाचनात्मक की वेबसाइट [www.uad.co.in](http://www.uad.co.in) एवं निगम की वेबसाइट [eproc.cgstate.gov.in](http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in) में देखी जा सकती है।

**कार्यपालन अभियंता**

**CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER TRANS. CO. LTD.**  
O/o Chief Engineer (Store & Purchase), 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, SLDC Building, Dagauniya, Raipur (C.G.)

No.02-16/SE(S&P)/TR-23/S&P/05/464 Raipur, Dtd-01.06.2023

**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed tenders are invited from experienced manufacturers/Dealers/Suppliers for supply of following materials.

SI No.	Tender No.	Particulars	Qty.(Nos.)	Cost of tender doc.(Rs.) including 18%GST	EMD (Rs.)	Due date
1	TR-23/S&P/05 RFx No- 8100031708	Desktop Computer	20	1180/-	18,200/-	<b>22.06.2023 (15.00 Hrs.)</b>
2		UPS	15			
3		Printer	15			
4		Laptop	06			

For all other details of NIT and terms & conditions, please visit our website [www.cspc.co.in](http://www.cspc.co.in).

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**कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता,  
लोक निर्माण विभाग, रायपुर संभाग क्र.- 1, रायपुर**

**मैनुअल पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

विज्ञापित क्रमांक 3943/एन.आई.टी.-08/टी.सी./23-24/ रायपुर, दिनांक 30/05/2023

कार्य का विवरण	अनुमानित राशि (लाखों में)
S/R, MOW, Deposit and Other Works at Byron Bazar under Maintenance Sub Division Raipur	10.00
S/R, MOW, Deposit and Other Works at Old Pension Bada under Maintenance Sub Division Raipur	10.00
S/R, MOW, Deposit and Other Works at New Pension Bada under Maintenance Sub Division Raipur	10.00
S/R, MOW, Deposit and Other Works of Section No-3 under Maintenance Sub Division Raipur	10.00
S/R, MOW, Deposit and Other Works of Police Line Section under Maintenance Sub Division Raipur	19.90
White Washing, Colour Washing, Distemping and Painting Work of Police Line Section under Maintenance Sub Division Raipur	19.90

निविदा प्रपत्र प्राप्त करने की तिथि - 21.06.2023

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापित, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी कार्यालयीन अवधि में कार्यालय से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। साथ ही यह जानकारी विभागीय वेबसाइट [www.cg.nic.in/pwdraipur/](http://www.cg.nic.in/pwdraipur/) में Live Tender के अन्तर्गत निविदा प्रपत्र में उपलब्ध। इनका अवलोकन संबंधित संभाग कार्यालय में किया जा सकता है।

कार्यपालन अभियंता  
लोक निर्माण विभाग संभाग क्र.-1  
रायपुर

G-01908/2

**जवाहर नवोदय विद्यालय लवन,  
जिला-बलौदा बाजार (छ.ग.)**

**--: निविदा सूचना:--**

जवाहर नवोदय विद्यालय लवन, जिला-बलौदा बाजार (छ.ग.) में वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 हेतु निम्नलिखित मदों में सामग्रियों की आपूर्ति बाबत संबंधित पंजीकृत फर्म/व्यापारियों से सोलबिड निविदाएं दिनांक 03.06.2023 से 15.06.2023 तक सायं 4:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है, जो दिनांक 16.06.2023 को पूर्वान्ह 11:00 बजे विद्यालय क्रय सलाहकार समिति एवं उपस्थित निविदाकर्ताओं के समक्ष खोली जाएगी। निविदाफार्म एवं अन्य जानकारी विद्यालय कार्यालय से समस्त कार्य दिवसों में दिनांक 03.06.2023 से 15.06.2023 समय प्रातः 10:00 बजे से अपराह्न 04:00 बजे तक रुपये 200/- मात्र प्रतिनिविदा प्रपत्र के नकद भुगतान कर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। उक्त प्रपत्र विद्यालय वेबसाइट [aboutnjbvalodabazar](http://aboutnjbvalodabazar) से डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं वेबसाइट से डाउनलोड/प्राप्त निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 200/- प्रति प्रपत्र बैंक ड्राफ्ट के माध्यम से अमानत राशि के साथ जमा कराना अनिवार्य है क्रय सलाहकार समिति किसी भी निविदा को आंशिक अथवा पूर्ण रूप से बिना कारण बताए अस्वीकार कर सकती है। प्रशासनिक कारणवश निविदा खुलने की तिथि में परिवर्तन किया जा सकता है।

**--: अमानत राशि का विवरण:--**

क्रमांक	मद का नाम	अमानत/धरोहर राशि
01	खट्टा सामग्री	35,000/-
02	सब्जी बेज/नॉनबेज (चिकन, अंडा) सामग्री एवं फल सामग्री	15,000/-
03	बेकरी सामग्री	5,000/-
04	दैनिक प्रसाधन एवं सफाई सामग्री	5,000/-
05	कार्यालय एवं विद्यार्थी स्टेशनरी सामग्री	10,000/-
06	बाल कटाई कार्य	500/-
07	ड्रेस/गणवेश सिलाई कार्य	7,000/-
08	गणवेश धुलाई एवं प्रेस कार्य	500/-
09	चार पहिया वाहन किराया	10,000/-



## CENTRAL Chronicle

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### Ensuring Equitable Education

#### Unifying Assessment Systems

In a significant step towards standardizing the evaluation process in Indian education, the Union Ministry of Education has embarked on an ambitious endeavor to establish a uniform assessment framework for all state board examinations by November. This move comes in response to the alarming disparities observed in the exam results declared by various school boards across the country. Moreover, even within the same state or union territory, students from schools affiliated with different boards face stark variations in performance, creating obstacles when transitioning between boards or appearing for national-level tests like the CUET, JEE, and NEET. The necessity of a standardized syllabus and examination format to ensure consistency across boards cannot be overstated. Recognizing this, the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) envisions the establishment of a National Assessment Centre, known as PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development), under the ministry's guidance. PARAKH's primary objectives include encouraging and supporting school boards in aligning their assessment patterns with contemporary skill requirements. The current state of evaluation systems raises concerns about their credibility, as a disproportionate number of students are achieving exceptionally high marks—often surpassing 90 percent—in examinations conducted by both the CBSE and state boards. This trend has prompted questions regarding the quality of education imparted and whether these top-performing students are truly equipped for the challenges of the future. Establishing a central assessment body faces significant challenges, particularly in states where political opposition exists. Overcoming these challenges requires the central government and states/union territories to transcend political considerations and collaborate closely to ensure the success of this crucial reform in school education. Additionally, addressing the skewed science-arts ratio in students' preferences during their Class XI-XII years is another pressing issue that demands urgent attention. The dominance of science streams over humanities and other disciplines indicates a narrow focus on career prospects and societal expectations. To foster a well-rounded education system, it is imperative to encourage students to explore their interests across a broad range of subjects and emphasize the value of all academic disciplines. The introduction of a uniform assessment framework holds immense promise for the future of education in India. By establishing common standards, the evaluation process will become more transparent, equitable, and reliable. Students will no longer face undue challenges when transitioning between boards or competing in national-level examinations. Furthermore, a standardized assessment system will enable a comprehensive evaluation of students' abilities, focusing not only on rote memorization but also on critical thinking, problem-solving, and real-world application of knowledge. To ensure the successful implementation of this reform, the central government must play a proactive role in providing resources, training, and guidance to state boards. Collaborative efforts, driven by a shared vision of a quality education system, will be pivotal in shaping the future of Indian students. Additionally, comprehensive public awareness campaigns are necessary to inform parents, teachers, and students about the benefits and significance of this standardized assessment framework. As India strives to become a global leader in education, it is crucial to address the existing disparities in evaluation systems. The journey towards a uniform assessment framework will require diligence, cooperation, and determination from all stakeholders involved. By embracing this reform, we can build a robust and inclusive education system that empowers students with the knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in an ever-evolving world. It is a collective responsibility to shape the future of education in India and pave the way for a brighter tomorrow.

### WALK THE TALK

Kajal Chatterjee

"Team India" will not turn into reality just through mere dialogues and rhetoric. Rather such an unity of people states and Centre can happen not only through mutual love respect towards each other, but also by following every words lines and spirit of the Constitution to the full. The accident of political and geographical destiny which has given birth to a defined national boundary will get promoted to "Team India" only when each and every language of this diverse country get treated on an absolute equal platform with no particular tongue awarded the "numero uno" status and this is the very essence of democracy ie equality of all, not muscle-flexing of "majority". Similarly each and every religion should be treated at par with no prohibition on the issues of diet attire or prayer call of targeted communities. And yes, the State apparatus should have absolutely no relationship with any religion. "Team India" means total freedom in choosing or marrying life partners irrespective of religious caste tribal racial linguistic regional difference. In the same vein everybody should have full liberty to choose any religion which they desire to practice or get converted to. "Team India" will materialise only when all marginalised castes and tribes be awarded the honour and human rights they richly deserve and exemplary punishment given to those who dare to prohibit them from entering crematoriums to temples, taunt abuse torture them through physical or verbal manner or uproot them from their traditional forest lands. "Team India" means equality of all states also(irrespective of "single/double engine") with the Centre residing above all norms of bias prejudice discrimination favouritism. Not "Opposition-mukt", rather respecting the Opposition must be the goal. Surely political debate can happen, but personal abuses against political adversaries must be strict no-no. "Team India" should mean equal distribution of national wealth through generation of jobs and generous provision of subsidies to the people of lower economic scale with all getting fertile ground to get educated and medicated. However if selective pampering of cronies get pursued with State resources handed to "friendly" entities, nothing can act more fatal to the concept of "Team India". "Team India" will shine in its full glory when everybody can exercise his/her freedom of speech and expression with head held high and mind without fear (but without taking resort in falsehood and character assassination). No social activist should be detained in prison without concrete proof of indulging in any crime, no journalist should be jailed for his "sin" of venturing to the site of a gory crime, no comedian should be thrown behind bars for any joke "uncracked" ie just on the basis of mere apprehension that he would "hurt" the "sentiments" of some high and mighty. A feeling of "Team India" will only emerge when it would be seen that the precious resource time and energy are getting invested on the welfare of common people so that they can be provided basic necessities of food attire shelter education medical care justice and livelihood with all children under the roof of the schools instead of labour fields under open sky. If none other than the State is seen to sponsor/build temples statues glittering mansions and luxurious amenities for the rich; a bond of "Team India" in such an unequal environment hold no chance to emerge. Yes, mere call and talk of "Team India" is absolutely inconsequential unless that talk is actually walked. Hope what is being preached at the top of the voice would be seriously practiced also in all sectors of life.

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.

### WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY RALLY

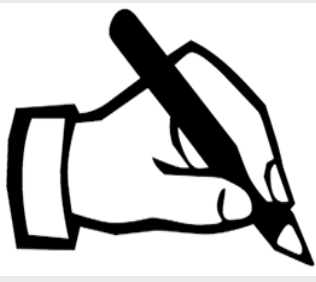


National Cadet Corps (NCC) women cadets participate in a rally ahead of the World Environment Day, in Jammu, Friday, June 2.

## Social media playing with the social fabric



DR PRIYANKA SAURABH



There was a time when people used to meet and talk to each other in person and write letters to each other. People used to spend most of their time with family members and people used to value their relationships too so this was the situation with earlier generations. But today everything has changed people spend most of their time on social media and now you can easily stay connected with people you meet in your life even far away and you can also get updates about their life and life. what they are what they are doing in life and thus social media has changed the whole structure of society.

In recent times, social media has become a powerful tool to influence public opinion and influence the prevailing discourse in society. Social media has become so powerful because of its low cost, wide reach, easy access and availability of smartphones. Social media has acted as a double-edged sword where it has widened the avenues for democratic participation on one hand but it has also given rise to concerns about the spread of hatred and violence in the society. Social media has become an integral part of our

life today and while playing its role, it exerts immense influence on society and individuals. It has become a new way of life for the 21st-century generation.

So there was a time when people used to meet and talk to each other in person and write letters to each other. People used to spend most of their time with family members and people used to value their relationships too so this was the situation with earlier generations. But today everything has changed people spend most of their time on social

media and now you can easily stay connected with people you meet in your life even far away and you can also get updates about their life and life. what they are what they are doing in life and thus social media has changed the whole structure of society.

We all know that there are twenty-four hours in day and night, and these hours are for every human being. Everyone uses these hours. The only difference is that those who use these hours properly have different results and for those who are not able to use these hours properly, the result in future will not be pleasing. Now you must be thinking that what is the relationship between the development of the internet and this calculation of time. So understand it in such a way that the internet through which we boast of saving time, the same internet is taking a large part of your life's time. Now here it is important to understand that out of the time you are spending on the internet, how much time are you using it properly? Internet usage has increased the most in the villages of India in the last decade. Not that this use is completely bad and wrong, but it is important to understand to what extent its use can be beneficial for you.

Social media has democratized the public space by giving voice to the oppressed, marginalized and sharing their perspective with a wider audience. Social media has enabled the rapid dissemination of information in new areas such as investigative journalism, environment, freedom of the press and citizen-centred journalism. Social media has

been used by politicians and governments to mobilize support for their initiatives and broaden their support through debate, advertising and social campaigns. Social media collect user preferences and use them to personalize content where individuals are exposed to the same type of content which contributes to the strengthening of existing beliefs and polarization of opinion. How social media can be regulated to prevent the spread of hate and misinformation: To regulate hate speech and violence with clearly defined effective enforcement mechanisms and active collaboration between government, civil society and society is urgently needed.

There is a need to maintain a balance between freedom of speech and public interest in the use of social media. There is an urgent need to revive social interaction between communities and individuals to rebuild the social fabric of our society. As you know everything has its advantages and disadvantages. Even social media has negative aspects. Firstly it takes a lot of your time; You end up spending more time on social media instead of your family members and secondly, it has also invited a lot of nuisances like stalking, trolling which can affect your mental health and can affect people can also really spoil the life so you have to use social media very carefully and also you need to be very safe while using social media.

(Priyanka Saurabh, Research Scholar in Political Science. Poetess, Independent Journalist and columnist.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Standardized Evaluation

The Education Ministry's initiative to establish a uniform assessment system for students across various board exams is a significant stride. While challenges may arise during implementation, this step fosters greater standardization and consistency in the evaluation process. A uniform assessment system ensures that students are evaluated based on a single pattern, reducing disparities and promoting fairness. Moreover, it provides students and parents with a clearer understanding of the evaluation criteria, reducing confusion and facilitating a transparent and streamlined process. Emphasizing quality over quantity becomes paramount, ensuring that the focus remains on providing equitable opportunities for all students.

MK Nair, Raipur

#### Revamping Medical Education

The derecognition of 40 medical colleges by the National Medical Commission reflects commendable action towards upholding stipulated standards. With India's population continually expanding, an increased number of doctors is imperative. To enhance the healthcare infrastructure, the government must prioritize upgrading facilities in medical colleges. Exploring partnerships with private healthcare organizations or corporations can facilitate the necessary infrastructure improvements. By focusing on improving medical education, the healthcare sector as a whole can undergo positive transformation, ultimately benefiting society. It is crucial to invest in better facilities to foster a robust healthcare system that meets the needs of the nation.

Shivkumari Mishra, Raipur

#### POCSO Violations

The violation of POCSO norms in the case involving the chief of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) exposes the deceit behind the "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" campaign and women's empowerment schemes. Despite the usual practice of immediate arrests in POCSO cases, the accused remains free even a month after the FIR was filed. This raises doubts about the credibility of future government policies. Furthermore, the accused, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, continues to intimidate witnesses through his statements. The government's undemocratic actions have not only failed in justice but also stained the nation's reputation.

Anup Krishnan, Kolkata

### India's Balancing Act

## Navigating Relations with Russia, China, and the US Amidst Growing Pressure

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in India finds itself in an unprecedented situation as it strives to engage positively with three global superpowers—the US, China, and Russia. India, caught in the crosshairs of the international power struggle following the Russia-Ukraine war, faces the risk of its longstanding friendship with Russia being compromised due to growing Chinese influence and mounting US pressure. While India has maintained a reasonable distance from the conflict over Ukraine's sovereignty, its burgeoning trade with Russia has raised concerns among Western powers. Russia, despite benefiting from a network of partners and allies that includes China, India, Iran, and South Africa, has become increasingly reliant on China's support. This dependence begs the question: Will the India-Russia ties fracture over time as China, perceived as India's primary adversary, strengthens its relationship with Russia?

In the realm of diplomacy, the adage "the enemy of my enemy is my friend" holds some truth. However, what happens when a close friend of an enemy becomes a potential threat? Russia, a close ally of China, may face pressure from China to strain its relationship with India. The key question is whether

Russia will succumb to such pressure. Will China risk a diplomatic confrontation with India, its leading import partner? India has emerged as China's sixth-largest export destination, following the US, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, and Vietnam. It is interesting to note that China's diplomatic tensions have yet to significantly impact its global export efforts, enabling the country to become the world's second-largest economic power. In 2022, China retained its position as the world's largest exporter, shipping \$3.594 trillion worth of products globally. Despite deteriorating diplomatic relations with the US, China's massive exports to the country reached \$582.8 billion, representing 16.2 percent of its total exports.

China has also become India's largest source of imports and a major foreign direct investor. In 2022, around 47 percent of China's exports by value were delivered to fellow Asian countries, while Europe accounted for 20 percent of its exports. Additionally, China shipped nearly 20 percent of its goods to North America, with smaller percentages going to Latin America, Africa, and Oceania. Ironically, the Russia-Ukraine war has inadvertently bolstered Russia's economy and foreign trade with China, India, Iran, Saudi

Arabia, and Belarus. Russia's exports experienced a remarkable 72 percent surge, reaching \$45.93 billion, thanks to increased sales to both non-CIS and CIS countries. Imports rose at a slower pace of 40.1 percent, largely due to purchases from non-CIS and CIS countries. In response to Russia's attack on Ukraine, several global brands and major companies suspended their operations in Russia, prompting Russia to impose an export ban on over 200 products, including telecoms, medical, vehicle, agricultural, and electrical equipment, as a retaliatory measure against Western sanctions.

Currently, there is no immediate fear of a downturn in Russia-India relations. However, the situation may change if the Russia-Ukraine conflict prolongs and escalates, with NATO increasingly arming Ukraine to provoke a counterattack from Russia. In such a scenario, Russia would require stronger defense support and involvement from China, giving China a greater say in the situation. As the world's second-largest economy and third-largest military power, China maintains a substantial "cooperative" partnership network, including countries like North Korea, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei, Nepal, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Suriname, and the African Union.

China has also established comprehensive strategic partnerships with countries such as Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. Moreover, China has been expanding its economic, political, and security influence in West Asia, becoming the largest trade partner and external investor for many countries in the region. China's role in brokering a peace dialogue between Saudi Arabia and Iran further demonstrates its growing diplomatic clout.

India, thus far, has been cautious not to let Russia's external issues affect its diplomatic exchanges with Western allies, Japan, and Australia. The country has staunchly defended its significant oil imports from Russia since early last year. Additionally, India is actively involved in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, known as the Quad, which aims to contain China's economic and military expansion in the Pacific-Indian Ocean region. The Quad, consisting of Australia, India, Japan, and the United States, provides diplomatic and military protection against Chinese naval expansion in the Indian Ocean.

Despite China's aggressive posture along its land border with India and in India's littoral zone, which includes the Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean, and Arabian Sea, India has

endeavored to maintain constructive diplomatic dialogues through various organizations such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa), and the Russia-India-China (RIC) grouping. However, these dialogues have not significantly alleviated China's diplomatic mistrust towards India. These groupings remain in a state of limbo primarily because of China's divergent views from India's. Fortunately, India's relationship with Russia has thus far remained resilient despite pressure from its Western allies, Japan, and Australia. However, the challenge for India lies in expanding its relationships with the US, NATO member countries, Japan, and Australia without jeopardizing its ties with Russia.

The recent recommendation by a powerful US congressional committee to include India in NATO+ further exacerbates tensions in India's relations with both Russia and China. NATO+5, designed to enhance security arrangements among NATO's five aligned nations (Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, and Israel), would facilitate easier and faster transfer of US military technology to India. Time alone will reveal whether India can skillfully navigate the increasingly complex diplomatic triangle it finds itself in.



**BRIEF**

**Appointment**



**Mangaluru:** Sanjay Varma has taken charge as managing director (additional charge) of Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) here following an order issued by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Varma has been on the board of MRPL as director (refinery) since June 2020 and has had extensive exposure by being on the boards of MSTPL, ONGC Mangalore Petrochemicals Limited and Shell-MRPL Aviation, a release from the company said on Thursday. He has rich exposure in various domains of expertise in the oil and gas industry.

**Review meeting**

**New Delhi:** The National Commission for Scheduled Castes will hold a review meeting next week with the twelve public sector banks that have come under its lens for non-implementation of central schemes, according to senior officials. The NCSC chief will chair the meeting and raise the issues of not filling vacant posts reserved for persons belonging to the SC category and difficulty for SCs in getting loans, a senior official said. A senior official said that in banks, especially at higher positions, there are less number of people from the community and this issue will also be discussed at the meeting.

**Huge opportunities**



**New Delhi:** Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said huge opportunities for people and businesses will be opened up when the country's goods and services exports touch USD 2 trillion by 2030. In the last two years, he said the country's exports jumped from USD 500 billion to USD 767 billion in 2022-23. India is a USD 3.5 trillion economy today and will become at least USD 35 trillion economy by 2047 and "imagine what opportunities it will open up for all the people of India," he said.

**Bima Vahaks**

**New Delhi:** Regulator Irdai came out with draft guidelines for 'Bima Vahaks (BV)', which seeks to establish a dedicated distribution channel at the level of Gram Panchayats. The guidelines propose Corporate Bima Vahaks and Individual Bima Vahaks for the distribution channel. Corporate Bima Vahak would be legal persons registered in accordance with the respective laws and engaged by an insurer.

## Govt asks industry to cut edible oils MRP by Rs 8-12 per litre as global prices drop

**New Delhi, Jun 02:**

The Centre on Friday directed edible oil associations to further reduce the maximum retail price (MRP) of major edible oils by Rs 8-12 per litre with immediate effect, in line with the global market. "Some companies which have not reduced their prices and their MRP is higher than other brands have also been advised to reduce their prices," the food ministry said after a meeting, chaired by food secretary Sanjeev Chopra, with the industry representatives. Price to distributors by the manufacturers and refiners also needs to be reduced with immediate effect so that the price drop is not diluted in any way, it said. It was also impressed upon that whenever a reduction in price to distributors is made by the manufacturers/refiners, the benefit should be passed on to the consumers by the industry and the ministry may be

kept informed on a regular basis, it added. With the edible oil prices continuing to show a downward trend and set to witness further reduction by the edible oil industry, the ministry said, "the Indian consumers can expect to pay less for their edible oils. The falling edible oil prices will help in further cooling inflation fears if any." Industry representatives including Solvent Extraction Association of India and Indian Vegetable Oil Producers' Association were present in the second meeting convened within a month to discuss further reduction in retail prices of edible oils amidst a continued fall in the global prices. In the meeting, the ministry said the international prices of imported edible oils are continuing on a downward trend and therefore, the edible oil industry needs to ensure that the prices in the domestic market also drop commensurately.

The industry was told to ensure the price drop in the global market is passed on expeditiously to the end consumers and not in a delayed manner as is observed now. "The leading edible oil associations were advised to take up the issue with their members immediately and ensure that the maximum retail price (MRP) of major edible oils to be reduced further by Rs 8-12 per litre with immediate effect," the ministry said in a statement released after the meeting.

The international and domestic prices of edible oil were on an upward swing during 2021-22 due to many geopolitical factors including higher input and logistic cost. However, the edible oil prices in the international market are witnessing a fall since mid-June 2022, it said. "The fall in the prices of edible oils in the domestic market is gradually being reflected in the domestic market."

## ONGC to maintain financial flexibility as earnings steady: S&P

**New Delhi, Jun 02:** State-owned ONGC's operating cash flows will rise over the next 12-24 months due to higher production volumes, stable earnings from domestic gas production, and the removal of a windfall tax on crude oil, S&P Global Ratings said on Friday.

"This should help the company maintain its good credit quality, despite its investment plans and healthy shareholder distributions," the rating agency said in a statement. ONGC is India's largest oil and gas producer. "We estimate that ONGC's domestic production volumes will rise by 8-10 per cent for fiscal 2024

(year ending March 31). The increase is attributable to the start of oil production from its block in the Krishna Godavari basin later this year," S&P said. At the same time, production at the Sakhalin-1 project of ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) should also recover to fiscal 2022 levels, after a period of disruptions because of geopolitical issues. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation produced a total of 42.8 million tonne of oil equivalent (mmtoe) in fiscal 2023 compared with 43.4 mmtoe in fiscal 2022. OVL produced a total of 10.2 mmtoe in fiscal 2023, down from 12.3 mmtoe in fiscal 2022.

## Average time taken for issuing I-T refunds reduced significantly: CBDT chairman

**New Delhi, Jun 02:**

Average time taken for issuing refunds by the income tax department has been brought down "significantly" and 80 per cent of refunds were issued in the first 30 days of filing of returns during the 2022-23 fiscal, CBDT Chairman Nitin Gupta has said. The chief of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said the work of processing Income Tax Returns (ITRs) has been "expedited" as the tax department is leveraging technology in a big way and was working to ensure 'ease of doing business' for the taxpayers by promoting voluntary compliance.

"We have expedited the processing of returns and

## Rattan India's Revolt Motors announces Grand Opening of 11 dealerships

**Mumbai, Jun 02:**

Rattan India's Revolt Motors, largest electric motorcycle company in India, is pleased to announce the simultaneous opening of 11 new dealerships across India including Raipur and Durg in Chhattisgarh, marking a significant milestone for the company and electric mobility in the country. The grand opening of showroom in the Raipur city and Durg will showcase Revolt Motors' commitment to expanding its presence and providing sustainable transportation solutions nationwide.

The 11 new dealerships will be strategically located in major cities and prominent regions throughout India, including Pune (second dealership), Raipur, Aurangabad, Nanded, Durg, Sangli, Buldana, Begusarai, Jhunjhunu, Agra and Haridwar. This expansion demonstrates Revolt Motors' dedication to accelerating its reach to



the customer base across the nation. Revolt Motors has witnessed a growing demand for electric motorcycles in India, driven by increased environmental consciousness and a desire for sustainable transportation options. With the launch of these 11 new dealerships, the company aims to capitalize on this momentum, offering customers a high quality electric motorcycles that are

designed for performance, efficiency, and affordability. The grand opening event will be a celebration of innovation, showcasing Revolt Motors' state-of-the-art dealership infrastructure and futuristic electric motorcycles. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore the cutting-edge features of the motorcycles, experience test rides, and interact with Revolt Motors' expert staff, who

will be on hand to provide guidance and support throughout the purchasing process. Revolt Motors is committed to delivering a seamless customer experience, and the new dealerships will offer a comprehensive range of services, including sales, after-sales support, spare parts availability, and technical assistance. Commenting on the momentous occasion, Ms. Anjali Rattan, Business Chairperson of RattanIndia Enterprises Limited, parent entity of Revolt Motors, said, "We are thrilled to open 11 new dealerships simultaneously across India."

This expansion reflects our vision of making sustainable transportation accessible to a wider audience. We believe that electric mobility is the future, and through our innovative motorcycles and robust dealership network, we aim to revolutionize the way people commute in India."

## Wardrobe Refresh Sale (WRS) on Amazon Fashion

**Mumbai, Jun 02:**

Amazon Fashion announces the 12th edition of its much-anticipated shopping event, Wardrobe Refresh Sale with deals across a wide selection of the most loved fashion and beauty brands that will inspire you to revamp your wardrobe. With summer in full swing and monsoon just around the corner, it's time to liven up your look with vibrant hues, flowy silhouettes, and breezy fashionable outfits. From summery dresses to trendy accessories and footwear, this is your one-stop destination for all things stylish. No matter what your plans are, we have you covered with the best in fashion and beauty selections across apparel, shoes, handbags, watches, jewelry, kids wear, beauty essentials, luxury beauty and much more.

Customers can avail 50% to 80% off (T&C apply) on 4 lakhs+ styles during the 6-day shopping event that begins on Thursday, June 1st, 2023 and goes on till Monday, June 6th, 2023.

Choose from 1000+ top brands including Van Heusen, BIBA, Levi's, U.S. Polo Assn., Puma, Adidas, The Body Shop, Lakme, Loreal Paris, Forest Essentials, American Tourister amongst others. Additionally, customers can also avail free delivery on their first order and get 20% cashback (T&C apply) and save extra up to 30% off on buying 2 or more products, and Prime members can additionally enjoy APay rewards worth INR 2,000 on shopping for Rs 2,000 & above. Shoppers can make the most of these offers and get their hands on the season's best trends.

## India is 'capital starved', needs to work towards getting capital to become USD 5-trillion economy

**New Delhi, Jun 02:**

India is "capital starved" and if the country has to meet its aspiration of 8 per cent growth to reach USD 5 trillion economy, it needs to work towards getting capital, Piramal asserted. There are many opportunities that India can learn from what the rest of the world has done, he said, adding the country can look at opening up pension funds and provident funds etc, which are currently not allowed to "invest in too many companies". "With the regulations becoming tighter and better in India, I think we will have to open this. These funds are available. Today 50 per cent of all these funds go into government securities. I think they must be allowed to be invested into companies," Piramal said.



faster". Pointing out concerns towards achieving the higher growth, he said, "...if India has to grow at 8 per cent GDP, which is what our aspiration is if you want to go to a (USD) 5 trillion, and then 10 trillion, generally in real terms...then credit must grow at approximately 18 to 20 per cent." He said credit growth of 18 to 20 per cent has never happened in India. "I don't think we have the banks or

the NBFCs or anybody who can grow it that much. So we are capital starved and therefore we have to work towards getting capital," Piramal asserted. There are many opportunities that India can learn from what the rest of the world has done, he said, adding the country can look at opening up pension funds and provident funds etc, which are currently not allowed to "invest in too many companies". "With the regulations becoming tighter and better in India, I think we will have to open this. These funds are available. Today 50 per cent of all these funds go into government securities. I think they must be allowed to be invested into companies," Piramal said.

## Audi chaiwala gives Mumbaikars a taste of luxury

**Mumbai, Jun 02:** While most people associate a high-end car like Audi with luxury and comfort, for Mannu Sharma and Amit Kashyap, it proved to be an inspiration to set up their own tea stall here. Sharma and Kashyap have been selling tea for Rs 20 from the trunk of the luxury car, worth Rs 70 lakh, in the plush neighbourhood of Lokhandwala in the western suburb of Andheri for the last six months and they recently went viral on social media. The cutting chai is a staple on the streets of Mumbai and is available at humble establishments called 'tapris' (stalls) throughout the city. "We were just taking a stroll at night and craving a cup of tea, but we could not find a place at the time. That's when we thought of opening our



**Mannu Sharma and Amit Kashyap, who sell tea for Rs 20 from the trunk of a luxury car, worth Rs 70 lakh, in Mumbai. The duo's idea of selling 'OD Tea', short for on-drive tea, from their Audi has gone viral on social media.**

own stall here," said Sharma, who hails from Haryana. It is not just the duo's unique idea of sell-

ing OD Tea', short for on drive tea, from their Audi that has gone viral on social media, but it is also

the taste of their product that has drawn customers. "I have been coming here to have tea for the last two months because it tastes amazing. Every time I pass by this area, I have to have their tea," one of the customers said. Before starting their tea venture, Sharma who hails from Hisar, Haryana was a working professional in Africa, while Kashyap, a native of Punjab, is now a stock market trader by morning and a tea seller by evening.

"By selling tea in our Audi, I think we have proved wrong the thinking that only people who are financially not very well off take to selling tea. A person who rides a cycle also consumes tea and a person who drives a Jaguar can also enjoy our tea," Sharma said.

## MOU SIGNING

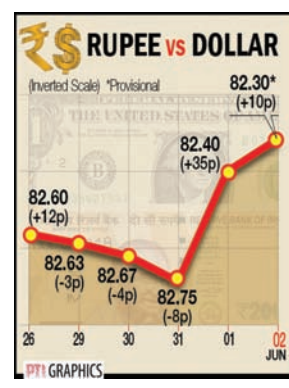


**NTPC Green Energy (NGEL) CEO Mohit Bhargava and Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (UPRVNL) shake hands after signing an MoU, in Lucknow.**

## Rupee rises 9 paise to close at 82.31 against US dollar

**Mumbai, Jun 02:**

The rupee appreciated by 9 paise to 82.31 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday, supported by broad dollar weakness and a positive trend in domestic equities. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened on a positive note against the US dollar and settled at 82.31 (provisional), up 9 paise over its previous close. During the day, the domestic unit witnessed an intra-day high of 82.27 and a low of 82.38 in the day trade. On Thursday, the rupee closed at 82.40 against the US currency. "The Indian rupee strengthened for the second consecutive day on positive domestic markets and a weak US dollar. However, a rebound in crude oil prices capped sharp gains," said Anuj Choudhary - Research



Analyst, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.12 per cent to 103.43. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures advanced 1.28 per cent to USD 75.23 per barrel. "We expect rupee to trade with a slight positive bias in the near term on risk-on sen-

timents in the global markets amid debt-ceiling bill being passed and rising odds of a pause in rate hike by the US Federal Reserve in June," Choudhary said. Choudhary further added that concerns over global economic slowdown and recovery in crude oil prices may prevent sharp upside. "Traders may remain cautious ahead of US non-farm payrolls and unemployment rate data. We expect USDINR spot to trade in between 81.80 to 82.80 in the near-term," Choudhary said. Besides, positive macroeconomic data supported the local unit, traders said. According to official data released on Thursday, GST collections crossed Rs 1.50 lakh crore for the third month in a row, recording a 12 per cent increase in May at over Rs 1.57 lakh crore.

## HOMESCHOOLING



Prof. ANIL JAIN

It always fills me with pleasure and it also provides me an opportunity to learn, whenever I come to know something about the foreign culture from my children. My children are a window to the world for they have lived in many places of the world. They always have something new to narrate whenever we converse on the mobiles. They are my entrance into the world. My daughter always has a number of experiences to share and I eagerly wait for the stories to listen. Quite fascinatingly and positively she recounts everything and I listen to her monologue carefully and try to analyze.

The other day I was talking to her on FaceTime. Presently, she is residing at San Diego County of California in the US. She had brought two doggies Joe and Ross home as she wanted to cleanse the blot which she had had on her that she was not a pet lover.

In American society if you do not keep pets at home it is considered that you are not a pet lover. She told me that they were anonymous in the society in the beginning. Nobody knew her and

her family until the dog was made a member of the family. As soon as she brought the doggies her household became famous in the whole Escondido locality. The dogs became popular among neighboring houses, particularly among kids. All the broods started to come to the house to play with the dogs.

One summer evening three siblings, two babies and one boy, came home to play with the dogs. While they were playing with the dogs one of the children saw a spider at the upper corner of the wall. All the three exchanged glances and one of them asked my daughter if she knew that she had a spider at her home. And then afterwards they started to talk about spiders.

They had such a wide knowledge of spiders that they spoke a great deal, for about half an hour, over the life cycle and different varieties of the spiders. Their knowledge was encyclopedic.

Their discussion on the subject was so vast and long-lasting that my daughter got fed up and wanted to get rid of the children. She offered them cookies and sweets to stop them but they were not ready to stop. Finally, her husband saw a coyote from the backyard of the house. He told the children about the animal and the children ran after it.

The mother of the children, Jeanne, is a good friend of my daughter and they regularly have a stroll together almost every morn-

ing or evening. The kids also keep company. She informed her that her children are taking 'homeschooling'. My daughter was awe struck and wondered what homeschooling meant. It was a new concept to us. According to the mother, the children do not have to go to the schools. They learn everything at home. Her eldest child, who is around sixteen, after homeschooling, is doing a part time job at some hospital and he hoped to join an internship later on. Observational Science is given great prominence here, she added. Homeschooling and Observational Science were new phrases so long as the primary education of the children was concerned.

My daughter was going to ask about it and while the mother was on to enlighten her about the elder child, they saw that the three children were leaning over a mud pool where they had found eggs of the frog. They knew everything about the frogs' eggs.

They even sorted the eggs from the dirt. They also found some tadpoles. They had in depth information about the life cycle of frogs. They wanted to carry some eggs home to observe and hatch but couldn't find a pot.

My daughter's astonishment knew no bounds but now she didn't need to know what the phrases observational science and homeschooling meant. It seemed as if all the questions had been answered.

Acting is the one time I feel meditative, says Anupriya Goenka of 'Asur 2'



Actress Anupriya Goenka is all set to reprise the role of Naina Nair in the second season of 'Asur: Welcome To The Dark Side'. She reflected on her own journey in the film industry as well as her personal experience working in this thriller show. Reminiscing on what inspired her to transition from the corporate world to acting, Anupriya spoke about her immense love for the art and the zen effect it has on her. "I am an overthinker and my mind goes on constantly talking. I feel acting is the one time when I feel meditative. Between action and cut, no matter what is happening in my life, I'm just there in the present moment." "That is the most fulfilling feeling. It's almost as if you breathe through it (acting) and everything in life is justified for the purpose of acting - the emotions, the good, the bad. I have started searching for new experiences because I want to be a better performer and push myself." Coming to her role as Naina, Anupriya also spoke about how closely she relates to the character. "There is a lot of similarity between me and Naina. I relate to her in the sense that I'm also very strong-headed, I'm very opinionated, I don't shy away from my opinions but at the same time I'm extremely vulnerable sometimes, and I show my vulnerability too." "I have my own struggles with right and wrong, my value systems. But through Naina, I was able to touch upon that part, that one can cross a line for what they believe in." 'Asur 2' is now streaming exclusively on JioCinema.

## Kashmir's rising star: Muteena Rajput makes waves in Bollywood

In the breathtaking valley of Kashmir, a new generation of ambitious women is breaking barriers and creating their own paths. From small-scale businesses to startups, acting, modelling and entrepreneurship, these women are seizing the opportunities and making a mark in a rapidly-changing landscape.

In the wake of the abrogation of Article 370, which granted a special status to the region, Kashmiri women are venturing into Mumbai, the heart of the Hindi film industry, known as Bollywood, to try their luck in acting.

Bollywood has long been associated with nepotism and familial connections, according to insiders. However, Muteena Rajput, a resident of North Kashmir, is poised to make her mark with the highly-anticipated release of her debut Bollywood film 'Welcome to Kashmir'. Having already worked in the Tamil, Telugu and Marathi film industries, Muteena is ready to make her Bollywood debut.

The budding actress revealed that in the film, she portrays a courageous young woman dedicated to women's empowerment and fighting for justice. "My character in the movie revolves around my passion for and visiting every college and



school for girls in our nation, inspiring them with my talks, and providing them with safety advice," Muteena said.

She firmly believes that women are inherently resilient, but often fall prey to societal pressures.

Proud of her Kashmiri heritage, Muteena expressed her gratitude for the opportunities she has had to represent Kashmir on various platforms.

"If we choose to view Kashmir through a positive lens, we'll realise its immense beauty. We need to embrace a positive perspective," she said.

While acknowledging that Kashmir has often been portrayed negatively in Bollywood films, often associated with promoting terrorism, Muteena is committed to showcasing her homeland in a favourable light. "As a

Kashmiri artiste, I understand the weight of my responsibility and always carry the spirit of my homeland with me. Others may have their preferences," she added.

"Welcome to Kashmir" tackles several important issues, including youth's involvement in drug abuse and the empowerment of women. Additionally, the movie highlights the positive aspects of tourism and hospitality. What sets the film apart is its unique nature as a Bollywood Hindi feature film produced and directed by Kashmiris themselves. The film is a dream venture for its filmmaker, who hails from Sopore. The film not only marks a significant milestone in Muteena's career, but also showcases the talent and potential of Kashmiri artistes in

shaping the narrative of their homeland on a grand stage. "Muteena Rajput's journey is an inspiration for every woman who dreams of making her mark in the entertainment industry. Through her debut Bollywood film, Muteena is not only entertaining audiences, but also addressing important social issues, making a meaningful impact through her art," said Neha Gupta, a film critic. "Her ability to bring depth and authenticity to her characters is a testament to her versatility as an actress," she added. "Muteena Rajput's on-screen charisma is unmatched, leaving audiences spellbound with her magnetic presence and captivating performances," said Maya Kapoor, an entertainment columnist.

Actress Rakul Preet Singh, who was seen in the streaming film 'Chhatriwali', and the recent Tamil-Telugu bilingual film 'Boo', has shared that she always had a contingency plan if things didn't work out for her on the acting front.

The actress recently graced an episode of the podcast 'The Habit Coach with Ashdin Doctor' by IVM Podcasts where she spoke of her Plan B.

She said: "When I moved to Bombay. I was 20 and that's it. I'm a Maths graduate, so I had told myself I will give it (acting) a try for 2 years and if it doesn't work out, I'll get back to my studies. That's the reason I completed my graduation. The first film happened when I was in college."

She further mentioned: "But, I fell short of attendance and then I was like no, let me finish my college. So yeah I gave myself 2 years, luckily things worked out. But Plan B was that I would do an MBA in Fashion but, luckily I didn't have to do that, it worked out."

She also shared that discipline helped her shape her career to a large extent. The actress comes from an army family as her father is an Army officer. Hence, discipline is naturally ingrained in her conduct.

She further mentioned: "Whatever I have done in my life from being a complete outsider, not knowing a soul in the industry is due to my discipline. When I started out, I didn't know how I would crack it, or what the way was going to be. I just figured the route on the way, but I was disciplined."

"I knew that this is the amount of work I have to put in. When I was not working, I was auditioning. I had a timetable even then. I always believe if you put in those many hours, the universe will make it happen for you. Because you are giving that intention that it is happening," she added.



### Rakul's plan B was MBA in fashion, but 'luckily,' she 'didn't have to do that'

## Rushad Rana roped in to play a pivotal character in 'Sapnon Ki Chhalaang'

Addressing the relatable challenges of moving to a new city in pursuit of a dream job, Sony Entertainment Television's 'Sapnon Ki Chhalaang' portrays the journey of Radhika, essayed by Megha Ray. Walking the tight rope of balancing a new job and the demands of a tough-to-please boss, alongside the concerns of her family back in Jhansi, Radhika is torn between managing both parts of her life. Amidst this turmoil, the one person that will not only challenge Radhika but also bring out her true potential will be the CEO of her company, Rajesh Naik portrayed by the actor, Rushad Rana. Having connected with the story from the very first narration, Rushad Rana shares, "When the right project lands in your hands, you know that you have to take it up. Just like the name of the show, all of us have taken our 'sapnonkichalang' towards living our dream; this relatable narrative made me say yes to doing the show."

Further talking about his character, Rushad added, "My character Rajesh is a very classy and ambitious man, who



wants the best for his company and his employees. He is a good judge of talent and truly encourages the value of equality at work, as he believes that one should prove their worth by their work and not gender. He appreciates a smart worker and sees that spark in Radhika, which is why he will push her to do better. Rajesh's character has many layers, which makes it an interesting role to play. I also personally believe that characters like him are not only alive on the pages of a script but also exist in real life."

**Will Radhika be able to continue living her dream?**

To find out, tune in to watch Sapnon Ki Chhalaang, every Monday to Friday at 9:30 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television.

## Maniesh Paul unfolds five looks presenting a never-seen-before avatar

Maniesh Paul hits it out of the park in his digital debut Rafuchakkar releasing on JioCinema, the teaser proves his worth as a versatile actor generating excitement amongst the audience.

After an impactful and impressive performance in JugjuggJeeyo last year which led to a streak of awards for the actor, Maniesh Paul has pushed his boundaries to unveil different facets of his versatility in his OTT debut - Rafuchakkar.

Known for his innate wit and spontaneity, Maniesh Paul has earlier impressed the audience with his comic timing on screen, however,



Rafuchakkar delves deep into the acting prowess of the actor, exploring

the intense and versatile performer within him. Donning five different

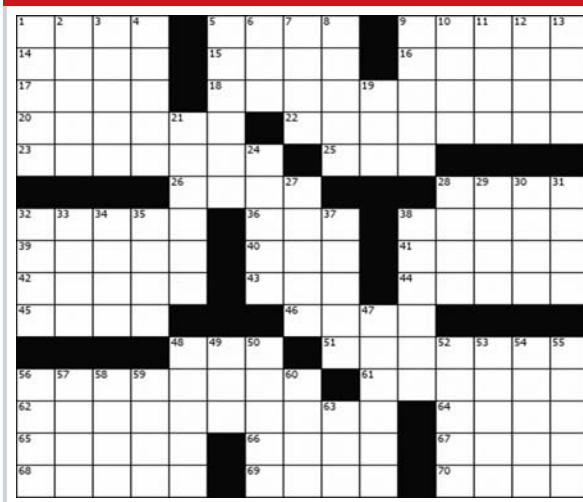
looks, Maniesh plays a con artist in the show.

From a distinctive moustache, sporting a turban, to a suave and sassy man with grey hair and beard, Maniesh Paul is seen slipping into different avatars for the character. The teaser for the Jio Studios' Rafuchakkar was recently unveiled offering a sneak peek into the world of deceit, presented by Maniesh, piquing the interest of the audience for the fun-filled and thrilling show.

Directed by Ritam Shrivastava, Rafuchakkar stars Maniesh Paul in the leading role along with Priya Bapat and others.

## CROSSWORD

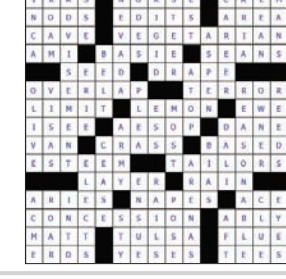
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- ACROSS**
- Game fish
  - Citi Field predecessor
  - Send money
  - Jazz's \_\_\_\_\_ Fitzgerald
  - Lacking warmth
  - Solo
  - Big cat
  - Totally destroy
  - Alphabet part
  - Bone structure
  - Improve
  - Certain dashes
  - Solidifies
  - Extinct creature
  - "The Godfather" organization
  - Dated
  - Contributor
  - Beside
  - Golf goal
  - Host
  - Tent post
  - Compass dir.
  - Malicious looks
  - Male cats

- DOWN**
- Southern beauty
  - E.T., e.g.
  - Slow-moving mammal
  - Mr. Claus
  - Uncommon
  - Deary
  - Many years
  - Identical
  - Train tracks
  - She, in Toulouse
  - Castle trench
  - Knowledgeable about
  - Youth
  - Egg layer
  - Hire
  - Wed on the run
  - Informal speech
  - Round roof
  - Fairy tale starter
  - Performer
  - Crude metals
  - Sail support
  - Choir voice
  - Froth
  - Writing fluids
  - Nighttime vision
  - Erase
  - Squeal
  - Thick
  - \_\_\_\_ wing and a prayer (2 wds.)
  - Entice
  - Map feature
  - Insulting
  - Burn slightly
  - Double curves
  - Medical "at once!"
  - Secret language
  - Wreck
  - God of love
  - Gentle animal
  - Once named

### SOLUTION 663



## Australia unsure about India's bowling line-up in WTC final

London, Jun 02 (PTI):

Australia are expecting Ravindra Jadeja to feature in India's playing XI in the World Test Championship final but are unsure about Ravichandran Ashwin's participation in the marquee contest to be played at The Oval starting June 7.

India utilised three spinners during the recent Border-Gavaskar Trophy series with both Ashwin (25 wickets) and Jadeja (22) shinning bright to help their side claim a 2-1 series win.

Talking to local media prior to Australia's training session at the Kent County Cricket Ground in Beckenham on Thursday, assistant coach Daniel Vettori said the team management had a lot of discussion about India's probable bowling attack. "We have been debating that," Vettori said.

"I think Jadeja will play because of the batting he brings to the table and how successful he has been at that No.6 position."

"Then the question will be around that fourth seamer and the all-rounder in (Shardul) Thakur and Ashwin, but they are (both) pretty good choices."



Cameron Green of Australia in action during Australia training prior to the ICC World Test Championship Final 2023 at The County Ground in Beckenham, England.

Vettori, however, feels Ashwin might just lose out on a spot in the playing XI because of team combination despite enjoying a decent record in England.

The experienced off-spinner has a total of 18 wickets at an average of

28.11 from seven matches in England but has played just one Test at The Oval.

"Ashwin is an incredible bowler and he will be first choice in most teams, and just with their combinations it may lead to that (him missing selection),"

Vettori said. "We expect The Oval to behave how it always behaves."

"It is a good wicket, but it can offer a lot to the spinners as the game goes on."

Vettori also expects Cameron Green to play a big part in the WTC final, especially after his superb showing in the just-concluded IPL.

"Any cricket is preparation now. He is doing work in the background to make sure his bowling loads are up and he is actually ready for Test cricket," Vettori said of Green.

"We look at it like if you are involved in high-intensity, high-class cricket, we are happy with that as it means you are playing cricket."

"The hardest thing for guys is coming out of nothing and that might be a challenge for a couple of guys who have had an extended break and how they get up to speed as quickly as possible," he said.

"With Cameron I think he has been playing so much cricket, he will be fine. It's great to have him back. He offers so much to the team and had a great series in India for us and then is coming off the back of a successful IPL."

## BCCI announces India 'A' squad for ACC Emerging Women's Asia Cup

New Delhi, Jun 02 (PTI): Batting all-rounder Shweta Sehrawat will lead a 14-member Indian 'A' squad in the upcoming ACC Emerging Women's Asia Cup beginning in Hong Kong on June 12. India 'A' will begin their campaign on June 13 against hosts Hong Kong at the Tin Kwoong Road Recreation Ground.

"The All India Women's Selection Committee on Friday announced the India 'A' (Emerging) squad for the upcoming ACC Emerging Women's Asia Cup 2023," BCCI said in a release. The tournament will feature eight teams which are divided into two groups. India 'A' (Emerging) is a part of Group A which also features hosts Hong Kong, Thailand 'A' and Pakistan 'A', while Bangladesh 'A', Sri Lanka 'A', Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates are in Group B.

The final will be played on June 21. India 'A' (Emerging) Squad: Shweta Sehrawat (Captain), Soumya Tiwari (vice-captain), Trisha Gongadi, Muskan Malik, Shreyanka Patil, Kanika Ahuja, Uma Chetry (wicketkeeper), Mamatha Madivala (wicketkeeper), Titas Sadhu, Yashasri S, Kashvee Gautam, Parshavi Chopra, Mannat Kashyap, B Anusha.

Head Coach: Nooshin Al Khadeer

India 'A' (Emerging) Schedule at ACC Emerging Women's Asia Cup 2023:

June 13: India 'A' vs Hong Kong  
June 15: India 'A' vs Thailand 'A'  
June 17: India 'A' vs Pakistan 'A'



Table tennis player Manika Batra poses during the Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) Season 4 player draft, in Mumbai, Friday, June 2.

## Sonam, Nisha suffer first round defeats in Bishkek

Bishkek, Jun 02 (PTI): Young Indian wrestler Sonam Malik, who is returning from an elbow injury, and Nisha Dahiya suffered first round defeats while Priya lost her quarterfinal bout at the UWW Ranking Series tournament, here on Friday.

Sonam, the silver medalist at the 2022 junior world championship, lost 3-5 to China's Jia Long in the qualification round. The Asian championship silver medalist Nisha had a disappointing result in the 68kg competition as she lost by technical superiority to Uzbekistan's Firuza Esenbaeva. The Uzbeki later lost her quarterfinal to Turkey's Nesir Bas, thus closing the repechage door on Nisha. In the 76kg, Priya began with a 6-0 win over Ukraine's Anastasiia Osniach but lost the quarterfinal 1-10 to China's Qiandegenchagan. Both Sonam and Priya can get repechage rounds if the wrestlers they have lost to, reach the final. Meanwhile, India went unrepresented in the 57kg in which Anshu Malik was supposed to participate.

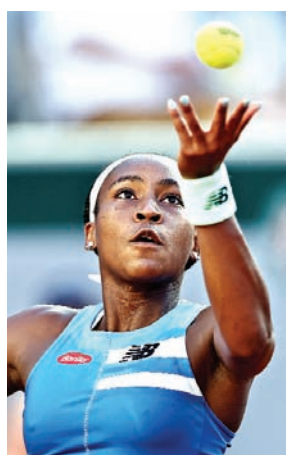
## Coco Gauff wins after waiting out marathon

Paris, Jun 02 (AP): Coco Gauff thought she was about to head out on the court to play her second-round match at the French Open. "I was probably about 70 per cent done with my warmup," last year's runner-up at Roland Garros would say later.

In the contest preceding hers in Court Suzanne Lenglen on Thursday, No. 8 seed Jannik Sinner was serving for the victory while up 5-4 in the fourth set against Daniel Altmaier. Then Sinner was one point away. Except he couldn't convert that match point he had a chance for a putaway overhead, and instead basically sent the ball right at Altmaier, whose forehead in response hit the top of the net tape and fluttered past Sinner or another that arrived soon after.

They would play on for another 1 hour, 43 minutes, until Altmaier finally cashed in his own fifth match point with a 111 mph ace down the middle to seal the 6-7(0) 7-6(7) 1-6 7-6(4) 7-5 victory.

"A great turnaround," said Altmaier, who cried and cried after the nearly 5 1/2-hour marathon. "The emotions were crazy." So how did Gauff whittle away the time?



Watching Sinner vs Altmaier, for one thing. Snacking, for another on a fruit salad made by her dad, with cantaloupe, pineapple and watermelon. And, well, resting. "I almost fell asleep in the middle of the fifth," Gauff said.

"I was like, 'I wish I could see the future, because I probably would have taken a nap in the fourth.'"

After the delay, the 19-year-old American ended up beating Julia Grabher 6-2 6-3 in 1 hour, 8 minutes. Next for Gauff will be a third-round matchup on Saturday against 16-year-old Mirra Andreeva of Russia.

## India emerge champions, beat Pakistan 2-1 in final

Salalah (Oman), Jun 02 (PTI): India's junior men's hockey team maintained its continental supremacy as it beat arch-rivals Pakistan 2-1 to emerge Asia Cup champions for the fourth time here on Thursday.

Angad Bir Singh (13th minute) and Arajjeet Singh Hundal (20th) scored for India while Pakistan managed to pull one back through Abdul Basharat (37th).

This was India's fourth title, having earlier won the tournament in 2004, 2008 and 2015. Pakistan have won the tournament in 1987, 1992 and 1996.

Recognizing the team's effort and the unbeaten record in the prestigious tournament which saw the country qualify for the FIH Men's Junior World Cup in Malaysia, the Hockey India Executive Board announced a cash award of Rs 2 lakh each for the players and Rs 1 lakh each for support staff.

India went on the offensive from the first minute as they quickly earned a penalty corner through their first move. It was Sudeep Chirmako, who entered from the left wing and found the feet of a Pakistani defender but the subsequent chance went abegging.

India's failure to convert penalty corner again came to light in the sixth minute when Sunit Lakra's drag-flick was saved by the Pakistani goalkeeper. However in the 12th



India's junior men's hockey team players pose for photos with the trophy after winning the Men's Hockey Junior Asia Cup 2023, in Salalah, Oman.

minute of the opening quarter, India drew first blood when Angad Bir Singh tapped one home from close range after Arajjeet Singh Hundal's shot was deflected off the goalmouth melee.

Hundal, one of the brightest talents among Indian hockey's Gen-Next, increased the lead to 2-0 as he received a delivery at the centre of the striking circle. He controlled and took a turn and smashed the ball home. India made repeated raids into the

Pakistan defensive third but the finish was lacking on most occasions even as they took a healthy 2-0 lead at half-time.

However, Pakistan pressed hard after the breather and it was Abdul Basharat, who pulled one back in the 37th minute when Abdul Shahid set the former up with a perfect assist.

The final quarter saw Pakistan make a flurry of attacks with as they got at least three penalty corners in quick succession.

In the 50th minute, Indian custodian Mohith Shashikumar made a diving save when Arbaz Ayaz tried to deflect a penalty corner from the left side of the Indian goal.

They got another penalty corner but Nadeem Khan's attempt was off-target. The Indians managed to stave off the waves of attack and then did well enough in the final moments to keep their slender one-goal lead intact.

## WTC final against India is our grand final: Lyon



Nathan Lyon of Australia in action during Australia training prior to the ICC World Test Championship Final 2023 at The County Ground.

Melbourne, Jun 02 (PTI):

Off-spinner Nathan Lyon doesn't believe Australia's preparations for the World Test Championship final will be affected by the talk around the Ashes, terming the upcoming contest against India as "grand final".

India and Australia will square off in the WTC final at The Oval from June 7. The five-Test Ashes against England beginning June 16 has dominated the headlines over the past few months as

Australia seek to win the marquee series away from home for the first time in 22 years.

"Yes, we are playing the Ashes but we've got a big game that we're up for. This (WTC final) is our grand final, and then our season basically starts again," Lyon was quoted as saying by Australian Associated Press.

"That's probably where we're quite happy with where we're at with our planning. We are able to understand what we've got around the corner, and be OK. It's exciting to be

part of the final and the fanfare and stuff around it, it's bloody special.

"I know every Australian fan is looking forward to the Ashes, and so they should be. But they should also be excited about this match," he added.

Australia will head into the Ashes without any warm-up game with the WTC final being the lone match before the contest against England.

Lyon believes the 1-2 loss Test series in India earlier this year won't have any bearing on the upcoming contest. "You can wipe off anything that happened in India," Lyon said.

"Both teams are really well rounded in their squads. It is going to be a really good challenge."

"India obviously have some class batters but they have some class fast bowlers as well. It's going to be a good challenge. Both squads going at it and competing for one game, it's going to be a really good challenge," he said.

"It's a fresh start. I'm looking forward to it."

## Indian women's team look to win maiden Junior Asia Cup hockey title

Kakamighara (Japan), Jun 02 (PTI): The Indian women will look to replicate the success of their male counterparts when they begin their campaign at the Junior Asia Cup hockey tournament beginning here on Saturday.

The Indian junior men's team defeated arch-rivals Pakistan 2-1 in Salalah, Oman on Thursday night to lift the Asia Cup title.

And the Indian junior women team would be eager to follow in the footsteps of the men's side and win its maiden Asia Cup crown.

India will open their campaign against Uzbekistan on Saturday. The women's Junior Asia Cup, which will conclude on June 11, will also serve as a qualifier for the forthcoming FIH Junior Women's World Cup later this year. Notably, the top three teams in the women's junior Asia Cup will earn automatic qualification for the FIH Junior

Women's World Cup to be played in Santiago, Chile from November 29 to December 10 this year.

Captained by Preeti, India have been grouped in Pool A along side four-time champions Korea, Malaysia, Uzbekistan and Chinese Taipei, while hosts Japan, China, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, and Hong Kong China, are in Pool B. India have won a silver and four bronze medals in the tournament's seven editions thus far. Speaking on the team's preparation ahead of the tournament, captain Preeti said, "We have worked hard over the past few months for this tournament and now we are all geared up to implement everything that we have worked on during training sessions."

"Moreover, the senior India team was also training with us on the same campus which helped us and also boosted our confidence."

## ECB CEO backs ICC's proposed revenue model

Says India justified in getting 38 per cent of earnings

Dubai, Jun 02 (PTI):

India make immense contribution in driving revenues and fuelling the growth of cricket globally and deserve to earn USD 230 million per year from 2024 to 2027 under ICC's proposed financial model, feels ECB chief executive officer Richard Gould.

According to the new proposed distribution model, the Indian cricket board (BCCI) could earn 38.5 per cent of the USD 600 million earnings over the next four-year commercial cycle with the ECB (USD 41.33 million) and Cricket Australia (USD 37.53 million) being the next highest earners.

The PCB is likely to take home USD 34.51 million (5.75 per cent), while the rest will be shared by the remaining eight full members. In total, the 12 full members will get USD 532.84 million (88.81 per



cent) with the remaining USD 67.16 million (11.19 per cent) going to the associate members out of the USD 600 million projected pool.

The proposals, which are due to be ratified by the ICC, were criticised as it will only further increase the financial disparity in the game. However, Gould defended ICC's new allocation model.

"When you see where that value is created, I think it's understandable," Gould said on the latest episode of The Final Word podcast. "There may be tweaks in the margins here or there, but the dominant position India is in is

based on India's ability to drive revenues and drive the sport forward. One point four billion people, one sport, ten (IPL) teams, one international team."

"What I'm also fascinated by is India's determination also to assist the world game. You look at the percentages and go 'Well, that's not fair it should be split equally'. But we've got to look at the size of the market."

"India play as many international fixtures as any other team in the world. And they do that because they know when they tour as an international team, they bring interest and revenue to that home side. I think it's important to see things in the round, in that regard," he added.

Gould acknowledged the disparity, but he took a holistic view of the situation. "I get it (the financial inequality). But I also understand how important India is, because without them we wouldn't have the kind of revenues that are coming into the game," he said.



## Lakshya enters Thailand Open semifinals, Kiran loses

Bangkok, Jun 02 (PTI): Star Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen stormed into the semifinals of Thailand Open Super 500 tournament with a straight game demolition of Malaysia's Leong Jun Hao in men's singles here on Friday.

The 21-year-old from Almorá punched the air after unleashing a jump smash which sealed his 21-19 21-11 win over the qualifier from Malaysia in the quarterfinals.

The win helped him to enter the last four for the first time this season, having come close in Indonesia Masters, where he exited in the quarterfinals. The Indian, whose ranking has slipped to world number 23 from a career-high of six following below-par performances this season, will take on either fifth seed Lu Guang Zu of China or Thailand's second seed Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the semifinals.

Kiran George's giant run, however, came to an end after he went down 16-21 17-21 against Toma Junior Popov of France in

another men's singles match. It was an exciting contest as Lakshya and Leong kept pushing each other from the start. But after a 10-11 deficit at the interval, the Indian fell behind as the Malaysian managed to hold a 16-10 lead. But Lakshya then changed gears, stepping up the pace in the rallies to restore parity at 17-17 before pocketing the opening game as Leong looked tired.

After the change of ends, he kept a tight grip on the rallies as his returns were sharper and precise. Soon he led 11-8, before breaking off at 13-11. He accumulated the next 11 points in a jiffy to emerge winner.

## Is Cong with democracy or Modi: Kejriwal

Ranchi, Jun 02 (PTI):

While seeking support against the Centre's ordinance control over administrative services in Delhi, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday met his Jharkhand counterpart, Hemant Soren, in Ranchi. Giving a strong message to the Congress party, Kejriwal said that the party has to decide whether it is with "democracy, constitution, and 140 crore people of the country or with PM Modi".

Notably, Kejriwal had on May 23 embarked on a nationwide tour to seek support from the Opposition parties against the Ordinance.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener has so far met West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee,



**Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren with Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and Aam Aadmi Party leaders (AAP) Atishi Marlena, Sanjay Singh and Raghav Chadha and others during their meeting regarding centre's ordinance on control of administrative services in Delhi, in Ranchi, Friday, June 2.**

Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin former Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) supremo Sharad Pawar, Bihar CM

Nitish Kumar and his deputy Tejashwi Yadav. Addressing the joint press conference with his Jharkhand counterpart Hemant Soren, Kejriwal

said, "Last month, a grave injustice was done to the people of Delhi. They were insulted and their democratic rights were snatched. In a landmark

judgment on May 11, the Supreme Court ordered that the government elected by the people of Delhi will have the powers. But unfortunately, on May 19, the government circumvented the order by bringing the ordinance. The Modi government said that they won't allow the elected government to function".

"The ordinance will now go to the Parliament. BJP has the majority in Lok Sabha but in Rajya Sabha, it only has 93 out of 238 members. So, if all the non-BJP parties come together, this bill can be defeated," he added. He further called the ordinance an "attack on the foundation of democracy" and urged all the parties to come together against it.

## Govt is working to build developed India by 2047: Rajnath



New Delhi, Jun 02 (PTI):

With great power comes great responsibility, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Friday quoting a famous dialogue from Hollywood blockbuster "Spiderman" to emphasise that India's responsibility will increase in sync with its rising global stature.

In an address at an event, Singh also noted that when India emerges

as a superpower, it will have to ensure that universal values like democracy, religious freedom, dignity of human beings and global peace are established all over the world.

The defence minister said the government is working to build a developed India by 2047, focusing on almost all sectors of the country.

Talking about the political landscape in the country, Singh said that political parties are integral to democracy and it cannot survive without them. At the same time, he rued that many political parties in India do not operate based on any ideology and their politics revolve around a person

or a family or a caste. "I think such politics should have no place in a developed India. Politics should be based on ideology and values and not on the basis of family, religion and caste," he said, speaking at the Times Network's India Economic Conclave.

## Kerala village spooked by mysterious underground sound

Kottayam, Jun 02:

The deafening sounds were heard twice in the early hours of Friday, the people of Chenappady village in Kottayam said. Similar sounds were reported in the area and some neighbouring places earlier this week also, they said.

The villagers said there was no visible change in the surrounding environment and only a scientific study could ascertain the exact cause of the continuing underground sounds.

Officials of the Kerala department of mining and geology said their expert team would soon inspect the area.



A department source said they had already examined the site when the sounds were first heard earlier this week. "Based on the reports

that similar huge sounds were heard today again, our experts will soon examine the place," the source told PTI.

## Committed to making Jammu & Kashmir a hub of medical and wellness tourism: LG Sinha

Srinagar, Jun 02 (PTI):

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said he was committed to making Jammu and Kashmir a hub of medical and wellness tourism, noting the setting up of several AYUSH hospitals and wellness centres in the Union Territory.

Speaking at an event organised by the Ministry of Ayush at the University of Kashmir, the LG said J&K has been a major centre of the Indian Systems of Medicine (ISM) since "ancient times".

According to Kalhana's Rajtarangini, a well-devel-

oped Ayurveda hospital was functional in "those days", Sinha told the gathering of health professionals and practitioners of ISM. Kalhana wrote that J&K had flourishing Ayurvedic drug manufacturing units and Ayurvedic pharmacies, he said.

Sinha made the remarks while addressing a consultative meeting on 'Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission - Heal in India, Heal by India', organised by National Commission for Indian System of Medicine, Ministry of AYUSH.

J&K is fully prepared to become an important centre of AYUSH and 'Heal in India' campaign, which will not only promote medical tourism in the Union Territory, but also create immense business and employment opportunities in the health care sector, he said.

J&K is bestowed with

nature's bounty and rich medicinal plants giving it tremendous potential for startups, LG Sinha said.

"We are committed for investment and innovation in AYUSH and to strengthen the traditional system of medicines," he said.

The LG also highlighted several milestones achieved in J&K in the AYUSH sector.

like constipation, inflammation, pain, burning, pricking and itching sensation of anal region.

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