

Crackdown on junk dealers; 21 arrested, 15 absconding

Bhilai Mahila Samaj observes World Environment Day



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 11: On the occasion of World Environment Day, Bhilai Mahila Samaj (BMS) organized a Tree Plantation Drive at Sector-4 by Bhilai, under the guidance of Triparna Dasgupta, President (BMS). Neerja Kumari Singh, Vice-President and Praniti Mukhopadhyay and Molly Chakraborty, Additional Vice-Presidents of Bhilai Mahila Samaj (BMS) also took part in the tree plantation on this occasion, along with other members of BMS. Global warming and environmental imbalance has become a universal challenge, which can only be prevented by reducing environmental pollution and planting more trees. It is our responsibility to avoid single use plastic, in order to protect the environment. All the members present in the programme planted saplings of different plant varieties, followed by taking a collective pledge to protect the environment. It is noteworthy that BMS is one of the oldest women's organizations, which was established on 4 August 1959. BMS constantly works for women empowerment by training women to make them self-reliant.



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 11: On Sunday, Durg Police conducted a special campaign against the junk dealers and conducted simultaneous raids at about 40 locations across the district. After finding illegal activities, police sealed the premises of several junk dealers and arrested 21 of them.

Fifteen others are at large. 14 Inspectors, 21 Sub Inspectors, 11 Assistant Sub Inspectors and over 50 Jawans conducted the raids under

the guidance of SP Shalabh Kumar Sinha. SP Sinha informed that they have been receiving complaints from common people as well as office bearers of industrialists regarding illegal trade of junk in the city. Taking the complaints into serious cognizance, police cracked down on the junk dealers in the wee hours of Sunday.

All the top police officers of the district supervised the raids. Huge quantity of iron scrap, vehicle spares, industrial scrap as well as TMT bars

of BSP, dismantled truck, centring sheets, iron, angles and other illegal scrap was found in the junk yards. Police teams issued notices to the junk dealers and took action under section 41 (1+4) against them. The junk yards and godowns have been sealed.

Police arrested Manager Trilok Dewangan of Bage Kabadi in Mohan Nagar; Raju Mandalay (Mandalay Kabadi) of Jewra Sirsa; Manager Kamlesh Thakur of Bage Kabadi in Jewra Sirsa;

Imran (Imran Kabadi) in Anjora; Suresh Pandey (Pandey Kabadi) in Jamul; Mannu (Mannu Kabadi) of Chhawani; Ranjit (Ranjit Kabadi) of Chhawani; Parvez (Parvez Kabadi) in Chhawani; Muchu (Muchu Kabadi) in Khursipar; Sattar Khan (Sattar Kabadi) of Jamul; Manager Ankit Thakur of Ajay Kabadi in Bhilai 3; Shakeel Ahmed (Muslim Kabadi) in Bhilai 3; Manager Armaan of Lokman Kabadi in Bhilai 3; Rajendra Pal (Pal Kabadi)

in Jamul; Amir Khan (Delhi Kabadi) in Jamul; Shruvan Kumar Dewangan (Police Kabadi in Supela; Anuj Chandrakar (Parvati Kabadi) in Supela; Manager Vikas of Ajmal Kabadi in Supela; Guddu (Guddu Kabadi) from Supela; Firoz (Firoz Kabadi) in Supela; Shiva (Shiva Kabadi) of Kumhari; and Dhaneshwar Sahu (Sahu Kabadi) in Supela.

The absconding accused are Nadeem Azmi (Nadeem Kabadi, Durg); Shakir Ali (Shakir

Kabadi, Durg); Dilbag Bage (Bage Kabadi, Mohan Nagar); Ajay Thakur (Ajay Kabadi, Bhilai 3); Virendra Pal (Pal Kabadi, Jamul); Lokman (Lokman Kabadi, Bhilai 3); Sukhchain (Sukhchain Kabadi, Jamul); Sabir Ali (Delhi Kabadi, Jamul); Lalit (Lalit Kabadi, Jamul); Prem Sahu (Prem Kabadi, Jamul); Ajmal (Ajmal Kabadi, Supela); Asgar (Asgar Kabadi, Supela); Jethu (Jethu Kabadi, Supela) and Sitare (Sitare Kabadi, Supela).

White tigers find safe haven in Maitri Baag

Dry-flower Craft Training Camp concludes at Borai

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 11: Maitri Bagh Management, Horticulture Section of the Town Services Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant informed that a month and a half ago, the White Tigress 'Raksha' had given birth to 03 small cubs. Their father is white Tiger 'Sultan'. It is noteworthy that a year ago also, tigress 'Roma' had given birth to a tiger cub, fathered by Sultan.

As per the veterinary medical procedures, the newly born cubs are kept in a dark room along with the mother, under the special care of veterinary medical experts for supervision of breastfeeding and other vital health parameters.

The new-born white tiger cubs of Maitri Bagh Zoo have also been kept under medical supervision and are being admin-



istered with special vitamin-rich health supplements to ensure their adequate nourishment and healthy growth. The cubs will be made available for public view only after the completion of the four-month care period.

In the year 1997, a pair of white tigers was brought to Maitri Bagh Zoo from Nandan Kanan Zoo,

Bhubaneswar. Due to favourable environment and better upkeep of the animals, the progeny of white tigers continued to flourish at Maitri Bagh Zoo and as a result there has been a great demand of Maitri Bagh tigers around the country.

The Maitri Bagh management has bred over 12 white tigers in the past,

which has also been exchanged with more than 05 Zoos of the country as per the rules laid down by the Central Zoo Authority.

Currently, with the addition of 3 new-born white tiger cubs the total number of tigers in Maitri Bagh Zoo has increased to 09, informed Dr NK Jain, DGM (Horticulture & Health).

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 11: Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department, of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, organised Valedictory Ceremony for 3-month long 'Dry Flower Craft Training Camp' at village Borai. Triparna Dasgupta, President of Bhilai Mahila Samaj was the chief guest on this occasion. The valedictory ceremony was presided over by Praniti Mukhopadhyay, Additional Vice-President, BMS.

Other Executive Committee members of BMS, namely Sadhana Goyal, General Secretary, Sonali Rath, Co-Secretary, Shikha Jain, Treasurer and Deepanwita Pal, Co-Treasurer were also present on this occasion.

Bhilai Steel Plant has always been a step ahead in discharging its organizational social responsibility



beyond legal obligation, by conducting regular public welfare activities aimed at cultural unity, professional development, environmental sustainability, education, sports, health and well-being in Mines, Bhilai and adjoining areas.

Similarly, Bhilai Mahila Samaj has also been working towards women empowerment. Under this initiative 25 women underwent dry-flower craft training for three months, aimed at making them self-reliant so that they

may contribute to their family's livelihood.

They were also granted a monthly honorarium of Rs 3000 each. The training was provided by Neerja Swami Haldar, from Chhattisgarh Handicrafts Development Board.

It is noteworthy that in the last financial year, 9 such camps were organized by CSR, while Training Camp at Borai was the first quarterly training camp held during this year.

Sushil Kamde, Senior

Manager (CSR) delivered the welcome address during the valedictory ceremony. The program was coordinated by Rajni Rajak, Development Assistant (CSR), while the vote of thanks was proposed by Tikam Sahu.

Bhavana Thakur, Janpad Member, Shiv Kumari Vaishnav, former Janpad member, Padma Sahu, Village Sarpanch, Bindu and others were present during the valedictory ceremony of Dry-flower Craft Training Camp.

UP resident nabbed with cannabis

Rs 50000 fine imposed on 38 school buses



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 11: A resident of Uttar Pradesh has been arrested with a large quantity of cannabis in Vaishali Nagar area of Bhilai. He was smuggling about 10.15 kgs of cannabis on a scooter. The accused has been booked under the provisions mentioned in NDPS Act.

Inspector Trinath Tripathi (SHO, Vaishali Nagar) informed that on the directions of SP Shalabh Kumar Sinha, they are conducting a special drive against the smuggling and illegal trade of narcotics and in-

toxicants. The network of informers has been activated and the cops are also maintaining vigil on the activities of suspects and criminal record holders.

In this sequel, police received a tip off regarding a youth moving on a scooter in the Jawahar Nagar area. He was reportedly looking for customers to sell a large quantity of cannabis. Police team swung into action and rounded up the suspect near Sports Complex in Jawahar Nagar. On searching, police recovered 10 packets of cannabis weighing 10.150 kgs.

The cannabis, scooter and mobile phone were seized in the presence of witnesses. The accused identified as Sarvesh Kumar (33) son of Bajrang Bahadur Singh a resident of Andhra Meharwaghat, District Kaushambi, Uttar Pradesh has been arrested under section 20 (b) of NDPS act. He was produced before the court and has been sent to the jail on judicial remand.

ASI Suresh Pandey, Constables Durgesh Rajput, Avesh Siddhiqui, Jitendra Singh, Rajkumar Yadav and Bhupendra Baghel played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 11: To ensure safe transportation of school students, Traffic Police Durg and Transport Department jointly organized a school bus checking camp at Police Ground in Sector 06. Under the guidance of SP Shalabh Sinha, 262 buses of 23 schools of the district were checked in the first phase. The Transport Department officials checked the documents including registration, permit, fitness, insurance, PUC, road tax, driver's license etc.

Thereafter, the mechanical fitness test of the vehicles was carried out, under which head light, brake light, parking light, indicator light, back light, meter, steering condition, tyre condition, clutch, accelerator, seat, horn, wiper, reflectors etc were checked.

According to the criteria set by the Supreme Court, the joint team also checked GPS devices in the vehicle, CCTV camera, speed governor, pressure horn, emergency window, display of school name, telephone number, mobile number of the driver, first



aid box, fire extinguisher, etc in the school buses. Later, the health checkup of the drivers was done in which BP, blood sugar level and eye test, etc was done by the team of District Hospital Durg.

Traffic Police challaned 38 school buses including 07 without fitness, 04 without permit, 18 without uniform, 02 without fire extinguisher, 02 without wiper, 06 without reflector and 02 vehicles were fined for faulty brake light. A total fine of Rs 50800 was col-

lected. The schools have been instructed to rectify the defects within a week and get the vehicles rechecked.

Deputy Superintendent of Police (Traffic) Satish Thakur gave detailed information about traffic signals, traffic signals to the drivers. He asked them not to be negligent while driving, conductors were asked not to stand at the door and ensure safety of children. They were also counselled for not consuming any kind of intoxicant.

Satish Thakur, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Inspector Kujbihari Nage, Inspector DP Chandra, Inspector Yashkaran Dhrup and Inspector Vishnu Thakur supervised the vehicle checking. Documents were checked by Inspector Aruna Sahu, Transport Department, Durg.

ASI Tarakeshwar Singh, ASI Babu Lal (CAF First Battalion), Head Constable Satyvender Singh and Constable Vinod Jaiswal (CAF, 7th Battalion), ASI

Madhav Sahu (Police Lines) and staff of MT Department conducted the mechanical examination.

ASI Suresh Devagun, Hukum Singh, Chandrika Prasad, Sushil Pandey, Mahesh Mishra and Satyanarayan Pathak checked the compliance of SC guidelines.

The medical camp for drivers was conducted by Eye Assistant Officer (District Hospital Durg) Mohd Ejaz, Mukesh Sharma, MR Shaikh, RHO Yogesh Kumar, Homsharan Dewangan, Narendra Kurre and Mansingh Mandavi. 10 drivers had eye problems while 21 drivers had complaints of BP and sugar.

Cops pasted OK stickers on the vehicles which were found to be fully fit. The vehicles carrying these stickers would not be stopped during the routine checking while those vehicles found without stickers will be stopped and checked.

In the coming days, another camp will be organized for the left over school buses and such institutions where school students are transported through small vehicles.

Cong sets target for 75+, gives victory 'mantra' to party workers

CM asks party workers to promote govt's achievements and face 'lies' of BJP with full-force

PCC State in-charge praise CM's schemes and working

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 11: With target of winning 75 plus in the next VS polls, the Raipur Divisional level sammelan of Congress laid emphasis on unity. Infusing enthusiasm among the party workers, CM Baghel said that many could not get opportunity to serve this time, but they need not feel annoyed and they will be given chance in the next government. These words by CM boost-

ed the morale of ground-level party workers, on the other, CM indirectly laid emphasis on given chance to new faces. CM Baghel launching scathing attack against BJP charged that in last 15 yrs of its rule, BJP could not achieve anything and therefore is raking up the religious conversion issue. In this sammelan, PCC State in-Charge and AICC general secy. Kumari Selja was all praise for CM Bhupesh Baghel and state government schemes.

Addressing the huge gathering at local Balbir Singh Juneja Indoor Stadium on Sunday, CM Baghel said that BJP seeks votes in the name of Lord Shri Ram, but they never did anything for Ram Van-Gaman Path at all. Baghel claimed that the state government made schemes for people from all sections of the society and now they are getting its bene-



fits. The party is moving ahead with target of 75 plus in the next elections and as to whether BJP would be able to retain its 14 seats in the state is still not sure. CM asked the party workers to pay more

focus at booth-level and giving them victory 'mantra', CM asked them to face the 'lies' of BJP with conviction. CM said that the failures of Raman government and achievements of the existing gov-

ernment has to be highlighted.

CM Baghel commenting upon the statement made by Union Minister Giriraj Singh said that BJP speaks about Godse and I have even said in Vidhan

Sabha that they should speak 'Godse Murdabad' and to which they (BJP) did not say. If Godse can be 'sapoot' of 'Bharat Mata', then this can be good or bad thing to we all, but for BJP it is like an ideal. CM further said that if they all Godse as 'Sapoot', then what they will call Mahatma Gandhi?

After this speaking to media persons, CM said that BJP is practicing politics of 'lies'. Giriraj Singh came here and raise the issue of religious conversion and de-listing. When the BJP government at the Centre is in majority, then why they do not do it? Arun Sao says that it is the Centre which purchases party on MSP and how much more lies they will speak, CM questioned.

PCC State in-Charge Kumari Selja praise the schemes launched by CM Bhupesh Baghel in the state for poor, labourers,

farmers and youth and women. Selja said that she hails from a state which belongs to farmers and there also there is lot of discussions and praise for CM Bhupesh Baghel's schemes. Recalling the former Union Minister Vidya Charan Shukla and said that it is his death anniversary today. Citing about her good relations with him, Selja said that Late VC Shukla he was like his father Late Ravishankar Shukla. She appealed the party workers work unitedly and work hard to achieve the set-target of 75 plus seats in the next VS polls. Speaking on the occasion, PCC Chief Mohan Markam said that it was Dr Mahant who made his the Block President and today it is a great co-incident that he is getting an opportunity share the dais with him. Markam further said that this thing is possible only in Congress.

With schemes of the state government, there is good atmosphere and rapport of the government with labourers, farmers, youth, women and tribals community in the state. Targeting on BJP government at the Centre, he charged that BJP practices politics of 'lies'. The sammelan was also addressed by Speaker State Assembly Dr Charandas Mahant.

In this sammelan held at Balbir Singh Juneja stadium, PCC State in-Charge Kumari Selja, CM Bhupesh Baghel, Speaker State Assembly Dr Charandas Mahant, PCC Chief Mohan Markam and Congress office bearers from 20 Vidhan Sabha areas were present. So far party has held three divisional level sammelans in Bilaspur, Durg and Bastar region and is gearing up for the next VS polls due in the state by this year end.

CM request to include Bilaspur in the UDAN-5 scheme

Writes to the Minister of Civil Aviation

Letter written upon receiving information that Bilaspur has not been included in the UDAN-5 scheme by the central govt

Raipur, Jun 11: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has written a letter to the Civil Aviation Minister, Government of India, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, requesting him to take prompt action to add Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur city to the UDAN-5 scheme, to enable people of the city to travel to other parts of the country and boost the economic development of the region.



The Chief Minister has written in the letter that he has received information that the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation has not included Bilaspur city in the UDAN - 5 scheme. The people of Bilaspur Zone are disappointed because of this decision by the Central Government. Mr. Baghel has mentioned in the letter that Bilaspur is the second-most important city in the state. Moreover, the location of the High

Court of the state in Bilaspur necessitates regular air service facilities here. The Chief Minister has also written in the letter that the state government, in consultation with the D.G.C.A. and the Union Ministry of Aviation, had spent 45 crore from the state budget to ensure arrangements for terminal building, runway expansion, arrangement of security equipment, etc. for starting regular air service at

Bilaspur Airport.

Because of the consistent efforts of the state government, Bilaspur was connected to the country's air link, and services were started from the city to Jabalpur, New Delhi, Prayagraj, Indore, etc. The number of passengers on all the flights arriving to and departing from Bilaspur was promising. However, later, for unknown reasons, the flight service to Indore was stopped.

In the letter, Chief Minister Baghel has requested the Civil Aviation Minister Scindia to take immediate action to add Bilaspur city to the UDAN-5 scheme so that people of the region can travel to other parts of the country, contributing to the economic development of the region as well.

Huge 'Peepal' tree falls, two injured

Raipur, Jun 11: A huge 'Peepal' tree fell down near Lakhenagar Chowk due to strong winds on Sunday morning and this caused traffic congestion on Lakhengar-Sunder Nagar road. The corporator of Sunder Nagar ward called the Municipal authorities to get it removed soon. In this incident two persons are reported to have got injured and were taken to hospital for treatment.

SECR starts using automatic signaling system



Raipur, Jun 11: The traditional signaling system in South East Central Railway (SECR) is being upgraded and converted into automatic signaling system. Auto signaling system helps in running maximum number of trains without construc-

tion and maintenance of additional stations and controlling traffic at major junction stations. Due to the installation of automatic signal system, trains will not have to stand unnecessarily anywhere. Due to this, one train behind the other on

the same route will be able to run easily without getting late.

In the South East Central Railway, the sectional speed from Nagpur to Durg has been increased to 130 km per hour, at par with the Rajdhani route. Automatic signals will increase the number of trains along with the speed of trains on the railway lines.

On the basis of available resources, work is being done to implement automatic signaling system in place of traditional signaling system and absolute block system of train operation.

Placement camp for educated unemployed on 13th

Opportunity to be available for recruitment on over 129 posts

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 11: A placement camp is being organized by the District Employment and Self-Employment Guidance Center on June 13 at District Employment Office, old Police Headquarters from 11 am to 2 pm. The objective of this placement camp is to provide employment to the local educated unemployed youth of Chhattisgarh.

Deputy Director of District Employment and Self Employment

Guidance Center said that through this camp Pinea Materning Lab & Robo Automation Pvt. Ltd., PNG Products, CR Capital, Zenix Naukri & Consultancy etc. will recruit candidates having educational qualification of 12th, Graduation, ITI, Diploma, Engineering to 129 posts of Engineer, Cluster Head, Sales Management, Technician, Driver, Delivery Boy, Accountant, Receptionist, Operation Head, Digital Manager, Telecaller, Hindi Typist and Video Editor. Candidates willing to apply for such posts will need to have experience of minimum 01 year to 20 years.

Commuter train narrowly escapes head-on collision with freight train



Raipur, Jun 11: The scene of recent tragic train accident in Balasore of Odisha can hardly be forgotten by the people when a major accident was averted in time under South East Central Railway's Bilaspur zone. A commuter train had narrowly escaped head-on collision with freight train after both of them arrived on the same railway track. A major accident was averted by stopping both the trains at a

long distance.

It is being told that A local passenger MEMU train and goods train came on the same track on Saturday between Jairamnagar in Bilaspur district and Kotmisonar in Janjgir-Champa district. MEMU local was moving towards Korba. The human and technical mistake was rectified in time and both the trains were stopped. Passengers got down from their train and when they saw this scene, they thanked God. A major accident was averted by the drivers in time. The video of this incident is also going viral on social media.

Firing incident on a flat in Raipur

Bullet comes inside window in the 5th floor of VIP Karishma Apartment

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 11: A bullet has been fired at a flat in Raipur. Everyone was present at home on Sunday, when firing incident took place suddenly.

Panicked people informed the police. Officers are now probing the incident after reaching the spot. The person in whose house



the bullet was shot is an accountant by profession. No injury was reported in the incident. According to police, a bullet was fired in the

window of a flat on the 5th floor of VIP Karishma Apartment in Pandri police station area. No one got hurt in the incident. The

flat belongs to one Vijay Pandey, who works as an accountant in a private firm.

The reason for the incident has not been revealed yet. Now the ballistic experts who reached the spot are investigating. It is not clear who fired the bullet and why.

जी हां

CBSE ने दुर्ग जिले में केवल इंदु आई टी स्कूल को ही हाइब्रिड लर्निंग एवं डिजिटल लिट्रेसी प्रोग्राम के लिए मान्यता दी है

(छत्तीसगढ़ में 18, पूरे देश में 800 स्कूलों को CBSE ने मान्यता दी है)

क्या है हाइब्रिड लर्निंग एवं डिजिटल लिट्रेसी प्रोग्राम

- स्कूली शिक्षा के साथ-साथ CBSE, MICROSOFT, IBM, LENOVO, INFOSYS, TAG, NIELIT, UNESCO जैसी कंपनियों स्टूडेंट्स को ट्रेनिंग देंगी।
- 12वीं के बाद प्लेसमेंट होगा, प्लेसमेंट हेतु कैंपस होगा।
- चयनित 30 स्टूडेंट्स को लैपटॉप तथा सॉफ्टवेयर क्रेडिट कार्ड दिए जाएंगे।
- स्टूडेंट्स को एंटरप्रेन्योर और नौकरी के लिए तैयार किया जावेगा।

पूर्णकालिक डे बोर्डिंग सुविधा भी उपलब्ध है जिसमें छात्र सुबह 7:00 से शाम 5:00 बजे के बीच संपूर्ण शिक्षा के साथ-साथ अन्य गतिविधियों में भी निपुण होगा

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Srivas doubts CGPSC results 2021

Raipur, Jun 11: BJP Kissan leader Gauri Shankar Srivas today raised doubts over the 2021 results of Chhattisgarh Public Service Commission. Despite on-going agitation of the stu-

dents over the examination results, the CGPSC has not cleared its stand, he said while addressing a press conference here today. He alleged that examination results were sponsored as all the ques-

tion papers were allotted to some selected persons.

Doubts of the students over results deepen after all documents including answer sheets and OMR sheets were destroyed in a hurry on June 5 and a

fresh sale tender was released through advertisement in violation of Civil Service Rules, he said.

Quoting experts Srivas said that no answer sheet or document can be sold for 20 years.

'Traffic congestion remains unchanged on main roads in the city'

- Even after posting of 18 Collectors, 19 SPs and 27 CMOs in city so far
- Encroachments by shopkeepers narrows the main road and lack of action by administration raises eyebrows
- Heavy vehicles entering despite prohibited time



ers while discussing said that the government or administration's 'danda' (rule) is only for the poor and hutments and road-side vendors, but as to how it can act against the shopkeepers encroaching upon the main road area is nobody's concern.

As to why the administration is unable to take any action is still unknown and beyond one's understanding. The people have urged the local administration to be strict against the shopkeepers and others encroaching upon the road and by marking areas for parking, should try to streamline the traffic and make it free from frequent congestion and day-to-day problems.

What officer says
It is by holding coordination with the Traffic police department and explaining it to the shopkeepers that this system would be streamlined on all the main roads of the city soon. Naresh Kumar Sharma
- CMO- Kawardha.

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, June 11: So far 18 Collectors, 19 SPs and 27 CMOs have been posted in Kawardha and left, but the traffic on the main routes has not been streamlined till date. All the Collectors, SPs and CMOs have tried novel methods to bring the traffic on track, but the most busiest of road from Naveen Bazar to Gurunank Gate, Rishabh Chowk to Sarafa Line could not be freed from encroachers.

The shopkeepers on this route are adopting the

method of 'merimarji' (self-rule) have encroached upon the main road with their goods spread all over and with no action by the concerned authorities shows their silent support as well. Even the hand-cart operators too have not spared this area and are doing as per their like.

Due to encroachments by the millionaire shopkeepers and showroom owners, the road passage has turned narrow and posing lots of inconvenience to passer-by. Set aside this with no attention being paid by the Palika Administration

and Traffic police also raises eyebrows.

The most busiest of the roads in city viz. from Naveen Bazar to Gurunank Gate, Azad Chowk, Mahavir Swamy Chowk, Rishabh Dev Chowk to Sarafa Line are part of the city's main market area and due to which is having huge traffic pressure.

Due to which, few years back many a Collectors have declared it as 'one-way' for heavy traffic and with no-entry of four-wheelers from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, the traffic pressure indeed reduced to a

great extent, but the encroachments by the shopkeepers and their adamant an attitude left no space for a permanent solution and the traffic congestion remained the same.

The shopkeeper with funda of 'what is visible will sell' and amidst mutual competition, even after having shops worth lakhs, preferred to put their display on the front and putting sign boards and others to gain mileage over others. It is sort of doing business like footpath vendors that they are now conducting their business.

Due to this sizeable part of the road gets encroached and generally the wider road gets narrow, posing problems to all.

Amidst this with goods getting damaged due to slight error by vehicle rider or others, generally used to lead in quarrel and fight among many and amidst all such troubles neither the Nagar Palika administration, nor the Traffic police is taking any action to find permanent solution to it.

Both these department blame each other saying that it is not their job to

move encroachments on the road and are trying to give away from their responsibility and it is the general public which is left with no choice but to face the music.

The very idea of declaring it as one-way has already turned failure and what is required is firm action by the Nagar Palika administration and traffic police against the shopkeepers spreading their goods upto the roads and the road-side vendors encroaching the remaining part of the road and impose heavy fine on those violating it.

Apart from Naveen Bazar to Market road, The road from Thakur Dev Chowk to Darripara road is having many banks and ATMs and due to which there is traffic-jam like situation most of the day. Set aside this allowing opening of Banks on Darripara road also gives rise to many doubts, as to how the banking officials and those in power allow the banks to run, without any parking facility in that area and this needs to be probed.

Aware citizens Raju, Rishi, Prashant, Himanshu, Hritik, Bhagwat, Bharat and oth-

CRPS burns a copy of the ESMA order with Patwaris



Central Chronicle News

Jagdulpur, June 11: The state government has imposed ESMA on the movement of the Patwari Sangh to crush the indefinite strike by the Chhattisgarh Revenue Patwari Sangh (CRPS) since May 15 for its 8-point demands.

Opposing this order of the government, the Chhattisgarh Employees-Officers Federation (CEOFO) has given its full support to the movement by burning the copy of the

ESMA order along with the Patwaris by reaching the protest site on Friday, June 9.

Condemning this repressive order of the government, Divisional President of Chhattisgarh Staff Officers Federation Gajendra Srivastava and Divisional Incharge Kailash Chauhan said that in a democracy all societies and organizations have the right to express their views.

The government should have been issued notice before the agitation. If the

government was positive, it would have discussed with the organization before the movement and found a solution.

But the government did not discuss with the Patwari Sangh before the movement, nor did it try to find a solution by discussing the movement going on for last 23 days.

When the people of the state started getting upset, they wanted to crush the movement by imposing ESMA. He has demanded early solution to demands of the Patwaris.

Ch'garhi actress Urvashi Sahu releases the flyer

- Of Green Care Society India 50th World Environment Day Mission 2023
- United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi Kenya approved the programs and competitions will be held till June 30

Central Chronicle News

Dantewada, June 11: 50th World Environment Day Mission 2023 is being organised by Green Care Society India to bring public awareness globally on environmental protection and conservation in support of United Nations Environment Programme Nairobi Kenya, Lifestyle on Environment, Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board, Chhattisgarh State Biodiversity Board, Environment Information System, Central Pollution Control Board,



Environment Forest Climate Change Department, Government of India and Government of Chhattisgarh.

By promoting environmental conservation, Chhattisgarhi actress Urvashi Sahu released the flyer of 50th World Environment Day Mission 2023 by Green Care Society India and she said that all the citizens should give the message of green happiness



by planting trees and conserving the environment in Chhattisgarh and all over India. Urvashi Sahu supported for the global environmental protection mission of Green Care Society India in public and environment welfare.

Dr. Vishwanath Panigrahi, Founder & President of Green Care Society India said that deteriorating weather, global warming, climate change,

deforestation are the biggest problems of the world today. Every citizen has to fulfill the responsibility for environmental protection and conservation.

Amujuri Biswanath, Director & COO of Green Care Society India, Dantewada informed that official approval is done from the United Nations Environment Programme Nairobi Kenya and Government of India as well

as Government of Chhattisgarh organisations on the 50th World Environment Day Mission 2023. The programme is being conducted through online and offline mediums in the open category throughout the month of June.

Competitions are being organized on painting, speech, photography and actions on Sustainable Development Goal 13 Climate Action, 14 Life Below Water, 15 Life on Land. General public, students, teachers, Professionals, business persons, nature lovers, social workers all can participate in this mission program at free of cost and the last date for sending the entries is 30th June.

With the huge participation of the people, our mother earth will become a land capable of living a green life. Despite the busy schedule, Urvashi Sahu took out time and Green Care Society India thanked for her presence in poster release programme.

BALCO drives environmental transformation through on-ground initiatives

- On World Environment Day
- Pledged to plant 1 lakh trees in FY24
- Distributed 10,000 cloth bags to promote #BeatPlasticPollution

Central Chronicle News

Balcnagar, June 11: On the occasion of World Environment Day, Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO), India's iconic aluminium producer and a subsidiary of Vedanta Aluminium, organized a series of awareness events and community initiatives demonstrating its unwavering commitment to environmental preservation.

These initiatives were taken as an extension to Vedanta Aluminium's #GreenHearts campaign which aims to rally people all over the country to come together and plant a sapling for a better and greener future. The initiatives included the distribution of more than 10,000 cloth bags as a sustainable alternative to single-use plastic bags, a walkathon involving over 500 students, and an extensive tree plantation drive.

In line with the Government of India's Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) initiative, and this year's theme of



#BeatPlasticPollution, BALCO undertook an extensive campaign to spread awareness about the adverse effects of single-use plastics. To support this cause, the company collaborated with the Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board (CECB) to distribute more than 10,000 cloth bags to community members and school children across Raipur. Over 500 school children also participated enthusiastically in a state-level walkathon organized by BALCO in association with CECB.

Participants were rewarded with eco-friendly goodies, including a 2023 calendar made of recycled paper and seed paper, as well as savories made with organic ingredients by the Self-Help Group members supported by BALCO. These gestures aimed to promote sustainable alternatives and

emphasize the importance of reducing plastic waste.

As a responsible corporate citizen, BALCO recognizes the importance of ensuring sustainable business operations. It demonstrated its commitment in this regard by introducing electric vehicles (EVs) for internal travel within its extensive plant premises.

By embracing this innovative and sustainable solution, BALCO has taken a significant stride towards reducing carbon emissions and transitioning to environmentally friendly transportation. The company also initiated a plantation drive at its operations. Over 100 saplings were planted, and a commitment was also made to plant over 1 lakh trees within this year alone. This endeavor aligns with the company's mission to contribute significantly to afforestation efforts and

help combat climate change.

Speaking on BALCO's environment conservation efforts, Rajesh Kumar, CEO & Director, BALCO, expressed, "We are firmly committed to restoring and preserving our ecosystem, nurturing conservation efforts across all our operations. By leveraging cutting-edge technology and innovative thinking, we are determined to forge a sustainable and resilient future for generations to come. Together, we can forge a path towards a sustainable and eco-friendly future. Our unwavering commitment to safeguarding the ecosystem is deeply embedded in our vision, corporate objectives, production processes, and the way we conduct our business. We acknowledge our responsibility and will persist in taking actions that preserve and protect the environment."

BALCO's dedication to environmental preservation extends beyond World Environment Day. The company has planned a week-long campaign around the occasion. This includes activities such as a cleanliness drive involving employees and the local community, an awareness rally, interactive sessions called "BALCO Talks" featuring industry experts, screening of environmental documentaries within the plant premises, and encouraging carpooling among employees. These initiatives aim to foster a sense of collective responsibility and encourage sustainable practices among BALCO's stakeholders.

Talking about the initiatives Shailesh Pisda, Regional Officer, CECB Korba, said, "BALCO is an environmentally responsible organization and it has been continuously taking important and pro-active steps towards helping safeguard our planet. I am truly impressed by the company's initiative to introduce Electric Vehicles (EVs) within its plant premises.

This forward-thinking step demonstrates BALCO's unwavering commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship. Korba is being benefitted from BALCO's environmental conservation measures and we look forward to more such initiatives in the future."

BALCO's dedication to environmental preservation extends beyond World Environment Day. The company has planned a week-long campaign around the occasion. This includes activities such as a cleanliness drive involving employees and the local community, an awareness rally, interactive sessions called "BALCO Talks" featuring industry experts, screening of environmental documentaries within the plant premises, and encouraging carpooling among employees. These initiatives aim to foster a sense of collective responsibility and encourage sustainable practices among BALCO's stakeholders.

Players from residential archery and athletic academies win medals

- Ch'garh bags medals in the first Khelo India Tribal Games competition
- Kuber Singh from Residential Archery Academy Bilaspur wins a silver medal in 30 m. and second place in the overall championship
- Kumari Tarnika Teta from Residential Athletic Academy Bilaspur wins a silver medal in the 100 m. women's championship

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 11: Players from Chhattisgarh have bagged medals in various events of the first Khelo India Tribal Games Championship held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Players of the Residential Archery



Academy Bilaspur and Athletic Academy have won medals. The Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel and the Minister of Sports and Youth Welfare Mr. Umesh Patel have congratulated the players for their outstanding performance.

Kuber Singh of Residential Archery Academy Bilaspur has won the silver medal in 30 m. and has achieved the second position in the overall championship. Similarly, Kumari Tarnika Teta, a player of Residential Athletic Academy Bilaspur, has won the silver medal in the 100 m. women's championship.

The Sports and Youth Welfare Department had

organized the selection trial for players of various sports disciplines in the state on May 25 at the training center in Bilaspur.

Chhattisgarh's team entered the finals by defeating Tripura with a score of 4-0 in the Women's Football semi-finals held today. Kiran Pisda, a player from Girls Football Academy Raipur, scored three goals, while Pinky Kashyap of Bastar scored one goal.

The final match will be played between Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand on June 12. It is noteworthy that 5,000 athletes from 18 states are participating in the championship held in Bhubaneswar.



BRIEF



Congress leader Sachin Pilot during 'Sarva Dharma Prarthana Sabha', in Dausa, Sunday.

Overturn

■ **Kota:** A vehicle overturned on the Kota-Baran highway on Sunday, leaving three labourers dead and four others injured, police said. A police patrolling squad spotted the overturned vehicle in the early hours, DSP Harshraj Singh said.

Demolished

■ **Mumbai:** A memorial of 18th century Mysore ruler Tipu Sultan on a traffic junction in Dhule in Maharashtra was demolished by the civic body which claimed it was illegal. It was allegedly built by Dhule City All India Ittehadul Majlis-e-Muslimeen MLA Faruk Shah Anwar on the intersection of Vadjai Road, some 322 kilometres from here, a police official said on Sunday.

Derail

■ **Kharagpur:** A coach of the Medinipur-Howrah local train derailed at the Kharagpur station in West Bengal's Paschim Medinipur district on Saturday night, a South Eastern Railway official said. The accident happened around 9 pm when the train was heading towards Howrah, and there was no one in the coach, they said.

Mishap

■ **Mumbai:** A private bus rammed into a monorail bridge pillar near Bhoiwada bus stop in Mumbai on Saturday, leaving a woman injured, police said. The bus was on its way to Colaba bus depot in south Mumbai from Antop Hill in the afternoon when the incident occurred, which is prima facie caused by brake failure.

Heat wave

■ **Jaipur:** Heat wave conditions continued in Rajasthan on Saturday while rains lashed parts of the state, according to the local MeT department. Ganganagar, Hanumangarh and Churu districts witnessed rain.

Refinery accident

■ **Guwahati:** One labourer died and another was critically injured in an accident at Guwahati Refinery, an official said on Sunday. The accident took place at a project site of the refinery in Noonmati area of the city on Saturday, the official added.

Accident

■ **Lucknow:** Two persons were killed when a speeding container truck ran over them outside the Haj House here on Sunday, police said. SHO of Sarojininagar police station, Shalendra Giri, said the two had come here to see off their relatives going for the Haj pilgrimage.

'Role of nurses as crucial as that of doctors'

Lucknow, Jun 11 (PTI):

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said nurses and paramedic staff's role is as important as that of doctors in providing proper medical care to the patients.

Handing over appointment letters to newly selected 1,442 staff nurses at an event here, Adityanath said, "This is a crucial area. You will all agree that a strong medical system is important for good health, just as a strong educational system is for any civilised society."

Stressing the importance of nursing and paramedic staff, he said, "Through their care and assistance to patients, the nursing staff can significantly contribute to the achievement of the goal of recovery and well-



Yogi Adityanath

ness." The programmes that the government runs without discrimination are what have led to changes in the state over the past six years, he said.

"In 2017, the state had a total of 12 medical colleges. Between 2017 and 2022, more medical colleges have either already been built, or will be built in 63 districts of the state," Adityanath said in an official statement.

Asserting that the goal

of 'one district, one medical college' will soon be realised, he said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision and leadership, medical colleges will soon be available in every district of the state.

"Where it is not possible, we recommended that medical colleges be built there using the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model because they are the best medium for specialised medicine."

While distributing the appointment letters, he drew a comparison with the previous governments and claimed, "When we came to power in 2017, the unemployment rate was around 19 per cent. Today, it has come down to around 3-5 per cent.", The chief minister noted that in the last six years, 6 lakh government jobs were provided in the state.

CARING FOR THE DEAD

UP woman conducts cremation of unclaimed bodies

Lucknow, Jun 11 (PTI):

For the last five years, Versha Verma has been cremating unclaimed bodies, with the belief that after death, people must get their due respect through a dignified farewell.

Though it is routine to get calls about unclaimed bodies to be cremated, doing the last rites has been always an emotional situation, said Verma, who started the service after seeing and reading news of bodies with no claimants being dumped in rivers.

This is unacceptable and not dignified, the 44-year-old said, adding that during the Covid period, she got "countless" calls to cremate bodies.



Versha Verma conducts cremation of an unclaimed body, in Lucknow.

Verma, who runs an NGO called "EK Koshish Aisi Bhi", said the cost of services is borne by the organisation.

On how she receives information about unclaimed bodies, Verma

said her personal number is listed at mortuaries, hospitals and police stations, and authorities contact her directly. "In case of an unclaimed body, it is kept for 72 hours after postmortem, and then



Devotees gather at Indrayani river ghat as annual pilgrimage of warkaris to Pandharpur with palanquin of saint Dnyaneshwar, at Alandi Devachi near Pune, Sunday.

'Deportation of some Indian students from Canada stayed'

New Delhi, Jun 11 (PTI):

Some Indian students in Canada facing the prospect of deportation on charges of obtaining visas using fake admission letters have received "stay orders" from Canadian authorities, government sources said on Sunday.

India has repeatedly been urging Canadian authorities to be fair and take a humanitarian approach since the students were allegedly victims of some agents.

The sources also said that the actual number of Indian students facing deportation from Canada is much less than 700. "Most of these students had gone

to Canada during 2017-2019. After completing their studies, some of them obtained work permits, while others continue to study in Canada," said a source.

India has been taking up the matter with Canadian authorities, in Canada and in New Delhi. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also took up with matter with his Canadian counterpart.

"Canadian authorities were repeatedly urged to be fair and take a humanitarian approach since the students were not at fault," said the source cited above. "It was also pointed out that there were gaps in the Canadian

system and a lack of diligence, owing to which the students were granted visa and also allowed to enter Canada," it added.

In the last few days, Canadian parliamentarians across political parties have spoken in support of the students. Immigration Minister Sean Fraser has indicated that Canada is actively pursuing a solution for international students who are facing uncertainty, the sources said.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has acknowledged the need for fair treatment of the students. "Some students have recently received stay orders on their deportation notices," the source said.

ALL FOR HEALTH



People do yoga at Triphala Park, in Noida, Sunday.

UP teacher uses cow dung to make variety of household items

Shahjahanpur (UP), Jun 11 (PTI): A Shahjahanpur-based teacher is using cow dung to make products like incense sticks, wall hangings and nameplates.

Pooja Gangwar, 42, a primary school teacher in Rajanpur village in the Tilhar area of this Uttar Pradesh district, has reared over 50 cows and uses their dung as raw material to churn out these items.

Cow dung has religious significance but it can also be used to make a range of household products, Gangwar said.

She said people from other districts of the state visit her and take training.

"Some of the items made by us are incense

sticks, havan material, wall hangings, nameplates, trophies," she said, adding around a dozen people are employed for the work.

Gangwar said she has been making these items using cow dung since 2017.

District Magistrate, Shahjahanpur Umesh Pratap Singh, said, "Items of home decoration, incense sticks, 'havan' material, religious symbols and lamps are being made from cow dung by a primary school teacher. It sets an example."

"We have encouraged every village pradhan in the district to keep at least 10 cows. People are encouraged to rear cows," he said.

MANIPUR VIOLENCE

Over 50,000 people staying in 349 relief camps

Imphal, Jun 11 (PTI):

Over 50,000 people, who have been displaced by the ethnic violence in Manipur, are currently staying at 349 relief camps across the state, a minister said on Sunday.

State Information and Public Relations Minister Dr R K Ranjan said combing operations have been launched in all districts, particularly in vulnerable areas.

He said 53 arms and 39 bombs have been recovered during the operation.

Ranjan, who is also the government spokesperson, said a road map for education of students, which has been affected due to the ethnic clashes, has been chalked out and would be made public

soon.

"Altogether 50,698 people displaced by the ethnic violence are currently sheltered at 349 relief camps," said an official statement quoting the minister.

District and cluster nodal officers have been asked to look after the relief centres which have been opened especially for women, elderly people and children.

A price control mechanism has been put in place to check the price rise of essential commodities, he said, adding that various goods are being brought to the state through NH-37.

As much as 35,000 metric tonnes of construction materials, fuels and essential commodities have

been taken to Manipur in 2,376 trucks since violence erupted in early May, the statement said.

Altogether 198 of the existing 242 bank branches are now operational, and the rest would be made functional at the earliest, Ranjan said.

Notably, a large number of weapons were looted from police stations in early May when ethnic violence broke out in the state.

Both Chief Minister N Biren Singh and Union Home Minister Amit Shah have appealed to people to surrender their weapons.

Overall 990 arms and 13,526 ammunition have been surrendered to the government, the statement said.

BJP scared of Uddhav, claims Raut

Mumbai, Jun 11 (PTI): Shiv Sena (UBT) Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Raut on Sunday claimed the Bharatiya Janata Party was "scared" of his party chief Uddhav Thackeray and said it was a good thing.

The comments came a day after Union Home Minister Amit Shah in a rally in Nanded tore into Thackeray over the chain of events post the 2019 Assembly polls which led to the unravelling of the Shiv Sena-BJP alliance.

Shah called Thackeray's joining hands with the Nationalist Congress Party and Congress to form the Maha Vikas Aghadi government as betrayal for the sake of power.

In a social media post, Raut said, "It is good the BJP is scared of Uddhav Thackeray. It ensured a split in the party (Shiv Sena), gave name and its symbol to traitors; still the fear of Uddhav Thackeray and Shiv Sena (original) has not gone."

IIT Mandi researchers develop smart biodegradable microgels

To aid sustainable farming practices

New Delhi, Jun 11 (PTI):

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi have developed smart biodegradable microgels to make agricultural practices more sustainable and minimise adverse impact caused by use of insecticides and agrochemicals.

The research has been published in the "Carbohydrate Polymers" journal.

According to officials, modern agriculture relies heavily on application of various agrochemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, and fertilizers on crops to meet the demand of food for the growing

population. "These agrochemicals are excessively used in the fields to compensate their loss via leaching, degradation, rain fall, evaporation, dust drift etc. The frequent use of such agrochemicals results in high cost and causes adverse effect on environment, including both groundwater and soil and human health," Garima Agrawal, Assistant Professor, School of Chemical Sciences, IIT Mandi told PTI.

"The main objective of this research is to develop sustainable farming practices that can minimise the adverse environmental impact of currently preva-

lent agricultural practices involving excessive use of agrochemicals. These chemicals when frequently applied to the fields, affect the quality of the soil. Additionally, these excessive agrochemicals slowly percolate through the soil and contaminate the groundwater also," she said.

Agrawal explained that these agrochemicals also get washed away in rain and reach the nearby water sources like lake, river or stream and pollute it. The use of biodegradable microgels as a smart delivery system for fertilizers and insecticides has the potential to provide a solution to this issue.





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Combating Extremism

Canada's Responsibility in Brampton Parade Incident

The events surrounding the Brampton parade in Canada's Ontario province, organized to commemorate the anniversary of Operation Blue Star, have ignited intense controversy and highlighted the need for Canada to rein in separatist elements. While Sikhs worldwide hold events to remember this historical event, the Brampton parade crossed the boundaries of decorum by featuring a float depicting the assassination of Indira Gandhi, evoking strong reactions. The presence of separatist elements among the Sikh diaspora, who continue to fuel the Khalistan movement and issue inflammatory statements, is a concerning issue. Countries like Canada and the United States have become safe havens for separatists, granting them asylum during the dark days of terrorism in Punjab. However, it is crucial to note that the Blue Star remembrance events in India, particularly in Amritsar, have evolved into more rational and peaceful gatherings over the years. The Akal Takht, a supreme temporal authority of Sikhs, has even called for reform movements in villages plagued by drug abuse and other social issues. Many Punjabis have embraced the path of peace and moved beyond the secessionist extremism propagated by the Sikh diaspora. The dichotomy between the ground situation in India and the efforts of some segments of the Sikh diaspora to keep the flame of separatism alive is striking. It is imperative to acknowledge the role that Canada's political leaders have played in this matter. They must take responsibility for encouraging extremism in order to consolidate their vote banks. India's Minister of External Affairs, S Jaishankar, rightly criticized Canada for allowing space for separatists, extremists, and advocates of violence to operate freely. Earlier this year, India raised concerns about the breach of security at the Indian High Commission in the UK, highlighting how Khalistan radicals misuse their asylum status to support terrorist activities in India. These disturbances are incongruent with the efforts being made by the governments of Canada and the UK to strengthen bilateral ties with India. While both countries seek to enhance cooperation and foster mutual understanding, incidents like the Brampton parade undermine these efforts. It is essential for Canada to recognize its responsibility in curbing the activities of separatist elements within its borders and ensure that its political leaders do not provide legitimacy or support to extremist ideologies. Addressing this issue requires a multi-faceted approach. Canada's government must actively monitor and investigate any instances of support for extremism or violence within its Sikh community. Additionally, efforts should be made to foster dialogue and understanding between different segments of the community, promoting a sense of unity and shared values. The Sikh diaspora has an important role to play in shaping a positive narrative and contributing constructively to the development and progress of both Canada and India. Moreover, it is crucial to emphasize the significance of preserving the sanctity of commemorative events. While it is essential to remember and learn from historical events, it should be done in a manner that respects the sentiments of all individuals involved and promotes harmony and understanding. Floats or displays that glorify violence or celebrate assassinations only serve to deepen divisions and hinder the progress of communities towards reconciliation and peace. As a nation that prides itself on diversity and inclusivity, Canada must actively work towards countering extremism and promoting unity among its diverse communities. By addressing this issue, Canada can reinforce its commitment to upholding democratic values, preserving social harmony, and building stronger relationships with countries like India. It is time for Canada to shoulder the onus of curbing separatist elements and creating an environment where dialogue, understanding, and mutual respect can flourish.

Strengthening Border Infra

Timely Completion of Strategic Projects

India's Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has taken a significant step towards bolstering border infrastructure by inviting bids for the construction of a 4-km-long concrete road near Saser La, a high-altitude pass in eastern Ladakh. This development comes in the midst of a prolonged standoff along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and demonstrates India's commitment to match China's aggressive actions. The proposed road will serve as part of a larger military-usable route connecting Sasoma, Saser La, and Murgu, providing an alternative pathway to Depsang and Daulat Beg Oldie in the Sub-Sector North. The completion of this road and other infrastructure projects within their designated timelines is of utmost importance. One critical project is the operationalization of the strategic Sela tunnel, which will ensure all-weather connectivity to Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang district. This region witnessed a clash between Indian and Chinese troops in December 2022, highlighting the need for improved infrastructure to support the armed forces in defending the border. Moreover, these projects will also benefit the local residents, serving as their "eyes and ears" and enhancing their overall well-being. In April, the Vibrant Villages Programme was launched at Kibithoo, Arunachal Pradesh, as part of India's comprehensive plan to counter China's provocative actions. Approximately 3,000 villages across Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Ladakh have been identified for holistic development under this initiative. The success of these comprehensive development programs is crucial in maximizing border security and strengthening India's position in the region. It is worth noting that China has been aggressively expanding its infrastructure along the LAC, including the construction of roads and bridges, to enhance troop mobility and readiness. In contrast, India's focus on strategic projects demonstrates a resolute commitment to match China's efforts and safeguard its territorial integrity. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar rightly emphasized that the normalization of India-China ties cannot be expected until the situation along the eastern Ladakh border is resolved. Given the significance of these projects, it is essential to ensure their timely completion. Delays or inadequate progress could undermine India's efforts to enhance border security and could result in a persistent vulnerability. The government must prioritize allocating adequate resources, addressing logistical challenges, and maintaining strict oversight to avoid unnecessary setbacks. Furthermore, effective coordination between the concerned authorities, including the BRO, local administrations, and relevant stakeholders, is crucial. Regular monitoring, strict adherence to project timelines, and proactive mitigation of potential obstacles are necessary to ensure the successful execution of these strategic initiatives. India's determination to strengthen its border infrastructure serves as a powerful message to its adversaries. However, it is essential to remain vigilant and maintain a long-term perspective. Continued investment in border infrastructure, coupled with diplomatic efforts, will contribute to safeguarding national interests, fostering regional stability, and securing a peaceful environment along the borders. India's commitment to timely completing these strategic projects will not only bolster its defense capabilities but also demonstrate its resolve to protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity. The successful implementation of these initiatives, combined with sustained diplomatic efforts, will help establish a stable and secure environment in the region. By ensuring the completion of these projects within their time frames, India can fortify its position and effectively respond to any future challenges along its borders.

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

FLOODED COLONY



A flooded colony after a heavy rainfall in Dimapur, Nagaland, Sunday, June 11.

Adapting Education: The Significance of Timely Changes in Curriculum



PROF. MAN MOHAN PRAKASH



Curriculum, course material, and textbooks hold significant importance in any education system and educational policy. They determine what is suitable to teach students of different ages and classes, considering their mental capacity and the ability to grasp concepts without undue pressure. We now recognize the 21st century as the age of science and technology, where remarkable progress has been made in these fields due to ongoing research. As a result, the content of basic and applied sciences has substantially increased. Additionally, the internet provides a vast amount of knowledge readily accessible to all. Consequently, the principles of science are evolving or being interpreted in new ways based on modern knowledge. Due to these advancements, some traditional subjects may have lost their relevance. In general, when scientific subjects are new and information is scarce, they can be taught at any grade level to provide basic knowledge. However, as research progresses and more dimensions of usefulness are added to these subjects, they are included or shifted to higher-grade syllabi and textbooks. It is crucial to consider the mental level of learners when introducing complex and new material. Therefore, compared to arts, literature, and other subjects, the curriculum in science requires more frequent changes.

Changes in syllabi and textbooks are considered a normal process in the education system. The University Grants Commission, recognizing this, mandates periodic meetings of subject experts (BOS) in higher education to review the course content at least once every two years. Time-to-time changes in the curriculum, both nationally and internationally, are indicative of a robust education system. However, when determining the subject matter, it is essential to ensure an easy transition from theory to utility and avoid unnecessary complexities. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on education cannot be ignored. The pandemic has affected various sectors, including education, over the past two years. To safeguard students' interests, online learning, teaching, and examinations were conducted, despite their limitations. The effectiveness and impact of this experiment on students' minds and brains require further research. Nevertheless, it successfully maintained the continuity of teaching and learning during challenging times. When studying the research on the effect of the pandemic on students, it becomes evident that the tragedy has had a profound impact on students' mental health, from school to university levels. Studies by researchers such as Priya Bhakta, Kakoli Das, and others published in the "Journal of Affective Disorders" in 2023, as well as Dev, Kar et al.,

published in the research journal 'DATA' in 2022, reveal that COVID-19 has negatively affected the mental health of a large number of students in India. These studies indicate that students experienced significant mental stress and anxiety, which falls under the category of mental illness in medical science and can lead to other health issues. For science students, online learning limited their hands-on experience, especially in laboratory settings. The principles and facts that were easily understood through practical learning and training were not grasped as effectively in online teaching. This situation raises concerns about the difficulties faced by weaker students who require special attention from their teachers. Notably, NCERT has made adjustments to the text material, considering the mood and mental health of children affected by COVID-19, and this initiative is commendable. There have been discussions in various news publications about the removal of certain lessons, such as Darwin's theory and the periodic table, from NCERT science books. Upon investigation, it becomes clear that the preparation of the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) under the Education Policy 2020 is in its final stage. Once implemented, textbooks will be prepared afresh. In the meantime, NCERT has made adjustments to the current year's textbooks, taking into account the learning loss caused by the pandemic. It is widely acknowledged, especially among those involved in the field of education, that changes in course content and textbooks are a common process to ensure their relevance to the time period, circumstances, and the mental level of children. Textbooks can never be considered final, and it is therefore futile to protest against changes. In my opinion, partial modifications in textbooks for a certain period, considering special circumstances and with

the students' best interests in mind, should be welcomed by society. These changes have several benefits: they apply to all students, reduce the burden of carrying learning materials, rationalize the content, and address the aftereffects of the pandemic. The Education Policy 2020 emphasizes the importance of considering mental health, age, and intellectual abilities. It promotes experiential and activity-based learning and encourages curiosity and a creative mindset. If we evaluate the partial changes made by NCERT based on these points, they do not appear to violate the objectives of the Education Policy 2020. Moreover, the main goals of the Education Policy 2020 are to reduce the burden of school bags, rationalize the text material, eliminate repetitive content, make the material more learner-friendly, and align it with the students' mental level. When evaluated from these perspectives, the partial changes made by NCERT can be justified. They do not seem to deviate from the key elements of the Education Policy 2020, such as promoting creativity, empirical learning, scientific understanding, innovative attitudes, and moral values. Therefore, the objections raised by anyone regarding these changes hold no meaning. On the contrary, the learner-friendly initiatives taken by NCERT should be welcomed. They demonstrate the education system's adaptability and commitment to ensuring that education remains relevant and effective in evolving times. The adjustments made by NCERT, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, reflect the commitment to provide quality education while considering the challenges faced by students. By embracing these changes, we can create an education system that equips students with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in the 21st century.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Moving Beyond Freebies

While the concept of providing quality education is commendable, offering free electricity is not a sustainable approach. The dangerous trend of political parties promising freebies to entice voters poses a threat to democracy, as these giveaways drain the limited resources of state and central governments, impeding crucial development projects. Instead of outright freebies, an alternative approach could be to provide essential resources like fuel, power, and water at concessional rates. By striking a balance, short-term freebies can be replaced with long-term solutions that address critical challenges, such as sustained investment in healthcare. It is essential to prioritize judicious resource allocation and focus on sustainable development for the betterment of society as a whole.

Navneet Nair, Raipur

Global Dreams

A significant number of students opt for higher education abroad, driven by the belief in better opportunities and the prospect of settling in foreign lands. Middle-class families often shoulder enormous financial burdens, taking loans to support their children's overseas education. Students perceive an international degree as a catalyst for improving career prospects, unlocking global job opportunities, and attaining higher salaries and improved standards of living. Regrettably, much work remains to enhance the quality of education in India. Addressing this gap is crucial to provide students with competitive education options within the country, reducing the necessity and financial strain of seeking education abroad. By strengthening educational standards domestically, India can empower its students to thrive both nationally and globally.

Saurab Verma, Korba

Infrastructure Carnage

The relentless violence in the Ukraine conflict has unleashed a catastrophic wave of destruction, leaving a trail of ruined infrastructure in its wake. Amidst escalating tensions, the annihilation of the Kherson dam emerges as a grim harbinger of further despair for the Ukrainian people. Tragically, both nations engage in a blame game while civilians on both sides bear the brunt of suffering. Throughout history, major infrastructural targets like dams have been deemed off-limits in armed conflicts, acknowledging their dire repercussions on civilian populations, ecosystems, and neighboring territories. Regrettably, this long-standing convention has been brazenly shattered by the warring factions. This heinous act unquestionably amounts to a criminal atrocity.

Gregory Fernandes, Mumbai

Commanding the Political Horizon: Assessing the Current Scenario



Yash Pal Raihan

The political landscape stands at a crossroads, fraught with uncertainty and anticipation, following the recent assembly elections in Karnataka. As rumors circulate through the electronic media, speculations

arise about the possibility of preponing parliamentary elections and holding them concurrently with the assembly elections in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh, scheduled for October-November this year. The government may assert that this move aims to save national resources. The consequences of the Karnataka assembly elections are still reverberating, with over 30 candidates having their security deposits forfeited and some constituencies witnessing party vote shares of less than five percent. Despite extensive campaigning efforts by the top party leaders, including numerous roadshows, results fell short of expectations. Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is engaged in hectic political activities, indicating the possibility of major political decisions in the days to

come, both at the central and state levels. Speculations arise that the Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) in Haryana might withdraw support, prompting the government to sustain itself with the backing of independent candidates. Recent developments further suggest potential political alignments between the AIADMK and the BJP, with the joining of three-time Rajya Sabha member Maitrain to the BJP. Additionally, media reports indicate a potential political understanding between the Janata Dal (Secular) and the BJP in Karnataka, and a similar prospect between the Akali Dal and the BJP in the near future. In essence, all political parties are engaged in the process of forming alliances with various groups, as they anticipate the possibility of imminent elections due to the fluid political situation

in the country. Maharashtra, too, experiences a dynamic political landscape, and its consequences may have a national impact. Moreover, the implementation of Supreme Court decisions regarding 16 MLAs may prompt the preponement of assembly elections, possibly overshadowing the need to preponed parliamentary elections. BJP's think tank indicates that this time, garnering votes in the name of Modi might prove challenging. A recent article by an RSS mouthpiece suggests that strengthening state-level BJP leadership becomes crucial, as public support may not solely rely on the charisma of Modi. In Jammu and Kashmir, assembly elections may be announced at any moment, with the possibility of the People's Democratic Party and the National Conference contesting unitedly, potentially impacting BJP's seat share. Similarly, in

Himachal Pradesh, the implementation of the old pension scheme might favor the Congress party. Furthermore, a significant opposition enclave is set to convene in Patna, with Nitish Kumar at the forefront. This could result in a reduced seat share for BJP in Bihar, which could dent their overall prospects. Similar scenarios are anticipated in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, where Congress is poised to gain more seats. Recent surveys also indicate a potential increase in Congress seats in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. In light of the above observations, there is a likelihood that the BJP might preponed parliamentary elections. As responsible citizens, we must vigilantly observe all developments, ensuring the preservation of the sanctity of Indian democracy at all costs.



Rashmika praises Maitreyi dancing on 'Saami Saami', calls her 'stunner'

Actress Rashmika Mandanna has called 'Never Have I Ever' star Maitreyi Ramakrishnan after seeing her dance on the number 'Saami Saami' from 'Pushpa: The Rise' and the young performer has reacted saying she will never have 'imposter syndrome' about dancing again.

Rashmika took to Twitter, where she re-shared a clip by a fan, where Maitreyi is seen dancing on the track originally picturised on Allu Arjun and herself.

Praising Maitreyi, Rashmika wrote: "Stunner! you did soooooo goooooooodddd. Sending you full love."

Maitreyi could not contain her excitement seeing Rashmika's message. She tweeted back: "I will NEVER have imposter syndrome about dancing again. Thank you so much @iamRashmika."

'Pushpa: The Rise' was released in 2021. The Telugu-language action drama film is directed by Sukumar. It stars Allu Arjun as the titular character alongside Fahadh Faasil (his Telugu debut), and Rashmika Mandanna.

'Never Have I Ever' Season 4 is the final season. It is a teenage comedy series on Netflix. It first came out in 2020. It revolves around Maitreyi's character Devi, an Indian-American high school student. The final season will be released on June 8 on the streaming giant.

'I feel like a newcomer, beginning my career again'



As the trailer for Maniesh Paul's OTT debut show Rafuchakkar dropped today, the multi-faceted artist expressed the excitement and nervousness resembling a newcomer stepping into the industry.

With an illustrious career of over 15 years, Maniesh Paul has donned multiple hats to entertain the audience, however, Rafuchakkar presents him in the most unique and never-seen-before avatar. Delving into the versatility of the actor, Rafuchakkar portrays Maniesh Paul in not one but five different looks. Talking about the trailer and his digital debut, Maniesh Paul said, "I'm experiencing a roller-coaster of emotions. I have butterflies in my stomach, I am excited, nervous, curious and grateful, I feel like a newcomer, beginning my career again. Rafuchakkar is nothing like what I've done before, the show discovered aspects in me even I didn't know existed. I am very thrilled to present Maniesh 2.0 to the audience and I am grateful to Jio Studios to give me the right platform to show my capabilities."

The trailer of Rafuchakkar traces the story of a con artist named Prince played by Maniesh Paul. With five different avatars, Maniesh almost looks unrecognisable in every look. The show promises drama, suspense and a lot of entertainment. After an impactful and impressive performance in Jugjugg Jeeyo last year which led to a streak of awards for the actor, Maniesh Paul has pushed his boundaries to unveil different facets of his versatility in his OTT debut - Rafuchakkar.

Kangana calls Ranbir 'skinny white rat' for starring as Lord Ram in 'Ramayana'

After the news of Ranbir Kapoor playing Lord Ram in the upcoming film 'Ramayana' did the rounds, actress Kangana Ranaut reacted to it calling the actor a "skinny white rat."

There were reports claiming that star couple Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor will play Goddess Sita and Lord Ram in Nitesh Tiwari's 'Ramayana.' Kangana took to Instagram and criticised the casting for the film.

She wrote: "Recently, I am hearing news about another coming up Bolly Ramayana... Where a skinny white rat (so-called actor) who desperately needs some sun tan and conscience he is infamous for doing nasty underhand PR about almost everyone in the industry... known for womanising and drug addiction after desperately trying to prove himself Lord Shiva in a trilogy (which no one watched or want to make more parts of) has now grown fancy to be Lord Rama..."

The media reports also claimed that south star Yash would essay the role of Raavan. "Whereas a young southern superstar who is known to be self-made, a devoted family man a traditionalist also according to Valmiki ji description he looks more like Lord Rama in his complexion, demeanour and facial features... is offered to play Ravana...What kind of Kalyuga is this?? No pale-looking druggie soy boy should play Lord Rama Jai Shri Ram."



'Sanya's and mine workout sessions frequently ended up in dance sessions'



Anantvijay Joshi is currently reeling in, in adulation that his recently released Netflix Original, 'Kathal' is garnering. Produced by Guneet Monga and Ekta Kapoor, the film is based on the curious case of missing jackfruits. Anantvijay plays constable Saurabh Dwivedi in the film opposite Sanya Malhotra. Sharing about the experience of working on the film Anantvijay added, "We shot 'Kathal' in Gwalior! And having Gural Singh ji on set, used to be a good street food exploration. Sanya and I used to explore the streets of Gwalior in search of chaats and mithai. It was fun!" On working with Sanya, he further added, "Sanya is a very entertaining co-star on-screen as well as off-screen."

Aada Khan roped in to play a socially impactful role in 'Wagle Ki Duniya'



Actress Aada Khan has joined the cast of 'Wagle Ki Duniya', a slice-of-life family drama TV show, where she will be seen playing the role of Sakhi Warge. The character she is set to play is socially impactful. Sakhi Warge is Sakhi Wagle's (Chinmayee Salvi) friend from dance class. A happy young girl with dreams in her eyes, Sakhi Warge is extremely innocent and takes things as they are. However, while Sakhi's innocence and acceptance of things can be seen as positive attributes, it also leaves her vulnerable to exploitation.

COLORS presents mythological masterpiece 'Shiv Shakti - Tap Tyag Tandav'

India is a land of rich mythology woven into its cultural fabric. The ancient stories passed down through generations serve as timeless guides for life's journey. Depicting the most powerful love saga that transcends all emotions, COLORS' new magnum opus 'Shiv Shakti - Tap Tyag Tandav' revolves around two of the revered deities - Shiv and Shakti. It portrays their journey of duty, sacrifice, and separation that leads to tap, tyag, and tandav. Having curated a show in the mythological genre on an extravagant canvas earlier, COLORS and King of Mythology Siddharth Kumar Tewary have teamed up yet again for a visually stunning saga. Starring Ram Yashvardhan and Subha Rajput in the roles of Shiv and Shakti respectively, the upcoming show captures the journey of two divine entities, who share an inseparable bond spanning across



eras. Enriched with the finest VFX and soulful music, 'Shiv Shakti - Tap Tyag Tandav' created and produced by Siddharth Kumar Tewary's Swastik Productions, premieres on the 19th of June and will air every Monday to Friday at 8 PM only on COLORS.

Celebrated set designer Omung Kumar B. has created five ethereal-looking sets (Kailash, Forest, Indra Lok, Asur Lok & Daksh Darbar) that enliven the divine realm of the show and reflect its grandeur. With numerous magnificent aspects woven into its design, the sets showcase a never-before-seen opulence on television.

'Shiv Shakti - Tap Tyag Tandav' will premiere on the 19th of June and air every Monday to Friday at 8PM only on Colors.

Kajol on what went behind the making of 'The Trial - Pyaar, Kanoon, Dhoka'

Kajol is set to make her web series debut playing the role of Noyonika Sengupta, a fierce lawyer, mother and a wife 'The Trial - Pyaar, Kanoon, Dhoka'. 'The Trial' is a story of a wife's choices. The series also has a stellar ensemble with Sheeba Chaddha, Jishu Sengupta, Alykhan, Kubbra Sait and Gaurav Pandey in pivotal roles.

Opening up about the camaraderie on the sets of 'The Trial - Pyaar, Kanoon, Dhoka', Kajol said: "We had an absolute great time on set. Suparn was like our gang leader. He just made sure that we were all comfortable around each other as far as the dialogues and other aspects were concerned."

"I think everybody was pretty much a veteran on set, everybody worked on many films before this, have done a lot of work, been in the industry for years. So, it was really comfortable, easy and good fun. I do love legal drama but I didn't really go into detail and exact legalities of things."



Star Bharat brings the sizzle of 'Jhakas' June from Jun 15

Star Bharat, India's leading entertainment channel, is all set to enthrall its viewers with a power-packed Drama filled episodes for the show. With a diverse range of engaging content, Star Bharat continues to captivate audiences with its unique storytelling and compelling narratives. This June, from 15th viewers can look forward to an array of thrilling twists, emotional turns, and unforgettable moments in their favorite shows: 'Ajooni,' 'Meri Saas Bhoot Hai,' 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho,' and 'Aashao Ka Savera...Dheere Dheere Se.'



Ibrahim steps into the role of Pathaan to protect his family from impending danger. With his new avatar, Shoaib Ibrahim is all set to captivate viewers with his powerful performance and bring a refreshing twist to the show. 'Meri Saas Bhoot Hai' is gearing up for an exciting leap of one year, bringing about significant changes

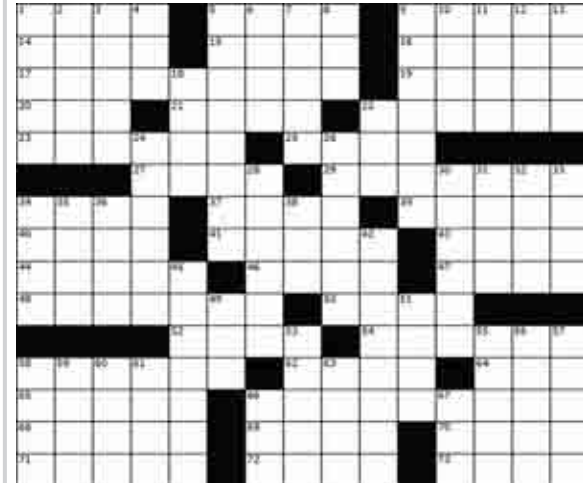
in the lives of its characters. Gaura, played by Kajal Chauhan, will finally break free from her troubled marriage with Som and embark on a journey to become a successful Ghostbuster, teaming up with her mother-in-law, Rekha played by Susmita Mukherjee. now This leap promises to deliver a

roller-coaster of emotions and unexpected turns that will leave audiences hooked as the show will now air on prime time slot starting from 15th June 9:00 PM

'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho' is about to take a dramatic turn as Vidhi, the protagonist, finds herself forcibly ousted from the Raichand house by Jay. The series will also introduce a new character, Chitra's husband, who will stir up turmoil in the lives of Dev and Vidhi. Brace yourself for gripping storytelling, intense performances, and an intriguing plot that will keep viewers on the edge of their seats. Stay Tuned to watch Star Bharat for more drama and entertainment every Monday-Friday.

CROSSWORD

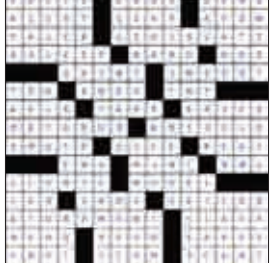
673



- ACROSS**
- Assigned job
 - Throat-clearing sound
 - Chicago's airport
 - Leer
 - Skin opening
 - Kind of infection
 - Carry
 - Makes level
 - Still, poetically
 - Despise
 - Make
 - Shooting star
 - Bargain
 - Think
 - Began
 - Surrealist painter Salvador
 - Cranny
 - Freedom from war
 - Great deal (2 wds.)
 - Roman gown
 - Farm unit
 - Thorny blooms
 - Teamster's rig
 - Serve tea

- Knitting rods
- One time only
- A Baldwin brother
- Martial artist Chuck
- In danger (2 wds.)
- Urgent acronym
- Compass dir.
- Setter
- Square dance figure
- Syrup tree
- Too
- Citric
- Drive too fast
- Lunchtime
- School groups (abbr.)
- Mexican snack
- Unbleached color
- Antlered animal
- Mild oath
- Soothing plant
- Come in last
- First number
- Reddish spice
- Cut
- BPOE member
- Manage
- Monte
- Respond (to)
- Gandhi's nation
- Flower flowers
- Intentions
- Mouse catcher
- Ready to pick
- Capri or Wight
- Average (hyph.)
- Pot's partner
- Short sleep

SOLUTION 672



- DOWN**
- Carved pole
 - Consent
 - Bias
 - Barbie's beau
 - Obvious
 - Owl's cry
 - Miscalculated
 - Converged
 - Partly cover
 - Bee's home
 - Realm
 - Speak wildly
 - Ultimatum word
 - Slipper
 - Tabby, e.g.
 - Revised
 - Igloo dweller
 - Styling foam
 - The Grim

AUSTRALIA ON TOP OF THE TEST WORLD



Cricket's behemoth India lose yet again

London, Jun 11 (PTI):

India, for all its financial clout and hoo-ha around its cricket, lost yet again when it mattered the most, as its underwhelming record in ICC tournaments continued with a 209-run hammering by Australia in the WTC final here on Sunday.

Australian pacer Scott Boland produced a bowling spell of rare quality to get rid of Virat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja in the same over, effectively shutting the door on India, who were bowled out for 234 in their second innings on the final day at The Oval.

Australia were clearly the better team on all fronts while India had only themselves to blame for yet another loss in a global event. India's last ICC title came way

back in 2013 and it was their second successive defeat in the WTC final, having gone down against New Zealand two years ago. India lost seven wickets for the addition of 70 runs on the final day.

While the non selection of R Ashwin was the big talking point on the opening day, India lost the title contest mainly due to the failure of their high-profile batting line-up.

The top four comprising Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, Cheteshwar Pujara and Kohli failed to deliver in the high-stake game.

Chasing a record 444 at The Oval, Indian fans went into day five high on hope with Kohli (49) and Ajinkya Rahane (46) walking into the middle.

However, Boland removing Kohli and Jadeja (0) in the seventh over of the morning pretty much shut the door on India, who resumed the day at 164 for three needing another 280 runs for an

Australia:
469 and 270/8
India:
296 and 234

improbable win. Kohli, who had looked in extremely good touch on day four, had to make a big hundred if India had to get anywhere close to the massive target. On a surface with variable bounce, there was always going to be an odd ball that had your name on it, and that is what happened with both Kohli and Jadeja.

Boland's relentless pursuit around the off-stump has added an extra dimension to the Australian attack. Bowling from the pavilion end, the seamer pitched one wide and Kohli went

for the drive only to be caught by a flying Steve Smith at second slip.

Two balls later, he got one to seam away from round the wicket and Jadeja ended up offering an easy catch to the wicketkeeper, leaving India at 179 for five.

K S Bharat then joined Rahane who played a couple of beautiful straight drives off Mitchell Starc to keep crowd going.

Starc drew his length back soon after and Rahane went hard at a ball that he could have left to be caught behind, sealing his team's fate. The experienced batter was left tapping his head in frustration knowing he went for the wrong shot.

Shardul Thakur lasted just five balls, lbw off Nathan Lyon, to make it 213 for seven. It seemed the match would last till lunch but the Indian tail made the task easier for the Australians and were bowled out in the extra half hour of play.

We let ourselves down with the ball: Rohit

London, Jun 11 (PTI):

India skipper Rohit Sharma blamed poor bowling in the first innings for their crushing defeat in the World Test Championship against Australia but said no one can take away from his side the good work done in the last two years. Having lost to New Zealand two years ago in the WTC final of the 2019-21 cycle, India were not good enough on the second appearance in the final as Australia adding one more trophy to their expansive cabinet. India let Australia score a huge 469 in their first innings and then struggled to match that. They were bowled out for 234. The contest was decided the moment Steve Smith took a sharp catch in the slip to get rid of Virat Kohli (49) off Scott Boland after India resumed their chase on the

final day. India needed 280 runs more to win but could add a mere 70 runs in a slightly extended morning session as the Australian bowlers ran riot. "It was a tough one. We started well, winning the toss and putting them into bat in those conditions. We bowled pretty well in the first session and then we let ourselves down a little bit with how we bowled," Rohit said during the post-match presentation ceremony. "But again, credit to the Australian batters, in particular, Travis Head came in and played really well. That took us off guard a little bit and then we knew it was always hard to come back. We (did) put up a show. "We fought hard but congratulations to Australia. We spoke of a lot of things. We spoke of bowling tighter lines. But it didn't work out. Things like that can happen," the India captain said.

Scott Boland my favourite player: Pat Cummins

London, Jun 11 (PTI):

Australia captain Pat Cummins commended Scott Boland for playing a decisive role in his team's comprehensive 209-run win in the World Test Championship final, saying the seamer remains his favourite player. Boland troubled India throughout the game with his incisive bowling, not allowing the famed Indian batting line-up to breathe easy at any point in the contest which lasted a little over lunch on the fifth and final day. The right-arm seamer Boland accounted for Shubman Gill (18), Virat Kohli (49) and Ravindra Jadeja (0) in the second innings as India were bowled out for 234 while chasing 444. "We left Day One feeling like we were on top of the game. When it counted, we played really well. We could have really driven the game, didn't have

our best day and let India closer back in. For the most parts, we were in control. Boland - he's my favourite player. He just continues to be my favourite," Cummins said. "Coming off a break, everyone switched on when it mattered. Everyone played really well and we'll savour this for a few days before we turn our attention (to the Ashes)," he said. The Australia captain Cummins also praised Travis Head (163) and Steve Smith (121) for their first-innings heroics, with their 285-run fourth wicket stand putting up the platform for Australia's win. "We made the most of it (losing the toss). We were certainly going to bowl. The way Travis (Head) and Smithy (Steve Smith) put on that partnership, gave us comfort after a nervy morning," Cummins told the broadcaster after Australia added one more trophy to their kitty.

Man City beats Inter Milan for first Champions League title



Istanbul, Jun 11 (AP):

Billions of dollars have been spent and many tears shed on Manchester City's journey to the summit of European soccer.

The mission was completed in Istanbul's Ataturk Olimpiyat Stadium on Saturday as the Abu Dhabi-backed club won the Champions League title for the first time and perhaps heralded the start of a new era of dominance in the competition.

"It was written in the stars. It belongs to us," said Pep Guardiola after the 1-0 win against Inter Milan, as tears flowed again from the manager, his players and a sea of blue-shirted fans.

On this occasion, the emotion was pure ecstasy after so many disappointments on this stage.

The victory, courtesy of Rodri's 68th minute goal, has been 15 years in the

making since Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan transformed City into one of the richest teams in the world overnight.

This was the final frontier for Guardiola's team, which also completed a rare treble of trophies after winning the Premier League title and FA Cup this season.

The Champions League had always been a step that seemed out of reach even for a team that has spent more than 1.5 billion on the world's best players and hired probably the greatest coach of his generation in Guardiola.

With that psychological barrier broken and the spending power to further improve a team that has already proved too good for the rest, the potential is there to win European club soccer's biggest prize on multiple occasions. Guardiola joked about

being "just 13 Champions Leagues away" from Real Madrid.

"If you sleep a little bit we will catch you," he said. "But I don't want after one Champions League to disappear, so work harder next season and be in there. There are teams that win the Champions League and after one or two seasons disappear. This is what you have to avoid. Knowing me this is not going to happen. But at the same time I have to admit it, it is a big relief for the club, for the institution, for everyone to have this trophy. Because now, finally, they don't have to ask me if we are going to win the Champions League or not."

This trophy will also strengthen the case to declare Guardiola the greatest coach ever as he collected his third Champions League title and 30th major piece of silverware.

India stun South Korea, clinch maiden Women's Jr Asia Cup title

Kakamigahara, Jun 11 (PTI):

India put up a collective show to stun four-time champions South Korea 2-1 and clinch their maiden Women's Junior Hockey Asia Cup here on Sunday. Annu and Neelam scored for India while Park Seo Yeon was the lone goal scorer for Korea.

After a barren first quarter, India got going with a 22nd minute goal by Annu from a penalty corner.

Annu made amends for her miss in the semifinal against Japan, as she stepped up in style to beat the goalkeeper and give India the lead against the run of play.

South Korea took three minutes to bring it level when Park Seo Yeon struck from the right following a brilliant surge from the right.

Neelam struck powerfully to the low right of the South Korean goalkeeper to help India regain the lead in the 41st



minute.

India held on to their slender lead in the third quarter to seal the issue.

South Korea had a lot of chances with India generously giving them PCs one after the other, but they failed to convert.

Before this, India's best-ever finish in the tournament was in 2012 edition in Bangkok when they entered the final of the continental showpiece for the first time, only to lose to

HI announces cash rewards

Hockey India has declared a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh for each player while the support staff will receive Rs 1 lakh for their splendid show. India finished unbeaten in the tournament and also secured a spot in the Women's Junior World Cup 2023 slated in Chile later this year. "We are filled with immense pride as the Indian Junior Women's team clinched their maiden Junior Asia Cup, leaving us all in awe. "It will serve as a strong foundation for their upcoming challenge at the Junior World Cup later this year," Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey said.

China 2-5. Indian captain Preeti who was named Player-of-the-Match said

they had their strategy in place following a 1-1 draw against the Koreans in the

round-robin stage.

"We were acutely aware of the specific areas we needed to excel in order to overcome the Koreans," Preeti said.

"The final match brought about a considerable amount of nerves. However, we knew that as a team we have to play our best game to achieve something special and that's exactly what we did. We are elated to make our nation proud," she added.

Is Iga Swiatek the Next Queen of Clay?

Paris, Jun 11 (AP):

Rafael Nadal's French Open record might be a long shot for Iga Swiatek but the Pole has now triumphed three times at Roland Garros and tournament director Amelie Mauresmo sees more success for her in Paris.

Swiatek, 22, lifted the Suzanne Lenglen Cup on Saturday for the third time in four years, becoming the youngest to win the claycourt Grand Slam twice in a row since Monica Seles in 1992.

"She's getting this special relationship with Roland Garros over the years. She's still young, won her first in 2020 and we can imagine that she will lift the trophy many more times here," former world number one and twice major champion Mauresmo told reporters after Swiatek beat Czech Karolina Muchova 6-2, 5-7, 6-4 in the final. According to Mauresmo, who shone on grass and hardcourts but never won the French Open, Swiatek has the all the qualities needed to reign on clay.

"Her game is really suited to the surface, she moves remarkably, slides perfectly and she's tough mentally," said Mauresmo.



Asked if she could one day emulate Nadal's staggering record of 14 titles at Roland Garros, Mauresmo replied: "From three to 14, there's a long way, but the fact is that she's won three of the last four."

India face Vanuatu with an eye on final

Bhubaneswar, Jun 11 (PTI):

On a high after their convincing win over Mongolia, India will look to seal a final berth when they face Vanuatu in the football tournament here on Monday.

The hosts blanked Mongolia 2-0 in their tournament opener on Friday, while Vanuatu went down 1-3 to Lebanon.

So, as things stand, the Blue Tigers will seal their final berth if they win against the team from Oceania. Lebanon are the other team that is in the hunt for a final berth as they face Mongolia in the earlier kick-off at the Kalinga Stadium. Against

Mongolia, India sealed victory in the opening quarter itself, with quick-fire goals from Sahal Abdul Samad and Lallianzuala Chhangte to bag their sixth straight win on home soil. "I was most impressed with the players' intention of adding to the game we've been practising during the training sessions," India head coach Igor Stimac said.

The visiting teams have found it tough to deal with Bhubaneswar's hot and humid conditions.

"The weather does make a lot of impact on the pitch, but we need to be honest that we have an advantage in that sense because we've already trained here for more than three weeks," Stimac said.

