



### BRIEF



A devotee offers prayers on the occasion of Eid-al-Adha, at Jama Masjid Khairuddin, Thursday.

### Arrested

**Hailakandi:** AIUFD MLA Nijam Uddin Choudhury has been arrested for allegedly "assaulting" a BJP worker and others and "preventing" police personnel from performing their duties in an outpost in Assam's Hailakandi district, a senior officer said on Thursday. Ataur Rahman Laskar, a member of the BJP's minority cell, lodged a complaint, alleging that the Algapur MLA and three others had assaulted him near Dholeswari point in Panchgram on Wednesday, following which he rushed to the Katakhal outpost, Hailakandi Superintendent of Police Leena Doley told reporters.

### Obeisance

**Jammu:** Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dr Justice D Y Chandrachud visited the holy cave Shrine of Mata Vaishnodevi and paid obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum in Jammu and Kashmir's Katra belt. This is the first visit of Justice Chandrachud to the holy shrine after taking over as the CJI. On his arrival at Katra, the Chief Justice of India was received by Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, the official spokesman of the board, said.

### Charges

**Mumbai:** A special court here has framed charges against gangster Ravi Pujari in a case related to the 1999 murder of an alleged member of fugitive underworld don Dawood Ibrahim's gang. The charges were framed against Pujari on Wednesday for conspiring with the now acquitted accused for allegedly committing the crime, his lawyer D S Manerkar said.

### Double murder

**Berhampur:** Two persons including one with criminal records were suspected to have been killed and burnt by a rival group in Odisha's Ganjam district on Thursday. Police recovered their half-burnt bodies from a roadside at Mohada under Digapahandi police station area.

**Weather**

High 26 Low 24

## Police stops Rahul's convoy

At Bishnupur

Imphal, Jun 29 (PTD):

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's convoy was on Thursday stopped by the Manipur police at Bishnupur, about 20 kilometres from Imphal, officials said.

After arriving at Imphal, he was travelling in a convoy to Churachandpur to visit relief camps in the area.

Police officials said the convoy was stopped fearing violence along the route. They said that tyres were burnt on the highway near Utluu village in Bishnupur district and a few stones were thrown at the convoy. "We fear repetition of such events and hence as a precaution, requested the convoy to halt at Bishnupur," a police officer told PTI. Congress office bearers are speaking with the police and army authorities to ensure safe passage for their party leader. More than 100 people have lost their lives in the ethnic violence between



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi after being stopped by the Manipur police, in Bishnupur district, Thursday.

### 'Totally unacceptable, shatters all democratic norms'

The Congress on Thursday hit out at the government after Rahul Gandhi's convoy was stopped by police near Bishnupur in Manipur and accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of using "autocratic methods" to stall his "compassionate outreach" to those hit by ethnic violence. The government action is "totally unacceptable and shatters all constitutional and democratic norms," Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said. In a tweet, Kharge said, "Gandhi's convoy in Manipur has been stopped by police near Bishnupur. He is going there to meet the people suffering in relief camps and to provide a healing touch in the strife-torn state. PM Modi has not bothered to break his silence on Manipur. He has left the state to fend for itself." "Now, his double engine disastrous governments are using autocratic methods to stall a compassionate outreach by Rahul Gandhi.

### Rahul visits relief camp



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday visited people displaced by the ethnic strife at Churachandpur in Manipur after reaching there in a helicopter, hours behind schedule as his convoy of vehicles was stopped by the state police mid-way fearing violence. Gandhi went to a relief camp and interacted with the inmates. The Congress leader had to stop at Bishnupur, around 20 kilometres from Imphal, after police halted his convoy fearing attacks on it. "Rahul Gandhi took a state government-provided chopper to visit Churachandpur. Top police and administration officials accompanied him in the helicopter," said a source at the airport.

tween Meitei and Kuki communities in the north-eastern state so far. Clashes first broke out on May 3 after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled

Tribe (ST) status. Meiteis account for about 53 per cent of Manipur's population and live mostly in the Imphal Valley. Tribals -- Nagas and Kukis -- constitute another 40 per cent of the population and reside in the hill districts.

**HEART VALVE CLINIC**

Heart Valve Disease Symptoms  
Breathing Difficulty | Chest Pain | Palpitations | Fatigue  
Dizziness Swollen Abdomen/Ankle/Foot

Dr. P. K. Hari Kumar  
Senior Consultant - Cardiac Surgery  
Every Friday | 10am - 3pm

Free Registration | ECG | Consultation

For more information  
9538052378

NH MMI Narayana Superspecialty Hospital, Raipur

## Nand Kumar Sai appointed CSIDC chairman

Raipur, Jun 29:

Veteran tribal leader Nand Kumar Sai, who joined the ruling Congress in Chhattisgarh after quitting the BJP last month, was on Thursday appointed chairman of the Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation, a cabinet-rank post, officials said. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's office posted the information about his appointment on its Twitter handle and congratulated him. The state government has accorded the cabinet minister rank to Sai following



his appointment as the chairman of CSIDC, it said. The Assembly elections in Chhattisgarh are due this year-end. On April 30 this year, Sai (77), a former three-term Lok Sabha MP and three-time MLA, quit the BJP, claiming the party leaders were trying to tarnish his image by hatching conspiracies and leveling false allegations against him. He joined the Congress on May 1 and since then he was expected to get a bigger responsibility in the government.

### BEST WISHES



Newly appointed Dy. CM and Health Minister T.S Singh Deo paid a courtesy visit to the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at his official residence here on Thursday. CM Baghel congratulated and extended best wishes to Health Minister Singh Deo for being appointed as the Deputy Chief Minister. Former Union Minister, Kumari Selja, Additional Chief Secretary Subrat Sahoo and others were present on this occasion.

## 'Never spoke about rotational CM post'

Buzz created by media

Raipur, Jun 29:

A day after the Congress's move to appoint T S Singh Deo as the deputy chief minister of Chhattisgarh, the state minister said he had never spoken of an "agreement" on rotation of the chief ministerial post and claimed it was a buzz created by the media.



CM Bhupesh Baghel congratulates newly appointed Deputy Chief Minister T.S. Singh Deo during a meeting, on Thursday.

After arriving at the Raipur airport from New Delhi on Thursday morning, Singh Deo expressed gratitude to the party for the announcement of his elevation and said "der aaye durust aaye" (better late than never).

The decision to appoint president Mallikarjun Kharge has approved the proposal for the appointment of Singh Deo as the deputy chief minister in Chhattisgarh.

### Singhdeo appointed Deputy CM

A Congress statement on Wednesday said party president Mallikarjun Kharge has approved the proposal for the appointment of Singh Deo as the deputy chief minister in Chhattisgarh. The decision to appoint him as the deputy CM came just a few months ahead of state Assembly elections due this year-end, but Singh Deo said the responsibility given even for a day is crucial.

The Congress's move to appoint Singh Deo, locked in a turf war with CM Baghel for months, as deputy CM appears to be an attempt to stem infighting in the state unit and prepare it for the year-end Assembly polls.

## Reshuffle soon? PM to chair ministers' meet on July 3

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTD):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair a meeting of the Union Council of Ministers on July 3, officials said on Thursday.

This comes a day after Modi held hectic deliberations with top BJP leaders, triggering speculation about a possible reshuffle of his Council of Ministers. The July 3 meeting is likely to be held at the newly built convention centre at Pragati Maidan here, which will host the G20 summit in September. On Wednesday, Modi held marathon meetings with Union Home Minister

Amit Shah and BJP president J P Nadda, among others. Nadda's participation in the meeting led to speculation about changes in the government and BJP organisation, including at the state-level, as the party gears up for key assembly elections due later this year and the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. For the past few days, Shah, Nadda and BJP general secretary (organisation) B L Santosh have held several rounds of deliberations on organisational and political issues. Elections are due in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Mizoram later this year.

## SC to hear on July 3 plea of NGO

Seeking protection for Kuki tribals

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTD):

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on July 3 a plea by an NGO seeking Army protection for the minority Kuki tribals in Manipur and prosecution of communal groups attacking them.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and Manoj Misra will be hearing the petition filed by NGO Manipur Tribal Forum.

On June 20, a vacation bench headed by Justice

### MANIPUR VIOLENCE

Surya Kant had declined urgent hearing on the plea, saying it's a law and order issue which the administration should tackle. Senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, appearing for the NGO had submitted notwithstanding the solemn assurances that nobody will die, 70 tribals have been killed in ethnic violence in the state.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the State had opposed the prayer for urgent hearing, and asserted security agencies are on the ground doing their best to stem violence and restore normalcy. He had submitted that the main matter

pertaining to the Manipur High Court's order for grant of Scheduled Tribe status to the majority Meitei community, which set off a chain of violence in the northeastern state, has been posted for hearing on July 17 by the top court. The vacation bench had then posted the plea of the NGO for hearing on July 3. The Manipur Tribal Forum, in its plea filed through advocate Satya Mitra, has alleged the central government and the chief minister of Manipur have jointly embarked on a communal agenda aimed at "ethnic cleansing" of Kuki tribals in the northeastern state.

## TCS bans 6 employees for favouring staffing firms

Mumbai, Jun 29 (PTD):

TCS has taken action against six employees after finding them guilty of accepting favours from certain staffing firms in the appointment of contractual workers, Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran said on Thursday. The largest IT services exporter is investigating the role of three more of its employees, Chandrasekaran said while speaking at the TCS annual general meeting here. "We have banned six employees and also six companies," he said in response to questions from shareholders. He said the company received

two separate whistleblower complaints -- one pertaining to appointment of business associates or contractual workers in the US, and one in India, in late February and March, after which it investigated the allegations. Chandrasekaran said he cannot quantify the favours these employees got but the banned employees behaved in such a way that they were favouring certain firms. "The company will look at the whole BA (Business Associate) supplier management process and see what the weaknesses are and will completely tighten the process to ensure that we do not have such incidents," he said.

## When PM hailed as 'hero', 'boss' abroad, Cong gets 'stomach ache': Nadda

Bharatpur, Jun 29 (PTD):

BJP president J P Nadda pilloried the Congress on Thursday, saying its leaders get "stomach ache" when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is praised across the globe and call him names.

While the prime minister of Australia says "Modi, you are the boss" and Elon Musk says "I am a fan of Modi", here the Congress calls him "vile", "snake", "scorpion", "tea-seller", he said. Nadda also called Congress people "illiterate" in reference to their remarks on food inflation in the country. The BJP chief



BJP National President JP Nadda addresses during a public meeting, in Bharatpur district, Thursday.

addressed party workers after inaugurating a party office building in Bharatpur and later addressed a public rally in Nadbai in the district. He

attacked the opposition parties over dynasty politics saying that if people vote for such parties, they make certain families and their children flourish.

## Naxalites kill deputy sarpanch, teacher

Sukma, Jun 29:

A deputy village sarpanch and a teacher were killed by suspected Naxalites after holding a so-called 'jan adalat' or kangaroo court in Sukma district, police said on Thursday. The two were performing their respective duty with dedication, but Naxalites killed them out of frustration, an official said. Deputy sarpanch Madvi Ganga and 'Shiksha Doot' (temporary visiting teacher) Kawasi Sukka were summoned by Naxalites to Duled village under Jagargunda sub-division eight days ago, said

district Superintendent of Police Kiran Chauhan. Two years ago, Ganga, who has been actively creating awareness about government's welfare schemes in the area, was similarly called by Naxalites and kept in captivity for some days before being released, he said. His family members thought this time too he would be released after a few days, the SP said.

Some villagers and leaders of tribal communities approached Naxalites to secure the release of the duo, but to no avail. On being alerted about, the police tried to trace their whereabouts, Chauhan said.

### EXCHANGE OF GREETINGS



BSF personnel and Pakistani Rangers personnel exchange sweets on the occasion of Eid-al-Adha, at the India-Pakistan Attari-Wagah border, near Amritsar, Thursday.



# Commemorating Veer Terriers of 107 Infantry Battalion (TA) 11 GR on First **SHAHEED DIWAS**



**Lt. Col. Kapil Dev Pandey**  
( 01 Dec 1979 - 30 June 2022 )

## DECORATIONS

Special Service Medal (Operation Rhino)  
Special Service Medal (Operation Rakshak)  
Sainya Seva Medal (Bengal Assam)  
Sainya Seva Medal (Jammu and Kashmir)



Sub Umesh Lama



Sub Sajit Subba



Nb Sub Sitaram Rai



Hav Chandan Gurung



Hav Deepak Pradhan



Hav Milan Tamang



Hav Umesh Limbu



Hav Bedhyan Rai



Hav Santu Banerjee



L/Hav Bikram Sarki



NK Chhedup Lama



NK Tshering Lepcha



NK Diwankar Thapa



LNK Bhupen Rai



LNK Bishal Chhetri



RFN Prasanta Deb



RFN Sanjoy Debnath



RFN Mahiuddin Ahmed



RFN Md Jairul Hoque



RFN Balaram Sharma



RFN Sankar Chhetri



RFN Ladup Tamang



RFN Shubam Kumar Singh



RFN Marcus Gurung



RFN Sanjay Oraon



RFN Benjamin Rai



RFN Pritam Kumar Dutta



RFN Tak Bahadur Thapa



RFN Priyam Dutta

**Praying for the martyrs and their families**

**Smt. Kusum Pandey (Veer Mata)** Plot No 63/1, Nehru Nagar (East), Near Kalibari, Bhilai Nagar, Durg (CG)

Lt Col (Retd) Chhavi Pandey (Veer Patni), Bhavana Pandey (Veer Behan), Kanchan Agrawal (Veer Behan), Pradeep Agrawal (Jijaji), Abhiraj Dev Pandey (son), Abeer Dev Pandey (son), Himanshu Agrawal (Bhanja), Alisha Agrawal (Bhanja Bahu), Swastik Agrawal (Naati)



## PM Modi to visit Ch'garh on July 7

BJP leaders asked to start preparations

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 29:** Amidst growing political heat ahead of the next Legislative Assembly polls scheduled to be held later this year, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be arriving to Chhattisgarh next month.

According to the information received, Prime Minister Modi during his visit to poll-bound Chhattisgarh would be interacting with intellectuals to mark the 9 years of BJP regime under his leadership. Apart from it, he might also inaugurate the newly-established IIT Bhilai campus in Durg District. However, the de-



tail programme is yet to be issued from the PMO.

It is learnt that the Chhattisgarh BJP leaders have been given signals over his visit to Chhattisgarh. Accordingly, the leaders have geared up prepara-

tions to welcome him next month. During his visit, PM is likely to take part in programmes at Durg and Raipur. July 7 is the tentative date of his visit as reported by the BJP leaders here.

Meanwhile, the National President of BJP Jagat Prakash Nadda would be addressing a public meeting on June 30 in Bilaspur to create political atmosphere in favour of the saffron brigade. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh have already visited recently to highlight the achievement of Modi government.

## Congress not to benefit from elevation of Singhdeo: BJP

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 29:** Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Brijmohan Agrawal on Thursday claimed that the ruling Congress would not benefit from the elevation of Cabinet Minister TS Singhdeo to the post of Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

In a statement issued here, the senior BJP leader further claimed that recent decision would not benefit Congress but TS Singhdeo would further loose his mandate and respect.

He further opined that Singhdeo would also teach a lesson to the Congress on being denied the respect during the last four and half years of regime. Agrawal said that people from Sarguja are agitated over the perform-

ance of Singhdeo during the last four and half years and added that Congress would suffer heavy defeat in the tribal-dominated Sarguja region.

Agrawal further claimed that the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has also lost support from the Congress high command over recent exposure of his associates in Coal and Excise (Liquor) scam which resulted in elevation of Singhdeo as Deputy CM to save the face by Congress.

Leader of Opposition in Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Narayan Chandel has also questioned the decision of the Congress high command to elevate Singhdeo and alleged that it's a face saving exercise amidst growing corruption in Congress-ruled Chhattisgarh.

## BOOKS ON DEMAND



The students have started purchasing of books and copies for the new academic session and the books stores are witnessing huge crowd daily.

## 'Media persons advocates amendments in COTPA Act'

An appeal for combined efforts to make state 'Tobacco-Free' was made in the programme

Raipur, Jun 29:

In the one-day Media Interaction Workshop organised by Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI), in order to make Chhattisgarh a "Tobacco-free" state and to strengthen the laws for tobacco control Act and COTPA-2003, all the media representative advocated for changes in the COTPA Act.

Apart from this they laid emphasis on creating public awareness among children and youth in order to save their life and making combined efforts for strengthening COTPA Act. The programme remained focused on creating awareness about



harmful effects of Tobacco on health and to make changes in the law for effective control on use of tobacco products. During this CEO VHAI New Delhi Bhawana B Mukhopadhyay and Binoy

Mathew gave information in detailed about the present day condition of persons consuming tobacco and control on tobacco by the state government. The Chhattisgarh government has hailed the cam-

paign to make Chhattisgarh tobacco-free. They also gave information on ways and means of control on use of tobacco and its different aspects and effective means of tobacco control.

During this, the role of journalists on the issue of how to make implementation of various issues related to COTPA Act 2003, easily in Chhattisgarh were highlighted.

In this programme many senior journalists and media representatives from different newspapers groups, members from VHAI New Delhi Dr Swapnil Jain and VHAI Chhattisgarh representatives were specially present.

## Singh Deo's appointment as Dy CM is his 'insult': Sao

Raipur, Jun 29:

BJP's Chhattisgarh unit chief Arun Sao on Wednesday termed state minister T S Singh Deo's appointment as the state deputy chief minister as his insult, and said the decision will not save the Congress from being defeated in the upcoming assembly elections in the state.

Talking to reporters, Sao said, the move is just an attempt to settle differences within the ruling party in the state.

The Congress - the ruling party in Chhattisgarh - said in a statement on Wednesday night that party president Mallikarjun Kharge has approved the proposal to appoint Singh Deo as the



deputy chief minister in Chhattisgarh.

When asked about the development, Sao told reporters in Bilaspur, "Congress party does not have the right to appoint a deputy CM. It is the right of the CM and Governor."

"The other thing is that the Congress party, which had promised Singh Deo to make him CM for two-and-

a-half-years, has done injustice to him by making him deputy CM for just four months. It is an insult to Singh Deo ji," he said.

The decision is just an attempt to deal with infighting within the Congress, he added.

"It is clear that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel ji and Congress are afraid of the people's criticism of the state government. The Congress has made Chhattisgarh a den of corruption and addiction while there is no development work taking place," he said.

The decision will have no impact on elections as people of the state have decided to uproot Congress from the state and the ruling party will not have any benefit of it, he added.

## NAAC team on three-day visit to PRSU from July 20

Administration gears up for preparations

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 29:** National Assessment & Accreditation Council (NAAC) would be on visit to access the status of Pt Ravishanker Shukla University (PRSU) on July 20. It would after a long period of six years that NAAC would be visiting the prestigious University to evaluate the status.

According to the information received, the PRSU Management has started the preparations for the NAAC visit and has started uploading the achievements in the official website. Similarly, directives have been issued to the concern departments to remove the shortcomings pointed earlier.

During the three-day visit to PRSU, the NAAC team would be checking the various aspects of the syllabus apart from educational process, research and innovations before coming up with suggestions on key issues including the Institutional values.

Officials informed that mock drill would be conducted on July 5 and 6 to access the preparations. Head of Departments of various School of Studies have been directed to ensure an error-free preparations.

## Summer sports training camp ends, 99 players and 67 coaches awarded



Raipur, Jun 29:

A 30-day summer sports training camp was organized by the Sports and Youth Welfare Department from May 17 to June 15, 2023, at the Swami Vivekananda Stadium in Kota, Raipur. The camp concluded today at 5 pm at Swami

Vivekananda Stadium, Kota in the presence of Chief Guest Vikas Upadhyay, Parliamentary Secretary. He wished the players to move ahead with consistency in their field with discipline and sportsman spirit.

More than one thousand players of football, handball, volleyball, basketball,

athletics, hockey, netball, kabaddi, karate, rope skipping, table tennis, softball, fencing, kho-kho, squash and other sports were present in the closing ceremony. 99 players and 67 coaches were awarded for their outstanding performance in the camp. In this 30-day summer camp, 1019 boys and 821 girls, a total of 1840 players participated in 30 sports. NR Sahu, Additional Collector, Mr. Brijesh Singh Kshatriya, Joint Collector, Assistant Director Sports and Games Association, including members of the institute, PT teachers, trainers and players participated. The notification was read by Mr. Pravesh Joshi, Sports Officer. Vote of thanks was proposed by T. Ningraj Reddy, Senior Instructor.

## CRGB Regional Office, Raipur new building inaugurated

Raipur, Jun 29:

The inauguration ceremony of the new building of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank (CRGB), Regional Office Raipur was held with great enthusiasm and fanfare at the new premises, Mahadev Ghat Road, Sunder Nagar Raipur.

The chief guest in the program was the chairman of the bank, Mr. I.K. Gohil along with the General Manager (Operational Network-I) of the Bank, A.K. Behera, General Manager (Operation Network - II) A.K. Nirala, General Manager (Administration) Vijay Agarwal, General Manager (Vigilance), Arvind Mittal, Assistant General Manager (HR), G.N. Murthy, Assistant General Manager (Operations) Mr. Satishchandra Kashyap and Chief Manager



(LCPC) Mr. Piyush Shukla were present. At the outset of the program, all the guests were welcomed with a bouquet by the Regional Manager Mr. Amarjit Singh Khanuja. After that, the program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Chairman of the Bank Mr. I.K. Gohil by the lighting the traditional lamp. Detailed information on the achievements of the Regional Office, Raipur was provided by the Regional

Manager Mr. Khanuja in the programme.

It may be noted that the bank is celebrating the golden decade of its establishment, reviewing which, in his address, a detailed discussion was held by the chairman on the business growth of the bank and appreciating the contribution and role of the regional office, Raipur.

After this, General Manager (Operation-I) Mr. Behera Sir addressed the staff members present.

## Cong seeks to mollify Singh Deo with deputy CM post, gets poll-ready in Ch'garh

Raipur, Jun 29:

The Congress move on Wednesday to appoint Chhattisgarh minister TS Singh Deo, locked in a turf war with Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel for months, as deputy CM appears to be an attempt to stem infighting in the state unit and prepare it for the year-end Assembly polls.

Baghel, who faces a formidable challenge from the Opposition BJP in the crucial Assembly elections, immediately hailed Singh Deo's appointment, seeking to put up a united face.

What works in Singh Deo's favour is that he is a prominent leader and has a considerable following in the northern part of the state (Surguja). The sitting

MLA from Ambikapur also enjoys the confidence of party high command in New Delhi.

A party statement released in the national capital on Wednesday night said Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge has approved the proposal for the appointment of Singh Deo (70) as the deputy chief minister in Chhattisgarh.

The decision came after top Congress leaders from Chhattisgarh discussed the party's strategy and poll preparedness in the state during the meeting held in New Delhi earlier in the day.

Kharge, former party chief Rahul Gandhi, Chhattisgarh CM Baghel, party in-charge for the state Kumari Selja and

general secretary, organization, K C Venugopal were among the leaders who attended the meeting at the party headquarters in New Delhi.

After the appointment of Singh Deo, who hails from a royal family, Baghel wrote on Twitter, "Congratulations and best wishes to Maharaj Sahab for getting responsibility as Deputy Chief Minister".

Former CM and senior BJP leader Raman Singh took a dig and tweeted a rhyme, "dubne lagi kashti to kaptaan ne yu kuchh kiya, saup di hai patwar aadhi dusre ke hath me (when the boat started sinking, the captain did something like this, half of the helm has been handed over to someone else). Congratulations



to Maharaj ji for the remaining 4 months". According to political experts, the decision reflects Congress high command's attempt to keep its house in order ahead of the Assembly elections, where it will seek to retain power. The alleged differences between Baghel and his cabinet colleague Singh Deo

had spilled out in open in mid-2021 when speculation was rife that the latter will take over as CM for the remaining term as per a purported power-sharing pact agreed after the 2018 Assembly election results.

The CM post sharing formula had been a buzz in Chhattisgarh's political circles after the Congress came to power in December 2018 after a gap of 15 years. Then Baghel and his two senior cabinet colleagues — Singh Deo and Tamradhwaj Sahu — were leading contenders for the top post.

The power tussle between Singh Deo and Baghel took a new turn last year when the former gave up the panchayat and rural development department, hinting he had been

sidelined in the government though he continued to hold four other portfolios.

A scion of the erstwhile Sarguja royal family, Singh Deo is currently holding Health and Family Welfare, Medical Education, Twenty Point Implementation and Commercial Tax (GST) portfolios.

A three-time MLA, Singh Deo was elevated to the position of the Congress Legislative Party leader after the party lost the 2013 Assembly polls. Since then, Singh Deo made efforts to bring the party to power in 2018 in the state, considered as one of the bastions of the BJP. He was born on October 31, 1952, in Prayagraj (former-

ly Allahabad). His father late MS Singh Deo, an IAS officer, retired as Chief Secretary of the United Madhya Pradesh. His mother Devendra Kumari had been a minister in the Madhya Pradesh government.

TS Singh Deo studied at Scindia School, Gwalior, and later graduated in history from the prestigious Hindu College, New Delhi. Thereafter, he did his post-graduation from Hamidia College, Bhopal.

His political career started with the Municipal Council of Ambikapur of which he has twice been the chairman during 1983-88 and 1995-99.

Singh Deo was elected as an MLA for the first time in 2008 from the Surguja constituency,

which was earlier reserved for ST candidates and became a general seat (and came to be known as Ambikapur) after the delimitation in 2008. He retained the seat in 2013.

The Congress leader was given crucial charge of drafting the party's manifesto for the 2018 Assembly polls. He travelled across the state and consulted every section of society before preparing the pre-poll document.

The promises made by the Congress in its manifesto, particularly for farmers, were credited for the party's resounding victory in 2018.

Among people and political opponents, Singh Deo is seen as a soft-spoken, grounded and humble person.



## 23 urban PHCs of state turned into 'Model Hamar Hospital'

- Jointly by Health Department, Tata Trust together
- Out of these 14 hospitals got quality standard certification



Health Centers have been awarded the National Quality Assurance Standard (NQAS) certificate by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. CNIN has also collaborated with Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital, Nava Raipur, in screening and treatment of children suffering from Congenital Heart Disease. The closing program of the Model Urban Primary Health Center and CHD project

operated by the organization in Chhattisgarh was organized on Wednesday at a private hotel in Nava Raipur. The staff working in all 23 model Hamar hospitals were felicitated in the programme. Director of National Health Mission Mr. Bhoskar Vilas Sandipan while addressing the closing program of the project said that we have to provide good health facilities in both rural and urban areas. Health is everyone's

priority area. He thanked Tata Trust and CNIN for their cooperation in strengthening the primary health services in the state. Dr. Sita Ram Budaraju, Senior Health Advisor, Tata Trusts said at the event that we strive to make quality healthcare accessible and affordable, especially to underprivileged communities. With this objective we are working with the Government of Chhattisgarh since last few years.

Raipur's Bhanpuri, Bhatnagar, Labhandi, Rajatalab, Gudhiyari, Amasvani, Mathpuraina, Hirapur, Kanshiram Nagar, Devpuri, Gogaon Urban Primary Health Center, Charoda Urban Primary Health Center, Budha Mahadev Urban Primary Health Center in Kabirdham, Gandhi Chowk and Rajkishore Nagar of Bilaspur. Urban Primary Health Center, Nawapara Urban Primary Health Center Ambikapur, Korba's Dhodhipara and Gopalpur Urban Primary Health Center, Shri Ram Nagar Urban Primary Health Center Kanker, Baikunthdham Urban Primary Health Center, New Khursipar Urban Primary Health Center, Potia Kala Urban Primary Health Center are being developed as Hamar Hospital.

## Students enact parliamentarians to discuss burning issues



**Central Chronicle News**  
Raipur, Jun 29: The students of Class XII Political Science stream studying in Shri Gujarati English Medium School (GEMS) rose up to the expectations like matured politicians when they met together in a makeshift parliament and discussed on the topic 'Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability a Way of Life'. The students donning the roles of Speaker, Presiding Officer, Home Minister,

Finance Minister, Opposition members discussed on burning problems like floods, desertification, deforestation and other natural calamities affecting the country. The opposition members with their sharp pin pointed questions gave a tough time the government while ministers also came with tailored-made reply to satisfy the opposition benches. Kripa Patel took the role of Speaker, Harita as Presiding Officer, Anushruti as Home Minister, Ankita Taunk as Finance Minister

and Opposition benches were occupied by Hiral Parmar, Sanskar Shukla and others. Brain child of School Principal Dr Shailesh Sharma, youth parliament spelled success with the uniting efforts of faculty members Mrs Manisha Pandey, Vinay Rajput, Mrs Leena Verma and other faculty members. Vice Principal SV Chandrasekhar and Academic Coordinator gave useful guidance for the successful conduct of programme.

## Collector inspected Tehsil office

Instructions given for quick disposal of revenue case

**Central Chronicle News**

Raipur, Jun 29: Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure inspected Raipur Tehsil office on Wednesday. He inquired about the construction of the proposed new building of Tehsil office. He also asked to present the estimate and action plan. After that Collector inspected the court of Naib Tehsildar and Tehsildar. He reviewed the cases and asked the reason for the pending and instructed for early redressal. The Collector also expressed his displeasure over the non-redressal of the cases within the stipulated time. He also expressed displeasure over the case of revenue recovery not registered and asked the reason for not making continuous entry. The Collector, while re-



viewing the cases of Revenue Circular RBC 6-4, instructed to give assistance within the prescribed time period and instructed to maintain the register in all the branches. He asked the

patwari and the police to hold a coordination meeting and get the report soon. Dr. Bhure interacted with the residents coming to the office and inquired about the reason for their

visit, directed the officers to take immediate action on their applications. On this occasion, Additional Collector Mr. B.C. Sahu and SDM Devendra Patel, Tehsildar and other employees were present.

## Fun World entertainment fair to end on July 2

At BTI Ground, Shankar Nagar

**Central Chronicle News**

Raipur, Jun 29: The successfully running Fun World Entertainment Fair at BTI Ground, Shankar Nagar, Raipur will end on July 2. It is noteworthy that in this event there are hundreds of items of attractive range of craftsmen from many states on display which includes items to decorate the house, such as show pieces, furniture, home appliances and new range of terracotta items. Heavy footfall of the visitors was there from day 1 to purchase the items of their choice from wider range available. Apart from this, different types of swings are the center of attraction for the children here. In a way, this fair won the hearts of Raipurians, said. Tamanna Hussain, the Director of the fair who has



experienced in this field for two decades. He informed that this time this fair was of completely new style and attraction. In this amusement park built on the lines of London Bridge, apart from the children's fun zone, a wide range of handloom, handicraft, lifestyle, home decor, furniture and accessories of weavers from all over the country are available at affordable rates. There are many stalls in the expo, in which the main attractions are fancy, kosa, silk, Banarasi, Bhagalpuri. Linen, Chanderi, Lucknowi chicken sarees, besides

denim kurtis, batik prints, Jaipuri one-pieces, Punjabi phulkari, khadi shirts, jackets. In addition to this suits, bedsheets, fancy jewellery, stone jewellery, antique jewelry, colorful bangles, T-shirts, lowers, ladies garments and footwear, Patiala Juti, Rajasthani Mojari Juti, Bombay Sandal and best carpets in handloom, wood painting, furniture, bed and sofa covers, Pashmina shawls, Kashmiri kurtis, cosmetics, home appliances huge range are available here at affordable rates. He further said that the Raipurians liked the Fun

World Fair a lot. This time 20 to 22 types of swings were only for children and there are 11 to 12 types of swings for youth which include Break Dance, Columbus, Giant Wheel, Silambo, Dashing Car and Dragon Swing including Aero Plane, Mini Train, Car Swing and Mickey Mouse. The giant wheel that goes up to a larger height is the center of attraction. Due to this people got thrill along with entertainment. There is also a food zone for the taste lovers, which has large number of delicious food stall. The timings of the fair are from 5 pm to 10 pm daily.

## 1365 school buildings are being renovated in Bilaspur under MSJY

Renovation of schools will provide children with a better environment for learning

**Central Chronicle News**

Bilaspur, Jun 29: Chhattisgarh Government has launched the 'Mukhyamantri School Jatan Yojana' (MSJY) with the aim of developing high-quality infrastructure in schools across the state. Under this scheme, a total of 1365 schools in the district are currently undergoing renovations. This scheme, launched as per the directions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, aims to create a better learning environ-

ment for children by improving the condition of these schools. With the guidance of Collector Saurabh Kumar, the renovation work on school buildings is progressing steadily. The transformation of these 1365 schools is being carried out at a cost of Rs 74 crores, 74 lakhs, and 59 thousand. The renovation work includes roof repairs, wall painting, toilet refurbishment, and overall beautification. The school buildings are being painted using natu-

ral cow dung paint, making them visually attractive. The schools where the renovation work has been completed now have a completely new look. These schools will provide a conducive environment for students to learn. The villagers in the areas where the renovation work has been finished expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, stating that this scheme will improve school infrastructure and enable students to receive a quality education.

## CAIT celebrates National Traders Day: Amar Parwani

**Central Chronicle News**

Raipur, Jun 29: National Senior Vice President of Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) Amar Parwani, Chairman Magelal Malu, Amar Gidwani, State President Jitendra Doshi, Working President Vikram Singhdeo, Parmanand Jain, Vashu Makhija, General Secretary Surinder Singh, Working General Secretary Bharat Jain and Treasurer Ajay Agarwal informed that CAIT CG Chapter celebrated Danveer Bhamashah's birth anniversary as National Traders Day with enthusiasm. Simultaneously, a meeting of the State Executive Committee of CAIT was

also held. In the meeting CAIT C.G. office bearers and traders of all the district units of the CAIT CG chapter participated. Firstly National Senior Vice President of CAIT, Amar Parwani garlanded the picture of Danveer Shri Bhamashah and lit the lamp. After that, the organiser of the program, State General Secretary of CAIT Mr. Surinder Singh welcomed and congratulated all the members and all the executive members who came from various parts of state. Addressing the function Amar Parwani said that we all are celebrating the birth anniversary of Danveer Shri Bhamashah on this stage. It is probably



difficult to forget the period through which all of us have passed during the last three years. In those difficult times, all of us contributed whatever we could for our country. Remembering that time, today I see Danveer Shri Bhamashah in every trader. He further said that today we are celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence.

Parwani further said that traders must take advantage of the Mudra loan scheme. The bank gives loans up to Rs 10 lakh to small traders without any guarantee. Small traders should take advantage of this. CAIT appeals to all business organizations to organise Mudra loan camps in their unit from time to time. He further said that all traders should

get Udyam Aadhaar registration done in MSME. CAIT CG State President, Mr. Jitendra Doshi said that today on June 28, the birth anniversary of Danveer Shri Bhamashah is celebrated as National Traders Day in the whole country. In this series CAIT CG Chapter celebrated the day with enthusiasm as National Traders Day. CAIT CG Working President of the chapter Mr. Parmanand Jain informed about the life and achievements of Danveer Shri Bhamashah. CAIT youth team state president Mr. Avneet Singh also addressed the function. Vote of thanks was expressed by Working General Secretary Bharat Jain.

## Lord Jagannath reached the temple with Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra

- 'Kapat Pheda Puja Vidhan' performed
- Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra devotees saluted Lord Jagannath by playing Tupki



Subhadra and Balabhadra Swamy were mounted on chariots and circumambulated under Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra Puja Vidhan and they reached the temple after nine days via the main road. During this, the devotees traditionally saluted by playing Tupki and had

come in large numbers to pay oblations. In the Shrimandir, the rituals of worship were completed according to tradition with the announcement of

saluting Lord Jagannath with Tupki. For which the sellers of 'Tupki' and 'Peng' from rural areas also reached the city and continued to sell Tupki to men and women at the square-intersections. In this confluence of faith, there was more demand for 'Tupki' in Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra than in Goncha Rath Yatra. Throughout the day, the sound of tupki saluting Lord Jagannath resounded in the city. Bastar Goncha festival The Bastar Goncha festival ended with the establishment of the charitable Lord Jagannath in the Shrimandir in the Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra Puja Vidhan. Now this festival will be celebrated next year.

Jagannathji's Jaikare and 'Hari Bolo'. After the Puja vidhan, 'Kapat-Feda Puja Vidhan' returned to the Shrimandir after getting upset on Panchami Tithi, dialogue with Mata Lakshmi and ceremony of respect, after Lakshmi-Narayan dialogue, the deities of Lord Jagannath, Mata Subhadra and Balabhadra Swamy are placed in the sanctum sanctorum of the Shrimandir. In the Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra of Bastar Goncha festival, a large number of devotees kept reaching for 'darshan' since morning, whereas the main attraction of Bastar Goncha was discharge of the tradition of

saluting Lord Jagannath with Tupki. For which the sellers of 'Tupki' and 'Peng' from rural areas also reached the city and continued to sell Tupki to men and women at the square-intersections. In this confluence of faith, there was more demand for 'Tupki' in Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra than in Goncha Rath Yatra. Throughout the day, the sound of tupki saluting Lord Jagannath resounded in the city. Bastar Goncha festival The Bastar Goncha festival ended with the establishment of the charitable Lord Jagannath in the Shrimandir in the Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra Puja Vidhan. Now this festival will be celebrated next year.

## Maryland Varsity presents honorary doctorate to Bhansali

**Central Chronicle News**



Raipur, Jun 29: Maryland University (USA) at a programmeor-

ganised at Indian Habitat Centre New Delhi honoured Congress leader and PISF Chairman NitinBhansali with honorary doctorate degree for his excellent work in the field of social service. Bhansali expressed his gratitude towards the university for this honour. His achievements has been hailed by his family and friends which include Minder Saluja, SatyendraShrivastav, Atharv Pandey, Sujata Agrawal and others.



## Take action against medical stores violating guidelines: Collector

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bijapur, Jun 29:** District Collector Rajendra Kumar Katara gave strict instructions to follow medical guidelines, while instructing the Chief Medical and Health Officer of the Health Department to provide better health facilities. The Collector said that there have been complaints about treatment at home by many doctors in the district headquarters and block headquarters, who treat at home without registration.

The civil surgeon was instructed to take quick action on the complaints

of doctors prescribing medicines for taking medicines from outside government hospitals. Reviewing the various agendas in the time-bound meeting, keeping in view the upcoming assembly elections, he instructed the inspection on all the polling stations and submitting the report of physical verification immediately, providing basic facilities including electricity, water, and ramps in the polling stations.

He also instructed regarding the current Kharif season, and the lifting of fertilizers and seeds, distribution of food grains in PDS shops, one-time food distribution in inaccessible areas, including prevention of seasonal diseases, 100 percent attendance of children in schools, Regular purchase of cow dung under Jal-Jeevan Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission, Godhan Nyay Yojana, sale of vermicompost made from cow dung, sale of cow dung

paint, livelihood oriented activities in all Gauthans, production of greens and vegetables in Gauthans, under MNREGA.

Instructions were also given for implementation of Rural Industrial Park (RIPA) Urban Slum Scheme, and tree plantation drive. CEO District Panchayat Mr. Ravi Kumar Sahu, Joint Collector Mr. Pawan Kumar Premi, Mrs. Suman Raj along with district level senior officers SDM, Deputy Collector CEO Janpad Panchayat and CMO of Urban Body were present in the meeting.



## Water logging due to torrential rains

**Central Chronicle News**

**Birkoni, Jun 29:** Due to continuous rain in the region, there are reports of water-logging in the entire district including the area. Heavy rains threw life out of gear due to water-logging and the condition has become such that the places where rain water never filled, there also people had to face problems due to water logging. People took the aid of buckets and other utensils to drain off the clogged water, causing discomfort as monsoon continuously is casting its spell on the region.

Also due to filling of several feet of water logged, people had to face difficulties in commuting and forced them to stay back at home. Meanwhile on the



other hand, the farmers got relief due to torrential rains and they heaved a sigh of relief as the rains drenched the fields. In Barbaspur, Badgaon, rain-water entered the houses

from the street, for which the villagers struggled throughout the day. However due to water logging, vegetable farming in the region has been affected, with prices set to

increase. After the rains stop, the work of sowing and threshing will speed up, in the fields, and farmers are waiting for the rains to decrease for a few days.

## Campaigning done in favour of MC Joshi



**In ward No. 14 of NPP Ahirwara for by-poll**

**Central Chronicle News**

**Nandini-Ahirwara, Jun 29:** For the by-polls in Nagar Palika Parishad (NPP), Ahirwara, ward No.14, massive public contact was done in favour of

the BJP's authorised candidate - ex-corporator Meena Chumman Joshi. In this, ex-MLA Rajmahant Sanwalram Dahare, ex-MLA Domanlal Korsewad, NPP District V-P Natwar Tamrakar, state working committee member Ravishankar Singh, Mandal president Liman Sahu, General Secretary

and corporator Anuj Sahu, senior leader Satish Sahu, ex-Mandal President Ishwar Verma, Laxmi Chatari, corporator Mokeshwari Sahu, Leeladhar Sahu, Nagar BJP President Vinod Gandharv, Vidhyanand Kushwaha, Mandal V-P Samaru Patel, Ganesh Tandon and others were present.

## Collector holds weekly time-limit meeting

**Central Chronicle News**

**Gaurella-Pendra-Marwahi, Jun 29:** District Collector Priyanka Rishi Mahobia in the weekly deadline meeting reviewed the purchase of cow dung in district wise Gothans. Instructions were given to increase the percentage of cow dung purchase, lifting of vermicompost, pasture development, and intensive tree plantation etc.

She instructed in ensuring purchase of cow dung in all the 146 Gauthans of the district, and directed to purchase at least 30 quintals of cow dung daily in coordination with rural agriculture extension officers, panchayat secretaries and village assistants.

She also instructed the



farmers and various departments to get the vermicompost prepared in Gauthans done, as there are 134 pastures in the district. In the first phase, she gave instructions to Deputy Director Pashu Dhan Vikas to plant Napier grass in all the fencing pastures, as part of the preparation for tree

plantation, in schools, Anganwadi centers, hostels and gram panchayats, including government offices and residential complexes, with the help of the Forest and Horticulture Department.

The Collector also asked the District Cooperative Central Bank's nodal officer and assistant registrar

cooperative institutions to jointly organize camps in panchayats to ensure timely distribution of fertilizers and seeds to farmers, so that farmers do not suffer losses due to lack of fertilizers and seeds. The Collector also reviewed department wise redressal of public grievances pending, and instructions were

given to the concerned officers for quick disposal of the cases.

She directed to complete Amrit Sarovars, Food Godowns, Haat-Bazar Clinics and Anganwadi Centers progressing under MNREGA as per the prescribed norms. Along with this, instructions were given for distribution of prize money to the winning participants of Chhattisgarhia Olympics held in the year 2022-23, physical verification of polling stations and ensuring availability of electricity, water, toilets, network under basic facilities. District officers including Project Director RK Khunte, Joint Collector Anand Roop Tiwari and Priya Goyal were present in the meeting.

## International Anti-Drug Day celebrated

**Central Chronicle News**

**Chakarbhatta, Jun 29:** International Anti-Drug Day was celebrated here in the region. On the occasion, the program concluded at Anurag Vidha Mandir Chakarbhatta in the dignified presence of Chief Guest DR Tandon, City Superintendent of Police, Program Chairman, Dinesh Chandra, Inspector Station House Officer, Chakarbhatta, Special Guest, Pardesi Ram Dhuvanshi, Chairman, NP Bodri, Vice President, Abhishek Dubey, and Chief Municipal Officer, Bharti Sahu. Also on the occasion painting, essay, debate and speech competitions were organized by the students of various schools.

The students took part in the program enthusiastically and all the partici-



pants and the excellent performing students were rewarded by the courtesy of the Chakarbhatta Police Station, as well as all the school heads of the city were felicitated by presenting mementos for a bright future.

City Superintendent of Police

D.R. Tandon in his address said that the purpose of the International Anti-Drug Day program is to spread awareness among the people and do important work in the direction of treatment related to the drug addicts and drug addicts.

Inspector Dinesh Kumar

Chandra, station in-charge Chakarbhatta said that drug addiction is such a disease which is continuously affecting the young generation and making them sick in many ways and everyone's role is important in raising awareness.

Special guest Nagar Panchayat President Pardesi Dhurvanshi said that we need to work together with public participation in the interest of the community with a healthy mind and a criminal incident by consuming intoxicants and installing CCTV cameras in the square intersections of the city by giving grants by the people of the city.

Vice President Abhishek Dubey said that all People's representatives need to join the campaign for de-addiction. Krishna Kumar Kaushik, President of Anurag Vidha Mandir, said that drug addiction can be fought with the cooperation of social workers and various government systems being run for the welfare of mankind. Students school staff, police staff and many others were present.

## Cong Minister discusses strategy for by-poll

**In NPP ward No. 14 of Ahirwara**

**Central Chronicle News**

**Nandini-Ahirwara, Jun 29:** A meeting with Congress party workers for the Nagar Palika Parishad (NPP) Ahirwara by-poll in ward No. 15 was held in the presence of MLA Ahirwara VS and Cabinet Minister Guru Rudra Kumar at Shakambhari Bhavan here on Monday. During this he held talks with the party workers about ground-level preparations and strategy for the by-poll and discussions were also held for the corporator by-poll.

On this occasion, the Minister administered pledge to all to take up the



government's pro-people and pro-farmers schemes to the poorest of the poor in the remote areas and speed-up the public contact campaign. He also made an appeal to all the vote in favour of Congress party's authorised candidate for NPP Ahirwara ward No. 14 by-poll- Domar

Singh alias Gajju Patel on the party symbol of 'panja' and ensure his victory.

On this occasion Heera Verma, Kailash Nahata, Saraswati Rathe, Durga Gajbhiye, Umesh Banjare, Nagmani Sahu, Jitendra Dewangan, Eid Mohammed, Baljit Singh and others were present.

## 'No sign of repair works in schools, students to face music'

**Due to delay in carrying out renovation and in construction of additional rooms in School**

**Delay in finalisation of agency for the work, causes inordinate delay**

**Rohit Verma**

**Kharora, Jun 29:** Due to intense heat in the second week of June, the school education department extended the summer vacations till June 25 and even after this the required repair works in many schools is still pending. In order to ensure proper repair and renovation in 193 schools with dilapidated buildings in the district, the state government had sanctioned above Rs. 11 crore. The Education Department sending the amount of PWD had asked for necessary repair works.

But the Department accepted to build additional rooms in the school and asked to carry out the repair works through Panchayat. With no work starting at such a short notice, the PHE

department was handed over the work.

It is learnt that the School Education department has asked not to get the repair works done through Panchayat Deptt and instead get it done through Shala Vikas Samiti (SVS) of the Schools. This led to wayward distribution of works and political interference and with many trying to pass on the work to their near & dear ones, the repair work could not start till date.

**Repairs to be carried out at the cost of Rs 3.75 cr in Tilda Block**

The chances of nepotism in this construction work of repair in the schools and likely fall in the quality standards is definitely going to take place in the schools to be repaired for an amount of Rs 3.73 cr. In majority of the Schools, it is primarily due to political involvement could not be started by the Shala Vikas Samiti.

With resistance on part of the political leaders of the region and not getting work by the SVS, ultimately it is the



students who are going to face the music during this monsoon season and both the SVS and School Education deptt is unaware about it.

**Walls are with cracks**

The condition of dilapidated school buildings is such that in order to provide education, either the schools are being conducted in Anganbadi centres, and at many a places in the Panchayat Bhavans, due to delayed repair works. The rooftops are with thin holes and condition of slab is so delicate that it needs to be demolished, instead of getting it repaired. Similarly the walls have developed cracks and

slightly inclined on one side. Apart from this additional rooms are also required to be constructed in many a schools and for which still no agency has been finalised.

**No effect of Collector's order**

With start of repair works in the school, with starting of school session, is definitely going to affect the studies and with inordinate delay in such work, it is going to be difficult for the students to come to schools during rains and have studies without water droplets from the top and there lies threat to their lives, if any untoward incident takes place.

**No tender for additional rooms:**

It is learnt that the construction of additional rooms in the school is to be done by PHE department and for which the tender process is still pending. In such conditions, chances of completion of additional rooms in schools this year are remote. In view of this the students taking admission would not be able to draw its benefit. The construction work would take more time and this will affect school's management and studies as well. There are around 51 Schools in Tilda block and here construction of additional rooms of an amount worth Rs 4 cr is to be carried out.

**What officer says:**

**Work would have gained momentum, if given to SVS**

Block Education officer has sought proposals from the Shala Vikas Samiti (SVS) and have kept them out of the purview of construction and repair works. But if at all the SVS would have been given the responsibility, then this work would have got completed well on time.

Abhishek Verma- President SVS- Sarpanch Panchari.

The Collector Sarveshwar Bhure, when contacted informed that the work has been started and it would be completed soon.

**SOUTH EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED**  
"A MINI RATNA COMPANY"

**NOTICE**

All the tenders issued by SECL for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of SECL <http://www.secl-cil.in>, CIL e-procurement portal <http://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Public Procurement Portal <http://eprocure.gov.in> In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal <http://gem.gov.in>. SECL's mining services tenders are also now available on GeM portal <http://gem.gov.in>

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

Registered Office : W-4/638A, Manappuram House, P.O. Valapad, Thrissur - 680 567, Kerala, India

**GOLD AUCTION NOTICE**

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 17/07/2023 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

DURG, CHARODA SQUARE, BHILAI, 134110700016270, 6705, 6749, 6777, 6796, 134110730021792, 2342, 2491, CHOUHAN ESTATE, 115880700023279, 115880730026937, 7219, GURUDWARA STATION ROAD, 112310700022548, 2703, 112310730037106, 7107, 7108, POWER HOUSE CHOWK, BHILAI, 134030700032032, 2052, 2618, 2693, 2732, 134030730031565, KAWARDHA, INDIRA GANDHI CHOWK, KAWARDHA, 134560700010125, RAIPUR, BADAIPARA, 113640700020743, 113640730018871, 8922, 8990, BANPURI, 114590700025432, 5492, 5567, 5579, 5585, 5598, 114590730015838, 5957, BUDHAPARA, RAIPUR, 124430700026513, 6557, 6569, 6625, 6691, 6745, 124430730021130, 1405, 1450, KATORA TALAB, RAIPUR, 131700700014005, PACHPEDINAKA CHOWK, RAIPUR, 128700700016743, 6864, 128700730017488, PANDRI, 114140700020046, 0365, 0413, 0496, 114140730017624, 7636, SADAR BAZAR BHATAPARA, 134460700009924, SANTHOSHI NAGAR RAIPUR, 131480700018312, 8554, 131480730022137, TELIBANDHA, RAIPUR, 123840700024726, 4888, RAJNANDGAON, LALBAGH, RAJNANDGAON, 133880700016122, 6193, 6256, 6402, 6410, 6452, 133880730036465.

Persons wishing to participate in the above auction shall comply with the following - Interested Bidders should submit Rs. 10,000/- as EMD (refundable to unsuccessful bidders) by way of Cash on the same day of auction. Bidders should carry valid ID card/PAN card. For more details please contact 9072604049.

Authorised Officer  
For Manappuram Finance Ltd



## BRIEF



Muslims offer 'namaz' at historic Jama Masjid on the occasion of Eid-al-Adha, in New Delhi, Thursday.

## Probe

**Agartala:** The Tripura police on Thursday started a probe into the death of seven people when a chariot came in contact with a live wire in Unakoti district during the return Rath Yatra festival, an official said. Based on a complaint lodged by the family of one of the deceased people, the police also registered an FIR against the organisers of the Rath Yatra at Kumarghat.

## Raped

**New Delhi:** A 16-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a 68-year-old man while his son ended up recording the act on his phone suspecting that his father practised black magic, police here said on Thursday. The incident came to light when the victim's father approached the police on Tuesday and showed the video shot by the accused's son, a senior police officer said.

## Booked

**Jaipur:** An FIR has been registered against Jaipur Heritage Municipal Corporation Mayor Munesh Gurjar and some Congress councillors for allegedly deterring a senior officer from performing his duties, police said on Thursday. The development comes days after the mayor and the Congress councillors staged a dharna against the officer for allegedly refusing to clear a file related to sanitation work and mistreating them.

## Mishap

**Bareilly:** Two persons were killed when their motorcycle was hit by a car on the Delhi-Lucknow highway here on Thursday, police said. Nanhe Shah (50) and his nephew Shahibe Alam (16) were on the highway when a car coming from Bareilly hit their motorcycle near the Sindhauli culvert under the Mirganj police station area, leaving them seriously injured.

## Fire

**Ranchi:** An fire broke out in four buses parked at a stand here on Thursday but there was no casualty, a police official said. The fire broke at the inter-state bus terminus at Khadgarha in Lower Bazar police station area, he said. There was no casualty as there was no one present in any of the four buses when the fire broke out, he said.

## Blocked

**Gopeshwar:** The Badrinath national highway was blocked on Thursday following a landslide triggered by heavy rain near Chhinka in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district, leaving hundreds of pilgrims stranded.

## NITISH ON SHAH'S VISIT

# 'Everyone is free to come to Bihar'

Patna, June 29 (PTI):

Ahead of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Lakhisarai on Thursday, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said everybody is free to visit the state.

Shah's visit to the state later during the day will be the first by any top BJP leader after the June 23 meeting here of opposition parties which was held to discuss and chart out a path ahead of the 2024 general election.

Kumar, who was speaking to reporters here, however, evaded questions on the Modi government's strong pitch for the Uniform Civil Code.

"Everyone is free to come here. Everyone has the right to visit Bihar," the chief minister said to questions on Shah's pro-

posed visit to Lakhisarai later in the day. Asked for his comment on the Opposition parties' meeting here, which was hosted by him, Kumar said, "The meeting is over. We will speak later on this".

Shah is slated to arrive at the Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport here this afternoon and leave for Lakhisarai in Munger district, about 150 km away, in a helicopter. He will address a mega rally at Lakhisarai. He will be received by senior BJP leaders, including the state party president Samrat Choudhary and union ministers from Bihar.

Shah will also offer prayers at Ashok Dham, a famous shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, before

addressing a public meeting there. Shah had last visited the state nearly three months ago.

Meanwhile, ahead of his visit to Lakhisarai, supporters of the ruling Mahagathbandhan parties and the opposition BJP have put up posters near the airport and at several locations in Patna. Those put up by supporters of the Grand Alliance government criticised the BJP leadership for violence in Manipur and misuse of central agencies the CBI, ED and the Income Tax department.

Some of the posters put up by the ruling alliance questioned the alleged silence of BJP leaders in the matter of wrestlers protesting against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI).

## RELIGIOUS RITUALS



A priest performs 'Kumari Puja' during 'Khuti Puja', a ritual before putting up 'pandals' to initiate Durga Puja festivities, in Kolkata, Thursday.

# Maha CM performs pooja in Pandharpur temple

On 'Ashadhi Ekadashi'

Pune, Jun 29 (PTI):

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde performed the 'maha pooja' of Lord Vitthal and Goddess Rukmini at a temple in Pandharpur town of Solapur district on the occasion of 'Ashadhi Ekadashi' on Thursday.

The CM, accompanied by his wife Lata Shinde, parliamentarian son Shrikant Shinde and other family members, prayed for a good monsoon and prosperity and happiness of farmers.

Warkari couple Bhausaheb Kale and Mangal Kale, residents of Nevasa in Ahmednagar, got the opportunity to perform the ritual alongside CM Shinde in the early hours of Thursday.



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde performs the 'maha pooja' of Lord Vitthal and Goddess Rukmini at a temple in Pandharpur town of Solapur district, Thursday.

"Rains have started in the state. I prayed to Lord Vitthal that the rainfall should be satisfactory in the state this year and farmers should be happy

and prosperous," Shinde later said in a tweet.

Addressing a gathering at the temple after performing the pooja, Shinde said Rs 73 crore have been

made available for the development of the temple premises and everyone will be taken into confidence while drafting the plan.

As a long-standing tradition, the chief minister of Maharashtra offers prayers at the famous temple dedicated to Lord Vitthal in Pandharpur on 'Ashadhi Ekadashi' every year.

Warkaris, the devotees of Lord Vitthal, take part in processions from different parts of the state every year as a mark of tribute to various saints.

The pilgrimage concludes in Pandharpur town on 'Ashadhi Ekadashi', which is observed with reverence by the followers of Lord Vitthal.

# Police seeks death sentence

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

## For Shahbad Dairy murder accused

The Delhi Police on Thursday said that the murder of 16-year-old girl in Shahbad Dairy area was well-planned and they have put together a watertight case to ensure the accused gets death.

"This was a case of well-planned murder which was carried out in revenge. We have all the evidence and within a month of incident we have submitted the charge sheet to get justice for the family of the victim," Special Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Dependra Pathak said.

"We carried out the investigation with a professional and focused approach in the Sakshi murder case and filed a charge sheet before the court in record time. We have tried to make the case as water-

tight as possible so that the accused gets the harshest punishment which is death sentence," he added.

Police have filed a charge sheet against Sahil, the man accused of repeatedly stabbing and bludgeoning the minor girl to death in full public view in the northwest Delhi's Shahbad Dairy locality on May 28. The 640-page charge sheet was filed before a POCSO court on Tuesday under POCSO's Section 12 (sexual harassment of a child) and sections of the Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, court sources said.

The accused has also been charged under IPC sections 302 (murder), 354 A (sexual harassment) and

509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) along with the provisions of the Arms Act.

The horrifying murder was caught on a CCTV camera and the footage showed the youth thrusting a knife into the girl no less than 20 times as several of people passed by but none intervened to save her.

She had 34 injury marks on her body and her skull was smashed, police had said after the incident. Sahil was arrested on May 29 from Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh.

Police said the investigation revealed that Sahil and Sakshi were in a relationship but often quarrelled. Both had a fight on May 27, following which Sahil decided to take revenge and killed her brutally the next day.

# People felicitated for giving land for Rs 280-cr 'Ekamra' project

Around Lingaraj temple

**Bhubaneswar, Jun 29 (PTI):** Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has felicitated people who gave their land for the Rs 280-crore 'Ekamra' project around the 11-century Lingaraj temple here. He also laid the foundation stone for the project on Wednesday. The state government had, in 2019, planned the Ekamra Kshetra Amenities and Monuments Revival Action Plan, which is known as the 'Ekamra' project. It will come up over 80 acres of land around the Lingaraj temple. Ahead of the foundation laying ceremony, 'bhumi puja' and 'yagna' was organised near the 11th-century shrine. The ceremony was organised by the Lingaraj Temple

Trust Board to highlight the cultural heritage of 'Ekamra Kshetra'.

The project includes the restoration of 'Ekamra' Khetra's (Bhubaneswar old town) architectural and ancient heritage, building a 12-18 metre wide traffic lane for better vehicular movement, creation of 4-10 metre wide walkways and relocation of parking facilities.

Open space for the gathering of devotees, development of a 1,600 sqm information centre for emergency services and a dedicated pedestrian path around the Bindusagar pond for easy access to ritual spaces and the 'Ekamra' forest are part of the project.

# 'Death knell of democracy should not ring in hands of its custodian'

**Siliguri, Jun 29 (PTI):** In the backdrop of incidents of violence ahead of the Panchayat polls in West Bengal, Governor C V Ananda Bose on Thursday sent out a strong message to the state administration, saying the "death knell of democracy" should not ring in the hands of its custodian.

Bose, who held a meeting with representatives of several parties, at the Siliguri circuit house here, described the current situation in the poll-bound state as "very very disturbing". "The death knell of democracy must not ring in the hands of its custodian. We must take care of that," Bose said at the circuit house here. The governor said he would



C V Ananda Bose

continue visiting the areas witnessing violence to have first-hand knowledge of what is happening. "What is happening in the field is very very disturbing. That is what the court has reflected in its various pronouncements and ob-

servations. We will certainly see that the present trend is reversed and there is peace and harmony in society. "Every citizen will be able to cast his vote freely and fearlessly — that is a commitment and we are trying to take it forward. I am going to the field. I like to have a feel of the field," he added. Bose, who is on a short trip to the northern districts of the state, said "I am the ground zero governor. I went to different places for my satisfaction. I spoke to the victims". Widespread violence over the filing of nominations for the rural polls has left at least eight people dead and several injured in various parts of the state in the past two weeks.

# Heavy rains predicted in K'taka coast for next 10 days

## NDRF personnel to be stationed, pumps kept ready in advance

**Mangaluru, Jun 29 (PTI):** The coastal districts of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi are likely to receive widespread rainfall with certain areas getting very heavy rains in the next 10 days, the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC) said. The coastal districts are expected to receive moderate to heavy rainfall (64.5 mm to 115 mm), with isolated places receiving very heavy rains (up to 244.4 mm) during the period, a KSNDMC release said. Thunderstorms with lightning are also likely to occur at isolated places over all the districts of coastal Karnataka. Heavy rains in coastal areas may coincide with high tide, resulting in

waterlogging and flooding of low-lying areas. District administrations have been asked to deploy de-watering pumps and other equipment in such areas in advance to handle the situation if needed. The monitoring centre also asked the administrations to station National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and state DRF personnel in vulnerable areas to be at the ready to prevent any mishaps. The coastal districts have been receiving good rains over the last few days. The meteorological department has asked fishermen not to venture into the sea as it predicts squally weather with wind speed reaching 45 kmph gusting to 55 kmph along the Karnataka coast till July 2. High waves in the range of 3 to 3.2 metre are predicted with current speeds varying between 42-57 cm per second.

## AMARNATH YATRA REGISTRATIONS



Sadhus wait in a queue to get themselves registered for the Amarnath Yatra 2023, at Ram Mandir base camp in Jammu, Thursday.

# 'UCC will satisfy all sections of society'

Patna, Jun 29 (PTI):

Union minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey on Thursday asserted that a uniform civil code will bring about contentment in society in place of appeasement of a few sections.

The senior BJP leader also expressed hope that the Narendra Modi government will bring the common civil code at the earliest. "Uniform civil code will lead to 'santisthikaran' (contentment) instead of 'tushtikaran' (appeasement), as the Prime Minister has put so eloquently", said Choubey, referring to PM's speech in Bhopal earlier this week. The Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Environment, Forest and



Ashwini Kumar Choubey

Climate Change said "uniform civil code will satisfy all sections of the society since all want to live together in peace and make progress". He also brushed aside allegations of parties opposed to the BJP that the PM had raised the issue to communalize polarize society and reap electoral dividends.

"They are opposing it just for the sake of opposition", he quipped. Choubey, who represents the Buxar Lok Sabha seat of Bihar, bristled at the demand, by the state's ruling 'Mahagathbandhan', for a special economic package from the Centre.

"They should first show the capability to properly spend the funds they have received so far. They cannot expect assistance while indulging in loot", alleged Choubey.

Asked about the scheduled visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Lakhisarai for a rally, Choubey said "Ours is a party in which top leaders also make efforts at mobilization at booth levels".

"The PM had recently taken part in 'Mera Booth Sabse Mazboot' programme.



## Additional unit of Billet Charging Grate inaugurated at WRM

Bhilai, Jun 29:

An additional Billet Charging Grate Unit was inaugurated at SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Wire Rod Mill (WRM), in Bay-1 of SMS-3 Billet Yard, for enhancement of hot billet supply to WRM. It took 101 days for successfully commissioning the Billet Charging Grate Unit using in-house resources. The Charging Grate was inaugurated by Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) and Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) on Thursday.

Dr AK Panda, ED(F&A) and Dr Ravindranath M, CMO I/c (M&HS) were also present on this occasion, along with MK Goyal, CGM (MWRM) and various other CGMs, GMS, other senior departmental officials and Plant personnel. Addressing the gathering Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) congratulated the Plant Collective and said that the inauguration of this additional unit does not come as a surprise to me, as Bhilai Steel Plant has been doing many such exemplary things that help the plant achieve new milestones. I am convinced that with the team-spirited work-culture at our Plant will help us achieve any goal.



This unit is going to be beneficial for the Plant in multiple ways by further increasing the production capacity, said Dasgupta. Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) congratulated the Plant collective for successfully completing the task of commissioning the Billet Charging Grate Unit and said that we all have to work together with the

same spirit, so that we all can feel proud of our contributions for taking the Indian Economy to new heights.

Dr AK Panda, ED (F&A) appreciated the contributions of various departments of the Plant, including Shop Mechanical, Shop Electrical, Civil, SMS-3 etc for commissioning the additional Billet

Charging Grate Unit which will help in enhancement of the supply of Hot Billets to WRM. The newly installed Billet Charging Grate will immensely benefit the Plant's production, Dr Panda said.

The Billet Charging Grate Unit helps in hot supply of Billets to reheating furnace of Billet Yard through extended roll table. Several departments of the Plant contributed in successful commissioning of the Billet Charging Grate Unit including CED, Central Mechanical, Central Electrical, SMS-3, Services, Material Management, EDD and INCOS. The programme was conducted by Nitin Shirkhedkar, JO (WRM) while Anupma Kumari, GM (MWRM-Electrical) proposed the Vote of Thanks.

## Students of Rawatpura selected in McLeods Pharma Company



Bhilai, Jun 29:

Three students of Rawatpura selected in McLeods Pharma Company through placement drive. The campus placements were done by McLeods Pharma Company based in Sikkim for Shri Rawatpura sarkar Institutes of Pharmacy located in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. In the campus selection organized by the company, first written test, final selection was done after the interview round. 3 students of Rawatpura locked on good

achievement of the students. Principal Dr Vijay Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University Raipur, Principal Dr Ritesh Shri Rawatpura Government Institute of Pharmacy Jabalpur congratulated all the students for their achievement. Dr JK Upadhyay, Vice chairman Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Sarkar Lok Trust, Harsh Gautam Vice Chancellor Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University Raipur, Dr SK Singh Vice Chancellor Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University Raipur, Dr Satish Group Director MP, UP also congratulated the students.

package by McLeods Pharma company based in Sikkim. All the students got their place in the company by performing best in both the rounds of selection process. All the selected candidates are in the final year of Bachelor of Pharmacy. Arun Kumar Sahu Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University, Karan Sahu Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University Raipur, Mukesh Kewat, Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy Jabalpur were selected. The placement officer of the institute expressed happiness over this

## Night flight service to be launched from Raipur to New Delhi



Raipur, Jun 29:

Air passengers of the city will no longer have to wait for morning, afternoon or evening flights to reach Delhi. Air passengers can now fly to Delhi daily at night as per their convenience. As per the information the first flight is of Vistara Airlines at 7.40 pm and the second flight is of Indigo Airlines at around 9 pm. Vistara Airlines flight service is starting from July 5, next month. Vistara Airlines flight will take off for Delhi at 7.40 pm and reach here at 9.35 pm. Booking for this flight has also started. It is notable that this flight was canceled by Vistara Airlines from June 14 to June 30, since then air passengers were

demanding to start this flight. Vyas Travels, Kirti Vyas said that passengers will get a lot of relief with the start of night flight service which was a long pending demand of Raipurians. Recently, flights from Raipur to Bhubaneswar and Lucknow have also started. With the commencement of this flight, air passengers of the state are getting connecting flights to Singapore and Bangkok from Bhubaneswar itself. Preparations are underway to construct four new parking ways at Swami Vivekananda Airport. It is being informed that by the end of this year, these parking ways will be completed and 13 aircraft will be able to park simultaneously at Raipur airport. At

present there are only nine parking ways at Swami Vivekananda Airport, due to which there is a problem when the traffic is high.

Keeping this in view, new parking ways are being constructed. Along with the parking way, a new aerobridge is also being built soon at Raipur airport and it is also expected to start by the end of the year. After its commencement, there will be four aerobridges in the airport, this will provide more relief to the passengers. According to aviation sources, Raipur airport may soon get the gift of international flights. For this, the issue was also raised in the Airport Advisory Committee held in May last month and it has been said that the imitation and custom offices will be opened soon. In this concern soon a meeting is also going to be held for imitation and custom office. After the opening of imitation and custom, the way for international flight from Raipur will be cleared.

## Mock Drill conducted at Bhilai Steel Plant's Plate Mill

Bhilai, Jun 29:

A Mock Drill for Disaster Management was carried out in SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Plate Mill on June 27, 2023. The Mock Drill Exercise on "Hazardous Gas Leak Disaster" was jointly conducted by the cooperation of Plate Mill employees, CISE, Fire Brigade, Safety Engg. Deptt., MMP-1, Civil Defence and Gas Safety. The objective of the Mock Drill was to ascertain the preparedness and response of different agencies during any such emergency.

As part of the exercise, information regarding a sudden leakage of gas from a valve used for furnace heating was reported when Lokesh Kumar Ambarde came out and called for rescue. Two workers of Operation Section, namely Lokesh Kumar Ambarde (ACT) and Rajesh Kumar Singh (SSW), had gone for general inspection at (-3) m level of Reheating Furnace No 3 and abruptly Rajesh Kumar Singh felt uneasy and fainted on the spot. The incident was commu-



nicated to the Shift Manager of Plate Mill who rushed to the spot immediately. Alarm was raised and the personnel present at site were also alerted to vacate the site instantly. Soon after the emergency situation was declared, Shift In-charge NK Bisen, DGM (Operation), as Incident Controller immediately engaged himself and his team to communicate the nature of emergency to Plant Control, CISE, Fire

Brigade, Safety Engg. Deptt., MMP-1, Civil Defence, Gas Safety and HOD & senior officers of Plate Mill simultaneously. Senior Officers of the Plant including HK Bahurupi GM (Operation) rushed to the spot along with, J Sudhakar GM, (Mech), C Padmanabhan, GM (Elect) and D Sarangi (DSO) and took control and started preliminary activities. Subsequently, RK Bisare, CGM (Plate Mill) also rushed to the

spot and took on the role of Chief incident controller. Meanwhile, personnel from several other agencies including the Plant Control, CISE, Fire Brigade, Safety Engg. Deptt., MMP-1, Civil Defence and Gas Safety also rushed to the spot to assist in the entire operation. Fire tender was rushed from nearby Fire Stations inside the Plant along with the Ambulance and took stock of the situation and swung into ac-

tion. The trapped worker was rescued and sent to MMP-1 for necessary medical treatment. Gas Safety Persons Examined the site and after repair the valve gave clearance for normal operation and Chief incident controller Shri R K Bisare, CGM (Plate Mill) gave clearance to raise the 'Emergency Over' siren.

During the entire operation, various aspects of Disaster Management such as response time of different agencies and their coordination, movement of personnel and vehicles etc.

were studied. The objective of the exercise was to ensure that any such disaster is handled in a planned manner so as to execute rescue operations properly and also to avoid creating panic among employees by making them familiar with the procedures to be followed.

After the successful completion of the mock drill, a review meeting was conducted by Shri R K Bisare, CGM (Plate Mill) to discuss the observations & convey regards to all the agencies, who participated in the exercise.

## Talk on Cyber Security by C3iHub (IIT-Kanpur) organised at Ispat Bhawan



Bhilai, Jun 29:

Bhilai Steel Plant in association with Cybersecurity & Cybersecurity for Cyber-Physical Systems Innovation Hub (C3iHub) experts from IIT-Kanpur organised an informative talk programme on cyber-security on the topic- 'Cyber security and challenges for Bhilai Steel Plant' on June 28, 2023, at Ispat Bhawan conference Hall. The C3iHub team which visited BSP for signing of MoU for collaboration on cyber security and related technologies delivered the talk on this occasion. Asit Saha CGM I/c

(M&U), TK Krishna Kumar CGM (Elect), Sonali Mukherjee, GM I/c (C&IT) and Ravi Shankar GM (INCOS) were present during the talk session, along with other Officials of INCOS, C&IT, Telecom and other departments in large numbers. The C3iHub team was represented by Prof Manindra Agrawal, Program Director and professor (CSE) at the IIT, Kanpur, Dr Tanima Hazra COO-C3iHub and Rohit Negi, Sr VP-R&D-C3iHub.

During the technical talk a presentation was given by Rohit Negi, wherein he described different elements of Cyber

Security and its relevance. He further elucidated steps for enhancement in establishing effective Cyber Security practices, including initial feasibility study, attack surface assessment, defining controls, formulating policy and establishing Security operation Centre and automatic response system. A Question-Answer Session was also held on this occasion, where the keynote speakers from C3iHub discussed the queries posed by the participants.

During his closing remarks, Asit Saha CGM I/c (M&U), appreciated the visiting C3iHub Team for assessing various OT and

IT systems of BSP in short duration and simplifying the requirements for further course of action. He also expressed his confidence in C3iHub expertise for effective protection of BSP's network systems.

C3iHub is a Research Centre in the field of critical infrastructure security, to address the issue of cyber-security of cyber-physical systems in its entirety. C3iHub was established at IIT Kanpur in 2020, under the aegis of National Mission of Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical System promoted by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

## BSP employee's son, brings laurels by getting selected at BARC

Bhilai, Jun 29:

Sanjit Dhar, a meritorious student from Bhilai has brought laurels to the city by getting selected for the post of Metallurgical Engineer at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. BARC is one of the India's premier nuclear research facility, headquartered in Trombay, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Sanjit Dhar has secured the All India Rank 02 in this examination. He is the only person from Chhattisgarh to get selected in the examination for the post of Metallurgical Engineer at BARC this year. Sanjeet has been a hardworking student throughout his academic life.

He completed his Senior Secondary Education from Delhi Public School Bhilai, following which he completed his B.Tech. in Metallurgy from National Institute of technology (NIT), Raipur, securing silver medal.

Sanjit Dhar's father Sujit Dhar is working as a Section Officer in the Project Department of Bhilai Steel Plant and his mother Tandra Dhar is a Lecturer of Biology in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Borai, Durg.

SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant Collective has congratulated Sanjit Dhar on this achievement and wished him a bright future.

## Eid-ul-Adha celebrated with religious fervour

Bhilai, Jun 29:

The three day festival of Eid-ul-Adha was celebrated with religious fervour in the city. It began on Thursday with the spirit of sacrifice. On the first day, Eid-ul-Adha prayers were offered in the morning in all the Idgahs and mosques of the city, in which a large number of people participated. After the Namaz, people from all communities greeted the Muslim brothers by hugging them.

Idgahs of Jama Masjid Sector-6 in the city, Idgah Lal Maidan Baba Farid Nagar, Sher-e-Khuda Idgah Eid Milan Ground Housing Board, Raza Jama Masjid Link Road Camp-2, Gausia Masjid Camp-1, Hazrat Bilal Masjid HUDCO, Idgah and Masjid Risali, Masjid Madrasa Ruabandha, Aksa Masjid Ghaffar Colony Chhawani, Madani Masjid Khursipassr, Ashrafi Masjid Zone-3 Khursipar, Idgah Bhilai 3, Noori Masjid Nandini, Gausia Masjid Ahiwara, Gausia Rizvia Masjid Karoda and Hussainiya Masjid Karbala Maidan including GE Road Eid-ul-Azha prayers were offered in the morning in all the mosques and Idgahs. Imam Iqbal Anjum Haider of Jama



Masjid Sector-6 has gone for Haj and in his place Imam Shan Muhammad offered Namaz at Idgah.

After the prayers, Armaan Baig, secretary of Bhilai Nagar Masjid Trust, presented his report. After the sermon, hands were raised in prayer for peace and security in the country. Present MLA Bhilai Nagar Devendra Yadav and former MLA Badruddin Qureshi and Congress representative Samayal Sahu reached the Idgah and presented Eid greetings.

The three day festival will continue till July 1.





## CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 264

### India's Green Hydrogen Revolution

Paving the Way for a Sustainable Future

The world is at a turning point in the fight against climate change, with countries worldwide committing to decarbonization and embracing renewable energy sources. In this global effort, India stands as a prominent player, poised to lead the charge towards a greener and cleaner future. With ambitious climate goals and a commitment to carbon neutrality by 2070, India has made significant strides in renewable energy adoption. India's remarkable progress in renewable energy is driving the nation towards a sustainable future. With 40% of total installed energy capacity coming from renewable sources in 2022, and renewable energy accounting for 43% of total electricity produced as of April 2023, India is well on its way to achieving its objective of 50% renewable electricity generation. The country currently boasts a non-fossil fuel-based energy generation capacity of 178.79 GW, a testament to India's commitment to green energy. Amidst the array of renewable energy sources, Green Hydrogen has emerged as a frontrunner with tremendous potential to revolutionize the energy landscape and combat climate change. Recognizing this, India is poised to lead the charge in the Green Hydrogen journey. The Chairman of the International Energy Alliance, during his recent visit to India, expressed confidence in India's capability to become a leader in Green Hydrogen. Green Hydrogen took center stage at the UN Climate Conference, COP26, as a key innovative solution to reduce carbon emissions in heavy industries, transportation, shipping, aviation, and more. Participating countries made significant commitments to harness the potential of Green Hydrogen, recognizing its pivotal role in realizing a carbon-neutral economy. The Indian government has already prioritized the production of Green Hydrogen, acknowledging its significant role in the country's energy mix. However, challenges lie ahead in meeting this goal, particularly in scaling up electrolysis for mass-scale production. Currently, the global electrolyser manufacturing capacity is 8 GW per year, expected to increase to 65 GW by 2030. India needs to develop a robust domestic infrastructure for large-scale electrolyser production to ensure cost-effective and economically feasible Green Hydrogen generation. To address these challenges and drive the Green Hydrogen revolution, the Indian government approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission in January 2022. This mission aims to position India as a leading producer and supplier of Green Hydrogen globally, reducing dependency on fossil fuels, generating employment opportunities, and promoting research and development. The mission encompasses a comprehensive framework to facilitate the production, utilization, and deployment of Green Hydrogen. Embracing Green Hydrogen will allow India to leverage its abundant renewable energy potential, paving the way for a sustainable and low-carbon future. The successful execution of this mission will accelerate the adoption of Green Hydrogen across various sectors, making it the predominant fuel of choice. This surge in Green Hydrogen adoption will not only ensure access to clean and affordable energy for India's vast population but also address energy security concerns and contribute to global efforts in mitigating climate change. India's path to Green Hydrogen supremacy holds immense promise, fostering innovation, creating employment opportunities, enhancing energy security, and propelling economic advancement. As India takes bold steps towards a greener future, it serves as an inspiration to other nations, demonstrating the power of commitment and concerted efforts in building a sustainable planet. The world is watching as India emerges as a trailblazer in the Green Hydrogen revolution, and it is through the collective efforts of nations that we can create a truly sustainable future for generations to come. Let us seize this opportunity to embrace Green Hydrogen and usher in an era of clean, renewable energy that will shape the destiny of our planet.

### Swachh Survekshan 2023

Propelling India Towards a Cleaner Future

As the 8th edition of the world's largest urban cleanliness survey, Swachh Survekshan 2023 - Mera Shehar, Meri Pehchan, commences, India takes another stride towards a cleaner and sustainable future. Initiated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in 2016, Swachh Survekshan has played a vital role in monitoring and improving sanitation across cities in a competitive manner. With over 3,000 assessors set to evaluate 4,500+ cities based on 46 indicators, Swachh Survekshan 2023 emphasizes the transformation of waste into wealth through efficient waste management practices. This year's survey champions the cause of Waste to Wealth, promoting the processing and scientific management of waste. The significance of Swachh Survekshan lies not only in its competitive nature but also in its ability to instill a sense of healthy competition among cities, driving them to enhance urban sanitation and provide exemplary service delivery to citizens. With an estimated engagement of 10 crore citizens, Swachh Survekshan 2023 retains its position as the world's largest annual urban cleanliness survey. The introduction of a new third quarter assessment this year has further motivated states and cities to elevate their efforts and preparedness. As the fourth and final quarter begins, the assessment becomes more rigorous and eagerly anticipated. Mr. Manoj Joshi, Secretary of MoHUA, highlighted the transformative journey of Swachh Survekshan over the past seven years, emphasizing the need for continued improvement in sanitation practices and the transition from manholes to machine holes. He underscored the significance of safeguarding SafaiMitra and the importance of waste segregation at source. Swachh Survekshan 2023 focuses on key indicators such as segregated waste collection, zero waste events, accessible toilets for Divyang individuals, improved plastic waste management, and the cleaning of backlanes. The introduction of new indicators, such as Waste to Wonder Parks and Swachh TULIP for larger cities, demonstrates the evolving nature of the survey. Red Spots, indicating spitting in public areas, has also been included as a new indicator, emphasizing the need for cleanliness in commercial and residential spaces. Furthermore, this year's assessment places significant weightage on the functionality of waste treatment facilities, underscoring the importance of waste management infrastructure. By allocating resources and attention to these critical areas, Swachh Survekshan 2023 aims to drive meaningful progress and encourage cities to prioritize cleanliness and sustainability. As Swachh Survekshan 2023 unfolds, it serves as a powerful reminder of India's commitment to creating a cleaner and healthier nation. The survey not only evaluates the present state of urban cleanliness but also inspires cities to continually strive for improvement. With each passing year, the nation moves closer to its vision of Swachh Bharat, where every city becomes a shining example of cleanliness and citizens actively participate in maintaining a hygienic environment. Swachh Survekshan 2023 is a testament to India's collective efforts towards building a sustainable future. It is an opportunity for cities to showcase their progress, learn from one another, and collectively pave the way for a cleaner, greener, and healthier India. Let us embrace this transformative journey and work together to make cleanliness an integral part of our lives, leaving a lasting impact for generations to come.

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 [emailto:editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:emailto:editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com).

### EID-AL-ADHA



Muslims offer prayers at the historic Taj-ul-Masajid on the occasion of Eid-al-Adha, in Bhopal, Thursday, June 29.

### Reviving Hope: Paris Summit Sparks Vital Dialogue

SUKANYA NAIR



The Summit for a New Global Financing Pact, recently held in Paris, has initiated a critical conversation on the climate and development financing crisis, according to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). While the summit did not yield transformational solutions, it has set in motion a vital momentum that must not be lost, emphasized Sunita Narain, the director general of CSE. Led by President Emmanuel Macron of France, the groundbreaking Paris Summit gathered leaders from the developing world and Europe to address the insufficient flow of funds to impoverished and vulnerable countries, who face a convergence of interconnected crises. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed of Ethiopia described these crises as a combination of poverty, debt, inflation resulting from the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and escalating climate impacts. Avantika Goswami, program manager for climate change at CSE and an attendee at the Summit, remarked, "Countries of the Global South are grappling with a debt crisis and mounting pressure to decarbonize their economies without adequate climate finance. While the Summit was not expected to resolve these issues overnight, it has suc-

cessfully shed light on the magnitude of these crises, the clear demands from Global South nations, and the proposed courses of action advocated by the Global North." Highlighting the magnitude of the problem, Goswami cited world leaders who participated in the Summit. Prime Minister Mia Mottley of Barbados rallied, "The developing world is drowning in debt. The UK took a hundred years to repay its debt from World War I, and Germany enjoyed the benefit of capping its debt service at 3 to 5 percent of GDP to facilitate post-World War II reconstruction. We, too, are people and countries deserving of similar treatment." **Global South Governments' Demands** The reform of financial systems has centered around the role of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). Indian finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman noted that MDBs are being urged by non-borrowing shareholders to address transboundary challenges alongside their core development mandate. Goswami added, "This places greater strain on MDB resources. Developed countries seek to extract more from existing MDB resources while incorporating climate objectives within the banks' mandates. However, they are hesitant to allocate more funds from their budgets or risk increased influence from large economies like India and China if their paid-in shares rises." Global South governments are requesting increased concessional and grant financing, as well as reduced debt levels in developing countries, including debt cancellations for least developed nations. Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETP) should account for each country's unique circumstances, the needs of workers and

communities, and development goals aimed at poverty alleviation and employment, emphasized South African President Cyril Ramaphosa. Additionally, these partnerships must acknowledge that some fossil fuel generation may be necessary to meet basic energy requirements while providing adequate financing. For instance, the US \$8.5 billion offered to South Africa falls significantly short of the country's estimated need of US \$98 billion. Kenya advocates for a global financing mechanism free from national or shareholder interests, while Brazil questions why international trade is denominated in dollars rather than its own currency. **Global Drawing Rights (SDRs):** The International Monetary Fund (IMF) declared that the allocation of US \$100 billion in SDRs for vulnerable nations has been met. Recycling SDRs from wealthy countries whose central banks do not require them to poorer nations in need or through MDBs has been proposed as a means to expand the availability of concessional finance for developing countries. **New Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP):** A new Euro 2.5 billion partnership deal was announced for Senegal, with a consortium of developed countries aiming to increase the share of renewable energy in the country's electricity

mix to 40 percent by 2030. **Polluter taxes:** Numerous groups called for a tax on shipping emissions, with further progress expected at the upcoming International Maritime Organization meeting in July. Support is also growing for a financial transactions tax. **Debt:** Colombia and Kenya have proposed a Global Expert Review on Debt, Nature, and Climate to assess the impact of debt on the capacity of low- and medium-income countries to preserve nature, adapt to climate change, and transition to low-carbon economies. **Carbon markets:** The European Union (EU) issued a call to action on "Paris Aligned Carbon Markets," aiming to cover at least 60 percent of global emissions with carbon pricing mechanisms (compared to the current 4 percent) and allocate a portion of the revenues to climate finance. **Climate finance goal:** It was suggested that the long-overdue US \$100 billion climate finance goal will be met this year. Narain stressed, "Each climate change disaster pushes countries in the Global South further into indebtedness as they borrow to survive and rebuild. This year, we must address the structural issues that perpetuate vast inequalities worldwide, making it impossible for Global South countries to afford the costs of adaptation and mitigation. We urgently need to secure the necessary funds." Goswami summarized the Paris Summit by stating, "What became apparent from the summit is that the demands of the developing world seem to fall on deaf ears. Peddling false solutions, providing insufficient debt relief efforts, and shifting the responsibility onto the private sector were the plans offered by developed countries in Paris."

### The folly of making art with text-to-image generative AI

Ahmed Elgammal

Making art using artificial intelligence isn't new. It's as old as AI itself. What's new is that a wave of tools now let most people generate images by entering a text prompt. All you need to do is write "a landscape in the style of van Gogh" into a text box, and the AI can create a beautiful image as instructed. The power of this technology lies in its capacity to use human language to control art generation. But do these systems accurately translate an artist's vision? Can bringing language into art-making truly lead to artistic breakthroughs? **Engineering outputs** I've worked with generative AI as an artist and computer scientist for years, and I would argue that this new type of tool constrains the creative process. When you write a text prompt to generate an image with AI, there are infinite possibilities. If you're a casual user, you might be happy with what AI generates for you. And startups and investors have poured billions into this technology, seeing it as an easy way to generate graphics for articles, video game characters and advertisements. In contrast, an artist might need to write an essaylike prompt to generate a high-quality image that reflects their vision with the right composition, the right lighting and

the correct shading. That long prompt is not necessarily descriptive of the image but typically uses lots of keywords to invoke the system of what's in the artist's mind. There's a relatively new term for this: prompt engineering. Basically, the role of an artist using these tools is reduced to reverse-engineering the system to find the right keywords to compel the system to generate the desired output. It takes a lot of effort, and much trial and error, to find the right words. **AI isn't as intelligent as it seems** To learn how to better control the outputs, it's important to recognize that most of these systems are trained on images and captions from the internet. Think about what a typical image caption tells about an image. Captions are typically written to complement the visual experience in web browsing. For example, the caption might describe the name of the photographer and the copyright holder. On some websites, like Flickr, a caption typically describes the type of camera and the lens used. On other sites, the caption describes the graphic engine and hardware used to render an image. So to write a useful text prompt, users need to insert many nondescriptive keywords for the AI system to create a corresponding image. Today's AI systems are not as intelligent as they seem; they are essentially smart retrieval systems that have a huge memory and work by association.

**Artists frustrated by a lack of control** Is this really the sort of tool that can help artists create great work? At Playform AI, a generative AI art platform that I founded, we conducted a survey to better understand artists' experiences with generative AI. We collected responses from over 500 digital artists, traditional painters, photographers, illustrators and graphic designers who had used platforms such as DALL-E, Stable Diffusion and Midjourney, among others. Only 46 per cent of the respondents found such tools to be "very useful," while 32 per cent found them somewhat useful but couldn't integrate them to their workflow. The rest of the users 22 per cent didn't find them useful at all. The main limitation artists and designers highlighted was a lack of control. On a scale 0 to 10, with 10 being most control, respondents described their ability to control the outcome to be between 4 and 5. Half the respondents found the outputs interesting, but not of a high enough quality to be used in their practice. When it came to beliefs about whether generative AI would influence their practice, 90 per cent of the artists surveyed thought that it would; 46 per cent believed that the effect would be a positive one, with 7 per cent predicting that it would have a negative effect. And 37 per cent thought their practice would be affected but weren't sure in what way.

**The best visual art transcends language** Are these limitations fundamental, or will they just go away as the technology improves? Of course, newer versions of generative AI will give users more control over outputs, along with higher resolutions and better image quality. But to me, the main limitation, as far as art is concerned, is foundational: it's the process of using language as the main driver in generating the image. Visual artists, by definition, are visual thinkers. When they imagine their work, they usually draw from visual references, not words a memory, a collection of photographs or other art they've encountered. When language is in the driver's seat of image generation, I see an extra barrier between the artist and the digital canvas. Pixels will be rendered only through the lens of language. Artists lose the freedom of manipulating pixels outside the boundaries of semantics. There's another fundamental limitation in text-to-image technology. If two artists enter the exact same prompt, it's very unlikely that the system will generate the same image. That's not due to anything the artist did; the different outcomes are simply due to the AI's starting from different random initial images. In other words, the artist's output is boiled down to chance. Nearly two-thirds of the artists we surveyed had concerns that their AI generations might be similar to other artists' works and that the technology does

not reflect their identity or even replaces it altogether. The issue of artist identity is crucial when it comes to making and recognizing art. In the 19th century, when photography started to become popular, there was a debate about whether photography was a form of art. It came down to a court case in France in 1861 to decide whether photography could be copyrighted as an art form. The decision hinged on whether an artist's unique identity could be expressed through photographs. Those same questions emerge when considering AI systems that are taught with the internet's existing images. Before the emergence of text-to-image prompting, creating art with AI was a more elaborate process: Artists usually trained their own AI models based on their own images. That allowed them to use their own work as visual references and retain more control over the outputs, which better reflected their unique style. Text-to-image tools might be useful for certain creators and casual everyday users who want to create graphics for a work presentation or a social media post. But when it comes to art, I can't see how text-to-image software can adequately reflect the artist's true intentions or capture the beauty and emotional resonance or works that grip viewers and makes them see the world anew. **Writer is Professor of Computer Science and Director of the Art & AI Lab, Rutgers University**

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Harnessing Progress

Dams stand as proud symbols of a nation's comprehensive advancement, offering a multitude of benefits that foster economic, social, and environmental growth. The visionary leadership of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, played a pivotal role in the development of prominent dams across the country, including the renowned Bhakra Dam. Recognizing the pivotal role of water resources in agricultural development and India's overall progress, Nehru spearheaded these initiatives. As the nation continues to thrive, the construction of more such modern "temples" becomes imperative. These dams serve as a source of immense national pride, effectively curbing floods and harnessing natural resources for the benefit of the people.

Ramesh Gupta, Durg

#### Lessons from Emergency

The era of emergency (1975-1977) should be revisited as a reminder of the perils of authoritarian rule. During those somber days, democracy was suspended, civil liberties were curtailed, and unimaginable atrocities were inflicted on the people. The concentration of power eroded checks and balances, media censorship stifled dissent, and forced sterilizations violated individual freedom. The emergency had a detrimental effect on India's international image and reputation as a champion of democracy. Today, with technological advancements and heightened awareness, the imposition of emergency seems impossible. Let us preserve the lessons from that dark period and ensure that democracy and fundamental rights are upheld.

Yash Pal Raihan, Jalandhar

#### Exploitative Education

In an era where education and healthcare were once revered as noble professions, the landscape has drastically changed. The commercialization of every sector, including education, has taken hold. Profit has become the primary objective in this fiercely competitive world. Enter the teaching shops, enticing unsuspecting students with flashy advertisements promising a brighter future, only to demand exorbitant fees. Sadly, parents, captivated by these market-driven ploys, exhaust their life savings to secure their children's education. The rampant commercialization of education raises alarming concerns, as it jeopardizes the future of our youth, undermines society, and threatens the very fabric of our nation.

Rahul Tripathi, New Delhi



**BRIEF**

**Loan issue**



**New Delhi:** Edtech major BYJU'S is growing slowly but sustainably and is close to achieving profitability at the group level, the company's CEO Biju Raveendran said on Thursday. The company organised a town hall with Raveendran to allay apprehensions about the uncertainty around the company's growth and its future. According to sources, who attended the town hall, Raveendran said that issues with USD 1.2 billion Term Loan B lenders are being resolved through discussion and hopeful of a positive outcome in the next few weeks without the court's intervention.

**Tomato prices**

**Amaravati:** The fluctuations in the price of tomatoes in Andhra Pradesh will settle down in the first fortnight of July, Agriculture Marketing Commissioner Rahul Pandey said on Wednesday, explaining that one crop just got over and another one is in the process of reaching the market. AP is a state which cultivates three tomato crops a year and the short gaps between these crops sometimes create price fluctuations. "Tomato (prices) will settle within a week. This is routine, nothing to panic about it. Within a short period, things will settle down because one crop is getting over."

**Appointment**

**New Delhi:** Deloitte on Thursday said it has appointed industry veteran Manoj Kohli as senior advisor. In his 44-year career spanning across 30 countries, Kohli served as the Country Head of Softbank India, playing a pivotal role in expanding the investment management firm's presence in the Indian digital start-up market. Prior to that, he served as the CEO and Managing Director of Bharati Airtel, driving the company's growth and market dominance in India's telecommunications industry.



## CIL should remain as public sector entity, alternative methodology needed for coal pricing: Chairman

**Kolkata, Jun 29:**



Coal India Chairman Pramod Agrawal said on Thursday that the company should continue to remain as a "government entity" in the future to maintain "price stability" of the dry fuel in the country and suggested an alternative methodology for coal pricing in future. In an interview with PTI a day before his term ends as the head of Coal India on June 30, Agrawal said unlocking value cannot be the "sole" purpose of all enterprises. As a government-owned entity, Coal India holds the responsibility of ensuring that the benefits of coal production are distributed to the public, he said. Agrawal also pointed out

that the miner's identity is synonymous with the country's energy sector, and the present structure with CIL as the apex holding company is "strong and stable". "We have seen severe price escalation in international coal prices last year. In such a scenario, private companies would

have stepped up their prices as well. However, for a government agency like Coal India, such a situation is unlikely," Agrawal said while responding to a question on whether the miner should continue to be a government entity to unlock its value.

The union government was reducing its stake in Coal India to raise funds, albeit in small doses. This month, the government sold a three per cent stake to raise Rs 4,185 crore and reduced its holding to about 63.1 per cent. Coal prices of the Kolkata-based PSU are heavily discounted as compared to imported fuel.

The average landed price per tonne of imported coal between April-

September period of the 2022-23 financial year was Rs 19,324.79, while the average notified price per tonne (ex-colliery) of domestic coal was Rs 2,662.97 in the same period. After more than five years, the miner recently raised prices of higher grades of coal (G2 to G11) by only eight per cent, which will boost its revenue by three per cent and will have hardly any adverse impact on power producers.

"In the future, we may consider revisiting coal prices (based on certain parameters) in shorter durations. This could be linked to inflationary costs, such as the wholesale price index or any other, which seems fit."

## 6 years of GST: Rs 1.5 trillion monthly tax revenues becomes 'new normal', focus on curbing tax evasion

**New Delhi, Jun 29:**



Six years after the rollout of the biggest indirect tax reform in India, Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue of Rs 1.5 lakh crore every month has become a new normal and tax officers are focusing on dealing with fraudsters who are adopting newer modus operandi to game the system, causing loss to the exchequer.

To apprehend black sheep, who operate as syndicates and create fake entities on the basis of forged documents to claim input tax credit (ITC), tax officers have started using data analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning aiming to curb evasion, which was over Rs 3 lakh crore since inception of GST. It was over Rs 1 lakh crore in 2022-23.

Thinktank Global

Trade Research Initiative (TRI) said the most critical pending GST reform is upgradation of GST Network to prevent fake supplies and fraudulent claims of Input Tax Credit (ITC). "Data analysis and physical checks alone cannot completely solve the problem."

The GSTN should enable linking of invoice level information filed for claiming ITC by buyer (from GSTR 3B) with the information provided by input suppliers (GSTR 2A and GSTR 2B)," Srivastava said. Even after six years, the GSTN is unable to connect the supplies in a

value chain, resulting in significant revenue loss to the government and causing problems for honest businesses, Srivastava added.

Issues like rationalisation of tax rates and slabs, levying GST on petrol, diesel and ATF, are still hanging fire. Tax experts are of the opinion that the GST Council must pursue these reforms to make GST more inclusive. However, in an election year, it is unlikely that the Centre and states will go ahead with these reforms. Nangia Andersen India, Director - Indirect Tax, Tanushree Roy said simplification of the GST rate structure would provide a fillip across sectors, however with elections round the corner a wait-and-watch approach needs to be adopted to see if the Government at all decides to allude to this issue.

## Statistics play important role in informed policy-making: Inderjit Singh

**New Delhi Jun 29:**



Statistics play an important role in informed policy-making, according to Union Minister Rao Inderjit Singh.

The Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation made the remarks at the 17th Statistics Day in the national capital on Thursday. "This day provides us an opportunity to recognise the importance of statistics as evidence for informed policy-making and the role played by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) in strengthening the statistical capability of India," he said.

The significance of quality and timely data for facilitating evidence-based decision-making needs to be

emphasised. This is also valid for the availability of data in the context of monitoring the progress of sustainable development goals, he said. Further, Singh expressed hope that MoSPI in collaboration with all the stakeholders will continue to work towards facilitating data-driven policy-making and also taking the lead in statistical research and development activities in other relevant areas.

## WORLD MINING CONGRESS



Ministry of Coal Secretary Amrit Lal Meena (2nd from left) and other officials at the inauguration of India pavilion at the World Mining Congress (WMC) 2023, in Brisbane, Australia.

## Comm min asks PLI scheme implementing ministries to hold consultations with companies on their issues

**New Delhi, Jun 29:**

The commerce and industry ministry has suggested departments, which are implementing their sector-specific production-linked incentive schemes, hold consultations with PLI beneficiary companies to understand their issues, government officials said. The suggestion was made in a workshop on the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme called by the ministry on June 27. The meeting assumed significance as the government disbursed only Rs 2,900 crore till March 2023 out of Rs 3,400 crore claims received under the scheme. The scheme was announced in 2021 for 14 sectors, such as telecommunication, white goods, textiles and pharma with an outlay

of Rs 1.97 lakh crore. The departments were also asked to ensure that PLI beneficiaries complete their investments and meet production targets. "It was suggested to the line ministries now to call the PLI beneficiary companies for consultations with them only and if they flag any issue, it could be conveyed to the commerce and industry ministry so that those issues can be taken up with the highest authorities," one of the officials said. The ministry, which coordinates the scheme, also urged PLI beneficiaries to take up any procedural challenges/ issues with the respective implementing ministry or department so that positive reforms can be brought about and the scheme can be made more efficient and effective.

## Want to strike 'truly ambitious' trade deal with India, says UK PM Rishi Sunak

**London, Jun 29:**



British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has reaffirmed his commitment to a "truly ambitious" free trade agreement (FTA) with India and indicated his plans to visit New Delhi for the G20 Summit in September.

Hosting a special reception to celebrate India Global Forum's UK-India Week 2023 in the garden of 10 Downing Street in London, Sunak said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and he agrees that there is a huge potential to step up bilateral trade ties. The 43-year-old British Indian leader interacted with business leaders and celebrities, including boxing champion Mary Kom,

musicians Shankar Mahadevan and Zakir Hussain, Bollywood stars Sonam Kapoor and Vivek Oberoi, on Wednesday evening as part of what he dubbed as a "big moment" in the bilateral calendar and the start of an Indian summer for the UK. "Prime Minister Modiji and I

agree there's huge potential here. We're making great progress together on the 2030 Roadmap and we want to strike a truly ambitious trade deal that benefits both our nations, bringing tremendous opportunities to businesses and consumers, both in India and here at home," said Sunak. "It's not just UK-India Week, but a whole Indian summer. And I don't just mean the hot weather we're having, I mean that over the next few weeks, the eyes of the world will be on India. There's the G20 in New Delhi, I can't wait to be there," he said. India and the UK recently concluded the tenth round of FTA negotiations and an 11th round is set to begin in the next few weeks.

## Sebi to strengthen investor grievance handling mechanism

**Mumbai, Jun 29:**

Markets watchdog Sebi on Wednesday decided to revamp its complaint redressal system as part of efforts to strengthen the investor grievance handling mechanism. At its meeting here, the Sebi board cleared various measures to boost the investor grievance handling mechanism and linking SCORES (Sebi Complaint Redress System) with the Online Dispute Resolution Mechanism. It would also look at reducing timelines, introducing auto-routing of the complaint to concerned regulated entities, and auto-escalation of complaints in case of non-adherence to the prescribed timelines by the regulated entity.

## More women needed in corporate boardrooms: Arundhati Bhattacharya

**Mumbai, Jun 29:**



The representation of women in corporate boardrooms needs to be "far more", and it will involve a change of mindsets, determined action and focus, Arundhati Bhattacharya, the top boss of Salesforce India and former Chairperson of SBI has said.

Bhattacharya smashed the glass ceiling in 2013 when she became the first woman to lead State Bank of India (SBI) in the bank's over 200-year history. She retired from SBI in 2017 and went on to reinvent herself with a brand new career innings at the helm of cloud-based service provider Salesforce India in 2020, as

Chairperson and CEO. Speaking with PTI, she said Indian businesses need to see digital transformation as a "must have" and not merely as something good to have. Organisations that have inefficient processes, data residing in silos and manual processes, or skill gaps will fall behind, unless

they adopt tech and digital, she advocated. Every single sector - be it healthcare, automotive or manufacturing presents an opportunity for Salesforce, she added. In a free-wheeling chat that touched on various aspects close to her heart, including women's issues, Bhattacharya said that a "broad brush approach" to getting women back to workplaces as normalcy resumes, may not work for all, and asserted that flexibility, understanding and empathy would be the key. Her comments assume significance as there have been industry concerns that the end of work-from-home could push industry attrition among women workers in certain cases.

## India prefers to shop from Amazon: CMR Survey

**Mumbai, Jun 29:**

According to a new consumer study from CyberMedia Research (CMR), India's leading technology market research and advisory firm, Indians from Tier II cities and beyond spend an average of 2 hours and 25 minutes per week shopping online, spending approximately 16% of their income. The top three triggers for online shopping include attractive prices (57%), convenient return and exchange processes (57%) along with irresistible offers (49%). The study further revealed that Amazon (73%) is the preferred e-Commerce platform, followed by Flipkart

(70%), Meesho (30%), JioMart (20%), and others. 63% of Amazon users report high satisfaction, followed by 52% for Flipkart and 46% for Reliance Digital.

Interestingly, Amazon is favored by its users for its attractive prices (54%), easy return / exchange process (52%), brand trust (40%) and convenience of shopping across pin-codes in India (38%). Over the past six months, 73% of consumers from both Tier II and Tier I cities have shopped at Amazon. According to Prabhu Ram, Head- Industry Intelligence Group, CyberMedia Research (CMR), "The wide range of choices, conven-

ience, and comfort provided by eCommerce has empowered emerging young consumers in Aspirational India (Tier II, Tier III cities and beyond) to shop more online, and to fulfil their aspirations. Major players like Amazon and Flipkart, niche market players such as Meesho and others, and conglomerates like Tata and Reliance are fiercely competing in these markets. Our research emphasizes that Amazon, with its extensive and enduring presence across India, has the consumer trust and is their preferred choice." Also, two out of three consumers have spent up to Rs 20,000 on online shopping in the past six months.

## Some clients insist for work from office: Infosys CEO

**New Delhi, Jun 29:**



Infosys is giving flexible options to employees to work from home or office but some of its clients have started demanding that their projects be handled from the office, a senior company official said on Wednesday. While responding to a shareholder's query on the 42nd Annual General Meeting of the company, Infosys Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Salil Parekh said that in future, there will be a need for more social capital where people will need to connect with each other to do new things, training, etc. "We have a flexible approach for employees. We are making sure that the employees have the ability

to work from home or work hybrid. In some cases where clients are requiring it. We have employees and teams that are working within the campus. On a long term basis, we see a mix of where people will work, where there will be a need for increased social capital to connect with people to work with teams to do a new work," Parekh said.

## Economy remains resilient, banking system fortified by low level of NPAs: RBI

**Mumbai, Jun 29:**

Indian economy remains resilient on the back of a healthy banking system, which has been fortified by multi-year low levels of NPAs and adequate capital, according to the Reserve Bank's Financial Stability Report (FSR). The document reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on risks to financial stability and the resilience of the Indian financial system. In a foreword of the report, Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das said the Indian economy has made

a solid recovery and is among the fastest-growing large economies despite heightened uncertainties and formidable headwinds. Financial stability is non-negotiable, and all stakeholders in the financial system must work to preserve this at all times, he added. "The Reserve Bank and the other financial regulators remain steadfast in their commitment to safeguard financial stability in the face of potential and emerging challenges," he said in a foreword to Financial Stability Report (FSR). The global economy is facing heightened uncertainty amid banking system fragility in certain countries, persisting geopoliti-

cal tensions and moderating but elevated inflation, as per the report. Despite global headwinds, the Indian economy and domestic financial system remain resilient, supported by strong macroeconomic fundamentals, it said. The resilience of the global financial system has been tested by the recent banking turmoil and interaction between monetary policy tightening and financial sector stress. Uncertainty about the global macro-financial outlook has risen. "Against this backdrop, the Indian economy and the domestic financial system remain resilient in an environment of macroeconomic and financial stability."



## KBC, ek naye roop mein!



India has embraced change; a change that fosters growth, a change that has rehailed our mindset and a change that drives new aspirations. In India, 'badi shaan se, bade gyan se - dekho sab kuch badal raha hai', and mirroring this transformation is the nation's biggest game show, Kaun Banega Crorepati. Sony Entertainment Television has launched a promo that celebrates the spirit of change. The 15th season of this flagship show promises to enthrall viewers in an all-new avatar.

Host Amitabh Bachchan's powerful narration through the promo leaves you inspired, in which the expression naye armaan, navi muskaan, naye aasmaan liye sets the stage for Kaun Banega Crorepati, jald hi ek naye roop mein. Stay tuned to this space to know more!

## Aasif Sheikh fondly recalls Eid celebrations at his ancestral Haveli

Aasif Sheikh, aka Vibhuti Narayan Mishra from &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, is filled with joy and anticipation as he eagerly awaits the festivities of Eid. From engaging in the peaceful practice of offering Namaz to cherishing precious moments with beloved family and friends, every detail of the occasion has been meticulously planned. The actor's heart brims with nostalgia as he fondly recalls the extravagant and unforgettable Eid celebrations held in his ancestral home nestled in the vibrant city of Varanasi. Speaking of Eid festivities, the actor joyfully shares, "The magic of festivals in small towns and cities is simply enchanting! Witnessing the heartfelt dedication and efforts put into making the day truly extraordinary is a delight in itself. Varanasi holds a special place in my heart as it is my parents' ancestral home, and I have such vivid memories of the grand celebrations at our beloved Dada ji's Haveli. Our family was large, and



we warmly welcomed relatives and friends from near and far, creating a joyful gathering of hundreds. The entire day was a feast for the senses, with abundant and delicious food from dawn till dusk. Our elders showered us

with generous Eidi, and those cherished moments from the early 1980s are etched in my mind as if they happened yesterday. Although the nature of celebrations may have evolved, the spirit of togetherness and celebra-

tion still radiates with equal enthusiasm."

About the celebrations this year, Aasif Sheikh adds, "Festivals fill my heart with pure delight! They are precious moments of joy and togetherness where you bond with your loved ones and indulge in mouthwatering delicacies. This upcoming Eid celebration will be no exception! I will be at home, surrounded by my dear family and friends, savouring the heavenly delights of sheer kurma and aromatic Biryani. And that's not all! No festival feels complete without celebrating it alongside my beloved Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai family. The set of the show has become my second home, and the entire crew feels like my extended family. Just like every year, I will be treating them to a scrumptious homemade Biryani the following day, spreading the joy and flavours of the festive season. So, let the festivities begin!" Watch Aasif Sheikh as Vibhuti Narayan Mishra in Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 pm, airing every Monday to Friday only on &TV!

## Will Tavleen be successful in ruining Amrita and Veer's wedding?



Sony SAB's family drama Dil Diyaan Gallaan sheds light on a family separated by both physical and emotional differences and highlights how misunderstandings, lack of communication, and unexpressed emotions, which contribute to conflicts among three generations of a family. In an emotional twist, Dilpreet's (Pankaj Berry) unexpected heart-attack leads him to realise that life is too short to miss out on moments of happiness and he announces Amrita (Kaveri Priyam) and Veer's (Paras Arora) wedding.

The upcoming track will see Amrita and Veer's wedding preparations begin in full swing while Tavleen's (Jayati

Bhatia) continues to scheme against the Brars. With love and togetherness surrounding the Brar family after a long time, their differences take a backseat as they reunite to celebrate the marriage. However, Tavleen's vow of taking away every moment of the Brar family's happiness, leads her to spilling the truth about Veer's mother minutes before the wedding. Will Tavleen's plan to sabotage the wedding work?

As Amrita and Veer attempt to enter a new chapter of their lives, will the past weigh them down?

Stay tuned to Sony SAB's Dil Diyaan Gallaan every Monday to Saturday at 7:30 PM only on Sony SAB.

## Working with Anil Kapoor gives you a complex, says Aditya Roy Kapur



Aditya Roy Kapur, who has worked with Anil Kapoor on various projects, says there is a flip side of teaming up with an energetic star.

Aditya Roy Kapur was interacting with the media on 'The Night Manager 2' in Mumbai along with the Disney+ Hotstar show's creator, Sandeep Modi, and co-stars Anil Kapoor, Shobhita Dhulipala and Tillotama Shome. After 'Malang', the 2020 action thriller directed by Mohit Suri, 'The Night Manager' marks the second outing of Aditya Roy Kapur with Anil Kapoor, so he was naturally asked about the pros and cons of working with a senior actor. "One

complex you do get while working with Anil Kapoor is that you feel you aren't working hard enough, as he is the most hard-working actor," Aditya said. "I can only think of that as a con, for you feel like shit and keep thinking you need to pull up your socks."

Continuing in the same vein, he added: "There is plenty to learn from him. I was working with him for the second time, yet he never ceases to amaze you -- the kind of zest he approaches his work with, the passion with which he approaches his roles, his attention to detail, and being a team player who wants everyone to succeed.

## Anushka is inspired by bollywood queen Priyanka Chopra for her acting skills

The audience's favorite show Meri Saas Bhoot Hai that airs on Star Bharat has kept the viewers hooked to the story line and stellar performances by the cast. This unique ghostly mother-in-law and daughter-in-law pair of the TV is being well-liked by the audience. The bubbly Twinkle (played by Anushka Srivastava), who plays the second wife of Som (Vibhav Roy) is also creating a special place in the hearts of the audience. Anushka, who takes inspiration from actress Priyanka Chopra in acting, shared some special things about her and



Priyanka's Jamshepur connection. Talking about her acting inspiration, actress Anushka Srivastava says,



"The person I really admire in the industry is Priyanka Chopra. I like her a lot because she is from

Jamshepur and I am from Bihar. Today Jamshepur comes under the state of Jharkhand, but earlier it was in Bihar only. She made us proud by winning the title of Miss World. I still watch all her interviews; I have also read books on her. Because she has gone ahead after a lot of struggles, I like her journey and I like her very much. I feel that whoever takes his first step in the industry must be thinking that their life should be like Priyanka Chopra Jonas." To find out, keep watching Meri Saas Bhoot Hai every Monday to Friday at 9PM only on Star Bharat.

## Nicole Scherzinger announces engagement to Thom Evans

Nicole Scherzinger, the renowned lead singer of the dance-pop group Pussycat Dolls, has excitedly revealed her engagement to her boyfriend, rugby player Thom Evans. The couple shared the special moment on Instagram, capturing the romantic proposal during their trip to Vila Nova de Gaia in Portugal.

Scherzinger, 44, captioned her post with the perfect words, "I said yes," accompanied by a ring emoji. Evans also took to his Instagram account, sharing the same pictures and captioning them, "My



Ever After." Their relationship made its public debut at the 21st Annual InStyle and Warner Bros. Pictures Golden Globe Afterparty in

Beverly Hills in January 2020. Since then, Scherzinger and Evans have offered glimpses into their romance through so-

cial media, with the singer recently sharing photos from their trip to Portugal.

The couple's paths crossed in 2019 when Evans appeared as a contestant on "X Factor: Celebrity," where Scherzinger served as a judge. Prior to their relationship, Evans dated model and actress Kelly Brook, while Scherzinger had been involved with Bulgarian tennis player Grigor Dimitrov from 2016 to early 2019. Additionally, Scherzinger had a seven-year on-and-off relationship with Formula One racing driver Lewis Hamilton before their split in 2015.

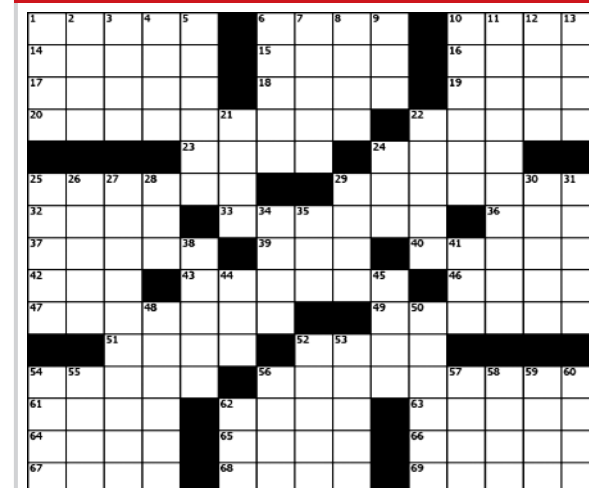
## Idris Elba rejects James Bond role due to racism



Idris Elba, the celebrated Hollywood star, was a top contender to portray James Bond following Daniel Craig's departure from the franchise. However, he made it known that he declined the iconic role of the M16 spy-assassin due to the significant racist backlash he faced. In an interview, Elba revealed that while the idea of him being considered for the role was widely celebrated globally, there were pockets of individuals who made it a matter of race, tarnishing the entire experience. He expressed his disappointment at the nonsensical racial criticisms that were directed at him. Despite feeling immensely flattered by the offer, Elba acknowledged that the controversy surrounding his potential casting as James Bond became disheartening. He considered the role to be a pinnacle of achievement, emphasizing the significance and prestige associated with it. Earlier this year, Elba shared with Esquire UK that he no longer identifies himself solely as a black actor, recognizing that such labels can be limiting. He stressed the importance of growth and breaking free from societal boxes. In a subsequent tweet, Elba affirmed his strong identity as a black man and acknowledged that his profession as an actor should not be defined by his race. Idris Elba's decision to turn down the James Bond role serves as a reminder of the persistence of racism in the entertainment industry.

## CROSSWORD

688



### ACROSS

- Continues
- Agitate
- Gradual
- Preface
- Not hard
- Relinquish
- Slowpoke
- Hill of sand
- Matured
- Not temporary
- Off killer

### DOWN

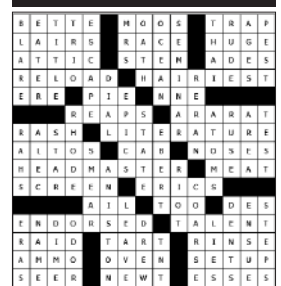
- Rudely brief
- Pelvic joints
- Poked fun at
- Alike
- Coffeepots
- Manor
- Fire leftover
- Liquid measure
- Bad actor
- Likewise
- fi
- Cherishes
- For both sexes

- With a leg on each side
- Cardin of fashion
- Healthy
- Cloth measure
- Achievers
- Synthetic fabric
- Ultimatum word
- Ocean current
- Animated
- Maui garlands
- Copycat
- Flax product
- and found
- Sash
- Brainy

### DOWN

- Speak imperfectly
- Prince Charles's sister
- Night twinkler
- Slender
- Comfort
- Passover meal
- Tease
- Common contraction
- Kind of bread
- Large shrimp
- Lawmaker
- Some poems
- Unites
- Undressed
- Pointed a gun
- Great success
- Oklahoma metropolis
- Roberts and Clapton
- Opposite

### SOLUTION 687





## Why there is huge void in men's and women's chess in India: Harika

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

Grandmaster Harika Dronavalli is confused by the huge "void" in men's and women's chess in India and hopes the situation improves as there are several youngsters with potential in the country.

Harika, the three-time World Championship bronze medallist and winner of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix, has been the flag-bearer of women's chess in the country along with veteran Koneru Humpy, the Asian Games gold medallist.

Together, they have won the most trophies and accolades for the country and are currently also teammates in the Global Chess League (GCL) side upGrad Mumbai Masters.

While the likes of young Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi and D Gukesh have been creating waves



Grandmaster Harika Dronavalli of upGrad Mumbai Masters during her match at the Global Chess League (GCL), in Dubai, UAE.

among men and defeating several big names including five-time world champion Magnus Carlsen, the women's scene in the country is far from encouraging.

"This (gap between men's and women's chess) even I don't know, I am confused because a lot of young boys are coming up but girls... there is a huge

things will get better,"

GM Humpy, the double Asian Games gold medallist, recently created a flutter, saying she is not sure about competing at this year's Asiad in Guangzhou, China due to Covid-related reservations, but Harika clarified that her senior counterpart had "no issue" taking part in the quadrennial continental showpiece.

Humpy had told PTI on the sidelines of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix in April that, "Because of China, I'm not sure I'll participate. Probably I'll be deciding in June or July. (It's) because of COVID, what else could be the reason (not) to go to China." However, Harika said Humpy will compete. "I think there is a bit of confusion. She (Humpy) didn't say she is not competing. She said is thinking about it because of the situation (in China). I think she (has) decided to play, so there is no issue."

void. But there are a few youngsters who are promising and coming up now, which is good. But I feel there is much more potential for more (women) players to come up," Harika, the 2010 Asian Games bronze medallist, told PTI in a virtual interaction on Thursday.

"Frankly, I don't know the exact reason... I think

## Sindhu, Harshit centuries, bowlers give advantage to North

Bengaluru, Jun 29 (PTI):

Duleep Trophy

Nishant Sindhu and Harshit Rana carved hundreds of different shades to power North Zone to a massive 540/8 in the first innings, constructing a foundation for their bowlers to solidify that superiority over North East Zone on the second day of the Duleep Trophy quarterfinal here.

North East were 65 for 2, 475 runs in arrears, when bad light and rain forced an early closure to their first dig on Thursday.

North Zone's travel to ascendancy began when Sindhu, overnight 76, moved on smoothly to his third first-class hundred with a single to mid-off to Dippu Sanfma.

Sindhu (150, 245 balls, 18x4, 3x6) lost his partner Pulkit Narang in the first hour itself, but NE zone had little respite as Harshit Rana (122 off 86 balls, 12x4, 9x6) came in carrying a destructive mood.

Both Sindhu, 19, and Rana, 21, have been highly



Harshit Rana

rated in the domestic circuit, evidenced from them getting IPL contracts with Chennai Super Kings and Kolkata Knight Riders respectively.

Their talent was on full view here. The NE bowlers were able to purchase some movement off the

deck the previous day. But as the skies remained bright during the first two sessions of the day, there was nothing for them to bank upon.

Sindhu opted for a rather traditional batting approach, selecting the freebies to open his shoulders. But at the other end, Rana purred like a race car against an attack that had little experience in bowling against such quality batters. Rana's innings deserves a special mention because the Delhi youngster is rated as a budding pace bowling talent. But on this day, he made an impression with the bat, a mighty one at that.

Central in driver's seat after taking 124-run lead

Bengaluru: After a shabby batting effort, Central Zone came roaring back into the match bowling out East Zone for 122 in their first innings to enjoy a healthy lead of 124 runs in their Duleep Trophy quarterfinal on Thursday.

Central closed the day at

64 for no loss in their second innings. They were bundled out for 182 in their first innings on Wednesday after pacer Murasingh bagged five wickets. Pacer Avesh Khan and left-arm spinner Saurabh Kumar shared six wickets equally among them to hasten the fall of East Zone.

They resumed from the overnight 32 for 2 and were in need of a solid partnership to cover the early losses.

Having already lost captain and prolific opener Abhimanyu Easwaran, East's biggest hope of reaching a healthy total was experienced Anustup Majumdar and Riyan Parag.

Majumdar fell cheaply for 4, while Parag showed glimpses of his skills while making a 46-ball 33. Central captain and pacer Shivam Mavi jettisoned Parag, and it signalled the end of fight for East.

Murasingh played a cameo of 34-ball 30 but that only helped to reduce the lead of Central.

## Rajasthan Royals set to offer Jos Buttler lucrative multi-year contract

London, Jun 29 (PTI):

Indian Premier League franchise Rajasthan Royals is all set to offer a lucrative multi-year contract to England's limited over skipper Jos Buttler, British newspaper 'Telegraph' reported on Thursday.

With most of the IPL franchises owning part or full stakes in various private T20 leagues, there is an imminent threat to game's current structure with fears that a lot of top international players might forego their central contracts to sign football club-like deal with a singular club (franchise) to appear in various tournaments. According to 'The Telegraph', RR is trying to



tie Buttler down to longer-term deal but the offer is yet to be formally tabled and it is also not clear if the cricketer will sign the deal.

"England's white-ball captain Jos Buttler is set to be offered a landmark four-year deal by his Indian premier League franchise Rajasthan Royals," the report said.

## Australia finishes on 416 after Smith hundred

London, Jun 29 (AP):

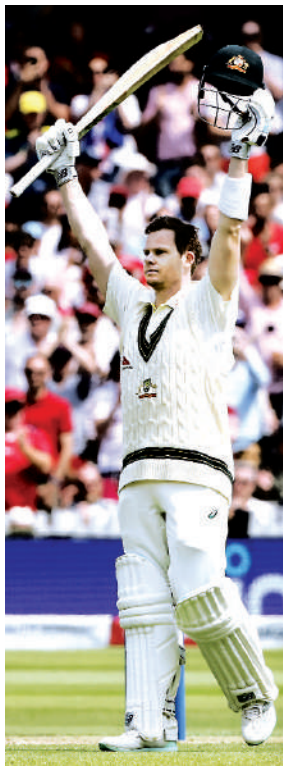
Another Steve Smith century backstopped Australia to 416 all out on the second morning of the second Ashes test at Lord's on Thursday.

England was 13 without loss from four overs by lunch. Ben Duckett had 7 and Zac Crawley 6.

Australia's total, after being forced to bat, was more than double what any other side has scored in the first innings in the last 10 tests at Lord's.

But Australia had been 316-3 after tea on Wednesday.

Smith started the day on 85 and Australia five down. When Alex Carey and Mitchell Starc were dismissed in the first 20 minutes, Australia's pre-eminent batter was on 87 and decided to get a move on before he ran out of partners.



His next four scoring shots were all boundaries, the 14th of his innings a cover drive off James Anderson to reach the hundred. Smith kissed Australia's crest on his helmet and smiled for his teammates. Naturally, the Australian fans cheered while English fans grudgingly clapped the biggest thorn in their side for the past decade.

His numbers are head-turning. Smith's 32nd test century was his 12th against England, eighth in England and second at Lord's. The 32 tied him with former captain Steve Waugh at eighth on the all-time list, and he overtook Waugh's 3,173 runs for fourth on the Ashes list, behind only Don Bradman, Jack Hobbs and Allan

Border. The century came three weeks after his 121 against India at the Oval in the World Test Championship final. After midday, when the Lord's floodlights were turned off for the first time in the match, Smith went off moments later; too, for 110. He tried to drive Josh Tongue and edged to Duckett at gully. He spent more than five hours in the middle, facing 184 balls and hit 15 boundaries. Australia lasted another 25 minutes. Ollie Robinson collected the last two wickets to finish with three, the same as Tongue. England's four-prong pace attack suffered its most expensive first day at Lord's in 15 years at 4.21 runs per over on Wednesday, but when the sun finally poked through the clouds on Thursday, Anderson and Stuart Broad finally shone.

## Ferreira's hat-trick leads US over St Kitts and Nevis 6-0

CONCACAF Gold Cup

St Louis (US), Jun 29 (AP):

Jesus Ferreira scored his second international hat-trick, Djordje Mihailovic had two goals as the 13th-ranked United States overwhelmed No. 139 St. Kitts and Nevis 6-0 in the CONCACAF Gold Cup.

Mihailovic, Bryan Reynolds and Ferreira scored in a 3:50 span to build a 3-0 lead by the 16th minute on Wednesday night. The US outshot St Kitts 34-2.

"We know that we had to come out here and gain points, gain goals, and I



Jesus Ferreira #9 of the United States runs after the ball.

think the team went out there and took care of business," Ferreira said.

Ferreira has 11 goals in 20 appearances and be-

came the fastest American to double-digit goals, accomplishing the feat in three games fewer than Clint Mathis. Seven of

Ferreira's goals have been against St. Kitts and then-No. 170 Grenada. Ferreira became the fifth American with multiple hat tricks behind Landon Donovan with three, and Peter Millar, Jozy Altidore and Clint Dempsey with two each. Ferreira was the only American starter who played at last year's World Cup, appearing in the first half of the second-round loss to the Netherlands.

Mihailovic also had two assists for the defending champion Americans, who matched their largest Gold Cup victory margin, also 6-0 against Cuba in 2015 and Trinidad in 2019.

## Neeraj returns to action in Lausanne DL javelin throw



Lausanne, Jun 29 (PTI):

Returning to action after a one-month injury lay-off, Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will seek his second straight podium finish of the season at the Lausanne leg of the Diamond League in a star-studded field on Friday.

The 25-year-old Indian superstar had made a per-

## India, England, Australia playing bulk of Test matches will eventually kill the game: Chris Gayle



New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

The big three -- India, England and Australia -- playing the bulk of Test cricket will eventually "kill the game" and the players of smaller boards like the West Indies must be paid better for international cricket to flourish,

feels Chris Gayle.

Gayle is best known for his exploits in T20 cricket but he is also a veteran of 103 Tests and 301 ODIs.

Speaking to PTI, the 43-year-old said only three teams dominating the game can't be good for the game in the long run.

"Over the years, cricket has changed quite a bit. It is a big business now. Lot of money being thrown around not just in T20 leagues but Test cricket as well. The bigger teams getting paid more than the smaller teams, leaving them at a disadvantage.

### ADMISSION Open

Contact for Advertising  
**96302 59335**

### M.A.K. AZAD COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

(Run by Osmani Educational Society, Raipur)

**2004 से सयपुर शहर के मध्य संचालित एकमात्र कॉलेज**

स्वीडिश के लिए संपर्क करें या ऑनलाइन संचालित करें -  
[www.makazadpharmacy.com](http://www.makazadpharmacy.com)

Registration Started : 0771-4913335, 9425214413, 9981224037

Chourasiya Colony, Nav Durga Nagar, Raipur (C.G.), e-mail - Makazadpharmacy123@gmail.com, Website- www.makazadpharmacy.com  
0771- 4000123, 9329621221, 9981224037, 9300253335

**D.PHARMA**  
DIPLOMA OF PHARMACY 2 YEARS COURSE

**B.PHARMA**  
BACHELOR OF PHARMACY 4 YEARS COURSE

**ASSURANCE OF SUPERIOR SAFETY**

- RELIABLE AND STRONG
- NEXT GEN FEATURES
- BENCHMARK OF SAFETY
- COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

**GK Automotive Pvt Ltd**  
Opp. Kabir Nagar, Sondongri, Ring Road No.-2, Raipur (C.G.)  
BRANCHES: DURG | RAJNANDGAON | DHAMTARI | MAHASAMUND  
Mo.: 98268 97000

### MODEL ENGLISH HR. SEC. SCHOOL

"Education makes future better"

Special Discount on Admission fees before 31st March 50%

**Admission Open**  
Nursery to 12th  
(Biology, Maths, Commerce)

Register Now at [www.mesraipur.com](http://www.mesraipur.com)

\* Spoken English & Personality Development Classes

\* Transport & Surveillance Facility

\* Monthly Seminar & Discussion

\* Personal attention on each students

**Civil lines, Katora Talab Road, Raipur (C.G.) Contact:- 07771-4000123**

### ROYAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Play Group Nursery, Pre Primary, Class I to XII (Science, Commerce, Bio, Arts)

Special Discount on Admission fees before 31st March 50%

**Salient Features**

- Extra curricular activities
- Personal attention to each student
- Limited student in each class
- Music, dance, personality development classes
- Conveyance facilities scholarship to all first class students
- Yoga & Meditation
- Well equipped lab, Computer Lab
- A large playground

Mathpura, Chourasiya Colony, Raipur, (C.G.)  
Mo.:- 9589085558, 9329621221, Email:- rpsraipur123@gmail.com



## 'Leaders who attended Oppn meet involved in scams'

Munger (Bihar), Jun 29 (PTI): Union Home Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah on Thursday accused opposition leaders, who had attended the June 23 meeting in Patna, of being involved in scams worth over Rs 20 lakh crore.

Taking on Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar who organised the meeting, Shah said the people of the state will give a "befitting reply to corrupt leaders" in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

The Union home minister was addressing a mega rally at Lakhisarai in Munger parliamentary constituency, organised by his party BJP.

"Bihar has always raised its voice against corruption. Opposition leaders who attended the



Union Home Minister Amit Shah with Bihar BJP President Samrat Choudhary during a public meeting in Lakhisarai district, Thursday.

June 23 meeting in Patna are involved in scams worth over Rs 20 lakh crore Bihar will give a befitting reply to corrupt leaders in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," Shah said.

In a reference to Kumar who dumped the BJP last year to form the 'Mahagathbandhan' government in the state, Shah said leaders who ditched the National Democratic Alliance must be "punished".

Shah also questioned the chief minister's track record and asked, "Nitish Babu must explain what he has done for Bihar".

He also alleged that the law and order situation has been "worsening by the day under the Mahagathbandhan' government in the state.

## ENJOYING RAINS



Children during Monsoon rainfall in Ajmer, Thursday.

## One year of Shinde govt: Politics overshadows governance

Mumbai, Jun 29 (PTI):

Bitter non-stop wrangling with the Uddhav Thackeray-led outfit and intermittent exchanges between the ruling partners have stood out as the Shiv Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra, steered by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, completes a year in office on Friday.

The Sena and Shiv Sena (UBT) labelled each other "gaddar" (traitor) after Shinde's rebellion split their original party last year, while Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis publicly asserted he had exacted "revenge" on Thackeray for his "betrayal".

Though comfortably placed to form the government after the 2019 Assembly elections, the

undivided Shiv Sena and BJP ended their decades-long ties over the CM's post. Thackeray then allied with the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and Congress to become the CM until Shinde toppled his cart.

About 50 MLAs on his side, Shinde took oath on June 30, 2022, and Fadnis, a former chief minister whose party BJP has 105 legislators in the 288-member Assembly, became his deputy in what was seen as an unprecedented move.

Behind the wide grins and bonhomie on camera between Shinde and Fadnis, there have been palpable signs of strain, triggered by words and

ads, as the ruling alliance gears up to celebrate its first anniversary of being

in power. The goings-on have left little room for doubt that politics has overshadowed governance in these months, though the government moved quickly to speed up a few infrastructure projects, including Metro lines in Mumbai.

In the Kalyan Lok Sabha constituency, local BJP leaders targeted the CM's son and two-term MP Shrikant Shinde, bringing to the fore the simmering tension between the Shiv Sena and BJP.

Later, an advertisement splashed across major dailies claiming that Shinde enjoyed more popularity than Fadnis, which added fuel to the fire. It did not have the pictures of either Fadnis or Shiv Sena founder late Bal Thackeray.

## Kejriwal rejects appointment of edu depts officials mired in vigilance inquiries

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday halted the appointment of some officials in the Education department citing ongoing vigilance inquiries against them, officials said.

The CM deliberated with officials on three matters related to appointments in the second meet of the National Capital Civil Service Authority (NCCSA). The first meeting of the NCCSA was held on June 20. LG of

office sources denied the charges, saying the file has been signed and sent to the government. In another matter that came up in Thursday meet, there was a proposal to remove some competent officers from the Education department,

which the Chief Minister also objected to and stopped the proposal, an official said. The third matter in the meeting pertained to the demand of some female officers. They had requested transfers from the post of Sub-Registrar on personal grounds, which the Chief Minister approved on humanitarian grounds, he said. The Delhi Lt Governor is still sitting on the minutes of the first meeting and has not processed the file, he said.

Addressing a press conference following the first meeting of the NCCSA earlier this month, Kejriwal had termed the delay in approving of minutes a "farce" and a "conspiracy to not let the elected government do any work in Delhi."

## SC comes out with fresh procedure for mentioning of cases

For urgent listing before benches

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

Fresh cases, verified by the registry on a Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, will be automatically listed for hearing before Supreme Court benches on the following Monday and the lawyers need not mention them before the Chief Justice of India, an apex court circular said.

The information about the procedure to be adopted by CJI D Y Chandrachud for mentioning of cases for their urgent listing from July 3 was shared with the bar and others through a circular issued on June 28 by the registrars of judicial administration. The top court is set to reopen on July 3 after the summer

vacation. "Miscellaneous fresh matters which are verified on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday shall be automatically listed on the following Monday," the circular said.

"Miscellaneous matters which are verified on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday shall be automatically listed on the following Friday," it added.

The circular also said lawyers seeking listing of verified fresh matters prior to such allotted dates will now be required to submit their mentioning pro forma by 3 PM a day before to get their cases heard the next day.

Those seeking listing the same day, will have to submit the pro forma by 10:30 AM to the mention-

ing officer along with a letter of urgency, it said. The CJI will then take a call on the same during lunch hours or "as the exigency may warrant", it said. For after-notice and regular hearing matters that are sought to be urgently listed, the lawyers will have to first go before the mentioning officer with the pro forma and urgency letter. "No mentionings other than those in the mentioning lists uploaded a day prior shall be permitted for such matters," it said.

As per the procedures, the lawyers and litigants are allowed to mention their cases for out-of-turn listing and hearing by putting forth the ground of urgency before the CJI's court.

## KANWAR YATRA



Rahul Saimi, a resident of Ghaziabad, with others passes by while carrying his grandparents on shoulder during Kanwar Yatra, in Muzaffarnagar, Thursday.

## 'Indian Embassy in touch with Iranian authorities'

● For release of fishermen

Thiruvananthapuram, Jun 29 (PTI): The Government of India has given the highest priority for securing the release of Indian fishermen detained by Iranian authorities for allegedly entering their waters without permission, Union Minister for External Affairs, V Muraleedharan, said here on Thursday.

Seven fishermen from Kerala, three from Tamil Nadu, and a citizen of an Arab nation who went fishing from Ajman, UAE, were detained by the Iranian Navy a few days ago after they unintentionally crossed over the waters of the Middle East nation.



V Muraleedharan

The minister said the Government of India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has experience in securing the release of Indian citizens detained by the security agencies of foreign countries for entering international waters.

He said the Indian Government has a permanent solution with Pakistan and Sri Lanka to address such issues, but in the case of Iran, there is no regular system. "We will find a solution", he assured.

He said that the Indian Embassy officials themselves will go and meet the fishermen who have been detained by Iran, and assured the concerned families that they will not be subjected to any physical abuse.

## Heavy rains lash parts of Gujarat

Ahmedabad, Jun 29 (PTI): Several parts of south Gujarat received heavy rainfall during the last 36 hours and more showers are expected in the next two days, officials said on Thursday. The downpour threw life out of gear and affected the movement of traffic in Valsad, Surat, Navsari and Tapi districts of south Gujarat as heavy rains resulted in water-logging in low-lying areas as well as closure of some roads in rural parts, they said. Following a quick spell of shower in the morning, several roads of Ahmedabad city were also inundated in knee-deep water and people had to wade through it to reach their destinations. In the last 36 hours ending at 6 am on Thursday, Pardi taluka of Valsad district in south Gujarat received as much as 182 mm rainfall, a release by the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) said.

## Photo exhibition commemorates India's contribution in Korean War

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

A photo exhibition here marks the 70th anniversary of the Korean war armistice with a special focus on the contribution of the Indian 60 Para Field Ambulance, a medical unit of the Indian Army.

Hosted by the Korean Cultural Centre India, the exhibition has featured 32 photographs of the 60 Para Field Ambulance providing medical assistance to soldiers and civilians during the war.

"Through this exhibition, the cultural centre aims to express appreciation for the dedication of the 60 Para Field Ambulance, while remind-

ing visitors that the development of modern Korea was made possible due to their sacrifices. I hope this exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of Korea-India diplomatic relations and 70th anniversary of Korean war armistice deepens the friendship between our two countries," Hwang Il-yong, director of the Korean Cultural Centre India, said in a statement.

According to the centre, in November 1950, the 60 Para Field Ambulance deployed 627 personnel, the highest number of medical support personnel from any country during the Korean War. Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel AG

Rangaraj, the unit provided treatment to 2.2 lakh wounded soldiers and civilians, and performed 2,324 surgeries.

After serving in Korea for three years, the troops returned to India in February 1954. The photos include shots of the unit members boarding a ship, Edwina Mountbatten visiting the troops, the unit's members crossing obstacles and rivers to give medical support to the injured, a postal stamp issued by the Korean government in 1951 to honour India's participation in the war, a dispensary with a capacity of 300 patients, and soldiers treating the wounded at Munsan falls.

## Amarnath Yatra: On-the-spot registration of pilgrims starts

Jammu, Jun 29 (PTI):

The city administration on Thursday began the process for on-the-spot registration of devotees arriving here for the pilgrimage to the Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas.

Over 1,500 pilgrims, including sadhus, have arrived in Jammu city for the yatra to the 3,880-metre shrine starting on July 2.

While an on-the-spot registration centre has been set up for unregistered pilgrims in Shalimar area of the city, a special camp for registration of sadhus has been set up at Purani Mandi-based Ram temple complex. Amid tight security arrangements, over 1000

pilgrims have arrived at the Bhagwati-Nagar base camp here for their onward journey to Kashmir, officials said.

The 62-day-long pilgrimage will commence on July 1 from the twin tracks the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

The registration of unregistered pilgrims arriving here from all parts of the country have begun on-the-spot at the counter here, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Nargesh Singh told PTI.

He said all facilities for smooth registration have been put in place. "The registration of sadhus has begun in Jammu from

Thursday. All arrangements have been put in place for best possible facilities to sadhus", Tehsildar Jai Singh said. The enthusiasm among pilgrims arriving here for the pilgrimage was palpable Sanjeev Kumar of Uttar Pradesh said it is the fourth time that he is visiting the cave shrine.

"The registration process has improved from manual to online. This has done away with the process of sitting in long queues in hot weather conditions", he said.

Another pilgrim, 69-year-old Jagdish Raj from Delhi said, "For my entire life, I have been facilitating people planning to go on the pilgrimage, but could not go myself. However, I am very happy

that I am now going to pay obeisance at Amarnath".

The sadhus have arrived here after completing the Char Dham Yatra to Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath shrines in Uttarakhand.

**सुयश**  
हॉस्पिटल  
(NABH से मान्यता प्राप्त)

**स्पाईन विभाग**

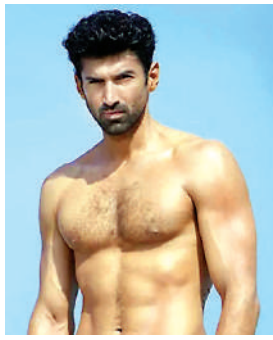
- रीढ़ की हड्डी में चोट या फ्रैक्चर
- रीढ़ की हड्डी में ट्यूमर
- डिस्क प्रोलेप्स
- पीठ दर्द एवं कमर दर्द
- सायटिका • Spine TB (Pott's Spine)

एवं रीढ़ की हड्डी से संबंधित सभी प्रकार की बीमारियों के विशेष इलाज की सुविधा.

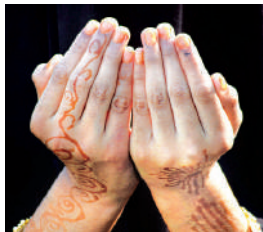
**24 Hours Helpline**  
**9926386660**

कोटा-गुदियारी रोड़, होटल पिकाडली के पीछे, रायपुर  
Ajay 9827144371





### BRIEF



A devotee offers prayers on the occasion of Eid-al-Adha, at Jama Masjid Khairuddin, Thursday.

### Arrested

**Hailakandi:** AIUFD MLA Nijam Uddin Choudhury has been arrested for allegedly "assaulting" a BJP worker and others and "preventing" police personnel from performing their duties in an outpost in Assam's Hailakandi district, a senior officer said on Thursday. Ataur Rahman Laskar, a member of the BJP's minority cell, lodged a complaint, alleging that the Algapur MLA and three others had assaulted him near Dholeswari point in Panchgram on Wednesday, following which he rushed to the Katakhal outpost, Hailakandi Superintendent of Police Leena Doley told reporters.

### Obeisance

**Jammu:** Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dr Justice D Y Chandrachud visited the holy cave Shrine of Mata Vaishnodevi and paid obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum in Jammu and Kashmir's Katra belt. This is the first visit of Justice Chandrachud to the holy shrine after taking over as the CJI. On his arrival at Katra, the Chief Justice of India was received by Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, the official spokesman of the board, said.

### Charges

**Mumbai:** A special court here has framed charges against gangster Ravi Pujari in a case related to the 1999 murder of an alleged member of fugitive underworld don Dawood Ibrahim's gang. The charges were framed against Pujari on Wednesday for conspiring with the now acquitted accused for allegedly committing the crime, his lawyer D S Manerkar said.

### Double murder

**Berhampur:** Two persons including one with criminal records were suspected to have been killed and burnt by a rival group in Odisha's Ganjam district on Thursday. Police recovered their half-burnt bodies from a roadside at Mohada under Digapahandi police station area.

**Weather**

High 26 Low 24

## Police stops Rahul's convoy

At Bishnupur

Imphal, Jun 29 (PTD):

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's convoy was on Thursday stopped by the Manipur police at Bishnupur, about 20 kilometres from Imphal, officials said.

After arriving at Imphal, he was travelling in a convoy to Churachandpur to visit relief camps in the area.

Police officials said the convoy was stopped fearing violence along the route. They said that tyres were burnt on the highway near Utluu village in Bishnupur district and a few stones were thrown at the convoy. "We fear repetition of such events and hence as a precaution, requested the convoy to halt at Bishnupur," a police officer told PTI. Congress office bearers are speaking with the police and army authorities to ensure safe passage for their party leader. More than 100 people have lost their lives in the ethnic violence between



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi after being stopped by the Manipur police, in Bishnupur district, Thursday.

### 'Totally unacceptable, shatters all democratic norms'

The Congress on Thursday hit out at the government after Rahul Gandhi's convoy was stopped by police near Bishnupur in Manipur and accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of using "autocratic methods" to stall his "compassionate outreach" to those hit by ethnic violence. The government action is "totally unacceptable and shatters all constitutional and democratic norms," Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said. In a tweet, Kharge said, "Gandhi's convoy in Manipur has been stopped by police near Bishnupur. He is going there to meet the people suffering in relief camps and to provide a healing touch in the strife-torn state. PM Modi has not bothered to break his silence on Manipur. He has left the state to fend for itself." "Now, his double engine disastrous governments are using autocratic methods to stall a compassionate outreach by Rahul Gandhi.

### Rahul visits relief camp



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday visited people displaced by the ethnic strife at Churachandpur in Manipur after reaching there in a helicopter, hours behind schedule as his convoy of vehicles was stopped by the state police mid-way fearing violence. Gandhi went to a relief camp and interacted with the inmates. The Congress leader had to stop at Bishnupur, around 20 kilometres from Imphal, after police halted his convoy fearing attacks on it. "Rahul Gandhi took a state government-provided chopper to visit Churachandpur. Top police and administration officials accompanied him in the helicopter," said a source at the airport.

tween Meitei and Kuki communities in the north-eastern state so far. Clashes first broke out on May 3 after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled

Tribe (ST) status. Meiteis account for about 53 per cent of Manipur's population and live mostly in the Imphal Valley. Tribals -- Nagas and Kukis -- constitute another 40 per cent of the population and reside in the hill districts.

**HEART VALVE CLINIC**

Heart Valve Disease Symptoms  
Breathing Difficulty | Chest Pain | Palpitations | Fatigue  
Dizziness Swollen Abdomen/Ankle/Foot

Dr. P. K. Hari Kumar  
Senior Consultant - Cardiac Surgery  
Every Friday | 10am - 3pm

Free Registration | ECG | Consultation

For more information  
9538052378

NH MMI Narayana Superspecialty Hospital, Raipur

## Nand Kumar Sai appointed CSIDC chairman

Raipur, Jun 29:

Veteran tribal leader Nand Kumar Sai, who joined the ruling Congress in Chhattisgarh after quitting the BJP last month, was on Thursday appointed chairman of the Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation, a cabinet-rank post, officials said. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's office posted the information about his appointment on its Twitter handle and congratulated him. The state government has accorded the cabinet minister rank to Sai following

his appointment as the chairman of CSIDC, it said. The Assembly elections in Chhattisgarh are due this year-end.

On April 30 this year, Sai (77), a former three-term Lok Sabha MP and three-time MLA, quit the BJP, claiming the party leaders were trying to tarnish his image by hatching conspiracies and leveling false allegations against him. He joined the Congress on May 1 and since then he was expected to get a bigger responsibility in the government.



### BEST WISHES



Newly appointed Dy. CM and Health Minister T.S. Singh Deo paid a courtesy visit to the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at his official residence here on Thursday. CM Baghel congratulated and extended best wishes to Health Minister Singh Deo for being appointed as the Deputy Chief Minister. Former Union Minister, Kumari Selja, Additional Chief Secretary Subrat Sahoo and others were present on this occasion.

## 'Never spoke about rotational CM post'

Buzz created by media

Raipur, Jun 29:

A day after the Congress's move to appoint T S Singh Deo as the deputy chief minister of Chhattisgarh, the state minister said he had never spoken of an "agreement" on rotation of the chief ministerial post and claimed it was a buzz created by the media.

After arriving at the Raipur airport from New Delhi on Thursday morning, Singh Deo expressed gratitude to the party for the announcement of his elevation and said "der aaye durust aaye" (better late than never).

A Congress statement on Wednesday said party



CM Bhupesh Baghel congratulates newly appointed Deputy Chief Minister T.S. Singh Deo during a meeting, on Thursday.

president Mallikarjun Kharge has approved the proposal for the appointment of Singh Deo as the deputy chief minister in Chhattisgarh.

The decision to appoint him as the deputy CM came just a few months ahead of state Assembly elections due this year-end, but Singh Deo said the responsibility given even for a day is crucial.

### Singhdeo appointed Deputy CM

A Congress statement on Wednesday said party president Mallikarjun Kharge has approved the proposal for the appointment of Singh Deo as the deputy chief minister in Chhattisgarh. The decision to appoint him as the deputy CM came just a few months ahead of state Assembly elections due this year-end, but Singh Deo said the responsibility given even for a day is crucial.

The Congress's move to appoint Singh Deo, locked in a turf war with CM Baghel for months, as deputy CM appears to be an attempt to stem infighting in the state unit and prepare it for the year-end Assembly polls.

## Reshuffle soon? PM to chair ministers' meet on July 3

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTD):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair a meeting of the Union Council of Ministers on July 3, officials said on Thursday.

This comes a day after Modi held hectic deliberations with top BJP leaders, triggering speculation about a possible reshuffle of his Council of Ministers. The July 3 meeting is likely to be held at the newly built convention centre at Pragati Maidan here, which will host the G20 summit in September. On Wednesday, Modi held marathon meetings with Union Home Minister

Amit Shah and BJP president J P Nadda, among others. Nadda's participation in the meeting led to speculation about changes in the government and BJP organisation, including at the state-level, as the party gears up for key assembly elections due later this year and the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. For the past few days, Shah, Nadda and BJP general secretary (organisation) B L Santosh have held several rounds of deliberations on organisational and political issues. Elections are due in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Mizoram later this year.

## MANIPUR VIOLENCE SC to hear on July 3 plea of NGO

Seeking protection for Kuki tribals

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTD):

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on July 3 a plea by an NGO seeking Army protection for the minority Kuki tribals in Manipur and prosecution of communal groups attacking them.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and Manoj Misra will be hearing the petition filed by NGO Manipur Tribal Forum.

On June 20, a vacation bench headed by Justice

Surya Kant had declined urgent hearing on the plea, saying it's a law and order issue which the administration should tackle. Senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, appearing for the NGO had submitted notwithstanding the solemn assurances that nobody will die, 70 tribals have been killed in ethnic violence in the state.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the State had opposed the prayer for urgent hearing, and asserted security agencies are on the ground doing their best to stem violence and restore normalcy. He had submitted that the main matter

pertaining to the Manipur High Court's order for grant of Scheduled Tribe status to the majority Meitei community, which set off a chain of violence in the northeastern state, has been posted for hearing on July 17 by the top court. The vacation bench had then posted the plea of the NGO for hearing on July 3. The Manipur Tribal Forum, in its plea filed through advocate Satya Mitra, has alleged the central government and the chief minister of Manipur have jointly embarked on a communal agenda aimed at "ethnic cleansing" of Kuki tribals in the northeastern state.

## TCS bans 6 employees for favouring staffing firms

Mumbai, Jun 29 (PTD):

TCS has taken action against six employees after finding them guilty of accepting favours from certain staffing firms in the appointment of contractual workers, Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran said on Thursday. The largest IT services exporter is investigating the role of three more of its employees, Chandrasekaran said while speaking at the TCS annual general meeting here. "We have banned six employees and also six companies," he said in response to questions from shareholders. He said the company received

two separate whistleblower complaints -- one pertaining to appointment of business associates or contractual workers in the US, and one in India, in late February and March, after which it investigated the allegations. Chandrasekaran said he cannot quantify the favours these employees got but the banned employees behaved in such a way that they were favouring certain firms. "The company will look at the whole BA (Business Associate) supplier management process and see what the weaknesses are and will completely tighten the process to ensure that we do not have such incidents," he said.

## When PM hailed as 'hero', 'boss' abroad, Cong gets 'stomach ache': Nadda

Bharatpur, Jun 29 (PTD):

BJP president J P Nadda pilloried the Congress on Thursday, saying its leaders get "stomach ache" when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is praised across the globe and call him names.

While the prime minister of Australia says "Modi, you are the boss" and Elon Musk says "I am a fan of Modi", here the Congress calls him "vile", "snake", "scorpion", "tea-seller", he said. Nadda also called Congress people "illiterate" in reference to their remarks on food inflation in the country. The BJP chief



BJP National President JP Nadda addresses during a public meeting, in Bharatpur district, Thursday.

addressed party workers after inaugurating a party office building in Bharatpur and later addressed a public rally in Nadbai in the district. He

attacked the opposition parties over dynasty politics saying that if people vote for such parties, they make certain families and their children flourish.

## Naxalites kill deputy sarpanch, teacher

Sukma, Jun 29:

A deputy village sarpanch and a teacher were killed by suspected Naxalites after holding a so-called 'jan adalat' or kangaroo court in Sukma district, police said on Thursday. The two were performing their respective duty with dedication, but Naxalites killed them out of frustration, an official said. Deputy sarpanch Madvi Ganga and Shiksha Doot (temporary visiting teacher) Kawasi Sukka were summoned by Naxalites to Duled village under Jagargunda sub-division eight days ago, said

district Superintendent of Police Kiran Chauhan.

Two years ago, Ganga, who has been actively creating awareness about government's welfare schemes in the area, was similarly called by Naxalites and kept in captivity for some days before being released, he said. His family members thought this time too he would be released after a few days, the SP said.

Some villagers and leaders of tribal communities approached Naxalites to secure the release of the duo, but to no avail. On being alerted about, the police tried to trace their whereabouts, Chauhan said.

### EXCHANGE OF GREETINGS



BSF personnel and Pakistani Rangers personnel exchange sweets on the occasion of Eid-al-Adha, at the India-Pakistan Attari-Wagah border, near Amritsar, Thursday.



# Commemorating Veer Terriers of 107 Infantry Battalion (TA) 11 GR on First **SHAHEED DIWAS**



**Lt. Col. Kapil Dev Pandey**  
( 01 Dec 1979 - 30 June 2022 )

## DECORATIONS

Special Service Medal (Operation Rhino)  
Special Service Medal (Operation Rakshak)  
Sainya Seva Medal (Bengal Assam)  
Sainya Seva Medal (Jammu and Kashmir)



Sub Umesh Lama



Sub Sajit Subba



Nb Sub Sitaram Rai



Hav Chandan Gurung



Hav Deepak Pradhan



Hav Milan Tamang



Hav Umesh Limbu



Hav Bedhyan Rai



Hav Santu Banerjee



L/Hav Bikram Sarki



NK Chhedup Lama



NK Tshering Lepcha



NK Diwankar Thapa



LNK Bhupen Rai



LNK Bishal Chhetri



RFN Prasanta Deb



RFN Sanjoy Debnath



RFN Mahiuddin Ahmed



RFN Md Jairul Hoque



RFN Balaram Sharma



RFN Sankar Chhetri



RFN Ladup Tamang



RFN Shubam Kumar Singh



RFN Marcus Gurung



RFN Sanjay Oraon



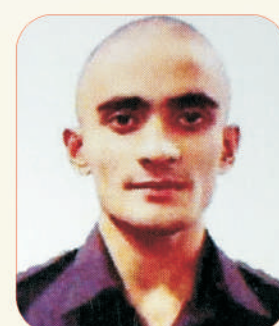
RFN Benjamin Rai



RFN Pritam Kumar Dutta



RFN Tak Bahadur Thapa



RFN Priyam Dutta

**Praying for the martyrs and their families**

**Smt. Kusum Pandey (Veer Mata)** Plot No 63/1, Nehru Nagar (East), Near Kalibari, Bhilai Nagar, Durg (CG)

Lt Col (Retd) Chhavi Pandey (Veer Patni), Bhavana Pandey (Veer Behan), Kanchan Agrawal (Veer Behan), Pradeep Agrawal (Jijaji), Abhiraj Dev Pandey (son), Abeer Dev Pandey (son), Himanshu Agrawal (Bhanja), Alisha Agrawal (Bhanja Bahu), Swastik Agrawal (Naati)



## PM Modi to visit Ch'garh on July 7

BJP leaders asked to start preparations

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 29:** Amidst growing political heat ahead of the next Legislative Assembly polls scheduled to be held later this year, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be arriving to Chhattisgarh next month.

According to the information received, Prime Minister Modi during his visit to poll-bound Chhattisgarh would be interacting with intellectuals to mark the 9 years of BJP regime under his leadership. Apart from it, he might also inaugurate the newly-established IIT Bhilai campus in Durg District. However, the de-



tail programme is yet to be issued from the PMO.

It is learnt that the Chhattisgarh BJP leaders have been given signals over his visit to Chhattisgarh. Accordingly, the leaders have geared up prepara-

tions to welcome him next month. During his visit, PM is likely to take part in programmes at Durg and Raipur. July 7 is the tentative date of his visit as reported by the BJP leaders here.

Meanwhile, the National President of BJP Jagat Prakash Nadda would be addressing a public meeting on June 30 in Bilaspur to create political atmosphere in favour of the saffron brigade. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh have already visited recently to highlight the achievement of Modi government.

## Congress not to benefit from elevation of Singhdeo: BJP

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 29:** Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Brijmohan Agrawal on Thursday claimed that the ruling Congress would not benefit from the elevation of Cabinet Minister TS Singhdeo to the post of Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

In a statement issued here, the senior BJP leader further claimed that recent decision would not benefit Congress but TS Singhdeo would further loose his mandate and respect.

He further opined that Singhdeo would also teach a lesson to the Congress on being denied the respect during the last four and half years of regime. Agrawal said that people from Sarguja are agitated over the perform-

ance of Singhdeo during the last four and half years and added that Congress would suffer heavy defeat in the tribal-dominated Sarguja region.

Agrawal further claimed that the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has also lost support from Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh over recent exposure of his associates in Coal and Excise (Liquor) scam which resulted in elevation of Singhdeo as Deputy CM to save the face by Congress.

Leader of Opposition in Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Narayan Chandel has also questioned the decision of the Congress high command to elevate Singhdeo and alleged that it's a face saving exercise amidst growing corruption in Congress-ruled Chhattisgarh.

## BOOKS ON DEMAND



The students have started purchasing of books and copies for the new academic session and the books stores are witnessing huge crowd daily.

## 'Media persons advocates amendments in COTPA Act'

An appeal for combined efforts to make state 'Tobacco-Free' was made in the programme

Raipur, Jun 29:

In the one-day Media Interaction Workshop organised by Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI), in order to make Chhattisgarh a "Tobacco-free" state and to strengthen the laws for tobacco control Act and COTPA-2003, all the media representative advocated for changes in the COTPA Act.

Apart from this they laid emphasis on creating public awareness among children and youth in order to save their life and making combined efforts for strengthening COTPA Act. The programme remained focused on creating awareness about



harmful effects of Tobacco on health and to make changes in the law for effective control on use of tobacco products. During this CEO VHAI New Delhi Bhawana B Mukhopadhyay and Binoy

Mathew gave information in detailed about the present day condition of persons consuming tobacco and control on tobacco by the state government. The Chhattisgarh government has hailed the cam-

paign to make Chhattisgarh tobacco-free. They also gave information on ways and means of control on use of tobacco and its different aspects and effective means of tobacco control.

During this, the role of journalists on the issue of how to make implementation of various issues related to COTPA Act 2003, easily in Chhattisgarh were highlighted.

In this programme many senior journalists and media representatives from different newspapers groups, members from VHAI New Delhi Dr Swapnil Jain and VHAI Chhattisgarh representatives were specially present.

## Singh Deo's appointment as Dy CM is his 'insult': Sao

Raipur, Jun 29:

BJP's Chhattisgarh unit chief Arun Sao on Wednesday termed state minister T S Singh Deo's appointment as the state deputy chief minister as his insult, and said the decision will not save the Congress from being defeated in the upcoming assembly elections in the state.

Talking to reporters, Sao said, the move is just an attempt to settle differences within the ruling party in the state.

The Congress - the ruling party in Chhattisgarh - said in a statement on Wednesday night that party president Mallikarjun Kharge has approved the proposal to appoint Singh Deo as the



deputy chief minister in Chhattisgarh.

When asked about the development, Sao told reporters in Bilaspur, "Congress party does not have the right to appoint a deputy CM. It is the right of the CM and Governor."

"The other thing is that the Congress party, which had promised Singh Deo to make him CM for two-and-

a-half-years, has done injustice to him by making him deputy CM for just four months. It is an insult to Singh Deo ji," he said.

The decision is just an attempt to deal with infighting within the Congress, he added.

"It is clear that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel ji and Congress are afraid of the people's criticism of the state government. The Congress has made Chhattisgarh a den of corruption and addiction while there is no development work taking place," he said.

The decision will have no impact on elections as people of the state have decided to uproot Congress from the state and the ruling party will not have any benefit of it, he added.

## NAAC team on three-day visit to PRSU from July 20

Administration gears up for preparations

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 29:** National Assessment & Accreditation Council (NAAC) would be on visit to access the status of Pt Ravishanker Shukla University (PRSU) on July 20. It would after a long period of six years that NAAC would be visiting the prestigious University to evaluate the status.

According to the information received, the PRSU Management has started the preparations for the NAAC visit and has started uploading the achievements in the official website. Similarly, directives have been issued to the concern departments to remove the shortcomings pointed earlier.

During the three-day visit to PRSU, the NAAC team would be checking the various aspects of the syllabus apart from educational process, research and innovations before coming up with suggestions on key issues including the Institutional values.

Officials informed that mock drill would be conducted on July 5 and 6 to access the preparations. Head of Departments of various School of Studies have been directed to ensure an error-free preparations.

## Summer sports training camp ends, 99 players and 67 coaches awarded



Raipur, Jun 29:

A 30-day summer sports training camp was organized by the Sports and Youth Welfare Department from May 17 to June 15, 2023, at the Swami Vivekananda Stadium in Kota, Raipur. The camp concluded today at 5 pm at Swami

Vivekananda Stadium, Kota in the presence of Chief Guest Vikas Upadhyay, Parliamentary Secretary. He wished the players to move ahead with consistency in their field with discipline and sportsman spirit.

More than one thousand players of football, handball, volleyball, basketball,

athletics, hockey, netball, kabaddi, karate, rope skipping, table tennis, softball, fencing, kho-kho, squash and other sports were present in the closing ceremony. 99 players and 67 coaches were awarded for their outstanding performance in the camp. In this 30-day summer camp, 1019 boys and 821 girls, a total of 1840 players participated in 30 sports. NR Sahu, Additional Collector, Mr. Brijesh Singh Kshatriya, Joint Collector, Assistant Director Sports and Games Association, including members of the institute, PT teachers, trainers and players participated. The notification was read by Mr. Pravesh Joshi, Sports Officer. Vote of thanks was proposed by T. Ningraj Reddy, Senior Instructor.

## CRGB Regional Office, Raipur new building inaugurated

Raipur, Jun 29:

The inauguration ceremony of the new building of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank (CRGB), Regional Office Raipur was held with great enthusiasm and fanfare at the new premises, Mahadev Ghat Road, Sunder Nagar Raipur.

The chief guest in the program was the chairman of the bank, Mr. I.K. Gohil along with the General Manager (Operational Network-I) of the Bank, A.K. Behera, General Manager (Operation Network - II) A.K. Nirala, General Manager (Administration) Vijay Agarwal, General Manager (Vigilance), Arvind Mittal, Assistant General Manager (HR), G.N. Murthy, Assistant General Manager (Operations) Mr. Satishchandra Kashyap and Chief Manager



(LCPC) Mr. Piyush Shukla were present. At the outset of the program, all the guests were welcomed with a bouquet by the Regional Manager Mr. Amarjit Singh Khanuja. After that, the program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Chairman of the Bank Mr. I.K. Gohil by the lighting the traditional lamp. Detailed information on the achievements of the Regional Office, Raipur was provided by the Regional

Manager Mr. Khanuja in the programme.

It may be noted that the bank is celebrating the golden decade of its establishment, reviewing which, in his address, a detailed discussion was held by the chairman on the business growth of the bank and appreciating the contribution and role of the regional office, Raipur.

After this, General Manager (Operation-I) Mr. Behera Sir addressed the staff members present.

## Cong seeks to mollify Singh Deo with deputy CM post, gets poll-ready in Ch'garh

Raipur, Jun 29:

The Congress move on Wednesday to appoint Chhattisgarh minister TS Singh Deo, locked in a turf war with Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel for months, as deputy CM appears to be an attempt to stem infighting in the state unit and prepare it for the year-end Assembly polls.

Baghel, who faces a formidable challenge from the Opposition BJP in the crucial Assembly elections, immediately hailed Singh Deo's appointment, seeking to put up a united face.

What works in Singh Deo's favour is that he is a prominent leader and has a considerable following in the northern part of the state (Surguja). The sitting

MLA from Ambikapur also enjoys the confidence of party high command in New Delhi.

A party statement released in the national capital on Wednesday night said Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge has approved the proposal for the appointment of Singh Deo (70) as the deputy chief minister in Chhattisgarh.

The decision came after top Congress leaders from Chhattisgarh discussed the party's strategy and poll preparedness in the state during the meeting held in New Delhi earlier in the day.

Kharge, former party chief Rahul Gandhi, Chhattisgarh CM Baghel, party in-charge for the state Kumari Selja and

general secretary, organization, K C Venugopal were among the leaders who attended the meeting at the party headquarters in New Delhi.

After the appointment of Singh Deo, who hails from a royal family, Baghel wrote on Twitter, "Congratulations and best wishes to Maharaj Sahab for getting responsibility as Deputy Chief Minister".

Former CM and senior BJP leader Raman Singh took a dig and tweeted a rhyme, "dubne lagi kashti to kaptan ne yu kuchh kiya, saup di hai patwar aadhi dusre ke hath me (when the boat started sinking, the captain did something like this, half of the helm has been handed over to someone else). Congratulations



to Maharaj ji for the remaining 4 months". According to political experts, the decision reflects Congress high command's attempt to keep its house in order ahead of the Assembly elections, where it will seek to retain power. The alleged differences between Baghel and his cabinet colleague Singh Deo

had spilled out in open in mid-2021 when speculation was rife that the latter will take over as CM for the remaining term as per a purported power-sharing pact agreed after the 2018 Assembly election results.

The CM post sharing formula had been a buzz in Chhattisgarh's political circles after the Congress came to power in December 2018 after a gap of 15 years. Then Baghel and his two senior cabinet colleagues — Singh Deo and Tamradhwaj Sahu — were leading contenders for the top post.

The power tussle between Singh Deo and Baghel took a new turn last year when the former gave up the panchayat and rural development department, hinting he had been

sidelined in the government though he continued to hold four other portfolios.

A scion of the erstwhile Sarguja royal family, Singh Deo is currently holding Health and Family Welfare, Medical Education, Twenty Point Implementation and Commercial Tax (GST) portfolios.

A three-time MLA, Singh Deo was elevated to the position of the Congress Legislative Party leader after the party lost the 2013 Assembly polls. Since then, Singh Deo made efforts to bring the party to power in 2018 in the state, considered as one of the bastions of the BJP. He was born on October 31, 1952, in Prayagraj (former-

ly Allahabad). His father late MS Singh Deo, an IAS officer, retired as Chief Secretary of the United Madhya Pradesh. His mother Devendra Kumari had been a minister in the Madhya Pradesh government.

TS Singh Deo studied at Scindia School, Gwalior, and later graduated in history from the prestigious Hindu College, New Delhi. Thereafter, he did his post-graduation from Hamidia College, Bhopal.

His political career started with the Municipal Council of Ambikapur of which he has twice been the chairman during 1983-88 and 1995-99.

Singh Deo was elected as an MLA for the first time in 2008 from the Surguja constituency,

which was earlier reserved for ST candidates and became a general seat (and came to be known as Ambikapur) after the delimitation in 2008. He retained the seat in 2013.

The Congress leader was given crucial charge of drafting the party's manifesto for the 2018 Assembly polls. He travelled across the state and consulted every section of society before preparing the pre-poll document.

The promises made by the Congress in its manifesto, particularly for farmers, were credited for the party's resounding victory in 2018.

Among people and political opponents, Singh Deo is seen as a soft-spoken, grounded and humble person.



# 23 urban PHCs of state turned into 'Model Hamar Hospital'

- Jointly by Health Department, Tata Trust together
- Out of these 14 hospitals got quality standard certification



Health Centers have been awarded the National Quality Assurance Standard (NQAS) certificate by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. CNIN has also collaborated with Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital, Nava Raipur, in screening and treatment of children suffering from Congenital Heart Disease. The closing program of the Model Urban Primary Health Center and CHD project

operated by the organization in Chhattisgarh was organized on Wednesday at a private hotel in Nava Raipur. The staff working in all 23 model Hamar hospitals were felicitated in the programme. Director of National Health Mission Mr. Bhoskar Vilas Sandipan while addressing the closing program of the project said that we have to provide good health facilities in both rural and urban areas. Health is everyone's

priority area. He thanked Tata Trust and CNIN for their cooperation in strengthening the primary health services in the state. Dr. Sita Ram Budaraju, Senior Health Advisor, Tata Trusts said at the event that we strive to make quality healthcare accessible and affordable, especially to underprivileged communities. With this objective we are working with the Government of Chhattisgarh since last few years.

Raipur's Bhanpuri, Bhatnagar, Labhandi, Rajatalab, Gudhiyari, Amasvani, Mathpuraina, Hirapur, Kanshiram Nagar, Devpuri, Gogaon Urban Primary Health Center, Charoda Urban Primary Health Center, Budha Mahadev Urban Primary Health Center in Kabirdham, Gandhi Chowk and Rajkishore Nagar of Bilaspur. Urban Primary Health Center, Nawapara Urban Primary Health Center Ambikapur, Korba's Dhodhipara and Gopalpur Urban Primary Health Center, Shri Ram Nagar Urban Primary Health Center Kanker, Baikunthdham Urban Primary Health Center, New Khursipar Urban Primary Health Center, Potia Kala Urban Primary Health Center are being developed as Hamar Hospital.

## YOUTH PARLIAMENT AT GEMS Students enact parliamentarians to discuss burning issues



**Central Chronicle News**  
Raipur, Jun 29: The students of Class XII Political Science stream studying in Shri Gujarati English Medium School (GEMS) rose up to the expectations like matured politicians when they met together in a makeshift parliament and discussed on the topic 'Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability a Way of Life'. The students donning the roles of Speaker, Presiding Officer, Home Minister,

Finance Minister, Opposition members discussed on burning problems like floods, desertification, deforestation and other natural calamities affecting the country. The opposition members with their sharp pin pointed questions gave a tough time the government while ministers also came with tailored-made reply to satisfy the opposition benches. Kripa Patel took the role of Speaker, Harita as Presiding Officer, Anushruti as Home Minister, Ankita Taunk as Finance Minister

and Opposition benches were occupied by Hiral Parmar, Sanskar Shukla and others. Brain child of School Principal Dr Shailesh Sharma, youth parliament spelled success with the uniting efforts of faculty members Mrs Manisha Pandey, Vinay Rajput, Mrs Leena Verma and other faculty members. Vice Principal SV Chandrasekhar and Academic Coordinator gave useful guidance for the successful conduct of programme.

## Collector inspected Tehsil office

Instructions given for quick disposal of revenue case

**Central Chronicle News**

Raipur, Jun 29: Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure inspected Raipur Tehsil office on Wednesday. He inquired about the construction of the proposed new building of Tehsil office. He also asked to present the estimate and action plan. After that Collector inspected the court of Naib Tehsildar and Tehsildar. He reviewed the cases and asked the reason for the pending and instructed for early redressal. The Collector also expressed his displeasure over the non-redressal of the cases within the stipulated time. He also expressed displeasure over the case of revenue recovery not registered and asked the reason for not making continuous entry. The Collector, while re-



viewing the cases of Revenue Circular RBC 6-4, instructed to give assistance within the prescribed time period and instructed to maintain the register in all the branches. He asked the

patwari and the police to hold a coordination meeting and get the report soon. Dr. Bhure interacted with the residents coming to the office and inquired about the reason for their

visit, directed the officers to take immediate action on their applications. On this occasion, Additional Collector Mr. B.C. Sahu and SDM Devendra Patel, Tehsildar and other employees were present.

## Fun World entertainment fair to end on July 2

● At BTI Ground, Shankar Nagar

**Central Chronicle News**

Raipur, Jun 29: The successfully running Fun World Entertainment Fair at BTI Ground, Shankar Nagar, Raipur will end on July 2. It is noteworthy that in this event there are hundreds of items of attractive range of craftsmen from many states on display which includes items to decorate the house, such as show pieces, furniture, home appliances and new range of terracotta items. Heavy footfall of the visitors was there from day 1 to purchase the items of their choice from wider range available. Apart from this, different types of swings are the center of attraction for the children here. In a way, this fair won the hearts of Raipurians, said. Tamanna Hussain, the Director of the fair who has



experienced in this field for two decades. He informed that this time this fair was of completely new style and attraction. In this amusement park built on the lines of London Bridge, apart from the children's fun zone, a wide range of handloom, handicraft, lifestyle, home decor, furniture and accessories of weavers from all over the country are available at affordable rates. There are many stalls in the expo, in which the main attractions are fancy, kosa, silk, Banarasi, Bhagalpuri. Linen, Chanderi, Lucknowi chicken sarees, besides

denim kurtis, batik prints, Jaipuri one-pieces, Punjabi phulkari, khadi shirts, jackets. In addition to this suits, bedsheets, fancy jewellery, stone jewellery, antique jewelry, colorful bangles, T-shirts, lowers, ladies garments and footwear, Patiala Juti, Rajasthani Mojari Juti, Bombay Sandal and best carpets in handloom, wood painting, furniture, bed and sofa covers, Pashmina shawls, Kashmiri kurtis, cosmetics, home appliances huge range are available here at affordable rates. He further said that the Raipurians liked the Fun

World Fair a lot. This time 20 to 22 types of swings were only for children and there are 11 to 12 types of swings for youth which include Break Dance, Columbus, Giant Wheel, Silambo, Dashing Car and Dragon Swing including Aero Plane, Mini Train, Car Swing and Mickey Mouse. The giant wheel that goes up to a larger height is the center of attraction. Due to this people got thrill along with entertainment. There is also a food zone for the taste lovers, which has large number of delicious food stall. The timings of the fair are from 5 pm to 10 pm daily.

## 1365 school buildings are being renovated in Bilaspur under MSJY

Renovation of schools will provide children with a better environment for learning

**Central Chronicle News**

Bilaspur, Jun 29: Chhattisgarh Government has launched the 'Mukhyamantri School Jatan Yojana' (MSJY) with the aim of developing high-quality infrastructure in schools across the state. Under this scheme, a total of 1365 schools in the district are currently undergoing renovations. This scheme, launched as per the directions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, aims to create a better learning environ-

ment for children by improving the condition of these schools. With the guidance of Collector Saurabh Kumar, the renovation work on school buildings is progressing steadily. The transformation of these 1365 schools is being carried out at a cost of Rs 74 crores, 74 lakhs, and 59 thousand. The renovation work includes roof repairs, wall painting, toilet refurbishment, and overall beautification. The school buildings are being painted using natu-

ral cow dung paint, making them visually attractive. The schools where the renovation work has been completed now have a completely new look. These schools will provide a conducive environment for students to learn. The villagers in the areas where the renovation work has been finished expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, stating that this scheme will improve school infrastructure and enable students to receive a quality education.

## CAIT celebrates National Traders Day: Amar Parwani

**Central Chronicle News**

Raipur, Jun 29: National Senior Vice President of Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) Amar Parwani, Chairman Magelal Malu, Amar Gidwani, State President Jitendra Doshi, Working President Vikram Singhdeo, Parmanand Jain, Vashu Makhija, General Secretary Surinder Singh, Working General Secretary Bharat Jain and Treasurer Ajay Agarwal informed that CAIT CG Chapter celebrated Danveer Bhamashah's birth anniversary as National Traders Day with enthusiasm. Simultaneously, a meeting of the State Executive Committee of CAIT was

also held. In the meeting CAIT C.G. office bearers and traders of all the district units of the CAIT CG chapter participated. Firstly National Senior Vice President of CAIT, Amar Parwani garlanded the picture of Danveer Shri Bhamashah and lit the lamp. After that, the organiser of the program, State General Secretary of CAIT Mr. Surinder Singh welcomed and congratulated all the members and all the executive members who came from various parts of state. Addressing the function Amar Parwani said that we all are celebrating the birth anniversary of Danveer Shri Bhamashah on this stage. It is probably



difficult to forget the period through which all of us have passed during the last three years. In those difficult times, all of us contributed whatever we could for our country. Remembering that time, today I see Danveer Shri Bhamashah in every trader. He further said that today we are celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence.

Parwani further said that traders must take advantage of the Mudra loan scheme. The bank gives loans up to Rs 10 lakh to small traders without any guarantee. Small traders should take advantage of this. CAIT appeals to all business organizations to organise Mudra loan camps in their unit from time to time. He further said that all traders should

get Udyam Aadhaar registration done in MSME. CAIT CG State President, Mr. Jitendra Doshi said that today on June 28, the birth anniversary of Danveer Shri Bhamashah is celebrated as National Traders Day in the whole country. In this series CAIT CG Chapter celebrated the day with enthusiasm as National Traders Day. CAIT CG Working President of the chapter Mr. Parmanand Jain informed about the life and achievements of Danveer Shri Bhamashah. CAIT youth team state president Mr. Avneet Singh also addressed the function. Vote of thanks was expressed by Working General Secretary Bharat Jain.

## Lord Jagannath reached the temple with Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra

- 'Kapat Pheda Puja Vidhan' performed
- Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra devotees saluted Lord Jagannath by playing Tupki



Subhadra and Balabhadra Swamy were mounted on chariots and circumambulated under Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra Puja Vidhan and

they reached the temple after nine days via the main road. During this, the devotees traditionally saluted by playing Tupki and had

come in large numbers to pay oblations. In the Shrimandir, the rituals of worship were completed according to tradition with the announcement of

Jagannathji's Jaikare and 'Hari Bolo'. After the Puja vidhan, 'Kapat-Peda Puja Vidhan' returned to the Shrimandir after getting upset on Panchami Tithi, dialogue with Mata Lakshmi and ceremony of respect, after Lakshmi-Narayan dialogue, the deities of Lord Jagannath, Mata Subhadra and Balabhadra Swamy are placed in the sanctum sanctorum of the Shrimandir. In the Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra of Bastar Goncha festival, a large number of devotees kept reaching for 'darshan' since morning, whereas the main attraction of Bastar Goncha was discharge of the tradition of

saluting Lord Jagannath with Tupki. For which the sellers of 'Tupki' and 'Peng' from rural areas also reached the city and continued to sell Tupki to men and women at the square-intersections. In this confluence of faith, there was more demand for 'Tupki' in Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra than in Goncha Rath Yatra. Throughout the day, the sound of tupki saluting Lord Jagannath resounded in the city. Bastar Goncha festival The Bastar Goncha festival ended with the establishment of the charitable Lord Jagannath in the Shrimandir in the Bahuda Goncha Rath Yatra Puja Vidhan. Now this festival will be celebrated next year.

## Maryland Varsity presents honorary doctorate to Bhansali

**Central Chronicle News**



Raipur, Jun 29: Maryland University (USA) at a programmeor-

ganised at Indian Habitat Centre New Delhi honoured Congress leader and PISF Chairman Nitin Bhansali with honorary doctorate degree for his excellent work in the field of social service. Bhansali expressed his gratitude towards the university for this honour. His achievements has been hailed by his family and friends which include Minder Saluja, Satyendra Shrivastav, Atharv Pandey, Sujata Agrawal and others.



## Take action against medical stores violating guidelines: Collector

Central Chronicle News

**Bijapur, Jun 29:** District Collector Rajendra Kumar Katara gave strict instructions to follow medical guidelines, while instructing the Chief Medical and Health Officer of the Health Department to provide better health facilities. The Collector said that there have been complaints about treatment at home by many doctors in the district headquarters and block headquarters, who treat at home without registration.

The civil surgeon was instructed to take quick action on the complaints

of doctors prescribing medicines for taking medicines from outside government hospitals. Reviewing the various agendas in the time-bound meeting, keeping in view the upcoming assembly elections, he instructed the inspection on all the polling stations and submitting the report of physical verification immediately, providing basic facilities including electricity, water, and ramps in the polling stations.

He also instructed regarding the current Kharif season, and the lifting of fertilizers and seeds, distribution of food grains in PDS shops, one-time food distribution in inaccessible areas, including prevention of seasonal diseases, 100 percent attendance of children in schools, Regular purchase of cow dung under Jal-Jeevan Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission, Godhan Nyay Yojana, sale of vermicompost made from cow dung, sale of cow dung

paint, livelihood oriented activities in all Gauthans, production of greens and vegetables in Gauthans, under MNREGA.

Instructions were also given for implementation of Rural Industrial Park (RIPA) Urban Slum Scheme, and tree plantation drive. CEO District Panchayat Mr. Ravi Kumar Sahu, Joint Collector Mr. Pawan Kumar Premi, Mrs. Suman Raj along with district level senior officers SDM, Deputy Collector CEO Janpad Panchayat and CMO of Urban Body were present in the meeting.



## Water logging due to torrential rains

Central Chronicle News

**Birkoni, Jun 29:** Due to continuous rain in the region, there are reports of water-logging in the entire district including the area. Heavy rains threw life out of gear due to water-logging and the condition has become such that the places where rain water never filled, there also people had to face problems due to water logging. People took the aid of buckets and other utensils to drain off the clogged water, causing discomfort as monsoon continuously is casting its spell on the region.



Also due to filling of several feet of water logged, people had to face difficulties in commuting and forced them to stay back at home. Meanwhile on the

other hand, the farmers got relief due to torrential rains and they heaved a sigh of relief as the rains drenched the fields. In Barbaspur, Badgaon, rain-water entered the houses

from the street, for which the villagers struggled throughout the day. However due to water logging, vegetable farming in the region has been affected, with prices set to

increase. After the rains stop, the work of sowing and threshing will speed up, in the fields, and farmers are waiting for the rains to decrease for a few days.

## Campaigning done in favour of MC Joshi



**In ward No. 14 of NPP Ahirwara for by-poll**

Central Chronicle News

**Nandini-Ahirwara, Jun 29:** For the by-polls in Nagar Palika Parishad (NPP), Ahirwara, ward No.14, massive public contact was done in favour of

the BJP's authorised candidate - ex-corporator Meena Chumman Joshi. In this, ex-MLA Rajmahant Sanwalram Dahare, ex-MLA Domanlal Korsewad, NPP District V-P Natwar Tamrakar, state working committee member Ravishankar Singh, Mandal president Liman Sahu, General Secretary

and corporator Anuj Sahu, senior leader Satish Sahu, ex-Mandal President Ishwar Verma, Laxmi Chatari, corporator Mokeshwari Sahu, Leeladhar Sahu, Nagar BJP President Vinod Gandharv, Vidhyanand Kushwaha, Mandal V.P Samaru Patel, Ganesh Tandon and others were present.

Central Chronicle News

**Gaurella-Pendra-Marwahi, Jun 29:** District Collector Priyanka Rishi Mahobia in the weekly deadline meeting reviewed the purchase of cow dung in district wise Gothans. Instructions were given to increase the percentage of cow dung purchase, lifting of vermicompost, pasture development, and intensive tree plantation etc.

She instructed in ensuring purchase of cow dung in all the 146 Gauthans of the district, and directed to purchase at least 30 quintals of cow dung daily in coordination with rural agriculture extension officers, panchayat secretaries and village assistants.

She also instructed the

## Collector holds weekly time-limit meeting



farmers and various departments to get the vermicompost prepared in Gauthans done, as there are 134 pastures in the district. In the first phase, she gave instructions to Deputy Director Pashu Dhan Vikas to plant Napier grass in all the fencing pastures, as part of the preparation for tree

plantation, in schools, Anganwadi centers, hostels and gram panchayats, including government offices and residential complexes, with the help of the Forest and Horticulture Department.

The Collector also asked the District Cooperative Central Bank's nodal officer and assistant registrar

cooperative institutions to jointly organize camps in panchayats to ensure timely distribution of fertilizers and seeds to farmers, so that farmers do not suffer losses due to lack of fertilizers and seeds. The Collector also reviewed department wise redressal of public grievances pending, and instructions were

given to the concerned officers for quick disposal of the cases.

She directed to complete Amrit Sarovars, Food Godowns, Haat-Bazar Clinics and Anganwadi Centers progressing under MNREGA as per the prescribed norms. Along with this, instructions were given for distribution of prize money to the winning participants of Chhattisgarhia Olympics held in the year 2022-23, physical verification of polling stations and ensuring availability of electricity, water, toilets, network under basic facilities. District officers including Project Director RK Khunte, Joint Collector Anand Roop Tiwari and Priya Goyal were present in the meeting.

## International Anti-Drug Day celebrated

Central Chronicle News

**Chakarbhatha, Jun 29:** International Anti-Drug Day was celebrated here in the region. On the occasion, the program concluded at Anurag Vidha Mandir Chakarbhatha in the dignified presence of Chief Guest DR Tandon, City Superintendent of Police, Program Chairman, Dinesh Chandra, Inspector Station House Officer, Chakarbhatha, Special Guest, Pardesi Ram Dhuvanshi, Chairman, NP Bodri, Vice President, Abhishek Dubey, and Chief Municipal Officer, Bharti Sahu. Also on the occasion painting, essay, debate and speech competitions were organized by the students of various schools.

The students took part in the program enthusiastically and all the participants and the excellent performing students were rewarded by the courtesy of the Chakarbhatha Police Station, as well as all the



school heads of the city were felicitated by presenting mementos for a bright future. City Superintendent of Police D.R. Tandon in his address said that the purpose of the International Anti-Drug Day program is to spread awareness among the people and do important work in the direction of treatment related to the drug addicts and drug addicts. Inspector Dinesh Kumar Chandra, station in-charge Chakarbhatha said that drug addiction is such a dis-

ease which is continuously affecting the young generation and making them sick in many ways and everyone's role is important in raising awareness.

Special guest Nagar Panchayat President Pardesi Dhurvanshi said that we need to work together with public participation in the interest of the community with a healthy mind and a criminal incident by consuming intoxicants and installing CCTV cameras in the square intersections of the city by

giving grants by the people of the city.

Vice President Abhishek Dubey said that all People's representatives need to join the campaign for de-addiction. Krishna Kumar Kaushik, President of Anurag Vidha Mandir, said that drug addiction can be fought with the cooperation of social workers and various government systems being run for the welfare of mankind. Students school staff, police staff and many others were present.

## Two reps from Tadmetla Panchayat killed by Naxalites

**Konta, Jun 29:** Deputy Sarpanch of Tadmetla Panchayat under Chintagufa police station of Sukma district, Madvi Ganga and Shikshadoot Kawasi Sukka were killed by the Naxalites in village Duled area under Jagargunda sub-division about 8 days back. Madvi Ganga and Kawasi Sukka were murdered by the Naxalites by setting up a public court on June 28. For their release, the villagers of Tadmetla and surrounding areas went to the Naxalites, who have returned and all are safe. Madvi Ganga was also called by Naxalites 2 years ago and was released after a few days. This time too, knowing the situation as normal, the family members did not inform the police, thinking that Madvi Ganga would be released again this time too. Deputy Sarpanch Madvi was making aware the villagers of the area about the benefits of public welfare schemes like Aadhar Card, Ration Card, Food Scheme, Ayushman Card etc. of the Central Government and by teaching rural children of sensitive areas like Shikshadoot Kawasi Sukka Tadmetla was working to educate, so that the children get educated and become partners in the development of the society and the region.

## Cong Minister discusses strategy for by-poll



**In NPP ward No. 14 of Ahirwara**

Central Chronicle News

**Nandini-Ahirwara, Jun 29:** A meeting with Congress party workers for the Nagar Palika Parishad (NPP) Ahirwara by-poll in ward No. 15 was held in the presence of MLA Ahirwara VS and Cabinet Minister Guru Rudra Kumar at Shakambhari Bhavan

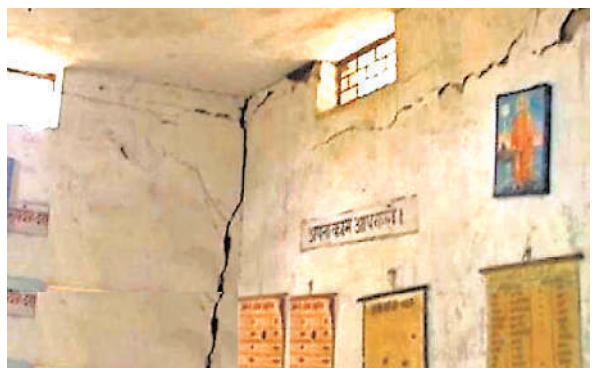
here on Monday. During this he held talks with the party workers about ground-level preparations and strategy for the by-poll and discussions were also held for the corporator by-poll. On this occasion, the Minister administered pledge to all to take up the government's pro-people and pro-farmers schemes to the poorest of the poor in the remote areas and speed-up the public contact campaign.

He also made an appeal to all the vote in favour of Congress party's authorised candidate for NPP Ahirwara ward No. 14 by-poll- Domar Singh alias Gajju Patel on the party symbol of 'panja' and ensure his victory. On this occasion Heera Verma, Kailash Nahata, Saraswati Ratre, Durga Gajbhiye, Umesh Banjare, Nagmani Sahu, Jitendra Dewangan, Eid Mohammed, Baljit Singh and others were present.

## 'No sign of repair works in schools, students to face music'

**Due to delay in carrying out renovation and in construction of additional rooms in School**

**Delay in finalisation of agency for the work, causes inordinate delay**



and asked to carry out the repair works through Panchayat. With no work starting at such a short notice, the PHE department was handed over the work.

It is learnt that the School Education department has asked not to get the repair works done through Panchayat Deptt and instead get it done through Shala Vikas Samiti (SVS) of the Schools. This led to way-ward distribution of works and political interference

and with many trying to pass on the work to their near & dear ones, the repair work could not start till date.

**Repairs to be carried out at the cost of Rs 3.75 cr in Tilda Block**

The chances of nepotism in this construction work of repair in the schools and likely fall in the quality standards is definitely going to take place in the schools to be repaired for an amount of Rs 3.73 cr. In majority of the Schools, it is pri-

marily due to political involvement could not be started by the Shala Vikas Samiti.

With resistance on part of the political leaders of the region and not getting work by the SVS, ultimately it is the students who are going to face the music during this monsoon season and both the SVS and School Education deptt is unaware about it.

**Walls are with cracks**

The condition of dilapidated school buildings is such that in order to provide education, either the schools are being conducted in Anganbadi centres, and at many a places in the Panchayat Bhavans, due to delayed repair works. The rooftops are with thin holes and condition of slab is so delicate that it needs to be demolished, instead of getting it repaired. Similarly the walls have developed cracks and slightly inclined on one side. Apart from this additional rooms are also required to be constructed in many a schools and for which still no agency has been finalised.

**No effect of Collector's order**

With start of repair works in the school, with starting of school session, is definitely going to affect the studies and with inordinate delay in such work, it is going to be difficult for the students to come to schools during rains and have studies without water droplets from the top and there lies threat to their lives, if any untoward incident takes place.

**No tender for additional rooms:**

It is learnt that the construction of additional rooms in the school is to be done by PHE department and for which the tender process is still pending. In such conditions, chances of completion of additional rooms in schools this year are remote. In view of this the students taking admission would not be able to draw its benefit. The construction work would take more time and this will affect school's management and studies as well. There are around 51

Schools in Tilda block and here construction of additional rooms of an amount worth Rs 4 cr is to be carried out.

**What officer says:**

**Work would have gained momentum, if given to SVS**

Block Education officer has sought proposals from the Shala Vikas Samiti (SVS) and have kept them out of the purview of construction and repair works. But if at all the SVS would have been given the responsibility, then this work would have got completed well on time.

**- Abhishek Verma**  
President SVS- Sarpanch Panchat.

The Collector Sarveshwar Bhure, when contacted informed that the work has been started and it would be completed soon.

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD. Registered Office: 11/4/53A, Manappuram House, P.O. Valapad, Thrissur - 680 567, Kerala, India.

**GOLD AUCTION NOTICE**

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 17/07/2023 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

BILASPUR, LINK ROAD, BILASPUR, 131560700014346, 4388, 131560730016025, MANGALA CHOWK, BILASPUR, 122000700021409, 1443, 1764, 1779, 2004, 2013, 2035, 122000730027363, 7947, 8178, 8179, 8186, 8192, 8245, SADAR BAZAR, BILASPUR, 129660700015454, 5487, SARKANDA, BILASPUR, 121440700020295, 0422, 0528, 0695, 0745, 0865, VYAPAR VIHAR, 115450700017009, 7048, 7116, 115450780000105, JANJIRI-CHAMPA, AKALTARA, 138220700002801, KORBA, KOSABADI, 125440700024356, NIHARIKA TALKIES, 116970700019542, 9885, 116970730037390, 8578, POWER HOUSE ROAD, 114460700015626, 5695, 5745, 114460730027224, 7296, RAIGARH, JAGATHPUR, CHATTISGARH, 123720700028967, RAMNIVAS TALKIES ROAD, 117520700031873, 1937, SURGUJA, AMBEDKAR CHOWK AMBIKAPUR, 131880700018038, 8046, 8305, 8306, 8309.

Persons wishing to participate in the above auction shall comply with the following:- Interested Bidders should submit Rs. 10,000/- as EMD (refundable to unsuccessful bidders) by way of Cash on the same day of auction. Bidders should carry valid ID card/PAN card. For more details please contact 9072604049.

Authorised Officer  
For Manappuram Finance Ltd



## BRIEF



Muslims offer 'namaz' at historic Jama Masjid on the occasion of Eid-al-Adha, in New Delhi, Thursday.

## Probe

**Agartala:** The Tripura police on Thursday started a probe into the death of seven people when a chariot came in contact with a live wire in Unakoti district during the return Rath Yatra festival, an official said. Based on a complaint lodged by the family of one of the deceased people, the police also registered an FIR against the organisers of the Rath Yatra at Kumarghat.

## Raped

**New Delhi:** A 16-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a 68-year-old man while his son ended up recording the act on his phone suspecting that his father practised black magic, police here said on Thursday. The incident came to light when the victim's father approached the police on Tuesday and showed the video shot by the accused's son, a senior police officer said.

## Booked

**Jaipur:** An FIR has been registered against Jaipur Heritage Municipal Corporation Mayor Munesh Gurjar and some Congress councillors for allegedly deterring a senior officer from performing his duties, police said on Thursday. The development comes days after the mayor and the Congress councillors staged a dharna against the officer for allegedly refusing to clear a file related to sanitation work and mistreating them.

## Mishap

**Bareilly:** Two persons were killed when their motorcycle was hit by a car on the Delhi-Lucknow highway here on Thursday, police said. Nanhe Shah (50) and his nephew Shahibe Alam (16) were on the highway when a car coming from Bareilly hit their motorcycle near the Sindhauli culvert under the Mirganj police station area, leaving them seriously injured.

## Fire

**Ranchi:** An fire broke out in four buses parked at a stand here on Thursday but there was no casualty, a police official said. The fire broke at the inter-state bus terminus at Khadgarha in Lower Bazar police station area, he said. There was no casualty as there was no one present in any of the four buses when the fire broke out, he said.

## Blocked

**Gopeshwar:** The Badrinath national highway was blocked on Thursday following a landslide triggered by heavy rain near Chhinka in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district, leaving hundreds of pilgrims stranded.

## NITISH ON SHAH'S VISIT

# 'Everyone is free to come to Bihar'

Patna, June 29 (PTI):

Ahead of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Lakhisarai on Thursday, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said everybody is free to visit the state.

Shah's visit to the state later during the day will be the first by any top BJP leader after the June 23 meeting here of opposition parties which was held to discuss and chart out a path ahead of the 2024 general election.

Kumar, who was speaking to reporters here, however, evaded questions on the Modi government's strong pitch for the Uniform Civil Code.

"Everyone is free to come here. Everyone has the right to visit Bihar," the chief minister said to questions on Shah's pro-

posed visit to Lakhisarai later in the day. Asked for his comment on the Opposition parties' meeting here, which was hosted by him, Kumar said, "The meeting is over. We will speak later on this".

Shah is slated to arrive at the Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport here this afternoon and leave for Lakhisarai in Munger district, about 150 km away, in a helicopter. He will address a mega rally at Lakhisarai. He will be received by senior BJP leaders, including the state party president Samrat Choudhary and union ministers from Bihar.

Shah will also offer prayers at Ashok Dham, a famous shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, before

addressing a public meeting there. Shah had last visited the state nearly three months ago.

Meanwhile, ahead of his visit to Lakhisarai, supporters of the ruling Mahagathbandhan parties and the opposition BJP have put up posters near the airport and at several locations in Patna. Those put up by supporters of the Grand Alliance government criticised the BJP leadership for violence in Manipur and misuse of central agencies the CBI, ED and the Income Tax department.

Some of the posters put up by the ruling alliance questioned the alleged silence of BJP leaders in the matter of wrestlers protesting against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI).

## RELIGIOUS RITUALS



A priest performs 'Kumari Puja' during 'Khuti Puja', a ritual before putting up 'pandals' to initiate Durga Puja festivities, in Kolkata, Thursday.

## Maha CM performs pooja in Pandharpur temple

On 'Ashadhi Ekadashi'

Pune, Jun 29 (PTI):

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde performed the 'maha pooja' of Lord Vitthal and Goddess Rukmini at a temple in Pandharpur town of Solapur district on the occasion of 'Ashadhi Ekadashi' on Thursday.

The CM, accompanied by his wife Lata Shinde, parliamentarian son Shrikant Shinde and other family members, prayed for a good monsoon and prosperity and happiness of farmers.

Warkari couple Bhausaheb Kale and Mangal Kale, residents of Nevasa in Ahmednagar, got the opportunity to perform the ritual alongside CM Shinde in the early hours of Thursday.



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde performs the 'maha pooja' of Lord Vitthal and Goddess Rukmini at a temple in Pandharpur town of Solapur district, Thursday.

"Rains have started in the state. I prayed to Lord Vitthal that the rainfall should be satisfactory in the state this year and farmers should be happy

and prosperous," Shinde later said in a tweet.

Addressing a gathering at the temple after performing the pooja, Shinde said Rs 73 crore have been

made available for the development of the temple premises and everyone will be taken into confidence while drafting the plan.

As a long-standing tradition, the chief minister of Maharashtra offers prayers at the famous temple dedicated to Lord Vitthal in Pandharpur on 'Ashadhi Ekadashi' every year.

Warkaris, the devotees of Lord Vitthal, take part in processions from different parts of the state every year as a mark of tribute to various saints.

The pilgrimage concludes in Pandharpur town on 'Ashadhi Ekadashi', which is observed with reverence by the followers of Lord Vitthal.

## Police seeks death sentence

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

### For Shahbad Dairy murder accused

The Delhi Police on Thursday said that the murder of 16-year-old girl in Shahbad Dairy area was well-planned and they have put together a watertight case to ensure the accused gets death.

"This was a case of well-planned murder which was carried out in revenge. We have all the evidence and within a month of incident we have submitted the charge sheet to get justice for the family of the victim," Special Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Dependra Pathak said.

"We carried out the investigation with a professional and focused approach in the Sakshi murder case and filed a charge sheet before the court in record time. We have tried to make the case as water-

tight as possible so that the accused gets the harshest punishment which is death sentence," he added.

Police have filed a charge sheet against Sahil, the man accused of repeatedly stabbing and bludgeoning the minor girl to death in full public view in the northwest Delhi's Shahbad Dairy locality on May 28. The 640-page charge sheet was filed before a POCSO court on Tuesday under POCSO's Section 12 (sexual harassment of a child) and sections of the Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, court sources said.

The accused has also been charged under IPC sections 302 (murder), 354 A (sexual harassment) and

509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) along with the provisions of the Arms Act.

The horrifying murder was caught on a CCTV camera and the footage showed the youth thrusting a knife into the girl no less than 20 times as several of people passed by but none intervened to save her.

She had 34 injury marks on her body and her skull was smashed, police had said after the incident.

Sahil was arrested on May 29 from Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh. Police said the investigation revealed that Sahil and Sakshi were in a relationship but often quarrelled. Both had a fight on May 27, following which Sahil decided to take revenge and killed her brutally the next day.

## People felicitated for giving land for Rs 280-cr 'Ekamra' project

Around Lingaraj temple

**Bhubaneswar, Jun 29 (PTI):** Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has felicitated people who gave their land for the Rs 280-crore 'Ekamra' project around the 11-century Lingaraj temple here. He also laid the foundation stone for the project on Wednesday. The state government had, in 2019, planned the Ekamra Kshetra Amenities and Monuments Revival Action Plan, which is known as the 'Ekamra' project. It will come up over 80 acres of land around the Lingaraj temple. Ahead of the foundation laying ceremony, 'bhumi puja' and 'yagna' was organised near the 11th-century shrine. The ceremony was organised by the Lingaraj Temple

Trust Board to highlight the cultural heritage of 'Ekamra Kshetra'.

The project includes the restoration of 'Ekamra' Khetra's (Bhubaneswar old town) architectural and ancient heritage, building a 12-18 metre wide traffic lane for better vehicular movement, creation of 4-10 metre wide walkways and relocation of parking facilities.

Open space for the gathering of devotees, development of a 1,600 sqm information centre for emergency services and a dedicated pedestrian path around the Bindusagar pond for easy access to ritual spaces and the 'Ekamra' forest are part of the project.

## 'Death knell of democracy should not ring in hands of its custodian'

**Siliguri, Jun 29 (PTI):** In the backdrop of incidents of violence ahead of the Panchayat polls in West Bengal, Governor C V Ananda Bose on Thursday sent out a strong message to the state administration, saying the "death knell of democracy" should not ring in the hands of its custodian.

Bose, who held a meeting with representatives of several parties, at the Siliguri circuit house here, described the current situation in the poll-bound state as "very very disturbing". "The death knell of democracy must not ring in the hands of its custodian. We must take care of that," Bose said at the circuit house here. The governor said he would



C V Ananda Bose

continue visiting the areas witnessing violence to have first-hand knowledge of what is happening. "What is happening in the field is very very disturbing. That is what the court has reflected in its various pronouncements and ob-

servations. We will certainly see that the present trend is reversed and there is peace and harmony in society. "Every citizen will be able to cast his vote freely and fearlessly — that is a commitment and we are trying to take it forward. I am going to the field. I like to have a feel of the field," he added. Bose, who is on a short trip to the northern districts of the state, said "I am the ground zero governor. I went to different places for my satisfaction. I spoke to the victims". Widespread violence over the filing of nominations for the rural polls has left at least eight people dead and several injured in various parts of the state in the past two weeks.

## Heavy rains predicted in K'taka coast for next 10 days

### NDRF personnel to be stationed, pumps kept ready in advance

**Mangaluru, Jun 29 (PTI):** The coastal districts of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi are likely to receive widespread rainfall with certain areas getting very heavy rains in the next 10 days, the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC) said. The coastal districts are expected to receive moderate to heavy rainfall (64.5 mm to 115 mm), with isolated places receiving very heavy rains (up to 244.4 mm) during the period, a KSNDMC release said. Thunderstorms with lightning are also likely to occur at isolated places over all the districts of coastal Karnataka. Heavy rains in coastal areas may coincide with high tide, resulting in

waterlogging and flooding of low-lying areas. District administrations have been asked to deploy de-watering pumps and other equipment in such areas in advance to handle the situation if needed. The monitoring centre also asked the administrations to station National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and state DRF personnel in vulnerable areas to be at the ready to prevent any mishaps. The coastal districts have been receiving good rains over the last few days. The meteorological department has asked fishermen not to venture into the sea as it predicts squally weather with wind speed reaching 45 kmph gusting to 55 kmph along the Karnataka coast till July 2. High waves in the range of 3 to 3.2 metre are predicted with current speeds varying between 42-57 cm per second.

## AMARNATH YATRA REGISTRATIONS



Sadhus wait in a queue to get themselves registered for the Amarnath Yatra 2023, at Ram Mandir base camp in Jammu, Thursday.

## 'UCC will satisfy all sections of society'

Patna, Jun 29 (PTI):

Union minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey on Thursday asserted that a uniform civil code will bring about contentment in society in place of appeasement of a few sections.

The senior BJP leader also expressed hope that the Narendra Modi government will bring the common civil code at the earliest. "Uniform civil code will lead to 'santisthikaran' (contentment) instead of 'tushtikaran' (appeasement), as the Prime Minister has put so eloquently", said Choubey, referring to PM's speech in Bhopal earlier this week. The Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Environment, Forest and



Ashwini Kumar Choubey

Climate Change said "uniform civil code will satisfy all sections of the society since all want to live together in peace and make progress". He also brushed aside allegations of parties opposed to the BJP that the PM had raised the issue to communalize polarize society and reap electoral dividends.

"They are opposing it just for the sake of opposition", he quipped. Choubey, who represents the Buxar Lok Sabha seat of Bihar, bristled at the demand, by the state's ruling 'Mahagathbandhan', for a special economic package from the Centre.

"They should first show the capability to properly spend the funds they have received so far. They cannot expect assistance while indulging in loot", alleged Choubey.

Asked about the scheduled visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Lakhisarai for a rally, Choubey said "Ours is a party in which top leaders also make efforts at mobilization at booth levels".

"The PM had recently taken part in 'Mera Booth Sabse Mazboot' programme.



# Additional unit of Billet Charging Grate inaugurated at WRM

**Bhilai, Jun 29:**

An additional Billet Charging Grate Unit was inaugurated at SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Wire Rod Mill (WRM), in Bay-1 of SMS-3 Billet Yard, for enhancement of hot billet supply to WRM. It took 101 days for successfully commissioning the Billet Charging Grate Unit using in-house resources. The Charging Grate was inaugurated by Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) and Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) on Thursday.

Dr AK Panda, ED(F&A) and Dr Ravindranath M, CMO I/c (M&HS) were also present on this occasion, along with MK Goyal, CGM (MWRM) and various other CGMs, GMS, other senior departmental officials and Plant personnel. Addressing the gathering Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) congratulated the Plant Collective



and said that the inauguration of this additional unit does not come as a surprise to me, as Bhilai Steel Plant has been doing many such exemplary things that help the plant achieve new milestones. I am convinced that with the team-spirited work-culture at our Plant will help us achieve any goal.

This unit is going to be beneficial for the Plant in multiple ways by further increasing the production capacity, said Dasgupta.

Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) congratulated the Plant collective for successfully completing the task of commissioning the Billet Charging Grate Unit and said that we all have to work together with the

same spirit, so that we all can feel proud of our contributions for taking the Indian Economy to new heights.

Dr AK Panda, ED (F&A) appreciated the contributions of various departments of the Plant, including Shop Mechanical, Shop Electrical, Civil, SMS-3 etc for commissioning the additional Billet

Charging Grate Unit which will help in enhancement of the supply of Hot Billets to WRM. The newly installed Billet Charging Grate will immensely benefit the Plant's production, Dr Panda said.

The Billet Charging Grate Unit helps in hot supply of Billets to reheating furnace of Billet Yard through extended roll table. Several departments of the Plant contributed in successful commissioning of the Billet Charging Grate Unit including CED, Central Mechanical, Central Electrical, SMS-3, Services, Material Management, EDD and INCOS. The programme was conducted by Nitin Shirkhedkar, JO (WRM) while Anupma Kumari, GM (MWRM-Electrical) proposed the Vote of Thanks.

# Students of Rawatpura selected in McLeods Pharma Company



**Bhilai, Jun 29:**

Three students of Rawatpura selected in McLeods Pharma Company through placement drive. The campus placements were done by McLeods Pharma Company based in Sikkim for Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institutes of Pharmacy located in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. In the campus selection organized by the company, first written test, final selection was done after the interview round. 3 students of Rawatpura locked on good

package by McLeods Pharma company based in Sikkim. All the students got their place in the company by performing best in both the rounds of selection process. All the selected candidates are in the final year of Bachelor of Pharmacy. Arun Kumar Sahu Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University, Karan Sahu Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University Raipur, Mukesh Kewat, Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy Jabalpur were selected. The placement officer of the institute expressed happiness over this

achievement of the students. Principal Dr Vijay Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University Raipur, Principal Dr Ritesh Shri Rawatpura Government Institute of Pharmacy Jabalpur congratulated all the students for their achievement. Dr JK Upadhyay, Vice chairman Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Sarkar Lok Trust, Harsh Gautam Vice Chancellor Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University Raipur, Dr SK Singh Vice Chancellor Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University Raipur, Dr Satish Group Director MP, UP also congratulated the students.

# Night flight service to be launched from Raipur to New Delhi



**Raipur, Jun 29:**

Air passengers of the city will no longer have to wait for morning, afternoon or evening flights to reach Delhi. Air passengers can now fly to Delhi daily at night as per their convenience. As per the information the first flight is of Vistara Airlines at 7.40 pm and the second flight is of Indigo Airlines at around 9 pm. Vistara Airlines flight service is starting from July 5, next month. Vistara Airlines flight will take off for Delhi at 7.40 pm and reach here at 9.35 pm. Booking for this flight has also started. It is notable that this flight was canceled by Vistara Airlines from June 14 to June 30, since then air passengers were

demanding to start this flight. Vyas Travels, Kirti Vyas said that passengers will get a lot of relief with the start of night flight service which was a long pending demand of Raipurians. Recently, flights from Raipur to Bhubaneswar and Lucknow have also started. With the commencement of this flight, air passengers of the state are getting connecting flights to Singapore and Bangkok from Bhubaneswar itself. Preparations are underway to construct four new parking ways at Swami Vivekananda Airport. It is being informed that by the end of this year, these parking ways will be completed and 13 aircraft will be able to park simultaneously at Raipur airport. At

present there are only nine parking ways at Swami Vivekananda Airport, due to which there is a problem when the traffic is high.

Keeping this in view, new parking ways are being constructed. Along with the parking way, a new aerobridge is also being built soon at Raipur airport and it is also expected to start by the end of the year. After its commencement, there will be four aerobridges in the airport, this will provide more relief to the passengers. According to aviation sources, Raipur airport may soon get the gift of international flights. For this, the issue was also raised in the Airport Advisory Committee held in May last month and it has been said that the imitation and custom offices will be opened soon. In this concern soon a meeting is also going to be held for imitation and custom office. After the opening of imitation and custom, the way for international flight from Raipur will be cleared.

# Mock Drill conducted at Bhilai Steel Plant's Plate Mill

**Bhilai, Jun 29:**

A Mock Drill for Disaster Management was carried out in SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Plate Mill on June 27, 2023. The Mock Drill Exercise on "Hazardous Gas Leak Disaster" was jointly conducted by the cooperation of Plate Mill employees, CISE, Fire Brigade, Safety Engg. Deptt., MMP-1, Civil Defence and Gas Safety. The objective of the Mock Drill was to ascertain the preparedness and response of different agencies during any such emergency.

As part of the exercise, information regarding a sudden leakage of gas from a valve used for furnace heating was reported when Lokesh Kumar Ambarde came out and called for rescue. Two workers of Operation Section, namely Lokesh Kumar Ambarde (ACT) and Rajesh Kumar Singh (SSW), had gone for general inspection at (-3) m level of Reheating Furnace No 3 and abruptly Rajesh Kumar Singh felt uneasy and fainted on the spot. The incident was commu-



nicated to the Shift Manager of Plate Mill who rushed to the spot immediately. Alarm was raised and the personnel present at site were also alerted to vacate the site instantly. Soon after the emergency situation was declared, Shift In-charge NK Bisen, DGM (Operation), as Incident Controller immediately engaged himself and his team to communicate the nature of emergency to Plant Control, CISE, Fire

Brigade, Safety Engg. Deptt., MMP-1, Civil Defence, Gas Safety and HOD & senior officers of Plate Mill simultaneously. Senior Officers of the Plant including HK Bahurupi GM (Operation) rushed to the spot along with, J Sudhakar GM, (Mech), C Padmanabhan, GM (Elect) and D Sarangi (DSO) and took control and started preliminary activities. Subsequently, RK Bisare, CGM (Plate Mill) also rushed to the

spot and took on the role of Chief incident controller. Meanwhile, personnel from several other agencies including the Plant Control, CISE, Fire Brigade, Safety Engg. Deptt., MMP-1, Civil Defence and Gas Safety also rushed to the spot to assist in the entire operation. Fire tender was rushed from nearby Fire Stations inside the Plant along with the Ambulance and took stock of the situation and swung into ac-

tion. The trapped worker was rescued and sent to MMP-1 for necessary medical treatment. Gas Safety Persons Examined the site and after repair the valve gave clearance for normal operation and Chief incident controller Shri R K Bisare, CGM (Plate Mill) gave clearance to raise the 'Emergency Over' siren.

During the entire operation, various aspects of Disaster Management such as response time of different agencies and their coordination, movement of personnel and vehicles etc.

were studied. The objective of the exercise was to ensure that any such disaster is handled in a planned manner so as to execute rescue operations properly and also to avoid creating panic among employees by making them familiar with the procedures to be followed.

After the successful completion of the mock drill, a review meeting was conducted by Shri R K Bisare, CGM (Plate Mill) to discuss the observations & convey regards to all the agencies, who participated in the exercise.

# Talk on Cyber Security by C3iHub (IIT-Kanpur) organised at Ispat Bhawan



**Bhilai, Jun 29:**

Bhilai Steel Plant in association with Cybersecurity & Cybersecurity for Cyber-Physical Systems Innovation Hub (C3iHub) experts from IIT-Kanpur organised an informative talk programme on cyber-security on the topic- 'Cyber security and challenges for Bhilai Steel Plant' on June 28, 2023, at Ispat Bhawan conference Hall. The C3iHub team which visited BSP for signing of MoU for collaboration on cyber security and related technologies delivered the talk on this occasion. Asit Saha CGM I/c

(M&U), TK Krishna Kumar CGM (Elect), Sonali Mukherjee, GM I/c (C&IT) and Ravi Shankar GM (INCOS) were present during the talk session, along with other Officials of INCOS, C&IT, Telecom and other departments in large numbers. The C3iHub team was represented by Prof Manindra Agrawal, Program Director and professor (CSE) at the IIT, Kanpur, Dr Tanima Hazra COO-C3iHub and Rohit Negi, Sr VP-R&D-C3iHub.

During the technical talk a presentation was given by Rohit Negi, wherein he described different elements of Cyber

Security and its relevance. He further elucidated steps for enhancement in establishing effective Cyber Security practices, including initial feasibility study, attack surface assessment, defining controls, formulating policy and establishing Security operation Centre and automatic response system. A Question-Answer Session was also held on this occasion, where the keynote speakers from C3iHub discussed the queries posed by the participants.

During his closing remarks, Asit Saha CGM I/c (M&U), appreciated the visiting C3iHub Team for assessing various OT and

IT systems of BSP in short duration and simplifying the requirements for further course of action. He also expressed his confidence in C3iHub expertise for effective protection of BSP's network systems.

C3iHub is a Research Centre in the field of critical infrastructure security, to address the issue of cyber-security of cyber-physical systems in its entirety. C3iHub was established at IIT Kanpur in 2020, under the aegis of National Mission of Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical System promoted by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

# BSP employee's son, brings laurels by getting selected at BARC

**Bhilai, Jun 29:**

Sanjit Dhar, a meritorious student from Bhilai has brought laurels to the city by getting selected for the post of Metallurgical Engineer at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. BARC is one of the India's premier nuclear research facility, headquartered in Trombay, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Sanjit Dhar has secured the All India Rank 02 in this examination. He is the only person from Chhattisgarh to get selected in the examination for the post of Metallurgical Engineer at BARC this year. Sanjeet has been a hardworking student throughout his academic life.

He completed his Senior Secondary Education from Delhi Public School Bhilai, following which he completed his B.Tech. in Metallurgy from National Institute of technology (NIT), Raipur, securing silver medal.

Sanjit Dhar's father Sujit Dhar is working as a Section Officer in the Project Department of Bhilai Steel Plant and his mother Tandra Dhar is a Lecturer of Biology in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Borai, Durg.

SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant Collective has congratulated Sanjit Dhar on this achievement and wished him a bright future.

# Eid-ul-Adha celebrated with religious fervour

**Bhilai, Jun 29:**

The three day festival of Eid-ul-Adha was celebrated with religious fervour in the city. It began on Thursday with the spirit of sacrifice. On the first day, Eid-ul-Adha prayers were offered in the morning in all the Idgahs and mosques of the city, in which a large number of people participated. After the Namaz, people from all communities greeted the Muslim brothers by hugging them.

Idgahs of Jama Masjid Sector-6 in the city, Idgah Lal Maidan Baba Farid Nagar, Sher-e-Khuda Idgah Eid Milan Ground Housing Board, Raza Jama Masjid Link Road Camp-2, Gausia Masjid Camp-1, Hazrat Bilal Masjid HUDCO, Idgah and Masjid Risali, Masjid Madrasa Ruabandha, Aksa Masjid Ghaffar Colony Chhawani, Madani Masjid Khursipassr, Ashrafi Masjid Zone-3 Khursipar, Idgah Bhilai 3, Noori Masjid Nandini, Gausia Masjid Ahiwara, Gausia Rizvia Masjid Karoda and Hussainiya Masjid Karbala Maidan including GE Road Eid-ul-Azha prayers were offered in the morning in all the mosques and Idgahs. Imam Iqbal Anjum Haider of Jama



Masjid Sector-6 has gone for Haj and in his place Imam Shan Muhammad offered Namaz at Idgah.

After the prayers, Armaan Baig, secretary of Bhilai Nagar Masjid Trust, presented his report. After the sermon, hands were raised in prayer for peace and security in the country. Present MLA Bhilai Nagar Devendra Yadav and former MLA Badruddin Qureshi and Congress representative Samayal Sahu reached the Idgah and presented Eid greetings.

The three day festival will continue till July 1.





# CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 11 No. 90

## India's Green Hydrogen Revolution

Paving the Way for a Sustainable Future

The world is at a turning point in the fight against climate change, with countries worldwide committing to decarbonization and embracing renewable energy sources. In this global effort, India stands as a prominent player, poised to lead the charge towards a greener and cleaner future. With ambitious climate goals and a commitment to carbon neutrality by 2070, India has made significant strides in renewable energy adoption. India's remarkable progress in renewable energy is driving the nation towards a sustainable future. With 40% of total installed energy capacity coming from renewable sources in 2022, and renewable energy accounting for 43% of total electricity produced as of April 2023, India is well on its way to achieving its objective of 50% renewable electricity generation. The country currently boasts a non-fossil fuel-based energy generation capacity of 178.79 GW, a testament to India's commitment to green energy. Amidst the array of renewable energy sources, Green Hydrogen has emerged as a frontrunner with tremendous potential to revolutionize the energy landscape and combat climate change. Recognizing this, India is poised to lead the charge in the Green Hydrogen journey. The Chairman of the International Energy Alliance, during his recent visit to India, expressed confidence in India's capability to become a leader in Green Hydrogen. Green Hydrogen took center stage at the UN Climate Conference, COP26, as a key innovative solution to reduce carbon emissions in heavy industries, transportation, shipping, aviation, and more. Participating countries made significant commitments to harness the potential of Green Hydrogen, recognizing its pivotal role in realizing a carbon-neutral economy. The Indian government has already prioritized the production of Green Hydrogen, acknowledging its significant role in the country's energy mix. However, challenges lie ahead in meeting this goal, particularly in scaling up electrolysis for mass-scale production. Currently, the global electrolyser manufacturing capacity is 8 GW per year, expected to increase to 65 GW by 2030. India needs to develop a robust domestic infrastructure for large-scale electrolyser production to ensure cost-effective and economically feasible Green Hydrogen generation. To address these challenges and drive the Green Hydrogen revolution, the Indian government approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission in January 2022. This mission aims to position India as a leading producer and supplier of Green Hydrogen globally, reducing dependency on fossil fuels, generating employment opportunities, and promoting research and development. The mission encompasses a comprehensive framework to facilitate the production, utilization, and deployment of Green Hydrogen. Embracing Green Hydrogen will allow India to leverage its abundant renewable energy potential, paving the way for a sustainable and low-carbon future. The successful execution of this mission will accelerate the adoption of Green Hydrogen across various sectors, making it the predominant fuel of choice. This surge in Green Hydrogen adoption will not only ensure access to clean and affordable energy for India's vast population but also address energy security concerns and contribute to global efforts in mitigating climate challenges. India's path to Green Hydrogen supremacy holds immense promise, fostering innovation, creating employment opportunities, enhancing energy security, and propelling economic advancement. As India takes bold steps towards a greener future, it serves as an inspiration to other nations, demonstrating the power of commitment and concerted efforts in building a sustainable planet. The world is watching as India emerges as a trailblazer in the Green Hydrogen revolution, and it is through the collective efforts of nations that we can create a truly sustainable future for generations to come. Let us seize this opportunity to embrace Green Hydrogen and usher in an era of clean, renewable energy that will shape the destiny of our planet.

## Swachh Survekshan 2023

Propelling India Towards a Cleaner Future

As the 8th edition of the world's largest urban cleanliness survey, Swachh Survekshan 2023 - Mera Shehar, Meri Pehchan, commences, India takes another stride towards a cleaner and sustainable future. Initiated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in 2016, Swachh Survekshan has played a vital role in monitoring and improving sanitation across cities in a competitive manner. With over 3,000 assessors set to evaluate 4,500+ cities based on 46 indicators, Swachh Survekshan 2023 emphasizes the transformation of waste into wealth through efficient waste management practices. This year's survey champions the cause of Waste to Wealth, promoting the processing and scientific management of waste. The significance of Swachh Survekshan lies not only in its competitive nature but also in its ability to instill a sense of healthy competition among cities, driving them to enhance urban sanitation and provide exemplary service delivery to citizens. With an estimated engagement of 10 crore citizens, Swachh Survekshan 2023 retains its position as the world's largest annual urban cleanliness survey. The introduction of a new third quarter assessment this year has further motivated states and cities to elevate their efforts and preparedness. As the fourth and final quarter begins, the assessment becomes more rigorous and eagerly anticipated. Mr. Manoj Joshi, Secretary of MoHUA, highlighted the transformative journey of Swachh Survekshan over the past seven years, emphasizing the need for continued improvement in sanitation practices and the transition from manholes to machine holes. He underscored the significance of safeguarding SafaiMitra and the importance of waste segregation at source. Swachh Survekshan 2023 focuses on key indicators such as segregated waste collection, zero waste events, accessible toilets for Divyang individuals, improved plastic waste management, and the cleaning of backlanes. The introduction of new indicators, such as Waste to Wonder Parks and Swachh TULIP for larger cities, demonstrates the evolving nature of the survey. Red Spots, indicating spitting in public areas, has also been included as a new indicator, emphasizing the need for cleanliness in commercial and residential spaces. Furthermore, this year's assessment places significant weightage on the functionality of waste treatment facilities, underscoring the importance of waste management infrastructure. By allocating resources and attention to these critical areas, Swachh Survekshan 2023 aims to drive meaningful progress and encourage cities to prioritize cleanliness and sustainability. As Swachh Survekshan 2023 unfolds, it serves as a powerful reminder of India's commitment to creating a cleaner and healthier nation. The survey not only evaluates the present state of urban cleanliness but also inspires cities to continually strive for improvement. With each passing year, the nation moves closer to its vision of Swachh Bharat, where every city becomes a shining example of cleanliness and citizens actively participate in maintaining a hygienic environment. Swachh Survekshan 2023 is a testament to India's collective efforts towards building a sustainable future. It is an opportunity for cities to showcase their progress, learn from one another, and collectively pave the way for a cleaner, greener, and healthier India. Let us embrace this transformative journey and work together to make cleanliness an integral part of our lives, leaving a lasting impact for generations to come.

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 [emailto:editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:emailto:editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com).

## EID-AL-ADHA



Muslims offer prayers at the historic Taj-ul-Masajid on the occasion of Eid-al-Adha, in Bhopal, Thursday, June 29.

## Reviving Hope: Paris Summit Sparks Vital Dialogue

SUKANYA NAIR



The Summit for a New Global Financing Pact, recently held in Paris, has initiated a critical conversation on the climate and development financing crisis, according to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). While the summit did not yield transformational solutions, it has set in motion a vital momentum that must not be lost, emphasized Sunita Narain, the director general of CSE.

Led by President Emmanuel Macron of France, the groundbreaking Paris Summit gathered leaders from the developing world and Europe to address the insufficient flow of funds to impoverished and vulnerable countries, who face a convergence of interconnected crises. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed of Ethiopia described these crises as a combination of poverty, debt, inflation resulting from the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and escalating climate impacts.

Avantika Goswami, program manager for climate change at CSE and an attendee at the Summit, remarked, "Countries of the Global South are grappling with a debt crisis and mounting pressure to decarbonize their economies without adequate climate finance. While the Summit was not expected to resolve these issues overnight, it has suc-

cessfully shed light on the magnitude of these crises, the clear demands from Global South nations, and the proposed courses of action advocated by the Global North."

Highlighting the magnitude of the problem, Goswami cited world leaders who participated in the Summit. Prime Minister Mia Mottley of Barbados rallied, "The developing world is drowning in debt. The UK took a hundred years to repay its debt from World War I, and Germany enjoyed the benefit of capping its debt service at 3 to 5 percent of GDP to facilitate post-World War II reconstruction. We, too, are people and countries deserving of similar treatment."

**Global South Governments' Demands**  
The reform of financial systems has centered around the role of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). Indian finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman noted that MDBs are being urged by non-borrowing shareholders to address transboundary challenges alongside their core development mandate. Goswami added, "This places greater strain on MDB resources. Developed countries seek to extract more from existing MDB resources while incorporating climate objectives within the banks' mandates. However, they are hesitant to allocate more funds from their budgets or risk increased influence from large economies like India and China if their paid-in shares rises."

Global South governments are requesting increased concessional and grant financing, as well as reduced debt levels in developing countries, including debt cancellations for least developed nations.

Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETP) should account for each country's unique circumstances, the needs of workers and

communities, and development goals aimed at poverty alleviation and employment, emphasized South African President Cyril Ramaphosa. Additionally, these partnerships must acknowledge that some fossil fuel generation may be necessary to meet basic energy requirements while providing adequate financing. For instance, the US \$8.5 billion offered to South Africa falls significantly short of the country's estimated need of US \$98 billion.

Kenya advocates for a global financing mechanism free from national or shareholder interests, while Brazil questions why international trade is denominated in dollars rather than its own currency.

**Global Announcements Made at the Summit**

**MDBs:** While a contentious MDB Vision Statement document did not achieve unanimous consensus at the Summit, an additional lending capacity of US \$200 billion was announced for emerging economies. The World Bank unveiled disaster clauses for debt agreements that suspend debt payments in the event of extreme weather events.

**Special Drawing Rights (SDRs):** The International Monetary Fund (IMF) declared that the allocation of US \$100 billion in SDRs for vulnerable nations has been met. Recycling SDRs from wealthy countries whose central banks do not require them to poorer nations in need or through MDBs has been proposed as a means to expand the availability of concessional finance for developing countries.

**New Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP):** A new Euro 2.5 billion partnership deal was announced for Senegal, with a consortium of developed countries aiming to increase the share of renewable energy in the country's electricity

mix to 40 percent by 2030.

**Polluter taxes:** Numerous groups called for a tax on shipping emissions, with further progress expected at the upcoming International Maritime Organization meeting in July. Support is also growing for a financial transactions tax.

**Debt:** Colombia and Kenya have proposed a Global Expert Review on Debt, Nature, and Climate to assess the impact of debt on the capacity of low- and medium-income countries to preserve nature, adapt to climate change, and transition to low-carbon economies.

**Carbon markets:** The European Union (EU) issued a call to action on "Paris Aligned Carbon Markets," aiming to cover at least 60 percent of global emissions with carbon pricing mechanisms (compared to the current 4 percent) and allocate a portion of the revenues to climate finance.

**Climate finance goal:** It was suggested that the long-overdue US \$100 billion climate finance goal will be met this year.

Narain stressed, "Each climate change disaster pushes countries in the Global South further into indebtedness as they borrow to survive and rebuild. This year, we must address the structural issues that perpetuate vast inequalities worldwide, making it impossible for Global South countries to afford the costs of adaptation and mitigation. We urgently need to secure the necessary funds."

Goswami summarized the Paris Summit by stating, "What became apparent from the summit is that the demands of the developing world seem to fall on deaf ears. Peddling false solutions, providing insufficient debt relief efforts, and shifting the responsibility onto the private sector were the plans offered by developed countries in Paris."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Harnessing Progress

Dams stand as proud symbols of a nation's comprehensive advancement, offering a multitude of benefits that foster economic, social, and environmental growth. The visionary leadership of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, played a pivotal role in the development of prominent dams across the country, including the renowned Bhakra Dam. Recognizing the pivotal role of water resources in agricultural development and India's overall progress, Nehru spearheaded these initiatives. As the nation continues to thrive, the construction of more such modern "temples" becomes imperative. These dams serve as a source of immense national pride, effectively curbing floods and harnessing natural resources for the benefit of the people.

Ramesh Gupta, Durg

### Lessons from Emergency

The era of emergency (1975-1977) should be revisited as a reminder of the perils of authoritarian rule. During those somber days, democracy was suspended, civil liberties were curtailed, and unimaginable atrocities were inflicted on the people. The concentration of power eroded checks and balances, media censorship stifled dissent, and forced sterilizations violated individual freedom. The emergency had a detrimental effect on India's international image and reputation as a champion of democracy. Today, with technological advancements and heightened awareness, the imposition of emergency seems impossible. Let us preserve the lessons from that dark period and ensure that democracy and fundamental rights are upheld.

Yash Pal Raihan, Jalandhar

### Exploitative Education

In an era where education and healthcare were once revered as noble professions, the landscape has drastically changed. The commercialization of every sector, including education, has taken hold. Profit has become the primary objective in this fiercely competitive world. Enter the teaching shops, enticing unsuspecting students with flashy advertisements promising a brighter future, only to demand exorbitant fees. Sadly, parents, captivated by these market-driven ploys, exhaust their life savings to secure their children's education. The rampant commercialization of education raises alarming concerns, as it jeopardizes the future of our youth, undermines society, and threatens the very fabric of our nation.

Rahul Tripathi, New Delhi

## The folly of making art with text-to-image generative AI

Ahmed Elgammal

Making art using artificial intelligence isn't new. It's as old as AI itself. What's new is that a wave of tools now let most people generate images by entering a text prompt. All you need to do is write "a landscape in the style of van Gogh" into a text box, and the AI can create a beautiful image as instructed. The power of this technology lies in its capacity to use human language to control art generation. But do these systems accurately translate an artist's vision? Can bringing language into art-making truly lead to artistic breakthroughs?

### Engineering outputs

I've worked with generative AI as an artist and computer scientist for years, and I would argue that this new type of tool constrains the creative process. When you write a text prompt to generate an image with AI, there are infinite possibilities. If you're a casual user, you might be happy with what AI generates for you. And startups and investors have poured billions into this technology, seeing it as an easy way to generate graphics for articles, video game characters and advertisements.

In contrast, an artist might need to write an essaylike prompt to generate a high-quality image that reflects their vision with the right composition, the right lighting and

the correct shading. That long prompt is not necessarily descriptive of the image but typically uses lots of keywords to invoke the system of what's in the artist's mind. There's a relatively new term for this: prompt engineering.

Basically, the role of an artist using these tools is reduced to reverse-engineering the system to find the right keywords to compel the system to generate the desired output. It takes a lot of effort, and much trial and error, to find the right words.

### AI isn't as intelligent as it seems

To learn how to better control the outputs, it's important to recognize that most of these systems are trained on images and captions from the internet. Think about what a typical image caption tells about an image. Captions are typically written to complement the visual experience in web browsing. For example, the caption might describe the name of the photographer and the copyright holder. On some websites, like Flickr, a caption typically describes the type of camera and the lens used. On other sites, the caption describes the graphic engine and hardware used to render an image. So to write a useful text prompt, users need to insert many nondescriptive keywords for the AI system to create a corresponding image. Today's AI systems are not as intelligent as they seem; they are essentially smart retrieval systems that have a huge memory and work by association.

### Artists frustrated by a lack of control

Is this really the sort of tool that can help artists create great work? At Playform AI, a generative AI art platform that I founded, we conducted a survey to better understand artists' experiences with generative AI. We collected responses from over 500 digital artists, traditional painters, photographers, illustrators and graphic designers who had used platforms such as DALL-E, Stable Diffusion and Midjourney, among others.

Only 46 per cent of the respondents found such tools to be "very useful," while 32 per cent found them somewhat useful but couldn't integrate them to their workflow. The rest of the users 22 per cent didn't find them useful at all. The main limitation artists and designers highlighted was a lack of control. On a scale 0 to 10, with 10 being most control, respondents described their ability to control the outcome to be between 4 and 5. Half the respondents found the outputs interesting, but not of a high enough quality to be used in their practice.

When it came to beliefs about whether generative AI would influence their practice, 90 per cent of the artists surveyed thought that it would; 46 per cent believed that the effect would be a positive one, with 7 per cent predicting that it would have a negative effect. And 37 per cent thought their practice would be affected but weren't sure in what way.

### The best visual art transcends language

Are these limitations fundamental, or will they just go away as the technology improves? Of course, newer versions of generative AI will give users more control over outputs, along with higher resolutions and better image quality. But to me, the main limitation, as far as art is concerned, is foundational: it's the process of using language as the main driver in generating the image. Visual artists, by definition, are visual thinkers. When they imagine their work, they usually draw from visual references, not words a memory, a collection of photographs or other art they've encountered.

When language is in the driver's seat of image generation, I see an extra barrier between the artist and the digital canvas. Pixels will be rendered only through the lens of language. Artists lose the freedom of manipulating pixels outside the boundaries of semantics. There's another fundamental limitation in text-to-image technology.

If two artists enter the exact same prompt, it's very unlikely that the system will generate the same image. That's not due to anything the artist did; the different outcomes are simply due to the AI's starting from different random initial images. In other words, the artist's output is boiled down to chance. Nearly two-thirds of the artists we surveyed had concerns that their AI generations might be similar to other artists' works and that the technology does

not reflect their identity or even replaces it altogether.

The issue of artist identity is crucial when it comes to making and recognizing art. In the 19th century, when photography started to become popular, there was a debate about whether photography was a form of art. It came down to a court case in France in 1861 to decide whether photography could be copyrighted as an art form. The decision hinged on whether an artist's unique identity could be expressed through photographs. Those same questions emerge when considering AI systems that are taught with the internet's existing images. Before the emergence of text-to-image prompting, creating art with AI was a more elaborate process: Artists usually trained their own AI models based on their own images. That allowed them to use their own work as visual references and retain more control over the outputs, which better reflected their unique style. Text-to-image tools might be useful for certain creators and casual everyday users who want to create graphics for a work presentation or a social media post.

But when it comes to art, I can't see how text-to-image software can adequately reflect the artist's true intentions or capture the beauty and emotional resonance or works that grip viewers and makes them see the world anew.

Writer is Professor of Computer Science and Director of the Art & AI Lab, Rutgers University



**BRIEF**

**Loan issue**



**New Delhi:** Edtech major BYJU'S is growing slowly but sustainably and is close to achieving profitability at the group level, the company's CEO Biju Raveendran said on Thursday. The company organised a town hall with Raveendran to allay apprehensions about the uncertainty around the company's growth and its future. According to sources, who attended the town hall, Raveendran said that issues with USD 1.2 billion Term Loan B lenders are being resolved through discussion and hopeful of a positive outcome in the next few weeks without the court's intervention.

**Tomato prices**

**Amaravati:** The fluctuations in the price of tomatoes in Andhra Pradesh will settle down in the first fortnight of July, Agriculture Marketing Commissioner Rahul Pandey said on Wednesday, explaining that one crop just got over and another one is in the process of reaching the market. AP is a state which cultivates three tomato crops a year and the short gaps between these crops sometimes create price fluctuations. "Tomato (prices) will settle within a week. This is routine, nothing to panic about it. Within a short period, things will settle down because one crop is getting over."

**Appointment**

**New Delhi:** Deloitte on Thursday said it has appointed industry veteran Manoj Kohli as senior advisor. In his 44-year career spanning across 30 countries, Kohli served as the Country Head of Softbank India, playing a pivotal role in expanding the investment management firm's presence in the Indian digital start-up market. Prior to that, he served as the CEO and Managing Director of Bharati Airtel, driving the company's growth and market dominance in India's telecommunications industry.



## CIL should remain as public sector entity, alternative methodology needed for coal pricing: Chairman

**Kolkata, Jun 29:**



Coal India Chairman Pramod Agrawal said on Thursday that the company should continue to remain as a "government entity" in the future to maintain "price stability" of the dry fuel in the country and suggested an alternative methodology for coal pricing in future. In an interview with PTI a day before his term ends as the head of Coal India on June 30, Agrawal said unlocking value cannot be the "sole" purpose of all enterprises. As a government-owned entity, Coal India holds the responsibility of ensuring that the benefits of coal production are distributed to the public, he said. Agrawal also pointed out

that the miner's identity is synonymous with the country's energy sector, and the present structure with CIL as the apex holding company is "strong and stable". "We have seen severe price escalation in international coal prices last year. In such a scenario, private companies would

have stepped up their prices as well. However, for a government agency like Coal India, such a situation is unlikely," Agrawal said while responding to a question on whether the miner should continue to be a government entity to unlock its value.

The union government was reducing its stake in Coal India to raise funds, albeit in small doses. This month, the government sold a three per cent stake to raise Rs 4,185 crore and reduced its holding to about 63.1 per cent. Coal prices of the Kolkata-based PSU are heavily discounted as compared to imported fuel.

The average landed price per tonne of imported coal between April-

September period of the 2022-23 financial year was Rs 19,324.79, while the average notified price per tonne (ex-colliery) of domestic coal was Rs 2,662.97 in the same period. After more than five years, the miner recently raised prices of higher grades of coal (G2 to G11) by only eight per cent, which will boost its revenue by three per cent and will have hardly any adverse impact on power producers.

"In the future, we may consider revisiting coal prices (based on certain parameters) in shorter durations. This could be linked to inflationary costs, such as the wholesale price index or any other, which deems fit.

## 6 years of GST: Rs 1.5 trillion monthly tax revenues becomes 'new normal', focus on curbing tax evasion

**New Delhi, Jun 29:**



Six years after the rollout of the biggest indirect tax reform in India, Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue of Rs 1.5 lakh crore every month has become a new normal and tax officers are focusing on dealing with fraudsters who are adopting newer modus operandi to game the system, causing loss to the exchequer.

To apprehend black sheep, who operate as syndicates and create fake entities on the basis of forged documents to claim input tax credit (ITC), tax officers have started using data analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning aiming to curb evasion, which was over Rs 3 lakh crore since inception of GST. It was over Rs 1 lakh crore in 2022-23.

Thinktank Global

Trade Research Initiative (TRI) said the most critical pending GST reform is upgradation of GST Network to prevent fake supplies and fraudulent claims of Input Tax Credit (ITC). "Data analysis and physical checks alone cannot completely solve the problem.

The GSTN should enable linking of invoice level information filed for claiming ITC by buyer (from GSTR 3B) with the information provided by input suppliers (GSTR 2A and GSTR 2B)," Srivastava said. Even after six years, the GSTN is unable to connect the supplies in a

value chain, resulting in significant revenue loss to the government and causing problems for honest businesses, Srivastava added.

Issues like rationalisation of tax rates and slabs, levying GST on petrol, diesel and ATF, are still hanging fire. Tax experts are of the opinion that the GST Council must pursue these reforms to make GST more inclusive. However, in an election year, it is unlikely that the Centre and states will go ahead with these reforms. Nangia Andersen India, Director - Indirect Tax, Tanushree Roy said simplification of the GST rate structure would provide a fillip across sectors, however with elections round the corner a wait-and-watch approach needs to be adopted to see if the Government at all decides to allude to this issue.

## Statistics play important role in informed policy-making: Inderjit Singh

**New Delhi Jun 29:**



Statistics play an important role in informed policy-making, according to Union Minister Rao Inderjit Singh.

The Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation made the remarks at the 17th Statistics Day in the national capital on Thursday. "This day provides us an opportunity to recognise the importance of statistics as evidence for informed policy-making and the role played by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) in strengthening the statistical capability of India," he said.

The significance of quality and timely data for facilitating evidence-based decision-making needs to be

emphasised. This is also valid for the availability of data in the context of monitoring the progress of sustainable development goals, he said. Further, Singh expressed hope that MoSPI in collaboration with all the stakeholders will continue to work towards facilitating data-driven policy-making and also taking the lead in statistical research and development activities in other relevant areas.

## WORLD MINING CONGRESS



Ministry of Coal Secretary Amrit Lal Meena (2nd from left) and other officials at the inauguration of India pavilion at the World Mining Congress (WMC) 2023, in Brisbane, Australia.

## Comm min asks PLI scheme implementing ministries to hold consultations with companies on their issues

**New Delhi, Jun 29:**

The commerce and industry ministry has suggested departments, which are implementing their sector-specific production-linked incentive schemes, hold consultations with PLI beneficiary companies to understand their issues, government officials said. The suggestion was made in a workshop on the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme called by the ministry on June 27. The meeting assumed significance as the government disbursed only Rs 2,900 crore till March 2023 out of Rs 3,400 crore claims received under the scheme. The scheme was announced in 2021 for 14 sectors, such as telecommunication, white goods, textiles and pharma with an outlay

of Rs 1.97 lakh crore. The departments were also asked to ensure that PLI beneficiaries complete their investments and meet production targets. "It was suggested to the line ministries now to call the PLI beneficiary companies for consultations with them only and if they flag any issue, it could be conveyed to the commerce and industry ministry so that those issues can be taken up with the highest authorities," one of the officials said. The ministry, which coordinates the scheme, also urged PLI beneficiaries to take up any procedural challenges/ issues with the respective implementing ministry or department so that positive reforms can be brought about and the scheme can be made more efficient and effective.

## Want to strike 'truly ambitious' trade deal with India, says UK PM Rishi Sunak

**London, Jun 29:**



British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has reaffirmed his commitment to a "truly ambitious" free trade agreement (FTA) with India and indicated his plans to visit New Delhi for the G20 Summit in September.

Hosting a special reception to celebrate India Global Forum's UK-India Week 2023 in the garden of 10 Downing Street in London, Sunak said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and he agrees that there is a huge potential to step up bilateral trade ties. The 43-year-old British Indian leader interacted with business leaders and celebrities, including boxing champion Mary Kom,

musicians Shankar Mahadevan and Zakir Hussain, Bollywood stars Sonam Kapoor and Vivek Oberoi, on Wednesday evening as part of what he dubbed as a "big moment" in the bilateral calendar and the start of an Indian summer for the UK. "Prime Minister Modiji and I

agree there's huge potential here. We're making great progress together on the 2030 Roadmap and we want to strike a truly ambitious trade deal that benefits both our nations, bringing tremendous opportunities to businesses and consumers, both in India and here at home," said Sunak. "It's not just UK-India Week, but a whole Indian summer. And I don't just mean the hot weather we're having, I mean that over the next few weeks, the eyes of the world will be on India. There's the G20 in New Delhi, I can't wait to be there," he said. India and the UK recently concluded the tenth round of FTA negotiations and an 11th round is set to begin in the next few weeks.

## Sebi to strengthen investor grievance handling mechanism

**Mumbai, Jun 29:**

Markets watchdog Sebi on Wednesday decided to revamp its complaint redressal system as part of efforts to strengthen the investor grievance handling mechanism. At its meeting here, the Sebi board cleared various measures to boost the investor grievance handling mechanism and linking SCORES (Sebi Complaint Redress System) with the Online Dispute Resolution Mechanism. It would also look at reducing timelines, introducing auto-routing of the complaint to concerned regulated entities, and auto-escalation of complaints in case of non-adherence to the prescribed timelines by the regulated entity.

## More women needed in corporate boardrooms: Arundhati Bhattacharya

**Mumbai, Jun 29:**



The representation of women in corporate boardrooms needs to be "far more", and it will involve a change of mindsets, determined action and focus, Arundhati Bhattacharya, the top boss of Salesforce India and former Chairperson of SBI has said.

Bhattacharya smashed the glass ceiling in 2013 when she became the first woman to lead State Bank of India (SBI) in the bank's over 200-year history. She retired from SBI in 2017 and went on to reinvent herself with a brand new career innings at the helm of cloud-based service provider Salesforce India in 2020, as

Chairperson and CEO. Speaking with PTI, she said Indian businesses need to see digital transformation as a "must have" and not merely as something good to have. Organisations that have inefficient processes, data residing in silos and manual processes, or skill gaps will fall behind, unless

they adopt tech and digital, she advocated. Every single sector - be it health-care, automotive or manufacturing presents an opportunity for Salesforce, she added. In a free-wheeling chat that touched on various aspects close to her heart, including women's issues, Bhattacharya said that a "broad brush approach" to getting women back to workplaces as normalcy resumes, may not work for all, and asserted that flexibility, understanding and empathy would be the key. Her comments assume significance as there have been industry concerns that the end of work-from-home could push industry attrition among women workers in certain cases.

## India prefers to shop from Amazon: CMR Survey

**Mumbai, Jun 29:**

According to a new consumer study from CyberMedia Research (CMR), India's leading technology market research and advisory firm, Indians from Tier II cities and beyond spend an average of 2 hours and 25 minutes per week shopping online, spending approximately 16% of their income. The top three triggers for online shopping include attractive prices (57%), convenient return and exchange processes (57%) along with irresistible offers (49%). The study further revealed that Amazon (73%) is the preferred e-commerce platform, followed by Flipkart

(70%), Meesho (30%), JioMart (20%), and others. 63% of Amazon users report high satisfaction, followed by 52% for Flipkart and 46% for Reliance Digital.

Interestingly, Amazon is favored by its users for its attractive prices (54%), easy return / exchange process (52%), brand trust (40%) and convenience of shopping across pin-codes in India (38%). Over the past six months, 73% of consumers from both Tier II and Tier I cities have shopped at Amazon. According to Prabhu Ram, Head- Industry Intelligence Group, CyberMedia Research (CMR), "The wide range of choices, conven-

ience, and comfort provided by e-commerce has empowered emerging young consumers in Aspirational India (Tier II, Tier III cities and beyond) to shop more online, and to fulfil their aspirations. Major players like Amazon and Flipkart, niche market players such as Meesho and others, and conglomerates like Tata and Reliance are fiercely competing in these markets. Our research emphasizes that Amazon, with its extensive and enduring presence across India, has the consumer trust and is their preferred choice." Also, two out of three consumers have spent up to Rs 20,000 on online shopping in the past six months.

## Some clients insist for work from office: Infosys CEO

**New Delhi, Jun 29:**



Infosys is giving flexible options to employees to work from home or office but some of its clients have started demanding that their projects be handled from the office, a senior company official said on Wednesday. While responding to a shareholder's query on the 42nd Annual General Meeting of the company, Infosys Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Salil Parekh said that in future, there will be a need for more social capital where people will need to connect with each other to do new things, training, etc. "We have a flexible approach for employees. We are making sure that the employees have the ability

to work from home or work hybrid. In some cases where clients are requiring it. We have employees and teams that are working within the campus. On a long term basis, we see a mix of where people will work, where there will be a need for increased social capital to connect with people to work with teams to do a new work," Parekh said.

## Economy remains resilient, banking system fortified by low level of NPAs: RBI

**Mumbai, Jun 29:**

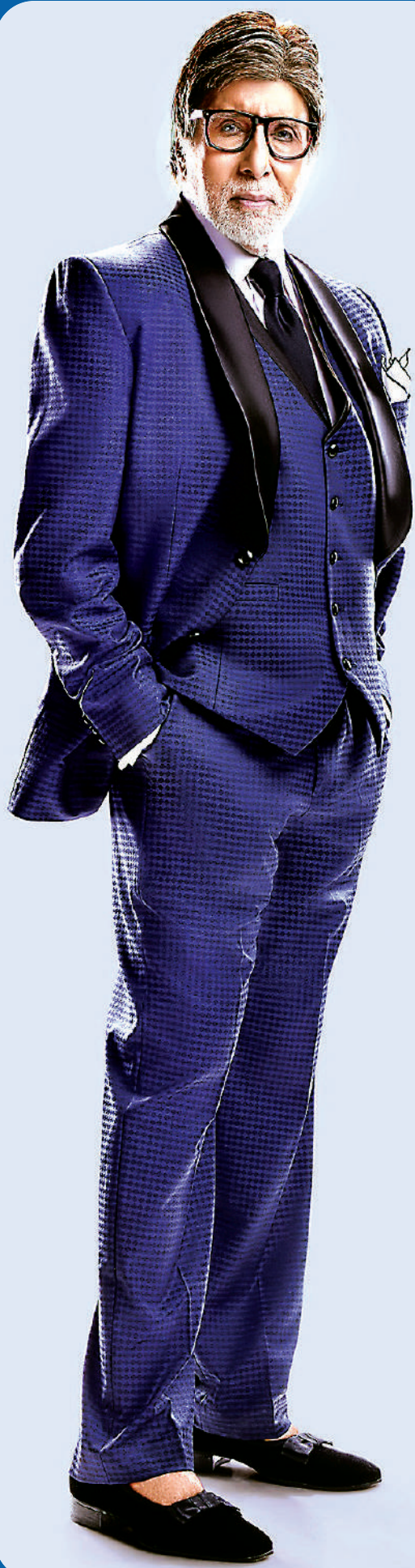
Indian economy remains resilient on the back of a healthy banking system, which has been fortified by multi-year low levels of NPAs and adequate capital, according to the Reserve Bank's Financial Stability Report (FSR). The document reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on risks to financial stability and the resilience of the Indian financial system. In a foreword of the report, Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das said the Indian economy has made

a solid recovery and is among the fastest-growing large economies despite heightened uncertainties and formidable headwinds. Financial stability is non-negotiable, and all stakeholders in the financial system must work to preserve this at all times, he added. "The Reserve Bank and the other financial regulators remain steadfast in their commitment to safeguard financial stability in the face of potential and emerging challenges," he said in a foreword to Financial Stability Report (FSR). The global economy is facing heightened uncertainty amid banking system fragility in certain countries, persisting geopoliti-

cal tensions and moderating but elevated inflation, as per the report. Despite global headwinds, the Indian economy and domestic financial system remain resilient, supported by strong macroeconomic fundamentals, it said. The resilience of the global financial system has been tested by the recent banking turmoil and interaction between monetary policy tightening and financial sector stress. Uncertainty about the global macro-financial outlook has risen. "Against this backdrop, the Indian economy and the domestic financial system remain resilient in an environment of macroeconomic and financial stability.



## KBC, ek naye roop mein!



India has embraced change; a change that fosters growth, a change that has rehailed our mindset and a change that drives new aspirations. In India, 'badi shaan se, bade gyan se - dekho sab kuch badal raha hai', and mirroring this transformation is the nation's biggest game show, Kaun Banega Crorepati. Sony Entertainment Television has launched a promo that celebrates the spirit of change. The 15th season of this flagship show promises to enthrall viewers in an all-new avatar.

Host Amitabh Bachchan's powerful narration through the promo leaves you inspired, in which the expression naye armaan, navi muskaan, naye aasmaan liye sets the stage for Kaun Banega Crorepati, jald hi ek naye roop mein. Stay tuned to this space to know more!

## Aasif Sheikh fondly recalls Eid celebrations at his ancestral Haveli

Aasif Sheikh, aka Vibhuti Narayan Mishra from &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, is filled with joy and anticipation as he eagerly awaits the festivities of Eid. From engaging in the peaceful practice of offering Namaz to cherishing precious moments with beloved family and friends, every detail of the occasion has been meticulously planned. The actor's heart brims with nostalgia as he fondly recalls the extravagant and unforgettable Eid celebrations held in his ancestral home nestled in the vibrant city of Varanasi. Speaking of Eid festivities, the actor joyfully shares, "The magic of festivals in small towns and cities is simply enchanting! Witnessing the heartfelt dedication and efforts put into making the day truly extraordinary is a delight in itself. Varanasi holds a special place in my heart as it is my parents' ancestral home, and I have such vivid memories of the grand celebrations at our beloved Dada ji's Haveli. Our family was large, and



we warmly welcomed relatives and friends from near and far, creating a joyful gathering of hundreds. The entire day was a feast for the senses, with abundant and delicious food from dawn till dusk. Our elders showered us

with generous Eidi, and those cherished moments from the early 1980s are etched in my mind as if they happened yesterday. Although the nature of celebrations may have evolved, the spirit of togetherness and celebra-

tion still radiates with equal enthusiasm."

About the celebrations this year, Aasif Sheikh adds, "Festivals fill my heart with pure delight! They are precious moments of joy and togetherness where you bond with your loved ones and indulge in mouthwatering delicacies. This upcoming Eid celebration will be no exception! I will be at home, surrounded by my dear family and friends, savouring the heavenly delights of sheer kurma and aromatic Biryani. And that's not all! No festival feels complete without celebrating it alongside my beloved Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai family. The set of the show has become my second home, and the entire crew feels like my extended family. Just like every year, I will be treating them to a scrumptious homemade Biryani the following day, spreading the joy and flavours of the festive season. So, let the festivities begin!" Watch Aasif Sheikh as Vibhuti Narayan Mishra in Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 pm, airing every Monday to Friday only on &TV!

## Will Tavleen be successful in ruining Amrita and Veer's wedding?



Sony SAB's family drama Dil Diyaan Gallaan sheds light on a family separated by both physical and emotional differences and highlights how misunderstandings, lack of communication, and unexpressed emotions, which contribute to conflicts among three generations of a family. In an emotional twist, Dilpreet's (Pankaj Berry) unexpected heart-attack leads him to realise that life is too short to miss out on moments of happiness and he announces Amrita (Kaveri Priyam) and Veer's (Paras Arora) wedding.

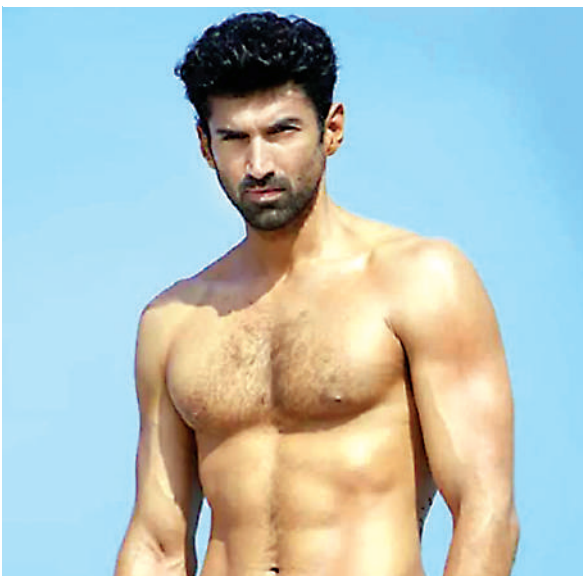
The upcoming track will see Amrita and Veer's wedding preparations begin in full swing while Tavleen's (Jayati

Bhatia) continues to scheme against the Brars. With love and togetherness surrounding the Brar family after a long time, their differences take a backseat as they reunite to celebrate the marriage. However, Tavleen's vow of taking away every moment of the Brar family's happiness, leads her to spilling the truth about Veer's mother minutes before the wedding. Will Tavleen's plan to sabotage the wedding work?

As Amrita and Veer attempt to enter a new chapter of their lives, will the past weigh them down?

Stay tuned to Sony SAB's Dil Diyaan Gallaan every Monday to Saturday at 7:30 PM only on Sony SAB.

## Working with Anil Kapoor gives you a complex, says Aditya Roy Kapur



Aditya Roy Kapur, who has worked with Anil Kapoor on various projects, says there is a flip side of teaming up with an energetic star.

Aditya Roy Kapur was interacting with the media on 'The Night Manager 2' in Mumbai along with the Disney+ Hotstar show's creator, Sandeep Modi, and co-stars Anil Kapoor, Shobhita Dhulipala and Tillotama Shome. After 'Malang', the 2020 action thriller directed by Mohit Suri, 'The Night Manager' marks the second outing of Aditya Roy Kapur with Anil Kapoor, so he was naturally asked about the pros and cons of working with a senior actor. "One

complex you do get while working with Anil Kapoor is that you feel you aren't working hard enough, as he is the most hard-working actor," Aditya said. "I can only think of that as a con, for you feel like shit and keep thinking you need to pull up your socks."

Continuing in the same vein, he added: "There is plenty to learn from him. I was working with him for the second time, yet he never ceases to amaze you -- the kind of zest he approaches his work with, the passion with which he approaches his roles, his attention to detail, and being a team player who wants everyone to succeed.

## Anushka is inspired by bollywood queen Priyanka Chopra for her acting skills

The audience's favorite show Meri Saas Bhoot Hai that airs on Star Bharat has kept the viewers hooked to the story line and stellar performances by the cast. This unique ghostly mother-in-law and daughter-in-law pair of the TV is being well-liked by the audience. The bubbly Twinkle (played by Anushka Srivastava), who plays the second wife of Som (Vibhav Roy) is also creating a special place in the hearts of the audience. Anushka, who takes inspiration from actress Priyanka Chopra in acting, shared some special things about her and



Priyanka's Jamshedpur connection. Talking about her acting inspiration, actress Anushka Srivastava says,



"The person I really admire in the industry is Priyanka Chopra. I like her a lot because she is from

Jamshedpur and I am from Bihar. Today Jamshedpur comes under the state of Jharkhand, but earlier it was in Bihar only. She made us proud by winning the title of Miss World. I still watch all her interviews; I have also read books on her. Because she has gone ahead after a lot of struggles, I like her journey and I like her very much. I feel that whoever takes his first step in the industry must be thinking that their life should be like Priyanka Chopra Jonas." To find out, keep watching Meri Saas Bhoot Hai every Monday to Friday at 9PM only on Star Bharat.

## Nicole Scherzinger announces engagement to Thom Evans

Nicole Scherzinger, the renowned lead singer of the dance-pop group Pussycat Dolls, has excitedly revealed her engagement to her boyfriend, rugby player Thom Evans. The couple shared the special moment on Instagram, capturing the romantic proposal during their trip to Vila Nova de Gaia in Portugal.

Scherzinger, 44, captioned her post with the perfect words, "I said yes," accompanied by a ring emoji. Evans also took to his Instagram account, sharing the same pictures and captioning them, "My



Ever After." Their relationship made its public debut at the 21st Annual InStyle and Warner Bros. Pictures Golden Globe Afterparty in

Beverly Hills in January 2020. Since then, Scherzinger and Evans have offered glimpses into their romance through so-

cial media, with the singer recently sharing photos from their trip to Portugal.

The couple's paths crossed in 2019 when Evans appeared as a contestant on "X Factor: Celebrity" where Scherzinger served as a judge. Prior to their relationship, Evans dated model and actress Kelly Brook, while Scherzinger had been involved with Bulgarian tennis player Grigor Dimitrov from 2016 to early 2019. Additionally, Scherzinger had a seven-year on-and-off relationship with Formula One racing driver Lewis Hamilton before their split in 2015.

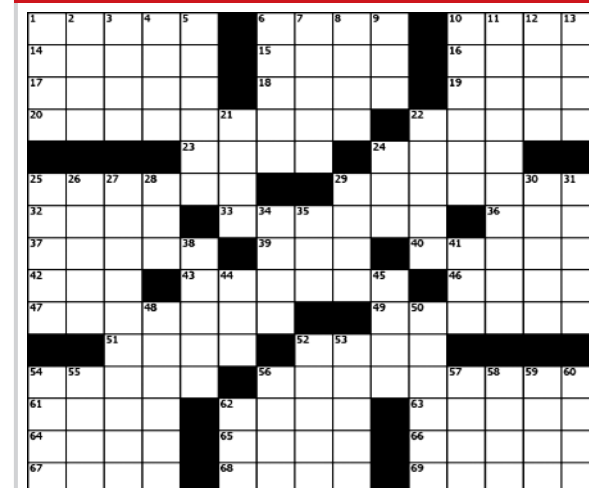
## Idris Elba rejects James Bond role due to racism



Idris Elba, the celebrated Hollywood star, was a top contender to portray James Bond following Daniel Craig's departure from the franchise. However, he made it known that he declined the iconic role of the M16 spy-assassin due to the significant racist backlash he faced. In an interview, Elba revealed that while the idea of him being considered for the role was widely celebrated globally, there were pockets of individuals who made it a matter of race, tarnishing the entire experience. He expressed his disappointment at the nonsensical racial criticisms that were directed at him. Despite feeling immensely flattered by the offer, Elba acknowledged that the controversy surrounding his potential casting as James Bond became disheartening. He considered the role to be a pinnacle of achievement, emphasizing the significance and prestige associated with it. Earlier this year, Elba shared with Esquire UK that he no longer identifies himself solely as a black actor, recognizing that such labels can be limiting. He stressed the importance of growth and breaking free from societal boxes. In a subsequent tweet, Elba affirmed his strong identity as a black man and acknowledged that his profession as an actor should not be defined by his race. Idris Elba's decision to turn down the James Bond role serves as a reminder of the persistence of racism in the entertainment industry.

## CROSSWORD

688



### ACROSS

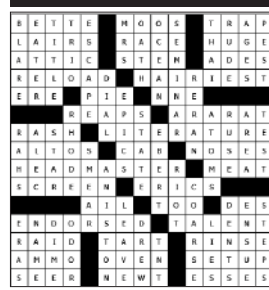
- Continues
- Agitate
- Gradual
- Preface
- Not hard
- Relinquish
- Slowpoke
- Hill of sand
- Matured
- Not temporary
- Off killer

### DOWN

- Rudely brief
- Pelvic joints
- Poked fun at
- Alike
- Coffeepots
- Manor
- Fire leftover
- Liquid measure
- Bad actor
- Likewise
- fi
- Cherishes
- For both sexes

- With a leg on each side
- Cardin of fashion
- Healthy
- Cloth measure
- Achievers
- Synthetic fabric
- Ultimatum word
- Ocean current
- Animated
- Maui garlands
- Copycat
- Flax product
- and found
- Sash
- Brainy
- Compass pt.
- Identical
- Fall flower
- Island
- Loafer, e.g.
- Asphalt
- Train tracks
- Hockey surface
- President before JFK
- Nimble
- Most unusual
- Guiding principles
- Alpine song
- Wide-awake
- Valley
- Toast spread
- Tobacco holder
- Svelte
- Songstress — Turner
- Constantly
- Landlord's due
- Restaurant bill

### SOLUTION 687





## Why there is huge void in men's and women's chess in India: Harika

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

Grandmaster Harika Dronavalli is confused by the huge "void" in men's and women's chess in India and hopes the situation improves as there are several youngsters with potential in the country.

Harika, the three-time World Championship bronze medallist and winner of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix, has been the flag-bearer of women's chess in the country along with veteran Koneru Humpy, the Asian Games gold medallist.

Together, they have won the most trophies and accolades for the country and are currently also teammates in the Global Chess League (GCL) side upGrad Mumbai Masters.

While the likes of young Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi and D Gukesh have been creating waves



Grandmaster Harika Dronavalli of upGrad Mumbai Masters during her match at the Global Chess League (GCL), in Dubai, UAE.

among men and defeating several big names including five-time world champion Magnus Carlsen, the women's scene in the country is far from encouraging.

"This (gap between men's and women's chess) even I don't know, I am confused because a lot of young boys are coming up but girls... there is a huge

void. But there are a few youngsters who are promising and coming up now, which is good. But I feel there is much more potential for more (women) players to come up," Harika, the 2010 Asian Games bronze medallist, told PTI in a virtual interaction on Thursday.

"Frankly, I don't know the exact reason... I think

things will get better,"

GM Humpy, the double Asian Games gold medallist, recently created a flutter, saying she is not sure about competing at this year's Asiad in Guangzhou, China due to Covid-related reservations, but Harika clarified that her senior counterpart had "no issue" taking part in the quadrennial continental showpiece.

Humpy had told PTI on the sidelines of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix in April that, "Because of China, I'm not sure I'll participate. Probably I'll be deciding in June or July. (It's) because of COVID, what else could be the reason (not) to go to China." However, Harika said Humpy will compete. "I think there is a bit of confusion. She (Humpy) didn't say she is not competing. She said is thinking about it because of the situation (in China). I think she (has) decided to play, so there is no issue."

## Duleep Trophy

Bengaluru, Jun 29 (PTI):

Nishant Sindhu and Harshit Rana carved hundreds of different shades to power North Zone to a massive 540/8 in the first innings, constructing a foundation for their bowlers to solidify that superiority over North East Zone on the second day of the Duleep Trophy quarterfinal here.

North East were 65 for 2, 475 runs in arrears, when bad light and rain forced an early closure to their first dig on Thursday.

North Zone's travel to ascendancy began when Sindhu, overnight 76, moved on smoothly to his third first-class hundred with a single to mid-off to Dippu Sanfma.

Sindhu (150, 245 balls, 18x4, 3x6) lost his partner Pulkit Narang in the first hour itself, but NE zone had little respite as Harshit Rana (122 off 86 balls, 12x4, 9x6) came in carrying a destructive mood.

Both Sindhu, 19, and Rana, 21, have been highly



Harshit Rana

rated in the domestic circuit, evidenced from them getting IPL contracts with Chennai Super Kings and Kolkata Knight Riders respectively.

Their talent was on full view here. The NE bowlers were able to purchase some movement off the

deck the previous day. But as the skies remained bright during the first two sessions of the day, there was nothing for them to bank upon.

Sindhu opted for a rather traditional batting approach, selecting the freebies to open his shoulders. But at the other end, Rana purred like a race car against an attack that had little experience in bowling against such quality batters. Rana's innings deserves a special mention because the Delhi youngster is rated as a budding pace bowling talent. But on this day, he made an impression with the bat, a mighty one at that.

Central in driver's seat after taking 124-run lead

Bengaluru: After a shabby batting effort, Central Zone came roaring back into the match bowling out East Zone for 122 in their first innings to enjoy a healthy lead of 124 runs in their Duleep Trophy quarterfinal on Thursday.

Central closed the day at

64 for no loss in their second innings. They were bundled out for 182 in their first innings on Wednesday after pacer Murasingh bagged five wickets. Pacer Avesh Khan and left-arm spinner Saurabh Kumar shared six wickets equally among them to hasten the fall of East Zone.

They resumed from the overnight 32 for 2 and were in need of a solid partnership to cover the early losses.

Having already lost captain and prolific opener Abhimanyu Easwaran, East's biggest hope of reaching a healthy total was experienced Anustup Majumdar and Riyan Parag.

Majumdar fell cheaply for 4, while Parag showed glimpses of his skills while making a 46-ball 33. Central captain and pacer Shivam Mavi jettisoned Parag, and it signalled the end of fight for East.

Murasingh played a cameo of 34-ball 30 but that only helped to reduce the lead of Central.

## Rajasthan Royals set to offer Jos Buttler lucrative multi-year contract

London, Jun 29 (PTI):

Indian Premier League franchise Rajasthan Royals is all set to offer a lucrative multi-year contract to England's limited over skipper Jos Buttler, British newspaper 'Telegraph' reported on Thursday.

With most of the IPL franchises owning part or full stakes in various private T20 leagues, there is an imminent threat to game's current structure with fears that a lot of top international players might forego their central contracts to sign football club-like deal with a singular club (franchise) to appear in various tournaments. According to 'The Telegraph', RR is trying to



tie Buttler down to longer-term deal but the offer is yet to be formally tabled and it is also not clear if the cricketer will sign the deal.

"England's white-ball captain Jos Buttler is set to be offered a landmark four-year deal by his Indian premier League franchise Rajasthan Royals," the report said.

## Australia finishes on 416 after Smith hundred

London, Jun 29 (AP):

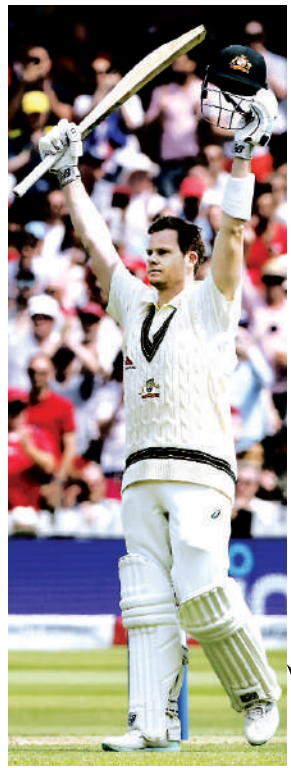
Another Steve Smith century backstopped Australia to 416 all out on the second morning of the second Ashes test at Lord's on Thursday.

England was 13 without loss from four overs by lunch. Ben Duckett had 7 and Zac Crawley 6.

Australia's total, after being forced to bat, was more than double what any other side has scored in the first innings in the last 10 tests at Lord's.

But Australia had been 316-3 after tea on Wednesday.

Smith started the day on 85 and Australia five down. When Alex Carey and Mitchell Starc were dismissed in the first 20 minutes, Australia's pre-eminent batter was on 87 and decided to get a move on before he ran out of partners.



His next four scoring shots were all boundaries, the 14th of his innings a cover drive off James Anderson to reach the hundred. Smith kissed Australia's crest on his helmet and smiled for his teammates. Naturally, the Australian fans cheered while English fans grudgingly clapped the biggest thorn in their side for the past decade.

His numbers are head-turning. Smith's 32nd test century was his 12th against England, eighth in England and second at Lord's. The 32 tied him with former captain Steve Waugh at eighth on the all-time list, and he overtook Waugh's 3,173 runs for fourth on the Ashes list, behind only Don Bradman, Jack Hobbs and Allan

Broad. The century came three weeks after his 121 against India at the Oval in the World Test Championship final. After midday, when the Lord's floodlights were turned off for the first time in the match, Smith went off moments later; too, for 110. He tried to drive Josh Tongue and edged to Duckett at gully. He spent more than five hours in the middle, facing 184 balls and hit 15 boundaries. Australia lasted another 25 minutes. Ollie Robinson collected the last two wickets to finish with three, the same as Tongue. England's four-prong pace attack suffered its most expensive first day at Lord's in 15 years at 4.21 runs per over on Wednesday, but when the sun finally poked through the clouds on Thursday, Anderson and Stuart Broad finally shone.

## Ferreira's hat-trick leads US over St Kitts and Nevis 6-0

CONCACAF Gold Cup

St Louis (US), Jun 29 (AP):

Jesus Ferreira scored his second international hat-trick, Djordje Mihailovic had two goals as the 13th-ranked United States overwhelmed No. 139 St. Kitts and Nevis 6-0 in the CONCACAF Gold Cup.

Mihailovic, Bryan Reynolds and Ferreira scored in a 3:50 span to build a 3-0 lead by the 16th minute on Wednesday night. The US outshot St Kitts 34-2.

"We know that we had to come out here and gain points, gain goals, and I



Jesus Ferreira #9 of the United States runs after the ball.

think the team went out there and took care of business," Ferreira said.

Ferreira has 11 goals in 20 appearances and be-

came the fastest American to double-digit goals, accomplishing the feat in three games fewer than Clint Mathis. Seven of

Ferreira's goals have been against St. Kitts and then-No. 170 Grenada. Ferreira became the fifth American with multiple hat tricks behind Landon Donovan with three, and Peter Miller, Jozy Altidore and Clint Dempsey with two each. Ferreira was the only American starter who played at last year's World Cup, appearing in the first half of the second-round loss to the Netherlands.

Mihailovic also had two assists for the defending champion Americans, who matched their largest Gold Cup victory margin, also 6-0 against Cuba in 2015 and Trinidad in 2019.

## Neeraj returns to action in Lausanne DL javelin throw



Lausanne, Jun 29 (PTI):

Returning to action after a one-month injury lay-off, Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will seek his second straight podium finish of the season at the Lausanne leg of the Diamond League in a star-studded field on Friday.

The 25-year-old Indian superstar had made a per-

fect start to the Diamond League season with a top podium finish in Doha, Qatar, on May 5 with a fourth career-best throw of 88.67m but suffered a muscle strain while training later that month.

He issued a statement on May 29 stating his injury and pulled out of the FBK Games on June 4 at Hengelo (the Netherlands) and Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku, Finland on June 13 as a precautionary measure. But he did not miss any Diamond League competition as the subsequent legs in Rabat, Rome, Paris and Oslo did not have men's javelin events in the roster.

## India, England, Australia playing bulk of Test matches will eventually kill the game: Chris Gayle



New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

The big three -- India, England and Australia -- playing the bulk of Test cricket will eventually "kill the game" and the players of smaller boards like the West Indies must be paid better for international cricket to flourish,

feels Chris Gayle.

Gayle is best known for his exploits in T20 cricket but he is also a veteran of 103 Tests and 301 ODIs.

Speaking to PTI, the 43-year-old said only three teams dominating the game can't be good for the game in the long run.

"Over the years, cricket has changed quite a bit. It is a big business now. Lot of money being thrown around not just in T20 leagues but Test cricket as well. The bigger teams getting paid more than the smaller teams, leaving them at a disadvantage.

## BCCI to review retired players' participation in overseas T20 leagues

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

The BCCI will review its existing policy on participation of retired players in overseas T20 leagues at its Apex Council meeting on July 7.

As per its long-standing policy, a BCCI registered player is allowed to compete in overseas T20 leagues only after he retires from international cricket and domestic cricket, including IPL.

Ambati Rayudu, who retired from the IPL after playing a hand in Chennai Super Kings' title winning run last month, will now be seen playing for Texas

Super Kings in the inaugural Major League Cricket (MLC) scheduled in United States in July.

The idea could be to ensure that standard of domestic cricket doesn't erode further as the mushrooming of T20 franchise cricket might lead to a lot of premature retirements. The BCCI has chosen to protect its active players from taking part in T20 leagues and with the latest development, it can also put a clause on participation of retired players.

As per the agenda for the meeting, "policy for retired players for participation in overseas" will be discussed.

## ADMISSION Open

Contact for Advertising  
**96302 59335**

### M.A.K. AZAD COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

(Run by Osmani Educational Society, Raipur)

**2004 से सयपुर शहर के मध्य संचालित एकमात्र कॉलेज**

रजिस्ट्रेशन के लिए संपर्क करें या ऑनलाइन रजिस्ट्रेशन करें -  
[www.makazadpharmacy.com](http://www.makazadpharmacy.com)

Registration Started : 0771-4913335, 9425214413, 9981224037

Chourasiya Colony, Nav Durga Nagar, Raipur (C.G.), e-mail - Makazadpharmacy123@gmail.com, Website- www.makazadpharmacy.com  
0771- 4000123, 9329621221, 9981224037, 9300253335

**D.PHARMA**  
DIPLOMA OF PHARMACY 2 YEARS COURSE

**B.PHARMA**  
BACHELOR OF PHARMACY 4 YEARS COURSE

**Eicher School Bus**

**ASSURANCE OF SUPERIOR SAFETY**

- RELIABLE AND STRONG
- NEXT GEN FEATURES
- BENCHMARK OF SAFETY
- COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

**GK Automotive Pvt Ltd**

Opp. Kabir Nagar, Sondongri, Ring Road No.-2, Raipur (C.G.)  
BRANCHES: DURG | RAJNANDGAON | DHAMTARI | MAHASAMUND  
Mo.: 98268 97000

### MODEL ENGLISH HR. SEC. SCHOOL

"Education makes future better"

**Special Discount on Admission fees before 31st March 50%**

**Admission Open**  
Nursery to 12th  
(Biology, Maths, Commerce)

Register Now  
at [www.mesraipur.com](http://www.mesraipur.com)

**Highlight**

- ★ Spoken English & Personality Development Classes
- ★ Transport & Surveillance Facility
- ★ Monthly Seminar & Discussion
- ★ Personal attention on each students

**Civil lines, Katora Talab Road, Raipur (C.G.) Contact:- 07771-4000123**

### ROYAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Play Group Nursery, Pre Primary, Class I to XII (Science, Commerce, Bio, Arts)

**Special Discount on Admission fees before 31st March 50%**

**Salient Features**

- Extra curricular activities
- Personal attention to each student
- Limited student in each class
- Music, dance, personality development classes
- Conveyance facilities scholarship to all first class students
- Yoga & Meditation
- Well equipped lab, Computer Lab
- A large playground

Mathpura, Chourasiya Colony, Raipur, (C.G.)  
Mo.:- 9589085558, 9329621221, Email:- rpsraipur123@gmail.com



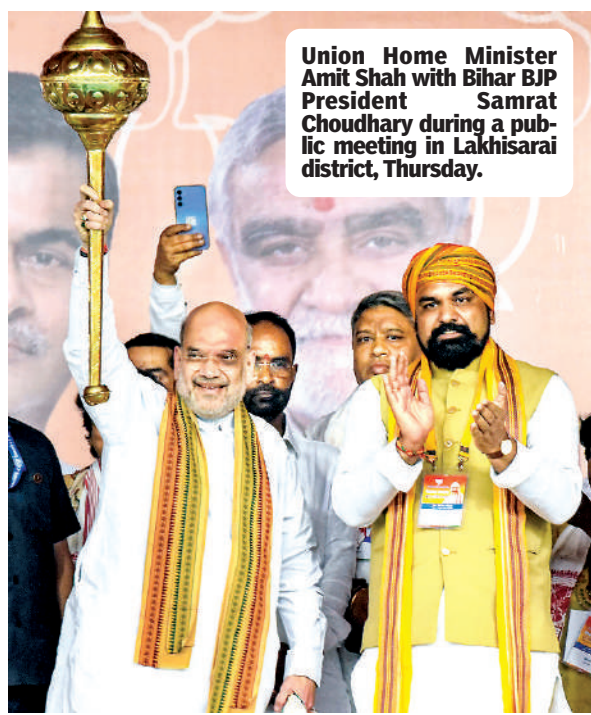
## 'Leaders who attended Oppn meet involved in scams'

Munger (Bihar), Jun 29 (PTI): Union Home Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah on Thursday accused opposition leaders, who had attended the June 23 meeting in Patna, of being involved in scams worth over Rs 20 lakh crore.

Taking on Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar who organised the meeting, Shah said the people of the state will give a "befitting reply to corrupt leaders" in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

The Union home minister was addressing a mega rally at Lakhisarai in Munger parliamentary constituency, organised by his party BJP.

"Bihar has always raised its voice against corruption. Opposition leaders who attended the



Union Home Minister Amit Shah with Bihar BJP President Samrat Choudhary during a public meeting in Lakhisarai district, Thursday.

June 23 meeting in Patna are involved in scams worth over Rs 20 lakh crore Bihar will give a befitting reply to corrupt leaders in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," Shah said.

In a reference to Kumar who dumped the BJP last year to form the 'Mahagathbandhan' government in the state, Shah said leaders who ditched the National Democratic Alliance must be "punished".

Shah also questioned the chief minister's track record and asked, "Nitish Babu must explain what he has done for Bihar".

He also alleged that the law and order situation has been "worsening by the day under the Mahagathbandhan' government in the state.

## ENJOYING RAINS



Children during Monsoon rainfall in Ajmer, Thursday.

## One year of Shinde govt: Politics overshadows governance

Mumbai, Jun 29 (PTI):

Bitter non-stop wrangling with the Uddhav Thackeray-led outfit and intermittent exchanges between the ruling partners have stood out as the Shiv Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra, steered by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, completes a year in office on Friday.

The Sena and Shiv Sena (UBT) labelled each other "gaddar" (traitor) after Shinde's rebellion split their original party last year, while Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis publicly asserted he had exacted "revenge" on Thackeray for his "betrayal".

Though comfortably placed to form the government after the 2019 Assembly elections, the

undivided Shiv Sena and BJP ended their decades-long ties over the CM's post. Thackeray then allied with the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and Congress to become the CM until Shinde toppled his cart.

About 50 MLAs on his side, Shinde took oath on June 30, 2022, and Fadnis, a former chief minister whose party BJP has 105 legislators in the 288-member Assembly, became his deputy in what was seen as an unprecedented move.

Behind the wide grins and bonhomie on camera and Fadnis, there have been palpable signs of strain, triggered by words and ads, as the ruling alliance gears up to celebrate its first anniversary of being

in power. The goings-on have left little room for doubt that politics has overshadowed governance in these months, though the government moved quickly to speed up a few infrastructure projects, including Metro lines in Mumbai.

In the Kalyan Lok Sabha constituency, local BJP leaders targeted the CM's son and two-term MP Shrikant Shinde, bringing to the fore the simmering tension between the Shiv Sena and BJP.

Later, an advertisement splashed across major dailies claiming that Shinde enjoyed more popularity than Fadnis, which added fuel to the fire. It did not have the pictures of either Fadnis or Shiv Sena founder late Bal Thackeray.

## Kejriwal rejects appointment of edu depts officials mired in vigilance inquiries

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday halted the appointment of some officials in the Education department citing ongoing vigilance inquiries against them, officials said.

The CM deliberated with officials on three matters related to appointments in the second meet of the National Capital Civil Service Authority (NCCSA). The first meeting of the NCCSA was held on June 20. LG office sources denied the charges, saying the file has been signed and sent to the government.

In another matter that came up in Thursday meet, there was a proposal to remove some competent officers from the Education department,

which the Chief Minister also objected to and stopped the proposal, an official said. The third matter in the meeting pertained to the demand of some female officers. They had requested transfers from the post of Sub-Registrar on personal grounds, which the Chief Minister approved on humanitarian grounds, he said. The Delhi Lt Governor is still sitting on the minutes of the first meeting and has not processed the file, he said.

Addressing a press conference following the first meeting of the NCCSA earlier this month, Kejriwal had termed the delay in approving of minutes a "farce" and a "conspiracy to not let the elected government do any work in Delhi."

## SC comes out with fresh procedure for mentioning of cases

For urgent listing before benches

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

Fresh cases, verified by the registry on a Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, will be automatically listed for hearing before Supreme Court benches on the following Monday and the lawyers need not mention them before the Chief Justice of India, an apex court circular said.

The information about the procedure to be adopted by CJI D Y Chandrachud for mentioning of cases for their urgent listing from July 3 was shared with the bar and others through a circular issued on June 28 by the registrars of judicial administration. The top court is set to reopen on July 3 after the summer

vacation. "Miscellaneous fresh matters which are verified on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday shall be automatically listed on the following Monday," the circular said.

"Miscellaneous matters which are verified on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday shall be automatically listed on the following Friday," it added.

The circular also said lawyers seeking listing of verified fresh matters prior to such allotted dates will now be required to submit their mentioning pro forma by 3 PM a day before to get their cases heard the next day.

Those seeking listing the same day, will have to submit the pro forma by 10:30 AM to the mention-

ing officer along with a letter of urgency, it said. The CJI will then take a call on the same during lunch hours or "as the exigency may warrant", it said. For after-notice and regular hearing matters that are sought to be urgently listed, the lawyers will have to first go before the mentioning officer with the pro forma and urgency letter. "No mentionings other than those in the mentioning lists uploaded a day prior shall be permitted for such matters," it said.

As per the procedures, the lawyers and litigants are allowed to mention their cases for out-of-turn listing and hearing by putting forth the ground of urgency before the CJI's court.

## KANWAR YATRA



Rahul Saimi, a resident of Ghaziabad, with others passes by while carrying his grandparents on shoulder during Kanwar Yatra, in Muzaffarnagar, Thursday.

## 'Indian Embassy in touch with Iranian authorities'

● For release of fishermen

Thiruvananthapuram, Jun 29 (PTI): The Government of India has given the highest priority for securing the release of Indian fishermen detained by Iranian authorities for allegedly entering their waters without permission, Union Minister for External Affairs, V Muraleedharan, said here on Thursday.

Seven fishermen from Kerala, three from Tamil Nadu, and a citizen of an Arab nation who went fishing from Ajman, UAE, were detained by the Iranian Navy a few days ago after they unintentionally crossed over the waters of the Middle East nation.



V Muraleedharan

The minister said the Government of India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has experience in securing the release of Indian citizens detained by the security agencies of foreign countries for entering international waters.

He said the Indian Government has a permanent solution with Pakistan and Sri Lanka to address such issues, but in the case of Iran, there is no regular system. "We will find a solution", he assured.

He said that the Indian Embassy officials themselves will go and meet the fishermen who have been detained by Iran, and assured the concerned families that they will not be subjected to any physical abuse.

## Heavy rains lash parts of Gujarat

Ahmedabad, Jun 29 (PTI): Several parts of south Gujarat received heavy rainfall during the last 36 hours and more showers are expected in the next two days, officials said on Thursday. The downpour threw life out of gear and affected the movement of traffic in Valsad, Surat, Navsari and Tapi districts of south Gujarat as heavy rains resulted in water-logging in low-lying areas as well as closure of some roads in rural parts, they said. Following a quick spell of shower in the morning, several roads of Ahmedabad city were also inundated in knee-deep water and people had to wade through it to reach their destinations. In the last 36 hours ending at 6 am on Thursday, Pardi taluka of Valsad district in south Gujarat received as much as 182 mm rainfall, a release by the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) said.

## Photo exhibition commemorates India's contribution in Korean War

New Delhi, Jun 29 (PTI):

A photo exhibition here marks the 70th anniversary of the Korean war armistice with a special focus on the contribution of the Indian 60 Para Field Ambulance, a medical unit of the Indian Army.

Hosted by the Korean Cultural Centre India, the exhibition has featured 32 photographs of the 60 Para Field Ambulance providing medical assistance to soldiers and civilians during the war.

"Through this exhibition, the cultural centre aims to express appreciation for the dedication of the 60 Para Field Ambulance, while remind-

ing visitors that the development of modern Korea was made possible due to their sacrifices. I hope this exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of Korea-India diplomatic relations and 70th anniversary of Korean war armistice deepens the friendship between our two countries," Hwang Il-yong, director of the Korean Cultural Centre India, said in a statement.

According to the centre, in November 1950, the 60 Para Field Ambulance deployed 627 personnel, the highest number of medical support personnel from any country during the Korean War. Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel AG

Rangaraj, the unit provided treatment to 2.2 lakh wounded soldiers and civilians, and performed 2,324 surgeries.

After serving in Korea for three years, the troops returned to India in February 1954. The photos include shots of the unit members boarding a ship, Edwina Mountbatten visiting the troops, the unit's members crossing obstacles and rivers to give medical support to the injured, a postal stamp issued by the Korean government in 1951 to honour India's participation in the war, a dispensary with a capacity of 300 patients, and soldiers treating the wounded at Munsan falls.

## Amarnath Yatra: On-the-spot registration of pilgrims starts

Jammu, Jun 29 (PTI):

The city administration on Thursday began the process for on-the-spot registration of devotees arriving here for the pilgrimage to the Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas.

Over 1,500 pilgrims, including sadhus, have arrived in Jammu city for the yatra to the 3,880-metre shrine starting on July 2.

While an on-the-spot registration centre has been set up for unregistered pilgrims in Shalimar area of the city, a special camp for registration of sadhus has been set up at Purani Mandi-based Ram temple complex. Amid tight security arrangements, over 1000

pilgrims have arrived at the Bhagwati-Nagar base camp here for their onward journey to Kashmir, officials said.

The 62-day-long pilgrimage will commence on July 1 from the twin tracks the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

The registration of unregistered pilgrims arriving here from all parts of the country have begun on-the-spot at the counter here, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Nargesh Singh told PTI.

He said all facilities for smooth registration have been put in place. "The registration of sadhus has begun in Jammu from

Thursday. All arrangements have been put in place for best possible facilities to sadhus", Tehsildar Jai Singh said. The enthusiasm among pilgrims arriving here for the pilgrimage was palpable Sanjeev Kumar of Uttar Pradesh said it is the fourth time that he is visiting the cave shrine.

"The registration process has improved from manual to online. This has done away with the process of sitting in long queues in hot weather conditions", he said.

Another pilgrim, 69-year-old Jagdish Raj from Delhi said, "For my entire life, I have been facilitating people planning to go on the pilgrimage, but could not go myself. However, I am very happy

that I am now going to pay obeisance at Amarnath".

The sadhus have arrived here after completing the Char Dham Yatra to Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath shrines in Uttarakhand.

**कालड़ा बर्न एवं प्लास्टिक कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी सेंटर**

**कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी**

झुरियां, झाड़, दाग, तिल, अनचाहे बाल आदि (आधुनिक लेजर द्वारा), मुहासे, दाग, नाक, होठ, टोड़ी, वक्ष, पेट आदि (प्लास्टिक सर्जरी द्वारा)

तथा अंग कटने-जलने की अति विशेष चिकित्सा.

आर.के.सी.के सामने, चौथे कालोनी एवं पंचवटी नाका, धर्मपुरी रोड, कटलर्स मॉल के पास, रायपुर काल: 9827143060/8871003060

Ajay Advt.

**सुयश हॉस्पिटल**  
(NABH से मान्यता प्राप्त)

**स्पाईन विभाग**

- रीढ़ की हड्डी में चोट या फ्रैक्चर
- रीढ़ की हड्डी में ट्यूमर
- डिस्क प्रोलेप्स
- पीठ दर्द एवं कमर दर्द
- सायटिका • Spine TB (Pott's Spine)

एवं रीढ़ की हड्डी से संबंधित सभी प्रकार की बीमारियों के विशेष इलाज की सुविधा.

**24 Hours Helpline**  
**9926386660**

कोटा-गुदियारी रोड़, होटल पिकाडली के पीछे, रायपुर

Ajay 9827144371