



BRIEF



A woman receives traditional fish 'prasadam' from a Bathini family member to get relief from respiratory problems, at the Nampally Exhibition ground in Hyderabad, Friday. The fish 'prasadam' is back in Hyderabad after a three-year gap due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Goa Schools

Panaji: The Goa government on Friday announced that all state-run schools up to higher secondary will be shut on June 10 due to extreme heat. Director of Education Shailesh Zingde issued a circular during the day announcing the closure of schools on Saturday. "Due to extreme heat and delay of in monsoon in the state, it is decided by the competent authority to close down all the institutions on June 10," the circular read. All the heads of government, government-aided, unaided, primary, middle, secondary and higher secondary schools are hereby requested to compensate for the academic loss in future, if any, Zingde said in the circular.

Smugglers detained

Kishtwar: Two persons were arrested Friday for their alleged involvement in cattle smuggling in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district, officials said. The duo identified as Ishfaq Ahmed and Atta Mohd were also slapped with the Public Safety Act (PSA), they said. A police team detained them after conducting a raid in the Chatroo area. Kishtwar District Magistrate has also issued an order to book them under PSA for their repeated involvement in cattle smuggling cases, officials said.

Tiger attack

Bahraich (UP): A 10-year-old boy, who had taken his cattle to graze in a jungle near the Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary in this district, was mauled to death by a tiger, officials said on Friday. Following the incident on Thursday, the forest department has stepped up patrolling in the area and villagers have been advised not to venture out of their homes, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Akashdeep Wadhawan said.

Poppy seized

Chatra: Huge quantities of illegally-grown poppy were seized in Jharkhand's Chatra district on Friday, police said. Acting on a tip-off that poppy was being cultivated in Baniabandh village in Rajpur police station area, police raided a house and made the seizure, they said.

Weather
High 42 Low 27

MARKET
NIFTY 18,563.40
SENSEX 62,625.63

BULLION
GOLD 59,915
SILVER 74,022

Delhi Police takes woman wrestler to WFI chief's office in national capital as part of probe

New Delhi, Jun 09 (PTI):

Stepping up its probe into sexual harassment allegations against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief, the Delhi Police on Friday took a woman wrestler to his office here to recreate the sequence of events that led to the alleged crime. A Delhi Police official said the wrestler, accompanied by women police personnel, was taken to the WFI office at 1.30 pm. "They were there for half an hour. They asked her to recreate the scene and recall the places where she faced harassment," the police official said. Hours after the police left the place, wrestler Vinesh Phogat, who was among those leading the protest, took to Twitter to express her disappointment at media reports that claimed that the wrestlers had reached the WFI office for compromise. "This is the power of Brij Bhushan. He is harassing



Referee says he has witnessed Bhusan's inappropriate behaviour towards female wrestlers

New Delhi, Jun 09 (PTI): International referee Jagbir Singh on Thursday claimed that he has been a witness to Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh's inappropriate behaviour towards female grapplers on several occasions since 2013. "I am an UWW referee since 2007 and I have been a referee before the birth of the protesting wrestlers. I also know Brij Bhushan for a long time," Jagbir told PTI. "I couldn't say much because until the girls register complaints, I could not do anything. But I saw the episode with my own eyes and felt bad," he said.

Jagbir, who has been a coach-cum-international referee since 2007, said he witnessed Brij Bhushan's misbehaviour with his own eyes on numerous occasions.

"After he became the president during his second tour in 2013 in Kazakhstan, the president told us 'I will feed you Indian food today' and he arranged a party in the junior wrestlers' hotel," he claimed.

women wrestlers by using his muscle power, political power and running false narratives, and his arrest is necessary. If the police arrests him instead of breaking us, there is hope of justice, otherwise not."

"Women wrestlers had gone to the crime scene for police investigation, but it was flashed in the media that they had gone for a compromise," she tweeted in Hindi. Bajrang Punia, another protesting wrestler, also posted similar tweets.

The Delhi Police's Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the sexual harassment allegations against the outgoing WFI president and BJP MP Singh is likely to submit in the court its investigation report in the two cases registered against him by next week, officials said on Wednesday.

As part of its investigation, the SIT has questioned more than 180 people, the Delhi Police officials said.

3 key conduits of Sunderbani narco-terror case arrested

Jammu: Three key conduits, involved in Rs 150 crore narcotics recovery case in Jammu and Kashmir's Sunderbani area, were arrested by security forces in the Poonch border district on Friday, officials said. The duo were part of an interstate drug peddling racket, which was busted by security forces on June 1. Two of its members were arrested here with 22 kg of narcotics worth over Rs 150 crore in the international market, they said.

"In the follow up operations to the Sunderbani narcotics recovery case, multiple joint operations have been conducted by the Indian Army and police in Poonch district in the last 72 hours," Public Relations Officer (PRO) Defence said.

During the operation, three main conduits and operatives of the cross-border narco-terror module have been apprehended, PRO said. The apprehended conduits have been identified as Shakar Din of Degwar Terwan Village, Rashid and Shafir both residents of Kalas village of district Poonch, the officer said. During search operations, warlike stores, including two grenades, have also been recovered from their possession, he said.

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Cong appoints Shaktisinh Gohil as new Gujarat PCC chief

Babariya new Haryana, Delhi in-charge

New Delhi, Jun 09 (PTI): The Congress on Friday appointed Rajya Sabha MP Shaktisinh Gohil as the new Gujarat PCC president and relieved him from the charge of AICC in-charge of Haryana and Delhi by appointing Deepak Babariya in his place. "The Congress president has appointed Shaktisinh Gohil as the new Gujarat PCC president and V Vaithilingam, MP, as the new Puducherry PCC president," said an official communication. "The Congress President has appointed Shri Deepak Babaria as AICC in-charge of

Haryana and Delhi with immediate effect," said another official order from the party. It also said that the party appreciates the contributions of outgoing AICC in-charge Gohil. Gohil has replaced Jagdish Thakor, who had resigned after the party's poor performance in the last assembly elections in Gujarat when the party reached its lowest-ever legislator tally. The Congress also appointed MLA Varsha Gaikwad as the new president of Mumbai RCC (Regional Congress Committee). She replaces Bhai Jagtap.

CBI forms SIT to probe Manipur violence

New Delhi, Jun 09 (PTI):

The CBI has formed a special investigation team (SIT) under a DIG-rank officer to probe six Manipur violence cases referred to it by the state government, officials said on Friday.

During his visit to the northeastern state, Home Minister Amit Shah had announced a CBI probe to investigate six FIRs — five on alleged criminal conspiracy and one on general conspiracy behind the violence in Manipur.

Acting on a reference from the state routed through the Centre, the CBI has formed the SIT and taken over the investi-

Insurgents kill three people in village

Imphal: Three people were killed in a village in Manipur's Imphal West district on Friday when a group of insurgents dressed as security personnel called them out of their homes on the pretext of a combing operation and fired at them, officials said.

gation in the cases, they said. Violence broke out in the northeastern state after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts on May 3 to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

Under Modi, farm income has halved, agri cost has doubled: CM

Raipur, Jun 09 (PTI):

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Friday said the Narendra Modi government halved farmers' income and doubled agricultural cost in its nine-year rule.

He was reacting to the Central government announcing a hike in MSP (minimum support price) on Thursday.

During the Congress-led UPA regime (between 2004 and 2014) MSP on paddy was increased by 131 per cent, while the Modi government has increased it by just 61-62 per cent, Baghel told reporters at

Civil Lines Helipad.

"The income of farmers in India has not doubled but the cost of agriculture has doubled. Rates of diesel, fertilizer and agriculture equipment have gone up. Production cost has increased and income (of farmers) has been halved," he alleged.

Hitting back at former CM Minister Raman Singh's charge that development work has happened only in his home turf Patan and Durg, Baghel said corruption took place even in ration card and slipper distribution during the Bharatiya Janata Party's tenure. "Raman Singh was chief

minister for 15 years. But for his Assembly seat I had to sanction road construction work. In his (Raman Singh's) tenure few bridges used to get damaged and tenders were floated for the same work again and again. In his (Raman Singh's) constituency bridges and stop dam had collapsed," CM Baghel said.

Reacting to Union Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh's jibe that Baghel was not 'kaka' but "kha kha" (alluding to bribery), the CM said such a statement was akin to mocking people who use the term for him affectionately.

20 newborns rescued after fire breaks out at hospital

New Delhi: Twenty newborns were rescued and shifted to nearby medical facilities after a fire broke out at a hospital in west Delhi's Vaishali Colony in the early hours of Friday, officials said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) M Harsha Vardhan said the fire broke out at Nest Newborn and Child Hospital. No casualties were reported in the incident, he said. The information about the blaze was received at 1:35 am following which nine fire tenders were rushed to the spot. The fire was doused by 2:25 am, according to the fire department. Director of Delhi Fire Services Atul Garg said, "The fire started in the basement of the building, where some furniture and papers were stored.

Time has come to use tech-driven methods to allow overseas Indian voters to participate in polls: CEC Kumar

New Delhi, Jun 09 (PTI):

The time has come to use technology-driven methods such as e-postal ballot to allow eligible overseas Indian voters to participate in elections here, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said on Friday.

He also said that the timely and continued delivery of credible electoral outcomes since 1952 was an important ingredient of worldwide acknowledgement of India's comprehensive national power, especially in an era of "democratic backsliding".

Kumar made these remarks while addressing the 2022-batch Indian Foreign Service officer-

trainees on the theme "India-the Mother of Democracies and Role of ECI" at the Nirvachan Sadan here. Speaking on the common challenges being faced by election management bodies in the conduct of free and fair elections, the chief election commissioner referred to the rising threat from fake news and deep-fakes on social media derailing the election narratives. According to sources, when asked about voting by overseas voters, Kumar said that the time has come when the fifth largest economy of the world invoked technology-driven methodology to facilitate eligible overseas Indian voters to partici-

pate in elections through electronically transmitted postal ballot system (ETBPS). The EC proposal to facilitate ETPBS for overseas Indian voters is under discussions with the Ministry of External Affairs to "iron out" logistical challenges involved in its implementation, the government told Rajya Sabha in March this year.

The total number of overseas electors as on January 1 this year stood at over 1.15 lakh. Kumar also said that in the growing worldwide concern of democratic recession, the EC's continued delivery of credible electoral outcomes showcases the strength and resilience of its democratic institutions.

MONSOON RAINFALL



People walk past covering themselves under an umbrella during rainfall as monsoon arrives in Kerala, in Kochi, Friday.

Live-in partner's murder Police say they were married; accused claims she committed suicide

Mumbai, Jun 09 (PTI):

Manoj Sane (56), arrested for allegedly murdering his 'live-in partner' Saraswati Vaidya, was in fact married to her but the couple had concealed this fact, police said on Friday.

Sane has claimed that Vaidya committed suicide by drinking poison and he only tried to dispose of her body by chopping it up, officials said. Sane, arrested on Thursday from Mira Road (East) area on the outskirts of Mumbai, also allegedly told the interrogators that he was HIV-positive and never had any physical relationship with the 36-year-old Vaidya. "The couple did

not register their marriage, but they had married by performing rituals in a temple," said Deputy Commissioner of Police Jayant Bajbale of Mira-Bhayandar, Vasai Virar commissionerate, citing the statements of the deceased's three sisters.

Vaidya had informed her sisters about the marriage, but as there was a considerable age gap between them, the couple did not make it public, he said.

The remains of the deceased's body will be handed over to her sisters for last rites as per their wish once DNA testing and other formalities are over; the official added.

3 dead, many feared trapped in illegal coal mine collapse

Dhanbad, Jun 09 (PTI):

At least three people were killed and many feared trapped when an illegally operated mine collapsed in Jharkhand's Bhowra colliery area on Friday, an official said.

The incident occurred at 10.30 am at Bhowra Colliery Area of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), about 21 km from here.

Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), Sindri, Abhishek Kumar, said the exact number of people killed and feared trapped or injured would be known after rescuers are able to locate the victims.



Rescue operation underway after an illegally operated mine collapsed in Jharkhand's Bhowra colliery area, near Dhanbad, Friday.

An eyewitness said many local villagers were engaged in illegal mining when a portion of the mine caved in. "With the help of locals,

three persons were brought out from the debris and taken to a hospital where doctors declared them dead," the eyewitness said.

Sessions court sets aside magistrate's order

Asks it to pass reasoned order

New Delhi, Jun 09 (PTI):

A Delhi sessions court has set aside an order of a judicial magistrate and directed him to pass a "reasoned order", saying every court should work only to ascertain the truth. Additional Sessions Judge Rakesh Kumar Singh also said the police was duty-bound to ascertain the truth of the entire chain of events.

The court was hearing a revision petition of an advocate challenging an order of a metropolitan magistrate.

The magisterial court had declined to direct the police to register an FIR on the advocate's complaint against his former client with whom he

had a dispute over professional fees. "The order is set aside. The Magistrate shall hear the complainant and pass a reasoned order," the sessions judge said. The judge noted the case details which said the advocate allegedly had a dispute with his client over professional fees and, subsequently, an FIR alleging rape was lodged against him (the lawyer).

The advocate, after getting anticipatory bail, approached the police with his counter complaint seeking registration of an FIR against his former woman client alleging that she had concocted the story to extort money from him.

Women becoming self reliant through Gauthans



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 09: Women are getting employment near their home at Gauthans established at various villages under the ambitious NGGB scheme of the state government. At Gram Panchayat Nardha, the women of Gauthan group are getting economic benefits from different activities.

After getting guidance from the agricultural experts, the women are making a good income by

production of vermicompost in the Gauthan.

They are also getting involved in various livelihood oriented activities at Gauthan. Now the women are becoming self reliant and are supporting their families in the household expenses.

At present vermicompost production is being done by Sakhi Self Help Group in Nardha Gauthan. The women of the group are making an income of about three thousand rupees every



month.

Till now, they have got a profit of Rs One lakh 78 thousand from Vermicompost. The women of the self-help group are using the amount received from vermicompost to expand their work.

Poultry farming is also being done by the women of the group in the Gauthan itself. They are making a good income by selling poultry in the market at wholesale price. They have earned almost

Rs One lakh so far from poultry farming.

A woman of the group, Tila Bai, said that she was able to repay the loan taken for her son's marriage with the income she made by working at gauthan.

"Repaying debts was impossible for me, but ever since I joined the self-help group, along with getting employment, I have been able to eliminate the burden of debt on me. Other women are also using the income to meet

their household expenses", she said.

Further, a biofloc tank has also been constructed for fish farming in Nardha Model Gauthan by the women of Self Help Group. They have put fish seeds in the Biofloc.

In Nardha Gauthan itself, the women of Sakhi Self Help Group are engaged in cow rearing and are making a good income by selling milk.

They sell cow milk in the hotels of Ahiwara, they earn almost Rs 35000 per month. Along with this, they have earned Rs 15000 from the sale of cow dung.

Under the Bari Vikas Yojna, Nardha Gauthan is earning good income by producing Cabbage, Okra, Chech Bhaji, Karmatta Bhaji and Onion. The vegetables produced in the Bari are sold in the local market. So far the group has received an income of about Rs One lakh from Bari.

Five percent price hike for urban body by-polls



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 09: The District Election Department has increased the prescribed rates of various items by five percent for the urban body by-polls. The candidates will have to file the expenses accounts on the basis of

the revised rates of the items. Additional Collector Arvind Ekka conducted a meeting with the representatives of political parties in the Collectorate auditorium on Friday. For the urban body by-election 2023, representatives of all the political parties agreed to a five percent increase

in the rate fixed by the District Election Office in the year 2021. Joint Collector Gokul Rawate, HS Miri, Deputy Collector Mahesh Rajput and Deputy Director Public Relations MS Sori and district representatives of various political parties were present.

Medical camp held at village Borigarika

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 09: 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 Borigarika, on June 07. The camp started at 10:00 am.

The medical team from CSR department, comprising of Dr Isha Kujur,



Pharmacist Shashi Bhushan Rai, Rekha Dev for Blood-Sugar and BP examination, Shambhu for registration, volunteered their services for the camp. Sita Sinha, CSR

Assistant, from the department was also present during the Health Camp.

A total of 38 villagers from village Borigarika, including 08 men, 25 women and 05 Children,

availed free health services at the day-long health camp and free medicines were distributed to them.

It is noteworthy that the 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.

Purwa Rojindar awarded Honorary Doctorate

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 09: Bhilai based Purwa Rojindar, who is a Meta-cognition & Inner Image Coach, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by World Human Rights Protection Council (WHRPC)'s Indian Chapter for her exemplary work in the field of coaching and mind-grooming work especially for the young girls and ladies coming from underprivileged section of the society.

WHRPC is an organization recognized by the Department of State, USA

and works towards implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by UNGA.

The Award was given during WHRPC's annual function held on June 04 at Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi. The function was attended by Central Ministers Dr Faggan Singh Kulhaste & Minakshi Lekhi, Anil Kumar Sinha, Director, CBI, AK Sinha, VC, CS University, Mumbai, Bhimsen Mukund, Senior



IAS and Tapan Kumar Routray, Director, WHRPC, India Chapter among other luminaries.

Purwa Rojindar has been working with the Chhattisgarh Govt's "Mukhyamantri Kaushal

Vikas Yojna" as well as with some NGOs for the past few years.

Dr Purwa, in her acceptance speech, said "This recognition is a huge benchmark for me and will inspire me to continue my work in the field of Cognitive Development of people through Meta-cognition." Meta-cognition is a technique where we use the power of human thoughts to metamorphose the mindset to get continuous and better results, leading to a lift in productivity, perception and creative thinking ability of individuals.

Tree Plantation Drive organised at CO&CCD



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 09: Bhilai Steel Plant's Coke Oven and Coal Chemical Department observed World Environment Day. Taking steps towards environment conservation, saplings of Ashoka and Bougainvillea were planted in the CO&CCD premises by the senior officers under the leadership of Tarun Kanrar, CGM (CO&CCD).

General Managers of the department Jhagar Singh, Sameer Raichaudhry and BC Mandal, also took part in the tree plantation programme, along with other senior officers, personnel, representatives of the union and contract workers.

Addressing the gathering, Tarun Kanrar appreciated the initiative and encouraged everyone present to plant

more trees around their homes and other public places and contribute to environmental preservation. It is our social responsibility to participate in such events aimed at climate protection.

Environment lovers Rajeshwar Rao, Dilli Rao and Dinesh Munna Hirwani also contributed for conducting the tree plantation drive successfully.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 09: Bhilai Steel Plant organized "Vimarsh" - an interaction session with the newly promoted Junior Officers of Batch-2022, on June 07 at Mahatma Gandhi Kala Mandir, Indira Place, Civic Centre, where the newly promoted officers interacted with the Senior Management. Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) was the Chief Guest on this occasion.

Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), Subrata Mukhopadhyay ED (Projects) with Addl Charge of ED (P&A), Ajay Kumar Chakraborty, ED (MM), Dr Ashok Kumar Panda, ED (F&A), Samir Swarup, CGM I/c (Mines & Rowghat) and Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M&HS) were also present on this occasion and addressed the Junior Officers, CGMs and other senior officials, from various departments of the

Interaction session held with newly promoted Junior Officers



Plant were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP), congratulated the newly promoted Junior Officers and wished them for their future assignments. Encouraging the JOs, Dasgupta said that any suggestion that is based on the plant's progress shall always be welcomed. He emphasized on maintaining quality in various areas of production while following safety standards and being mindful of the environment. He also talked about the develop-

ment of Rowghat Mines along with various levels of development in and around Plant's areas of operations, under Corporate Social Responsibility. Anirban Dasgupta also talked about the pledge of Environmental Protection to reduce Carbon Dioxide emissions by 2030.

In his address, Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) said that we should always ensure that our efficiency and expertise are higher as compared to the other plants, so that Bhilai Steel Plant secures maximum profit. We have firm faith in you for carrying out



this task and now it is your responsibility to execute the same, said Kumar.

The welcome address was delivered by Sandeep Mathur, CGM (Personnel), followed by three presentations on various key issues of plant management. Shovan Ghosh, Senior Manager (SED), gave a presentation on 'Safety', followed by a presentation on 'Mines, Plant Performance, Projects, Finance and Environment' by VMV Krishna, GM (PPC), while Sanjeev Shrivastava GM (HRD) gave a presentation on 'Roles and Responsibilities

of Frontline Officers, Materials Management and Marketing'.

During the interaction session, the senior management interacted with the cross-section of newly promoted Junior Officers, where the JO's expressed their gratitude to the plant management and ensured their committed service to the plant.

The programme was conducted by Jitendra Manikpuri, Assistant Manager (L&A, Official Language), while Amulya Priyadarshi, GM (HRD) proposed the vote of thanks.

BMC to establish Industrial Park in Priyadarshini Parisar

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 09: Bhilai Municipal Corporation will establish an Urban Cottage and Service Industries Park on about 2.5 acres of land in Priyadarshini Parisar (East) Ward no 06, Supela. Mayor-in-Council has given approval to provide facilities to the youth for self-employment start-up activities by establishing this Urban Cottage and Service Industries Park in the corporation area.

The meeting of the Mayor-in-Council was chaired by Mayor Neeraj Pal. Commissioner Ashish Dewangan was also present in the meeting. The meeting approved various works to be done in the Bhilai area. Provision has



been made by the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Government for setting up of Urban Cottage and Service Industries Park on the lines of RIPA.

In Zone-01 Nehru Nagar Ward no 06, a total of 2.5 acres of land recorded in three different khasra numbers of Priyadarshini Parisar (East) in Village Supela, was selected for the said Industries Park and the matter

was presented before the Mayor-in-Council for consideration. Approval has been granted by the Mayor-in-Council to develop an industrial park with road, drain, electricity, water and other facilities near Bhilai Nagar Railway Station for self-employment and start-up activities of youth and women.

Further, the members approved transfer of vacant resi-

dential / commercial / residence-cum-business plots in various areas of the civic body, payment of salary to highly skilled, skilled and semi-skilled vehicle drivers for the corporation's vehicle branch. Under the infrastructure heads, Rs 9.99 lakh were approved for tar road construction from Manjhi Chowk to Ganesh Chowk of Shiv Shakti Colony in Ward 26.

They also approved Lal Bahadur Shastri Sarovar beautification work. Siju Anthony, Keshav Choubey, Aditya Singh, Sandeep Nirankari, Saket Chandrakar, Chandrashekar Gawai, Lalchand Verma, Rita Singh Gera, Malti Thakur, Meera Banjare and other members of MIC were present.

BJP Mahila Morcha stages chakkajam

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 09: The activists of Bharatiya Janata Party Mahila Morcha (west mandal) staged a chakkajam at SAIL Pariwar Chowk on Central Avenue Road of Bhilai Township. They raised slogans against the ruling Congress in the state and condemned the Chief Minister for not keeping his promise of total ban on liquor. They further criticised the ruling party over the alleged Rs 2000 crore liquor scam.

A meeting of Bharatiya Janata Party, West Mandal, Mahila Morcha was organized by its president Jyoti Sahu at the Cultural Building of Kalibari Temple premises in Sector 6. The chief guest of the



program was Sweety Kaushik, President of Bharatiya Janata Mahila Morcha, District Bhilai. Brijesh Bichpuria, President of Bharatiya Janata Party, District Bhilai, was present as a special guest in the program. The program was inaugurated by garlanding and lighting the lamp at the portrait of Bharat Mata, Pandit

Deendayal Upadhyay and Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. In the welcome address, Mahila Morcha Mandal President Jyoti Sahu gave detailed information about the various programs done since the formation of Mandal. Tilak Raj Yadav, President of West Mandal, explained in detail the work done by the Mandal. He detailed the pro-

grammes conducted under "9 years of service, dedication and public welfare" completed under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Sweety Kaushik, President of Mahila Morcha, District Bhilai, explained the importance of Mahila Morcha. BJP District President Brijesh Bichpuria said that where other Morchas and Cells remain confined only outside the houses of the people, the Mahila Morcha can reach to the kitchens of the house. Hence, their work is very important for the party. Kanchan Singh, General Secretary, Tilak Raj Yadav and other leaders were present. Later they staged a chakkajam on Central Avenue Road.

Ch'garh govt has initiated 'Pauni Pasari Yojana' to preserve ancient tradition: CM

Inaugurates two newly constructed Pauni Pasari complexes in Kawardha city

State govt provides significant boost to traditional traders



Raipur, Jun 09: The Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has provided a significant boost to traditional traders by inaugurating the two newly constructed Pauni Pasari complexes near Ambedkar Chowk in Kawardha city. The complex, built at a cost of Rs 53.76 lakh, offers a solid platform and support to traders engaged in traditional businesses. Baghel also inaugurated the 'Millet Cafe' at the premises of the Pauni Pasari Complex.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the

newly constructed complex and highlighted the significance of the 'Pauni Pasari Yojana'. He mentioned that the scheme aims to provide infrastructure support, such as sheds and platforms, to facilitate traditional businesses and promote their growth. The tradition of Pauni Pasari in Chhattisgarh has been

prevalent since ancient times, and the government initiated this scheme to preserve and support it. The sheds within the complex will be available for renting temporarily to eligible individuals, ensuring a conducive environment for their business operations.

CM Baghel emphasised the positive impact of the

'Pauni Pasari Yojana' on revitalising the ancient traditional businesses in Chhattisgarh. This initiative provides employment opportunities in various local trades such as ironwork, pottery making, laundry services, shoe-making, woodwork, animal fodder production, vegetable cultivation, garment stitching, blanket

making, sculpture making, flower trade, worship material sales, bamboo crafts work, hairdressing, disposable plate making, mat weaving, and jewellery and beauty item businesses.

CM inaugurates the 'Millet Cafe' at the Pauni-Pasari complex in Kawardha City. He tasted the cuisine available at the cafe and praised the women's group operating the cafe for their efforts.

Forest Minister Mohammad Akbar, Pandariya MLA Mamta Chandrakar, Kanhaiya Agarwal, Neelkanth Chandra Vanshi, Chairman of Kawardha Municipality Rishi Sharma, District Collector Janmejay Mahobe, S.P. Dr. Abhishek Pallav, and various public representatives were present.

RISING MERCURY



With rise in mercury above 43 Deg. Celsius, the denizens are left with no option but to take all necessary precautions.

Woman commits suicide hanging herself to ceiling

Raipur, Jun 09: A woman committed suicide by hanging herself from a ceiling and this news created sensation in the area. On hearing about the news the police reached the site and took the body in custody and after 'panchnama' sent the body for post-mortem. The case is that of Gudhiyari area. As per information in this regard, a woman named Vandana Tripathi, staying in

rented house, along with her husband, committed suicide, immediately after her husband left for work. She lived in Chota Ashoka Nagar in Gudhiyari area. Her husband Dilip Tripathi works in a private firm. The house owner gave information about the suicide to the police and on reaching the site, the police started the investigations. Vandana Tripathi has been

married to Dilip for last 7 yrs and is also having a 7 yr old son. No suicide note was found near the body and the police has started its investigation. TI Gudhiyari thana Alexander Kiro informed that there was some controversy of woman with the house owner where she was living. The SDM team was called and case was filed and the entire matter is being investigated.

ECI delegation takes stock of preparedness for Assembly polls

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 09: A delegation of the Election Commission of India (ECI) reviewed preparedness for the upcoming Chhattisgarh Assembly elections and issued several directives, including enrolment of eligible voters, an official said on Friday.

The ECI delegation, led by senior deputy election commissioner Dharmendra Sharma, was on a two-day visit that concluded on Friday, during which it chaired a series of meetings with state election officers, officials from the administration and police at Circuit House here, the official said.

Collectors and super-

intendents of police (SPs) of all 33 districts attended the meetings, he said.

The delegation held a discussion with all district election officers (collectors) and SPs over preparedness for the polls and directed them to carry out extensive exercise to enrol more eligible voters and focus on the rectification of the voters' list, said a public relations officer from the office of Chief Electoral Officer (Chhattisgarh). The delegation also reviewed the basic and necessary facilities available at polling booths and directed officials to ensure that such amenities are made available, he said. Detailed discussions were held for providing security during

the elections, particularly in the left wing extremism-affected (LWE) areas, the official said. Requirement of Central forces, communication networks, other requirements, etc were also among the issues discussed to ensure a fair and peaceful election, he added.

On Thursday, collectors and SPs of 18 districts attended the meeting, while officials from the remaining 15 districts were present the next day, he said.

The ECI delegation also held an extensive discussion with the state's chief secretary, director general of police and secretaries of various departments linked to elections work on Thursday, the official said.

Fire breaks out in PNB's ATM, spreads to nearby 7-8 shops

● Vehicles parked in the front also burnt

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 09: With fire breaking out in the Punjab National Bank's (PNB) ATM in Lalganga City Mart, it spread suddenly to 7-8 shops nearby. This PNB main branch comes under Golebazar area is near the Chowk before Motibagh.

All the ATMs just near in PNB's main branch were gutted in fire and many bank documents

Fire breaks out in Virasat Apartments, no casualties

● Near Vijay Chowk in Avanti

Raipur: Fire broke out in the fifth floor of the residential building 'Virasat' near Vijay Nagar Chowk in Avanti Vihar here on Friday and people nearby rushed for safety. The Fire-brigade



team and police reached the venue on getting in-

formation and brought the fire under control well on time. The entire five floor building was evacuated and there are no report of any casualties on account of fire breaking out in the building. The reason behind the fire-breaking out is not known till the writing of these lines.



too were burnt to ashes. The reason behind the fire and the exact amount of loss due to the same is still being evaluated.

It is notable here that this fire broke out at around 9:00 am at PNB's ATMs located on the first floor of the Lalganga City Mart.

It is suspected that the fire first broke out in the ATMs and then it spread to nearby areas. By the time the fire was reported to fire-brigade and to

the PNB main branch, it has spread to nearby 7-8 shops as well.

Due to this many vehicles parked outside the Branch also were caught in fire.

On information, finally the fire-brigade and police reached the venue and started the relief works. Since the shops nearby were adjacent to each other, the fire reached there immediately and many shops caught fire.

Loss expected to be high

With entire e-banking cell of PNB gutted in fire, including the ATM, bank pass-book update machine and cheque deposit machines and others and then spread to nearby shops and covering vehicles standing nearby, the loss is expected to cross six digit number and it is yet to be evaluated.

The exact reason behind fire is still unknown, but the fire-brigade team suspects that it started from ATM and then to other shops.

CAIT extends wishes to RMC Mayor

● On becoming National Vice President of All India Council Mayor



made the National Vice President of the All India Council Mayor.

National Senior Vice President of CAIT Mr. Amar Parwani and State President Mr. Jitendra Doshi informed that a delegation of team CAIT met Aiyaz Dhebar and congratulated him on being made the National Vice President of All India Council Mayor. Mr. Parwani and Mr. Doshi further said that it is a matter of great pride for

Raipur to make Mr. Dhebar the National Vice President of the All India Council Mayor. CAIT CG chapter wishes Aiyaz Dhebar for his bright future.

CAIT team and office bearers were mainly present in the meeting with Mayor Mr. Aiyaz Dhebar includes Parmanand Jain, Bharat Jain, Avneet Singh, Sunil Dhuppad, Jairam Kukreja, Pritpal Singh Bagga and Vijay Jain and others were present.

45 students of law universities participated in 'Tea with Dignitaries' prog



Raipur, Jun 09: About 45 students from various law universities participated in the internship program at the Chhattisgarh Public Commission office located at Gandhi Chowk in Raipur. Chhattisgarh People's Commission organized 'Tea with Dignitaries' program for the students after successful completion of their internship. Chief Lokayukta T.P. Sharma, Secretary Mr. Anurag Pandey, Legal Advisor Mr. Satyendra Kumar Sahu and

Financial Advisor Mrs. Shraddha Trivedi were present. The guests present in the program gave detailed information about law profession to the law students. Along with this, they were also provided guidance regarding proper employment opportunities in the field of law and wished them a bright future. At the end of the programme, certificates were issued to the present students to mark their successful completion of the internship.

Union Minister reviews development works in Bastar region

Jagdalpur, Jun 09: While reviewing the development works being carried out in Bastar district at Vishram Bhawan of the district headquarters, Union Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Giriraj Singh gave instructions to work keeping in mind the welfare of the poor. During this, he asked to benefit more and more families through bank linkage under the National Rural Livelihood Mission, so that the members of the group can become financially empowered by doing livelihood oriented work.

Taking information about the mining of ponds being done under the Amrit Sarovar scheme, he said that keeping in mind the challenges of the future, the work of water conservation should be done fast. Similarly, importance should be given to plantation of fruit-bearing trees



in watershed work, so that the problem of employment and nutrition of the people can be solved. He also emphasized on planting saplings of fruit-bearing trees like Mango, Guava, Jackfruit etc. along the roads as well as in the empty spaces.

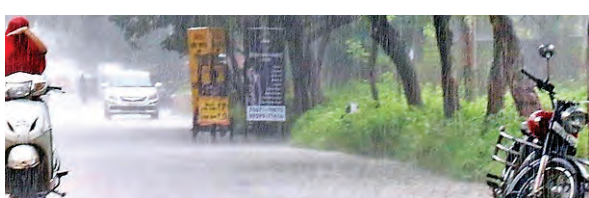
Reviewing the work being done under MNRGA, the Minister said that free residential skill training should be provided under Unnati Yojana to labourers who work for 100 days.

Reviewing the activities conducted by the Women and Child Development Department, he asked to make nutrition garden in maximum number of Anganwadi centers. He said that Drumsticks plants must be planted in these nutrition gardens, because along with their fruits, the leaves are also rich in many nutrients. It is especially effective in cases of anemia.

Along with this, he also reviewed the work being done under the Rurban scheme and gave instructions to work fast. He also directed to provide Ayushman cards to all the people for better medical facilities. Former Minister Mahesh Gadga, District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Prakash Sarve, Additional Collector Hareesh Mandavi and district level officers of other departments were present in the meeting.

Monsoon to hit Jagdalpur by June 21, Raipur by June 24

Raipur, Jun 09: With the onset of monsoon in Kerala, the monsoon advancement may increase. According to the Meteorological Department, the monsoon has arrived eight days late in Kerala as well, in view of this, monsoon is likely to hit Jagdalpur on June 21 and Raipur on June 24. However, if the monsoon activity increases rapidly during this period, then the monsoon may arrive



even before the scheduled date. The Meteorological Department said that there is a possibility of light rain with partly cloudy sky in Chhattisgarh on Saturday as well, there will be no

change in the maximum and minimum temperature. The maximum temperature of Raipur was recorded at 38.6 degree Celsius on Friday, providing some relief due to clouds and light rainfall in

the afternoon. Meteorologists said that from June 10 onwards, there is a possibility of light rain in some areas of the state, along with there will be no significant change in the temperature. Meteorologist HP Chandra said that this year the monsoon has arrived eight days late in Kerala itself, due to which there is a possibility of eight days delay in the state as well.

CM Baghel unveils the statue of 'Ch'garh Mahtari'

Kawardha, Jun 09: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel unveiled the statue of 'Chhattisgarh Mahtari' at the Kawardha Collector office premises and paid floral tributes to the revered figure. The statue of 'Chhattisgarh Mahtari' serves as a symbol of Chhattisgarh's identity, self-respect, and reverence. Mr. Baghel emphasised the importance of cultural awareness and announced the installation of 'Chhattisgarh Mahatari' statues in all districts. He expressed a desire for future generations to have ample opportunities to learn and



appreciate the festivals and folk traditions of Chhattisgarh.

Chief Minister Baghel emphasised the Chhattisgarh Government's commitment to preserving and promoting the state's

rich cultural heritage. The state government has taken initiatives to celebrate various traditional festivals (Tihars) such as Teeja-Pora, Akti, Hareli, and Chherchera on a grand scale. The state government has also gained national recognition for initiatives like the National Tribal Dance Festival, the rejuvenation of tribal religious places like Devgudi, and Adivasi Parab Samman Nidhi, which aim to preserve and respect the tribal culture. Bore-Basi has gained recognition not only within India but also internationally. These efforts

reflect the state government's dedication to preserving the cultural diversity of Chhattisgarh, especially in the tribal regions. Legislative Assembly Speaker Charandas Mahant, Forest Minister and Kawardha MLA Mohammad Akbar, Pandariya MLA Mamta Chandrakar, Kanhaiya Agarwal, Neelkanth Chandravanshi, Chairman of Kawardha Municipality Rishi Sharma, District Collector Janmejay Mahobe, S.P. Dr. Abhishek Pallav, and various public representatives were present.

CM Baghel dedicates inter-state high-tech bus stand in Kawardha

CM accorded warm welcome at Kawardha helipad

Central Chronicle News



Kawardha, June 09: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel was accorded a warm welcome by local public representatives and senior officials upon his arrival at the Police Line Helipad in Kawardha. Forest Minister and Kawardha MLA Mohammad Akbar, along with other public representatives, welcomed the Chief Minister with a special adornment of Baiga and tribals - Biranmala.

Speaker of the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Dr Charan Das Mahant and former Union Minister Kumari Selja also reached Kawardha along with Chief Minister. Pandariya MLA Mamta Chandrakar, Yoga Commission Member Ganesh Yogi, CREDA

Member Kanhaiya Agarwal, Neelkanth Chandra Vanshi, Kawardha Municipality President Rishi Sharma, Former Zila Panchayat President Seema Agam Anant, Kawardha Krishi Upaj Mandi President Neelkanth Chandravanshi, Vice President Chova Sahu, Lalji Chandravanshi, Lal Bahadur Chandravanshi, Parshad Narendra Dewangan, hikham Koshale along with other local public representatives and District Collector Janmejaya Mahobe, SP Dr Abhishek Pallav, DFO Chudamani Singh, Zila Panchayat CEO Sandeep Agrawal warmly welcomed Chief Minister with floral bouquets.

High-tech bus stand will develop interstate bus facilities in the Kabirdham district

states and district coming to Kawardha as well.

It is notable here that this inter-state high-tech bus stand has been constructed on 10 acre land and it has capacity to accommodate around 120 buses and having parking capacity of 200 two-wheelers and 50 four-wheelers as well.

From this Bus Stand, the people going to capital city and coming from other cities in the state will also be benefitted. Set aside this it will ease the traffic system in the city and would provide relief to residents.

On this occasion Minister of Transport, Housing and Environment, Forest, and Law Mohammad Akbar, CREDA member Kanhaiya Agrawal, State Yoga Commission member Dr. Ganesh Nath Yogi, Chairman of the Municipality Rishi Sharma, Neelkanth



Chandravanshi, Collector Janmejaya Mahobe, and S.P. Dr. Abhishek Pallav were also present.

Will provide special facility to passengers

In this new inter-state bus stand being constructed on Junwani Road, special attention has been paid for convenience of passengers. There are three entry doors and from where on entry, the passengers can find ticket counter in the front. There are two waiting halls on either side of the ticket counters

and here chairs too have been installed for the passengers. There is a separate toilet facility for men and women as well.

Would streamline traffic in city

With the dedication of this new inter-state bus stand, it will reduce the traffic pressure in the city. Actually earlier with many buses passing from the middle of the main streets of the city used to cause lot of traffic congestion and also lots of problems to the businessmen

and traders as well. On the other hand, with long-distance passenger buses not entering the city, it would also provide relief from dust and noise pollution.

Would increase business opportunities

With starting of new inter-state, high-tech bus stand in Kawardha, there will be expansion of bus services to the state and this in turn will open business and trading opportunities as well.

The new bus stand is about 2 kms away from the main city of Kawardha and in such conditions the passengers will require autorickshaw and other facilities to more to & fro from city to the bus stand. This in turn would increase employment avenues and with opening of shops and eatables and restaurants in the Bus Stand, it will act as new business place for the people of the city.

Lakhma inspects Ethanol plant under construction

Meritorious students set to soar with Helicopter rides today

As reward for their outstanding performance

Opening of the plant will provide employment to the people of the area



being set up at Kokodi at a cost of about Rs 140 crore. On this occasion, the Industry Minister visited the plant along with the Collector Mr. Deepak Soni and discussed with the officials related to the construction of the plant, inquired about the progress, the officials told that the construction work of the

plant is being carried out at a fast pace.

Collector Mr. Soni told that after starting the plant, training will be given to the local youth and they will be given work in the plant according to their capacity and the nearby villagers will be benefited from the employment-oriented activi-

ties.

While discussing with the villagers, the Industries Minister said that with the opening of this plant, direct and indirect employment will be available to the people of the area. He informed about regular wage payment and working conditions from the workers working in the plant.

The workers said that regular payments are being made in the plant, along with full cooperation is given by the officials in the work. District Panchayat CEO Prem Prakash Sharma, Plant Managing Director KL Uikey and representatives of agencies related to plant construction and a large number of villagers were present on the occasion.

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 09: The students who came in merit list in the 10th and 12th Annual Board Examination of Chhattisgarh Board of Secondary Education would be awarded with a helicopter ride on June 10. The children will be given this ride in recognition of their year-long efforts, and Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel will honour them with certificates and cash prizes.

It is worth noting that the joy ride route of the youngsters who longed to touch the sky was opened when the Chief Minister

Mr. Baghel went to Raghunath Nagar of Pratappur assembly constituency during Bhent-Mulakat.

Smriti, a student of Swami Atmanand School expressed her desire to Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel to ride in the helicopter in response to which the Chief Minister Mr. Baghel replied by saying when she will top in the twelfth then she will be able to enjoy a helicopter.

Smriti expressed her desire to sit with the Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel on the same day and for the happiness of Smriti he fulfilled her desire. The Chief Minister Mr. Baghel also announced helicopter rides for the students who came in the merit list of class 10th and 12th.

Last year, 125 students were awarded a helicopter ride. The excitement of the children travelling in the helicopter at the time was remarkable. Last year, Devanand Kumeti, a student from a special backward tribe living in Abujmad, Narayanpur, went on a ride.

He stated that the deep trees where I reside prevent even the sun's rays to reach but it was an amaz-

ing experience to watch the trees from such a height.

It is worth mentioning that whenever Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel goes to Bhent-Mulakat, he makes sure to communicate with school children. During this, the children also asked him how our city looks from the sky.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel fulfilled the desire of children's of flying in the sky, and for this he planned a joy ride for the children who came in the merit list through the 'Swami Atmanand Medhavi Chhatra Pratsahan Yojana'.

Ch'garh's Kalinga University ranked 101-150 by NIRF in 2023

Became the only and top university in Ch'garh

tive, fair and transparent evaluation in which all the prestigious higher educational institutions of the country participate eagerly. NIRF provides ranking to higher educational institutions by evaluating the quality in all parameters. It is a happy and proud moment for the University of Kalinga to be one of the top 150 universities in the country. In Chhattisgarh, Kalinga University is the only University that has been ranked 101-150 in the NIRF rankings for 2023. This is the first university in Chhattisgarh state to be included in the prestigious list. It may be noted that NIRF releases a ranking every year after evaluating the quality of all the universities in the country. In which evaluation is done

at the national level based on various parameters such as teaching resources, innovation, quality research, teacher-student ratio etc. Established just a few years ago, Kalinga University of Chhattisgarh has been able to consistently improve NIRF rankings and has become the top ranking university in Chhattisgarh.

Dr. R. Sridhar, Vice-Chancellor, Kalinga University, congratulated all members of the university family, saying, "In the last few years, we have all faced many challenges and adverse circumstances due to Corona-19, but as a

result of the integrity, efficiency, and untiring efforts of the university family, all of us have consistently tried to do well and achieved this success."

Dr. Byju John, Director General of Kalinga University, stated that the NIRF rankings recognised Kalinga University's contribution of research-oriented quality education, world class infrastructure, and a team of expert professors, as well as job-oriented training and placements, in line with global

standards, in order for the university to be ranked first in Chhattisgarh. This is certainly our beginning. In the changing times, it is very important to keep updating the teaching method and not just the university. In future also we are committed to provide the best facilities in Chhattisgarh. We are committed to provide the best amenities in Chhattisgarh in the future as well.

Dr. Sandeep Gandhi, Registrar, Kalinga University, expressed happiness at Kalinga's inclusion in the 101-150 rank band for 2023 and said that under the new education

policy, we have been emphasizing on quality and higher standards of teaching. The institution has been encouraging students and professors to do research and innovate. Even throughout the COVID epidemic, regular studies were conducted in a methodical way.

In addition to the online study, hundreds of webinars with eminent academic researchers from throughout the country and overseas were organised, along with Online Study Material, Presentations, Quiz and assignments. We have been encouraging teachers and students to learn and do new things by continuing to organise programmes such as Guest Lectures, National Level Research Symposium and

Conferences, Faculty Development Programmes, and so on in the presence of scholars from all over the country and abroad. Teaching in modern ways with online studies has been a great contribution for students, with the help of accommodation, study material, quizzes, all examinations and exam results declared in due course. This is a significant accomplishment for Kalinga University. We make every effort on providing quality resources, infrastructure and value-based education which results in the University being one of the top institutions in the country, with students travelling from all over the country and beyond to study. This will certainly motivate us to perform better.

Anil, Shyam appointed General Secretaries of Raipur Rural BJP Unit

Raipur, June 08: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Raipur Rural Unit President Tankram Verma after approval from the State BJP President Arun Sao and Organizational General Secretary Pawan Sai, has announced the new Executive Body of the unit. According to the information received, Anil Agrawal and Shyam Kumar Narang have been entrusted with the responsibility of General Secretary whereas Hridaya Ram Sahu, Chotelal Sonkar, Mrs Nandini Sahu and Santosh Shukla are the Vice Presidents. Similarly, Ram Panjwani would be Treasurer and Arvind Thakur would be his deputy whereas Deepak Tiwari, Mrs Arunarani Baghel, Parveshi Sahu, Utpal Sahu, Shiv Shanker Verma and Rajendra Verma would be the Secretaries in the new team.

Tarring works resumes after 3 days

Amity University Celebrates World Environment Day



the contractor. It is notable here that the residents of city were waiting for macadamisation work for last many years, as it has developed potholes at many places and it was posing as problems to the commuters and vehicle riders. But with tarring on the road, it would provide lot of convenience to passer-bys.

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 09: Amity University Chhattisgarh celebrated World Environment Day on June 5th, 2023, in collaboration with the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and the Chhattisgarh State Renewable Energy Development Agency (CREDA). A plantation drive was organised at the University Herbal Garden by the NSS unit of Amity University in cooperation with ITBP.

The BIOBAZAR 4.0 (A market of herbal, sustainable, and homemade products) was officially opened by Amity University Chhattisgarh's Chancellor, Dr. W. Selvamurthy, and Vice-Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Piyush Kant Pandey in the university's foyer.

Students from the university participated with research and innovation-driven innovative products.

In his address, Prof. (Dr.) Piyush Kant Pandey, Vice-Chancellor, Amity University Chhattisgarh, welcomed all the dignitaries attending the special event and stated that everyone's life depends on their environment. Prof. Pandey emphasized that each of us should work to preserve and defend the natural world which is the rarest gift to the humankind.

Chhattisgarh, according to Dr. W. Selvamurthy,



Chancellor of Amity University Chhattisgarh, is honoured with the title of "power hub" of the nation and is rich in minerals. By concentrating on energy generation and conservation, it is still focusing on the sustainable environment and development.

Dr. Selvamurthy used the quote, "This is world of environment, we are just living on it, and we have to preserve it. If we get fail to protect the environment, the world will try to eradicate the homo sapiens and all living organisms through natural calamity" to emphasise how impor-

tant protecting the environment is.

According to Mr. Nihar Ranjan Sahoo, Project Manager for CREDA, Chhattisgarh is well-known for producing thermal energy, which is sold across the nation. Five million units of solar power are produced annually by CREDA.

According to Dr. Priyanka Mishra of CREDA, the agency's focus is on Life Mission, which is a way of life for the environment. Energy net zero electricity use is the goal. Amity School of

Communication organised a competition for slogan writing and artwork with the theme "Lifestyle for the Environment," and Amity School of Engineering and Technology organised a "Ideathon." The entire day's schedule included participation from university students, faculty, staff, and research experts.

The motion for thanks was made by Dr. Parampreet Kaur, the Head of Institute of Amity School of Architecture. The program was attended by the DPVC Dr. Sumita Dave, Dean Dr. Indrani Rai, NSS Co-ordinator Dr. P.K. Sharma and the Directors, Faculty members and a NSS Volunteers along with large number of students and ITBP personnel.

Hike in MSP speaks of Modi's concern for farmers: Goyal

CSVSKM welcomes Rathyatra for regularization

Expresses gratitude towards PM for hike in MSP on paddy and other crops

Central Chronicle News

Navapara-Rajim, June 08: Former Nagar Palika President Rajim and BJP Raipur (rural) Economic cell convenor Vijay Goyal in a press release informed that pro-farmer PM Narendra Modi by increasing the MSP on paddy and other crops for the farmers for 2023-24 has proved that the government at the Centre is that of the farmers.

Goyal informed that the UPA government has hiked only Rs 80 on MSP on paddy and took it to Rs 1350 per quintal. But after arrival of Modi's govern-

ment at the Centre, by making hike in MSP every year, there is hike of Rs 143 on MSP in 2023-24 and with this the cost of A-Grade paddy is Rs 2203 per quintal and that of 'B'-grade paddy is Rs 2182 per quintal. No doubt that with the farmer receiving this amount, it would strengthen their economic condition.

Further Vijay Goyal informed that UPA government had made purchase of paddy on MSP worth Rs 64000 cr, whereas with PM Modi government paying four times higher MSP on paddy has so far purchase upto Rs 2,38,000 cr of paddy till 2023-24.

Here it is worthwhile to mention that the UPA government had hiked the cost of DAP in 10 year from Rs 500 to Rs 1300 and



Vijay Goyal

hike of two time in Potash from 390 to Rs 800. Contrary to this for benefit of the farmers, Modi government has just hiked the cost of DAP to Rs 1350 and that of Potash to 840 for benefit of the farmers.

In the same way the cost of NOMINO Gold to kill wild-grass during UPA's rule was Rs 7000 per litre and during the

current government's term it has been reduced to Rs 3000 per litre.

So what else can be a better example of being concerned about prices of fertilizers to farmer during their good and bad times. Similarly Goyal recalled that in 2008 the Congress government had spoken about waiving of Rs 7000 cr worth of agriculture loan and out of which only Rs 40000 cr was waived off.

But the BJP led government at the Centre in last four years have deposited Rs 2.60 lakh in the account of every farmer at the rate of Rs 6000 per year. Similarly there was lots of restraints by Congress in providing fertilizer subsidy to farmers and they provided just Rs 92000 cr worth of subsidy and while by the

PM Modi's government was hiked to Rs 1.78 cr i.e just double that amount.

Vijay Goyal charged that the existing Congress government in state has cheated the farmers in the name of Bijili Bill half scheme, as during rule of Raman's government, there was relaxation of Rs 100 on per HP of motor pump installed by the farmers and which till date is the same.

So no relief has been provided to farmers by the Baghel's government and to which the Central government offers subsidy in electricity bill and for installing solar panel equipments. All this clearly indicates that the Modi government is purely concerned about the farmers and for which he expressed gratitude to PM Modi.



Contractual employees in large number present

Central Chronicle News

Balod/Doundilohara, June 09: The members of Chhattisgarh Sarv Vibhagiya Samvidha Karamchari Mahasangh (CSVSKM) had taken out Rathyatra for regularisation in view of fulfillment of the promises made by the party in its election manifesto and for this they have submitted memorandum in the name of CM to District Collector from 16 May to 21 June 2023 in all the 33 district. This 'Rathyatra' was welcomed at block hq's of different districts amidst beating of drums and busting of fire-crackers. In this context, this 'Rathyatra' on the 22nd

day i.e June 8, reached here in Balod and it was welcomed by the contractual employees with great enthusiasm. The employees said that with non-fulfillment of the promise even four years after it was made, has led to great deal of resentment among the employees.

It is notable here that through this 'Rathyatra' the employees wants to bring it to the attention of the government and this has brought a ray of hope and enthusiasm among all the contractual employees.

With this Rath, the contractual employees took

out a rally from the dharna venue and in this around 550 contractual employees took part. It passed from dharna venue, to Bus Stand to Dalli Chowk, Ghadi to SDM's office and here memorandum was submitted to SDM (Revenue).

In the above rally, contractual employees from Health, Panchayat, Women & Child Development, Skill Agriculture, PMGSY, CREDA, Labour department and those working in various schemes and projects of the state government.

Police nabs accused within an hour

Of stealing a mobile phone from a house

Central Chronicle News

Dongargarh, June 09: The Dongargarh police nabbed the thief from Maharashtra and producing him before the court, sent him to jail on judicial remand. The accused had entered the house of a person during wee hours in the morning to steal the goods and was planning for a big catch.

But on seeing the person in the house, who lodged complaint, he ran away with his mobile. The accused is Mangesh Pendam, S/o Vijay Pendam (22), R/o Chopra Thana, Gouregaon District Gondia, Maharashtra.

The police in its press release informed that TI Aman Sahu got a message that a person with intention to conduct theft was escaping from the person's house and he immediately reached the site and nabbed the accused.

It was on June 8, the complainant, Rajesh Ujwane S/o late



Satyanarayan Ujwane (52), R/o Bhagatsingh Chowk, ward No. 19, Dongargarh filed a complaint about an attempt for theft in his house. In the complaint he informed that on Jun 8 morning he got up and went to take bath, expecting the maid servant to come and left the main door unlocked.

When he was coming out of the 'puja' room offering prayers, he found a person leaving the house with his Vivo company's V-12 mobile. On this he informed it to the police and a case under section 454, 380 of IPC was filed against him.

On checking the likely locations of the thief, the police managed to nab him from opposite High School, Dongargarh and on interrogation he accepted his crime. One piece 1 Vivo Company's Y-12 mobile phone was recovered from his possession.

The accused was produced in the Court and sent to jail on judicial remand. In this case, police personnel viz. RAamkrishna Anant, head constable Prameshwar Yadav, Mahadev Sahu, constable Laxmi Thakur, Rohit Singh, Manoj Harmukh, Milap Bareth gave valuable contribution.

Tree Plantation by JK Lakshmi Cement

Central Chronicle News

Nandini-Ahiwara, June 09: JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd. organized a tree plantation program on the occasion of World Environment Day, June 06 at Minigirodhuri Satnam Dham village Girhola. Inauguration of the programme was done by Chief Guest Mukul Srivastava (Factory Head) JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd. On this occasion, saplings were planted by the members of Jai Satnam Seva Samiti, Panchgana, Company's employees and CSR team and a pledge was taken to make them flourish.

About 250 saplings were planted by JK Lakshmi Cement Management on this occasion and a target has been set to plant 1000 saplings in the temple premises in this monsoon session. On the occasion Srivaswat appealed to all the people present to play their role in environmental protection by planting maximum number of plants. Further, looking at the prob-

lem of global warming, he talked about saving it by planting trees and appealed to the people present there not to use single use plastics. On this occasion, a pledge was taken by Jai Satnam Seva Samiti to take care of the planted saplings till they grow up. At the end of the program, Chairman of Jai Satnam Seva Samiti, Kunjlal Banjare thanked the company management for this co-operation and organizing tree plantation and expressed expectation of continuing such cooperation in future. On this occasion, Mr. Mukul Srivastava, Senior Vice President from Plant, Vinod Tarakanthiwar from Civil Department, Sanjay Dubey, in-charge of CSR Department, Prateek Singh from Horticulture Department, Ashok Kumar from Environment Department and Nandlal Kalet, Bhagat Kumar, Umesh Pal from CSR team, President Kunjlal Banjare, Sarpanch Mrs. Suniti Yadav and Panchgan and executive members of the committee were present.

JCC(J) submits memorandum to AEN DRM (Nagpur)



Central Chronicle News

Dongargarh, June 09: Under the auspices of Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (J) (JCC-J), a demand was made to open the motorcycle parking which was continuously stolen from the Dongargarh railway station premises and to fix the inconvenience in the platform. Under the leadership of State Core Committee member and State General Secretary Naveen Agarwal, State Vice President Doomendra Lodhi, State Secretary Anil Sinha, District Secretary Bidesh Sinha, Devsharan Sahu, Amit Pandey, Vartika Pandey, Pooja Pandey, Manshit Bhatia, P. Venkatesh, AS Aditya, Sumit Wasnik wanted to send memoran-

dum through AEN DRM (Nagpur), but no responsible officer came forward to receive the memorandum.

As per the memorandum, trains going towards Nagpur used to come on platform number one, but now all those trains come on platform number four, where there is no facility of any kind for the common man. As all the trains come late by two to three hours, due to which the general public has to face a lot of problems due to lack of any facility there. In the memorandum, it has been also demanded that the closed parking should be started again so that there is no harm to the common people and the city police should check the suspicious people around the station premises and stop the incidents of theft.

MP Chandulal Sahu enumerates achievements

Central Chronicle News

Fingshwar, June 09: Former MP Chandulal Sahu enumerated the achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 9-year tenure by taking a press conference here. At the same time, Bhupesh Baghel Government was criticized. Sahu said that in 9 years, the Modi government has worked as a Mahayagya considering politics as service. Elaborating the governments nine year tenure, he said that electricity has been provided to the powerless areas of the country, and where electricity could not reach, it has been illuminated with solar energy.

30 crore poor people of the country have been given pucca



houses, while the Bhupesh Baghel's Congress government in Chhattisgarh did not allow the housing of the poor to be built and returned, under the Saubhagya scheme. Tap connections have been given to 11 crore 88 lakh houses in the Jal Jeevan Mission for pure drinking water, but in Chhattisgarh this scheme has become a victim of corruption due to the corrupt policy of the Bhupesh government, he said. The tap con-

nections of 26 lakh houses are pending, same way Modi took care of housewives and gave LPG connections to 9 crore 6 lakh houses under Ujjwala scheme. Attacking Rajim MLA Shukla, Chandulal Sahu said that Amitesh Shukla has not done a single construction in his 4 years tenure and has obtained votes by lying to the people of Rajim area. Former BJP District President Ramkumar Sahu, BJP District President Rajesh Sahu, Namami Gange Coordinator Ashok Rajput, former District Panchayat President Mrs. Shweta Sharma, Rajim's Raju Sonkar, Somprakash Sahu etc. were present in the press conference.

Public Notice

This is to inform to the public that the original Sale Deed dated 04/02/2013 is registered in the office of Sub-registrar Raipur. Vide Book No A/1 Volume no 57711, Sr. no 6717, Page No 13 to 26 executed by Shri Anil Kumar Gendire S/O Shri Mohan Lal Gendire R/O Village-Dhaneti, Tah & Dist-Raipur (C.G.) in favour of Shri Dev Lal Sahu S/O Shri Chait Singh Sahu R/O H.No-347, Ramsdwar Nagar, Bhanouri, Raipur (C.G.) for the Non-Diverted land Old Kh. No-243/19, 541/23 New Kh. No-243/65, Area 1900 Sq.ft. Situated at Dhaneti, P.C. - 24, RIC-Dharsiva-2, Tah & Dist-Raipur (C.G.) in respect of property owner has been lost/misplaced by Owner 1. Shri Santosh Sahu 2. Shri Hemal Sahu Both S/O Shri Ram Kumar Sahu Both R/O H. No.-06, Ward No. 01, Sahu Para, Kripur, Dist-Bemetara (C.G.). The FIR has been placed for lost of the above said Sale deed by the owner.

POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property)

Whereas the Authorised Officer of Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Limited under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the following borrowers to repay the amounts mentioned against their respective name together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices, within 60 days from the date of publication of the said Notice, alongwith further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization.

MUTHOOT HOUSING FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Registered Office: TC NO.14/2074-7, Muthoot Centre, Punnem Road, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 034, CIN NO U65922KL2010PLC025624
Corporate Office: 12/A O1, 13th floor, Parinee Crescendo, Plot No. C38 & C39, Bandra Kurla Complex-G Block (East), Mumbai-400051, TEL. NO: 022-62728517, Authorised Officer Email id: authorised.officer@muthoot.com, Contact Person: Ankit Goel - 7082541555.

PUBLIC NOTICE - AUCTION CUM SALE OF PROPERTY
Sale of Immovable Assets Under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. In exercise of powers contained in the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, the Authorized Officer of the Muthoot Housing Finance Company Ltd., (hereinafter referred to as the "Company") has taken the possession of under mentioned properties (hereinafter referred to as "Secured Asset") and held as security in respect of HOUSING Loan facilities granted to below mentioned customers (hereinafter referred to as "Borrowers") and further it has been decided to sell the Secured Asset on "as is where is", "as is what is", "whatever there is" and "no recourse" basis/conditions by inviting sealed tenders from public in respect of the secured debt amounting to amount in below with further interest and expenses thereon till final payment of the overdue from Borrowers.

Table with columns: S. No., Name of Borrower/s & LAN, Description of Property, Possession Type & Date, Total O/s Amount (Rs.) Future Interest Applicable, Reserve Price E.M.D.

Inspection Date & Time : 15-June-2023 to 16-June-2023 at 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM
Auction Date: 27-June-2023 10.00 AM to 03.00 PM & Last date for Submission of Bid: 26-June-2023
Place of Sale Raipur Branch: 2nd Floor, House No-771, Kanatya Bhavan, Sundar Nagar, Khushalpur Road, Ring Road Chowk, Raipur, Chhattisgarh -492001

Intending bidders may inspect the properties on the date and time as mentioned above. Terms & Conditions of public auction:- 1) Sale is strictly subject to the terms and conditions mentioned hereunder as per extant guidelines under SARFAESI Act, 2002 & also the terms and condition mentioned in the offer/ tender document to be submitted by the intending bidders. 2) The property will be sold on "As is where is" and "As is what is" "whatever there is" and "no recourse" condition, including encumbrances, if any. 3) The properties under auction can be inspected on the date & time specified above. For any queries with regards to inspection of properties or submission of tenders, kindly establish contact to The Authorised Officers at respective locations on above mention contact numbers. The interested buyers may send their offers for the above property in a sealed cover along with Demand Draft Payable at Mumbai favoring "Muthoot Housing Finance Company Limited", towards earnest money deposit (EMD) 10% of Reserve Price. 4) Along with other documents, the intending bidder shall also attach a copy of the PAN card issued by the Income Tax department AND bidder's identity proof and the proof of residence such as copy of the Passport, Election Commission Card, Ration Card, Driving license etc. 5) In no eventuality the property would be sold below the reserve price. 6) The bidders present in the auction would be allowed to increase their offer multiples of Rs.10000/- in addition to Reserve Price fixed. 7) All dues and outgoings, i.e., Municipal Taxes, Maintenance/ Society Charges, Electricity and water taxes or any other dues including Stamp Duty, Registration Charges, Transfer Charges and any other expenses and charges in respect of the registration of the Sale Certificate in respect of the said properties shall be paid by the successful bidder/purchaser. 8) The successful bidder/purchaser shall have to pay 25% of the final bid amount (after adjusting 10% of the E.M.D. already paid) within next working days from the acceptance of the offer by the Authorized Officer in respect of the sale, failing which, the earnest money deposit will be forfeited. 9) The balance 75% of the Sale price shall have to be paid within 15 days of conveying the confirmation of the sale to the successful Purchaser by the Authorized Officer or such extended period as agreed upon in writing by and solely at the discretion of the Authorized Officer. 10) The Authorized Officer reserves his right to vary any of the terms and condition of this notice for sale, without prior notice, at his discretion. 11) In case, all the dues together with all cost, charges and expenses incurred by the Secured Creditor are tendered by the above name borrower / co-borrower till one working day prior to the date of Auction then the property will not be sold and all the bids received from the prospective bidders shall be returned to them without any liability / claim against M's Muthoot Housing Finance Company Ltd.

UCO BANK Zonal Office, Telibandha, Raipur (C.G.)
Email: zoraipur.rec@ucobank.co.in
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the Public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic/Physical Possession of which have been taken by the Authorised Officer of UCO Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 23.06.2023 between 11: 00 AM to 4.00 PM for recovery of amount dues and Reserve Price & EMD alongwith other details are given below:- Last date and time for submission of bid on 2 Hrs. before Auction Time . Date and Time of E-Auction:- 23.06.2023 Between 11:00 A.M to 4:00 P.M with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each.

'DM interns' presented progress, challenges to govt work

● During village visit to officials in the Collectorate

Bijapur, Jun 09: To show a new path to the journey of youth activities and development in the Naxal-affected district of Bijapur, the District Collector, Rajendra Kumar Katara, initiated a new step in the name of "DM Internship" programme by including the youth in the first meeting. Various departmental officials, including the heads of departments such as Women and Child Development, District Panchayat, MNREGA, NRLM, Swachh Bharat Mission, Public Health Engineering Department, Health Department, Elementary Education Department, CREDA, and all the sub-departmental officers of the four blocks, along with the Chief Executive Officer, were present in the meeting organized in the conference hall of the Collectorate.

In this meeting, all the DM interns presented the progress and challenges related to government work during their village visits to the officials, in



which the respective department heads cooperated in presenting solutions. During this time, the interns also shared cultural, geographical, and linguistic experiences with the officials. While discussing various activities, successes of departments, innovations, etc., observed during their village visits, the interns and officials appeared enthusiastic.

All departments accepted the observations and conclusions of the interns positively and promised to incorporate their suggested measures in future plans. The discussion covered topics such as water resources, Anganwadis, menstrual hygiene, pan-

chayats, Gram Sabhas, surveys, health and wellness centers, as well as creating employment opportunities. During the meeting, the District Collector and other departmental officials also provided suggestions to the interns on various points. District Collector Rajendra Kumar Katara stated that this internship program is a welcome step in the direction of ensuring continuous participation of citizens in district administration, raising awareness among youth, reaching the benefits of government schemes and facilities to eligible beneficiaries, and ensuring "government-so-

ciety collaboration."

The idea of this internship was developed by Rajendra Kumar Katara in collaboration with the Head of the Department of Political Science at Guru Ghasidas Central University in Bilaspur. After extensive discussions, eight applications were selected from the received applications from universities in the first phase. These eight students were sent to different panchayats in the four blocks to stay with families in the community for a month and raise awareness after a five-day training.

The selected students were sent to various loca-

tions for work and observation: Akriti Ghritesh and Prisakilla Lakara in Jangla, Bhairamgarh block; Mausami Namdev and Samiksha Pathak in Dhanora, Bijapur block; Shaili Rathore and Rishika Meshram in Avapalli, Usoor block; and Tolsatoy and Mohit Markande in Bhopalpatnam block for work and observation.

The training of these interns involved significant contributions from various district officials. This included Deputy Director of Panchayat Mr. Geet Kumar Sinha, Deputy

Collector Manoj Banjare, Sub-Divisional Officer Narayan Gavel, PPIA Suraj Kumar Mishra, District Child Protection Officer Rahul Kaushik, PRO Prashant Yadav, UNICEF District Coordinator Shanu Biswas, PIRAMAL Foundation Program Leader Maanshu Shukla, and Gandhi Fellows Arun and Zubair. The support of Baliram Baghel, District Education Officer, was commendable as the nodal officer of the program.

Villagers troubled due to emission of dust and soil



● Plying of hundreds of overloaded vehicles

Magarlod, Jun 09: Bharatmala road is being constructed to directly connect Raipur to Visakhapatnam, which is going from development block Kurud to development block Magarlod. Pedestrians and villagers are troubled due to emission of dust and soil due to the plying of hundreds of overloaded vehicles engaged in the construction of the Bharat Mala road.

It may be known that on one hand road widening construction is being done by ABD company and under this drain con-

struction and road construction works are in progress. And the construction work of 'Megha Mohandi Birjuli Marg' is also in progress by PWD, in which they have closed Megha Mohandi Marg for the last several days due to movement of hundreds of overloaded vehicles and because of which now the villagers are facing trouble going towards Rajpur via Magarlod.

There is a strong possibility of damage to the road due to the plying of dusty overloaded vehicles engaged in the construction of the Bharat Mala road. Villagers Megha, Magarlod, Luge Chhipli,

Mohandi and other villages situated by the roadside informed that the road is being constructed by the ABD company and it is still incomplete due to which mud is lying everywhere. In which hundreds of people are engaged in the construction of Bharatmala road. Due to the plying of heavy vehicles, more dust blows due to which we villagers are facing problems in breathing and are upset about it. In public interest, the villagers have demanded from the government administration to stop the plying of overloaded heavy vehicles on the road very soon.

Agriculture officials asks farmers to get KYC done

● From DBT bank in the camps organized or go to bank directly

Kareli Badi, Jun 09: A camp was organized by Agriculture Department Magarlod at Sarva Samaj Bhavan in village Khatti and a camp was organized to get DBT bank account for Kisan Samman Nidhi. A large number of farmers participated and told their problem to the agriculture officer. In the account of more than 39 farmers, the amount of Kisan Samman Nidhi was not being deposited due to lack of KYC or Aadhaar seeding. After listening to the problems of these farmers in the camp, they were asked to go to the bank with the following documents to get the account DBT. So that the linking of the account can be done and the



amount will be transferred soon thereafter.

Senior Agriculture Development Officer KS Nareti organized a camp in the village and listened to the problems of the farmers in turn. He said that most of the farmers' bank accounts are not linked to the DBT system of the bank, and due to lack of seeding of Aadhaar card, the farmers are not able to get the benefit from the scheme. In such a situation, the farmers were motivated to take advantage of the scheme, to get the ac-

count book in the bank linked to the Aadhaar card, DBT.

It is worth mentioning that a large number of farmers in the block are not getting the amount of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi due to non-KYC. Rural Agriculture Extension Officer B. Krishak Mitra Ashwan Nishad, Hemant Sahu, Chetan Sonkar, Dr. Teman Sahu, Gend Lal Sahu, Ramsing Sahu, Baishakh Sahu, Palan Sahu, Mohit Yadav, Khilavan Yadav, Maruti Sahu were also asked to conduct KYC.

Lakhma unveils statue of Chendru Mandavi 'The Tiger Boy'



Narayanpur, Jun 09: Minister of Commercial Tax (Excise), Commerce and Industry Kawasi Lakhma unveiled the statue of Chendru Mandavi, popularly known as Tiger Boy, at the New Bus Stand Chowk of District Headquarters Narayanpur and Gram Panchayat in Garhbengal. During his stay in Narayanpur district, he inspected the park located in Garhbengal and said that good facilities have been developed for children to play here. It is worth noting that Chendru Mandavi popularly known as 'Tiger Boy' was born in the Narayanpur district's Garhbengal Village. He gained recognition as Tiger Boy because of his bond with the tiger (Tembu). The friendship between Chendru and Tembu served as the inspiration for the movie

"The Jungle Saga". This movie won Oscars in 1997 and Chendru gained recognition worldwide. Arne Sakshar, a Swedish filmmaker, directed this movie. Chendru spent a year living in Sweden; But during his final days, he came back to his village, where he passed away on September 18, 2013, at the age of 78. Chairman of Chhattisgarh Handicrafts Development Board and MLA of Narayanpur assembly constituency Chandan Kashyap, President of the District Panchayat Shyambati Netam, Collector Ajeet Vasant, Superintendent of Police, Pushkar Sharma, Chief Executive of District Panchayat Officer, Devesh Kumar Dhruv along with other officers, employees and family members of Chendru were present on the occasion.

Cong has made Chhattisgarh a stronghold of corruption and scams: Sao

● BJP state president reaches Bastar migration in BJP's great public relations campaign



Jagdalpur, Jun 09: BJP State President Arun Sao came on a two-day stay in Bastar in the ongoing mass public relations campaign of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Sao said that during the tenure of four and a half years, the Bhpupesh government of Congress has duped and cheated the people of every section of Chhattisgarh. Counting the series of scams, he said that the Congress government has made Chhattisgarh a stronghold of corruption and scams. The people of the state have also been troubled. The people have made up their mind to uproot the Congress in the upcoming elections.

Before leaving for Dantewada from Jagdalpur

on Wednesday afternoon, BJP State President Arun Sao said in a discussion with the people that the development of the state has come to a standstill during four and a half years of misrule by the Congress. Bastar is also not untouched by the stalled development works. Liquor scam, Gauthan scam, rice scam, iron scam, Congress government has made a long list of scams. Regarding which the displeasure is clearly visible in the general public of the state. Every worker of BJP is sweating with full dedication in the preparations for the upcoming elections. The BJP government will

be formed in Chhattisgarh in the assembly elections.

On BJP's great public relations campaign, Sao said that the nine years of the central government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi have been efficiently completed. The tenure of nine years has been a turning point for India. The Modi government at the Center launched many schemes for public welfare, the people of India have got the benefit. In the great public relations campaign, the BJP will go door-to-door and explain the works of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and is establishing direct dialogue with the public.

Bastar farmers worried over delay in South-West monsoon



Jagdalpur, Jun 09: Most of the farmers of Bastar division rely on monsoon for farming because there is a lack of means of irrigation in Bastar. That's why farmers sow paddy before 15th June. These days a large number of farmers are sowing paddy. Because they are hopeful that by around June 15, the monsoon will knock in Bastar and it will rain. Many farmers have completed paddy sowing and are now waiting for good rains. Many farmers are busy preparing for paddy sowing. But there is no hope of good rain at the

moment. The farmers of Bastar are worried about the news of late arrival of South-West monsoon. Bastar receives pre-monsoon rains a week before the arrival of the South-West monsoon, but meteorologists are telling that the pace of the monsoon is going to be bit slow. After knocking in Kerala on June 01, the monsoon generally used to knock in Bastar around June 15-16. But this year there has been a delay in reaching Kerala, so there is a possibility of monsoon knocking in Bastar around June 24.

Farmers' problems will increase due to less quantity of fertilizers in Bastar

With the onset of monsoon in Bastar division, the phase of agricultural work will start. Prior to this, manure-seeds are being stored for the Kharif crop in the co-operative societies of the district, Lempus. Farmers are reaching to buy fertilizers and seeds. Farmers will have to face the usual shortage of chemical fertilizers as the storage of fertilizers in the societies is less than the target set by the District Cooperative Central Bank.

According to the information received, 20,300 MT of fertilizers have been demanded in the Kharif season, in lieu of which 11,593 MT of fertilizers have been stored so far. Which includes Urea, Superphosphate, Potash, DAP, IFFCO, 7,563 MT of fertilizers have been distributed to the farmers. Presently 4,080 MT of manure is left. At present, departmental officers are making claims that there is no shortage of fertilizers in any society. By June 15, it is estimated to reach the fer-



tilizer as per the demand. Even though it is claimed that the storage of manure is done as per the demand from the Agriculture Department, Government, Administration. Farmers Baliram, Kira and Kamlochan told that in co-operative societies, farmers get fertilizers and seeds at KCC only. If fertilizers and seeds are not available from the committees on time, then the farmers have to buy from private shops. Taking advantage of the opportunity, private shopkeepers charge

higher prices from the farmers during the season. Due to which the farmers have to bear the economic loss. Farmers say that the authorities should have made arrangements for fertilizers in advance. But every year the farmers of the district continue to struggle with the shortage of fertilizers. When the Farmers Cooperative Society reaches Lempus, it is informed that there is no manure. And even if it is available, in small quantity, the farmer has to return empty-handed.

High-tech tracking of elephant movement in Ch'garh

Raipur, Jun 09: Chhattisgarh Government has initiated High-tech monitoring of elephant movements in its forests. For this purpose, an artificial intelligence-based "Chhattisgarh Elephant Tracking and Alert App" was developed and has been functional for the past three months at the Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve. An alert of elephant activity within a 10-kilometer radius is successfully sent to the villager's registered mobile numbers. To send an alert, the villagers' mobile phone numbers and location data are stored in this app. When the elephant trackers record any elephant movement inputs on the app, the app sends alerts on the mobile phones of the villagers.

To inform people in Chhattisgarh's elephant-affected areas, the Wildlife Wing and Forest Management Information System (FMIS) collectively developed this app. This application uses artificial intelligence (AI) based on information provided by Elephant Trackers (Hathi Mitra Dal). With the exception of "Munaadi", performed by elephant trackers, this app sends notifications to everyone in the affected village of the presence of elephants via calls, SMS, and WhatsApp messages. Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve has had an alert app operational for three



months

This alert app has been functioning for the past three months and has 400 registered users in the Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve (Gariaband, Dhantari). The app can be used by other forest divisions as well by registering their corresponding villages. The Forest Management Information System (FMIS) and Wildlife Wing collectively developed this app. The app will be launched by Dr. Lakshmi Dhruv, MLA Sihawa at Ecopark Mechka, USTR. Working of the Alert App

elephants. This app works both in online (real-time) and offline (near-real-time when trackers are out of a mobile network region) mode.

Mobile numbers and GPS locations of the villagers are registered on the app

The mobile phone numbers and GPS locations of the locals living in elephant-affected areas are registered in alert and tracking app. This is done so that the villagers can receive call, SMS, and WhatsApp notifications through AI alerts on a real-time basis and depend on the availability of the mobile network of elephant trackers whenever the elephant is less than 10 km from them.

Trump charged over classified documents in 1st federal indictment of an ex-president

Miami, Jun 09 (AP):

Donald Trump has said that he has been indicted on charges of mishandling classified documents at his Florida estate, igniting a federal prosecution that is arguably the most perilous of multiple legal threats against the former president as he seeks to reclaim the White House.

The Justice Department did not immediately publicly confirm the indictment. But two people familiar with the situation who were not authorized to discuss it publicly said that the indictment included seven criminal counts. One of those people said Trump's lawyers were contacted by prosecutors shortly before he announced on his Truth Social platform that he had been indicted.



The indictment enmeshes the Justice Department in the most politically explosive prosecution in its long history. Its first case against a former president upends a Republican presidential primary that Trump is currently dominating, and any felony charges would raise the prospect of a yearslong prison sentence.

Within 20 minutes of his announcement, Trump,

who said he was due in court Tuesday afternoon, had begun fundraising off it for his 2024 presidential campaign. He declared in a video, "I AM AN INNOCENT MAN!" and repeated his familiar refrain that the investigation is a "witch hunt."

The case adds to deepening legal jeopardy for Trump, who has already been indicted in New York and faces additional investigations in Washington and Atlanta that also could lead to criminal charges. As the prosecution moves forward, it will pit Trump's claims of sweeping executive power against Attorney General Merrick Garland's oft-stated mantra that no person, including a former commander in chief, should be regarded as above the law. The indictment arises

from a monthslong investigation by special counsel Jack Smith into whether Trump broke the law by holding onto hundreds of documents marked classified at his Palm Beach property, Mar-a-Lago, and whether Trump took steps to obstruct the government's efforts to recover the records.

Prosecutors have said that Trump took roughly 300 classified documents to Mar-a-Lago after leaving the White House, including some 100 that were seized by the FBI last August in a search of the home that underscored the gravity of the Justice Department's investigation. Trump and his team have long seen the special counsel investigation as far more perilous than the New York matter both politically and legally.

LEADERS FORGING ALLIANCES



Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, and Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko talk during their meeting at the Bocharov Ruchi residence in the resort city of Sochi, Russia, Friday, June 9.

Cash-strapped Pak government to unveil budget ahead of general elections this year

Islamabad, Jun 09 (PTI):

Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar is set to unveil on Friday Rs 14.5 trillion annual budget for 2023-24 that includes a staggering 66 per cent hike in the discretionary budget of parliamentarians, a decision that might push the cash-strapped country towards a looming default due to shrinking foreign reserves. Pakistan government on Wednesday approved a 66 per cent increase in the discretionary budget of parliamentarians, reaching a record Rs 116 billion for the outgoing fiscal year, reported the

Express Tribune newspaper. The draft budget which is the last by the Shebaz Sharif government before elections later this year involves about Rs 6 trillion deficit gap which the government would try to fill through different means including external financing.

The total outlay of the budget is expected to be Rs 14.5 trillion. The government employees are likely to receive a boost of 30 per cent in their ad hoc relief allowances as well as a 20 per cent hike in pensions.

Dar has declared a 3.5 per cent GDP growth target for the next year.

The Express Tribune reported that the budget carries a proposal of imposing new taxes worth Rs 700 billion. It has also been suggested that the medical and conveyance allowance of government employees should be increased by 100 per cent. The fiscal deficit target has been set at 7.7 per cent of the GDP.

A revenue collection target of Rs 9.2 trillion has been estimated. The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) will be assigned a target of generating revenue at Rs 2.8 trillion, 55 per cent of which will be transferred to the provinces.

Imran Khan says stage set for his 'court martial'

Islamabad, Jun 09 (PTI):

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan has said the stage has been set for his "court martial" after the country's all-powerful army vowed to try the "masterminds and planners" of May 9 violence in military courts.

His remarks came a day after Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah accused Khan of planning the countrywide violence that erupted after his arrest in a corruption case on May 9. Talking to reporters after appearing before the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday in con-



nection with 10 different cases, including two ongoing petitions and eight new bail petitions, the 70-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief said he knew he would be tried by a military court.

PM Modi's US visit will set new benchmarks for bilateral ties: Pentagon

Washington, Jun 09 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US this month will set new benchmarks for bilateral ties and big announcements are likely to be made on defence industrial cooperation and boosting India's indigenous military base, the Pentagon has said.

Prime Minister Modi will embark on his first state visit to the US at the invitation of President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden this month. During his four-day visit starting on June 21, the US president and the First Lady will host Modi for a state

dinner on June 22. "When Prime Minister Modi comes here to Washington for a State Visit later in the month, I think it will be a historic visit setting new benchmarks for the relationship," Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs Ely Ratner said during a panel discussion at the Center for New American Security on Thursday.

"I think it (the visit) will be looked back upon similar to how the Japan two plus two earlier this year was a pivotal moment in the relationship. People will be looking back on

this visit by Prime Minister Modi as a real springboard for the US-India relationship," he said. Ratner said US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin visited India recently to advance a number of bilateral issues and prepare the ground for the prime minister's visit to Washington by finalising particular agreements and initiatives that the two countries are working on.

"Among the priorities are clear strategic alignment around the question of co-development and co-production between the United States and India on the defence side.

Mediation: Building a Culture of Resolution and Minimizing Litigation

In a thought-provoking address on "Thought Leaders for Disputes Resolution" at St. James, London, Senior Advocate Ravindra Shrivastava passionately championed the role of mediation as the primary approach to conflict resolution. His unwavering conviction was encapsulated in his slogan: "Mediation First, Litigation Last." Shrivastava firmly asserted that in the current landscape, there is no alternative to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and, specifically, mediation.

Expressing his concerns, Shrivastava lamented the collapse of the judicial system and the equally disheartening state of arbitration in India. Access to justice, he contended, has become more mythical than truthful. However, he found solace in the recent surge of discourse surrounding medi-



ation and legislative interventions, acknowledging the encouraging signs of realization.

Highlighting the key to successful mediation, Shrivastava shared, "My

experience has shown that mediation thrives when parties willingly engage out of awareness and a genuine desire for resolution. Whether they recognize that litigation leads to

nothing or are guided by well-wishers within society, community, or the legal profession, mediation holds immense potential for success."

Advocating for greater

emphasis on community mediation, Shrivastava urged a broader scope beyond its current application in cases such as bouncing cheques, matrimonial disputes, family

property conflicts, and motor accident claims. He welcomed the concept of compulsory mediation, while acknowledging the need for substantial groundwork to make it a reality. This included addressing infrastructure requirements, ensuring the availability of qualified and impartial mediators with integrity and experience, revisiting exclusions outlined in the First Schedule, securing government support, and garnering crucial backing from the legal fraternity.

Shrivastava further stressed the significance of government and semi-government bodies' involvement in mediation due to their contribution to the majority of cases. By joining mediation efforts, these entities could effectively alleviate the burden on the courts and bolster the efficiency of dispute resolution.

Iran detains cartoonist again, journalist group calls for release

Dubai, Jun 09 (AP):

Iranian authorities have summoned and arrested a cartoonist who has a history of being imprisoned for political posts on her Instagram account, her lawyer said on Friday.

Mohammad Moghimi said in a tweet said his client, Atena Farghadani, a painter, cartoonist and former political prisoner, was summoned to the Evin courthouse in Tehran and arrested. He did not elaborate on why she was detained. In 2016, Farghadani

was released after spending 18 months in jail for portraying lawmakers as animals to criticize a draft law restricting contraception and criminalising voluntary sterilisation.

On Wednesday, Farghadani posted one of her cartoons showing people with animal and satanic faces. The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists said on Thursday that Iranian authorities must release Farghadani and stop efforts to silence commentators and members of the press.

Modi's US visit signals strong bilateral ties in future: USIBC

Washington, Jun 09 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the US later this month at the invitation of President Joe Biden is a powerful signal that the future of the two countries is together, US India Business Council (USIBC) President Atul Keshap has said.

"This is only the third state visit for the Biden administration. India is now one of our closest friends. The fact that the prime minister and the president have agreed to this, their coming together is a powerful signal from the top of each government that our future is together," Keshap told PTI in an interview.

Responding to a question on expectations from the visit, Keshap said he is hoping that it will send a powerful signal to the business communities of both countries that they are the preferred partners for each other and that there can be investment and trade in both directions with approval of the two governments.

छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग

नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)
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क्रमांक 1134/09/परीक्षा/2023 रायपुर, दिनांक 6 JUN 2023

राज्य सेवा मुख्य परीक्षा-2022 के संबंध में महत्वपूर्ण सूचना

राज्य सेवा मुख्य परीक्षा-2022 दिनांक 15, 16, 17, 18 जून 2023 को जिला-रायपुर, दुर्ग-भिलाई, जगदलपुर, अम्बिकापुर, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) के निर्धारित परीक्षा केंद्रों पर आयोजित की जाएगी, जिसकी समय-सारिणी निम्नानुसार है:-

DATE	DAY	TIME	PAPER	SUBJECT
15.06.2023	THURSDAY	9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON	PAPER-I	LANGUAGE
		02:00 P.M. TO 05:00 P.M.	PAPER-II	ESSAY
16.06.2023	FRIDAY	9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON	PAPER-III	GENERAL STUDIES-I
		02:00 P.M. TO 05:00 P.M.	PAPER-IV	GENERAL STUDIES-II
17.06.2023	SATURDAY	9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON	PAPER-V	GENERAL STUDIES-III
		02:00 P.M. TO 05:00 P.M.	PAPER-VI	GENERAL STUDIES-IV
18.06.2023	SUNDAY	9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON	PAPER-VII	GENERAL STUDIES-V

उक्त परीक्षा हेतु आयोग द्वारा प्रवेश पत्र दिनांक 05.06.2023 को जारी कर दिया गया है। अभ्यर्थी आयोग की वेबसाइट www.psc.cg.gov.in से प्रवेश पत्र डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। आयोग द्वारा किसी भी अभ्यर्थी को पृथक से प्रवेश पत्र व्यक्तिगत नहीं भेजा जाएगा।

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

G-02148/1

कार्यालय आयुक्त/पदेन सचिव
छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य स्तरीय आदिम जाति कल्याण, आवासीय एवं
आश्रम शैक्षणिक संस्थान समिति
इन्द्रावती भवन अटल नगर, नवा रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़

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F.No. / EMRS / 398/2023-24/2354 Nawa Raipur Dt. 06/06/2023

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest for

Audit in Eklavya Model Residential Schools

Programme for the Year 2022-23

Application are invited from eligible firms for the conduct of audit of schools run under Eklavya Model Residential Schools program. Interested firms can download the format for Expression of Interest, Terms of Reference and Scope of Work from the Website <https://eklavya.cg.nic.in> for which 1,000/- is also required in the form of DD/FDR in favour of Commissioner/Ex Officio Secretary, Chhattisgarh State Level Tribal Welfare, Residential and Ashram Educational Institutions Committee, Nawa Raipur at Raipur.

1. Pre-bid meeting - 14/06/2023, 12:00 PM
2. The last date for submission of proposal - 28/06/2023, 03:00 PM
3. The Opening of technical bids - 28/06/2023, 04:00 PM

Interested firms/their authorized representatives can be present at the time of opening of Technical proposal. The date of opening of financial bid will be displayed only on website <https://eklavya.cg.nic.in>.

(Shammi Abidi)
Commissioner/Ex Officio Secretary
Chhattisgarh State Level Tribal Welfare, Residential and
Ashram Educational Institutions Committee,

G-02186/1

कार्यालय अधिष्ठाता,
छत्तीसगढ़ आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन,
बिलासपुर (छत्तीसगढ़) 495001

FAX (O) - 07752-224200, PHONE (O) - 07752-230030, Website: www.cimbilaspur.ac.in email- deancims@gmail.com
क्र 7555/स्था/प्रशा/सिस्/2023 बिलासपुर, दिनांक 06/06/2023

Walk-In-Interview

छत्तीसगढ़ आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, बिलासपुर के रिक्त शैक्षणिक पदों की पूर्ति स्वशासी के माध्यम से संविदा में किये जाने हेतु अधिष्ठाता कार्यालय, सिस्, बिलासपुर में प्रत्येक माह के द्वितीय गुरुवार एवं चतुर्थ गुरुवार तथा अवकाश होने की स्थिति में अगले कार्यदिवस (जून माह में दिनांक 08.06.2023 एवं 22.06.23) को Walk-In-Interview आयोजित किया जाएगा। रिक्त पदों का विवरण निम्नानुसार है :-

Professor	Associate Professor	Asst. Professor	Senior Resident	Junior Resident
Anatomy - 1 (UR) Physiology - 1 (UR) Biochemistry - 1 (UR) Pathology - 1 (UR) Microbiology - 1 (UR) Forensic Medicine - 1 (UR) Community Medicine - 1 (UR) Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation - 1 (UR-1)	Physiology - 1 (ST) Pharmacology - 1 (ST-1) Pathology & Blood Bank - 2 (ST-1, OBC-1) Microbiology - 1 (OBC-1) General Medicine - 3 (UR-2, OBC-1) Chest & TB - 1 (ST-1) Psychiatry - 1 (ST-1) Pediatric - 2 (ST-1, OBC-1) General Surgery - 3 (ST-1, SC-1, OBC-1) Orthopedic - 3 (UR-1, ST-1, OBC-1) Ophthalmology - 1 (ST-1) Obst & Gynae - 2 (UR-1, OBC-1) Anaesthesia - 1 (OBC-1) Radiodiagnosis - 2 (UR-1, ST-1) Dentistry - 1 (ST-1) Radiotherapy - 1 (ST-1) Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation - 1 (UR-1)	Anatomy - 3 (UR-1, ST-1, OBC-1) Physiology - 2 (UR-1, OBC-1) Biochemistry - 1 (ST-1) Pharmacology - 1 (ST-1) Pathology & Blood Bank - 3 (ST-1, SC-1, OBC-1) Microbiology - 3 (UR-2, ST-1) Community Medicine - 5 (UR-1, ST-2, OBC-1, SC-1) TB & Chest - 1 (UR-1) Surgery - 2 (UR-1, OBC-1) Orthopedic - 4 (UR-1, ST-2, OBC-1) Obst. & Gynae - 4 (ST-3, SC-1) Radiodiagnosis - 2 (UR-1, ST-1) Neurosurgery - 1 (UR-1) Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation - 1 (UR-1)	Medicine - 7 T.B. & Chest - 2 Skin & V.D. - 1 Psychiatry - 1 Pediatric - 4 Surgery - 7 Orthopedics - 3 ENT - 1 Obst. & Gynae - 2 Anaesthesia - 9 Radiodiagnosis - 3 Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation - 2	Medicine-1 Skin & V.D. - 1 Orthopedic - 3 E.N.T. - 2 Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation - 1 OBG - 4
Salary Rs. 155,000/- (90,000 + 65,000)	Salary Rs. 135,000/- (80,000 + 55,000)	Salary Rs. 90,000/- (50,000 + 40,000)	Salary Rs. 65,000/- (40,000 + 25,000)	Salary Rs. 50,000/- (30,000 + 20,000)

विस्तृत जानकारी संस्थान की वेबसाइट www.cimbilaspur.ac.in पर उपलब्ध है।

अधिष्ठाता
छत्तीसगढ़ आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

G-02140/1



CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 244

Battling Pesky Calls

Strengthening Customer Consent Protection

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a directive to service providers, instructing them to establish a unified digital platform within two months. This platform will serve as a central hub for managing customers' consent for promotional calls and messages. Initially, subscribers will have the ability to register their consent to receive promotional communications, and later, businesses will be able to seek consent from customers. TRAI's directive aims to establish a standardized system for consent across all service providers and principal entities, addressing the lack of a unified platform to verify customer consent for promotional messages. The development and implementation of the Digital Consent Acquisition facility will empower customers to grant, maintain, and revoke consent digitally. The issue at hand revolves around pesky calls, the scourge of unsolicited and intrusive phone calls that often involve telemarketing or spamming. These calls are not only a nuisance but also intrude upon individuals' privacy, disrupting their daily activities. Current approaches, such as "Do Not Call" registries or "opt-out" lists, allow individuals to express their preference to not receive promotional calls. However, the reality is that these options are often ignored, and violations of regulations go largely unchecked. As a result, pesky calls and SMS have become an unfortunate part of our lives. TRAI has previously encouraged service providers to offer call filtering and blocking services to their customers. However, the onus has largely fallen on the customers themselves to find ways to create their own block lists. With the significant digital penetration in India, it is imperative that we think outside the box to better safeguard users' interests. Under the new directive, customers will have the option to register their unwillingness to receive any consent-seeking messages. Service providers will be required to respect and adhere to these preferences. While the full implementation and enforcement of these measures may take time, they represent steps in the right direction towards addressing the issue of pesky calls and SMS. Regulatory bodies, service providers, and consumers must collaborate to create an environment that respects privacy and minimizes unwanted communications. However, it is essential to go beyond the mere establishment of a digital platform for consent management. There must be a concerted effort to enforce the laws and raise penalties for violations. Strict enforcement will serve as a deterrent for businesses and individuals who engage in unsolicited communication practices. Additionally, the regulatory bodies should actively engage with service providers to ensure effective implementation of call filtering and blocking services. Service providers must take a proactive role in developing robust mechanisms to prevent and identify spam calls, providing customers with comprehensive tools to manage their preferences effectively. Furthermore, public awareness campaigns are vital to educate consumers about their rights and the available tools to combat pesky calls. By empowering individuals with knowledge and resources, we can create a collective resistance against unwanted communications. Service providers should also enhance their customer support systems, enabling individuals to report instances of pesky calls promptly. Prompt action and timely resolution of complaints will bolster customers' confidence in the system and foster a culture of accountability. TRAI's directive to establish a unified digital platform for consent management is a positive step forward in combatting the issue of pesky calls and SMS. However, the true effectiveness of these measures lies in their implementation, enforcement, and collaborative efforts among regulatory bodies, service providers, and consumers. By strengthening customer consent protection and promoting privacy rights, we can create an environment that respects individuals' preferences and minimizes unwanted communications. It is time to act decisively to preserve the sanctity of our personal space and restore tranquility to our digital lives.

Inclusive Policies

Ensuring No One Is Left Behind

Yash Pal Ralhan

The forthcoming National Family Health Survey (NFHS6), scheduled to commence on July 1, has caused concern among the disabled community as it will not collect data related to disabilities. This omission calls for the government's immediate attention to rectify this error. It is particularly disheartening as the Prime Minister has shown a genuine concern for disability welfare. His support is evident through the organization of over five thousand camps for the disabled and multiple mentions of their welfare in his program "Maan ki Baat." Even during a chaotic parliamentary session, the Disability Act 2 was passed with the support of all opposition parties. When US President Trump visited India, the Prime Minister proudly highlighted various achievements of the nation, including the passage of the Disability Act 2. It is clear that there is a consensus among all stakeholders that children with disabilities require strong policy support. In this context, it is imperative for the National Family Health Survey to incorporate specific questions about disabilities. This inclusion would assist in formulating appropriate policies, as robust measures are crucial to encompass the aspirations of persons with disabilities and ensure they can achieve their full potential, actively contributing to nation-building. NFHS, conducted every three years, collects data on various development indices that inform policy and programs. This survey covers approximately seven lakh households across the country, providing essential information on whether people with disabilities have access to basic amenities and other government services. However, at a time when the need to ensure no one is left behind is of utmost importance, especially considering the ravages caused by the Covid pandemic, the exclusion of disability-related questions represents a missed opportunity to gather disaggregated data on disabilities. This exclusion of data for the disabled is a great injustice. It contradicts the principle of "leaving no one behind," which NFHS should uphold. Persons with disabilities experience an average loss of 10-17 years in life expectancy. To address this issue and make health services disability-inclusive, comprehensive health data is necessary, which could have been provided by NFHS. It is well-known that children with disabilities face disadvantages in various aspects of their well-being. Compared to their peers without disabilities, they are less likely to receive early stimulation and responsive care. Excluding them from NFHS-6 is a significant oversight, and it is crucial for Prime Minister Modi to intervene in this matter. We must acknowledge that one-third of disabilities in children are preventable if detected early and provided with timely interventions. A roadmap based on accurate data could be life-changing for hundreds of thousands of children in the 0-9 age group who live with disabilities, be they congenital or acquired. Considering this data, the government should reconsider its decision to exclude disability-related data from NFHS-6. The lack of access to educational aids is not the only factor hindering the well-being of persons with disabilities. They also have limited or no access to health services due to a lack of information provided in accessible formats. Women with disabilities face a double marginalization due to their disability and gender, enduring additional social barriers, discrimination, and isolation. Shockingly, women and girls with disabilities are three times more likely to experience gender-based violence compared to non-disabled women. It is worth noting that the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act emphasizes the prevention of disabilities through awareness, investigation, and research. Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities mandates the collection of appropriate information on persons with disabilities to enable policy formulation and implementation. Given these circumstances, can there be a better mechanism than NFHS to gather comprehensive data on the prevalence and patterns of disabilities? The government must contemplate this for the benefit of the disabled community.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the newspaper.)

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 emailtoeditorcentralchronicle@gmail.com.

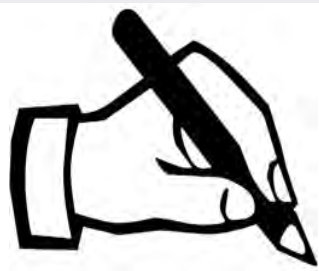
SHELTERING FROM SUN



A street vendor covers herself under a thermocol sheet to shade herself from the scorching sun on a hot summer day, in Gurugram, Friday, June 9.

Celebrity should understand their moral responsibility along with advertising

RAJENDER KUMAR SHARMA



Today in this materialism, where market culture is at its peak, this culture cannot be imagined without advertisements. Every big or small product needs advertisement. It is believed that the world's first advertisement was printed in the form of a pamphlet in the English language by William Caxton of England in 1473 AD. About 100 years ago, in 1922, an English advertising expert established the first advertising agency in India to provide a commercial form to advertising work in India. This journey that started since then has continued to grow.

Indian advertising industry is fast growing market across the globe. In the year 2022, the industry's income was estimated to increase by 16 percent i.e. increase to Rs 88,639 crore (Dentsu Global report). It is clear from these figures that a major part of your hard earned money, along with buying the product, you are giving to the person who advertises it. Because the cost of advertising is also included in the price of any product. Big celebrities (film and sports stars) who are advertising everything from your toilet cleaner to high brand clothes, shoes, jewelry, etc., they make

a lot of money for this acting, from the producer / manufacturers through the advertising agencies. In this market culture, the one who gets exploited the most is the poor customer.

Such products have become available in the market that they cannot be counted. You will find many manufacturers making the same product. It becomes difficult for the customer to decide whose quality to trust. On top of that, in the advertisements of promoting these products, big claims about the product of big celebrities affect the decision-making ability of the cus-

tomers.

Until recently, from the producer to the advertising agency and the stars lobbying to buy the product, no one was responsible for the quality of the product and whether the product is safe or not. But last year, the government took positive steps in this direction. Taking this up, the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has notified the "Guidelines for Prevention of Misleading Advertisement and Approval of Misleading Advertisements - 2022" with the objective of protecting the consumers. These guidelines, endeavor to ensure that consumers are not being misguided with baseless claims, misinformation and false claims.

Such advertisements violate various rights of consumers such as the right to be informed, the right to choose and the right to be protected against unsafe products. Penalties have also been provided for any violation of these guidelines. The CCPA may impose a fine of up to Rs 10 lakh on manufacturers, advertisers and promoters of a product for any misleading advertisement. Subsequent violation On doing so, the amount of fine can be up to Rs 50 lakh. In addition, the authority may ban the propagator of a misleading advertisement from advertising for a period of up to 1 year. Even after that, the limit of ban can be increased up to 3 years for violation.

Advertising, promoting

products can be a part of the business of film stars and sportspersons, but they also have to keep in mind their ethical responsibilities. They have to understand that they are the ideal of the fans and whatever they say or show about any product, their fans will take it seriously and follow it. In such a situation, if any such product is recommended, which is not good from the point of view of health or does not conform to the established standards, then undoubtedly such products can be heavy on the life of the consumer.

Therefore, along with protecting their business aspects, they should also take care of the health of their fans and the people of the country, especially children and the elderly. Before advertising any product, one should try to get complete information about that product. Because in front of his own image and love of his fans, the remuneration given for working in advertisement does not matter. Now government has notified guidelines through CCPA to protect the rights of consumers. But the real success will be achieved only when the consumer / customer of the country himself becomes aware of his rights.

(Writer is Sr. Educationist & Columnist). (The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the newspaper.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Shocking Murder

In a disturbing incident, a 32-year-old woman named Saraswati Vaidya was brutally murdered and dismembered into 20 pieces by her 56-year-old live-in partner, Manoj Sahani, in their rented flat on the 7th floor of Mumbai's Akashganga building. The preliminary investigation revealed that Vaidya had been residing with Sahani since 2014, and he was employed at a ration shop. The gruesome killing took place on June 4, with Sahani using various cutters, including an electric one, to chop the body into smaller fragments. Some body parts are still missing, leading the police to suspect that the accused may have disposed of them in different locations. This horrific incident echoes a similar case in Delhi, where Shradha Walkar was killed and dismembered into 35 pieces by her live-in partner, Aftab Poonawala. The concept of "live-in" relationships is being questioned due to the lack of family involvement, leading to increased criminal activities. Such heinous individuals have no place in society, and there is a pressing need to establish a new and severe punishment to address such brutality.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee, Faridabad

Prioritizing Reliability

India and the US, driven by shared strategic and economic interests, recognize the significance of defence cooperation. They have recently established a comprehensive roadmap to expedite technology collaborations in the defence sector. However, a more profound alliance is essential in countering the growing assertiveness of China. Emphasizing a substantial contribution to India's 'Make in India' initiative can greatly enhance bilateral cooperation. To foster a stronger partnership, both countries must prioritize reliability in their manufacturing processes, thereby ensuring the highest standards of quality and dependability.

MK Nair, Raipur

Enhancing Defence Ties

India and the US have recently solidified their defence industrial cooperation plan, a move set to bolster India's military capabilities. Despite the relatively short formal defence relationship, key agreements have played a vital role in strengthening ties between the two nations. By increasing arms supply, facilitating technology transfer, and promoting indigenous production capacity, India and the US can forge a robust strategic defence partnership. These initiatives will not only enhance India's defence capabilities but also contribute to the long-term security and stability of the region.

Shiv Kumar Mishra, Raipur

Modern individuals are cultivating organic food to safeguard themselves



Purna Boorakoti

Logos like "plant trees" and "bring greenery" are often heard in cities. In rural areas, these phrases need no explanation or repetition. If you visit a city for a walk or any other purpose, you will

undoubtedly notice the abundance of gold, silver, diamonds, pearls, and numerous luxury items adorning every street and neighborhood. However, what you won't find everywhere is the presence of nature: green trees and plants. The main reason behind this absence is the people's inclination towards an expensive lifestyle and their desire to own large, extravagant houses.

In their pursuit of displaying wealth, people have erected countless buildings, resulting in a scarcity of space for natural elements. Every street in the city is lined with numerous buildings, identified only by name and numbers. These streets, resembling tunnels, guide people to their flats or houses. Each house and building is

adorned with colorful wallpapers and designer tiles, while decorative artificial pots are used as substitutes for trees and plants.

Gone are the days when gardens and trees were maintained alongside the main gates of houses. Houses used to resemble small nests nestled amidst towering trees. The atmosphere surrounding the houses felt purified from all directions, with the air from trees and plants seeping in through windows, filling every room with oxygen. A gentle breeze, wafting through the curtains, provided a sense of solace.

The trees surrounding one's house provided shade, sheltering neighboring houses from scorching heat. Summer back then was an entirely different experience,

and medicinal fruits and vegetables were a common sight in every household's kitchen. Every individual had a small garden, where dewdrops symbolized a positive message.

Colorful flowers filled the courtyard, making it feel like a perpetual Holi festival. Today, wherever you go, colorful flowers are seen only on weddings and festivals, then you realize how far you have come from them.

Today, however, what was once readily available in their own homes has led people to rely on exhibitions and online shopping. Some individuals have started cultivating plants and educating others about trees and plants. They have even given scientific names to flowers, fruits, vegetables, and products derived from them.

By merely knowing a few letters, we have managed to label nature itself. Those who lack a genuine connection with nature are now appropriating it in a branded form. A balanced diet that was once commonplace is now called organic food, solely catering to the mindless pursuit of a branded era.

Let us collectively take an oath to protect Mother Earth. By planting trees and bringing greenery back into our lives, we can regain the peace that we have lost.

(Author is Bureau Chief, Punjab, Government of India) (The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the newspaper.)

BRIEF

Infra projects



Chandigarh: Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Thursday said the state has "drastically" improved its performance, registering a record utilisation of Rs 800 crore funds in FY23 for the rural infrastructure development projects assisted by NABARD. He was chairing a meeting to review the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) assisted projects, a state government release said. The minister lauded the role of the finance department and NABARD in smooth implementation enabling high utilisation for the ongoing projects. He also thanked NABARD for sanctioning new projects worth Rs 919 crore, the highest so far for Punjab.

Forex reserves

Mumbai: India's forex kitty jumped USD 5.929 billion to USD 595.067 billion for the week ended June 2, the Reserve Bank said on Friday. The reserves had dropped for two consecutive weeks and declined by USD 4.34 billion to USD 589.14 billion in the previous reporting week. It can be noted that in October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of USD 645 billion. The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments. For the week ended June 2, the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, increased by USD 5.27 billion to USD 526.201 billion, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the RBI on Friday.

Sustained growth



New Delhi: Piramal Enterprises is looking at sustained growth and profitability with the last few years spent in making balance sheets and businesses more resilient to tide over unforeseen uncertainties, according to Chairman Ajay G Piramal. In his address to shareholders in Annual Report for 2022-23, the business leader said the efforts over the last years have shown positive results with the group ending the last fiscal with a net profit of Rs 9,969 crore and total assets of Rs 83,386 crore. "We are now focused on sustained growth and profitability and to achieve our balance between three pillars - Growth, Risk and Profitability," Piramal stated.

India is open to negotiate trade agreement with Africa: Goyal

New Delhi, Jun 09:

India has expressed interest in negotiating a free trade agreement (FTA) with Africa with an aim to boost economic ties between the two regions. This was stated by commerce and industry Minister Piyush Goyal during his interaction with fifteen ambassadors from several countries of the Africa region here on Thursday. "India is open to FTA negotiations bilaterally or individually with African countries or Africa as a whole," he said. India would act as a trusted partner to expand trade, commerce, business, investment and op-



portunities with Africa, he said. In such agreements, two or more trading partners either significantly reduce or eliminate customs duties on maximum number of goods traded between them. Besides, they ease norms for promoting trade in services and attract investments. The 15 ambassadors are

from countries, including Algeria, Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, Republic of Guinea, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Morocco, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The African continent presents vast opportunities for Indian businesses, with its rapidly growing population, emerging middle class, and abundant natural resources. Through increased trade and investment, both the regions can benefit from each other's strengths and expertise, fostering inclusive growth and job creation. The two-way trade between the regions stood at over USD 90 billion.

Amazon Beauty launches Global Beauty Store

Mumbai, Jun 09:

Amazon Beauty has announced the launch of its highly anticipated Global Beauty Store, an exciting new storefront that brings together a curated selection of 60+ international beauty brands and over 5,000 curated products.

The store has an extensive collection of international beauty brands, carefully curated to bring the best products from different parts of the world.

From renowned French skincare brands to emerging international cosmetics brands such as Paula's Choice, Farmacy, Anomaly, Caudalie, L'Occitane, CosRX, Laneige, Innisfree, Makeup Revolution, Chopard, Paul Mitchell among many

other loved international brands, the store has various options to cater to everyone's needs. Customers can explore and shop from an extensive range of authentic products from every corner of the globe, hand-picked for their exceptional quality and advanced formulations. Global Beauty Store offers an unparalleled assortment of products that caters to diverse beauty needs and preferences.

"We are incredibly excited to unveil the Global Beauty Store on Amazon Beauty," expressed Zeba Khan, Director of Beauty, Personal Care & Luxury Beauty at Amazon India.

"This momentous occasion marks a significant stride in our quest to provide extraordinary beauty experiences to our valued customers.

Discovering cutting-edge innovation and effective strategies for success at Indian D2C Summit 2023

Mumbai, Jun 09:

The second edition of India D2C Summit 2023 (D2C 2023) kicked off yesterday with an enlightening keynote address by Mohit Rana, Partner at Redseer. Rana shed light on the rapid growth of the Indian market, boasting 9,000 operating brands and a projected revenue of \$25 billion in the coming years. Rana emphasized India's remarkable digital development, positioning it as a technology adoption leader. Notably, D2C brands have experienced a staggering 60% growth since 2015, propelled by the surge in online sales and establishing a thriving presence in the Indian market.

Later in the day, BS Nagesh, Founder of TR-RAIN and Chairman of



Shoppers Stop, hosted a session on the 'Future of FMCG & Consumer Brands in Digital-First India.' Nagesh underscored the critical role of customer centricity, highlighting that meticulous product design alone holds little value if it fails to cater to customer needs. Ashima Aggarwal, E-Commerce Business Head at Bajaj Consumer Care, discussed the robust growth in the FMCG sector, particularly in the rural hair oil business,

and shared insights on embracing customized business models and technological advancements despite inflation. Swati Dayani, CTO of Cipla, shared the importance of credibility, reliability, intimacy, and self-orientation. Deepti Naithani, Director-D2C Business at Tata Consumer Products, stressed on the effectiveness of word-of-mouth and testimonials for D2C brands. The D2C segment currently accounts for 20% of e-commerce, and is

NMDC hosts interactive session on GeM Portal

Hyderabad, Jun 09:

Navratna CPSE, NMDC organized an Interactive Session with GeM Authorities on the existing and additional functionalities in the GeM Portal on 8-9 June, 2023 at its Head Office in Hyderabad.

Chief Manager, Product and Forward Action and Nodal Officer for NMDC Shri Shailesh Kumar and GeM Facilitator of Telangana Shri Ravi Varma were the key speakers at the session. Deliberating on procurement of Products and Services through GeM Portal and disposal of materials through the Forward Auction mode in the GeM Portal, the speakers interacted with senior officials from



NMDC.

NMDC has procured Goods and Services worth INR 840 crore through the Government e Marketplace in FY23, surpassing its target of INR 750 crore. The State Miner's GeM procurement percentage is witnessing the fastest increase in Steel PSEs. NMDC has made procurement worth INR 191

crore in FY24 till 31, May 2023.

During the session, GeM officials highlighted the service category of Air Ambulance on GeM that could benefit the company's health infrastructure in Projects at remote locations.

NMDC officials suggested including Forward Auction of iron ore and other products

through the GeM Portal and also recommended features that can make the portal user-friendly such as updating new developments on the home-page ticker.

NMDC's senior officials from its Projects across India and employees from Materials, Finance, Contracts, Commercial, C&IT and Vigilance departments participated in the Session to enhance future procurements through GeM.

Commenting on this, Amitava Mukherjee, Director (Finance) said, "NMDC promotes its vendors, especially MSMEs, to enlist on the National Public Procurement Portal and leverage the efficiency and transparency offered by GeM."

DS Group acquires The Good Stuff Pvt Ltd

New Delhi, Jun 09:

Dharampal Satyapal Group (DS Group), a multi-business corporation and a leading FMCG Conglomerate announced the acquisition of The Good Stuff Pvt Ltd (formerly known as Global CP Pvt Ltd), brand owner of LuvIt Chocolate and confectionery, earlier owned by Goldman Sachs and Mitsui Ventures.

This acquisition is a strategic move to grow and strengthen the Group's Confectionery portfolio, whilst widening its distribution reach across grocery and other retail outlets. DS Group entered into confectionery business in 2012, and has a strong assemblage of popular non-chocolate brands like Pass



Pass, Pulse, Chingles, Rajnigandha Silver Pearls, Maze and the recent partnership with luxury Swiss chocolate brand Läderach for its maiden launch in India. Pulse has been a leader in the hard boiled Candy segment for last 7 years.

The brand LuvIt brings in a wide range of decadent chocolate and confectionery products that would augment the confectionery portfolio of the Group with a range of rich milky chocolate, crunchy wafers wrapped in delectable chocolate, fruit/chocolate flavoured lollipops, eclairs, sugar panned chocolates and choco snacks. Speaking on the occasion, Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, DS Group, said, "DS Group has been focusing on increasing its presence in the confectionery segment for the last many years. Acquisition of LuvIt was a strategic decision to enhance our confectionery basket and enter the Chocolate segment with an impressionable footprint.

IIFL Finance to offer up to 9% Interest on Bonds; issue closes on June 22

Mumbai, Jun 09: IIFL Finance, one of India's largest Non-Banking Financial Companies, is offering up to 9% yield on its bonds issue with high degree of safety. The public issue of secured bonds opened on June 9, 2023, to raise up to Rs. 1,500 crores, for the purpose of business growth and capital augmentation. The bonds issue closes on June 22, 2023 or even before based on demand. IIFL Finance will issue secured redeemable non-convertible debentures (NCDs), aggregating to Rs 300 crore, with a green-shoe option to retain over-subscription of up to Rs 1200 crore (aggregating to a total of Rs 1,500 crore). The IIFL bonds offer highest effective yield of 9% per annum for tenor of 60 months. The NCD is available in tenors

of 24 months, 36 months and 60 months. The frequency of interest payment is available on annual, at maturity basis and with monthly option for 60-month tenure. The credit rating has been AA/Stable by CRISIL Ratings and AA/Stable by ICRA, which indicates that the instruments are considered to have a high degree of safety for timely servicing of financial obligations and carry very low credit risk. In Q4 FY23, Moody's upgraded IIFL Finance's rating from B2 to B1 (stable). IIFL Finance's Group CFO Mr. Kapish Jain said, "IIFL Finance through a strong physical presence of over 4000 branches across India and a well-diversified retail portfolio caters to the credit needs of underserved population.

International body verifies Vedanta Aluminium products as environmentally sustainable

New Delhi, Jun 09:

On the occasion of World Environment Day, Vedanta Aluminium, the largest aluminium producer in India, has announced receiving the Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) International verification for its range of products, among the largest in the global aluminium industry.

Undergoing a rigorous Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Vedanta's primary aluminium products performed well on the parameters of energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, water usage, and waste generation. This stands testimony to the company's advanced manufacturing practices and green innovations towards ensuring sustain-

ability across the aluminium value chain.

An Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) is a standardized and internationally recognized document that provides transparent and scientifically verified information about the environmental performance of a product. It is based on a thorough Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and provides data on a product's environmental impact throughout its life cycle, including raw material extraction, manufacturing, use, and end-of-life disposal.

The primary aluminium products produced by Vedanta Aluminium and verified by EPD include billets, Primary Foundry Alloy (PFA), wire rods and all categories of ingots. Commenting on the certification, Mr Rahul

Sharma, CEO, Vedanta Ltd - Aluminium Business, said "In a world rapidly transitioning to more sustainable approaches, the aluminium industry is poised for remarkable growth and innovation.

As the backbone of a low-carbon future, aluminium's exceptional properties hold immense potential for the energy transition, with Vedanta Aluminium as a key facilitator.

The Environmental Product Declaration is a testament to our dedication to engineering sustainable products for our customers around the world. We always strive to develop innovative and environmentally conscious business practices, demonstrating our commitment to creating a sustainable future."

Maruti Suzuki launches Alto K10 based Tour H1

For commercial segment at Rs 4.8 lakh



New Delhi, Jun 09: Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) on Friday said it has launched a new entry-level commercial hatchback Tour H1 with price starting at Rs 4.8 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). The CNG trim of the model, which is based on the latest generation of Alto K10, is tagged at Rs 5.7 lakh. The model comes equipped with 1-litre petrol engine. "The all-new Tour H1 carries on the legacy and trust built by the Alto K10 for the commercial segment," MSI Senior

Executive Officer (Marketing and Sales) Shashank Srivastava said in a regulatory filing.

The model comes with next-gen K 10C engine with a host of comfort, convenience, and safety features, he added. Available in both petrol and factory-fitted S-CNG options, Tour H1 offers a fuel-efficiency rating of 24.60 kilometre per litre for the petrol-fuelled version, and 34.46 kilometre per kilogramme for the S-CNG variant, MSI said.

P&G India installs rainwater harvesting infrastructure

Mumbai, Jun 09:

On World Environment Day, P&G India - the maker of brands like Whisper and Vicks, announced that as part of its water conservation efforts in water-stressed regions in the country, the Company has installed rainwater harvesting (RWH) infrastructure at P&G Shiksha supported schools in nine cities. The initiative has been executed in partnership with Round Table India, across Kota, Ahmedabad, Jodhpur, Baddi, Udaipur, Bhopal, Chennai, Raipur, and Pondicherry. With this, the rainwater harvesting infrastructures will cumulatively help preserve an estimated 10 lakh litres of water annually, which can then be used by the schools for non-potable



purposes. By conserving rainwater, the initiative further aims to reduce dependency and usage of the municipal water supply by these school and help recharge the ground water table. In addition, the accessibility of rainwater harvesting infrastructure at schools is enabling the younger generation even in lesser privileged areas, to imbibe the basic understanding and need for sustainable practices from a

young age. The initiative is in line with P&G's endeavour to contribute towards building a water positive future through sustainable practices and interventions.

Pawan Verma, Head - Purchases and Environmental Sustainability, P&G India said, "At P&G, we recognize the importance of water conservation and its profound implications for sustainable development.

IIT Madras invites applications BS Degree in Electronic Systems

Chennai, Jun 09:

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras), renowned for its excellence in education and research, is inviting applications for its recently launched first-ever off-campus BS Degree in Electronic Systems program.

With emphasis on electronics, embedded programming, digital systems, and control engineering, the program will enable students to apply the acquired engineering principles and knowledge to implement and improve systems and processes for applications. The last date to apply for the program is 25th June 2023.

The program is the second BS degree from IITM and is aligned with the country's semiconductor

mission. Designed in consultation with industry leaders, students after completing the program will have strong fundamentals and industry-ready skills, ensuring high employability.

The program incorporates in-person labs at IIT Madras ensuring hands-on practical training that enhances students' understanding of electronic systems.

After completing the program, students would have gained industry-ready skills so as to be employable across different sectors including automotive, semiconductor, and defence industries in various capacities such as electronic system designer, embedded system developer, electronic hardware specialist, system testing engineer, and electronics research engineer.

Akshay Kumar, Yami Gautam-starrer 'OMG 2' locked for August 11 release

Actors Yami Gautam and Akshay Kumar on Friday announced that their upcoming film 'OMG 2' will hit the screens on August 11.

Akshay also shared a new poster of the film, where he is seen as Lord Shiva and is holding a 'damru'. It has the date of release written in Hindi over it, with 'OMG 2' written below.

For the caption, he wrote: "Aa rahe hain hum, aayega aap bhi. 11th August. In theatres. #OMG2."

Yami shared the same poster on her Instagram account.

She captioned it: "The date is locked! #OMG2 releasing in theatres on August 11, 2023. See you there!"

The film also stars Pankaj Tripathi, who too shared the poster and mentioned: "The date is locked! #OMG2 releasing in theatres on August 11, 2023. See you there!"

The film is the second instalment of 'Oh My God!', which released in 2012. The satirical comedy-drama film was based on the Gujarati stage-play Kanji Virudh Kanji, which itself was inspired by the Billy Connolly film 'The Man Who Sued God'.

'Oh My God 2' is set against the backdrop of sex education in India.

Amol Parashar opens up on his first energetic dance performance

Comedy and Amol Parashar have become synonymous over the years. While the actor had proved he can nail any genre, like Bhagat Singh in Sardar Udham, or Osman in Dolly Kitty Aur Woh Chamakte Sitaare, his comic timing has a special place in the hearts of the audience. He ended last year with a hilarious (and surprisingly tearjerking in the climax) return as his famous character Chitvan in Tripling 3 and now, Amol is set to come back to that space with his next, 'Nausikhiye'.

Interestingly, Amol will be seen performing on an energetic dance number on screen for the first time in his upcoming movie, 'Nausikhiye'. He says, "It was a great experience to shoot the song in 'Nausikhiye', since we play wedding crashers in the movie and it's our introduction song in the film."



"We were given the brief to perform freestyle dance at places in the song, like how you dance at a wedding or during street procession. That way it was fun to create our own dance steps for the song, ensuring that it looks relatable, funny and entertaining. I had a whale of a time rehearsing and shooting the song," Amol adds.

Alongside Amol, Nausikhiye features talented actors Abhimanyu Dassani and Shreya Dhanwanthary. The film is a rib-tickling comedy and is directed by Santosh Singh. It presents the story of two wedding crashers who accidentally steal a bride, triggering a zany cat-and-mouse chase across the countryside.

'Nausikhiye' is written by Chirag Garg and Avinash Dwivedi and is produced by Ellipsis Entertainment in association with Lionsgate India Studios.

Alia Bhatt to portray Sita alongside Ranbir Kapoor as Ram in 'Ramayana'

As 'Adipurush' gears up for its theatrical release bringing forth the tale of Ramayana, another film on the same theme is in the making. Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt, who essayed the role of Sita in the blockbuster film 'RRR', is set to portray Goddess Sita in Nitesh Tiwari's much-anticipated film, 'Ramayana'.

As per media reports, Alia has been confirmed to play Sita opposite real-life husband Ranbir Kapoor, who will be seen as Lord Ram. For those wondering if Nitesh Tiwari's film was shelved, there's good news.

The film is totally on track. Alia was also spotted outside Nitesh Tiwari's office recently. Nitesh, who is known for films like 'Dangal', 'Chhichhore', is currently busy with his next film starring Varun Dhawan and Janhvi Kapoor-starrer 'Bawaal' which is based on World War. This will be the second collaboration between Alia and Ranbir after their last film 'Brahmastra'.



Farah Khan shares interesting trivia about R.D. Burman

Witness the magic of cinema come alive this weekend as Sony Entertainment Television's homegrown dance reality show, 'India's Best Dancer 3', celebrates 'Cinema ke 110 Saal, Bemisaal'. Paying tribute to the glorious journey of motion pictures in India, the contestants, along with their choreographers will perform to the tunes of legendary icons like Raj Kapoor, Kishore Kumar, Shammi Kapoor, R.D. Burman, Amitabh Bachchan, Bollywood's most iconic jodis like that of Dharmendra - Hema Malini and Rishi Kapoor-Neetu Singh amongst others. Making the celebration even more 'shaandar' will be ace filmmaker and choreographer, Farah Khan, who has been an integral part of Indian cinema over the years!

Making for a beautiful tribute to the legendary music director, R.D. Burman, contestant Akshay Pal and choreographer Vartika Jha will perform a medley of his songs. The act will strike a nostalgic chord with both Farah Khan and Sonali Bendre, who couldn't help but reminisce about the most successful Music Director of the Hindi Music Industry - R.D. Burman.

Farah, a devoted fan of this musical legend, will be seen sharing her admiration for his work and share, "Jaane



Ja,' the song that Akshay performed on, is from Sonali's father-in-law's iconic film. I am such a huge fan of R.D. Burman, even now! When we were making 'Main Hoon Na,' there were these small songs in the film that we used. So, I called Goldie, Sonali's husband, asking for the rights to those songs, and very kindly, he gave me the rights to them, and that too, for free. No one does that anymore."

This weekend, tune into India's Best Dancer 3 at 8 pm and celebrate 'Cinema ke 110 Saal, Bemisaal', only on Sony Entertainment Television!

Salman on 'Bigg Boss OTT 2': 'This season will be raw, unfiltered just like me'



With the second season of 'Bigg Boss OTT' all set to drop, superstar Salman Khan said that the upcoming controversial reality show will be "raw, and unfiltered," just like the 'Dabangg' star.

A new promo has been dropped by the makers on Thursday and it features Salman Khan and rapper Raftaar. Starting from June 17, 'Bigg Boss OTT' will see Salman as its host. In the new promo, Salman and Raftaar are seen dropping hints about the upcoming season.

Commenting on being the host of Bigg Boss OTT, Salman said: "This season will be raw and unfiltered just like me, mak-

ing it a perfect match like a Ram milayi jodi. I am sure it was never seen before in the history of unscripted reality where fans can see all sides without any layers."

"Dekhta ja India, is baar entertainment rukega nahi kyunki contestants ki itni lagegi, ki unko aapki kaafi madad lagegi. I can't wait to witness all the drama and excitement unfold."

With the tagline "Iss baar itni lagegi ki aapki madad lagegi," this season introduces several firsts, empowering the audience with ultimate control over the game, allowing them to influence the game through unique situations and scenarios. Being live, viewers can interact with housemates, shaping outcomes related to weekly ration, spot eliminations, and task decisions.

The promo shows Salman and Raftaar shaking a leg on the hookstep that embodies the anticipation of fans and contestants alike. The Bigg Boss OTT will offer a captivating experience with multi-camera streaming, allowing fans to toggle between different perspectives and not miss a single moment of action. 'Bigg Boss OTT' Hindi, starts on June 17, on JioCinema.

Vijay Tilani speaks about his character in 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho'



'Mauka Ya Dhokha' pushed me out of comfort zone: Himanshu Malhotra

Actor Himanshu Malhotra, who will be seen in the upcoming murder mystery show 'Mauka Ya Dhokha', has said that the show boasts of a story that pushes an actor out of their comfort zone.

'Mauka Ya Dhokha' is a streaming show which also stars Samiksha Batnagar and Aabhaas Mehta.

Talking about the show, Himanshu said: "Mauka Ya Dhokha' is a story that

pushes an actor to step out of his comfort zone. Amit Sehgal my character is trapped because of his one single wish that spirals his life out of control. It was difficult trying to portray a nuanced character that's very different from who I am in real life."

He further mentioned: "I took it as a challenge to innovate and change to get into the skin of a character that was very well written. It took me a lot of effort, time, and dedication to prepare for this role and to give my best for my followers out there. The show is indeed an intriguing murder mystery that will offer a never seen encounter for the audience. The twists and turns with each passing episode will unveil different shades of other characters which will give a roller coaster ride experience to the viewers." 'Mauka Ya Dhokha' is streaming on Hungama Play.

Yogesh Tripathi finds a fantastic furry friend!

Get ready to roll on the floor with laughter as &TV's Happu Ki Ultan Paltan takes its characters on a fun roller-coaster ride of comical and unconventional situations, leaving audiences in uncontrollable laughter! Once again, Daroga Happu Singh (Yogesh Tripathi), aka Daroga Happu Singh, spills the beans on the latest rib-tickling twist, saying, "We love to keep our audience entertained with fresh and funny tracks on the



show. But this time, our newest addition will leave the audience in splits and head over heels in love! In this fun track, my character Happu suffers from cynophobia, a fear of dogs due to his past encounters. The Commissioner (Kishore Bhanushali) plans a vacation and assigns his mischievous pet, Raju, to Happu's care. Everyone in the house enjoys Raju's

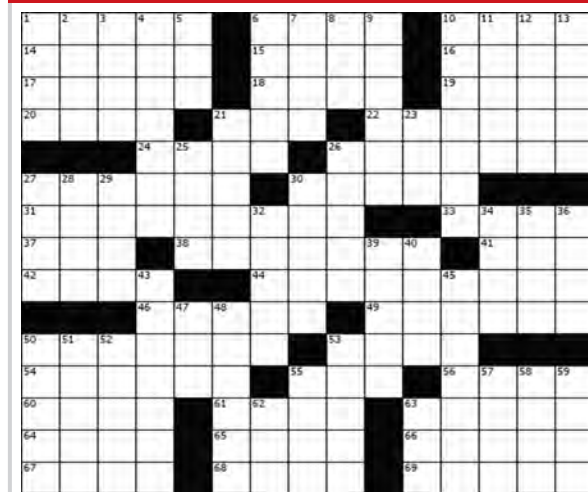
company except for Happu, Katori Amma (Himani Shivpuri), and Kate (Gazal Sood). So, Happu requests Beni (Vishwanath Chatterjee) to keep Raju in his place. But Bimlesh (Sapna Sikarwar) declines. So Happu has no option but to take care of Raju himself. In a short time, Hritik (Aaryan Prajapati), Chamchi (Zaara Warsi, and Ranbir

(Somya Azad) develop a fondness for Raju and can't bear to say goodbye to him on Commissioner's return from his trip. They hatch a cunning scheme to hide Raju and entrust him to a kind-hearted beggar for safekeeping. Meanwhile, the Commissioner demands to know the whereabouts of Raju. Poor Happu, completely clueless about Raju's disappearance, faces the Commissioner's wrath. To teach Happu a lesson, the Commissioner decides to make him his pet dog until Raju is found."

Watch Yogesh Tripathi as Daroga Happu Singh in Happu Ki Ultan Paltan, airing every Monday to Friday at 10:00 pm only on &TV!

CROSSWORD

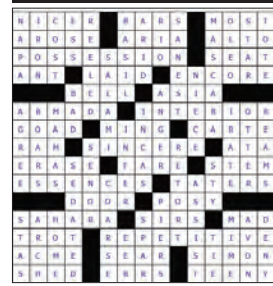
671



- ACROSS**
- Smudge
 - Shakespearean monarch
 - Attentive
 - Violin's kin
 - Not active
 - "_____ Enchanted" (movie)
 - Sprain site
 - Property claim
 - What a pity!
 - Tousle
 - Cave inhabitant
 - Skill
 - Powder mineral
 - Afternoon performance
 - Medicinal amount
 - Functions
 - Grew larger
 - Bed size
 - "Harper Valley _____"
 - Least fresh
 - Groom's response (2 wds.)
 - Cries loudly
 - European body of water (2 wds.)
 - Milan's land

- Again
 - Dancer Fred _____
 - Existence
 - Large shrimp
 - Auction action
 - Astounded
 - Not all
 - Grain tower
 - Start of a Dickens title (2 wds.)
 - Mine products
 - Not odd
 - _____ code
 - Admit defeat
 - "Broadcast _____"
 - Carrying weapons
- DOWN**
- Con game
 - Waiter's handout
 - BPOE members
 - Sports VIP (hyph.)
 - Caviar base
 - Blooming bush
 - Correct copy
 - Tavern drink
 - Leased car
 - Unidealistic one
 - Comic Tim _____
 - Flat surface
 - Savor
 - Lamb's sound
 - Snacked
 - Eons
 - Cindy Crawford, e.g.
 - Dunks
 - Wise about
 - Wound covering
 - Pass on
 - Expensive fur
 - Learned
 - "Beware the _____ of March"
 - Ark builder
 - Solemn
 - Quarrel
 - Thai
 - Maker
 - Overturn
 - Out of bed
 - Civic gp.
 - Tally
 - Made docile
 - Detroit team
 - Gusted
 - Slightly hot
 - Alternative word
 - Ownership paper
 - "_____ Got a Secret?"
 - Doctors' org.

SOLUTION 670



India all out for 296, give Australia first-innings lead of 173 runs

London, Jun 09 (PTI):

India were all out for 296 in their first innings, giving Australia a massive lead of 173 runs on the third day of the World Test Championship (WTC) final here on Friday.

For India, comeback man Ajinkya Rahane compiled a neat 89 off 129 balls while Shardul Thakur played a valuable innings of 51 from 109 balls, after Ravindra Jadeja chipped in with a breezy 51-ball 48 on the second day.

Resuming the third day on overnight 151 for five and 318 runs behind Australia's first innings total of 469 all out, India lost KS Bharat early but Rahane and Thakur added 109 runs for the seventh wicket to help their team avoid follow-on at The Oval.

India remained behind in the game despite the resilience of Rahane (89 batting off 122). Giving him much needed support was Shardul Thakur (36 batting off 83), who survived two nasty blows on his forearm and was dropped twice.

It was commendable that India managed to score 109 runs in 22 overs bowled in the session on Friday. The way Scott Boland and Pat Cummins



India's Mohammed Shami (L) congratulates India's Shardul Thakur on his half-century during play on day 3 of the ICC World Test Championship cricket final match between Australia and India at The Oval, in London.

got the ball to kick off length in the first hour, once could sense a wicket off every ball.

Boland ripped through the defences of KS Bharat on the second ball of the day as the Indian wicket-keeper had no answer to a delivery that jagged back

in sharply from length.

Cummins looked equally threatening from other end and hit Thakur's forearm on back-to-back balls with extra bounce, requiring physio's intervention.

Like Thakur, Rahane too had luck going his way as he dropped by David

Warner at first slip when he was on 72.

After getting a few streaky boundaries, Rahane got his fifty with a spectacular six off Cummins over fine leg. The Australian skipper angled one into his body and Rahane made room to pull it for a maximum.

His best shot of the morning was a cover drive off Cameron Green and it came after a thick edge that flew over the slip cordon, showing that one had to take his chances on this wicket.

The final moments of the session were full of action. Rahane got consecutive fours off Nathan Lyon via a back foot punch and a crisp drive through the cover.

The last over before lunch saw Thakur being adjudged lbw but it ended up being a no ball from Cummins. The Aussie skipper had also overstepped after trapping Rahane in front of the stumps on day two.

However, India lost the remaining wickets quickly after the lunch break.

Skipper Pat Cummins picked up three wickets for Australia while there were two wickets apiece for Mitchell Starc, Scott Boland and Cameron Green.

Ticket sales top 1 million for Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand

Sydney, Jun 09 (AP): More than 1 million tickets have been sold for the Women's World Cup kicking off in Australia and New Zealand next month, with soccer's international governing body saying the tournament is on track to be the most attended standalone women's sporting event in history. FIFA President Gianni Infantino issued a statement saying 1,032,884 tickets had been sold up to Friday morning local time in Sydney, surpassing the pre-tournament sales for the 2019 edition in France.

Co-hosted by Australia and New Zealand, the 2023 edition features an expanded field of 32 teams, up from 24 in France. There are 64 total matches during the tournament.

"Delighted to share with the world that FIFA has passed one million tickets sold," Infantino said. "This means that with over one month to go before kick-off ... 2023 is on track to become the most attended FIFA Women's World Cup in history. The future is women and thanks to the fans for supporting what will be the greatest FIFA Women's World Cup ever!" Total stadium attendance exceeded 1.35 million at the 2015 Women's World Cup in Canada, when the number of participating teams had increased to 24 from 16 at the previous edition. The tournament kicks off with New Zealand against 1995 champion Norway in Group A at Auckland's Eden Park, followed by the Group B opener between Sam Kerr's Australia lineup and Ireland at Stadium Australia, the main venue for the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

India gear up for Japan challenge in women's Junior Asia Cup semifinal



Kakamigahara (Japan), Jun 09 (PTI): High on confidence after a stellar run so far, India will be eager to keep the juggernaut rolling when they take on the hosts Japan in the semifinal of the women's Junior Asia Cup here on Saturday.

India are yet to be beaten in the tournament, having defeated Uzbekistan, Malaysia and Chinese Taipei while drawing with Korea.

They finished the tournament's group stage unbeaten and atop of the Pool A table.

A win on Saturday will not only take them to the final but will also help them qualify for the FIH Junior Women's World Cup. The top three teams in the tournament will earn automatic qualification to the FIH Junior Women's World Cup,

which will be held in Santiago, Chile from November 29 to December 10. Ahead of the crucial match, captain Preeti expressed confidence and said, "As one of the leading teams in Asia, it is crucial for us to excel here."

"Our performance thus far has been commendable, and we aim to maintain this momentum going into the semifinals." "Also, we are aiming to qualify for the FIH Junior Hockey Women's World Cup 2023 and we are just one win away from accomplishing it, hence, the team will give its all in the semifinal against Japan," she added.

Notably, the Indian team displayed its dominance during the Pool stage, remaining undefeated throughout. India

started their campaign with a resounding 22-0 victory against Uzbekistan, followed by a 2-1 win over Malaysia. In a thrilling encounter against Korea, they secured a 2-2 draw and concluded the group stage with a convincing 11-0 triumph over Chinese Taipei.

But the Indian team will have its task cut out against a strong Japanese side.

Like India, Japan has also demonstrated strong form throughout the tournament, with notable victories against Hong Kong China (23-0) and Indonesia (21-0).

Despite a 0-1 loss to China, they bounced back to defeat Kazakhstan 8-0, securing the second spot in Pool B. The match will take place on Saturday at 9:30 am IST.

Indian badminton squad announced for Asia Junior Championships

New Delhi, Jun 09 (PTI): The Badminton Association of India (BAI) on Friday announced the country's squad for the upcoming Asia Junior Championships in Indonesia with Tara Shah and Ayush Shetty being the standout players. The continental championship will take place in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from July 7-16. Tara Shah has demonstrated exceptional prowess in the girls' singles section, capturing attention with her skillful play and determination.

Currently ranked seventh in the girls' singles category in the BWF (Badminton World Federation) rankings, Tara Shah is now a force to be reckoned with. Ayush Shetty also secured his spot in the boys' singles category. With the current world ranking of 20 in men's singles in the BWF rankings and an impressive second position in the BAI chart, Ayush brings a wealth of experience into

the team. Lakshya Sharma and Rakshitha Sree S also proved their mettle during the trials, securing the first position in the boys' singles and girls' singles categories respectively. They will be looking to be among medallists at the prestigious tournament. Nicholas Nathan Raj and Tushar Suveer showed impressive teamwork and coordination to secure the top spot in the boys' doubles category. Whereas, in the girls' doubles section, Radhika Sharma and Tanvi Sharma displayed their synchronized movements, effective communication, and strategic game plan which assured them of the first position.

Samarveer and Radhika Sharma stood first in the mixed doubles category and booked their ticket for the championships. Their excellent understanding of each other's game, quick reflexes, and precise shot placements make them a formidable pair.

Focused Swiatek eyes third French Open title

Paris, Jun 09:

Iga Swiatek goes into Saturday's French Open final as the overwhelming favourite having won the title twice at Roland Garros and knowing she has a safety net on clay.

The world number one ran into trouble in her 6-2, 7-6(7) semi-final victory over Beatriz Haddad Maia on Thursday but always felt in control, denying she was frustrated when the Brazilian offered more resistance than her previous opponents.

Swiatek will face Czech Karolina Muchova in the final. "I felt the same as usual. I actually felt kind of more focused because I know that the crowd was loud and I tried to just kind of keep my focus inside," the Pole told a press conference. Swiatek, however, struggled to handle the top spin of Haddad Maier's serve and her power, facing a set point in the tiebreak.

"I just knew that I can really use my power on



clay and even make it physical if I need to," she said. "So I had a lot of confidence in myself today." Playing on the red

dirt only increases her self-confidence.

"Obviously, it's still a lot of pressure and it's not easy, but also on clay I

feel like I have more weapons than on faster hard courts," Swiatek said.

"I'm trying to use that confidence and that feeling of being comfortable on that surface to just kind of focus on that a little bit more and play better because of that."

She has reached her third final in Paris in the last four years, having won in 2020 and 2022.

"I feel like I'm a better player. Improvement I feel like is everywhere. Like tennis-wise, mentally, tactically, physically, just having the experience," she said.

A self-declared fan of 14-times men's champion Rafael Nadal, Swiatek, however, does not see herself reigning on the Parisian red dirt as long as the Spaniard.

"What he did and what he's still doing, it's pretty amazing. I never kind of knew that it's going to be possible for me. So it is totally out of my reach, if I can say that," she said.

Team India lacks fearlessness in ICC titles

London, Jun 09 (PTI):

Former India spinner Harbhajan Singh reckons the current team has not shown the fearlessness that one needs to win ICC titles and fielding four seamers in the World Test Championship final was a bit "too much".

Having come short in ICC knockout games on numerous occasions since winning their last trophy in 2013, India find themselves in a hole in the WTC final against Australia.

Harbhajan, who is here as a commentator, observed the players become "too tight" in high pressure games and advised them not to worry about the results.

"There is nothing lacking (in terms of skills). The more you play the big games the better you get. I feel you need to play more freely in these big games. I think we have become a bit too tight. Will have to play more freely and not think about the results."



"The more you leave the players to do the job, they will do the job. If you put pressure on them that if you don't perform well, some get dropped and some don't (they will feel underconfident)."

"The idea is to give them confidence that even if you don't do well, give your best. That way we will probably lift a few cups. Just play fearlessly," the two-time World Cup winner told PTI at The Oval.

FIH Pro League: India bounce back with comfortable win

Eindhoven, Jun 09 (PTI):

India displayed great resilience a day after suffering a stunning loss to out-class Argentina 3-0 in a FIH Pro League match here on Thursday.

A profligate India squandered a one-goal lead to go down 1-4 to hosts Netherlands on Wednesday night, but the Harmanpreet Singh-led side bounced back in style with a commanding win over Argentina. Skipper Harmanpreet led from the front converting a penalty corner in the 33rd minute.

Amit Rohidas also converted from a penalty corner in the 39th minute before Abhishek's field goal in the 59th minute nailed it for India. By virtue of this win, India moved to the top of the standings with 27 points from 14 games, ahead of Great Britain (26 points from 12 matches). India will next play Netherlands in their reverse tie here on Saturday. On Wednesday



night, it was an anti-climax for India, despite taking an early lead. Harmanpreet (11th minute) scored India's

lone goal despite the visitors being awarded as many as five penalty corners and a penalty stroke. Pepijn Reyenga (17th),

Boris Burkhardt (40th) and Duco Telgenkamp (41th, 58th) scored in the home team's victory on Wednesday night.

I do think India have picked the wrong side: Steve Waugh

London, Jun 09 (PTI):

The great Steve Waugh has become the latest former cricketer to question India's team selection for the World Test Championship final against Australia, saying they have "picked the wrong side" by not including Ravichandran Ashwin on a tricky pitch.

World Cup-winning Australian captain Waugh's assessment comes after the likes of Sourav Ganguly, Ricky Ponting and Sanjay Manjrekar expressed their surprise at the Indian team management's decision to take to the field at The Oval without senior off-spinner Ashwin, currently the world's number one bowler in Tests.

Waugh recalled how Australia made a similar error in the fifth Test at The Oval in 2019, a match



which England won by 145 runs after Tim Paine opted to bowl first.

"We made the same blunder four years ago in the Ashes. The Oval is always tricky," Waugh was quoted as saying by AAP.

"It looks green on top but underneath it is crumbly and a bit dry. You can get lulled into the overcast sky and green pitch and think it is going to do everything. As soon

as the sun comes out it is totally different and dries out quickly. "I do think (India) have picked the wrong side. Spin will play a big part in this Test match and it is going to be up and down."

Waugh added that he would pick Ashwin for his batting, let alone his bowling.

"I would have picked Ashwin for his batting, let alone his bowling."

That is why I can't believe he isn't playing because he has got five Test centuries as well. It is very strange."

India's leading wicket-taker in the 2021-2023 WTC cycle, Ashwin lost out to Ravindra Jadeja, who is playing as the only spinner in the team.

The Indian team said Ashwin was not considered for selection in the playing XI owing to the conditions at the Oval.

Batting first, Australia put up 469 after centuries by Steve Smith and Travis Head and then had India in trouble at 151 for five at stumps on the second day.

Ashwin has 474 Test wickets and could have asked some probing questions to the Australian batters, especially the left-handers, with his variations on a pitch that was also offering variable bounce.

Amarnath Yatra: Home Minister Amit Shah takes stock of preparations, security

New Delhi, Jun 9 (PTI)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday took a detailed review of the preparations being made for a smooth conduct of the upcoming Amarnath pilgrimage in Jammu and Kashmir, sources said.

The 62-day-long annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Amarnath, located at a height of 3,880 metres in the south Kashmir Himalayas, will begin on July 1 and continue till August 31.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, the Army's Northern Command chief Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, Director of Intelligence Bureau Tapan Deka were among the top functionaries who attended the meeting.

The home minister reviewed the preparations for the Amarnath pilgrimage with top officials of



Union Home Minister Amit Shah and J&K Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha during a high-level meeting over the preparedness for the Amarnath Yatra that is scheduled to start from July 1, in New Delhi, Friday.

the central government, Army and the Jammu and Kashmir administration, the sources said.

Shah also took stock of the plans being formulated to ensure foolproof security for the pilgrimage, they said.

According to the sources, there have been intelligence inputs that Pakistan-based terrorist groups may try to disrupt the pilgrimage.

All stakeholders of the pilgrimage have taken

part in the meeting and all issues relating to arrangements being made for it have been discussed.

Last year, 3.45 lakh people visited the holy cave and this year, the figure could go up to 5 lakh, they said.

The sources said that to avoid any incident like last year's flash flood which claimed 16 lives near the shrine, the National Disaster Response Force has started identifying the ideal locations for setting

up pilgrim camps keeping in mind any possible unforeseen natural disaster.

Indian Air Force helicopters are expected to be deployed to carry out aerial sorties in the upper reaches of the holy cave to check for glacial events and the formation of lakes that may trigger flash floods downhill.

Last year, such sorties were conducted only after the flash floods occurred in June, but this year, the exercise will be undertaken before the start of the pilgrimage and at continuous intervals during the two-month yatra, the sources said.

The aerial surveys may be conducted by a team with expertise in remote sensing and satellite, hydrology and disaster response. Once a dangerous water build-up is spotted, contingency measures will be taken all along the pilgrimage route, especially in the areas near the cave shrine, they added.

MARITIME EXERCISE



Ships take part in the trilateral Maritime Partnership Exercise between India, France and UAE that commenced on June 7 in the Gulf of Oman.

Extreme weather events claimed 233 lives in India between January and April: Report

New Delhi, Jun 9 (PTI)

Extreme weather events claimed 233 lives and damaged 0.95 million hectare of cropland in the country in the first four months of this year, according to a report by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE).

Such events impacted 32 states and Union territories this time as against 27 last year.

Rajasthan and Maharashtra reported the maximum number of extreme weather days (30 each), followed by Himachal Pradesh (28) and Bihar and Madhya Pradesh (27).

Delhi reported extreme weather on 12 days as against 25 during the period last year.

Between January and April 2022, extreme weather events claimed 86 lives and damaged 0.03 million hectare of cropland, according to the report.

Lightning and storms occurred on 58 days this time as compared to 35 days during the corresponding period in 2022. Most of these events occurred in March and April.

The country recorded just 15 heatwave days in the first four months of 2023 as compared to 40 days last year.

Meteorologists attribute fewer heatwave days to frequent western disturbances — weather systems that originate in the Mediterranean region and bring unseasonal rainfall to northwest India — during March and April.

Delhi court sends man arrested in PFI-linked money laundering case to 10-day ED custody

New Delhi, Jun 9 (PTI)

A Delhi court has sent a man, arrested in connection with a money laundering probe against the banned Popular Front of India (PFI), to 10-day ED custody, noting he was non-cooperative during the investigation.

Additional Sessions Judge Shailender Malik sent Sahul Hameed to the custody of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) till June 18. Hameed was arrested on June 7, 2023 in Madurai and was brought to Delhi.

The judge passed the order on an ED application, which sought Hameed's custodial interrogation for 14 days.

"Having heard the submissions, taking into consideration totality of facts and the fact that since accused has been non-cooperative in the investigation up till now for enabling the ED to collect all relevant evidence, police custody of accused Sahul Hameed is given for 10 days," the judge said in an order passed on June 8.

Special Public Prosecutor N K Matta, appearing for the ED along with advocate Faizan Khan, told the court the accused was in the process of collecting illegal money/terror funds from legitimate and illegitimate channels from Singapore and other

places. The central anti-money laundering probe agency said Hameed was deported to India.

Upon receipt of inputs, the accused was intercepted and could not give account of certain activities by him towards collection of funds for PFI, the agency told the court.

The statement of the accused was also recorded wherein he remained evasive in answering questions about certain material aspects collected during the investigation which led to his arrest, the federal agency said.

The ED had registered a case based on an FIR lodged by the NIA for alleged terrorism-related activities punishable

under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The ED had alleged that the accused persons associated with the organisation indulged in collecting funds by way of donation, hawala, banking channels, etc. which were being used for unlawful activities and commission of various offences.

It alleged bogus cash donations and bank transfers were found during the probe, and that transfer of funds was done even from abroad to India through a clandestine channel under a conspiracy hatched by office bearers of the PFI over the years.

Union Minister Teli mocks Congress over Rs 500 per cylinder poll promise

Betul (MP), Jun 9 (PTI)

Union Minister Rameshwar Teli on Friday mocked the Congress for its promise of providing LPG cylinders for Rs 500 each in Madhya Pradesh and said the opposition party could sell the nation if it got an opportunity. The Union minister of state for petroleum and natural gas was addressing a press conference to highlight achievements of the Narendra Modi government in the past nine years.

"If Congress gets an opportunity, it will sell the country too," Teli told reporters. Polls are likely to be held in MP at the end of the year. Queried on high prices of petrol and diesel, Teli said a dominant part of fuel is imported and its rates are de-

termined by three oil marketing firms, which also decide prices of gas, 83 per cent of which is bought from abroad. For uniformity in oil prices, it should be included under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, Teli contended. He said the Centre is investing Rs 50,000 crore in the Bina refinery in Madhya Pradesh, which will boost employment generation in the state. The Modi government was focused on doubling the income of farmers and also establishing ethanol plants. Speaking at the event, Teli and Betul Lok Sabha MP DD Ukey said in nine years of Modi rule, 3.5 crore houses were constructed for the poor; 11.72 crore toilets were built and tap water was being supplied to more than 12 crore households.

Cong dismisses reports of Sachin Pilot floating own party as 'rumours'

New Delhi, Jun 9 (PTI)

The Congress on Friday dismissed as rumours reports that its leader Sachin Pilot may announce a separate party on his father Rajesh Pilot's death anniversary on June 11. Congress general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal said the party is united and will contest the upcoming assembly elections in Rajasthan together, a day ahead of a programme planned to pay homage to Rajesh Pilot on his death anniversary. "I don't believe in rumours. The reality is that the Congress president and Rahul Gandhi discussed with Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot and after that we said that we will go together. That is the posi-

tion of the Congress party," he told PTI.

"In my knowledge, there is no such thing," he said, when asked specifically about reports of Pilot floating a new party.

Venugopal said he has met Pilot in the recent days and there is no such thing. He also told the media to be optimistic and not believe in such rumours. "Who told you he is going out of the party. These are imaginary... rumours. Don't believe these rumours. Be optimistic. Don't worry, we will fight unitedly. The Rajasthan Congress will fight unitedly," he also said.

There are reports that Sachin Pilot, who is engaged in a tussle for power in Rajasthan ever since the Congress won the state

in 2018, may announce his own party. Pilot launched a tirade against the Gehlot government on the issue of corruption and demanded action against those involved in corruption in the previous BJP government led by Vasundhara Raje. He also accused the Gehlot government of not acting against the corrupt. He had launched a yatra and sat on a day-long fast alleging inaction by the Gehlot government against the corrupt. Thereafter, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, former party chief Rahul Gandhi and Venugopal sat with both Gehlot and Pilot and after hours of deliberations announced that the two would contest the next assembly polls unitedly.

One can't silence a person's voice by threats: Sharad Pawar

Pune, June 9 (PTI)

Nationalist Congress Party president Sharad Pawar said on Friday that if anyone thinks that one's voice can be silenced by issuing threats, that person is under a "misconception". He was speaking to reporters over the death threat sent to him on social media. Pawar said he has complete faith in Maharashtra police. "Every citizen of the country has the freedom to express their opinion on any subject.

However, if someone thinks that by issuing threats, one's voice can be silenced, then it is his misconception," said the veteran leader. According to NCP, 82-year-old Pawar received a message on social media that read "he will meet the same fate as (Narendra) Dabholkar soon". Narendra Dabholkar, who fought against superstitious beliefs, was shot dead by two bike-borne assailants during his morning walk in Pune on August 20, 2013.

'Conductor' CM Siddaramaiah to kickstart free bus rides for women in Karnataka on June 11

Bengaluru, June 9 (PTI)

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will don the role of a bus conductor on June 11 and launch the 'Shakti' scheme, which provides free travel to women in state-run buses.

The scheme is one of the five guarantees promised by the Congress ahead of the assembly elections.

According to sources, the CM will travel in a

BMTC bus and issue free tickets to women passengers to mark the launch of the project in the state capital while ministers and legislators would flag off the services in their respective districts and constituency simultaneously. A statement from the CM's office said Siddaramaiah has directed the district in-charge ministers along with the legislators to ensure that the Shakti scheme reaches "all the

eligible beneficiaries, beyond all caste, religion and class". "All the district ministers shall swing into action to make the launch of the scheme meaningful," Siddaramaiah was quoted as saying in the statement.

'Embarrassed to be associated with these textbooks'

● **Suhas Palshikar, Yogendra Yadav ask NCERT to drop their names as advisors**

New Delhi, Jun 9 (PTI)

Political scientists Suhas Palshikar and Yogendra Yadav have asked NCERT to drop their names as chief advisors from all Political Science textbooks, saying the rationalisation exercise has "mutilated" the books beyond recognition and rendered them "academically dysfunctional".

Stating that they were embarrassed to be mentioned as chief advisors, Palshikar and Yadav have written to the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and said the cuts in the textbooks were arbitrary and irrational.

Palshikar and Yadav, who were chief advisors for the original Political Science books for classes 9

to 12, said, "While the modifications have been justified in the name of rationalisation, we fail to see any pedagogic rationale at work here. We find that the text has been mutilated beyond recognition. There are innumerable and irrational cuts and large deletions without any attempts to fill the gaps created.

"We were never consulted or even informed of these changes. If NCERT did consult other experts for deciding on these cuts and deletions, we explicitly state that we fully disagree with them in this regard," according to the letter sent to NCERT Director Dinesh Saklani.

Palshikar, an academician and political scientist, and Yadav, political scientist and Swaraj India leader, were chief advisors for the Political Science books for classes 9 to 12 originally published in 2006-07 based on the 2005 version of

the National Curriculum Framework (NCF).

Their names are mentioned in a "letter to students" and the list of textbook development team at the beginning of each book.

In their letter, they said, "As academics organically associated with the preparation of these textbooks, we are embarrassed that our names should be mentioned as chief advisors to

these mutilated and academically dysfunctional textbooks.

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- ◆ ब्रेन एक्सीडेंट एवं ट्रामा
- ◆ सभी प्रकार के फ्रेक्चर
- ◆ पीठ दर्द या कमर दर्द (सायटिका)
- ◆ कमर में टेढ़ापन
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Fishing boats at Vypin Harbour ahead of the 52-day trawling ban in the coastal waters of Kerala, in Kochi, Friday.