



BRIEF



New generation ballistic missile 'Agni Prime' being test-fired by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha, Wednesday.

Fire

■ **Lucknow:** A fire broke out at an under-construction building of the King George's Medical University (KGMU) here on Thursday, a senior official said. No casualty has been reported in the afternoon incident, District Magistrate Suryapal Gangwar said. The cause of the fire is not immediately known, he said, adding that people engaged in the construction will be questioned.

Charge sheet

■ **New Delhi:** The CBI has filed a supplementary charge sheet against aviation consultant Deepak Talwar and his NGO Advantage India for alleged violation of foreign funds received by it, officials said. In its charge sheet, the probe agency has listed Talwar, Advantage India, his wife Deepa Talwar besides Girish Vaid, Krishan Kumar Nair, Tarun Kumar Kapoor, Archana Kapoor, and Pran Nath Monga.

Outshine

■ **Bhubaneswar:** Girls outshined boys with a better pass percentage in Class-12 state board exams for arts and vocational streams, the results of which were declared by the Council of Higher Secondary Education, Odisha on Thursday. Of the 2,30,545 students, 1,81,869 cleared the Plus-II (Arts) examinations, this year, and the overall pass percentage was 78.88, down from 82.80 last year, School and Mass Education Department Secretary Aswathy S said.

Jailed

■ **New Delhi:** A special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court in Mumbai has sentenced two Bangladeshi nationals to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment in the Thane fake currency case. The accused - Abdullah Shaikdar and Najmul Hasan of Khulna, Bangladesh - have also been fined Rs 10,000 each under sections of the Indian Panel Code and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, a spokesperson of the federal agency said.

Suicide

■ **Ballia:** A 29-year-old man allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself at a village here, police said on Thursday. Kishan Singh alias Bhullan got married three months ago. He was a drug addict and under depression, a police officer said.

Weather	
	High 42 Low 27
MARKET	
NIIFTY	18,634.55 ▼
SENSEX	62,848.64 ▼
BULLION	
GOLD	59,940
SILVER	73,469

SHRADDHA WALKAR REPLAY

Man chops, boils partner's body parts

■ **In police custody till June 16**

Thane, Jun 08 (PTD):

A 56-year-old man was arrested after the chopped and boiled body parts of his live-in partner were recovered from a flat in Maharashtra's Thane district, an official said on Thursday. A court here has remanded the man, Manoj Sane, in police custody till June 16, he said.

A few of the pieces were crushed in a mixer and boiled in a pressure cooker, in what appeared to be a re-run of the Shraddha Walkar case.

Neighbours also told the police that Sane had been feeding stray dogs for the past few days, something he had never done before.



Forensics team reaches the flat where 56-year-old accused Manoj Sane allegedly chopped and boiled body parts of his live-in partner at Mira Road locality, in Thane district, Thursday.(inset) accused.

While a case has been registered against Sane under Indian Penal Code sections 302 (murder) and 201 (destruction of evidence), the motive behind the crime is yet to be ascertained, said the official from Naya Nagar police station.

Victim Saraswati Vaidya (36) was in a live-in relationship with Sane, who works in a ration shop, and the couple resided in flat no. 704 on the seventh floor of Geeta Akashdweep building in Mira Road East for the past three years, the official said.

Another police official told PTI that a neighbour experienced a foul smell emanating from Sane's flat on Wednesday. Sane appeared nervous when he asked him about the stench. Sane then stepped out with a black sack and told the neighbour that he would be back by 10.30 pm.

However, neighbours felt something was not right and they alerted the police.

Police broke open the door after there was no response from inside. While Sane was in the flat, it reeked of an unbearable smell, said the official. In the bedroom, they found a plastic bag and a blood-stained saw. But the seasoned cops were stunned when they entered the kitchen, he said.

Gyanvapi litigant appeals to President for euthanasia

■ **Alleges harassment**

Varanasi (UP), Jun 08 (PTD):

The main litigant in the Gyanvapi-Shringar Gauri complex case has sought "permission for euthanasia" from President Droupadi Murmu, alleging that her fellow petitioners are spreading false propaganda to defame her.

Rakhi Singh said claims that she is withdrawing from the case are false.

Lawyer for the Hindu litigants in the case, Harishankar Jain, however, refuted Rakhi Singh's allegations, saying these were baseless.

In her letter to

President Murmu, Rakhi Singh said, "I request you to grant me permission of euthanasia and help me getting rid of the mental pain and agony so that I can get peace and sleep eternally." She also said she would wait for a reply till June 9 till 9 am and after that she would take her own decision.

Rakhi Singh, along with four other Hindu women, had filed the case in the court of the civil judge (senior division), Varanasi, in August 2021, seeking the right to daily worship at the Maa Shringar Gauri Sthal in the Gyanvapi mosque complex. "Four of my as-

sociates, including Lakshmi Devi, Sita Sahu, Manju Vyas, Rekha Pathak, along with (senior) advocate Harishankar Jain, his son and advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain and their few colleagues are doing a false propaganda to defame me and my uncle and aunt Jitendra Singh Visen and Kiran Singh since May 2022," Rakhi Singh said in her letter.

They have made a "false claim that I am withdrawing from the case despite the fact that no statement or information regarding the same was issued by me or my uncle Jitendra Singh Visen", she said.

YSRCP MP released

Hyderabad, June 80 (PTD):

YSR Congress MP Y S Avinash Reddy was arrested by the CBI in connection with the murder of his uncle and former minister Y S Vivekananda Reddy, but he was immediately released as per a Telangana High Court order that had earlier granted him anticipatory bail.

Avinash Reddy, who appeared before the central agency on June 3, was arrested by the CBI and released on bail the same day after fulfilling certain formalities, sources said.

#AddToSpeedDial

No time to think?
Make the right call.

24X7 FREE*
AMBULANCE

75090-61830

NH MMI Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Lalpur, Raipur

RBI keeps interest rate on pause

Mumbai, Jun 08 (PTD):

The Reserve Bank of India on Thursday left its key interest rate unchanged for a second straight policy meeting but signalled that it wants to see inflation moderate more while preserving the growth momentum. The monetary policy committee (MPC), which has three members from RBI and an equal number of external experts, voted unanimously to keep the benchmark repurchase, or repo rate unchanged at 6.50 per cent. It decided 5:1 to retain the policy stance focused on "withdrawal of accommodation", which was introduced in April last year. While consumer price inflation eased during March-April 2023 and moved into the tolerance band, headline inflation is still above the target of 4 per cent and is expected to remain so during the rest of



A security personnel stands guard outside the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) headquarters, in Mumbai, Thursday.

the current fiscal, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said announcing the monetary policy decision.

Miss World 2023 competition returns to India after 27 years

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTD)

India is set to host the Miss World 2023 competition, as the coveted international beauty pageant makes its return to the country after nearly three decades.

The much anticipated 71st edition of Miss World is expected to take place in November this year, the final dates of which are yet to be ascertained.

India had last hosted the international pageant in 1996.

"I am delighted to announce India as the new home of the 71st Miss World Final... We cannot wait to share your unique and diverse culture, world class attractions and breathtaking locations



Miss World 2022 Karolina Bielawska (centre), Femina Miss India World 2022 Sini Shetty (right), Miss World Organisation Chairperson Julia Morley (2nd from left) and Jamil Saidi (2nd from right) during a press conference, organised for the announcement of the 71st Miss World pageant, in New Delhi, Thursday.

with the rest of the world.

"The 71st Miss World 2023 will showcase the Achievements of 130 National champions in

their one-month journey across 'Incredible India' as we present the 71st and most spectacular Miss World final ever," said

Julia Morley, chairperson and CEO of Miss World organization at a press conference on Thursday.

The month-long event, which would witness contestants from over 130 countries, will feature a series of rigorous competitions, including talent showcases, sports challenges, and charitable initiatives -- all aimed at highlighting the qualities that make them ambassadors of change. The reigning Miss World, Karolina Bielawska of Poland, who is currently in India spreading the word about the beauty competition, said she is excited to hand over her crown in this "beautiful country" which stands for the same values as Miss World.

NATURAL CALAMITY



An avalanche hits mountains around the Kedarnath Temple in Uttarakhand's Rudraprayag district, Thursday.

FIRST TIME IN 75 YEARS

Women drivers take charge of MSRTC buses

Mumbai, Jun 08 (PTD):

Breaking male hegemony, a few women on Thursday drove buses of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) for the first time in its 75-year history. The state-owned public transport body has recruited 28 women drivers and a few of them started driving passenger buses from Thursday, said its spokesperson Abhijit Bhosale. It was the start of "a new era," he said.

Madhavi Santosh Salve was among the first women drivers of the corporation as she commanded the steering wheel of a Sinnar-Nashik bus.

MSRTC vice-chairman and managing director Shekhar Channe told PTI that the women drivers who possessed the heavy vehicle license underwent rigorous training of three months, while those who did not have this licence underwent training for a full one year.

At the end of it, a test was conducted, and those who cleared it underwent another 80-day training.

As many as 206 women drivers had qualified in a direct recruitment scheme in 2019, and so far 28 of them have been recruited. Some of the qualified women opted out as the pandemic delayed the process.

'ISRO not rushing to launch Gaganyaan'

Bengaluru, Jun 08 (PTD)

Indian Space Research Organisation has decided not to rush its Gaganyaan project, the manned mission to space, as it wants to ensure that the country's first human space flight is a 'sure shot safe mission', said its chairman S Somanath here on Thursday.

Gaganyaan was set to launch in 2022 but due to covid-19 there was an inordinate delay, Somanath told reporters during the international conference on Spacecraft Mission Operations (SMOPS-2023).

"We have a different thinking now. Our thinking is like this that we don't want to rush. That decision we have taken. The primary objective of the human space flight is a sure shot safe mission," the



S Somanath

ISRO chief said. The space agency has redefined the mission in such a way that it will achieve success in the very first attempt. For this, it has enhanced the testing and demonstration mission substantially in recent times. These exercises involve additional abort missions to ensure the safety of the crew, he explained. According to Somanath, the first exercise will probably happen in August, which was earlier planned in July. "So, two abort missions have to take

place this year followed by an unmanned mission possibly by the beginning of next year," the ISRO chairman said. The space scientist said all the engine test programmes have been completed within ISRO.

Stating that hectic activities are taking place, Somanath said every week at least some major tests are happening.

"For me, eight major tests are there and if all the tests successfully happen without any glitch, the launch will be between 2024 and 2025 time frame. But if I face problems and challenges, which are natural in this process, I have to discount for the schedule," he added.

About India's first solar mission, Aditya-L1, Somanath said the launch window is August this year to January next year.

GUJ HC OBSERVATION

'Was normal for girls to deliver child before turning 17; read Manusmriti'

Ahmedabad, Jun 08 (PTI):

It was once normal for girls to marry at a young age and deliver a child before they turned 17, a judge of the Gujarat High Court has remarked while hearing a minor rape survivor's plea for permission to terminate her pregnancy.

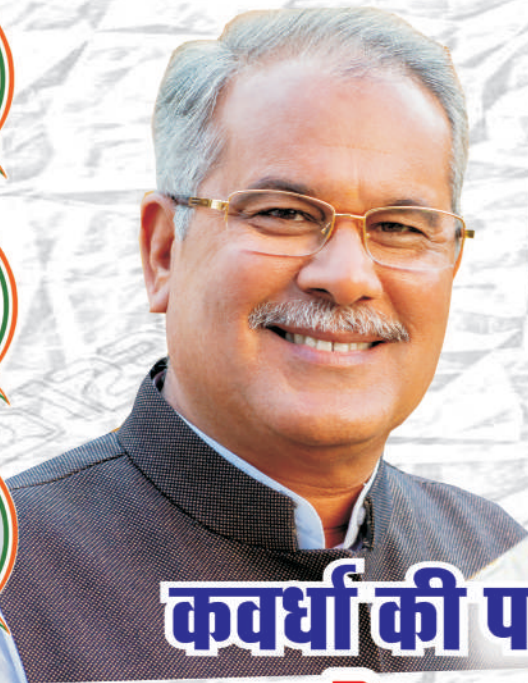
While indicating that he might not allow the petition if both the girl and foetus were healthy, Justice Samir Dave of the high court also referred to the Manusmriti during the hearing on Wednesday.

The rape survivor is 16 years and 11 months old and carrying a seven-month-old foetus. Her father moved the

HC seeking permission for abortion as the pregnancy had crossed the 24-week threshold up to which abortion can be performed without a court's leave.

On Wednesday, his lawyer sought an early hearing, saying the family was concerned because of the girl's age. Justice Dave said there was anxiety because "we are living in the 21st century".

"Ask your mother or great-grandmother. Fourteen-fifteen was the maximum age (for marriage), and girls used to give birth to their first child before turning 17. And girls get mature before boys....Though you may not read, but you should read Manusmriti once," he added.



कवर्धा की पावन धरा में पधारे छत्तीसगढ़िया मुख्यमंत्री

मान. भूपेश बघेल जी

एवं पधारे समस्त अतिथियों का स्वागत.. वंदन.. अभिनंदन..

हाईटेक बस स्टैण्ड, नवीन वाटर फिल्टर प्लांट, पौनी पसारी लघु बाजार निर्माण एवं छत्तीसगढ़ महतारी की प्रतिमा अनावरण कार्यक्रम में

आप सभी सादर आमंत्रित है...

दिनांक: 09.06.2023 दिन-शुक्रवार
स्थान: नवीन हाईटेक बस स्टैण्ड, कलेक्ट्रेट कार्यालय एवं पौनी पसारी परिसर कवर्धा



राजीव भवन के लोकार्पण व

चन्द्रनाहू कुर्मी क्षत्रिय समाज के वार्षिक अधिवेशन में

पधारे

माननीय

मुख्यमंत्री

श्री भूपेश बघेल जी

एवं अतिथियों का

हार्दिक

स्वागत

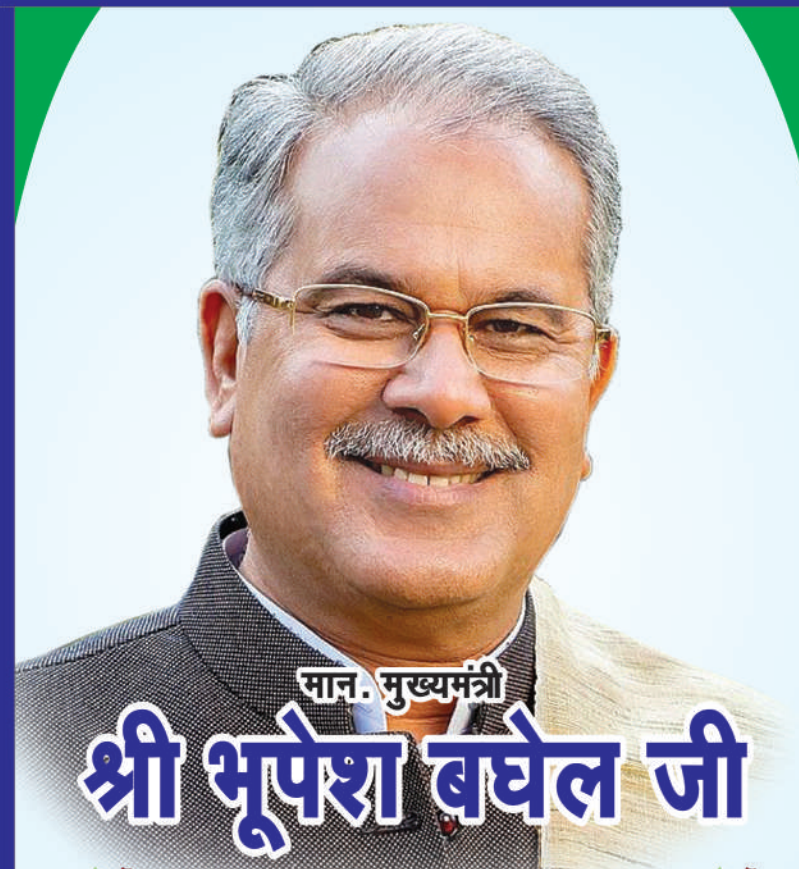
अभिनंदन..



नीलू चंद्रवंशी
जिला अध्यक्ष
जिला कांग्रेस कमेटी, कबीरधाम



मीना चंद्रवंशी
सदस्य
जिला पंचायत, कबीरधाम



मान. मुख्यमंत्री
श्री भूपेश बघेल जी
एवं मान. अतिथिगणों का
राजीव भवन के लोकार्पण व
चन्द्रनाहू कुर्मी क्षत्रिय समाज के वार्षिक अधिवेशन में
स्वागत... वंदन... अभिनंदन...



लालजी चंद्रवंशी
पूर्व मंडी अध्यक्ष व
वरिष्ठ कांग्रेस नेता
कवर्धा (छ.ग.)



मान. श्री भूपेश बघेल जी
मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन
मान. श्री भूपेश बघेल जी
मंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन
नगर आगमन पर हार्दिक अभिनंदन है..



विनीत :
मोहित माहेश्वरी
पार्षद, नगर पालिका परिषद, कवर्धा
अध्यक्ष जनभागीदारी समिति, पी.जी. कॉलेज कवर्धा

CM accepts Union Minister's challenge on MSP

Raipur, Jun 08:

Commenting upon the statement by the Union Minister Giriraj Singh on religious conversion, CM Baghel said that the amount of conversion which has taken place during 15 yrs of BJP rule, has not even taken place earlier or at present. CM Baghel said that there is law on religious conversion right since 2000 and it has been adopted in the same condition here as well.

Speaking to section of media persons, CM Baghel said that the places from where the complaints about religious conversion is coming, due action is being taken. Out of these, there are few fake complaints and few are genuine and on which action has been taken. So long as it is about Giriraj Singh, he might have come to state once only so

● Says he is ready to hold talk on the issue anytime

far, but the number of Churches constructed during BJP's term in 15 yrs has not been conducted earlier nor in the present time.

Giving a challenge to BJP, CM said that the BJP should not condemn this claim, saying that the Church or a praying place will be constructed only when there are people accepting the same. In other words, the amount of conversion which has taken place in 15 yrs of BJP rule has never taken place earlier.

Accepts Giriraj's challenge:

To talk on the MSP issue, Union Minister Giriraj Singh has challenged the Congress party in the state and accepting the same, CM Baghel has



asked him to name the place or dais where he has to come. He said that he is ready to hold discussions on the issue of the amount of hike on MSP in paddy during UPA's rule and NDA's ten years rule.

CM said that what were the prices of diesel and petrol at that time and what is present, we are ready to discuss on any dais and any worker or farmer can hold talks with him on this. CM said that what the Swaminathan Committee report says, the hike should be in that proportion in MSP. When

the MSP was Rs 1800 we purchased it for Rs 2500 per quintal and it is clear that we paid a bit higher compared to the Swaminathan's Committee. For farmers, now Rajiv Gandhi Kissan Nyay Yojana has been introduced and in this the amount of hike in MSP would lead to hike in amount to be paid to the farmers and for last three years this is going on.

Reviewing works/performance is State in-charge work:

Commenting upon asking for Minister's report

No chance of cutting ticket of winning candidate: CM

CM Baghel said that there is a winning criteria for any particular candidate and the one who can ensure victory, is the one who gets the ticket. Majority of our candidates are having good report and there are few, who because of some reasons or due to health reasons, or are having annoyance due to some other reasons, they still have got 3-4 months to perform and if their condition improves, then there will be no need to cut their ticket.

card by the PCC State in-Charge Kumari Selja. CM Baghel said that meeting with all the Ministers has been held and those with the MLAs is in progress and I have also held meetings with Selja many time.

Since she is PCC State in-charge, it is her work to review the performance and works and unless it is not done, how the decisions will be taken and therefore it is necessary to review everybody's work, he added.

About the third front:

When ex-CM Ajit Jogi was in Congress, at that time we were not in power and no sooner Jogi left Congress, we came to power, CM Baghel said, adding that, as a result, Congress got 68 seats and the 'charu-wale baba' of BJP could not even touch the figure of 60 in his three terms in power. We won in all the 68 Vidhan Sabha seats and winning the next five by-polls, the figure reached 71 seats and now we are getting full support of the farmers, tribals, women and youth and this figure would rise above 71 in the next VS polls, he added.

Service, good governance, poor welfare are Modi govt's main mantra: Giriraj Singh

Raipur, Jun 08:

Union Minister of State for Rural Development and Panchayats Giriraj Singh has said that the nine years tenure of the Central Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is full of service, dedication and unmatched achievements for the welfare of the poor. Prime Minister Modi was born in poverty, brought up in poverty, feels the pain of the poor and therefore he is constantly worrying about the welfare of the poor, Singh said while addressing a public meeting in Jagdalpur on Thursday over Bharatiya Janata Party's 'Maha Sampark Abhiyan'.

In his address, Singh threw light on the achievements of the schemes of the Central Government in detail and said that the Central Government during its nine-year tenure carried out unprecedented works for toilet in every house, tap water in every house, Pradhan

Mantri Awaas and respect for the farmers. All the ministers of the Central Government and all the workers-leaders of the BJP are reaching every village to establish direct dialogue with the workers and the beneficiaries of the schemes of the Central Government, Singh said. In just nine years, the Central Government has given pucca houses to the poor by constructing 4 crore Pradhan Mantri Awaas, he said, adding that under the Jal Jeevan Mission, fresh and pure drinking water has been made available to 12 crore families across the country.

In his address, Singh also lashed out at the Congress government of the state and said that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's government has only done the work of cheating the farmers and the poor. Singh called the Bhupesh-government a snatcher of the rights of the poor for not building the Pradhan Mantri Awaas.

Ramana Rao takes charge as Director NIT Raipur

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 08: National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur has a new director at its helm. The recently appointed Director Dr NV Ramana Rao has taken charge of the institute from Dr AB Soni, Director (I/C), NIT Raipur on 8th June, 2023, after having been the Director & Professor of Civil Engineering, NIT Warangal for a term of five years from 23rd October 2017. According to the information received, Prior, he has worked as Rector & Professor of Civil Engineering at Jawaharlal Nehru Technology University Hyderabad. He did his



B.E. in Civil Engineering from (Osmania), M Tech from (IIT Delhi), Ph.D. and Post Doctorate from UK in Civil and Structural Engineering from University of Wales, Swansea, United Kingdom. He has held several Administrative posts as Registrar, JNTU, Hyderabad, Kukatpally, Hyderabad, as Principal, JNTUH College of Engineering Hyderabad,

Kukatpally, Hyderabad, as Director, Bureau of Industrial Consultancy Services, JNT University, Hyderabad, as Co-ordinator, Entrepreneurship Development Cell, JNT University, Hyderabad. He has also served as the Director (Additional charge), SPA, Vijayawada from 18.11.2021 to 23.09.2022. Prof. Ramana Rao has edited three books and published 186 papers in International Journals / International Conferences/ National Journals/ National Conferences.

NIT institute hopes to soar under his adept guidance and leadership.

RDA gears up to give possession of flats in Kamal Vihar Scheme

Chairman Dhuppad informs more than 2600 flats ready

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 08: Raipur Development Authority (RDA) has geared up process to hand over the flats under Kamal Vihar Scheme to the beneficiaries.

RDA Chairman Subhash Dhuppad informed that 2671 flats are ready whereas the remaining 3123 flats would be ready by August 2023. He added that the above residential quarters include 3123 EWS Flats whereas the remaining are LIG and Row House quarters. He said that target has been set to complete the Row House construction by August 15. According to the information received, 64 EWS Flats Block A in

Sector 1 of Kamal Vihar Scheme, 128 EWS Flats G Block in Sector 4, 384 Flats out of total 768 flats from Block 1 to 6 are ready for giving possession. RDA Chairman made an appeal to the beneficiaries to get possession after completing the formalities including Registration. Similarly, 768 Flats of LIG 1 in Sector 4 is also ready and the beneficiaries of the above scheme can also get possession after Registration of the property.

Similarly, 160 Flats out of total 448 in Sector 1 of LIG Flats 2 are ready apart from the 512 LIG 2 Flats in sector 4 and 544 LIG 2 Flats in Sector 10. Beneficiaries can avail the benefits.

Outreach camp organised by Union Bank

Raipur, Jun 08:

One of the leading bank of the country Union Bank of India organized an outreach camp under the leadership of Regional Head, Anuj Kumar Singh on June 8th 2023 at Hotel Babylon Capital, Raipur. It is noteworthy that Raipur district has been declared as Aspirational District by the bank. The aspirational branches of the bank located at Raipur and all the valued new and old customers of the bank participated in the said camp. In order to make this camp effective and to increase the confidence among the customers, Mr. Ajay Kumar, General Manager of MSME Department from Central Office, Mumbai was also present. While addressing the customers, Kumar told about the organization of outreach camp by the bank and highlighted the details about various steps taken from time to time to pro-



mote MSME, Retail, Gold Loan by the Bank and CASA (Current Account Saving Account). He communicated the importance about providing loans by the bank to all the above sectors at attractive interest rate. Addressing the customers, he also informed that a total of 65 branches are operating in 13 districts under Raipur area through which all the above loans are being provided. It was informed by him that entrepreneurs can approach

any of our branches and submit loan applications. In the said outreach camp, stalls of retail product, digital product, major builder, car dealer and insurance companies were set up. In the said outreach camp Rs. 135 crores sanctioned under MSME sector. Apart from it sanction letters worth Rs 10 crores were given and leads worth Rs. 100 crores were generated. A free health check-up stall was also set up for all the guests attending the camp.

ECMO saves a young male with viral myocarditis infection

Raipur, Jun 08:

Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) - which was the saviour of many lives during Covid-19 outbreak has recently saved a young male from deadly viral infection that infected both lungs and heart at the NH MMI SUPERSPECIALITY HOSPITAL, Raipur.

A 32 year young male patient came to Emergency with severe breathing problem and low blood pressure, patient was referred to pulmonologist Dr Dipesh Maskey from a local nursing home. On evaluation, patient condition was deteriorating every hour. Dr Maskey asked the ECMO



team to intervene. On serial evaluation it was looking like life threatening viral myocarditis with decrease in heart and lung function.

Immediately after explaining the benefits and risks, VA ECMO was initiated. Patient was on the ECMO for 7 days with other supportive measures. Patient is being dis-

charged now on day 14 in stable condition.

Dr Rakesh Chand, ECMO SPECIALIST, NHMMII, Hospital explains, Veno-arterial extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VA-ECMO) is the most advanced temporary life support system thing that is unique in that is, it provides immediate and complete hemo-

dynamic support(heart) as well as concomitant gas exchange(lung function).

Dr Pradeep Sharma, ECMO SPECIALIST added that the timing of VA-ECMO cannulation is of paramount importance in the shock patient. It should be initiated as early as possible after the recognition of the refractory shock stage especial-

ly if initial attempts at hemodynamic stabilization with fluid resuscitation and pharmacological agents fail.

The expert team of the doctors (pulmonologist, anaesthetist, intensivist, cardiac surgeon, cardiologist along with Perfusionist and nurses are required to initiate and manage ECMO.

At NHMMI, we have dedicated ECMO team that consist of Dr Rakesh Chand, Dr Pradeep Sharma, Dr Dharmesh Lad, Dr PK Hari and Dr Sumit as Cardiac Surgeon, Mr Ashwini and Ms Suva as Perfusionist. The team dedicated 10 days along with Dr Dipesh Maskey and Dr Varsha

Vishwanath to finally pull the patient out from the critical stage.

This case adds to the success stories of the ECMO program in NH MMI HOSPITAL. "I stress the importance of early detection and timely treatment in achieving successful outcomes. By leveraging the critical golden hour and opting for tertiary hospitals, we can effectively cure serious diseases and improve patient outcomes. These are the values of Narayana Health and we are equipped with the best to deal with worst." said Mr Tapani Ghosh, facility director of NH MMI Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Raipur.

Health camp for transgender community organised



Raipur, Jun 08: A camp for health check-up of transgender community and hepatitis B vaccination was conducted at Garima Grih, TGRC (Third Gender), Sarona under National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme by Soubhagya Foundation in association with the office of Chief Medical and Health Officer. Nodal doctor of National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme Dr Vimal Kishor gave necessary direction for hepatitis B and C test, skin and

eye test and vaccination. Soubhagya Foundation president Pallavi Pandey said that BP, sugar and hemoglobin tests were also conducted. The medical team of the health department, private (skin specialist) Dr Ujjwala Verma, and Rashmi Sharma, Dinesh Kumar, Amit Sharma, Vandana Singh, Anuja Trivedi, Soubhagya Pandey, Smriti Raj, Tanushree Raj, Sahil Khan and Tejpal Hunjan from Soubhagya Foundation were present.

Sanjay Alang to deliver lecture at BHU

Raipur, Jun 08: Sanjay Alang, will deliver a lecture at the Banaras Hindu University on June 10 as subject matter expert on the history and culture of Chhattisgarh. The three-day international seminar will be organized under the joint aegis of Department of Hindi, Banaras Hindu University, Kashi Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh Hindi Institute and Bharatiya Darshan Parishad.

Sanjay Alang is noted writer and scholar for his extensive research work and books on Chhattisgarh. He has received the highest honor for best research writing from the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development for his research on Chhattisgarh. The book Chhattisgarh: Itihaas aur Sanskriti had received the highest award of Rs 1 lakh for the best research paper. Sanjay Alang has published more than ten books on Chhattisgarh. These books include Chhattisgarh: History and Culture, Chhattisgarh's princely states and zamindaries, Chhattisgarh's tribes and castes.

Sanjay Alang has also been honoured for his three poetry collections. Presentation of research on Chhattisgarh at Banaras Hindu University International research presentation will not only attract attention towards the research on Chhattisgarh, but the research done so far will be recognized on a larger scale. He is currently the commissioner of Bilaspur and Surguja divisions and has now been transferred to the post of divisional commissioner, Raipur.

मान. श्री प्रेमप्रकाश पाण्डेय जी

को जन्मदिवस की बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं



अंजय पाण्डेय

प्रदेश कार्यसमिति सदस्य

भारतीय जनता युवा मोर्चा, छ.ग



गिरगेश पाण्डेय

महामंत्री

श्रीराम जन्मोत्सव समिति, कैम्प प्रखंड





APL conducts awareness prog on solution to plastic waste

State govt to observe 'Int'nl Yoga Day' on June 21

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: The Chhattisgarh Government will commemorate International Yoga Day on June 21 by organizing yoga camps and various programs across the cities and villages of the state. The theme for this year's International Yoga Day is 'Har Ghar-Aangan Yoga' and the government will focus on holding yoga camps in every block of the state. According to Gyanesh Sharma, Chairman of Chhattisgarh Yoga-Aayog, mass yoga sessions will be organized in various cities and villages to encourage maximum public involvement towards yoga.

To commemorate International Yoga Day 2023, arrangements will be made to display the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) in public areas. Along with this, yoga programs will also be organized in Anganwadi, old-age

homes, community areas, and all government departments.

Training programs will be organized for the celebration of International Yoga Day, and wide publicity will be done to raise public awareness regarding yoga. Banners of the International Day of Yoga will be displayed at public places like hospitals, health and wellness centers, police stations, bus stations, panchayats, municipalities, and municipal corporations.

Pankaj Verma, the Additional Director of Directorate of Social Welfare Chhattisgarh, has been appointed as the nodal officer for the preparations, training program, and coordination between various departments, institutions, and bodies of the state government and the Ministry of AYUSH for the International Yoga Day program which will be organized on June 21.



- **Sets target to plant more than 2 lakh saplings by year end**
- **On occasion of World Environment Day**

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: Adani Power Limited (APL) Raikheda organised Environment Awareness campaign for protection of the environment and feel-

ing of commitment towards mother nature. APL's environment, health and safety department, under the UN's theme for World Environment Day i.e 'Solution to Plastic Pollution', is organising environment awareness prog in Gram Raikheda, Gaitara, Chicholi and others from Jun 5-10 along with the employees of the plant.

Under this pledge was delivered for environment conservation, relevant slo-

gans, quiz competition and 'Paheli', awareness rally, poster and drawing competitions were organised on Plantation and Plastic pollution and means of environment protection.

At the inauguration of the programme, APL Station chief Gattu Rambhav along with more than 250 employees took a pledge to conserve the environment and make the area 'free from plastics'. After this more than 500 saplings

were planted in APL Plant premises and target was set to plant around 2 lakh saplings by end of this year.

Addressing the gathering, APL chief Gattu Rambhav the very theme of World Environment Day by UN on 'Solution to Plastic' has already being imposed in the plant two years back and we are proud that this plant is free from use of 'single use-plastic' and stands testimony to plant's commitment for environ-

ment conservation. At the same time to make the nearby areas of the plant 'plastic-free', we all would take initiatives, he added.

On this occasion under the 'Vilmar Suposhan prog' run by the Adani Foundation under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), vegetable seeds were distributed in five villages of Gram Raikheda, Gaitara, Chicholi, Gourkheda and Bhatpara for 80 'Kitchen-Gardens' to

pregnant women, young girls and others.

A painting competitions among the girls was organised on importance of celebrating World Environment Day and need of trees for life and solution to plastic pollution. On this occasion, the 'Suposhan Sangini', 'Anganbadi' workers, 'Mitanins', employees of the foundation and all others 102 present planted saplings.

APL Environment, Health and Safety Department's Amit Shrivastava gave information about the World Environment Day. On this occasion the Maintenance and operations Chief of Plant Srikant Vaidh, GM (HR) Bhupendra Singh Bais, Sr. Manager Prithviraj Lahiri and from Adani Foundation- Khilleshwar Mahamalla, Deepali Das and villagers were present in large number.



Devki expresses her gratitude presenting flowers to the Collector

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, June 08: Devki, who could not see anything properly due to cataract from a young age, is now able to see everything properly after an eye operation. Devki reached the district office on Wednesday for the successful operation of her eyes and expressed her gratitude to Collector Vijay Dayaram by giving flowers.

Senior Superintendent of Police Jitendra Meena was also present with him on the occasion. It is worth mentioning that in the past, Collector Vijay had reached Lohandiguda development block to take stock of the development works in the remote and highly sensitive Harrakodere area. During a conversation with the villagers there, Devki's mother told that her 15-year-old daughter is unable to see properly, due to which she is not able to do any work. He also told that Devki's father is a small farmer and he does not have money for



Devki's treatment. Collector Vijay assured for the treatment of Devki's eyes. On the second day itself, the Health Department team reached Harrakodere to pick up Devki and got her examined by an eye specialist in Jagdalpur. After eye check-up, Devki's right eye was operated for cataract, which was completely successful. Devki's parents are also very happy on the return of Devki's eyesight and expressed their gratitude to the collector.

Mayor should refrain from doing partisan and petty politics: Pandey

- **In BJP ruled wards of city**

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Jun 08: Councilors under the leadership of Leader of Opposition Sanjay Pandey have submitted a memorandum to the Commissioner/Mayor regarding the sanitation, cleanliness and water supply of Chandrashekhar Azad Ward No. 40. Councilor of the ward Neelam Yadav has been continuously requesting the mayor and commissioner regarding the cleanliness and water supply in her ward, but no action has been taken by the corporation so far. On this, by submitting a memorandum on Tuesday, the BJP has talked about starting a movement with the help of the residents

of the ward.

It may be noted that about a year ago, the Municipal Corporation had transferred the colony of Lalbagh Housing Board, which has about 750 houses, to the Municipal Corporation. After transfer, the internal and external development of the sanitation system and water supply is the responsibility of the Municipal Corporation. But the Municipal Corporation transferred the colony, but did not provide any basic facility to the public. In the name of water supply, the corporation started collecting five thousand rupees from each house and property tax along with user charge in the name of cleanliness. Due to non-cleanliness of any type in colony by the Corporation and negligence in the supply of water, the residents of the ward have often complained to



the ward councilor in anger.

Leader of Opposition Sanjay Pandey charged that the Municipal Corporation under the leadership of Mayor Safira Sahu is not only depriving the public of providing basic services, but is also doing partisan and petty politics in the wards of BJP councilors. Being already a big ward, three sweepers were not enough, after the transfer of the colony, there

are about 1500 houses in that ward. Because of this, it is not at all possible to do the cleaning just with three sweepers. In such a situation, the Municipal Corporation should restore the cleaning system by deputing additional sweepers there. He has said that the Mayor's tradition of doing partisan and petty politics in the wards of BJP councilors should end. On the complaint of Ward

Councilor Neelam Yadav, Leader of Opposition Sanjay Pandey, President of Municipal Board Suresh Gupta and residents of the ward visited the ward on Tuesday morning and came to know about the problems of the ward and assured to make efforts to solve the same.

On this occasion, Municipal Board President Suresh Gupta has said that this type of behavior of the Municipal Corporation is not tolerable at all, even after continuously demanding the corporator. Even after collecting Rs 5000 from each house by the corporation, there is a pump operator who is working continuously for 24 hours. The corporation should also increase the number of pump operators to three instead of one. It has been said in the memorandum that the Mayor should desist from the

second-rate behavior being meted out to the BJP councilors and according to his responsibility, make arrangements for additional sweepers in the ward and make smooth arrangements for the reception.

Ward councilor Neelam Yadav has charged that she has been constantly harassed by the corporation and its working. The officers and officials of the municipal corporation are also trying to humiliate them in the ward by their behaviour. Because of which his reputation is getting tarnished. If the corporation does not take proper action within 7 days, then they will be forced to agitate with the residents of the ward. Councilor Whip Rajpal Kaser, Neelam Yadav and Triveni Randhari were present while submitting the memorandum.

Sagar, Padmawati win Divisional Chess tournament

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: Sagar Baghel and EV Padmawati have won the state-level Chess Tournament being organised under the aegis of Raipur Division of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India at the Pandri-based Office.

Providing the above information in a statement issued here, the Joint Secretary of LIC Sports & Recreation Committee Raipur Vinay Baiswade said that Sagar Baghel from Dalli-Rajhara won the Men' title whereas Rohit Dewangan from SO Abhanpur Raipur 3 and Suri Kansram Kanwar



from Divisional Office Raipur secured second and third positions respectively. Similarly, Mrs EV Padmawati from Bhilai 1 secured first position in Women' category whereas Chitrigita Sahu from Raipur 3 Office secured second position. All the above players have been selected for the Central Regional Chess Tournament to held soon. Manager (Personnel) N

Venkatesh was chief guest of the concluding ceremony whereas Selection committee Chairman Manager IT Neelmani Dwevedi, Divisional Insurance Employees Union General Secretary Surendra Sharma were also present on the occasion. International player and FIDE Arbitor Ravi Kumar was the Chief Official for the tournament.

Aashay Mishra from Bilaspur shines in Forbes Asia's 30 Under 30 Class of 2023

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, June 08: Aashay Mishra, an exceptional entrepreneur hailing from Bilaspur, takes the spotlight as he secures his place in Forbes Asia's highly anticipated 30 Under 30 Class of 2023. Aashay stands proudly among the eleven Indian talents selected for this prestigious honor, showcasing the innovative and exceptional capabilities emerging from India.

Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia 2023 list celebrates the achievements of 300 outstanding individuals in various fields, highlighting their remarkable contributions to the business

landscape in Asia. The 2023 class features 30 honorees in each of the 10 distinct categories, including The Arts (Art & Style, Food & Drink); Entertainment & Sports; Finance & Venture Capital; Media, Marketing & Advertising; Retail & Ecommerce; Enterprise Technology; Industry, Manufacturing & Energy; Healthcare & Science; Social Impact and Consumer Technology. Among the distinguished honorees in the consumer technology category,

Aashay Mishra, Co-Founder and COO of PrepInsta has been recognised for his instrumental role in creating employment opportunities for students in Tier 2 and Tier 3 colleges in India.

To curate this esteemed list, Forbes Asia's diligent team of reporters and editors meticulously sift through thousands of online submissions, consult industry sources, and seek recommendations from esteemed alumni. Expressing his grati-

tude, Aashay Mishra stated, "I find myself overwhelmed with humility and pride to have my name counted among the extraordinary individuals in Forbes Asia's 30 Under 30 Class of 2023. This esteemed recognition not only validates my own accomplishments but also highlights the unwavering commitment and foresight shared by the entire PrepInsta team. Our resolve to empower students and bridge the divide in employment prospects remains unwavering, and this acknowledgement further ignites our drive to make a profound difference in the lives of India's youth."

Nodal Officer appointed
Raipur, June 08: Pankaj Verma, the Additional Director of the Directorate of Social Welfare Chhattisgarh, has been appointed as the Nodal Officer for the preparations, training program, and coordination between various departments, organizations, and bodies of the state government and the Ministry of Ayush for the International Yoga Day program, which will be organized on June 21. His phone number is +91-98935-33000, and his email address is dpsw.cg@nic.in.

IIM Raipur celebrates World Cycle Day, promoting sustainable transportation

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: The Indian Institute of Management Raipur (IIM Raipur) organized a grand celebration to mark World Cycle Day, promoting the importance of sustainable transportation and a healthier lifestyle. The event was inaugurated by Professor Ram Kumar Kakani, the esteemed Director of IIM Raipur, who emphasized the significance of cycling in creating a greener and more sustainable future.

World Cycle Day, observed annually on June 3rd, serves as a global platform to encourage cy-



cling as a mode of transportation, highlighting its numerous environmental, health, and socio-economic benefits. IIM Raipur embraced this occasion to inspire the academic community, staff, and students to adopt cycling as an integral part of their daily lives.

The event commenced with a cycle rally led by kids of the campus, with

participants comprising faculty members, and staff. The rally covered a designated route around the campus, showcasing the unity and commitment of the IIM Raipur community towards sustainable practices.

Professor Kakani expressed his gratitude to all the participants and praised their active involvement in promoting

sustainable living. He reiterated IIM Raipur's commitment to incorporating sustainability into its core values and curriculum, fostering an environmentally conscious academic community.

The celebration of World Cycle Day at IIM Raipur not only raised awareness about the importance of sustainable transportation but also served as a platform for networking and knowledge sharing among like-minded individuals. It showcased the institute's dedication to sustainability and its aspiration to contribute to the larger goal of building a greener and healthier planet.

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: It is with great pride that the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Raipur announces that it has attained the 11th position in the esteemed National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for 2023. IIM Raipur is one of the most prestigious educational institutions in management education.

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) is a comprehensive ranking system that evaluates higher education institutions in India based on various objective criteria. This result ensures that the evaluation process is both transparent and accountable. Students, parents, and employers can all benefit from the rankings by gaining

valuable insights to help them make educated decisions about higher education. IIM Raipur's remarkable accomplishment can be attributed to the fact that it excelled in a wide variety of critical criteria that were taken into consideration by NIRF, including the following: IIM Raipur's dedication to providing education of the highest caliber and cultivating an atmosphere amenable to learning has been an essential factor in the institution's success in achieving this goal. The teaching, Learning, and Resources criterion evaluate the institution's teaching and learning quality, and IIM Raipur performed exceptionally well in this area. It considers things like the qualifications of the teaching staff, the number of students to teachers, the resources available

in the library, and the overall learning outcomes. A significant portion of IIM Raipur's ranking can be attributed to the institute's emphasis on the output and impact of research. The National Institute of Research Funds (NIRF) has acknowledged the consistent efforts of the institute to drive meaningful research and promote a culture of innovation. This criterion's evaluation considers research publications, citations, and patents. IIM Raipur's success in graduating students well-prepared for employment or further study has been recognized under this criterion. This criterion focuses on how well students can transition into the workforce or continue their education. The institution's performance can be evaluated based on

various factors, including its placement records, alum profile, and the satisfaction of its students. IIM Raipur has produced graduates of exceptional quality due to their persistent focus on developing future leaders and offering opportunities for holistic growth.

The results also acknowledge an institution's commitment to social responsibility and equity through this criterion. This criterion focuses on outreach and inclusivity. IIM Raipur's efforts toward social responsibility, gender equity, and student diversity have been significant in the institution's rise to its current position. The welcoming and encouraging culture at the institute has contributed to developing an atmosphere where every person can flourish.

BJPMM stages chakka-jam, raise slogans in protest

● Against failure on part of state govt to impose ban on liquor

Central Chronicle News

Dhamdha, June 08: Under leadership of BJPMM Mandal President Shweta Sharma and in the presence of ex-MLA Labhchand Bafna and Mandal President Rohit Singh Rajput, the BJP Mahila Morcha (BJPMM) members and as per instructions by BJP Durg district President Divya Kalihari, the BJP leaders staged chakka-jam near an English liquor shop in city



on Wednesday.

This started from Gyatri Mandir Dhamdha and reached city's gate and to Gandai Chowk and then to the liquor shop and they raised slogans in protest against the promises made by the Congress government. Along with this the members of Morcha offered squash (chilled

Rasna drink) and made an appeal to quit alcohol.

After this the members of BJPMM Dhamdha Mandal staged chakka-jam for about an hour at Gandai chowk. Here President BJPMM Dhamdha Mandal Shweta Sharma charged that the Congress party came into power fooling the common

men and women in the name of promise for ban on liquor.

The ruling government is unable to meet upto its promises and against which BJPMM Dhamdha Mandal staged chakka-jam and giving warning to the state government that if the liquor is not banned in the state, then they will resort to aggressive protest and movement against the government.

She said that now the people of the state have come to know to what extent they have been taken for ride and would therefore vote the BJP to power in the next VS polls and BJPMM contribution will be visible in it.

To make this programme successful, Dhamdha BJPMM District President Divya Sahu, Gen. secy. Jaishri Rajput, Media in-

'Sustainable Environment Solution' to prevent burning of crop residue

Central Chronicle News

Mahasamund, June 08: CNH Industrial, a global leader in agricultural and construction equipment, has launched its program 'Sustainable Environment Solution', aimed at preventing the burning of crop residues and promoting environmental conservation.

The initiative is focused on leveraging crop stubble management techniques to find sustainable alternatives including ex-situ management and raise awareness about the detrimental effects of crop residue burning.

With Indian Society for Agriculture Professionals (ISAP) as the implementing agency, the company is targeting eight locations, starting with Chhattisgarh, over



the course of this three-year initiative. It will be gradually extended to other locations based in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Bihar. "At CNH Industrial we are firmly committed to sustainable agricultural practices and environ-

mental conservation, and this initiative is the latest to drive positive sustainable change in the farming industry," said Narinder Mittal, Country Manager and Managing Director - Agriculture Business (India and SAARC), CNH Industrial.

Congmen furious over MLA Chandrakar comparing them with demons

Central Chronicle News

Anwari, June 08: Congressmen of Kurud Vidhan Sabha are furious over Kurud MLA Ajay Chandrakar, who compared Congressmen with demons under the guise of Ramayana.

On this matter, the Congress leaders gathered together in Bhakhara and spoke in a press conference and alleged that Kurud MLA Ajay Chandrakar has compared Congressmen to demons regarding the inter-state Ramayana competition based on Aranya Kand. Former President Nagar Panchayat Bhakhara and Vice President of District Congress Committee Dhamtari Bharat Nahar said that Kurud MLA Ajay Chandrakar seems to have be-

come mentally bankrupt, that's why he is giving blatant statements. He said that he heard the statement of Ajay Chandrakar, he felt very guilty that this is our MLA, compared Congressmen to demons. Condemning it in strong words, said that the public knows who are of demonic nature.

"I believe that in order to impress their high command due to the apprehension of getting ticket in the upcoming assembly elections", he said. It was further said in the press conference that even after 36 days of strike by the wrestlers in the country, in the case of sexual harassment, no action has been taken.

Meanwhile, not inviting His Excellency President Draupati

Murmu to the inauguration in Parliament House was called an insult to the President, the leaders said.

Bharat Nahar also said that due to the wrong policies of the Modi government today inflation is at its peak and Ashish Sharma, President, Block Congress Race Committee, Kurud, said that in village Charmudi and Chatod, there is a pass road inside, while an over bridge should have been built on the National Highway in Kurud Sandha Chowk, so that the passers-by of 20 villages do not face any problem in commuting, but MLA Chandrakar has never given it a voice.

Tapan Chandrakar President Nagar Panchayat Kurud said that Chhattisgarh is going towards development under the Baghel government and BJP is not able to digest such announcement that 20 quintal paddy will be bought in 2800.

Municipal VP called for personal gain in conference, says Pandey

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, June 08: A special meeting of the council was called here on June 5 by the Municipal Council, in which Leader of the Opposition Umang Pandey and all the councilors of the BJP created a ruckus, accusing the ruling party Congress of working against the rules.

19 points were discussed in the conference, in which the opposition lodged its strong objection, in which Leader of the Opposition, Umang Pandey, first of all talked about not giving salary to the employees of the municipality for last 3 months.

The opposition also accused that Jalil Khan, the brother of Jameel Khan, the vice president of the municipality, was proposed to be given land in



the name of sheet no. 11D, plot no 74 and also directly accused the municipality president and vice-president that land is being allotted directly to the brother of municipality vice-president Jameel Khan for the benefit of lakhs, whereas in the past, other needy people had also applied for the same land.

Councilor Rinkesh Vaishnav said on the allotment of land that if the allotment is being done as per the rules, then only the

application of the Congress worker had come, why the applications of the rest of the general public are also not being considered.

Similarly Councilor Pramod Sharma said that the work of the municipality is to work in the interest of the general public, but the Kawardha municipality is working against the immovable property transfer rule for the benefit of the individual, which is completely unfair.

BJP councilors have also applied to Kabirdham District Magistrate that our objection is not registered on the agenda/resolutions in the meeting by the Chief Municipal Officer.

In the said meeting, along with Leader of Opposition Umang Pandey, councilors Rinkesh Vaishnav and Pramod Sharma, Manharan Kaushik, Manisha Sahu also lodged objections on various subjects.

Tendupatta collection crosses 500 cr

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: Nearly 12 lakh 88 thousand 241 standard bags of Tendu leaves (Tendupatta) have been collected in Chhattisgarh during the current 2023 collection year, which is nearly 77 percent of the total target set for the state. The goal is to collect 16.72 lakh standard bags of tendu leaves by the end of this year. Of these, the total amount to be given to Tendupatta collectors is more than Rs 515 crore and it has been collected by about 11 lakh tendupatta collectors. The collection work is being carried out continuously under the guidance of the Forest Minister, Shri Mohammad Akbar. According to the information received from the State Minor Forest Produce Association a total of 81,000 standard bags of tendu leaves have been collected worth Rs 32 crore by 49,825 tendupatta collectors in Bijapur Forests Division of Jagdalpur Circle. In these, 1,22,310 standard bags worth Rs. 49 crores are collected by 58,000 tendu-

patta collectors in Sukma, 15,630 standard bags worth Rs 6 crore is collected by 14,000 tendupatta collectors in Dantewada and

20,970 standard bags worth Rs 8 crore 38 lakh is collected by 39,000 tendupatta collectors in Jagdalpur.

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक, भोपाल – 462011 Reserve Bank of India, Bhopal- 462011 www.rbi.org.in				
PUBLIC NOTICE				
In exercise of powers conferred on it under Section 10(3) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, the Reserve Bank of India, has revoked the Full Fledged Money Changer (FFMC) licence of the following company, for voluntary surrender of licence.				
S. N.	Name and Registered Office Address	Licence Number	Issued on	Revocation Order Date
1	Forextree Money Changer Pvt. Ltd. Plot-307, 308, Chauhan Tower, Supela, Bhilai, Durg (CG) – 490023	FE (BPL) /46 /05.01.067/ 2022-23	July 11, 2022	May 23, 2023
Consequent to the revocation, the FFMC shall not undertake or transact money changing activities as specified in the Master Direction on Money Changing Activities dated January 01, 2016, updated from time to time, and available on the RBI website (https://www.rbi.org.in).				
Deputy General Manager				

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA RACPC- Bhilai, SBI Premises, Sector-1, Bhilai, (C.G.) Pin: 490001, Ph.: 0788-2226903, 9425296987

LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND KYC DOCUMENTS ON /BEFORE 20/06/2023 UPTO 4.00 PM

Appendix- IV-A [See Proviso to rule 8 (6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Mega E-Auction Date & Time: 21.06.2023 11:00 AM TO 2:30 PM 10 Minute Extension with unlimited time

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Movable / Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Movable/Immovable property hypothecated/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 21.06.2023 (11 A.M. TO 2.30 P.M.) for recovery of dues to the secured creditor from Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s). The reserve price will be (as mentioned against the property, listed in the table below) and the earnest money deposit will be (as mentioned against the property, listed in the table below), the latter amount to be deposited through Banker's Cheque, DD, Pay Order, NEFT/RTGS only with the Bank on or before 20.06.2023 (up to 4.00 pm).

S. No.	Name of Account (Borrower / Guarantor)	Description of Property & Incumbrance if any	Outstanding Amount after netting of subsequent credit if any and Date of Demand Notice	Reserve Price (₹) EMD (₹) Bid Increase (₹)
1.	Mr. Arshad S/o Md. Musafir	Flat no 13(2BHK), Fourth Floor, Block No. A-13, ADMEASURING BUILT UP AREA 595 SQ.FT., Chouhan Green Valley, Khamariya & Junwani, Bhilai, Dist-Durg (C.G.) Boundaries: North- Open to Sky / Garden, South- Flat No. A-13/16, East- Flat No. A 13/14, West- Open to Sky / Road	₹ 22,49,900.00 as on 08.06.2023 + Further Interest & Charges Demand Notice Dt. 02.12.2020	₹ 18,45,000.00 ₹ 1,84,500.00 ₹ 20,000.00
2.	1) Mr. Mukesh Sharma S/o Dhaneshwar Prasad Kumar, 2) Mrs. Jyoti Sharma W/o Mukesh Mr. Sharma	Plot No. 63 Aster 4BHK Triplex Row House, Mauja - Khapri, Plot admeasuring - 840 Sq.Ft. Chouhan Green Valley, Junwani, Bhilai, Dist., Durg, (C.G.) 490020. Boundaries- North- Aster-62, East- Road, South - Aster 64, West - Aster 70	₹ 33,89,914.00 as on 08.06.2023 + Further Interest & Charges Demand Notice Dt. 01.07.2022	₹ 40,50,000.00 ₹ 4,05,000.00 ₹ 20,000.00
3.	Mr. Razi Ahmed Khan S/o Mr. Habibbhai Safikbhai Khan & Mrs Anjuman Khan W/o Mr. Razi Ahmed Khan	Flat No. 48 (2BHK), 6th Floor, Area- 663.27 Sqft., Block D-3, Chouhan Green Valley, Junwani Bhilai situated opp. Chouhan Town, Khamariya & Junwani, Bhilai in the name of Mr. Razi Ahmed Khan and Mrs. Anjuman Khan. Boundaries: North- Flat No. D3-47 South- Open to Sky / Boundary Wall, East - Open to Sky/Passage & Block D4, West-Flat No. D3-41	₹ 16,47,441.00 as on 08.06.2023 + Further Interest & Charges Demand Notice Dt. 11.06.2020	₹ 18,00,000.00 ₹ 1,80,000.00 ₹ 20,000.00

Interested bidders/buyers participating in e-Auction process is required to register before the reasonable time of auction through Bank's recognized Service Providers M/s. MSTC Ltd. Auction web page/portal <http://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>. Bidders/buyers have to transfer the EMD amount to their Global EMD Wallet using online mode by registering with respective e-auction web portal of <http://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>. If the EMD amount is not available in the Global EMD Wallet, the system will not allow the bidding. The registration, KYC documents verification and EMD deposit in the wallet should be done in advance before the auction. As per the information of the authorized officer, there is no other encumbrance on the properties, yet the interested bidders/buyers should get all requisite information from the concerned office/department any encumbrances related to the property before submitting their bid. The decision regarding properties to be taken at the discretion of the bidder. The e-auction will be online and sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis. Process of e-auction from Bank's recognized service provider M/s. MSTC Ltd. will be conducted by Web Portal: <http://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>. Online Auction Sale Tender Documents, Online E-Auction Tender Form, DedARATION Form, Terms and Conditions are available on the website. For details of terms and conditions of sale, kindly visit the website of State Bank of India Secured Creditor i.e. <http://www.sbi.co.in> and <https://www.ibapi.in> (website details) given.

Date: 09.06.2023, Place: Bhilai

Authorized Officer State Bank of India, RACPC, Bhilai

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Kawardha Branch, Surjit Singh Khanuja Complex, Infront of Bus Stand, Kawardha (C.G.) PIN-491995

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Properties) [Under Rule-8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Kawardha Branch under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued Demand Notice on the dates, mentioned against each Account (given below) calling upon the Borrowers/ Guarantors / Mortgagors to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notices / date of receipt of the said notices. The Borrowers/ Guarantors / Mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Guarantors / Mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned below.

The Borrower's / Guarantors / Mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

The Borrowers/ Guarantors / Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Bank of India for the amounts and interest thereon.

Sl. No.	Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)	Description of the Propertie	Demand Notice Dt. Posse. Notice Dt.	Amount Due
1.	M/s. Sumitra Fly Ash Bricks Prop. Mrs. Sumitra Mahar, Address- Vill- Bachedi, post- Dahi Handi, Teh- Sahaspur, Lohara, Dist.- Kabirdham (C.G.)	Equitable Mortgage of immovable property of freehold diverted land situated at Khasra no. 179/04, PH Ho. 04, Vill- Bachedi, post- Dahi Handi, Teh- Sahaspur, Lohara, Dist.- Kabirdham pin-491995, state C.G. admeasuring area- 8720 sqft. belongs to in the name of Smt. Sumitra Mahar. Boundaries Survey no. 179/4: North- Other's land, South- Other's land, East- Other's land, West- Road.	02.02.2023 08.06.2023 Symbolic Possession	₹ 14,39,704.04 + further interest interest as applicable
2.	Shri Ashwani Shrivastava s/o. Banshilal, Address- Vill- Saigona, Tehsil- Kawardha, Dist.- Kabirdham (C.G.)	Equitable Mortgage of immovable property of freehold diverted land and building situated at Khasra no. 97/105, PH Ho. 19, situated at vill- Saigona, Tehsil- Kawardha, Dist.- Kabirdham pin- 491995, state C.G. admeasuring area-	02.02.2023 08.06.2023 Symbolic Possession	₹ 15,43,631.43 + further interest interest as applicable
1507 sqft. belongs to in the name of Shri Ashwani Shrivastava. Boundaries Survey no. 97/105: North- Other's property, South- Road, East- Other's property, West- Road.				
Date: 08.06.2023 Place : Kawardha (C.G.) Authorized Officer, Bank of India				

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Regional Office : First Floor, Zonal Market, Sector-10, Bhilai- (Chhattisgarh) - 490006 Ph. : 0788-2261056, Website : www.bankofbaroda.com

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable/movable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower(s) / Mortgagor(s) / Guarantor(s) / Secured Asset(s) / Dues / Reserve Price / e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below –

Sr / Lot No	Name & Address Of Borrower(S) / Guarantor(S) / Mortgagor(S)	Short Description Of The Immovable Property With Known Encumbrances, If Any	Total Dues	Date & Time Of E-Auction	Reserve Price, Emd Amount, Bid Increase Amount	Status of Possession (Symbolic / Physical)	Property Inspection Date & Time
1	M/s Prince Gold Pipe Industries Bhareli Prop. - Mr. Sanjay Chandravanshi S/o Shivkumar Village-Bhareli, PO-Kharhatta, Tehsil-Bodla Dist-Kaberdham (C.G)	1. All that part and parcel of the property consisting of entry registered leased deed 4669 dated 25.02.2017 bearing survey no. 46/2, area 0.154 hect/ 0.38 acre, P H No-10 situated at Village-Bhareli, Tehsil-Bodla, Dist-Kabirdham (In the name of Mr. Shivkumar S/o Dulari Chandravanshi, He gave lease for 30 years to M/s Prince Gold Pipe Industries Bhareli) Prop : Mr. Sanjay Chandravanshi S/o Mr Shivkumar Bounded By : South: Road, North : Property of Shivkumar East: Property of Kesharbai, West: Property of Kailash 2. Plant and Machineries (Plastic extruder machine + Tank)	Rs. 15,76,282.56/- +unapplied interest and charges	27-06-2023 02:00 PM TO 06:00 PM	Rs. 12,30,000/- Rs. 1,23,000/- Rs. 10,000/-	PHYSICAL	22-06-2023 11:00 AM TO 02:00 PM
2	M/s Hardik Industries Prop. Mrs. Bhavana Pansari (Borrower) Mr. Gulab Chand Pansari (Guarantor) Address- Ward No 33 Brahmanpara Durga Chowk Rajnandgaon (C.G)	All that piece and parcel of property at Village Sankara, PH No 36, Khasara No 492/2 District-Rajnandgaon (C.G) Bounded by : North: Government's Land, South-Ramesh Land, East-Land of Lal Kumar, West-Land of Mr.Ashok Sharma	Rs.18,45,164.54/- +unapplied interest and charges	27-06-2023 02:00 PM TO 06:00 PM	Rs. 7,00,000/- Rs. 70,000/- Rs. 10,000/-	PHYSICAL	22-06-2023 11:00 AM TO 02:00 PM

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> and <https://ibapi.in>. Also, prospective bidders may contact the authorized officer on Mobile 7723024982 Date : 09.06.2023. Place : BHILAI

Authorized Officer Bank of Baroda

Baghel gives mantra to win over 75 seats in upcoming polls

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: On Thursday, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel addressed the party office bearers, elected public representatives and other leaders during a Durg divisional convention held at Hotel Empyrean in Durg. He gave mantra to improve the party's performance in the upcoming Vidhan Sabha elections and ensure victory in over 75 seats.

He further mobilised the cadre for the 2023 Lok Sabha election. He emphasised on strengthening social media to counter the opponents. He further said that the schemes of the state government that have benefitted the common people must be publicised prominently.

He asked the Congress leaders and office bearers to speak about the schemes during routine and general interaction with the people. He said that the farmers must be repeatedly told that only the Congress will provide higher MSP on the agricultural produce.



The Chief Minister further asked the party cadre to stay united and work for the party. He said that there can be many eligible candidates from a constituency but the party can provide ticket only to one person. In such a situation, other leaders should maintain patience and avoid rebellion attitude. They should work together in favour of the party and its candidate to ensure victory.

Baghel further said that no one can stop a party worker to become a leader if he works to strengthen the party at booth

level, strengthen the party organisation, knows the history of Congress, knows the contributions of party leaders, and stays active among masses as well as on social media.

Five years ago, Rahul Gandhi had directly interacted with thousands of party workers in Durg. He had asked the party cadre to apply directly to the party if they want to contest elections or recommend the name of some leader from any constituency.

Congress worked out to give this respect and honour to the party cadre in the last elec-

tion.

Before the 2018 election, no one even spoke about Chhattisgarh in Delhi. The topic of discussion was Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. It was anticipated that Congress will clean sweep in Rajasthan and there will be 50-50 in Madhya Pradesh. No one believed the claim that Congress will win 55 seats in Chhattisgarh.

But the party workers made it possible and Congress won the majority with 68 seats in Chhattisgarh. Thereafter, Congress created history by



winning all the 14 civic bodies. Out of the 20 seats in Durg Division, Congress had won 17 seats in the last election.

Later, the party snatched the Khairagarh seat from BJP in the by-polls. Now only the Rajnandgaon and Vaishali nagar seats are left and these two seats will also be grabbed by Congress in the next election, he said.

CM asked the party workers to publicise the state government schemes among masses. A large section of the society is getting benefitted from Nyay Schemes in which

benefit is being directly transferred to the people.

He said that BJP had disbursed Rs 98 crore as unemployment allowance in 13 years while Congress government gave 42 crores in just three months. He further said that Congress has succeeded in snatching major issues from the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Cow and Lord Ram were the main issues for BJP in the previous elections but the initiatives of Congress Government in Chhattisgarh have snatched these issues from BJP. The NGGB scheme, Godhan Nyay

Yojna and Ram Van Gaman Path project have left the BJP leaders speechless. Today, the opposition has no issues to corner the Congress government in Chhattisgarh.

Earlier the state was known only for coal, iron and naxals but today the situation has changed. Now the cultural identity of the state has been established in the country and abroad as well.

Chhattisgarh in-charge Kumari Selja appreciated the working of the Bhupesh Baghel government and gave certain tips to the party work-

ers. She also spoke about the failures of the nine years of BJP Union Government and urged the party workers to discuss these issues among common people to create an atmosphere in favour of Congress.

Earlier, PCC Chief Mohan Markam, Cabinet Minister Mohammad Akbar, AICC Secretary Saptagiri Ulka, CM's Advisor Vinod Verma, Youth Congress President Akash Sharma, AICC Secretary Rajesh Tiwari, Farmer Welfare Board Chairman Surendra Sharma and other leaders addressed the gathering and spoke about various topics.

VS Speaker Dr Charandas Mahant, Cabinet Ministers Tamradhwaj Sahu, Dr Prem Sai Singh Tekam, Amarjeet Bhagat, Ravindra Choubhe, MLAs Arun Vora, Devendra Yadav, Sangeeta Sinha, Kunwar Nishad, District Congress President Mukesh Chandrakar, Mayor Dheeraj Bakliwal, Mayor Neeraj Pal, DCC Bank President Rajendra Sahu and other leaders were present.

Woman strangles husband to death

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: In a shocking incident, a woman strangled her husband to death with a stole in Krishna Nagar area of Supela. According to police, the incident was the outcome of domestic violence. However, the locals stated that the mental condition of the lady was not fine and the family was seeking treatment from some tantriks.

Police have arrested the accused and further investigations are on. Inspector Durgesh Sharma (SHO, Supela) informed that on the intervening night of June 07-08, they received information that some criminal inci-

dent had occurred at a house in Krishna Nagar Supela.

Supela Police team rushed to the spot and found a crowd gathered near the residence of one Dilip Soni. Cops and some locals went inside Dilip Soni's house and Dilip Soni was lying on the bed. There was no movement in the body. His wife Sangeeta Soni was burning clothes in the kitchen.

On asking the people and family members who reside in the neighbourhood, police came to know that this couple often quarrelled over petty issues.

The locals suspected that Sangeeta Soni strangled her husband to death. Prima facie it appeared to



be a murder case after which an FIR was lodged at Supela Police Station under Section 302 of IPC.

On the instructions of Superintendent of Police Shalabh Kumar Sinha and under the guidance of ASP

Sanjay Dhruv and CSP Nikhil Rakheja, cops questioned the suspect Sangeeta Soni, the wife of the deceased Dilip Soni.

Initially she kept on misleading the police. However, during sustained

interrogation, she broke down and accepted her crime. She revealed that her husband used to drink alcohol and abuse her in the house. Being fed up with domestic violence, she strangled her husband to death with a stole.

The accused Sangeeta Soni alias Pileshwari Soni (39) wife of Dilip Soni a resident of Bajrang Chowk Krishna Nagar Supela was duly arrested and sent to the jail on judicial remand.

Inspector Durgesh Kumar Sharma, SI Tejram Kanwar, ASI Dinesh Singh, Constables Rajesh Hanaute, Shyam Mishra, Ravi Sao, women constable Dipti Chandrakar played a vital role in solving the case.

BJP candidates declared for urban body and panchayat bypolls

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: Bharatiya Janata Party has selected the candidates for the upcoming urban body and panchayat by-elections. Election Steering Committee was constituted by Durg District BJP President Jitendra Verma by including senior leaders for different constituencies. Election Steering Committee unanimously recommended the names of the candidates to the District BJP President. Thereafter, the District Coordination Committee approved the names recommended by the Election Steering Committee.

State BJP President Arun Sao, State General Secretary (Organization) Pawan Sai, Divisional Incharge Bhupendra Savanni and District Incharge Rajeev Agrawal have given their consent on the names of the can-



didates, after which the District BJP President Jitendra Verma announced the candidates for the urban body and panchayat by-elections.

Divya Sahu (former Sarpanch Kotni) is the authorized candidate of the Bharatiya Janata Party for the by-election for the post of member of District Panchayat Area No 6. Kanta Sahu (former corporator) will contest from Ward No 42 of Durg Municipal Corporation and Meena Joshi (former corporator) is the authorized candidate for the post of Corporator from Ward No

14 of Ahiwara Municipal Council. District BJP President Jitendra Verma will issue B forms for urban body elections.

Verma said that the nominations of all the three candidates will be filed on June 9. Meena Joshi will file nomination in Ahiwara at 10:30 am. Thereafter, District Panchayat member candidate Divya Sahu will file nomination in the presence of prominent leaders of Durg rural area around 12:00 hrs. Later around 1:00 pm, Kanta Sahu will file her nomination in the presence of prominent leaders of Durg city.

500 saplings planted on 'World Environment Day'

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: Bhilai Steel Plant collective observed 'World Environment Day', with a series of eco-friendly events at various departments of the Plant, Hospital and across the Township. The theme for the year as announced under the "Mission LiFE" campaign initiated by the Ministry of Environment, GOI was "Beat Plastic Pollution".

At the onset of Environment Day, Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) flagged-off a Walkathon. Several BSP employees, including EDs, CGMs, GMs along with CISF Personnel and school students led the walkathon from Ispat Bhawan to Equipment

Square and back, spreading awareness for environment conservation.

A massive tree plantation drive was carried out by the Horticulture section of the Plant's Town Services Department, at the Hospital Sector area, under the guidance of JY Sapkaale.

CGM (TSD&CSR). Chief Guest Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) planted saplings on this occasion.

Pratibha Agrawal, DIG, CISF, Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), AK Chakraborty, ED (MM), Nisha Soni, Acting ED (P&A), Abhijeet Kumar, Commandant (CISF) were the special guests on this occasion.

The gathering was administered an oath to work for environmental conservation and inspire



people to adopt a lifestyle that brings about positive changes in reducing environmental imbalance.

Addressing the gathering, Dasgupta appreciated the plantation drive and said that not just on Environment Day, but we should engage in environmental conservation

every-day, because humans have exploited nature and we are already facing repercussions like global warming. Children are our future, they should take-up plantation more diligently and also take care of them for life, he said.

Special Guest Pratibha



Agrawal, DIG (CISF), thanked BSP for such initiatives and said that CISF will extend its support in promoting such environmental conservation initiatives, as preserving the environment is an integral part of Indian culture and ethos.

In his address, Anjani

Kumar, ED (Works), said that the World Environment Day started from Stockholm in 1972, which was participated by over 143 countries from the world. The environmental imbalance is a major concern and it is the time at least on our birthdays, whether we cut

cake or not, but we must plant a tree and take care of it.

Addressing the gathering AK Chakraborty, ED (MM) said that, we must keep in mind that the natural resources are limited and we must do judicious use along with sustainable development. Water

and environmental conservation by the future generation will turn out to be an effective step to combat environmental imbalance.

It is noteworthy that as many as 500 saplings of different species were planted in the township, plant premises and peripheral areas by the Chief Guest, other guests, CISF personnel and school children. Bhilai Steel Plant is working with a target of planting 30,000 trees in the current year with the aid of Forest Development Corporation.

The welcome address was delivered by JY Sapkaale, CGM (TSD&CSR), whereas Dr NK Jain, DGM (Horticulture & PHD) proposed the vote of thanks.

Industrial plastic waste utilised to construct Rest Room

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: On the occasion of World Environment Day, BSP's SMS-3 has set a benchmark of environmental conservation, by renovating a Staff Rest-room at EWSS, that was constructed using in-house resources by EWSS Team after utilising the plastic waste generated during maintenance of cooling towers of the Plant. Chief Guest Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) inaugurated the staff rest-room on June 05.

Anjani Kumar appreciated the initiative of innovative re-use of industrial plastic waste which otherwise gets dumped and only adds to pollution on earth. With this step, EWSS has not only been able to enhance basic amenities for the staff but



also has contributed in reducing the carbon footprint due to industrial plastic waste generation, said Anjani Kumar. PK Sarkar, CGM I/c (Services), Asit Saha, CGM I/C (M&U), Sandip Kar, CGM (Quality & SMS-3) were present on this occasion, along with other officers of the plant. A presentation was also given by EWSS collective on eco-

bricks, under the mass awareness programme on judicious disposal of plastic waste. Ecobricks are plastic bottles densely packed with plastic waste to create a reusable building block that achieves plastic sequestration. Ecobricks can prove to be a low cost solution for disposal of plastic waste that is generated in large quantities every day. Unusable in-

dustrial plastic waste adds to the problem of plastic pollution on earth and this initiative is a perfect example of reusing unusable industrial plastics. The size of the newly-constructed staff rest-room at EWSS in SMS-3 is 10x12 ft, which will be used by the personnel for storing goods and taking rest. Construction of more such rest rooms by utilising plastic waste have also been proposed.

The entire construction process has been developed in-house under the guidance of Pramod Kumar, GM and Mohit Arya, GM, and was well-executed by the EWSS Team comprising of Kamal Kishore, AGM, Bhavneeth Krishna, Mgr, Chandrasen Verma, Mgr and B Parida, site in-charge of EWSS.

JLNH observes World Environment Day

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: Several events marked World Environment Day at Pt JLN Hospital & Research Centre, Sector-9. Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M&HS) was chief guest on this occasion.

The Chief Medical Officers of Medical and Health Services Department Dr Vinita Dwivedi, Dr Rajiv Kumar Pal, Dr Kaushalendra Thakur and Shaheed Ahmed, GM (Medical Administration) were also present on the occasion, along with the hospital staff.

At the outset of the programme a walkathon was organised which was led from the OPD to the Doctor's parking area. Saplings of several plant varieties were planted at the parking area by the



Chief Guest, Medical officers and Hospital Staff, followed by administering an oath of environmental protection by Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M&HS).

Addressing the gathering, Dr Ravindranath emphasized on environmental conservation and its positive impact on our lives. He

raised concern over the use of single-use plastic and its hazard on nature. He urged everyone to adopt the 'Four R Practice' in life - Reduce, Re-use, Recycle and Recognise. Recognising plastic as a threat to the environment is equally important, said Dr Ravindranath. A Rain Water Harvesting

System was also inaugurated on this occasion, which will utilise the rainwater which gets wasted otherwise. Prizes were distributed by the chief guest to the winners of the poster-making competition on environment in the OPD, followed by a street play by the Hospital's Cleaning Staff.

President Murmu holds 'productive' meeting with Serbian counterpart

Belgrade, Jun 08 (PTD):

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday held a "productive" meeting with her Serbian counterpart Aleksandar Vucic here and said that bilateral relationship is based on mutual trust, mutual understanding and support for each other on issues of core interest.

"We remain committed to inject more ambition into this vital relationship," said Murmu, who is the first Indian President to visit Serbia.

During the delegation-level talks, both the Presidents discussed important aspects of India-Serbia bilateral relation-



President Droupadi Murmu in a meeting with President of Serbia Aleksandar Vucic, in Belgrade, Serbia, Thursday, June 8.

ship and global and regional issues of common interest. "I had a constructive and productive meeting with President Vucic this morning on all impor-

tant aspects of our bilateral relationship and global and regional issues of common interest," Murmu said in a press statement. She said the re-

lations between India and Serbia have been unique since the days of the Non-Alignment Movement. "Our relationship is based on mutual trust, mutual understanding and support for each other on issues of core interest," she said. "We also resolved to build further on our long-standing bilateral ties, especially in trade and investment, science and technology, including information and digital technologies, and to promote people-to-people contacts further. We agreed to strengthen our coordination and cooperation in the United Nations and other multilateral fora," she added.

Russia develops futuristic nuclear plant operational in Far East region

Pevk (Russia), Jun 08 (PTD):

As India scouts for Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology that can help make clean energy transition, Russia has developed a futuristic nuclear plant that is already operational in the country's Far East region.

The world's first floating nuclear power plant (FNPP) Akademik Lomonosov began commercial operation in May 2020, and is producing energy from two 35 MW reactors, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

SMR is a fraction of the size of a conventional nuclear power reactor, mak-

ing it possible for systems and components to be factory-assembled and transported as a unit to a location for installation, according to the IAEA.

Other SMRs are under construction or in the licensing stage in Argentina, Canada, China, Russia, South Korea and the United States, the nuclear energy watchdog said.

Russia operates two SMRs of 35 MW each in Pevk, a port town on the Arctic ocean, and the administrative center of Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, some 5,500 kms from the capital city of Moscow.

Imran Khan appears before Islamabad High Court for hearings in multiple cases

Islamabad, Jun 08 (PTD):

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan arrived at the Islamabad High Court on Thursday for hearing his bail petitions in over a dozen cases linked to violent protests after his arrest on May 9 and the Toshakhana graft case.

A video posted on his party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) official Twitter account showed the PTI chief's black SUV entering the premises of the court as his security personnel stood guard with bulletproof shields.

Islamabad High Court (IHC) Chief Justice Aamer Farooq will hear seven bail petitions filed by



Security personnel with ballistic shields escort former Pakistan's prime minister Imran Khan, at the High Court in Islamabad on June 8.

Khan in multiple cases

A division bench of the IHC will hear Khan's bail plea in a case registered against him for the murder of senior Supreme Court lawyer Abdul Razzaq Shar who was shot dead in Quetta earli-

ANTONY BLINKEN IN RIYADH



Ministers of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS pose for a family photo with the U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, center, at the Intercontinental Hotel in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Thursday, June 8.

Pak politics: PTI defectors flock to new boss, soon to launch new party

Lahore, Jun 08 (PTD):

Scores of disgruntled leaders who quit Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan's party have joined hands and are set to launch a new military-backed party to fight the general elections likely to be held in October.

Sugar baron and Khan's old friend Jahangir Khan Tareen (JKT) is leading the group of leaders who left Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party in the wake of attacks on military installations last month. More than 100 PTI stalwarts and legislators on Wednesday joined their new boss Tareen who is likely to launch

the Istehkaam-i-Pakistan Party (IPP) comprising over 120 former leaders and lawmakers of the PTI.

This new party is being tagged as the king's party' by Khan and political pundits for having the full backing of the military establishment. In the next elections, it is said the king's party will emerge strong and have a share of power.

"It is not out of place to say that the IPP (king's party) will be the 'new PTI minus Imran Khan' in the next general elections likely to be held in October 2023," former PTI leader Firdous Ashiq Awan told the Press Trust of India on Thursday.

Zelenskyy visits area flooded by destroyed dam

Kherson (Ukraine), Jun 08 (AP): Five residents of a Russian-occupied city next to a breached dam have died in massive flooding triggered by the catastrophe, its Kremlin-appointed mayor said on Thursday, the first official report of deaths from one of the largest environmental crises since Russia's invasion of Ukraine more than 15 months ago.

Vladimir Leontyev, the Russian-appointed mayor of Nova Kakhovka, told Russian state TV that two other people who had gone missing after Tuesday's dam breach had been found, and efforts were underway to evacuate them.

Officials say more than 6,000 people have been evacuated from dozens of inundated cities, towns and villages on both the Russian and Ukrainian-controlled sides of the Dnieper river, which has



Grain storage sits underwater after the collapse of the Kakhovka Dam, in Kozatske, in Russian-occupied Ukraine.

become part of the front line between the fighting forces.

The collapse of the Kakhovka hydroelectric dam and emptying of its reservoir on the river have added to the misery that the region has suffered for more than a year from artillery and missile attacks.

Rescue workers fanned out to get drinking water

to beleaguered locals, warning that contaminated water could cause illness.

Thousands of people have been left homeless, cropland has been ruined, access to electricity and mobile phone networks has been limited or cut off entirely, and land mines have been displaced by the surging waters, officials

say. On the Ukrainian-controlled western bank, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy arrived Thursday to evaluate the response to damage caused by the dam breach, including efforts to evacuate civilians and provide them with drinking water and other support.

After visiting an aid distribution point and a medical facility, Zelenskyy ordered Ukrainian officials to provide a "fair valuation" of flood damages and develop a scheme to compensate residents whose property was damaged or whose businesses had to relocate, his office said in an online update.

In areas that they administer, Russian-appointed authorities said nearly two dozen people have been hospitalised, 4,280 people have been evacuated and some 14,000 buildings have been flooded.

UK to remove Chinese surveillance cameras at sensitive sites

London, Jun 08 (PTD):

The UK government has laid out plans to publish a timeline for the removal of Chinese surveillance equipment from sensitive sites as part of stepped-up national security measures, weeks after Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said China posed the "biggest challenge" to global security and prosperity.

In amendments tabled to the government's Procurement Bill ahead of its Report Stage in Parliament next week, the UK Cabinet Office said on Wednesday that it is committing to publishing a timeline for the removal of surveillance equipment produced by companies subject to China's National Intelligence Law from sensitive central gov-

ernment sites. It says the move builds on action taken last year to halt the installation of new equipment on the government estate and will provide "reassurance" that departments are removing surveillance equipment from sensitive sites.

"These new measures will protect our sensitive sectors from companies which could threaten national security and are a firm deterrence to hostile actors who wish to do Britain harm," said Jeremy Quin, UK Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General.

At the G7 summit in Japan last month, British Prime Minister Sunak said that China posed the "biggest challenge" in the world to global security and prosperity.

300 trapped children rescued from a Sudanese orphanage after 71 others died: UNICEF

Cairo, Jun 08 (AP):

About 300 infants, toddlers and older children have been rescued from an orphanage in Sudan's capital after being trapped there while fighting raged outside, aid officials said on Thursday.

The evacuation came after 71 children died from hunger and illness in the facility since mid-April.

The tragedy at the Al-Mayqoma orphanage made headlines late last month as fighting raged outside between Sudan's military and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces.

The deaths have highlighted the heavy toll inflicted on civilians since mid-April when the clashes erupted between forces loyal to Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan and RSF forces led by Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo.

About 300 children at the Al-Mayqoma orphanage in Khartoum were transferred to a "safer location" elsewhere in the northeastern African

nation, said Ricardo Pires, a spokesman for the UN children's agency, UNICEF.

Sudan's ministries of social development and health have taken charge of the children, while UNICEF has provided humanitarian support including medical care, food, educational activities and play, Pires said in an email to The Associated Press.

He said the children had received medical checks following their long journey to their new location, adding that "any child requiring hospitalisation will have access to healthcare."

The International Committee of The Red Cross, which helped with the evacuation, said the children, aged between 1 month to 15 years, were relocated after securing a safe corridor to Madani, the capital of Jazira province, about 135 kilometres (85 miles) southeast of Khartoum. Seventy caretakers have been transferred with the children, the ICRC said.

India, US need to have much stronger relationship: Congressman Shri Thanedar

Washington, Jun 08 (PTD): India and the US must work on making bilateral ties stronger and focus on collaboration on education and cultural fronts, Indian-American Congressman Shri Thanedar has said.

He expressed hope that the two sides will talk about cooperation in the education and business sectors and find ways to strengthen the bilateral relationship during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US this month.

"As an Indian American Congressman, I am excited to welcome him to the United States Congress and to this country as a leader of the largest democracy in the world," Thanedar told PTI on Tuesday ahead of Modi's visit.

Prime Minister Modi is visiting the US from June 21-24 at the invitation of President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden. The

US president and the First Lady will also host Modi at a state dinner on June 22.

"Not only was I born there in India, but I also grew up in India. I believe that the United States and India, the two large democracies, need to have a much stronger relationship," said Thanedar, who grew up in Belgaum.

"We should also talk about the immigration issues, the visa issues, the Green Card backlogs. I think it's about time that the two nations worked on making the relationship even stronger," said the US representative from Michigan's 13th congressional district.

He said the country is currently having a broken immigration system that needs to be fixed.

"We need a bipartisan resolution of this issue and our immigration system is broken. That needs to be fixed.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

ENGAGEMENT OF HONORARY VISITING SPECIALIST

Employment Notice No.: 1173/2023 Dated 06.06.2023

Engagement of Honorary Visiting Specialists (Physician) on Two-Hours Daily / 06 Days in a Week for one year, purely on yearly contract basis, against 01 (One) vacancy in Sub-Divisional Railway Hospital, BMY:

Sr. No.	Name of the Hospital	No. of Posts	Last Date of Application	Hours of Duty	Speciality
1	Sub-Divisional Railway Hospital, BMY	1 (One)	25.06.2023	2 Hours per day / 06 Days a Week	01 - Physician

For further details and information of this notification, please log on to S.E.C. Railway's website <https://secr.indianrailways.gov.in> → News / Press Release / Recruitment → Recruitment → Raipur.

For Divisional Railway Manager (P) South East Central Railway, Raipur

PR/RSR.DPO/PC/60

South East Central Railway @secrail

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

क्र./21/न.पा.नि./जोन क्र./1/2023-24 दिनांक 06/06/2023

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत टेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन (Online) निविदा दिनांक 30.06.2023 को सायं 5:30 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

सि.दे.क्र.	कार्य का विवरण	अनुमानित लागत (लाख में)	घरेलू राशि	टेकेदार की श्रेणी
137669	CONSTRUCTION OF R.C.C. DRAIN FROM GITANJALI NAGAR SHIV MANDIR TO MANJU MEDAMAT WARD NO.03	22.06	16545.00	'D' and Above
137670	CONSTRUCTION OF R.C.C. DRAIN FROM DEVI YADAV TO GOKNE NALAAT WARD NO.04	29.89	22420.00	'D' and Above
137671	CONSTRUCTION OF R.C.C. DRAIN FROM DILHARAN YADAV TO TAIBA NAGAR NALAAT WARD NO.04	29.89	22420.00	'D' and Above
137672	CONSTRUCTION OF R.C.C. DRAIN FROM SAGARDEEP VAISHNAVI VIHAR COLONY TO GOKNE NALAAT WARD NO.03	41.35	31015.00	'D' and Above

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्यों की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, घरेलू राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन दस्तावेज एवं अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेबसाइट <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> से दिनांक 08/06/2023 सायंकाल में 05.31 बजे के पश्चात् प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

जोन कमिश्नर, जोन क्र.01 सकरी नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

Green City, Clean City, Dream City.

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR (CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice Main Portal: https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in				
Tenders are invited for the Following works:-				
S. No.	System Tender No./ Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)	
1	136068 First Call 29.05.2023	B.T. & MAINTENANCE WORK OF INTERNAL ROADS OF UDYA SOCIETY, LENGTH 5.50 KM AT RAIPUR, DISTT. RAIPUR (VIDHANSABHADN. RAIPUR).	483.07	
2	136073 First Call 29.05.2023	Construction of High Level Bridge across Tandula River on Kharra-Rauna Road.	1020.34	
3	136035 First Call 29.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF N.H.- 43 TO 18th BATALIAN CHAINPUR APPROACH ROAD [LENGTH 3.00 KM ACTUAL LENGTH 4.02 KM DISTT. KOREA (C.G.) (Work code -W22225)	456.93	
4	136179 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction Of High Level Bridge and Approach Road Across Balyajora Nalla on Keradih-Khutgaon Road.	612.23	
5	136177 First Call 30.05.2023	STRENGTHENING AND B.T. ON KAMESHWARNAGAR -RAMCHANDRAPUR-LURGI ROAD, LENGTH 34 TO 43 = 10.00 Km., DISTT.- BALRAMPUR - RAMANUJGANJ (C.G.) (Work code -W24678).	846.37	
6	136188 First Call 30.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE I/C APPROACHES ACROSSKOTARY RIVER IN KM 1/10 ON CHHOTEBETIYA-MARBEDA-SITRAM ROAD. (CGRIDCL)	1347.05	
7	136266 First Call 30.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF PODI CHOWK TO KATAIPARA ROAD, LENGTH 3.00 Km. DISTT. BALRAMPUR-RAMANUJGANJ (C.G.)	390.31	
8	136281 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction of Jasra Gantuli to Rampur Approach Road Length 2.00 Km.	229.69	
9	136264 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction of Mudhipar to Tekapar Road Length 2.30 K.M. i/c Bridge & Culverts At DISTT.-Rajnandgaon (C.G.)	228.73	
10	136270 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction of Mudhipar to Garrapar Road i/c Bridge & Culverts Length 3.30 K.M. At DISTT.-Rajnandgaon (C.G.)	312.82	
11	136269 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction of Charbhatha to Dullapur Chardongari Approach Road Length 3.30 K.M. i/c Bridges & Culverts At Distt.-Kawardha (C.G.)	360.32	
12	136395 First Call 31.05.2023	Construction of Bhejratala Bhandaribharda Road Length 1.95 K.M. i/c Bridges & Culverts) At Block Chhuriya Distt.-Rajnandgaon (C.G.)	201.58	
13	136494 First Call 31.05.2023	Construction of Salhe to Dalai Approach Road Length 2.20 Km.	236.78	
14	136500 First Call 31.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF BANARAS MAIN ROAD TO ASANAPARA LENGTH 2.70 Km. DISTT. BALRAMPUR- RAMANUJGANJ (C.G.)	450.84	
15	136641 First Call 31.05.2023	Construction of Chhata To Achanakpur Road Length 3.30 K.M. Including Bridges & culverts At Distt.- Durg (C.G.)	1018.85	

Last Date of Tender Downloading For S.No. 01 To 03 date 21.06.2023. Other Tenders Date are Schedule as date 23.06.2023. For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer
(Central Tender Cell)
Office Of Engineer In Chief
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar
G-02122/2



CENTRAL
Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 243

Ensuring Lasting Peace

The Complexities of Army Withdrawal from Kashmir

In the realm of national security, the situation in Kashmir has undoubtedly witnessed notable improvements in recent years. The General Officer Commanding Chinar Corps recently acknowledged that the number of active terrorists in the region has reached its lowest point in over three decades. These positive strides, however, should not be mistaken as a signal for an immediate army withdrawal. Rather, they should serve as indicators of progress, prompting us to address the remaining challenges and prerequisites that must be fulfilled before contemplating such a pivotal decision. For decades, Kashmir has grappled with insurgency and militancy, enduring the weight of armed groups and cross-border terrorism stemming from Pakistan. In the face of these persistent security challenges, the Indian Army has played an indispensable role in conducting successful counter-insurgency operations. Ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LoC) have been an intermittent source of tension, making it imperative for India to maintain a robust military presence in Kashmir. This presence serves as a deterrent against external threats while safeguarding the local population from terrorist attacks and preserving their safety. The army's mission encompasses protecting Kashmiri civilians, countering violence, and mitigating the grave human rights abuses committed by terrorists in the past. Indeed, recent years have witnessed considerable improvements in the overall situation in Kashmir, but the journey towards long-term peacebuilding and stabilization is far from over. The government's unwavering commitment to promoting development, fostering economic growth, and establishing inclusive governance in the region necessitates a secure environment for these efforts to bear fruit. It is within this context that the army's continued presence becomes essential in ensuring stability and security. Kashmir's strategic significance cannot be underestimated. Situated in a geographically sensitive location, flanked by borders and possessing access to crucial water resources, the region remains of utmost importance. In light of the persistent hostility displayed by Pakistan, India is compelled to maintain defensive measures to safeguard its sovereignty and protect the interests of its citizens. Therefore, the decision to withdraw the army from Kashmir is a multifaceted and delicate matter that demands a thorough evaluation of political, security, and socio-economic factors. The Indian government recognizes the need for a comprehensive approach to resolving the Kashmir issue. It has been actively monitoring the situation, striving towards the twin objectives of eradicating terrorism and facilitating peaceful elections. Only when these vital milestones are achieved can a substantial reduction in military presence be considered. The government's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of Kashmiri citizens is unwavering, and it recognizes the importance of providing an environment conducive to their participation in democratic processes. It is worth noting that the decision to withdraw the army should not be perceived as an end in itself. Instead, it should be viewed as a testament to the progress made in the region, signaling a step closer to lasting peace. However, hasty withdrawals can jeopardize the hard-earned gains and destabilize the delicate balance of power. Hence, the timing and conditions for any such decision must be carefully assessed, guided by the principles of prudence and pragmatism. Nonetheless, the challenges that persist require concerted efforts and careful consideration before contemplating any substantial reduction in military presence. Kashmir's strategic importance, the necessity of safeguarding the local population, and the imperatives of long-term peacebuilding and stabilization all demand a cautious approach. Only by ensuring the fulfillment of prerequisites such as zero terrorism and peaceful elections can the government navigate the complexities and take decisive steps towards an army withdrawal that truly fosters lasting peace in the region.

War's Wake-Up:
Dam Catastrophe

The destruction of the Nova Kakhovka dam signifies a dangerous escalation in the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, now entering its 16th month. Ukraine has accused Russian forces of deliberately demolishing the Soviet-era dam, which provided power to a hydroelectric station and was located in a region under Moscow's control for over a year. The Kremlin, however, claims that Ukraine sabotaged the dam to disrupt the water supply to Crimea and divert attention from their alleged faltering counter-offensive against Russian troops. Amidst the blame game, the lives of over 40,000 individuals are now at risk due to potential flooding along the Dniipro River. A looming humanitarian crisis and an ecological disaster await, with the United Nations labeling the dam's collapse as "potentially the most significant incident of damage to civilian infrastructure" since the onset of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict in February 2022. There are also concerns about the safety of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, under Russian control, as its reactors relied on the dam for cooling water. The deliberate destruction of the dam is a grave violation of the Geneva Convention's protocols, which strictly prohibit attacks on "installations containing dangerous forces" such as hydroelectric dams, as they pose a significant risk to civilian populations. This incident underscores the failure of the international community to effectively bring an end to the war. The Western powers, led by the United States, have been providing military support to Ukraine in an attempt to bleed Russia dry, but the latter shows no sign of capitulation. The United Nations, in its charter's preamble, pledged to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war." Regrettably, its efforts thus far have proven woefully inadequate. As global wheat prices rise by 3 percent following the dam's collapse, the world must prepare for more challenging times ahead. The consequences of this dam catastrophe are far-reaching, affecting not only the people of Ukraine but also global stability and food security. The region heavily relies on the agricultural output supported by the Dniipro River, which is now threatened by the potential flooding. The displacement of tens of thousands of individuals adds to the already significant burden of managing the war's humanitarian fallout. The dire situation calls for immediate and decisive action from the international community. Diplomatic efforts must be intensified to facilitate a peaceful resolution to the conflict. The current approach of arming one side to bleed the other only perpetuates the cycle of violence, causing immense suffering to civilians and undermining the chances of a sustainable peace. It is imperative that both Russia and Ukraine engage in sincere dialogue, mediated by neutral parties, to find a mutually acceptable solution that respects the rights and aspirations of all affected communities. Furthermore, the international community, including the United Nations and regional organizations, must step up their efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to those affected by the dam's destruction. Emergency aid, including food, clean water, and shelter, should be swiftly mobilized to mitigate the immediate suffering and prevent further loss of life. In light of the ecological concerns surrounding the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, urgent international inspections and oversight are necessary to ensure the safety of the facility and prevent any potential nuclear catastrophe. Cooperation between Russia, Ukraine, and relevant international organizations should be prioritized to address these critical risks. The dam's destruction and the ensuing crisis should serve as a wake-up call to the global community. The ramifications of a prolonged conflict in this strategically important region are immense, affecting not only the immediate parties involved but also the stability and security of neighboring countries and the wider international system. The need for a comprehensive, diplomatic, and sustainable solution has never been more urgent.

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

COMBING OPERATION



Security personnel during a combing operation in sensitive areas of Manipur, Wednesday, June 7.

India's Power Sector Transformation

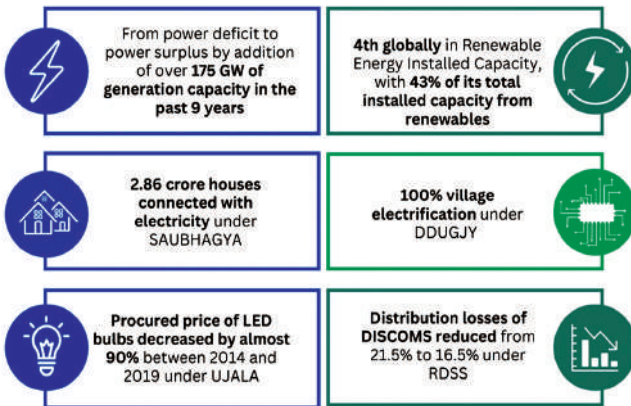
A Journey Towards Sustainable Energy and Universal Access

PIB RESEARCH UNIT



India's power sector has undergone a remarkable transformation, aimed at providing reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy to its people. Over the last 9 years, significant strides have been made in enhancing power generation capacity, expanding access to electricity, promoting renewable energy, and implementing innovative policies. Here we explore the inspiring achievements and transformative initiatives that have propelled India's power sector to new heights.

Transforming the Power Sector in India



(IEA) has called this the fastest expansion of access anywhere in the world in the history of power. The availability of power in both rural and urban areas has significantly increased, with rural areas experiencing a rise from about 12 hours per day in 2014 to 22.5 hours per day currently, and urban areas enjoying nearly 24 hours of power availability. To improve the quality and reliability of power supply in rural areas, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) was launched in 2014. The DDUGJY program achieved 100% village electrification on April 28, 2018, by electrifying 18,374 un-electri-

fied villages, strengthening the distribution network and ensuring electricity reaches every corner of rural India. The government's efforts in promoting energy efficiency have also yielded remarkable results. Under the Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) scheme, the procured price of LED bulbs decreased by almost 90% between 2014 and 2019, from Rs. 310 to Rs. 39.90. So far, over 36.86 crore LED bulbs have been distributed under this scheme. This initiative not only brought down electricity costs for households but also encouraged domestic manufacturing of LED bulbs, supporting the

"Make in India" campaign. As a result, India has witnessed widespread adoption of energy-efficient lighting solutions, contributing to reduced energy consumption and a greener environment.

To enhance the efficiency of power distribution, the government has implemented initiatives like the Restructured Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS). The RDSS has significantly reduced distribution losses of DISCOMs, from 21.5% in FY 2020-21 to 16.5% in FY 2021-22. These initiatives focus on reducing technical and commercial losses, improving metering and billing systems, and promoting energy efficiency. The integration of smart grids, advanced metering infrastructure, and demand response mechanisms has enhanced grid stability and allowed consumers to actively manage their energy consumption.

The transformation of India's power sector since 2014 is a remarkable story of progress and resilience. With achievements like universal electrification, rapid expansion of renewable energy, improved distribution, and enhanced energy efficiency, India has set an inspiring example for the world. The commitment of the Government of India, coupled with the participation of stakeholders, has propelled the nation towards a future powered by sustainable, affordable, and reliable energy. As the journey continues, sustained investments, innovation, and collaboration will be key to further strengthening India's power sector and ensuring a brighter, more prosperous tomorrow for all its citizens.

LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

An Awaited Formation

Months of anticipation and struggles culminated in the election of Mallikarjun Kharge as the Congress President in October last year. However, despite the passage of almost seven months, the formation of a new team remains pending, causing growing anxiety within the party. Initially, it was expected that the new team would be announced shortly after the Karnataka elections. Yet, as each day passes with delays, speculations arise. With upcoming assembly and general elections, party leaders emphasize the need for swift action. Lobbying for influential positions and changes in state leadership intensify the internal dynamics. While the announcement of the new team looms, uncertainties persist regarding the party's future path.

Sanjeev Pillay, Kannu, Kerala

Odisha Train Tragedy

The recent train accident in Odisha has left the nation in shock. Regrettably, it stands as one of the deadliest train accidents in India over the past thirty years, claiming the lives of 288 passengers and leaving more than 1100 injured. The visuals and photographs capturing the aftermath of this devastating incident evoke immense sadness. Our heartfelt condolences go out to all those who have lost their loved ones. While this tragedy underscores the urgent need for improved safety measures, mere superficial remedies will not suffice. The Ministry of Railways must take swift and decisive action, holding accountable any responsible officials. In the past, railway ministers would resign on grounds of ethics; perhaps, it is time for a similar course of action. The government must prioritize the safety of millions of passengers who rely on the railways.

Krishna Kumar, Menon, Thiruvananthapuram.

Fatal Rail Disaster

The tragic 'Triple Train Tragedy' resulting in numerous precious lives lost is a profound sorrow and a regrettable incident amidst our age of innovation, advancement, and modernization. This disaster serves as a stark reminder that progress and modernization hold no value without ensuring safety. While the introduction of new and sophisticated trains like Vande Bharat is commendable, neglecting safety measures in regular trains is concerning. Countless individuals rely on sleeper and general coaches for their daily commute. I earnestly appeal to Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav to address these concerns by expanding safety measures throughout the railway network.

Suresh Verma, Korba

Economic Fallout

The US Impact on Vietnam's Economy

Abhigyan Pandey

The recent passage of the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act by the U.S. Congress, purportedly aimed at addressing human rights violations in China's Xinjiang province, has inadvertently dealt a severe blow to the Vietnamese economy. The repercussions of this act have caused growing distress among the Vietnamese population, particularly due to the rising unemployment rates. This article delves into the implications of the U.S. actions and explores the potential advantage India may gain amidst the U.S.-China trade war.

The Vietnamese Economy's Resilience

Since the end of the war in 1975, Vietnam's Communist Party has pursued a path of economic liberalization while safeguarding social welfare measures. The nation's strategic geographic location and

strong maritime connections have propelled its economy to new heights. However, the U.S.'s recent actions have cast a shadow of uncertainty over Vietnam's market, ostensibly under the guise of addressing human rights concerns in Xinjiang.

The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act and Its Impact

The passage of the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act has had far-reaching consequences for Vietnam's garment and apparel sector. This act prohibits the importation of goods sourced from Xinjiang, causing turbulence in a major portion of Vietnam's economy. Interestingly, Vietnam's economy heavily relies on the manufacturing of high-quality products, with significant investments from Chinese capitalists. Unbeknownst to many, Xinjiang serves as a prominent exporter of cotton to the world, and Vietnam imports over 70% of its cotton from this region.

The Ramifications for Vietnam's Economy

The apparel industry in Vietnam employs over 3.4 mil-

lion workers, with major global brands such as Adidas, Nike, and Puma relying on third-party manufacturers in the country. With approximately 80% of Vietnamese apparel products facing hurdles at U.S. customs, exporters are grappling with non-payment of wages and loan defaults. This economic downturn presents an opportunity for India to extend a helping hand to companies on the brink of disaster in Vietnam.

India's Advantage and Potential Growth

India, with its abundant cotton production in states like Gujarat, stands poised to capitalize on the situation. The Indian government is keen on attracting distressed companies in Vietnam and has implemented schemes like the Production Linked Incentive

to lure investments. Notably, Pou Chen, a major manufacturer for Adidas, has invested INR 2,100 crore in Tamil Nadu for manufacturing and exporting its products worldwide. This development signifies a positive trajectory for Indian growth in the apparel industry.

The U.S.'s Method in Madness

Upon closer examination, it becomes evident that the U.S. has utilized its influence to send shockwaves through the Asian economy. While it may seem chaotic, there appears to be a method behind this madness as the U.S. inadvertently pushes its ally, Vietnam, towards the brink. The ensuing consequences may provide an advantage to India, leading to a potential reshaping of the regional economic landscape.

BRIEF

Drone entrepreneurs



■ **New Delhi:** The government on Thursday said Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) can be employed as drone entrepreneurs for spraying fertilizers and pesticides, and for survey of property. This was among the five key decisions taken in a meeting between Cooperation Minister Amit Shah and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers Mansukh Mandaviya, the Ministry of Cooperation said in a statement.

MRP reduced

■ **New Delhi:** Mother Dairy, which is a leading milk supplier in Delhi-NCR, on Thursday said it has reduced the maximum retail price (MRP) of its Dhara edible oils by Rs 10 per litre and the stocks with new rates will be available in the market from next week. The reduction in the MRP is in line with fall in prices of edible oils in the global market, the company said. "The maximum retail price (MRP) of all variants of Dhara edible oils is being reduced by Rs 10 per litre on account of the continued decline in edible oil prices internationally and better availability of domestic crops such as mustard," a company spokesperson said.

Hiring



■ **Istanbul:** Full service carrier Vistara expects to add a total of 10 planes as well as hire more than 1,000 people in the current financial year and has shelved plans to fly to the US, according to a top executive. Currently, Vistara, which is set to be merged with Air India, has a fleet of 61 aircraft and a staff strength of over 5,200. During an interaction here this week, Vistara CEO Vinod Kannan said there has been a ready pool of talent, especially pilots and cabin crew members, with the collapse of Go First.

Supro CNG Duo

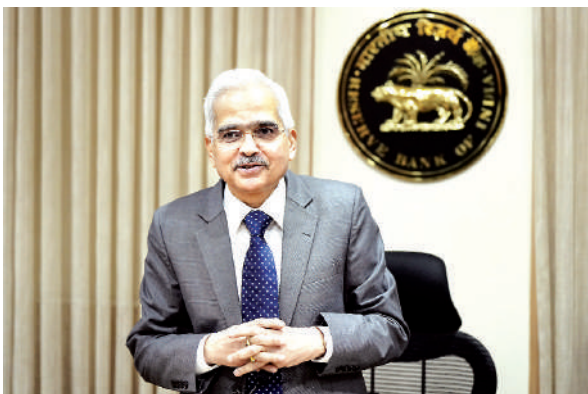
■ **New Delhi:** Mahindra & Mahindra on Thursday said it has entered the dual-fuel segment in the small commercial vehicle space with the launch of Supro CNG Duo priced at Rs 6.32 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). The model can run on both CNG and petrol. It comes with a payload capacity of 750 kg and a range of 325 km with a CNG tank capacity of 75 litres. It also comes with a five-litre petrol tank to take care of range anxiety issues.

We are only pausing on rates, too early to call on inflation fight: Das

Mumbai, Jun 08:

After unanimously pausing for the second time in a row, the Reserve Bank on Thursday reiterated that leaving the key rates and the stance unchanged "is not a pivot but only a pause" and that future policy actions will purely be data-dependent as a durable fall in inflation is still a long way. Earlier in the day, the RBI governor-led rate-setting panel MPC unanimously left the repo rate unchanged at 6.50 per cent and maintained that they will continue to work towards withdrawing policy accommodation.

The six-member panel also reiterated continuing measures to bring inflation under the target in a durable manner. While consumer price index-based inflation eased in



Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das during a press conference on monetary policy statement, in Mumbai.

March and April and moved into the tolerance band, headline inflation is still above the mandated target of 4 per cent and is expected to remain so during the rest of the current fiscal, said Governor Shaktikanta Das announcing the monetary policy. "Therefore, close

and continued vigil on the evolving inflation outlook is absolutely necessary, especially as the monsoon outlook and the impact of El Nino remain uncertain.

Our goal is to achieve the inflation target of 4 per cent in a durable manner and not just keeping

inflation within the comfort band of 2-6 per cent," Das told reporters at a post-policy presser. The governor parried repeated questions from the media about what holds back the MPC and RBI from uttering the words 'end of rate hikes' or the beginning of a neutral or accommodative policy stance.

"It is not a pivot; I reiterate this is only a pause, which is the second one in two successive reviews. Our future policy actions will purely be dependent on evolving situations. Because even though the recent fall in headline inflation to within the target band (led mainly by the cooling core inflation), we need to ensure that it is durable, and therefore there is no room for complacency on inflation," Das said.

BMW India drives in M2 sports car at Rs 98 lakh



New Delhi, Jun 08:

Luxury automaker BMW on Thursday said it has launched M2 sports car in the country priced at Rs 98 lakh (ex-showroom). The compact two-door, four-seater high-performance sports car will be available in the country as a completely built-up (CBU) model from Thursday onwards, the automaker said in a statement. "The all-new BMW M2 embodies an unadulterated racing passion that owners can enjoy day in, day out. It builds on the brand's tradition of ultra-sporty models with compact dimensions," BMW Group India President Vikram Pawah noted. The model comes with a turbo six-cylinder in-line petrol engine which churns out 453 hp and can achieve 0-100 kmph acceleration in 4.1 seconds, when paired with automatic transmission and 4.3 seconds, when paired with the manual transmission.

Volkswagen introduces new trims of Virtus, Taigun



New Delhi, Jun 08:

Volkswagen Passenger Cars India on Thursday said it has launched new trims of its mid-sized sedan Virtus and Taigun sports utility vehicle.

The company has introduced the Virtus with a six-speed manual transmission on the GT Plus variant, priced at Rs 16.89 lakh (ex-showroom). Besides, the automaker said it has introduced two new variants of Taigun - GT DSG and GT Plus, at an introductory price of Rs 16.79 lakh and Rs 17.77 lakh, respectively (ex-

showroom). "With its strong legacy of fun-to-drive, the GT badge was introduced on the Performance Line (1.5l TSI EVO engine) variants of Taigun and Virtus. Today, we are taking a step further and democratizing the GT badge by introducing newer variants for customers to choose from," Volkswagen Passenger Cars India Brand Director Ashish Gupta said in a statement. The new variants of Taigun and Virtus will be available across the 161 sales touchpoints in 121 cities in India, the company said.

RBI's decision to keep rates unchanged on expected lines: Experts

Kolkata, Jun 08:

The Reserve Bank of India's decision to keep policy rates unchanged was on expected lines, banking and financial experts said on Thursday. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), which has three members from RBI and an equal number of external experts, voted unanimously to keep the benchmark repurchase, or repo rate unchanged at 6.50 per cent. Punjab National Bank MD & CEO Atul Kr Goel said that keeping policy rates unchanged was "in line with the market expectations" in view of easing retail inflation and anticipation of a further decline.

He also said that maintaining the growth projection of GDP for the cur-

rent financial year at 6.5 per cent reflects that RBI remains sanguine about economic growth. Bandhan Bank Chief Economist and Head of Research Siddhartha Sanyal said the status quo on the repo rate in the MPC meeting was "almost a foregone conclusion". "Interestingly, despite lowering the consumer price index inflation forecast for the first quarter of the current fiscal by 50 basis points, the CPI projection for the full year was kept almost unchanged," he said.

As expected, the "RBI underscored that the vigil on inflation will remain strong as the apex bank emphasised on the importance of reaching the CPI target of 4 per cent rather than merely staying with-

in the tolerance band," Sanyal viewed. The Reserve Bank of India on Thursday left its key interest rate unchanged for a second straight policy meeting but signalled that it wants to see inflation moderate more while preserving the growth momentum. The MPC meeting (June 6-8) took place against the backdrop of consumer price-based (CPI) inflation declining to an 18-month low of 4.7 per cent in April. The CPI for May is scheduled to be announced on June 12. Shriram Finance Wholesale Director and CFO Parag Sharma said the healthy indicators have prompted the MPC to retain the policy repo rate at 6.5 per cent - a second successive recommendation for a pause in rate hikes.

Mercedes-Benz India launches G-Class' G 400d Adventure Edition, AMG Line in India

■ **Price starts Rs 2.55 crore**

Mumbai, Jun 08:

German premium car manufacturer Mercedes-Benz India on Thursday rolled out its iconic SUV, the G-Class, in two variants, with a price tag of Rs 2.55 crore onwards. The two variants are G 400d Adventure Edition and the G 400d AMG Line.

The deliveries of both the variants - G 400d Adventure Edition and the G 400d AMG Line - are expected to commence from October-December quarter of 2023, Mercedes-Benz India said. The company also said that the booking for the new G



400d will be first made available exclusively for existing Mercedes-Benz customers. It also said that the deliveries will be based on exclusive allocations for the Indian market owing to the high demand for this iconic off-roader.

"Top-End Vehicles remain our constant focus, as the segment continues to draw outstanding responses from customers. "The G-Class has been a highly anticipated luxury lifestyle vehicle for Indian customers and its launch

Traders not facing any problem in exchanging, depositing Rs 2,000 notes: Som Prakash

Indore, Jun 08:

Union Minister Som Prakash on Thursday claimed businesspersons and traders were not facing any problem in depositing or exchanging Rs 2,000 notes which were withdrawn from circulation by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) last month.

He said enough time has been given to people to deposit or exchange the high-value currency, which was introduced in November 2016. "I have spoken to a number of traders and industrialists over the decision to withdraw the Rs 2,000 notes. Anyone can go to a bank and get them exchanged. None of them have a problem," the Minister of State for Commerce and Industry told reporters here while responding to a question. On May 19, the RBI announced the withdrawal of Rs 2,000 notes and set



September 30 as the deadline for exchanging and depositing them with banks. On May 26, the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) said the RBI must put in place a standard operating procedure (SOP) for banks for deposit and exchange of the withdrawn bills. CAIT president BC Bhartia had told reporters here, "Every bank has its own way to exchange or deposit Rs 2,000 bills, which is causing hardship to housewives and traders.

Airtel Business partners with the Ministry of Education to power 'Diksha'

New Delhi, Jun 08:

Bharti Airtel, one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, announced that it has won the Cloud and CDN mandate from the Digital India Corporation (DIC) to power 'Diksha' (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) - India's national platform for open education digital content. DIC is under the aegis of the Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India. With this mandate, Airtel becomes the trusted partner for end-to-end management of 'Diksha's online platforms across its mobile application and website. The DIKSHA application and website will now be pow-

ered by Airtel Cloud and will be made seamlessly accessible to students across the country for free educational content in their preferred Indian language. Students, particularly in far-flung and remote locations, will be able to easily enrol onto the platform. Airtel Cloud will also lead the migration of 'Diksha' to Oracle Cloud and offer its managed services along with CDN solutions. Praveen Agarwal, Head - Govt. Business, Airtel Business, added, 'Diksha' offers 9300+ courses in 35+ Indian languages and has witnessed 50+ billion learning sessions and 60+ billion minutes of usage by students, making it one of the largest free education platforms in the world.



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin with Tata Sons Chairman Natarajan Chandrasekaran at the inauguration of 'Industry 4.0 Technology Centers' at 22 Government Vocational Training Centers, in Kanchipuram district, Thursday, June 8.

Tata Play launches 'Har Ghar Startup'

Mumbai, Jun 08:

Tata Play, India's leading content distribution platform, announced the launch of a new platform service - Har Ghar Startup - for budding entrepreneurs and Start-up enthusiasts. Tata Play and Suniel Shetty's FTC TALENT have come together to make knowledge on the Start-up sector accessible through Har Ghar Startup. It can help potential entrepreneurs to set up their own business and help existing entrepreneurs to expand by providing access to mentors and aid in getting government funding. Tata Play's MD & CEO, Harit Nagpal said, "With this initiative, we aim to help self-starters by connecting them with the best start-up experts from across the country."

acumen and access to information that is not easily available. Subject matter experts will cover a wide variety of topics to ensure that entrepreneurs have the basic know-how to kickstart or bolster their projects. The program will also provide opportunities for showcase ideas with merit and getting them shortlisted. The service includes a 24-hour hotline number, hosted by the Institute of Industrial Development (IID) to answer queries and provide information.

Commenting on the launch, Tata Play's MD & CEO, Harit Nagpal said, "With this initiative, we aim to help self-starters by connecting them with the best start-up experts from across the country."

Cooperative banks will soon be able to do compromise settlements, write-offs on NPAs: RBI Guv

Mumbai, Jun 08:

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Thursday said cooperative lenders will soon be able to do technical write-offs and execute compromise settlements with defaulting borrowers. RBI has decided to widen the scope of the framework for resolution of stressed assets, under which all the regulated entities including cooperative lenders will now be able to execute "compromise settlements and technical write-offs" to resolve non-performing assets, Das said.

Till now, this avenue for dud asset resolutions was available only with scheduled commercial banks and select non-bank finance com-

panies, Das said, adding that comprehensive guidelines on the same will be released soon. It can be noted that the cooperative lending sector frequently makes headlines for lack of governance practices and conflicts of interest. Das also said that it is proposed to rationalise the extant prudential norms on restructuring of borrower accounts affected by natural calamities. The Governor also acknowledged that a need has arisen to ease the implementation challenges faced by other UCB (urban cooperative banks) on the priority sector lending targets, and announced to extend the timelines for achieving the targets by two more years up to March 2026. Lenders which have met

the targets as on March 31, 2023 shall be suitably incentivized, he added. To further facilitate orderly development of the digital lending ecosystem and enhance credit penetration in the economy, the RBI has decided to introduce default loss guarantee arrangements in digital lending.

"With a view to further promoting responsible innovation and prudent risk management, it has been decided to issue guidelines on Default Loss Guarantee arrangements in Digital Lending," Das said. RBI has decided to rationalise and simplify the licensing framework for authorized persons under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999, to improve the efficien-

cy in the delivery of foreign exchange facilities to various segments of users including common persons, tourists and businesses, Das said. To further enhance the efficiency of the Bharat Bill Payment System and to encourage greater participation, RBI has proposed to streamline the process flow of transactions and membership criteria for operating units, Das said. With a view to providing greater flexibility for managing liquidity, it has been decided that scheduled commercial banks excluding Small Finance Banks can set their own limits for borrowing in Call and Notice Money Markets within the prescribed prudential limits for inter-bank liabilities, Das said.

Housing prices rise in 43 cities in Q4 of FY23: NHB



New Delhi, Jun 08:

As many as 43 cities out of 50 registered an increase in property prices during fourth quarter of 2022-23, according to the National Housing Bank (NHB) data released on Thursday. However, 7 cities registered a decline in the property prices. The home loan rates are still lower than that of pre-Covid period leading to a healthy affordability overall, it said. India's eight key primary residential markets witnessed appreciating property prices during the January-March 2023 period. Ahmedabad with a rise of 10.8 per cent, Bengaluru (9.4 per cent), Chennai (6.8 per cent), Delhi (1.7 per cent), Hyderabad (7.9 per cent), Kolkata (11 per cent), Mumbai (3.1 per cent) and Pune (8.2 per cent) recorded an increase in the index on an annual basis as per the Housing Price Index (HPI) published by NHB. The 50 city HPI based on valuation of properties collected from banks and housing finance companies (HPI @ Assessment Prices) recorded an annual increase of 5.8 per cent during the fourth quarter of FY23 as compared with 5.3 per cent a year ago, it said.

Sara Ali Khan on cloud nine after her performance in 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke'

Sara Ali Khan is on cloud nine after enjoying the success that her latest film 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke' has brought. Her performance and chemistry with Vicky Kaushal have wowed the audience and fans can not have enough of them together. Currently, everything about her performance as Soumya is trending on social media, be it her songs, her dialogues or snippets of performance. Talking about all the love that she is receiving for the film, she says: "It feels happy that people are giving love to the film. I had come to watch the film with my mother and brother on Sunday and they both cried during the film. Watching my mother and brother cry in my film, I genuinely felt that this is why we make films - to see people we care about have an emotional experience." "Mom hamesha se filmy rahi hai (My mother is an actress and is always filmy so she can cry) but Ibrahim is a 22-year-old urban youth and if he could cry, I can say that this is not just a rural Indore story. It will connect to everyone. When I saw my mom and brother both cry together while watching the film, I felt good." When asked about the best compliment she received, for Zara Hatke Zara Bachke, Sara said, "I read somewhere Sara Ali Khan is back, I don't know why, that felt good. And my mother's and brother's reaction to the film, for sure." With a collection of Rs 30.60 crore so far, Sara is adding another glory to her feather proving her to be one of the most promising actors in her generation.

Freddy Daruwala had a near-to-death experience

Freddy Daruwala falls from 35 feet into freezing cold water from the bridge & here's what happened next!

Freddy Daruwala, majorly known for his action packed roles and performances, had a near-to-death experience while performing a stunt on one of his latest projects in Kashmir!

In one of his most current web series 'Crackdown S2', there was a stunt Freddy had to perform on a bridge. The actor had to do a pull up under a bridge while a drone shot was to capture it all.

The director Apoorva Lakhia had planned it for a studio shoot, understanding the risk but Freddy insisted he do it in real time and on live locations! It was the peak of winter with minus temperature in Kashmir. The water was freezing cold when the actor started performing the stunt bare chested! Freddy finished what he had to do but unfortunately by then his hands were frozen and a slight delay in lifting him up, resulted in the actor falling from 35 feet in the freezing cold water. No



doubt, he sustained injuries on his back, legs and shoulders. The entire set was in shock but when Freddy came walking out of the water unhurt, much to the surprise of the crew. The director immediately called off the shoot and was concerned over his situation but Freddy resumed the

shoot the very next day being a professional actor.

Recalling the incident, Freddy reveals, "I should have been more careful. I remember the director (Apoorva Lakhia) informing me about us having all the possibilities and safety harness to execute the scene. But I insisted on doing it on my own but

the end result didn't turn out to be the way it should have been and as per my and Apoorva sir's expectations. It was more risky because it wasn't the last day of the shoot and if I was hurt, the shoot would have stalled. But luckily nothing of that sort happened and I continued shooting."

Vijay Varma lands in Kyrgyzstan for shoot of his next film

Actor Vijay Varma, who will be soon seen in 'Lust Stories 2', is currently in Kyrgyzstan for the shoot of his upcoming film, the details of which are yet under wraps.

The actor took to the story section of his Instagram on Wednesday to share a video from the location.

The shoot location is stationed at an expansive landscape in the hills. Talking about the schedule, a source close to Vijay shared that the actor will be there till the end of this month to wrap the 20 days long shoot schedule.

Vijay Varma's next appearance, after 'Dahaad' is 'Lust Stories 2'. The highly anticipated show's teaser was released recently.

The actor also has 'Devotion of Suspect X' in



which he will be seen sharing screen with Kareena Kapoor Khan, and Homi Adjanian's 'Murder Mubarak' in the pipeline.

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

Vijay Tilani will soon be seen in Star Bharat's popular show 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho'. Vijay will be seen essaying the role of Vikram, Chitra's husband and Dev's brother-in-law. With this new character, Vijay is all set to surprise the audience as he takes on a different avatar, departing from his previous boy-next-door roles. Expressing his excitement about joining the show, Vijay shared, "I'm excited to be part of the show 'Na Umra ki Seema Ho'. I was very intrigued by the show's plot, and when I was offered the role of Vikram, I couldn't refuse. It's a wonderful opportunity for me to explore a new side of acting. For the first time, I will be seen in a grey character, which is a significant departure from my previous roles. It's my first-ever grey shade character in my career, so it's some-



thing new for me as well as my fans and the audience. I hope they will love my new look and appreciate this exciting change." Vijay Tilani's entry into 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho' brings anticipation and curiosity as viewers eagerly await his portrayal of Vikram. With his talent and dedication, Vijay is sure to add a fresh dimension to the show and captivate the audience with his exceptional performance.

Rasika Dugal begins shooting for new web series in Udaipur

Actress Rasika Dugal has commenced shooting for an exciting new web show in the city of lakes, Udaipur in Rajasthan. While the project's details are under wraps, sources have revealed that it is a highly anticipated production by a major production house. Rasika will play as one of the protagonists. Rasika flew to Udaipur in the first week of June to begin the first schedule, which will extend until the first week of July. Subsequently, the shooting will move to Mumbai for the second schedule in August. Rasika shared her enthusiasm for the new endeavour on her Instagram account, where she posted a picture reading the script against a stunning backdrop. The hashtags she used, including #UdaipurDiaries, #ShootLife, and #Udaipur, hinting about the new project. Among her upcoming releases is the Amazon Prime supernatural thriller 'Adhura', which promises to keep viewers on the edge of their seats. Rasika has recently completed shooting for the highly anticipated third season of 'Mirzapur' which is also due to release this year. Her other upcoming projects include - 'Spike', 'Lord Curzon Ki Haveli', 'Fairy Folk', and 'Little Thomas.'



Vidya Balan turns musician in her latest reel



There's simply nothing the brilliant powerhouse of talent Vidya Balan can't do! The reigning Queen of Instagram reels currently, Vidya Balan shares how she played a musical instrument the small nagada for the 1st time ever at the Jaipur Literary Festival, Soneva Fushi.

The curious and versatile actor is an eager artist which is not only evident from her experimental and pioneering roles in movies but also her social media content. Participating in trends on Instagram even while bringing her own unique brand of hu-

mour to the gram, Vidya Balan has perfectly mastered the art of winning hearts of audiences.

From re-enacting dialogues on reels, singing for the gram to stunning everyone with her astonishing transition and fashion feels and of course the latest where she is seen trying her hand at a musical instrument, Vidya Balan's social media game is on point!

On the work front, Vidya Balan is currently looking forward to her upcoming release Neevat on the 7th July which marks her return to the theatres after the pandemic.

If I ever fall in love, age won't matter, says Vandana Rao

Actress Vandana Rao, who plays Chitra in 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho', feels age shouldn't be the criteria for love.

The show has made all people believe that love has no barrier. When love is true, age doesn't matter.

Asked if she would like to ever fall for a person who's much elder than her in real life, Vandana said: "Of course yes! If ever fall in love, definitely age would never matter to me. It's about the person and the love." "What if a person is around your age, but he's not loyal and

is disrespectful, will you happy in that relationship? No, right? Age doesn't matter when you are in true love with each other. It's all about mutual understanding and your unconditional love."

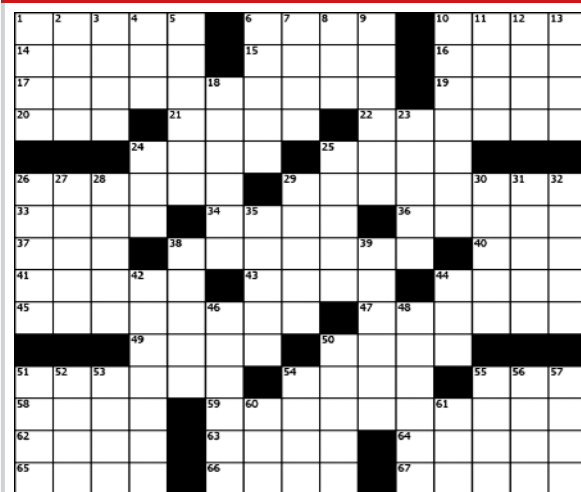
She added: "This show stands strong for the belief. The show is changing mindset for sure as people are absolutely loving it and shaping their minds to accept love as love with no society pressure or any taboo about age differences. In the end only love matters."

'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho' airs on Star Bharat.



CROSSWORD

670



ACROSS

- More pleasant
- Saloons
- Nearly all
- Got out of bed
- Div's specialty
- Choir voice
- Ownership
- Chair
- Picnic pest
- Placed
- Once more!

24. Ringing device
25. Tibet's locale
26. Fleet
29. Decorator
33. Incite
34. Chinese dynasty
36. Blanche
37. Battering
38. Genuine
40. Glance (2 wds.)
41. Make disappear
43. Bus money
44. Flower part

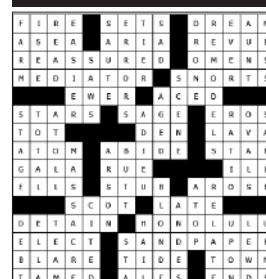
45. Perfumes
47. Spuds
49. Portal
50. Flower
51. Largest desert
54. Mist
55. Irate
58. Jogging gait
59. Monotonous
62. Top
63. Burn
64. Says
65. Lean-to
66. Messes up
67. Itty-bitty

DOWN

- Valley (vineyard site)
- Golf club
- Price
- Snaky letter
- Teetered
- Aromatic herb
- Dry
- Spanish waterway
- Most sensible
- Lash thickener
- Butter substitute
- Celebrity
- Handbag
- Deli sausage
- Sister's daughter
- Naughty
- Wrath
- Consent
- Bellows

28. Paps' partners
29. Ancient Peruvians
30. Angry
31. Aquatic animal
32. Paper quantities
35. Deduce
38. Mister (Sp.)
39. Witty reply
42. Tranquilized
44. Piggery
46. Rough
48. Help
50. Wharves
51. Amtrak stops (abbr.)
52. Curved doorway
53. Residence
54. Practice boxing
55. Silent performer
56. English river
57. Contradict
60. Eternally, in poems
61. Bind

SOLUTION 669



India lose openers after Australia amass 469



India's Mohammed Siraj, centre, celebrates after taking the wicket of Australia's Travis Head caught behind.

London, Jun 08 (PTD):

India found themselves in a difficult situation with the early loss of their openers after Australia posted a commendable 469 in their first innings of the World Test Championship final, here on Thursday.

Australia added 142 runs to their overnight total with the loss of seven wickets be-

fore being bowled out one hour into the afternoon session. Mohammed Siraj cleaned up the tail and was the pick of India's bowlers with four wickets.

India batted for 10 overs before the tea break and were dealt a twin blow as skipper Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill fell to Pat Cummins and Scott Boland respectively.

They were at 37 for two at tea with Virat Kohli (4 batting) and Cheteshwar Pujara (3 batting) in the middle, trailing Australia by 432 runs.

Both Rohit (15 off 26) and Gill (13 off 15) looked in good touch before flattering to deceive. Rohit missed a ball from Cummins that was angled in before Gill inexplicably decided to leave

a delivery from Boland on length only to see his stumps being uprooted in the following over.

The conditions are good for batting but India have a massive challenge at hand. After the lunch break, Alex Carey pushed Australia past 450 with a 48 off 69 balls. His innings included a six off Ravindra Jadeja but an attempted reverse sweep the following ball led to his downfall, trapping him in front of the stumps.

India got themselves back in the game with four wickets in the morning session on day two but Australia maintained their upper hand by reaching 422 for seven at lunch, following Steve Smith's 31st hundred.

Resuming the day at 327 for three, Travis Head (163 off 174) and Steve Smith (121 off 268) walked into the middle under bright sunshine at The Oval.

Smith, who was on 95 overnight, got two freebies on the pads from Mohammed Siraj in the first over of the day and he happily put them away for consecutive boundaries to complete his seventh hundred in England and third at the venue.

India storm into semifinals with 11-0 thrashing of Chinese Taipei

Kakamigahara, Jun 08 (PTD):

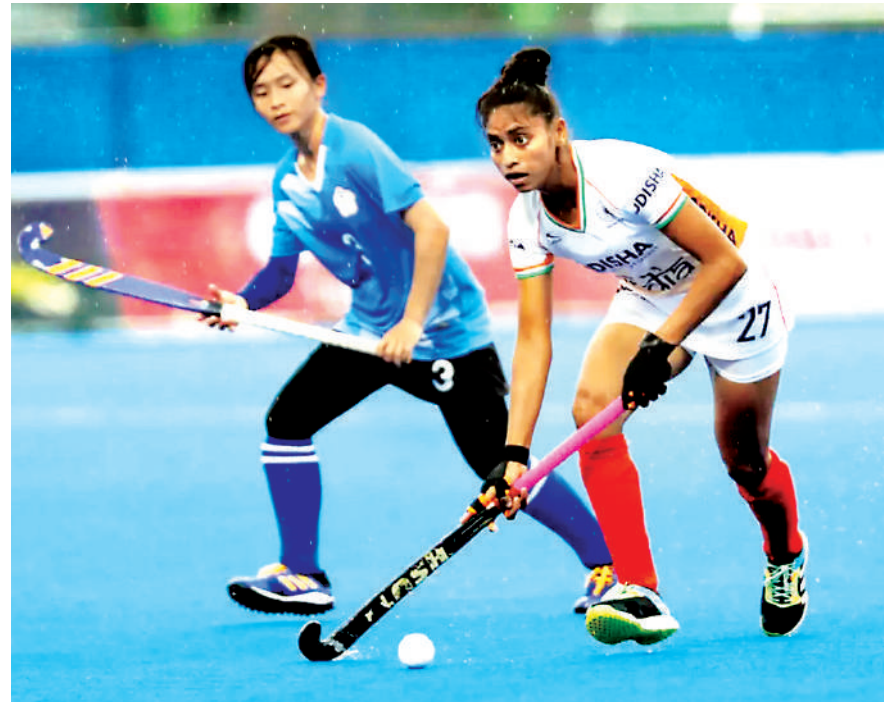
The Indian junior women's hockey team confirmed its spot in the semi-finals of the Asia Cup by mauling Chinese Taipei 11-0 in its last pool match here on Thursday.

The win also cemented India's position atop Pool A. India finished the group stage of the tournament unbeaten, having won three games and drawn one.

The scorers for India were Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke (1'), Deepika (3'), Annu (10', 52'), Rutuja Dadaso Pisal (12'), Neelam (19'), Manju Chorsiya (33'), Sunelita Toppo (43', 57'), Deepika Soreng (46') and Mumtaz Khan (55').

India displayed their dominance from the word go, launching consistent attacks against Chinese Taipei.

Vaishnavi opened the scoring for India with a field goal, followed by Deepika who converted a penalty corner to double the team's lead. Also, Annu and Rutuja scored a goal each before the end of the first quarter, giving



India a comfortable 4-0 advantage. The second quarter continued in a similar fashion, with India maintaining control of the game through ball possession and relentless attacks. Notably, Neelam found the back of the net, allowing India to enter

half time with a commanding 5-0 lead.

India continued their dominance as Manju and Toppo scored field goals to make sure that the third quarter ended with India leading 7-0.

The Indian team showed no signs of slow-

ing down in the final quarter, as Deepika Soreng, Annu, Mumtaz Khan and Toppo each scored a goal to help them win the match by a massive margin. India will play Japan or Kazakhstan in the semifinal on Saturday.

All eyes on Chhetri as India look to regain Intercontinental Cup



Bhubaneswar, Jun 08 (PTD):

In the last leg of his glittering career, Indian talisman Sunil Chhetri will be the cynosure of all eyes as the Blue Tigers look to regain the Intercontinental Cup, which begins here on Friday.

While Lebanon and Vanuatu will play in the tournament opener, hosts India will take on Mongolia in the day's second match, kicking off their campaign

against the lowest-ranked team (No 183) in the tournament. The Blue Tigers, ranked 101 in the FIFA rankings, will enter the tournament as the second-highest-ranked team, with Lebanon (99) ahead of them by two places. With 84 goals to his name from 131 international appearances, the most by an Indian, Chhetri has set numerous records over the last two decades.

As far as the tournament is concerned, no player has made an impact like the Indian skipper who has scored 11 of India's 16 goals in the event.

Chhetri is the only player to score a hat-trick in the competition.

"Sunil has always been a role model and a leader in every sense for the boys and girls. But he's not only talking, he's showing that with his test results once again," Stimac had said.

"In this camp, he was in top-five positions in all the tests we executed. So that's the best way of leading the team and showing them how much it can be done.

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTD):

Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on Thursday predicted that Indian athletes will return with the country's best-ever medal haul from the Asian Games later this year.

India are expected to send one of the largest contingents to the Asian Games this year with athletes competing in non-traditional sports like kurash, jujutsu, and chess.

A total of 600 athletes are expected to represent India across various sports, compared to 570 in the last edition and 541 in 2014.

"The improvement in facilities by the government has resulted in India's best-ever performance at the last Olympics, Paralympics, Deaflympics and Commonwealth Games. We won a record number of medals and we will do similarly in the Asian Games.

"I think India will have the best-ever performance in the Asian Games,"



Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur during a visit to Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range, in New Delhi, Thursday, June 8.

Thakur told reporters on the occasion of Mission Olympic Cell's (MOC) 100th meeting here.

India returned with a best-ever haul of 69 medals, including 15 gold, 24 silver and 30 bronze from the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta and

Pelambang, Indonesia.

The minister informed that over 350 proposals of TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) group athletes worth Rs 45 crore have also been approved in this Olympic cycle.

"For the preparation for Asian Games the govern-

ment has till now sanctioned over Rs 220 crore. The government has spent Rs 450 crore in the current Olympic cycle on training and equipment. We have approved proposals of TOPS group athletes worth Rs 45 crore," Thakur said.



Manchester, Jun 08 (API):

With Lionel Messi on his way to Inter Miami and Cristiano Ronaldo already in Saudi Arabia, it's time for soccer's next global superstar to step forward.

Say hello to Erling Haaland, whose record-breaking first season at Manchester City has seen the Norwegian establish

himself as probably the most lethal goal-scorer in the sport. On Saturday he could fire Pep Guardiola's City to its first Champions League title and a historic treble of trophies after winning the Premier League and FA Cup this season. Perhaps only Paris Saint-Germain forward Kylian Mbappe and Real Madrid winger Vinicius Junior can challenge Haaland to the title of the world's best in the post-Messi and Ronaldo era. Haaland has exceeded all expectations in his first season at City after signing from Borussia Dortmund last summer. His goal-scoring talents were already well known. European giants Real Madrid and Manchester United were among his admirers. But his feats at City have defied belief at times and set new standards in England's top flight. With 36 goals in the Premier League, he set a new benchmark in the division by breaking the record of 34, which was jointly held by Andy Cole and Alan Shearer. It had stood for 29 years.

Rohit, Kohli keen to nurture 'next big thing' Gill

London, Jun 08 (PTD):

Shubman Gill is the "next big thing" in Indian cricket and Indian batting stalwarts Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli are keen to help the 23-year-old grow.

Gill has had a dream run across formats in the last one year which has prompted his national team captain Rohit to term him as the "next big thing".

"Shubman Gill has got so much potential. Without a doubt in my mind, the next big thing in Indian cricket," Rohit told the ICC on the sidelines of the World Test Championship final against Australia. "He has got everything required to get success at this level. I just hope he continues this good run of form," Rohit added. If the skipper was effusive in his praise, his long-time teammate and Gill's idol Kohli wants to help the youngster with all his knowledge acquired during his 15 years of top-flight cricket.

"What I know, he has told me that he has looked up to my career when I was coming up the ranks, he speaks to me a lot about the game and I am keen to help him grow," Kohli said. Gill's cover drive has an uncanny resemblance with Kohli's execution and the maestro is fully aware. Kohli's fans known as 'Viratians' call him 'King' and now Gill,



the heir apparent, is being termed as the 'Prince'. "All these tags of King and Prince are great for the public but the job of any senior cricketer is to help any youngster groom youngsters and give them insight that you have experienced throughout your career, so that they can manage their ups and downs. "He is a lovely kid, he is playing amazingly well and I wish he continues that in this (ongoing Test match) as well," said India's No. 1 batter of last decade.

India lacked positive mindset by opting to field: Shastri



London, Jun 08 (PTD):

Disappointed by India's defensive approach, former head coach Ravi Shastri has said Rohit Sharma did not show a "positive mindset" by electing to bowl in the World Test Championship final against Australia here.

India left out veteran off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin and preferred a four-pronged pace attack to go with left-arm spin bowling allrounder Ravindra Jadeja as they chose to bowl under overcast conditions.

The decision backfired as Steve Smith (95 batting) and Travis Head (146 bat-

ting) shared an unbroken 251-run partnership to put Australia in a commanding 327/3 heading into day two.

"From what came out today, the mindset was to field if they won the toss, hence the choices in the bowling department - four seamers one spinner," Shastri told ICC after the end of the opening day's play on Wednesday.

"If the mindset was positive you'd want to bat, rough it out in the first session and see if you can put 250 on board. Don't think too big 250-260 and if the conditions got better and you saw the first session through, you could have got more," he added.

India had Australia at 73/2 at lunch on day one but after the skies cleared up it became a batting beauty as Smith and Head swung the momentum in their favour.

Shastri further said Australia are in a prime position and it's up to Pat Cummins and his men to let India back into the marquee contest.

Carlos Alcaraz and Novak Djokovic will meet in semis

Paris, Jun 08 (API):

Two weeks ago, before the start of play at the French Open, the brackets were set for the tournament, and one possible semifinal matchup immediately demanded attention: No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz, the Next Big Thing in men's tennis, against No. 3 Novak Djokovic, the Current Big Thing in men's tennis.

The heightened anticipation was not merely because it would be fascinating to see the two of them play at Roland Garros. It also would be fascinating to see them play each other, period: They've only met once, and it was 13 months ago, with Alcaraz coming out on top. So get ready: Alcaraz and Djokovic will finally share the stage again on Friday in Court Philippe Chatrier, where they will compete for a spot in the championship match. "Since the draw came out, everyone was expecting that match the semifinal against Novak.



Myself, as well," Alcaraz said after completing his half of the bargain by outclassing Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-2, 6-1, 7-6 (5) in the quarterfinals Tuesday night. "I really want to play that match." A moment later, Alcaraz observed: "If you want to be the best, you have to beat the best."

That echoed, word for word, the phrase Djokovic uttered hours earlier as he looked ahead after beating Karen Khachanov 4-6, 7-6 (0), 6-2, 6-4 on Tuesday. "It's definitely the biggest challenge for me, so far in the tournament. If you want to

be the best, you have to beat the best. He's definitely a guy to beat here. I'm looking forward to that."

The other men's pairing in the final four will include No. 22 Alexander Zverev, who advanced to that round in Paris for the third consecutive time by defeating Tomas Martin Etcheverry 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4. Two years ago, Zverev lost to Stefanos Tsitsipas in five sets; last year, Zverev left the stadium in a wheelchair after tearing ligaments in his right ankle late in the second set against Rafael Nadal.

INTERIM RELIEF

Court directs not to evict AAP MP Chadha from official bungalow

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

In an interim relief to AAP MP Raghav Chadha, a Delhi court has directed the Rajya Sabha secretariat to not evict him of a Type-7 bungalow in Lutyens' Delhi, which is usually allotted to law-makers who are former ministers, chief ministers or governors, till the pendency of his application and without following the due process of law.

The court will now decide the maintainability of Chadha's application against the March 3, 2023 order of the Rajya Sabha secretariat cancelling the allotment of the bungalow to him on July 10.

Nobody from the Rajya Sabha secretariat was immediately available for comments on the judicial order and the MP's peti-

tion. During the proceedings, the counsel for the RS secretariat objected to the maintainability of the application.

Additional District Judge Sudhanshu Kaushik had on June 1, after hearing the arguments from both sides on the issue of maintainability, fixed the matter for July 10 for order.

The court had in April directed the secretariat not to dispossess Chadha of the bungalow till the pendency of the application "without due process of law". "At this stage, I do not deem it expedient to comment on the arguments raised by the plaintiff that the allotment once made by the secretariat cannot be cancelled under

any circumstances during the entire tenure of a Member of Parliament," the judge had said.

However, I do find force in the second limb of the argument advanced on behalf of the plaintiff that a person cannot be dispossessed except by following the due process of law, the judge said.

"Since, the plaintiff (Chadha) is occupying an accommodation, which falls under the category of public premises, the defendant (Rajya Sabha Secretariat) is obligated to follow the due process of law," he said.

The judge noted Chadha's submission that the secretariat was acting in "haste" and there was a strong likelihood that he

might be dispossessed without following the due process of law.

"In view of these circumstances, a prima-facie case is made out for issuing directions to the effect that the plaintiff shall not be dispossessed from the bungalow without due process of law," the judge said.

He observed that the balance of convenience also was in favour of Chadha as he was residing in the accommodation along with his parents.

"Plaintiff would indeed suffer irreparable injury, in case he is dispossessed without the due process of law. Accordingly, till the next date of hearing, the defendant is directed not to dispossess the plaintiff from bungalow without due process of law," the judge said.

Till it decides his plea

NEW CAMPUS INAUGURATION



Delhi Lt Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel and BJP MP Gautam Gambhir during the inauguration of the new campus of the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU), in New Delhi, Thursday.

Girl pulled out from borewell declared dead at hospital

Sohore (MP), Jun 08 (PTI):

The two-and-a-half-year-old girl, who was pulled out from a borewell in Sohore district of Madhya Pradesh on Thursday after nearly 52 hours of rescue efforts, was declared dead at a hospital, police said.

A police official said on the condition of anonymity that the minor had already died in the borewell and when she was pulled out, her body was found decomposing.

The victim's body was sent for post-mortem, he said.

The girl - Srishti - had fallen into the 300-foot borewell in Mungavali village around 1 pm on Tuesday. She was pulled out at 5.30 pm on Thursday and was rushed to the district hospital in an ambulance for a check up, another official said.

She was initially stuck at the depth of about 40 feet in the borewell, but due to vibrations caused by machines engaged in the rescue operation, she slid down further to about 100 feet, making the task more difficult, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on Wednesday.

An official on Thursday said she had further slipped to the depth of around 135 feet.

An Army team also joined the rescue operation, while teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the State Disaster Emergency Response Force (SDERF) were also part of the rescue operation, officials said.

A team of robotic experts also joined the operation on Thursday morning to rescue her, they said.

'Crocodile makes herself pregnant in first such case'

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

The first ever known case of a crocodile who made herself pregnant without male intervention has been identified at a zoo in Costa Rica, scientists say.

The crocodile produced a foetus that was 99.9 per cent genetically identical to herself, the researchers said.

The team, including researchers at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in the US, noted that the finding is the "first documentation" of this very rare mode of reproduction in a crocodile species.

Over the past two decades, zoologists have increasingly documented the vertebrate repro-

ductive strategy of facultative parthenogenesis (FP) in which females lay eggs or give birth without mating.

A wide range of organisms including birds, reptiles like lizards and snakes as well as some fishes, have been shown to reproduce in this strange manner, the researchers said.

The study, published recently in the journal Biology Letters, documented the first evidence of FP in the American crocodile, *Crocodylus acutus*.

The latest research is based on the 2018 observation of a female crocodile held in captivity for 16 years, which laid a clutch of 14 eggs, one of which contained a fully formed, but stillborn,

foetus.

The rare reproductive strategy in crocodilian species has particularly intrigued scientists as these organisms lack sex chromosomes and their sex determination is controlled by the temperature in which eggs develop and hatch.

Scientists say the trait might be inherited from an evolutionary ancestor, so dinosaurs might also have been capable of self-reproduction.

"This evidence offers tantalizing insights into the possible reproductive capabilities of extinct archosaurian relatives of crocodilians, notably the Pterosauria and Dinosauria," the authors wrote in the study.

The crocodile who laid the egg was ob-

tained when she was two years old and was kept apart from other crocodiles for its entire life in Parque Reptilania.

Researcher Warren Booth, who works at Virginia Tech in the US, and colleagues analysed the foetus and found that it was over 99.9 per cent genetically identical to its mother, confirming that there was no male intervention in its birth.

"Building on previous studies, the data advances our understanding of the distribution of FP in vertebrates, particularly in that all previous studies relate to species whose sex is genetically determined," the authors added.

Kerala fishermen take to the shores on treasure hunts

Thiruvananthapuram, June 08 (PTI):

With the Arabian Sea getting wild and stormy as the SouthWest Monsoon makes an entrance, and the trawling ban too set to begin on June 9, fishermen on the Kerala coast are left with no option but to stay ashore and look for treasure that the sea might throw up on to the sands.

On the eve of the trawling ban coming into force in the state's coastal waters, fishermen, who are already jobless due to Cyclone Biparjoy, were seen trying to find an alternate source of income through 'treasure hunting'. On Thiruvananthapuram's Shangumugham Beach, scores of fishermen were scouring the shores - un-

mindful of the huge waves - for coins, gold, and other valuables.

Many have already got gold in the form of chains, pendants, and earrings.

"When the rains (monsoon) start, the sea becomes rough, churning out everything on its bed. So we get money. There is no other way to earn anything during this time," Cyril, a local fisherman, said.

Showing a Rs 10 coin that he just picked up from the sand while fighting the waves hitting the shore, the fisherman said, "A few years ago, we used to get gold and other valuables. But after the Corona pandemic, we are mostly getting only coins."

There are many like Cyril who go in search of possible treasure.

INTERNATIONAL STUDY

'Arctic sea ice-free summer could happen a decade earlier than thought'

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

The Arctic could get its first summer free of sea ice by as early as the 2030s, a new study published in the journal Nature Communications has found. The study by an international team of researchers, led by Yeon-Hee Kim at Pohang University of Science and Technology in South Korea, predicted that the sea ice-free Arctic could happen 10 years earlier than previously thought, regardless of the greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions scenario. Arctic sea ice area (SIA) has been declining rapidly throughout

the year during recent decades with a steeper decline since 2000, the study said. In the Arctic Ocean, the sea ice area grows and shrinks over the course of the year. Additional sea ice forms in the winter, increasing sea ice area and usually reaches its maximum extent in March. In contrast, sea ice area reduces to its lowest in September, following melting in summer.

The study attributed GHG increases, increased human influence in the Arctic cryosphere and reduction in aerosol emissions since the 1980s following the El Chichon volcanic eruption to be the

drivers of the Arctic SIA reduction, observed throughout the year. Previous models have underestimated the extent of contribution of GHG to SIA reduction, the study said. This study compared satellite observations with advanced climate models and conducted an updated detection and attribution analysis of the observed Arctic SIA changes across all months over the 1979-2019 period. It also said that this study had a smaller observed uncertainty because it used SIA for analysis. Previous studies were mostly based on sea ice extent, it said. While SIA is defined as the actual

area covered with sea ice, sea ice extent is the total area of all grid cells with at least 15 per cent sea ice concentration and hence is strongly grid dependent.

Further, based on the quantified GHG contribution to the observed Arctic SIA reduction, the study has projected the future timing of the ice-free Arctic Ocean under the different Shared Socioeconomic Pathway (SSP) emission scenarios, which are scenarios of projected socioeconomic global changes up to 2100, used to derive greenhouse gas emissions scenarios with different climate policies.

MEDICAL CAMP



Locals at a medical camp organised by the Assam Rifles for people of violence-hit areas in Manipur.

'COVID-19 can cause brain cells to fuse'

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI): Infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus can cause brain cells to fuse, initiating malfunctions that lead to chronic neurological symptoms, according to a study. SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, has been detected in the brains of people with "long COVID" months after their initial infection. The new research, published in the journal Science Advances, explored how SARS-CoV-2 alters the function of the nervous system. "We discovered COVID-19 causes neurons to undergo a cell fusion process, which has not been seen before," said Professor Massimo Hilliard from The University of Queensland,

Australia. "After neuronal infection with SARS-CoV-2, the spike S protein becomes present in neurons, and once neurons fuse, they don't die. They either start firing synchronously, or they stop functioning altogether," Hilliard said. The researcher likened the role of neurons to that of wires connecting switches to the lights in a kitchen and a bathroom. "Once fusion takes place, each switch either turns on both the kitchen and bathroom lights at the same time, or neither of them," Hilliard said. "It's bad news for the two independent circuits," he added. The discovery offers a potential explanation for persistent neurological effects after a viral infection, the researchers said.

ED questions TMC leader Abhishek's wife in coal case

Kolkata, Jun 08 (PTI):

Senior TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee's wife Rujira was grilled by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday for nearly four hours in connection with the coal pilferage case, officials said.

The investigators had a three-page questionnaire for Rujira, who reached the ED office at CGO Complex around 12.40 pm. "She (Rujira) was asked questions about certain accounts in foreign banks. Her statements were recorded," an ED official told PTI.

Asked about Rujira's questioning by the ED sleuths, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee declined to comment, stating that Rujira would speak in case she felt there was any need.



Security personnel stand guard in front of Enforcement Directorate's (ED) office during the appearance of Senior TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee's wife Rujira for questioning in the coal pilferage case, in Kolkata, Thursday.

"Please, (since) it's my family matter and I do not want to talk about it. Rujira is a mature girl. If needed she will talk about it," Banerjee told reporters at the state secretariat.

Rujira was stopped at the Kolkata airport on Monday when she at-

tempted to board a flight to UAE with her two children. She was then served summons to appear before the agency at 11 am on June 8.

However, she reached the CGO Complex around 12.40 pm along with her lawyer. She left the ED office around 4.20 pm follow-

ing her questioning.

Abhishek, the Chief Minister's nephew has alleged the questioning was an attempt at "harassing" his family and was aimed at halting his mass outreach campaign ahead of the panchayat elections in the state.

Tight security arrangements were made around the CGO Complex to prevent any untoward incident, a senior police officer said.

Both CBI and the ED have earlier questioned Rujira in the coal case.

The CBI is probing allegations of illegal-mining of coal from abandoned mines of Eastern Coalfields, estimated to be worth thousands of crores of rupees, officials said.

The ED is probing the money trail related to the case.

Hospital uses extreme cold therapy to treat cancer patient unfit for surgery

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI): A 55-year-old woman suffering from gall bladder cancer and deemed unfit for surgery underwent cryoablation, a new form of minimally invasive treatment that kills carcinogenic cells with extremely cold gases, at a private hospital here.

The procedure was performed by the Department of Interventional Radiology at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, which claimed it to be a "first-of-its-kind procedure" in north India for cancer treatment. Explaining the procedure, Ajit Yadav, a consultant at the Department of Interventional Radiology, said, "Cryoablation works on the principle of the 'freeze-thaw-freeze'

cycle. A thin needle called a cryoprobe is placed directly into the cancerous area under ultrasound or CT scan guidance."

"The cryoprobe circulates extremely cold gas like liquid nitrogen to freeze and kill cancer cells.

कालड़ा बर्न एवं
प्लास्टिक कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी सेंटर
कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी
झुरियां, झांड़, दाग, तिल, अनचाहे बाल आदि (आधुनिक लेजर द्वारा), मुहांसे, दाग, नाक, होठ, रोड़ी, वक्ष, पेट आदि (प्लास्टिक सर्जरी द्वारा) तथा अंग कटने-जलने की अति विशेष चिकित्सा.
आर.के.सी.के सामने, चौबे कालनी एवं परचैदी नाका, धमतरी रोड, कलर्स मॉल के पास, रायपुर कॉल : 9827143060/8871003060
Ajay Advt.



BRIEF



New generation ballistic missile 'Agni Prime' being test-fired by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha, Wednesday.

Fire

■ **Lucknow:** A fire broke out at an under-construction building of the King George's Medical University (KGMU) here on Thursday, a senior official said. No casualty has been reported in the afternoon incident, District Magistrate Suryapal Gangwar said. The cause of the fire is not immediately known, he said, adding that people engaged in the construction will be questioned.

Charge sheet

■ **New Delhi:** The CBI has filed a supplementary charge sheet against aviation consultant Deepak Talwar and his NGO Advantage India for alleged violation of foreign funds received by it, officials said. In its charge sheet, the probe agency has listed Talwar, Advantage India, his wife Deepa Talwar besides Girish Vaid, Krishan Kumar Nair, Tarun Kumar Kapoor, Archana Kapoor, and Pran Nath Monga.

Outshine

■ **Bhubaneswar:** Girls outshined boys with a better pass percentage in Class-12 state board exams for arts and vocational streams, the results of which were declared by the Council of Higher Secondary Education, Odisha on Thursday. Of the 2,30,545 students, 1,81,869 cleared the Plus-II (Arts) examinations, this year, and the overall pass percentage was 78.88, down from 82.80 last year, School and Mass Education Department Secretary Aswathy S said.

Jailed

■ **New Delhi:** A special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court in Mumbai has sentenced two Bangladeshi nationals to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment in the Thane fake currency case. The accused - Abdullah Shaikdar and Najmul Hasan of Khulna, Bangladesh - have also been fined Rs 10,000 each under sections of the Indian Panel Code and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, a spokesperson of the federal agency said.

Suicide

■ **Ballia:** A 29-year-old man allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself at a village here, police said on Thursday. Kishan Singh alias Bhullan got married three months ago. He was a drug addict and under depression, a police officer said.

Weather	
	High 42 Low 27
MARKET	
NIIFTY	18,634.55 ▼
SENSEX	62,848.64 ▼
BULLION	
GOLD	59,940
SILVER	73,469

SHRADDHA WALKAR REPLAY

Man chops, boils partner's body parts

■ **In police custody till June 16**

Thane, Jun 08 (PTD):

A 56-year-old man was arrested after the chopped and boiled body parts of his live-in partner were recovered from a flat in Maharashtra's Thane district, an official said on Thursday. A court here has remanded the man, Manoj Sane, in police custody till June 16, he said.

A few of the pieces were crushed in a mixer and boiled in a pressure cooker, in what appeared to be a re-run of the Shraddha Walkar case.

Neighbours also told the police that Sane had been feeding stray dogs for the past few days, something he had never done before.



Forensics team reaches the flat where 56-year-old accused Manoj Sane allegedly chopped and boiled body parts of his live-in partner at Mira Road locality, in Thane district, Thursday.(inset) accused.

While a case has been registered against Sane under Indian Penal Code sections 302 (murder) and 201 (destruction of evidence), the motive behind the crime is yet to be ascertained, said the official from Naya Nagar police station.

Victim Saraswati Vaidya (36) was in a live-in relationship with Sane, who works in a ration shop, and the couple resided in flat no. 704 on the seventh floor of Geeta Akashdweep building in Mira Road East for the past three years, the official said.

Another police official told PTI that a neighbour experienced a foul smell emanating from Sane's flat on Wednesday. Sane appeared nervous when he asked him about the stench. Sane then stepped out with a black sack and told the neighbour that he would be back by 10.30 pm.

However, neighbours felt something was not right and they alerted the police.

Police broke open the door after there was no response from inside. While Sane was in the flat, it reeked of an unbearable smell, said the official. In the bedroom, they found a plastic bag and a blood-stained saw. But the seasoned cops were stunned when they entered the kitchen, he said.

Gyanvapi litigant appeals to President for euthanasia

■ **Alleges harassment**

Varanasi (UP), Jun 08 (PTD):

The main litigant in the Gyanvapi-Shringar Gauri complex case has sought "permission for euthanasia" from President Droupadi Murmu, alleging that her fellow petitioners are spreading false propaganda to defame her.

Rakhi Singh said claims that she is withdrawing from the case are false.

Lawyer for the Hindu litigants in the case, Harishankar Jain, however, refuted Rakhi Singh's allegations, saying these were baseless.

In her letter to

President Murmu, Rakhi Singh said, "I request you to grant me permission of euthanasia and help me getting rid of the mental pain and agony so that I can get peace and sleep eternally." She also said she would wait for a reply till June 9 till 9 am and after that she would take her own decision.

Rakhi Singh, along with four other Hindu women, had filed the case in the court of the civil judge (senior division), Varanasi, in August 2021, seeking the right to daily worship at the Maa Shringar Gauri Sthal in the Gyanvapi mosque complex. "Four of my as-

sociates, including Lakshmi Devi, Sita Sahu, Manju Vyas, Rekha Pathak, along with (senior) advocate Harishankar Jain, his son and advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain and their few colleagues are doing a false propaganda to defame me and my uncle and aunt Jitendra Singh Visen and Kiran Singh since May 2022," Rakhi Singh said in her letter.

They have made a "false claim that I am withdrawing from the case despite the fact that no statement or information regarding the same was issued by me or my uncle Jitendra Singh Visen", she said.

YSRCP MP released

Hyderabad, June 80 (PTD):

YSR Congress MP Y S Avinash Reddy was arrested by the CBI in connection with the murder of his uncle and former minister Y S Vivekananda Reddy, but he was immediately released as per a Telangana High Court order that had earlier granted him anticipatory bail.

Avinash Reddy, who appeared before the central agency on June 3, was arrested by the CBI and released on bail the same day after fulfilling certain formalities, sources said.

RBI keeps interest rate on pause

Mumbai, Jun 08 (PTD):

The Reserve Bank of India on Thursday left its key interest rate unchanged for a second straight policy meeting but signalled that it wants to see inflation moderate more while preserving the growth momentum. The monetary policy committee (MPC), which has three members from RBI and an equal number of external experts, voted unanimously to keep the benchmark repurchase, or repo rate unchanged at 6.50 per cent. It decided 5:1 to retain the policy stance focused on "withdrawal of accommodation", which was introduced in April last year. While consumer price inflation eased during March-April 2023 and moved into the tolerance band, headline inflation is still above the target of 4 per cent and is expected to remain so during the rest of



A security personnel stands guard outside the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) headquarters, in Mumbai, Thursday.

the current fiscal, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said announcing the monetary policy decision.

Miss World 2023 competition returns to India after 27 years

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTD)

India is set to host the Miss World 2023 competition, as the coveted international beauty pageant makes its return to the country after nearly three decades.

The much anticipated 71st edition of Miss World is expected to take place in November this year, the final dates of which are yet to be ascertained.

India had last hosted the international pageant in 1996.

"I am delighted to announce India as the new home of the 71st Miss World Final... We cannot wait to share your unique and diverse culture, world class attractions and breathtaking locations



Miss World 2022 Karolina Bielawska (centre), Femina Miss India World 2022 Sini Shetty (right), Miss World Organisation Chairperson Julia Morley (2nd from left) and Jamil Saidi (2nd from right) during a press conference, organised for the announcement of the 71st Miss World pageant, in New Delhi, Thursday.

with the rest of the world.

"The 71st Miss World 2023 will showcase the Achievements of 130 National champions in

their one-month journey across 'Incredible India' as we present the 71st and most spectacular Miss World final ever," said

Julia Morley, chairperson and CEO of Miss World organization at a press conference on Thursday.

The month-long event, which would witness contestants from over 130 countries, will feature a series of rigorous competitions, including talent showcases, sports challenges, and charitable initiatives -- all aimed at highlighting the qualities that make them ambassadors of change. The reigning Miss World, Karolina Bielawska of Poland, who is currently in India spreading the word about the beauty competition, said she is excited to hand over her crown in this "beautiful country" which stands for the same values as Miss World.

NATURAL CALAMITY



An avalanche hits mountains around the Kedarnath Temple in Uttarakhand's Rudraprayag district, Thursday.

FIRST TIME IN 75 YEARS

Women drivers take charge of MSRTC buses

Mumbai, Jun 08 (PTD):

Breaking male hegemony, a few women on Thursday drove buses of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) for the first time in its 75-year history. The state-owned public transport body has recruited 28 women drivers and a few of them started driving passenger buses from Thursday, said its spokesperson Abhijit Bhosale. It was the start of "a new era," he said.

Madhavi Santosh Salve was among the first women drivers of the corporation as she commanded the steering wheel of a Sinnar-Nashik bus.

MSRTC vice-chairman and managing director Shekhar Channe told PTI that the women drivers who possessed the heavy vehicle license underwent rigorous training of three months, while those who did not have this licence underwent training for a full one year.

At the end of it, a test was conducted, and those who cleared it underwent another 80-day training.

As many as 206 women drivers had qualified in a direct recruitment scheme in 2019, and so far 28 of them have been recruited. Some of the qualified women opted out as the pandemic delayed the process.

'ISRO not rushing to launch Gaganyaan'

Bengaluru, Jun 08 (PTD)

Indian Space Research Organisation has decided not to rush its Gaganyaan project, the manned mission to space, as it wants to ensure that the country's first human space flight is a 'sure shot safe mission', said its chairman S Somanath here on Thursday.

Gaganyaan was set to launch in 2022 but due to covid-19 there was an inordinate delay, Somanath told reporters during the international conference on Spacecraft Mission Operations (SMOPS-2023).

"We have a different thinking now. Our thinking is like this that we don't want to rush. That decision we have taken. The primary objective of the human space flight is a sure shot safe mission," the



S Somanath

ISRO chief said. The space agency has redefined the mission in such a way that it will achieve success in the very first attempt. For this, it has enhanced the testing and demonstration mission substantially in recent times. These exercises involve additional abort missions to ensure the safety of the crew, he explained. According to Somanath, the first exercise will probably happen in August, which was earlier planned in July. "So, two abort missions have to take

place this year followed by an unmanned mission possibly by the beginning of next year," the ISRO chairman said. The space scientist said all the engine test programmes have been completed within ISRO.

Stating that hectic activities are taking place, Somanath said every week at least some major tests are happening.

"For me, eight major tests are there and if all the tests successfully happen without any glitch, the launch will be between 2024 and 2025 time frame. But if I face problems and challenges, which are natural in this process, I have to discount for the schedule," he added.

About India's first solar mission, Aditya-L1, Somanath said the launch window is August this year to January next year.

GUJ HC OBSERVATION

'Was normal for girls to deliver child before turning 17; read Manusmriti'

Ahmedabad, Jun 08 (PTI):

It was once normal for girls to marry at a young age and deliver a child before they turned 17, a judge of the Gujarat High Court has remarked while hearing a minor rape survivor's plea for permission to terminate her pregnancy.

While indicating that he might not allow the petition if both the girl and foetus were healthy, Justice Samir Dave of the high court also referred to the Manusmriti during the hearing on Wednesday.

The rape survivor is 16 years and 11 months old and carrying a seven-month-old foetus. Her father moved the

HC seeking permission for abortion as the pregnancy had crossed the 24-week threshold up to which abortion can be performed without a court's leave.

On Wednesday, his lawyer sought an early hearing, saying the family was concerned because of the girl's age. Justice Dave said there was anxiety because "we are living in the 21st century".

"Ask your mother or great-grandmother. Fourteen-fifteen was the maximum age (for marriage), and girls used to give birth to their first child before turning 17. And girls get mature before boys....Though you may not read, but you should read Manusmriti once," he added.

Baghel gives mantra to win over 75 seats in upcoming polls

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: On Thursday, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel addressed the party office bearers, elected public representatives and other leaders during a Durg divisional convention held at Hotel Empyrean in Durg. He gave mantra to improve the party's performance in the upcoming Vidhan Sabha elections and ensure victory in over 75 seats.

He further mobilised the cadre for the 2023 Lok Sabha election. He emphasised on strengthening social media to counter the opponents. He further said that the schemes of the state government that have benefitted the common people must be publicised prominently.

He asked the Congress leaders and office bearers to speak about the schemes during routine and general interaction with the people. He said that the farmers must be repeatedly told that only the Congress will provide higher MSP on the agricultural produce.



The Chief Minister further asked the party cadre to stay united and work for the party. He said that there can be many eligible candidates from a constituency but the party can provide ticket only to one person. In such a situation, other leaders should maintain patience and avoid rebellion attitude. They should work together in favour of the party and its candidate to ensure victory.

Baghel further said that no one can stop a party worker to become a leader if he works to strengthen the party at booth

level, strengthen the party organisation, knows the history of Congress, knows the contributions of party leaders, and stays active among masses as well as on social media.

Five years ago, Rahul Gandhi had directly interacted with thousands of party workers in Durg. He had asked the party cadre to apply directly to the party if they want to contest elections or recommend the name of some leader from any constituency.

Congress worked out to give this respect and honour to the party cadre in the last elec-

tion.

Before the 2018 election, no one even spoke about Chhattisgarh in Delhi. The topic of discussion was Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. It was anticipated that Congress will clean sweep in Rajasthan and there will be 50-50 in Madhya Pradesh. No one believed the claim that Congress will win 55 seats in Chhattisgarh.

But the party workers made it possible and Congress won the majority with 68 seats in Chhattisgarh. Thereafter, Congress created history by



winning all the 14 civic bodies. Out of the 20 seats in Durg Division, Congress had won 17 seats in the last election.

Later, the party snatched the Khairagarh seat from BJP in the by-polls. Now only the Rajnandgaon and Vaishali nagar seats are left and these two seats will also be grabbed by Congress in the next election, he said.

CM asked the party workers to publicise the state government schemes among masses. A large section of the society is getting benefitted from Nyay Schemes in which

benefit is being directly transferred to the people.

He said that BJP had disbursed Rs 98 crore as unemployment allowance in 13 years while Congress government gave 42 crores in just three months. He further said that Congress has succeeded in snatching major issues from the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Cow and Lord Ram were the main issues for BJP in the previous elections but the initiatives of Congress Government in Chhattisgarh have snatched these issues from BJP. The NGBB scheme, Godhan Nyay

Yojna and Ram Van Gaman Path project have left the BJP leaders speechless. Today, the opposition has no issues to corner the Congress government in Chhattisgarh.

Earlier the state was known only for coal, iron and naxals but today the situation has changed. Now the cultural identity of the state has been established in the country and abroad as well.

Chhattisgarh in-charge Kumari Selja appreciated the working of the Bhupesh Baghel government and gave certain tips to the party work-

ers. She also spoke about the failures of the nine years of BJP Union Government and urged the party workers to discuss these issues among common people to create an atmosphere in favour of Congress.

Earlier, PCC Chief Mohan Markam, Cabinet Minister Mohammad Akbar, AICC Secretary Saptagiri Ulka, CM's Advisor Vinod Verma, Youth Congress President Akash Sharma, AICC Secretary Rajesh Tiwari, Farmer Welfare Board Chairman Surendra Sharma and other leaders addressed the gathering and spoke about various topics.

VS Speaker Dr Charandas Mahant, Cabinet Ministers Tamradhwaj Sahu, Dr Prem Sai Singh Tekam, Amarjeet Bhagat, Ravindra Choubhe, MLAs Arun Vora, Devendra Yadav, Sangeeta Sinha, Kunwar Nishad, District Congress President Mukesh Chandrakar, Mayor Dheeraj Bakliwal, Mayor Neeraj Pal, DCC Bank President Rajendra Sahu and other leaders were present.

Woman strangles husband to death

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: In a shocking incident, a woman strangled her husband to death with a stole in Krishna Nagar area of Supela. According to police, the incident was the outcome of domestic violence. However, the locals stated that the mental condition of the lady was not fine and the family was seeking treatment from some tantriks. Police have arrested the accused and further investigations are on.

Inspector Durgesh Sharma (SHO, Supela) informed that on the intervening night of June 07-08, they received information that some criminal inci-

dent had occurred at a house in Krishna Nagar Supela.

Supela Police team rushed to the spot and found a crowd gathered near the residence of one Dilip Soni. Cops and some locals went inside Dilip Soni's house and Dilip Soni was lying on the bed. There was no movement in the body. His wife Sangeeta Soni was burning clothes in the kitchen.

On asking the people and family members who reside in the neighbourhood, police came to know that this couple often quarrelled over petty issues.

The locals suspected that Sangeeta Soni strangled her husband to death. Prima facie it appeared to



be a murder case after which an FIR was lodged at Supela Police Station under Section 302 of IPC.

On the instructions of Superintendent of Police Shalabh Kumar Sinha and under the guidance of ASP

Sanjay Dhruv and CSP Nikhil Rakheja, cops questioned the suspect Sangeeta Soni, the wife of the deceased Dilip Soni.

Initially she kept on misleading the police. However, during sustained

interrogation, she broke down and accepted her crime. She revealed that her husband used to drink alcohol and abuse her in the house. Being fed up with domestic violence, she strangled her husband to death with a stole.

The accused Sangeeta Soni alias Pileshwari Soni (39) wife of Dilip Soni a resident of Bajrang Chowk Krishna Nagar Supela was duly arrested and sent to the jail on judicial remand.

Inspector Durgesh Kumar Sharma, SI Tejram Kanwar, ASI Dinesh Singh, Constables Rajesh Hanaute, Shyam Mishra, Ravi Sao, women constable Dipti Chandrakar played a vital role in solving the case.

BJP candidates declared for urban body and panchayat bypolls

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: Bharatiya Janata Party has selected the candidates for the upcoming urban body and panchayat by-elections. Election Steering Committee was constituted by Durg District BJP President Jitendra Verma by including senior leaders for different constituencies. Election Steering Committee unanimously recommended the names of the candidates to the District BJP President. Thereafter, the District Coordination Committee approved the names recommended by the Election Steering Committee.

State BJP President Arun Sao, State General Secretary (Organization) Pawan Sai, Divisional Incharge Bhupendra Savanni and District Incharge Rajeev Agrawal have given their consent on the names of the can-



didates, after which the District BJP President Jitendra Verma announced the candidates for the urban body and panchayat by-elections.

Divya Sahu (former Sarpanch Kotni) is the authorized candidate of the Bharatiya Janata Party for the by-election for the post of member of District Panchayat Area No 6. Kanta Sahu (former corporator) will contest from Ward No 42 of Durg Municipal Corporation and Meena Joshi (former corporator) is the authorized candidate for the post of Corporator from Ward No

14 of Ahiwara Municipal Council. District BJP President Jitendra Verma will issue B forms for urban body elections.

Verma said that the nominations of all the three candidates will be filed on June 9. Meena Joshi will file nomination in Ahiwara at 10:30 am. Thereafter, District Panchayat member candidate Divya Sahu will file nomination in the presence of prominent leaders of Durg rural area around 12:00 hrs. Later around 1:00 pm, Kanta Sahu will file her nomination in the presence of prominent leaders of Durg city.

500 saplings planted on 'World Environment Day'

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: Bhilai Steel Plant collective observed 'World Environment Day', with a series of eco-friendly events at various departments of the Plant, Hospital and across the Township. The theme for the year as announced under the "Mission LiFE" campaign initiated by the Ministry of Environment, GOI was "Beat Plastic Pollution".

At the onset of Environment Day, Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) flagged-off a Walkathon. Several BSP employees, including EDs, CGMs, GMs along with CISF Personnel and school students led the walkathon from Ispat Bhawan to Equipment

Square and back, spreading awareness for environment conservation.

A massive tree plantation drive was carried out by the Horticulture section of the Plant's Town Services Department, at the Hospital Sector area, under the guidance of JY Sapkaale.

CGM (TSD&CSR). Chief Guest Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) planted saplings on this occasion.

Pratibha Agrawal, DIG, CISF, Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), AK Chakraborty, ED (MM), Nisha Soni, Acting ED (P&A), Abhijeet Kumar, Commandant (CISF) were the special guests on this occasion.

The gathering was administered an oath to work for environmental conservation and inspire



people to adopt a lifestyle that brings about positive changes in reducing environmental imbalance.

Addressing the gathering, Dasgupta appreciated the plantation drive and said that not just on Environment Day, but we should engage in environmental conservation

every-day, because humans have exploited nature and we are already facing repercussions like global warming. Children are our future, they should take-up plantation more diligently and also take care of them for life, he said.

Special Guest Pratibha



Agrawal, DIG (CISF), thanked BSP for such initiatives and said that CISF will extend its support in promoting such environmental conservation initiatives, as preserving the environment is an integral part of Indian culture and ethos.

In his address, Anjani

Kumar, ED (Works), said that the World Environment Day started from Stockholm in 1972, which was participated by over 143 countries from the world. The environmental imbalance is a major concern and it is the time at least on our birthdays, whether we cut

cake or not, but we must plant a tree and take care of it.

Addressing the gathering AK Chakraborty, ED (MM) said that, we must keep in mind that the natural resources are limited and we must do judicious use along with sustainable development. Water

and environmental conservation by the future generation will turn out to be an effective step to combat environmental imbalance.

It is noteworthy that as many as 500 saplings of different species were planted in the township, plant premises and peripheral areas by the Chief Guest, other guests, CISF personnel and school children. Bhilai Steel Plant is working with a target of planting 30,000 trees in the current year with the aid of Forest Development Corporation.

The welcome address was delivered by JY Sapkaale, CGM (TSD&CSR), whereas Dr NK Jain, DGM (Horticulture & PHD) proposed the vote of thanks.

Industrial plastic waste utilised to construct Rest Room

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: On the occasion of World Environment Day, BSP's SMS-3 has set a benchmark of environmental conservation, by renovating a Staff Rest-room at EWSS, that was constructed using in-house resources by EWSS Team after utilising the plastic waste generated during maintenance of cooling towers of the Plant. Chief Guest Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) inaugurated the staff rest-room on June 05.

Anjani Kumar appreciated the initiative of innovative re-use of industrial plastic waste which otherwise gets dumped and only adds to pollution on earth. With this step, EWSS has not only been able to enhance basic amenities for the staff but



also has contributed in reducing the carbon footprint due to industrial plastic waste generation, said Anjani Kumar. PK Sarkar, CGM I/c (Services), Asit Saha, CGM I/C (M&U), Sandip Kar, CGM (Quality & SMS-3) were present on this occasion, along with other officers of the plant. A presentation was also given by EWSS collective on eco-

bricks, under the mass awareness programme on judicious disposal of plastic waste. Ecobricks are plastic bottles densely packed with plastic waste to create a reusable building block that achieves plastic sequestration. Ecobricks can prove to be a low cost solution for disposal of plastic waste that is generated in large quantities every day. Unusable in-

dustrial plastic waste adds to the problem of plastic pollution on earth and this initiative is a perfect example of reusing unusable industrial plastics. The size of the newly-constructed staff rest-room at EWSS in SMS-3 is 10x12 ft, which will be used by the personnel for storing goods and taking rest. Construction of more such rest rooms by utilising plastic waste have also been proposed.

The entire construction process has been developed in-house under the guidance of Pramod Kumar, GM and Mohit Arya, GM, and was well-executed by the EWSS Team comprising of Kamal Kishore, AGM, Bhavneeth Krishna, Mgr, Chandrasen Verma, Mgr and B Parida, site in-charge of EWSS.

JLNH observes World Environment Day

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, June 08: Several events marked World Environment Day at Pt JLN Hospital & Research Centre, Sector-9. Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M&HS) was chief guest on this occasion.

The Chief Medical Officers of Medical and Health Services Department Dr Vinita Dwivedi, Dr Rajiv Kumar Pal, Dr Kaushalendra Thakur and Shaheed Ahmed, GM (Medical Administration) were also present on the occasion, along with the hospital staff.

At the outset of the programme a walkathon was organised which was led from the OPD to the Doctor's parking area. Saplings of several plant varieties were planted at the parking area by the



Chief Guest, Medical officers and Hospital Staff, followed by administering an oath of environmental protection by Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M&HS).

Addressing the gathering, Dr Ravindranath emphasized on environmental conservation and its positive impact on our lives. He

raised concern over the use of single-use plastic and its hazard on nature. He urged everyone to adopt the 'Four R Practice' in life - Reduce, Re-use, Recycle and Recognise. Recognising plastic as a threat to the environment is equally important, said Dr Ravindranath. A Rain Water Harvesting

System was also inaugurated on this occasion, which will utilise the rainwater which gets wasted otherwise. Prizes were distributed by the chief guest to the winners of the poster-making competition on environment in the OPD, followed by a street play by the Hospital's Cleaning Staff.

CM accepts Union Minister's challenge on MSP

Raipur, Jun 08:

Commenting upon the statement by the Union Minister Giriraj Singh on religious conversion, CM Baghel said that the amount of conversion which has taken place during 15 yrs of BJP rule, has not even taken place earlier or at present. CM Baghel said that there is law on religious conversion right since 2000 and it has been adopted in the same condition here as well.

Speaking to section of media persons, CM Baghel said that the places from where the complaints about religious conversion is coming, due action is being taken. Out of these, there are few fake complaints and few are genuine and on which action has been taken. So long as it is about Giriraj Singh, he might have come to state once only so

● Says he is ready to hold talk on the issue anytime

far, but the number of Churches constructed during BJP's term in 15 yrs has not been conducted earlier nor in the present time.

Giving a challenge to BJP, CM said that the BJP should not condemn this claim, saying that the Church or a praying place will be constructed only when there are people accepting the same. In other words, the amount of conversion which has taken place in 15 yrs of BJP rule has never taken place earlier.

Accepts Giriraj's challenge:

To talk on the MSP issue, Union Minister Giriraj Singh has challenged the Congress party in the state and accepting the same, CM Baghel has



asked him to name the place or dais where he has to come. He said that he is ready to hold discussions on the issue of the amount of hike on MSP in paddy during UPA's rule and NDA's ten years rule.

CM said that what were the prices of diesel and petrol at that time and what is present, we are ready to discuss on any dais and any worker or farmer can hold talks with him on this. CM said that what the Swaminathan Committee report says, the hike should be in that proportion in MSP. When

the MSP was Rs 1800 we purchased it for Rs 2500 per quintal and it is clear that we paid a bit higher compared to the Swaminathan's Committee. For farmers, now Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana has been introduced and in this the amount of hike in MSP would lead to hike in amount to be paid to the farmers and for last three years this is going on.

Reviewing works/performance is State in-charge work:

Commenting upon asking for Minister's report

No chance of cutting ticket of winning candidate: CM

CM Baghel said that there is a winning criteria for any particular candidate and the one who can ensure victory, is the one who gets the ticket. Majority of our candidates are having good report and there are few, who because of some reasons or due to health reasons, or are having annoyance due to some other reasons, they still have got 3-4 months to perform and if their condition improves, then there will be no need to cut their ticket.

card by the PCC State in-Charge Kumari Selja. CM Baghel said that meeting with all the Ministers has been held and those with the MLAs is in progress and I have also held meetings with Selja many time.

Since she is PCC State in-charge, it is her work to review the performance and works and unless it is not done, how the decisions will be taken and therefore it is necessary to review everybody's work, he added.

About the third front:

When ex-CM Ajit Jogi was in Congress, at that time we were not in power and no sooner Jogi left Congress, we came to power, CM Baghel said, adding that, as a result, Congress got 68 seats and the 'charu-wale baba' of BJP could not even touch the figure of 60 in his three terms in power. We won in all the 68 Vidhan Sabha seats and winning the next five by-polls, the figure reached 71 seats and now we are getting full support of the farmers, tribals, women and youth and this figure would rise above 71 in the next VS polls, he added.

Service, good governance, poor welfare are Modi govt's main mantra: Giriraj Singh

Raipur, Jun 08:

Union Minister of State for Rural Development and Panchayats Giriraj Singh has said that the nine years tenure of the Central Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is full of service, dedication and unmatched achievements for the welfare of the poor. Prime Minister Modi was born in poverty, brought up in poverty, feels the pain of the poor and therefore he is constantly worrying about the welfare of the poor, Singh said while addressing a public meeting in Jagdalpur on Thursday over Bharatiya Janata Party's 'Maha Sampark Abhiyan'.

In his address, Singh threw light on the achievements of the schemes of the Central Government in detail and said that the Central Government during its nine-year tenure carried out unprecedented works for toilet in every house, tap water in every house, Pradhan

Mantri Awaas and respect for the farmers. All the ministers of the Central Government and all the workers-leaders of the BJP are reaching every village to establish direct dialogue with the workers and the beneficiaries of the schemes of the Central Government, Singh said. In just nine years, the Central Government has given pucca houses to the poor by constructing 4 crore Pradhan Mantri Awaas, he said, adding that under the Jal Jeevan Mission, fresh and pure drinking water has been made available to 12 crore families across the country.

In his address, Singh also lashed out at the Congress government of the state and said that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's government has only done the work of cheating the farmers and the poor. Singh called the Bhupesh-government a snatcher of the rights of the poor for not building the Pradhan Mantri Awaas.

Ramana Rao takes charge as Director NIT Raipur

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 08:

National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur has a new director at its helm. The recently appointed Director Dr NV Ramana Rao has taken charge of the institute from Dr AB Soni, Director (I/C), NIT Raipur on 8th June, 2023, after having been the Director & Professor of Civil Engineering, NIT Warangal for a term of five years from 23rd October 2017. According to the information received, Prior, he has worked as Rector & Professor of Civil Engineering at Jawaharlal Nehru Technology University Hyderabad. He did his



B.E. in Civil Engineering from (Osmania), M Tech from (IIT Delhi), Ph.D. and Post Doctorate from UK in Civil and Structural Engineering from University of Wales, Swansea, United Kingdom. He has held several Administrative posts as Registrar, JNTU, Hyderabad, Kukatpally, Hyderabad, as Principal, JNTUH College of Engineering Hyderabad,

Kukatpally, Hyderabad, as Director, Bureau of Industrial Consultancy Services, JNT University, Hyderabad, as Co-ordinator, Entrepreneurship Development Cell, JNT University, Hyderabad. He has also served as the Director (Additional charge), SPA, Vijayawada from 18.11.2021 to 23.09.2022. Prof. Ramana Rao has edited three books and published 186 papers in International Journals / International Conferences/ National Journals/ National Conferences.

NIT institute hopes to soar under his adept guidance and leadership.

RDA gears up to give possession of flats in Kamal Vihar Scheme

Chairman Dhuppad informs more than 2600 flats ready

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jun 08: Raipur Development Authority (RDA) has geared up process to hand over the flats under Kamal Vihar Scheme to the beneficiaries.

RDA Chairman Subhash Dhuppad informed that 2671 flats are ready whereas the remaining 3123 flats would be ready by August 2023. He added that the above residential quarters include 3123 EWS Flats whereas the remaining are LIG and Row House quarters. He said that target has been set to complete the Row House construction by August 15. According to the information received, 64 EWS Flats Block A in

Sector 1 of Kamal Vihar Scheme, 128 EWS Flats G Block in Sector 4, 384 Flats out of total 768 flats from Block 1 to 6 are ready for giving possession. RDA Chairman made an appeal to the beneficiaries to get possession after completing the formalities including Registration. Similarly, 768 Flats of LIG 1 in Sector 4 is also ready and the beneficiaries of the above scheme can also get possession after Registration of the property.

Similarly, 160 Flats out of total 448 in Sector 1 of LIG Flats 2 are ready apart from the 512 LIG 2 Flats in sector 4 and 544 LIG 2 Flats in Sector 10. Beneficiaries can avail the benefits.

Outreach camp organised by Union Bank

Raipur, Jun 08:

One of the leading bank of the country Union Bank of India organized an outreach camp under the leadership of Regional Head, Anuj Kumar Singh on June 8th 2023 at Hotel Babylon Capital, Raipur. It is noteworthy that Raipur district has been declared as Aspirational District by the bank. The aspirational branches of the bank located at Raipur and all the valued new and old customers of the bank participated in the said camp. In order to make this camp effective and to increase the confidence among the customers, Mr. Ajay Kumar, General Manager of MSME Department from Central Office, Mumbai was also present. While addressing the customers, Kumar told about the organization of outreach camp by the bank and highlighted the details about various steps taken from time to time to pro-



mote MSME, Retail, Gold Loan by the Bank and CASA (Current Account Saving Account). He communicated the importance about providing loans by the bank to all the above sectors at attractive interest rate. Addressing the customers, he also informed that a total of 65 branches are operating in 13 districts under Raipur area through which all the above loans are being provided. It was informed by him that entrepreneurs can approach

any of our branches and submit loan applications. In the said outreach camp, stalls of retail product, digital product, major builder, car dealer and insurance companies were set up. In the said outreach camp Rs. 135 crores sanctioned under MSME sector. Apart from it sanction letters worth Rs 10 crores were given and leads worth Rs. 100 crores were generated. A free health check-up stall was also set up for all the guests attending the camp.

ECMO saves a young male with viral myocarditis infection

Raipur, Jun 08:

Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) - which was the saviour of many lives during Covid-19 outbreak has recently saved a young male from deadly viral infection that infected both lungs and heart at the NH MMI SUPERSPECIALITY HOSPITAL, Raipur.

A 32 year young male patient came to Emergency with severe breathing problem and low blood pressure, patient was referred to pulmonologist Dr Dipesh Maskey from a local nursing home. On evaluation, patient condition was deteriorating every hour. Dr Maskey asked the ECMO



team to intervene. On serial evaluation it was looking like life threatening viral myocarditis with decrease in heart and lung function.

Immediately after explaining the benefits and risks, VA ECMO was initiated. Patient was on the ECMO for 7 days with other supportive measures. Patient is being dis-

charged now on day 14 in stable condition.

Dr Rakesh Chand, ECMO SPECIALIST, NHMMII, Hospital explains, Veno-arterial extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VA-ECMO) is the most advanced temporary life support system thing that is unique in that is, it provides immediate and complete hemo-

dynamic support(heart) as well as concomitant gas exchange(lung function).

Dr Pradeep Sharma, ECMO SPECIALIST added that the timing of VA-ECMO cannulation is of paramount importance in the shock patient. It should be initiated as early as possible after the recognition of the refractory shock stage especial-

ly if initial attempts at hemodynamic stabilization with fluid resuscitation and pharmacological agents fail.

The expert team of the doctors (pulmonologist, anaesthetist, intensivist, cardiac surgeon, cardiologist along with Perfusionist and nurses are required to initiate and manage ECMO.

At NHMMI, we have dedicated ECMO team that consist of Dr Rakesh Chand, Dr Pradeep Sharma, Dr Dharmesh Lad, Dr PK Hari and Dr Sumit as Cardiac Surgeon, Mr Ashwini and Ms Suva as Perfusionist. The team dedicated 10 days along with Dr Dipesh Maskey and Dr Varsha

Vishwanath to finally pull the patient out from the critical stage.

This case adds to the success stories of the ECMO program in NH MMI HOSPITAL. "I stress the importance of early detection and timely treatment in achieving successful outcomes. By leveraging the critical golden hour and opting for tertiary hospitals, we can effectively cure serious diseases and improve patient outcomes. These are the values of Narayana Health and we are equipped with the best to deal with worst." said Mr Tapani Ghosh, facility director of NH MMI Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Raipur.

Health camp for transgender community organised



Raipur, Jun 08: A camp for health check-up of transgender community and hepatitis B vaccination was conducted at Garima Grih, TGRC (Third Gender), Sarona under National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme by Soubhagya Foundation in association with the office of Chief Medical and Health Officer. Nodal doctor of National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme Dr Vimal Kishor gave necessary direction for hepatitis B and C test, skin and

eye test and vaccination. Soubhagya Foundation president Pallavi Pandey said that BP, sugar and hemoglobin tests were also conducted. The medical team of the health department, private (skin specialist) Dr Ujjwala Verma, and Rashmi Sharma, Dinesh Kumar, Amit Sharma, Vandana Singh, Anuja Trivedi, Soubhagya Pandey, Smriti Raj, Tanushree Raj, Sahil Khan and Tejpal Hunjan from Soubhagya Foundation were present.

Sanjay Alang to deliver lecture at BHU

Raipur, Jun 08: Sanjay Alang, will deliver a lecture at the Banaras Hindu University on June 10 as subject matter expert on the history and culture of Chhattisgarh. The three-day international seminar will be organized under the joint aegis of Department of Hindi, Banaras Hindu University, Kashi Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh Hindi Institute and Bharatiya Darshan Parishad.

Sanjay Alang is noted writer and scholar for his extensive research work and books on Chhattisgarh. He has received the highest honor for best research writing from the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development for his research on Chhattisgarh. The book Chhattisgarh: Itihaas aur Sanskriti had received the highest award of Rs 1 lakh for the best research paper. Sanjay Alang has published more than ten books on Chhattisgarh. These books include Chhattisgarh: History and Culture, Chhattisgarh's princely states and zamindaries, Chhattisgarh's tribes and castes.

Sanjay Alang has also been honoured for his three poetry collections. Presentation of research on Chhattisgarh at Banaras Hindu University International research presentation will not only attract attention towards the research on Chhattisgarh, but the research done so far will be recognized on a larger scale. He is currently the commissioner of Bilaspur and Surguja divisions and has now been transferred to the post of divisional commissioner, Raipur.

मान. श्री प्रेमप्रकाश पाण्डेय जी

को जन्मदिवस की बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं



अंजय पाण्डेय

प्रदेश कार्यसमिति सदस्य

भारतीय जनता युवा मोर्चा, छ.ग



गिरगेश पाण्डेय

महामंत्री

श्रीराम जन्मोत्सव समिति, कैम्प प्रखंड





APL conducts awareness prog on solution to plastic waste

State govt to observe 'Int'nl Yoga Day' on June 21

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: The Chhattisgarh Government will commemorate International Yoga Day on June 21 by organizing yoga camps and various programs across the cities and villages of the state. The theme for this year's International Yoga Day is 'Har Ghar-Aangan Yoga' and the government will focus on holding yoga camps in every block of the state. According to Gyanesh Sharma, Chairman of Chhattisgarh Yoga-Aayog, mass yoga sessions will be organized in various cities and villages to encourage maximum public involvement towards yoga.

To commemorate International Yoga Day 2023, arrangements will be made to display the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) in public areas. Along with this, yoga programs will also be organized in Anganwadi, old-age

homes, community areas, and all government departments.

Training programs will be organized for the celebration of International Yoga Day, and wide publicity will be done to raise public awareness regarding yoga. Banners of the International Day of Yoga will be displayed at public places like hospitals, health and wellness centers, police stations, bus stations, panchayats, municipalities, and municipal corporations.

Pankaj Verma, the Additional Director of Directorate of Social Welfare Chhattisgarh, has been appointed as the nodal officer for the preparations, training program, and coordination between various departments, institutions, and bodies of the state government and the Ministry of AYUSH for the International Yoga Day program which will be organized on June 21.

pregnant women, young girls and others.

A painting competitions among the girls was organised on importance of celebrating World Environment Day and need of trees for life and solution to plastic pollution. On this occasion, the 'Suposhan Sangini', 'Anganbadi' workers, 'Mitanins', employees of the foundation and all others 102 present planted saplings.

APL Environment, Health and Safety Department's Amit Shrivastava gave information about the World Environment Day. On this occasion the Maintenance and operations Chief of Plant Srikant Vaidh, GM (HR) Bhupendra Singh Bais, Sr. Manager Prithviraj Lahiri and from Adani Foundation- Khilleshwar Mahamalla, Deepali Das and villagers were present in large number.

ment conservation. At the same time to make the nearby areas of the plant 'plastic-free', we all would take initiatives, he added.

On this occasion under the 'Vilmar Suposhan prog' run by the Adani Foundation under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), vegetable seeds were distributed in five villages of Gram Raikheda, Gaitara, Chilcholi, Gourkheda and Bhatpara for 80 'Kitchen-Gardens' to

were planted in APL Plant premises and target was set to plant around 2 lakh saplings by end of this year.

Addressing the gathering, APL chief Gattu Rambhav the very theme of World Environment Day by UN on 'Solution to Plastic' has already being imposed in the plant two years back and we are proud that this plant is free from use of 'single use-plastic' and stands testimony to plant's commitment for environ-

gans, quiz competition and 'Paheli', awareness rally, poster and drawing competitions were organised on Plantation and Plastic pollution and means of environment protection.

At the inauguration of the programme, APL Station chief Gattu Rambhav along with more than 250 employees took a pledge to conserve the environment and make the area 'free from plastics'. After this more than 500 saplings

ing of commitment towards mother nature. APL's environment, health and safety department, under the UN's theme for World Environment Day i.e 'Solution to Plastic Pollution', is organising environment awareness prog in Gram Raikheda, Gaitara, Chicholi and others from Jun 5-10 along with the employees of the plant.

Under this pledge was delivered for environment conservation, relevant slo-

- **Sets target to plant more than 2 lakh saplings by year end**
- **On occasion of World Environment Day**

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: Adani Power Limited (APL) Raikheda organised Environment Awareness campaign for protection of the environment and feel-

Devki expresses her gratitude presenting flowers to the Collector

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, June 08: Devki, who could not see anything properly due to cataract from a young age, is now able to see everything properly after an eye operation. Devki reached the district office on Wednesday for the successful operation of her eyes and expressed her gratitude to Collector Vijay Dayaram by giving flowers. Senior Superintendent of Police Jitendra Meena was also present with him on the occasion.

It is worth mentioning that in the past, Collector Vijay had reached Harhandiguda development block to take stock of the development works in the remote and highly sensitive Harrakodere area. During a conversation with the villagers there, Devki's mother told that her 15-year-old daughter is unable to see properly, due to which she is not able to do any work. He also told that Devki's father is a small farmer and he does not have money for



Devki's treatment. Collector Vijay assured for the treatment of Devki's eyes. On the second day itself, the Health Department team reached Harrakodere to pick up Devki and got her examined by an eye specialist in Jagdalpur. After eye check-up, Devki's right eye was operated for cataract, which was completely successful. Devki's parents are also very happy on the return of Devki's eyesight and expressed their gratitude to the collector.

Mayor should refrain from doing partisan and petty politics: Pandey

- **In BJP ruled wards of city**

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Jun 08: Councilors under the leadership of Leader of Opposition Sanjay Pandey have submitted a memorandum to the Commissioner/Mayor regarding the sanitation, cleanliness and water supply of Chandrashekhar Azad Ward No. 40. Councilor of the ward Neelam Yadav has been continuously requesting the mayor and commissioner regarding the cleanliness and water supply in her ward, but no action has been taken by the corporation so far. On this, by submitting a memorandum on Tuesday, the BJP has talked about starting a movement with the help of the residents

of the ward.

It may be noted that about a year ago, the Municipal Corporation had transferred the colony of Lalbagh Housing Board, which has about 750 houses, to the Municipal Corporation. After transfer, the internal and external development of the sanitation system and water supply is the responsibility of the Municipal Corporation. But the Municipal Corporation transferred the colony, but did not provide any basic facility to the public. In the name of water supply, the corporation started collecting five thousand rupees from each house and property tax along with user charge in the name of cleanliness. Due to non-cleanliness of any type in colony by the Corporation and negligence in the supply of water, the residents of the ward have often complained to



the ward councilor in anger.

Leader of Opposition Sanjay Pandey charged that the Municipal Corporation under the leadership of Mayor Safira Sahu is not only depriving the public of providing basic services, but is also doing partisan and petty politics in the wards of BJP councilors. Being already a big ward, three sweepers were not enough, after the transfer of the colony, there

are about 1500 houses in that ward. Because of this, it is not at all possible to do the cleaning just with three sweepers. In such a situation, the Municipal Corporation should restore the cleaning system by deputing additional sweepers there. He has said that the Mayor's tradition of doing partisan and petty politics in the wards of BJP councilors should end. On the complaint of Ward

Councilor Neelam Yadav, Leader of Opposition Sanjay Pandey, President of Municipal Board Suresh Gupta and residents of the ward visited the ward on Tuesday morning and came to know about the problems of the ward and assured to make efforts to solve the same.

On this occasion, Municipal Board President Suresh Gupta has said that this type of behavior of the Municipal Corporation is not tolerable at all, even after continuously demanding the corporator. Even after collecting Rs 5000 from each house by the corporation, there is a pump operator who is working continuously for 24 hours. The corporation should also increase the number of pump operators to three instead of one. It has been said in the memorandum that the Mayor should desist from the

second-rate behavior being meted out to the BJP councilors and according to his responsibility, make arrangements for additional sweepers in the ward and make smooth arrangements for the reception.

Ward councilor Neelam Yadav has charged that she has been constantly harassed by the corporation and its working. The officers and officials of the municipal corporation are also trying to humiliate them in the ward by their behaviour. Because of which his reputation is getting tarnished. If the corporation does not take proper action within 7 days, then they will be forced to agitate with the residents of the ward. Councilor Whip Rajpal Kaser, Neelam Yadav and Triveni Randhari were present while submitting the memorandum.

Sagar, Padmawati win Divisional Chess tournament

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: Sagar Baghel and EV Padmawati have won the state-level Chess Tournament being organised under the aegis of Raipur Division of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India at the Pandri-based Office.

Providing the above information in a statement issued here, the Joint Secretary of LIC Sports & Recreation Committee Raipur Vinay Baiswade said that Sagar Baghel from Dalli-Rajhara won the Men' title whereas Rohit Dewangan from SO Abhanpur Raipur 3 and Suri Kansram Kanwar



from Divisional Office Raipur secured second and third positions respectively.

Similarly, Mrs EV Padmawati from Bhilai 1 secured first position in Women' category whereas Chitrigita Sahu from Raipur 3 Office secured second position. All the above players have been selected for the Central Regional Chess Tournament to held soon. Manager (Personnel) N

Venkatesh was chief guest of the concluding ceremony whereas Selection committee Chairman Manager IT Neelmani Dwevedi, Divisional Insurance Employees Union General Secretary Surendra Sharma were also present on the occasion. International player and FIDE Arbitor Ravi Kumar was the Chief Official for the tournament.

Aashay Mishra from Bilaspur shines in Forbes Asia's 30 Under 30 Class of 2023

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, June 08: Aashay Mishra, an exceptional entrepreneur hailing from Bilaspur, takes the spotlight as he secures his place in Forbes Asia's highly anticipated 30 Under 30 Class of 2023. Aashay stands proudly among the eleven Indian talents selected for this prestigious honor, showcasing the innovative and exceptional capabilities emerging from India.

Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia 2023 list celebrates the achievements of 300 outstanding individuals in various fields, highlighting their remarkable contributions to the business

landscape in Asia. The 2023 class features 30 honorees in each of the 10 distinct categories, including The Arts (Art & Style, Food & Drink); Entertainment & Sports; Finance & Venture Capital; Media, Marketing & Advertising; Retail & Ecommerce; Enterprise Technology; Industry, Manufacturing & Energy; Healthcare & Science; Social Impact and Consumer Technology. Among the distinguished honorees in the consumer technology category,



Aashay Mishra, Co-Founder and COO of PrepInsta has been recognised for his instrumental role in creating employment opportunities for students in Tier 2 and Tier 3 colleges in India.

To curate this esteemed list, Forbes Asia's diligent team of reporters and editors meticulously sift through thousands of online submissions, consult industry sources, and seek recommendations from esteemed alumni. Expressing his grati-

tude, Aashay Mishra stated, "I find myself overwhelmed with humility and pride to have my name counted among the extraordinary individuals in Forbes Asia's 30 Under 30 Class of 2023. This esteemed recognition not only validates my own accomplishments but also highlights the unwavering commitment and foresight shared by the entire PrepInsta team. Our resolve to empower students and bridge the divide in employment prospects remains unwavering, and this acknowledgement further ignites our drive to make a profound difference in the lives of India's youth."

Nodal Officer appointed

Raipur, June 08: Pankaj Verma, the Additional Director of the Directorate of Social Welfare Chhattisgarh, has been appointed as the Nodal Officer for the preparations, training program, and coordination between various departments, organizations, and bodies of the state government and the Ministry of Ayush for the International Yoga Day program, which will be organized on June 21. His phone number is +91-98935-33000, and his email address is dpsw.cg@nic.in.

IIM Raipur celebrates World Cycle Day, promoting sustainable transportation

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: The Indian Institute of Management Raipur (IIM Raipur) organized a grand celebration to mark World Cycle Day, promoting the importance of sustainable transportation and a healthier lifestyle. The event was inaugurated by Professor Ram Kumar Kakani, the esteemed Director of IIM Raipur, who emphasized the significance of cycling in creating a greener and more sustainable future.

World Cycle Day, observed annually on June 3rd, serves as a global platform to encourage cy-



cling as a mode of transportation, highlighting its numerous environmental, health, and socio-economic benefits. IIM Raipur embraced this occasion to inspire the academic community, staff, and students to adopt cycling as an integral part of their daily lives.

The event commenced with a cycle rally led by kids of the campus, with

participants comprising faculty members, and staff. The rally covered a designated route around the campus, showcasing the unity and commitment of the IIM Raipur community towards sustainable practices.

Professor Kakani expressed his gratitude to all the participants and praised their active involvement in promoting

sustainable living. He reiterated IIM Raipur's commitment to incorporating sustainability into its core values and curriculum, fostering an environmentally conscious academic community.

The celebration of World Cycle Day at IIM Raipur not only raised awareness about the importance of sustainable transportation but also served as a platform for networking and knowledge sharing among like-minded individuals. It showcased the institute's dedication to sustainability and its aspiration to contribute to the larger goal of building a greener and healthier planet.

IIM Raipur moves up to 11th place in the NIRF India ranking

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: It is with great pride that the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Raipur announces that it has attained the 11th position in the esteemed National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for 2023. IIM Raipur is one of the most prestigious educational institutions in management education.

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) is a comprehensive ranking system that evaluates higher education institutions in India based on various objective criteria. This result ensures that the evaluation process is both transparent and accountable. Students, parents, and employers can all benefit from the rankings by gaining

valuable insights to help them make educated decisions about higher education. IIM Raipur's remarkable accomplishment can be attributed to the fact that it excelled in a wide variety of critical criteria that were taken into consideration by NIRF, including the following: IIM Raipur's dedication to providing education of the highest caliber and cultivating an atmosphere amenable to learning has been an essential factor in the institution's success in achieving this goal. The teaching, Learning, and Resources criterion evaluate the institution's teaching and learning quality, and IIM Raipur performed exceptionally well in this area. It considers things like the qualifications of the teaching staff, the number of students to teachers, the resources available

in the library, and the overall learning outcomes. A significant portion of IIM Raipur's ranking can be attributed to the institute's emphasis on the output and impact of research. The National Institute of Research Funds (NIRF) has acknowledged the consistent efforts of the institute to drive meaningful research and promote a culture of innovation. This criterion's evaluation considers research publications, citations, and patents. IIM Raipur's success in graduating students well-prepared for employment or further study has been recognized under this criterion. This criterion focuses on how well students can transition into the workforce or continue their education. The institution's performance can be evaluated based on

various factors, including its placement records, alum profile, and the satisfaction of its students. IIM Raipur has produced graduates of exceptional quality due to their persistent focus on developing future leaders and offering opportunities for holistic growth.

The results also acknowledge an institution's commitment to social responsibility and equity through this criterion. This criterion focuses on outreach and inclusivity. IIM Raipur's efforts toward social responsibility, gender equity, and student diversity have been significant in the institution's rise to its current position. The welcoming and encouraging culture at the institute has contributed to developing an atmosphere where every person can flourish.

BJPMM stages chakka-jam, raise slogans in protest

● Against failure on part of state govt to impose ban on liquor

Central Chronicle News

Dhamdha, June 08: Under leadership of BJPMM Mandal President Shweta Sharma and in the presence of ex-MLA Labhchand Bafna and Mandal President Rohit Singh Rajput, the BJP Mahila Morcha (BJPMM) members and as per instructions by BJP Durg district President Divya Kalihari, the BJP leaders staged chakka-jam near an English liquor shop in city on Wednesday.

This started from Gyatri Mandir Dhamdha and reached city's gate and to Gandai Chowk and then to the liquor shop and they raised slogans in protest



against the promises made by the Congress government. Along with this the members of Morcha offered squash (chilled Rasna drink) and made an appeal to quit alcohol.

After this the members of BJPMM Dhamdha Mandal staged chakka-jam for about an hour at Gandai chowk. Here

President BJPMM Dhamdha Mandal Shweta Sharma charged that the Congress party came into power fooling the common men and women in the name of promise for ban on liquor.

The ruling government is unable to meet upto its promises and against which BJPMM Dhamdha

mandal staged chakka-jam and giving warning to the state government that if the liquor is not banned in the state, then they will resort to aggressive protest and movement against the government.

She said that now the people of the state have come to know to what extent they have been taken for ride and would therefore vote the BJP to power in the next VS polls and BJPMM contribution will be visible in it.

To make this programme successful, Dhamdha BJPMM District President Divya Sahu, Gen. secy. Jaishri Rajput, Media in-charge Sweta Tamrakar, Dhamdha mandal gen. secy. Sonia Mishra, Komal Markam, V-P Kumar Tondre, Firoza Bai, and all the working committee members were present.

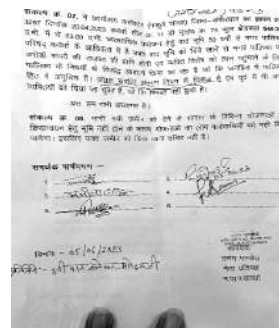
Municipal VP called for personal gain in conference, says Pandey

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, June 08: A special meeting of the council was called here on June 5 by the Municipal Council, in which Leader of the Opposition Umang Pandey and all the councilors of the BJP created a ruckus, accusing the ruling party Congress of working against the rules.

19 points were discussed in the conference, in which the opposition lodged its strong objection, in which Leader of the Opposition, Umang Pandey, first of all talked about not giving salary to the employees of the municipality for last 3 months.

The opposition also accused that Jalil Khan, the brother of Jameel Khan, the vice president of the municipality, was proposed to be given land in



the name of sheet no. 11D, plot no 74 and also directly accused the municipality president and vice-president that land is being allotted directly to the brother of municipality vice-president Jameel Khan for the benefit of lakhs, whereas in the past, other needy people had also applied for the same land.

Councilor Rinkesh Vaishnav said on the allotment of land that if the allotment is being done as per the rules, then only the

application of the Congress worker had come, why the applications of the rest of the general public are also not being considered.

Similarly Councilor Pramod Sharma said that the work of the municipality is to work in the interest of the general public, but the Kawardha municipality is working against the immovable property transfer rule for the benefit of the individual, which is completely unfair.

BJP councilors have also applied to Kabirdham District Magistrate that our objection is not registered on the agenda/resolutions in the meeting by the Chief Municipal Officer.

In the said meeting, along with Leader of Opposition Umang Pandey, councilors Rinkesh Vaishnav and Pramod Sharma, Manharan Kaushik, Manisha Sahu also lodged objections on various subjects.

'Sustainable Environment Solution' to prevent burning of crop residue

Central Chronicle News

Mahasamund, June 08: CNH Industrial, a global leader in agricultural and construction equipment, has launched its program 'Sustainable Environment Solution', aimed at preventing the burning of crop residues and promoting environmental conservation.

The initiative is focused on leveraging crop stubble management techniques to find sustainable alternatives including ex-situ management and raise awareness about the detrimental effects of crop residue burning.

With Indian Society for Agricultural Professionals (ISAP) as the implementing agency, the company is targeting eight locations, starting



with Chhattisgarh, over the course of this three-year initiative. It will be gradually extended to other locations based in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Bihar.

"At CNH Industrial we are firmly committed to

sustainable agricultural practices and environmental conservation, and this initiative is the latest to drive positive sustainable change in the farming industry," said Narinder Mittal, Country Manager and Managing Director - Agriculture

Business (India and SAARC), CNH Industrial.

"By implementing the Sustainable Environment Solution program, we aim to mitigate the adverse effect of crop residue burning while promoting the efficient utilization of agricultural

by-products. This program aligns with our vision of creating a more environmentally friendly and healthier future for farming communities."

Furthermore, the project will train farmers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) to productively utilize the bales produced in the process such as for cattle feed, compost manure, fuel for biomass energy, and packing materials.

This will not only help address the pressing issue of crop residue burning but also support farmers to develop as social entrepreneurs. With economic incentives, such as carbon credits and the utilization of by-products, the program is beneficial for both the environment and agricultural communities.

By Ch'garh Vigyan Sabha Bastar unit

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, June 08: Chhattisgarh Vigyan Sabha's Bastar district unit organized a seminar on World Environment Day at Yuvodaya Academy Jagdalpur. In the programme, Teacher Chandrakant Deshmukh and Manish Srivastava, President of Bastar district unit, told about the purpose of the district unit's action plan and the history of World Environment Day.

He said that World Environment Day was announced by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972 on the occasion of the United Nations Conference on Human Environment. However, this campaign was first celebrated on 5 June 1973 and so it is now celebrated every year



on June 5. This program is specially based on the annual theme declared by the United Nations. This time World Environment Day is based on the theme of solving the problem of plastic pollution.

He told that except use and throw process in the programme, adopting the process of recycling, rain water harvesting, keeping the surrounding environment clean, using organic manure, planting trees, not using plastic and in this

what could be the role of teacher and student was discussed. Earth is not only our home but also our mother; it is our duty to stop its exploitation. Many children joined the programme online. Teachers and students of various schools participated in the programme. During this, teachers Shrinivas Rao, Jaynarayan Panigrahi, Manish Ahir, and Hurdanand Pandey also presented their views, the program was conducted by teacher Sanjeev Biswas.

Congmen furious over MLA Chandrakar comparing them with demons

Central Chronicle News

Anwari, June 08: Congressmen of Kurud Vidhan Sabha are furious over Kurud MLA Ajay Chandrakar, who compared Congressmen with demons under the guise of Ramayana. On this matter, the Congress leaders gathered together in Bhakhara and spoke in a press conference and alleged that Kurud MLA Ajay Chandrakar has compared Congressmen to demons regarding the interstate Ramayana competition based on Aranya Kand.

Former President Nagar Panchayat Bhakhara and Vice President of District Congress Committee Dhamtari Bharat Nahar said that Kurud MLA Ajay Chandrakar seems to have

become mentally bankrupt, that's why he is giving blatant statements.

He said that he heard the statement of Ajay Chandrakar, he felt very guilty that this is our MLA, compared Congressmen to demons. Condemning it in strong words, said that the public knows who are of demonic nature.

"I believe that in order to impress their high command due to the apprehension of getting ticket in the upcoming assembly elections", he said. It was further said in the press conference that even after 36 days of strike by the wrestlers in the country, in the case of sexual harassment, no action has been taken. Meanwhile, not inviting His Excellency

President Draupati Murmu to the inauguration in Parliament House was called an insult to the President, the leaders said.

Bharat Nahar also said that due to the wrong policies of the Modi government today inflation is at its peak and Ashish Sharma, President, Block Congress Race Committee, Kurud, said that in village Churmudi and Chatod, there is a pass road inside, while an over bridge should have been built on the National Highway in Kurud Sandha Chowk, so that the passers-by of 20 villages do not face any problem in commuting, but MLA Chandrakar has never given it a voice.

Tapan Chandrakar President Nagar Panchayat

Kurud said that Chhattisgarh is going towards development under the Baghel government and BJP is not able to digest such announcement that 20 quintal paddy will be bought in 2800.

For the unversed former cabinet minister of Chhattisgarh government and MLA Kurud Ajay Chandrakar accusing the congressmen had said that people in politics are also doing the same act as the demons did in the books of Ramayana.

Marich, Subahu, Trishara, Kabandh, Virat and their 14000 army have also been slaughtered in the land of Chhattisgarh in Aranyakand, because Aranyakand is being done here politically.

Central Chronicle News

Korba, June 08: Rajat Kumar, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India and in-charge of Aspirational district Korba, here reviewed the progress of the set indicators of the Aspirational district in the District Panchayat meeting hall.

In the meeting, discussions were held with the concerned departments regarding the successful implementation of the schemes and the benefits of the schemes reaching the people of the district and instructions were given to work continuously till the target is achieved in the Aspirational district.



Describing the immense possibilities of development in Korba district, Joint Secretary Mr. Rajat Kumar said that he has worked in Korba district earlier also. Necessary facilities should be available in remote areas of the district and it will be in his priority that Korba district moves forward in the path of development and progress as per the goals set for the aspirational district. During this, Collector Sanjeev Kumar Jha and

Superintendent of Police Uday Kiran were also present. In the meeting, Mr. Kumar also discussed about the aspirational districts, in relation to the concept of the said that the aspiration of all of us should be that the people of our district should also have the same standard of living as the people of other general districts of the state and country. Regarding the plans of the health department in the district, he said that special

efforts should be made for institutional delivery and all pregnant mothers should be registered and checked regularly, so that they should get nutritious food.

No child should be malnourished. If a child is malnourished, that child should be admitted to a nutritional rehabilitation center and given proper treatment and the health department will have to ensure proper action on these important indicators, he said.

Former MP glorifies PM Modi's 9-year tenure

Central Chronicle News

Rajim, June 08: Former MP of Mahasamund Lok Sabha constituency and National Vice President of Backward Class Cell, Chandulal Sahu counted the achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 9-year tenure in a letter meeting here.

At the same time, Bhupesh Sarkar was criticized by Sahu and he said that considering politics as service, Modi ji has done work in the form of Mahayagya in 9 years. 30 crore poor people of the country have been given pucca houses. Bhupesh's Congress government in Chhattisgarh did not allow the construction of houses



for 16 lakh poor people and under Saubhagya Yojana, tap connections have been given to 11 crore 88 lakh houses under Jal Jeevan Mission for pure drinking water, but in Chhattisgarh this scheme has become a victim of corruption due to the corrupt policy of Bhupesh government. Toilets have been built in

11 crore 72 lakh houses in the country and even in the case of global pandemic, the country of India has been ahead for the safety of the people of India and within a short span of time, 220 crore doses of vaccine have been administered. Vaccine was supplied to more than 100 countries, he said. Under the Ayushman Bharat

scheme, 1 lakh 59000 people have got benefits. 9304 Jan Aushadhi Kendras have been opened to provide cheap medicines and earlier there were 8 AIIMS in the country, which has increased from 15 to 23 AIIMS hospitals. India was ranked fifth in the country's economy in 2013, which has now come in third place.

Taking a dig at the Congress, he said that the Congress has been doing vote bank politics and also criticized the removal of Article 370 in Kashmir and also opposed its inauguration of Shri Ram temple in Ayodhya. Mr. Sahu further said that in the 15-year tenure of BJP in Chhattisgarh, if we talk about Gariaband district,

there has been all-round development, in which Gariaband which was a gram panchayat, which became a municipality with the district.

Attacking Rajim MLA Amitesh Shukla, Chandulal Sahu said that Amitesh Shukla has not done a single construction in his 4 years tenure. He has obtained votes by lying to the people of Rajim area. District BJP President Rajesh Sahu, Former BJP District President Dr. Ramkumar Sahu, First District Panchayat President Dr. Shweta Sharma, BJP Mandal President Kamal Sinha, BJP leaders Jitendra Sonkar Somprakash Sahu, Lakhna Sinha, Ashok Rajput were present.

Tendupatta collection crosses 500 cr

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, June 08: Nearly 12 lakh 88 thousand 241 standard bags of Tendu leaves (Tendupatta) have been collected in Chhattisgarh during the current 2023 collection year, which is nearly 77 percent of the total target set for the state. The goal is to collect 16.72 lakh standard bags of tendu leaves by the end of this year. Of these, the total amount to be given to Tendupatta collectors is more than Rs 515 crore and it has been collected by about 11 lakh tendupatta collectors.

The collection work is being carried out continuously under the guidance of the Forest Minister, Shri Mohammad Akbar. According to the information received from the State Minor Forest Produce Association a total of 81,000 standard bags of tendu leaves have been collected worth Rs 32 crore by 49,825 tendupatta collectors in Bijapur Forests Division of Jagdalpur Circle. In these, 1,22,310

standard bags worth Rs. 49 crores are collected by 58,000 tendupatta collectors in Sukma, 15,630 standard bags worth Rs 6 crore is collected by 14,000

tendupatta collectors in Dantewada and 20,970 standard bags worth Rs 8 crore 38 lakh is collected by 39,000 tendupatta collectors in Jagdalpur.

<p>पंजाब नेशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank</p> <p>GSAD, CO: Bilaspur (999400)</p> <p>GOURAV PATH, BILASPUR (C.G.) 495001</p>	
<p>PREMISES REQUIRED</p> <p>Punjab National Bank requires suitable ready built and well-constructed hall type building having Carpet Area including space for ATM (800 sqft to 1000sqft) on lease/ rental basis premises should be preferably in Ground Floor and if in first floor, with lift facility at following locations:</p>	
S. No.	Location
1	Chakarbhata
<p>Address</p> <p>Chakarbhata, Tehsil- Bilha, Distt.- Bilaspur, C.G.</p>	
<p>Premises offered should have all clearance certificates from statutory authorities. Interested owners / registered Power of attorney Holders of such premises in the desired locality who are ready to lease out their readily available premises on long term lease basis preferably for 15 years or more may send their offers in the prescribed format available on Bank's Web Site www.pnbIndia.in or the same may be obtained from PNB, Circle Office, Gourav Path, Ring Road-2 Bilaspur during office hours. The complete offer duly sealed & signed and should reach the undersigned on or before 25.06.2023, 5:00 PM at the above address.</p> <p>No brokerage will be paid by the Bank. Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers at its sole discretion without assigning any reasons whatsoever.</p>	
<p>CIRCLE HEAD</p>	

BRIEF



Kirandeep Kaur, wife of Waris Punjab De, arrives at Dibrugarh Central Jail to meet him, in Dibrugarh, Thursday.

Compensation

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has awarded Rs 23 lakh as compensation to the family of a 12-year-old boy who died after drowning in a water-filled ditch dug up by a private contractor for work being carried out for the Northern Railway in 2013. A bench headed by Justice Najmi Waziri said negligence by the Northern Railway as well as the contractor led to the loss of life of an innocent boy as the site neither had a safety guard nor measures were taken to prevent any living being from wandering towards it.

Polls

Kolkata: The three-tier panchayat polls in West Bengal will be held on July 8, State Election Commissioner Rajiva Sinha said on Thursday. The polls for the village councils will be held in a single day and the last day for filing nominations will be June 15. "The panchayat polls will be held on July 8. The last date for filing nominations is June 15. The last date of withdrawal of nominations is June 20," Sinha told a press conference here.

Bomb threat

New Delhi: A Mumbai-bound Vistara airlines flight from Delhi was delayed for about two hours after a passenger said she overheard a fellow traveller speaking about a bomb in his bag, a claim that was later declared a hoax, official sources said Thursday. A designated committee of multiple security, intelligence, airport operations and aviation agencies was convened at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport around 6.10 pm on Wednesday to ascertain this claim reported for flight no UK-941 (Delhi to Mumbai), which was scheduled to depart at 4.55 pm, they said.

Suicide

Thrissur: A three-member family from the state, settled in Chennai, was found dead in a hotel room in this central Kerala district, police said on Thursday. A man, his wife and their daughter were found hanging inside the room, they said. Quoting the hotel staff, the police said the family had checked into the facility some days ago. The family had earlier told the hotel staff that they would check out from the room the previous night.

'BJP 'scared' of facing united Oppn in 2024'

Patna, Jun 08 (PTI):

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav on Thursday claimed that the BJP was "scared" of fighting the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in which it may have to face a united opposition.

The RJD leader was responding to questions from journalists about remarks of some BJP leaders who have sought to make light of the conclave of opposition parties to be held in Patna on June 23.

"It is not for the BJP to decide what impact the opposition conclave is going to have. They are scared of facing the Lok Sabha polls. They recently lost assembly elections in Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka. They are staring at a series of defeats in states like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi and Haryana,"



Tejashwi Yadav

claimed Yadav. Notably, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, the JD(U)'s supreme leader, who dumped the BJP last year, has since been advocating a "united opposition" to take on the NDA in the Lok Sabha polls.

Yadav and JD(U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan' had on Wednesday announced that the opposition parties' conclave will be held on June 23 and leaders as di-

verse as Rahul Gandhi, Arvind Kejriwal, Mamata Banerjee and Sitaram Yechury have given their assent to attend the meeting. Yadav said "about 15 parties" will be represented at the June 23 meet. However, when asked about Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) founder and Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, he said, "We have not spoken to him so far".

Notably, Rao had flown down to Patna last year, shortly after Nitish Kumar's exit from the NDA, and endorsed the latter's pitch for national unity.

However, there have been apprehensions that the Telangana CM might flinch from joining any formation of which the Congress, currently his principal rival in the state, was a part.

'Exploring Study Abroad Opportunities after 12th', handy for persuing studies abroad

Indore, Jun 08:

Leading study abroad consultancy firm, Study Metro, has launched a special book titled, "Exploring Study Abroad Opportunities after 12th" for aspiring students who are interested in pursuing higher education abroad. The aim of this book is to provide students with essential guidance and assistance that will make their overseas journey successful, memorable, and bring meaningful changes in their lives. This book will guide students who are interested in studying abroad after completing their high school education.

While discussing the book launch, Abhishek



Bajaj, Co-founder and Managing Director of Study Metro, said, "It is often observed that students are quite uncertain about pursuing further education abroad after completing school. Due to insufficient information about better countries, good universities, relevant courses, cultural and lifestyle aspects, and expenses related to fees and

accommodation, students somewhere compromise their dreams of studying abroad. In such circumstances, this book is the answer to all their questions because it not only provides expert guidance and assistance to students aspiring for a better future by studying abroad but also helps them make important decisions by acquainting them with ap-

propriate educational options for the future."

Abhishek Bajaj, a visionary leader in the field of education abroad, is committed to making education in foreign countries accessible and affordable for students worldwide. He further states, "Pursuing education abroad can be a challenging task for students. Keeping this in mind, our aim through this book is to make their educational journey as easy and stress-free as possible."

It is noteworthy that the book "Exploring Study Abroad Opportunities after 12th" has been prepared with the objective of providing answers to questions related to pursuing education abroad.

TEMPLE INAUGURATION



Union Minister for Culture and Tourism G. Kishan Reddy with Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and MoS Jitendra Singh during the inauguration of a Tirupati Balaji temple, in Jammu, Thursday.

POSTERS, POSTS ON TIPU SULTAN

'Violence not in line with Maha culture'

Pune, Jun 08 (PTI):

Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar on Thursday said the violence that took place in Kolhapur and some other places over the posters and social media posts allegedly glorifying Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb and Mysore ruler Tipu Sultan was not in line with the culture of Maharashtra.

Tension gripped Kolhapur city, 285 kilometres from here, on Tuesday after some persons allegedly kept an image of 18th-century ruler Tipu Sultan and an offensive audio message as their social media status, resulting in a protest by right-wing outfits at Shivaji Chowk the next day. Police had to resort to



Sharad Pawar

lathicharge (baton charge) to quell the stone-pelting and violence that the protest descended into, following which 36 people were held in connection with the incidents in the western Maharashtra city.

Speaking to reporters in Baramati, Pawar said, "People of the state and these places where such incidents took place must maintain peace rpt peace.

Whatever happened at two to three places is not in line with the culture of Maharashtra. Maharashtra is known as a peace loving and patient state, and people here do not have a tendency to take the law into their own hands." "I also would like to tell those who try to create disputes deliberately that common people have to pay the price for all this. I appeal that for the betterment of the common people, ensure such things do not take place. People must fully cooperate with police," the former Union minister added. Pawar said Kolhapur has a very rich history and peace must prevail by remembering the towering ideals of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj and Tarabai.

PROTEST RALLY



AAP leaders and supporters during a demonstration rally towards Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's residence (Naveen Niwas) to submit memorandum in support of 200 units of free electricity for every households, in Bhubaneswar, Thursday.

'Many WB varsities decide to introduce exit option'

After 3 years in UG level

Kolkata, Jun 08 (PTI):

After the introduction of four-year honours system in the UG level, several varsities in West Bengal have decided to introduce the option for exiting after three years in major disciplines for those students who want to graduate without an honours as per the New Education Policy 2020 guidelines.

As per the guidelines of NEP 2020, the UGC in its recommendations referred to an option where a student can either exit three years after pursuing the Bachelor of Honours course in major subjects as a graduate or complete the four year course to qualify as an honours

graduate. Those who study further can get an honours degree or an 'honours with research'.

State-run Calcutta University Pro-Vice Chancellor Ashish Chatterjee told PTI Wednesday "We have made an exit option for those students who want to opt out after three years in certain BA, BSc courses and for those who want to complete it in four years."

To a question, he said "we have passed on the communication to all the affiliate colleges for keeping the exit option for an honours student after three years if he/she desires so and alternately to continue with the four-year format".

India hits out at Canada for giving space to separatists, extremists elements

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

India on Thursday hit out at Canada for giving space to separatists and extremists elements after visuals surfaced on social media of a float in the Canadian city of Brampton that reportedly celebrated the assassination of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

At a media briefing, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said Canada allowing anti-India elements to operate from its soil is not good for the bilateral relationship as well as for itself. "I think there is a bigger issue involved. And the bigger issue involved really is the space that Canada has continuously and frankly we are at a loss to understand

other than the requirements of vote bank politics, why anybody would do this," he said.

"Because if you look at their history, you would imagine that they learn from history and they would not like to repeat that history. It is not only one incident, however, egregious it may be," Jaishankar said.

"I think there is a larger underlying issue about the space which is given to separatists, to extremists, to people who advocate violence and I think it is not good for relationships and not good for Canada," he added. A video has emerged on social media that showed a float depicting the assassination of Indira Gandhi. It was reportedly part of a parade

that was organised by some Khalistani elements in Brampton. Canadian High Commissioner in India Cameron MacKay tweeted that there is no place in Canada for "hate or for the glorification of violence".

"I am appalled by reports of an event in Canada that celebrated the assassination of late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. There is no place in Canada for hate or for the glorification of violence. I categorically condemn these activities," he said. On some Indian students facing difficulties in Canada over charges that they did not study in the colleges they applied for, Jaishankar said India has taken up the issue with Canadian authorities.

President Murmu holds 'productive' meeting with Serbian counterpart

Belgrade, Jun 08 (PTD):

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday held a "productive" meeting with her Serbian counterpart Aleksandar Vucic here and said that bilateral relationship is based on mutual trust, mutual understanding and support for each other on issues of core interest.

"We remain committed to inject more ambition into this vital relationship," said Murmu, who is the first Indian President to visit Serbia.

During the delegation-level talks, both the Presidents discussed important aspects of India-Serbia bilateral relationship and global and regional issues of common interest. "I had a constructive and productive meeting with President Vucic this morning on all impor-



President Droupadi Murmu in a meeting with President of Serbia Aleksandar Vucic, in Belgrade, Serbia, Thursday, June 8.

tant aspects of our bilateral relationship and global and regional issues of common interest," Murmu said in a press statement. She said the re-

lations between India and Serbia have been unique since the days of the Non-Alignment Movement. "Our relationship is based on mutual trust, mutual understanding and support for each other on issues of core interest," she said. "We also resolved to build further on our long-standing bilateral ties, especially in trade and investment, science and technology, including information and digital technologies, and to promote people-to-people contacts further. We agreed to strengthen our coordination and cooperation in the United Nations and other multilateral fora," she added.

Russia develops futuristic nuclear plant operational in Far East region

Pevak (Russia), Jun 08 (PTD):

As India scouts for Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology that can help make clean energy transition, Russia has developed a futuristic nuclear plant that is already operational in the country's Far East region.

The world's first floating nuclear power plant (FNPP) Akademik Lomonosov began commercial operation in May 2020, and is producing energy from two 35 MW reactors, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

SMR is a fraction of the size of a conventional nuclear power reactor, mak-

ing it possible for systems and components to be factory-assembled and transported as a unit to a location for installation, according to the IAEA.

Other SMRs are under construction or in the licensing stage in Argentina, Canada, China, Russia, South Korea and the United States, the nuclear energy watchdog said.

Russia operates two SMRs of 35 MW each in Pevak, a port town on the Arctic ocean, and the administrative center of Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, some 5,500 kms from the capital city of Moscow.

Imran Khan appears before Islamabad High Court for hearings in multiple cases

Islamabad, Jun 08 (PTD):

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan arrived at the Islamabad High Court on Thursday for hearing his bail petitions in over a dozen cases linked to violent protests after his arrest on May 9 and the Toshakhana graft case.

A video posted on his party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) official Twitter account showed the PTI chief's black SUV entering the premises of the court as his security personnel stood guard with bulletproof shields.

Islamabad High Court (IHC) Chief Justice Aamer Farooq will hear seven bail petitions filed by



Security personnel with ballistic shields escort former Pakistan's prime minister Imran Khan, at the High Court in Islamabad on June 8.

Khan in multiple cases

A division bench of the IHC will hear Khan's bail plea in a case registered against him for the murder of senior Supreme Court lawyer Abdul Razzaq Shar who was shot dead in Quetta earlier this week, the Dawn newspaper reported.

Amid a tight schedule on Thursday, Khan will also appear before a district court at the Federal Judicial Complex for a petition seeking pre-arrest bail in a first information report (FIR) related to the alleged fraud in the sale of Toshakhana gifts, which was registered on June 6, it said.

Khan, 70, arrived at IHC for hearings in over a dozen cases pertaining to violent protests in the aftermath of his arrest on May 9, the Toshakhana corruption case and others, the report said.

He is also expected to appear before an anti-terrorism court in 10 cases related to violating Section 144 and threatening a female judge. Earlier in the day, the FJC registrar granted the PTI chief permission to enter the court premises in his vehicle.

Pak politics: PTI defectors flock to new boss, soon to launch new party

Lahore, Jun 08 (PTI):

Scores of disgruntled leaders who quit Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan's party have joined hands and are set to launch a new military-backed party to fight the general elections likely to be held in October.

Sugar baron and Khan's old friend Jahangir Khan Tareen (JKT) is leading the group of leaders who left Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party in the wake of attacks on military installations last month. More than 100 PTI stalwarts and legislators on Wednesday joined their new boss Tareen who is likely to launch

the Istehkaam-i-Pakistan Party (IPP) comprising over 120 former leaders and lawmakers of the PTI.

This new party is being tagged as the king's party' by Khan and political pundits for having the full backing of the military establishment. In the next elections, it is said the king's party will emerge strong and have a share of power.

"It is not out of place to say that the IPP (king's party) will be the 'new PTI minus Imran Khan' in the next general elections likely to be held in October 2023," former PTI leader Firdous Ashiq Awan told the Press Trust of India on Thursday.

Zelenskyy visits area flooded by destroyed dam

Kherson (Ukraine), Jun 08 (AP): Five residents of a Russian-occupied city next to a breached dam have died in massive flooding triggered by the catastrophe, its Kremlin-appointed mayor said on Thursday, the first official report of deaths from one of the largest environmental crises since Russia's invasion of Ukraine more than 15 months ago.

Vladimir Leontyev, the Russian-appointed mayor of Nova Kakhovka, told Russian state TV that two other people who had gone missing after Tuesday's dam breach had been found, and efforts were underway to evacuate them.

Officials say more than 6,000 people have been evacuated from dozens of inundated cities, towns and villages on both the Russian and Ukrainian-controlled sides of the Dnieper river, which has



Grain storage sits underwater after the collapse of the Kakhovka Dam, in Kozatske, in Russian-occupied Ukraine.

become part of the front line between the fighting forces.

The collapse of the Kakhovka hydroelectric dam and emptying of its reservoir on the river have added to the misery that the region has suffered for more than a year from artillery and missile attacks.

Rescue workers fanned out to get drinking water

to beleaguered locals, warning that contaminated water could cause illness.

Thousands of people have been left homeless, cropland has been ruined, access to electricity and mobile phone networks has been limited or cut off entirely, and land mines have been displaced by the surging waters, officials

say. On the Ukrainian-controlled western bank, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy arrived Thursday to evaluate the response to damage caused by the dam breach, including efforts to evacuate civilians and provide them with drinking water and other support.

After visiting an aid distribution point and a medical facility, Zelenskyy ordered Ukrainian officials to provide a "fair valuation" of flood damages and develop a scheme to compensate residents whose property was damaged or whose businesses had to relocate, his office said in an online update.

In areas that they administer, Russian-appointed authorities said nearly two dozen people have been hospitalised, 4,280 people have been evacuated and some 14,000 buildings have been flooded.

UK to remove Chinese surveillance cameras at sensitive sites

London, Jun 08 (PTD):

The UK government has laid out plans to publish a timeline for the removal of Chinese surveillance equipment from sensitive sites as part of stepped-up national security measures, weeks after Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said China posed the "biggest challenge" to global security and prosperity.

In amendments tabled to the government's Procurement Bill ahead of its Report Stage in Parliament next week, the UK Cabinet Office said on Wednesday that it is committing to publishing a timeline for the removal of surveillance equipment produced by companies subject to China's National Intelligence Law from sensitive central government sites.

It says the move builds on action taken last year to halt the installation of new equipment on the government estate and will provide "reassurance" that departments are removing surveillance equipment from sensitive sites.

"These new measures will protect our sensitive sectors from companies which could threaten national security and are a firm deterrence to hostile actors who wish to do Britain harm," said Jeremy Quin, UK Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General.

At the G7 summit in Japan last month, British Prime Minister Sunak said that China posed the "biggest challenge" in the world to global security and prosperity.

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR (CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice Main Portal: https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in			
Tenders are invited for the Following works:-			
S. No.	System Tender No./ Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)
1	136068 First Call 29.05.2023	B.T. & MAINTENANCE WORK OF INTERNAL ROADS OF UDYA SOCIETY, LENGTH 5.50 KM AT RAIPUR, DISTT. RAIPUR (VIDHANSABHADN. RAIPUR).	483.07
2	136073 First Call 29.05.2023	Construction of High Level Bridge across Tandula River on Kharra-Rauna Road.	1020.34
3	136035 First Call 29.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF N.H.- 43 TO 18th BATALIAN CHAINPUR APPROACH ROAD [LENGTH 3.00 KM ACTUAL LENGTH 4.02 KM DISTT. KOREA (C.G.) (Work code -W22225)	456.93
4	136179 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction Of High Level Bridge and Approach Road Across Balyajora Nalla on Keradih-Khutgaon Road.	612.23
5	136177 First Call 30.05.2023	STRENGTHENING AND B.T. ON KAMESHWARNAGAR -RAMCHANDRAPUR-LURGI ROAD, LENGTH 34 TO 43 = 10.00 Km., DISTT.- BALRAMPUR - RAMANUJGANJ (C.G.) (Work code -W24678).	846.37
6	136188 First Call 30.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE I/C APPROACHES ACROSSKOTARY RIVER IN KM 1/10 ON CHHOTEBETIYA-MARBEDA-SITRAM ROAD. (CGRIDCL)	1347.05
7	136266 First Call 30.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF PODI CHOWK TO KATAIPARA ROAD, LENGTH 3.00 Km. DISTT. BALRAMPUR-RAMANUJGANJ (C.G.)	390.31
8	136281 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction of Jasra Gantuli to Rampur Approach Road Length 2.00 Km.	229.69
9	136264 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction of Mudhipar to Tekapur Road Length 2.30 K.M. i/c Bridge & Culverts At DISTT.-Rajnandgaon (C.G.)	228.73
10	136270 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction of Mudhipar to Garrapur Road i/c Bridge & Culverts Length 3.30 K.M. At DISTT.-Rajnandgaon (C.G.)	312.82
11	136269 First Call 30.05.2023	Construction of Charbhattha to Dullapur Chardongari Approach Road Length 3.30 K.M. i/c Bridges & Culverts At Distt.-Kawardha (C.G.)	360.32
12	136395 First Call 31.05.2023	Construction of Bhejratala Bhandaribharda Road Length 1.95 K.M. i/c Bridges & Culverts) At Block Chhuriya Distt.-Rajnandgaon (C.G.)	201.58
13	136494 First Call 31.05.2023	Construction of Salhe to Dalai Approach Road Length 2.20 Km.	236.78
14	136500 First Call 31.05.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF BANARAS MAIN ROAD TO ASANAPARA LENGTH 2.70 Km. DISTT. BALRAMPUR-RAMANUJGANJ (C.G.)	450.84
15	136641 First Call 31.05.2023	Construction of Chhata to Achanakpur Road Length 3.30 K.M. Including Bridges & culverts At Distt.- Durg (C.G.)	1018.85
Last Date of Tender Downloading For S.No. 01 To 03 date 21.06.2023. Other Tenders Date are Schedule as date 23.06.2023. For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.			
Chief Engineer (Central Tender Cell) Office Of Engineer In Chief P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar G-02122/2			

300 trapped children rescued from a Sudanese orphanage after 71 others died: UNICEF

Cairo, Jun 08 (AP):

About 300 infants, toddlers and older children have been rescued from an orphanage in Sudan's capital after being trapped there while fighting raged outside, aid officials said on Thursday.

The evacuation came after 71 children died from hunger and illness in the facility since mid-April.

The tragedy at the Al-Mayqoma orphanage made headlines late last month as fighting raged outside between Sudan's military and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces.

The deaths have highlighted the heavy toll inflicted on civilians since mid-April when the clashes erupted between forces loyal to Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan and RSF forces led by Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo.

About 300 children at the Al-Mayqoma orphanage in Khartoum were transferred to a "safer location" elsewhere in the northeastern African

nation, said Ricardo Pires, a spokesman for the UN children's agency, UNICEF.

Sudan's ministries of social development and health have taken charge of the children, while UNICEF has provided humanitarian support including medical care, food, educational activities and play, Pires said in an email to The Associated Press.

He said the children had received medical checks following their long journey to their new location, adding that "any child requiring hospitalisation will have access to healthcare."

The International Committee of The Red Cross, which helped with the evacuation, said the children, aged between 1 month to 15 years, were relocated after securing a safe corridor to Madani, the capital of Jazira province, about 135 kilometres (85 miles) southeast of Khartoum. Seventy caretakers have been transferred with the children, the ICRC said.

India, US need to have much stronger relationship: Congressman Shri Thanedar

Washington, Jun 08 (PTD): India and the US must work on making bilateral ties stronger and focus on collaboration on education and cultural fronts, Indian-American Congressman Shri Thanedar has said.

He expressed hope that the two sides will talk about cooperation in the education and business sectors and find ways to strengthen the bilateral relationship during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US this month.

"As an Indian American Congressman, I am excited to welcome him to the United States Congress and to this country as a leader of the largest democracy in the world," Thanedar told PTI on Tuesday ahead of Modi's visit.

Prime Minister Modi is visiting the US from June 21-24 at the invitation of President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden. The

US president and the First Lady will also host Modi at a state dinner on June 22.

"Not only was I born there in India, but I also grew up in India. I believe that the United States and India, the two large democracies, need to have a much stronger relationship," said Thanedar, who grew up in Belgaum.

"We should also talk about the immigration issues, the visa issues, the Green Card backlogs. I think it's about time that the two nations worked on making the relationship even stronger," said the US representative from Michigan's 13th congressional district.

He said the country is currently having a broken immigration system that needs to be fixed.

"We need a bipartisan resolution of this issue and our immigration system is broken. That needs to be fixed.



CENTRAL
Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 11 No. 69

Ensuring Lasting Peace

The Complexities of Army Withdrawal from Kashmir

In the realm of national security, the situation in Kashmir has undoubtedly witnessed notable improvements in recent years. The General Officer Commanding Chinara Corps recently acknowledged that the number of active terrorists in the region has reached its lowest point in over three decades. These positive strides, however, should not be mistaken as a signal for an immediate army withdrawal. Rather, they should serve as indicators of progress, prompting us to address the remaining challenges and prerequisites that must be fulfilled before contemplating such a pivotal decision. For decades, Kashmir has grappled with insurgency and militancy, enduring the weight of armed groups and cross-border terrorism stemming from Pakistan. In the face of these persistent security challenges, the Indian Army has played an indispensable role in conducting successful counter-insurgency operations. Ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LoC) have been an intermittent source of tension, making it imperative for India to maintain a robust military presence in Kashmir. This presence serves as a deterrent against external threats while safeguarding the local population from terrorist attacks and preserving their safety. The army's mission encompasses protecting Kashmiri civilians, countering violence, and mitigating the grave human rights abuses committed by terrorists in the past. Indeed, recent years have witnessed considerable improvements in the overall situation in Kashmir, but the journey towards long-term peacebuilding and stabilization is far from over. The government's unwavering commitment to promoting development, fostering economic growth, and establishing inclusive governance in the region necessitates a secure environment for these efforts to bear fruit. It is within this context that the army's continued presence becomes essential in ensuring stability and security. Kashmir's strategic significance cannot be underestimated. Situated in a geographically sensitive location, flanked by borders and possessing access to crucial water resources, the region remains of utmost importance. In light of the persistent hostility displayed by Pakistan, India is compelled to maintain defensive measures to safeguard its sovereignty and protect the interests of its citizens. Therefore, the decision to withdraw the army from Kashmir is a multifaceted and delicate matter that demands a thorough evaluation of political, security, and socio-economic factors. The Indian government recognizes the need for a comprehensive approach to resolving the Kashmir issue. It has been actively monitoring the situation, striving towards the twin objectives of eradicating terrorism and facilitating peaceful elections. Only when these vital milestones are achieved can a substantial reduction in military presence be considered. The government's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of Kashmiri citizens is unwavering, and it recognizes the importance of providing an environment conducive to their participation in democratic processes. It is worth noting that the decision to withdraw the army should not be perceived as an end in itself. Instead, it should be viewed as a testament to the progress made in the region, signaling a step closer to lasting peace. However, hasty withdrawals can jeopardize the hard-earned gains and destabilize the delicate balance of power. Hence, the timing and conditions for any such decision must be carefully assessed, guided by the principles of prudence and pragmatism. Nonetheless, the challenges that persist require concerted efforts and careful consideration before contemplating any substantial reduction in military presence. Kashmir's strategic importance, the necessity of safeguarding the local population, and the imperatives of long-term peacebuilding and stabilization all demand a cautious approach. Only by ensuring the fulfillment of prerequisites such as zero terrorism and peaceful elections can the government navigate the complexities and take decisive steps towards an army withdrawal that truly fosters lasting peace in the region.

War's Wake-Up:
Dam Catastrophe

The destruction of the Nova Kakhovka dam signifies a dangerous escalation in the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, now entering its 16th month. Ukraine has accused Russian forces of deliberately demolishing the Soviet-era dam, which provided power to a hydroelectric station and was located in a region under Moscow's control for over a year. The Kremlin, however, claims that Ukraine sabotaged the dam to disrupt the water supply to Crimea and divert attention from their alleged faltering counter-offensive against Russian troops. Amidst the blame game, the lives of over 40,000 individuals are now at risk due to potential flooding along the Dniipro River. A looming humanitarian crisis and an ecological disaster await, with the United Nations labeling the dam's collapse as "potentially the most significant incident of damage to civilian infrastructure" since the onset of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict in February 2022. There are also concerns about the safety of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, under Russian control, as its reactors relied on the dam for cooling water. The deliberate destruction of the dam is a grave violation of the Geneva Convention's protocols, which strictly prohibit attacks on "installations containing dangerous forces" such as hydroelectric dams, as they pose a significant risk to civilian populations. This incident underscores the failure of the international community to effectively bring an end to the war. The Western powers, led by the United States, have been providing military support to Ukraine in an attempt to bleed Russia dry, but the latter shows no sign of capitulation. The United Nations, in its charter's preamble, pledged to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war." Regrettably, its efforts thus far have proven woefully inadequate. As global wheat prices rise by 3 percent following the dam's collapse, the world must prepare for more challenging times ahead. The consequences of this dam catastrophe are far-reaching, affecting not only the people of Ukraine but also global stability and food security. The region heavily relies on the agricultural output supported by the Dniipro River, which is now threatened by the potential flooding. The displacement of tens of thousands of individuals adds to the already significant burden of managing the war's humanitarian fallout. The dire situation calls for immediate and decisive action from the international community. Diplomatic efforts must be intensified to facilitate a peaceful resolution to the conflict. The current approach of arming one side to bleed the other only perpetuates the cycle of violence, causing immense suffering to civilians and undermining the chances of a sustainable peace. It is imperative that both Russia and Ukraine engage in sincere dialogue, mediated by neutral parties, to find a mutually acceptable solution that respects the rights and aspirations of all affected communities. Furthermore, the international community, including the United Nations and regional organizations, must step up their efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to those affected by the dam's destruction. Emergency aid, including food, clean water, and shelter, should be swiftly mobilized to mitigate the immediate suffering and prevent further loss of life. In light of the ecological concerns surrounding the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, urgent international inspections and oversight are necessary to ensure the safety of the facility and prevent any potential nuclear catastrophe. Cooperation between Russia, Ukraine, and relevant international organizations should be prioritized to address these critical risks. The dam's destruction and the ensuing crisis should serve as a wake-up call to the global community. The ramifications of a prolonged conflict in this strategically important region are immense, affecting not only the immediate parties involved but also the stability and security of neighboring countries and the wider international system. The need for a comprehensive, diplomatic, and sustainable solution has never been more urgent.

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

COMBING OPERATION

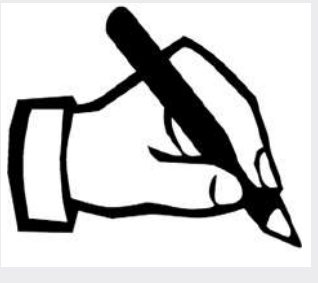


Security personnel during a combing operation in sensitive areas of Manipur, Wednesday, June 7.

India's Power Sector Transformation

A Journey Towards Sustainable Energy and Universal Access

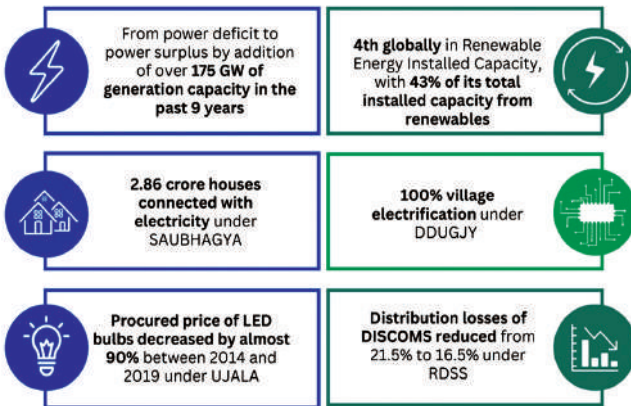
PIB RESEARCH UNIT



India's journey towards a greener future has gained global recognition. With the addition of over 175 GW of generation capacity in the past nine years, India has transitioned from a power deficit to a power surplus nation. The country's commitment to renewable energy sources has played a pivotal role in achieving this feat. The remarkable growth of solar and wind energy capacity has cemented India's position as a global leader in renewable energy adoption. Today, India stands 4th globally in Renewable Energy Installed Capacity, with 43% of its total installed electricity capacity coming from non-fossil energy sources. India's commitment to power generation and universal electrification has been a driving force behind its transformation. The Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGYA) initiative stands tall as a symbol of success, achieving universal household electrification, covering every village and district in the country. This ambitious program has provided electricity connections to 2.86 crore unelectrified households since September 25, 2017, both in rural and urban areas. The International Energy Agency

India's power sector has undergone a remarkable transformation, aimed at providing reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy to its people. Over the last 9 years, significant strides have been made in enhancing power generation capacity, expanding access to electricity, promoting renewable energy, and implementing innovative policies. Here we explore the inspiring achievements and transformative initiatives that have propelled India's power sector to new heights.

Transforming the Power Sector in India



(IEA) has called this the fastest expansion of access anywhere in the world in the history of power. The availability of power in both rural and urban areas has significantly increased, with rural areas experiencing a rise from about 12 hours per day in 2014 to 22.5 hours per day currently, and urban areas enjoying nearly 24 hours of power availability. To improve the quality and reliability of power supply in rural areas, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) was launched in 2014. The DDUGJY program achieved 100% village electrification on April 28, 2018, by electrifying 18,374 un-electri-

fied villages, strengthening the distribution network and ensuring electricity reaches every corner of rural India. The government's efforts in promoting energy efficiency have also yielded remarkable results. Under the Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) scheme, the procured price of LED bulbs decreased by almost 90% between 2014 and 2019, from Rs. 310 to Rs. 39.90. So far, over 36.86 crore LED bulbs have been distributed under this scheme. This initiative not only brought down electricity costs for households but also encouraged domestic manufacturing of LED bulbs, supporting the

"Make in India" campaign. As a result, India has witnessed widespread adoption of energy-efficient lighting solutions, contributing to reduced energy consumption and a greener environment.

To enhance the efficiency of power distribution, the government has implemented initiatives like the Restructured Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS). The RDSS has significantly reduced distribution losses of DISCOMs, from 21.5% in FY 2020-21 to 16.5% in FY 2021-22. These initiatives focus on reducing technical and commercial losses, improving metering and billing systems, and promoting energy efficiency. The integration of smart grids, advanced metering infrastructure, and demand response mechanisms has enhanced grid stability and allowed consumers to actively manage their energy consumption.

The transformation of India's power sector since 2014 is a remarkable story of progress and resilience. With achievements like universal electrification, rapid expansion of renewable energy, improved distribution, and enhanced energy efficiency, India has set an inspiring example for the world. The commitment of the Government of India, coupled with the participation of stakeholders, has propelled the nation towards a future powered by sustainable, affordable, and reliable energy. As the journey continues, sustained investments, innovation, and collaboration will be key to further strengthening India's power sector and ensuring a brighter, more prosperous tomorrow for all its citizens.



LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

An Awaited Formation

Months of anticipation and struggles culminated in the election of Mallikarjun Kharge as the Congress President in October last year. However, despite the passage of almost seven months, the formation of a new team remains pending, causing growing anxiety within the party. Initially, it was expected that the new team would be announced shortly after the Karnataka elections. Yet, as each day passes with delays, speculations arise. With upcoming assembly and general elections, party leaders emphasize the need for swift action. Lobbying for influential positions and changes in state leadership intensify the internal dynamics. While the announcement of the new team looms, uncertainties persist regarding the party's future path.

Sanjeev Pillay, Kannur, Kerala

Odisha Train Tragedy

The recent train accident in Odisha has left the nation in shock. Regrettably, it stands as one of the deadliest train accidents in India over the past thirty years, claiming the lives of 288 passengers and leaving more than 1100 injured. The visuals and photographs capturing the aftermath of this devastating incident evoke immense sadness. Our heartfelt condolences go out to all those who have lost their loved ones. While this tragedy underscores the urgent need for improved safety measures, mere superficial remedies will not suffice. The Ministry of Railways must take swift and decisive action, holding accountable any responsible officials. In the past, railway ministers would resign on grounds of ethics; perhaps, it is time for a similar course of action. The government must prioritize the safety of millions of passengers who rely on the railways.

Krishna Kumar, Menon, Thiruvananthapuram.

Fatal Rail Disaster

The tragic 'Triple Train Tragedy' resulting in numerous precious lives lost is a profound sorrow and a regrettable incident amidst our age of innovation, advancement, and modernization. This disaster serves as a stark reminder that progress and modernization hold no value without ensuring safety. While the introduction of new and sophisticated trains like Vande Bharat is commendable, neglecting safety measures in regular trains is concerning. Countless individuals rely on sleeper and general coaches for their daily commute. I earnestly appeal to Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav to address these concerns by expanding safety measures throughout the railway network.

Suresh Verma, Korba

Economic Fallout

The US Impact on Vietnam's Economy

Abhigyan Pandey

The recent passage of the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act by the U.S. Congress, purportedly aimed at addressing human rights violations in China's Xinjiang province, has inadvertently dealt a severe blow to the Vietnamese economy. The repercussions of this act have caused growing distress among the Vietnamese population, particularly due to the rising unemployment rates. This article delves into the implications of the U.S. actions and explores the potential advantage India may gain amidst the U.S.-China trade war.

The Vietnamese Economy's Resilience

Since the end of the war in 1975, Vietnam's Communist Party has pursued a path of economic liberalization while safeguarding social welfare measures. The nation's strategic geographic location and

strong maritime connections have propelled its economy to new heights. However, the U.S.'s recent actions have cast a shadow of uncertainty over Vietnam's market, ostensibly under the guise of addressing human rights concerns in Xinjiang.

The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act and Its Impact

The passage of the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act has had far-reaching consequences for Vietnam's garment and apparel sector. This act prohibits the importation of goods sourced from Xinjiang, causing turbulence in a major portion of Vietnam's economy. Interestingly, Vietnam's economy heavily relies on the manufacturing of high-quality products, with significant investments from Chinese capitalists. Unbeknownst to many, Xinjiang serves as a prominent exporter of cotton to the world, and Vietnam imports over 70% of its cotton from this region.

The Ramifications for Vietnam's Economy

The apparel industry in Vietnam employs over 3.4 mil-

lion workers, with major global brands such as Adidas, Nike, and Puma relying on third-party manufacturers in the country. With approximately 80% of Vietnamese apparel products facing hurdles at U.S. customs, exporters are grappling with non-payment of wages and loan defaults. This economic downturn presents an opportunity for India to extend a helping hand to companies on the brink of disaster in Vietnam.

India's Advantage and Potential Growth

India, with its abundant cotton production in states like Gujarat, stands poised to capitalize on the situation. The Indian government is keen on attracting distressed companies in Vietnam and has implemented schemes like the Production Linked Incentive

to lure investments. Notably, Pou Chen, a major manufacturer for Adidas, has invested INR 2,100 crore in Tamil Nadu for manufacturing and exporting its products worldwide. This development signifies a positive trajectory for Indian growth in the apparel industry.

The U.S.'s Method in Madness

Upon closer examination, it becomes evident that the U.S. has utilized its influence to send shockwaves through the Asian economy. While it may seem chaotic, there appears to be a method behind this madness as the U.S. inadvertently pushes its ally, Vietnam, towards the brink. The ensuing consequences may provide an advantage to India, leading to a potential reshaping of the regional economic landscape.

As many as 43 cities out of 50 registered an increase in property prices during fourth quarter of 2022-23, according to the National Housing Bank (NHB) data released on Thursday. However, cities registered a decline in the property prices. The home loan rates are still lower than that of pre-Covid period leading to a healthy affordability overall, it said. India's eight key primary residential markets witnessed appreciating property prices during the January-March 2023 period. Ahmedabad with a rise of 10.8 per cent, Bengaluru (9.4 per cent), Chennai (6.8 per cent), Delhi (1.7 per cent), Hyderabad (7.9 per cent), Kolkata (11 per cent), Mumbai (3.1 per cent) and Pune (8.2 per cent) recorded an increase in the index on an annual basis as per the Housing Price Index (HPI) published by NHB. The 50 city HPI based on valuation of properties collected from banks and housing finance companies (HPI @ Assessment Prices) recorded an annual increase of 5.3 per cent during the fourth quarter of FY23 as compared with 5.3 per cent a year ago, it said.

Sara Ali Khan on cloud nine after her performance in 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke'

Sara Ali Khan is on cloud nine after enjoying the success that her latest film 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke' has brought. Her performance and chemistry with Vicky Kaushal have wowed the audience and fans can not have enough of them together. Currently, everything about her performance as Soumya is trending on social media, be it her songs, her dialogues or snippets of performance. Talking about all the love that she is receiving for the film, she says: "It feels happy that people are giving love to the film. I had come to watch the film with my mother and brother on Sunday and they both cried during the film. Watching my mother and brother cry in my film, I genuinely felt that this is why we make films - to see people we care about have an emotional experience." "Mom hamesha se filmy rahi hai (My mother is an actress and is always filmy so she can cry) but Ibrahim is a 22-year-old urban youth and if he could cry, I can say that this is not just a rural Indore story. It will connect to everyone. When I saw my mom and brother both cry together while watching the film, I felt good." When asked about the best compliment she received, for Zara Hatke Zara Bachke, Sara said, "I read somewhere Sara Ali Khan is back, I don't know why, that felt good. And my mother's and brother's reaction to the film, for sure." With a collection of Rs 30.60 crore so far, Sara is adding another glory to her feather proving her to be one of the most promising actors in her generation.

Vijay Varma lands in Kyrgyzstan for shoot of his next film

Actor Vijay Varma, who will be soon seen in 'Lust Stories 2', is currently in Kyrgyzstan for the shoot of his upcoming film, the details of which are yet under wraps.

The actor took to the story section of his Instagram on Wednesday to share a video from the location.

The shoot location is stationed at an expansive landscape in the hills. Talking about the schedule, a source close to Vijay shared that the actor will be there till the end of this month to wrap the 20 days long shoot schedule.

Vijay Varma's next appearance, after 'Dahaad' is 'Lust Stories 2'. The highly anticipated show's teaser was released recently.

The actor also has 'Devotion of Suspect X' in



which he will be seen sharing screen with Kareena Kapoor Khan, and Homi Adjanian's 'Murder Mubarak' in the pipeline.

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

Vijay Tilani will soon be seen in Star Bharat's popular show 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho'. Vijay will be seen essaying the role of Vikram, Chitra's husband and Dev's brother-in-law. With this new character, Vijay is all set to surprise the audience as he takes on a different avatar, departing from his previous boy-next-door roles. Expressing his excitement about joining the show, Vijay shared, "I'm excited to be part of the show 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho'. I was very intrigued by the show's plot, and when I was offered the role of Vikram, I couldn't refuse. It's a wonderful opportunity for me to explore a new side of acting. For the first time, I will be seen in a grey character, which is a significant departure from my previous roles. It's my first-ever grey shade character in my career, so it's some-



thing new for me as well as my fans and the audience. I hope they will love my new look and appreciate this exciting change." Vijay Tilani's entry into 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho' brings anticipation and curiosity as viewers eagerly await his portrayal of Vikram. With his talent and dedication, Vijay is sure to add a fresh dimension to the show and captivate the audience with his exceptional performance.

Freddy Daruwala had a near-to-death experience

Freddy Daruwala falls from 35 feet into freezing cold water from the bridge & here's what happened next!

Freddy Daruwala, majorly known for his action packed roles and performances, had a near-to-death experience while performing a stunt on one of his latest projects in Kashmir!

In one of his most current web series 'Crackdown S2', there was a stunt Freddy had to perform on a bridge. The actor had to do a pull up under a bridge while a drone shot was to capture it all.

The director Apoorva Lakhia had planned it for a studio shoot, understanding the risk but Freddy insisted he do it in real time and on live locations! It was the peak of winter with minus temperature in Kashmir. The water was freezing cold when the actor started performing the stunt bare chested! Freddy finished what he had to do but unfortunately by then his hands were frozen and a slight delay in lifting him up, resulted in the actor falling from 35 feet in the freezing cold water. No



doubt, he sustained injuries on his back, legs and shoulders. The entire set was in shock but when Freddy came walking out of the water unhurt, much to the surprise of the crew. The director immediately called off the shoot and was concerned over his situation but Freddy resumed the

shoot the very next day being a professional actor.

Recalling the incident, Freddy reveals, "I should have been more careful. I remember the director (Apoorva Lakhia) informing me about us having all the possibilities and safety harness to execute the scene. But I insisted on doing it on my own but

the end result didn't turn out to be the way it should have been and as per my and Apoorva sir's expectations. It was more risky because it wasn't the last day of the shoot and if I was hurt, the shoot would have stalled. But luckily nothing of that sort happened and I continued shooting."

Rasika Dugal begins shooting for new web series in Udaipur

Actress Rasika Dugal has commenced shooting for an exciting new web show in the city of lakes, Udaipur in Rajasthan. While the project's details are under wraps, sources have revealed that it is a highly anticipated production by a major production house. Rasika will play as one of the protagonists. Rasika flew to Udaipur in the first week of June to begin the first schedule, which will extend until the first week of July. Subsequently, the shooting will move to Mumbai for the second schedule in August. Rasika shared her enthusiasm for the new endeavour on her Instagram account, where she posted a picture reading the script against a stunning backdrop. The hashtags she used, including #UdaipurDiaries, #ShootLife, and #Udaipur, hinting about the new project. Among her upcoming releases is the Amazon Prime supernatural thriller 'Adhura', which promises to keep viewers on the edge of their seats. Rasika has recently completed shooting for the highly anticipated third season of 'Mirzapur' which is also due to release this year. Her other upcoming projects include - 'Spike', 'Lord Curzon Ki Haveli', 'Fairy Folk', and 'Little Thomas.'



Vidya Balan turns musician in her latest reel



There's simply nothing the brilliant powerhouse of talent Vidya Balan can't do! The reigning Queen of Instagram reels currently, Vidya Balan shares how she played a musical instrument the small nagada for the 1st time ever at the Jaipur Literary Festival, Soneva Fushi.

The curious and versatile actor is an eager artist which is not only evident from her experimental and pioneering roles in movies but also her social media content. Participating in trends on Instagram even while bringing her own unique brand of hu-

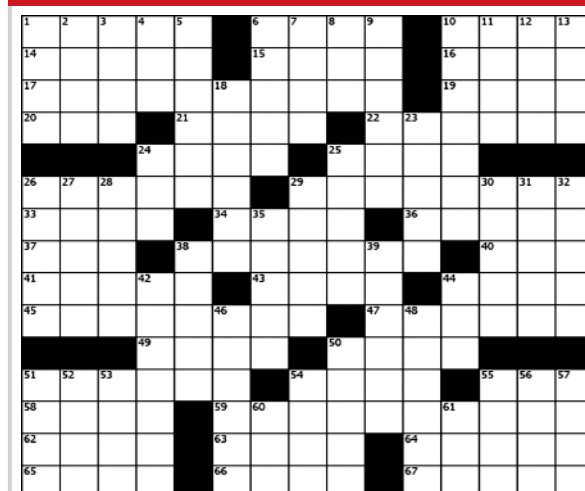
mour to the gram, Vidya Balan has perfectly mastered the art of winning hearts of audiences.

From re-enacting dialogues on reels, singing for the gram to stunning everyone with her astonishing transition and fashion feels and of course the latest where she is seen trying her hand at a musical instrument, Vidya Balan's social media game is on point!

On the work front, Vidya Balan is currently looking forward to her upcoming release Neevat on the 7th July which marks her return to the theatres after the pandemic.

CROSSWORD

670



ACROSS

- More pleasant
- Saloons
- Nearly all
- Got out of bed
- Div's specialty
- Choir voice
- Ownership
- Chair
- Picnic pest
- Placed
- Once more!

24. Ringing device
25. Tibet's locale
26. Fleet
29. Decorator
33. Incite
34. Chinese dynasty
36. Blanche
37. Battering
38. Genuine
40. Glance (2 wds.)
41. Make disappear
43. Bus money
44. Flower part

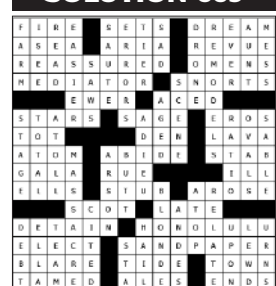
45. Perfumes
47. Spuds
49. Portal
50. Flower
51. Largest desert
54. Misters
55. Irate
58. Jogging gait
59. Monotonous
62. Top
63. Burn
64. Says
65. Lean-to
66. Messes up
67. Itty-bitty

DOWN

- Valley (vineyard site)
- Golf club
- Price
- Snaky letter
- Teetered
- Aromatic herb
- Dry
- Spanish waterway
- Most sensible
- Lash thickener
- Butter substitute
- Celebrity
- Handbag
- Deli sausage
- Sister's daughter
- Naughty
- Wrath
- Consent
- Bellows

28. Paps' partners
29. Ancient Peruvians
30. Angry
31. Aquatic animal
32. Paper quantities
35. Deduce
38. Mister (Sp.)
39. Witty reply
42. Tranquilized
44. Piggy
46. Rough
48. Help
50. Wharves
51. Amtrak stops (abbr.)
52. Curved doorway
53. Residence
54. Practice boxing
55. Silent performer
56. English river
57. Contradict
60. Eternally, in poems
61. Bind

SOLUTION 669



If I ever fall in love, age won't matter, says Vandana Rao

Actress Vandana Rao, who plays Chitra in 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho', feels age shouldn't be the criteria for love.

The show has made all people believe that love has no barrier. When love is true, age doesn't matter.

Asked if she would like to ever fall for a person who's much elder than her in real life, Vandana said: "Of course yes! If ever fall in love, definitely age would never matter to me. It's about the person and the love." "What if a person is around your age, but he's not loyal and

is disrespectful, will you happy in that relationship? No, right? Age doesn't matter when you are in true love with each other. It's all about mutual understanding and your unconditional love."

She added: "This show stands strong for the belief. The show is changing mindset for sure as people are absolutely loving it and shaping their minds to accept love as love with no society pressure or any taboo about age differences. In the end only love matters."

'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho' airs on Star Bharat.



India lose openers after Australia amass 469



India's Mohammed Siraj, centre, celebrates after taking the wicket of Australia's Travis Head caught behind.

London, Jun 08 (PTD):

India found themselves in a difficult situation with the early loss of their openers after Australia posted a commendable 469 in their first innings of the World Test Championship final, here on Thursday.

Australia added 142 runs to their overnight total with the loss of seven wickets be-

fore being bowled out one hour into the afternoon session. Mohammed Siraj cleaned up the tail and was the pick of India's bowlers with four wickets.

India batted for 10 overs before the tea break and were dealt a twin blow as skipper Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill fell to Pat Cummins and Scott Boland respectively.

They were at 37 for two at tea with Virat Kohli (4 batting) and Cheteshwar Pujara (3 batting) in the middle, trailing Australia by 432 runs.

Both Rohit (15 off 26) and Gill (13 off 15) looked in good touch before flattering to deceive. Rohit missed a ball from Cummins that was angled in before Gill inexplicably decided to leave

a delivery from Boland on length only to see his stumps being uprooted in the following over.

The conditions are good for batting but India have a massive challenge at hand. After the lunch break, Alex Carey pushed Australia past 450 with a 48 off 69 balls. His innings included a six off Ravindra Jadeja but an attempted reverse sweep the following ball led to his downfall, trapping him in front of the stumps.

India got themselves back in the game with four wickets in the morning session on day two but Australia maintained their upper hand by reaching 422 for seven at lunch, following Steve Smith's 31st hundred.

Resuming the day at 327 for three, Travis Head (163 off 174) and Steve Smith (121 off 268) walked into the middle under bright sunshine at The Oval.

Smith, who was on 95 overnight, got two freebies on the pads from Mohammed Siraj in the first over of the day and he happily put them away for consecutive boundaries to complete his seventh hundred in England and third at the venue.

India storm into semifinals with 11-0 thrashing of Chinese Taipei

Kakamigahara, Jun 08 (PTD):

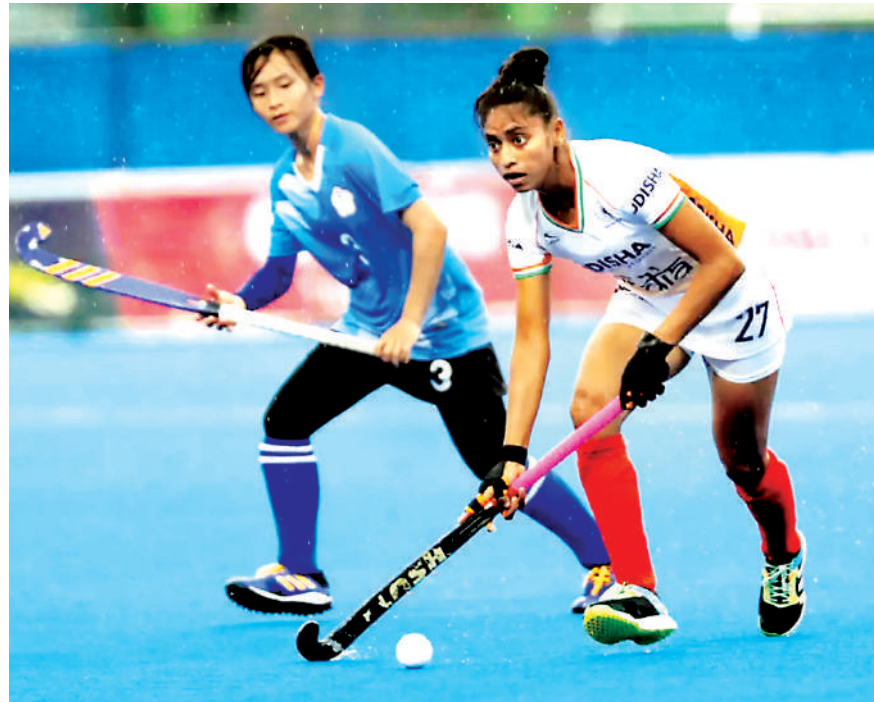
The Indian junior women's hockey team confirmed its spot in the semi-finals of the Asia Cup by mauling Chinese Taipei 11-0 in its last pool match here on Thursday.

The win also cemented India's position atop Pool A. India finished the group stage of the tournament unbeaten, having won three games and drawn one.

The scorers for India were Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke (1'), Deepika (3'), Annu (10', 52'), Rutuja Dadaso Pisal (12'), Neelam (19'), Manju Chorsiya (33'), Sunelita Toppo (43', 57'), Deepika Soreng (46') and Mumtaz Khan (55').

India displayed their dominance from the word go, launching consistent attacks against Chinese Taipei.

Vaishnavi opened the scoring for India with a field goal, followed by Deepika who converted a penalty corner to double the team's lead. Also, Annu and Rutuja scored a goal each before the end of the first quarter, giving



India a comfortable 4-0 advantage. The second quarter continued in a similar fashion, with India maintaining control of the game through ball possession and relentless attacks. Notably, Neelam found the back of the net, allowing India to enter

half time with a commanding 5-0 lead.

India continued their dominance as Manju and Toppo scored field goals to make sure that the third quarter ended with India leading 7-0.

The Indian team showed no signs of slow-

ing down in the final quarter, as Deepika Soreng, Annu, Mumtaz Khan and Toppo each scored a goal to help them win the match by a massive margin. India will play Japan or Kazakhstan in the semifinal on Saturday.

All eyes on Chhetri as India look to regain Intercontinental Cup



Bhubaneswar, Jun 08 (PTD):

In the last leg of his glittering career, Indian talisman Sunil Chhetri will be the cynosure of all eyes as the Blue Tigers look to regain the Intercontinental Cup, which begins here on Friday.

While Lebanon and Vanuatu will play in the tournament opener, hosts India will take on Mongolia in the day's second match, kicking off their campaign

against the lowest-ranked team (No 183) in the tournament. The Blue Tigers, ranked 101 in the FIFA rankings, will enter the tournament as the second-highest-ranked team, with Lebanon (99) ahead of them by two places. With 84 goals to his name from 131 international appearances, the most by an Indian, Chhetri has set numerous records over the last two decades.

As far as the tournament is concerned, no player has made an impact like the Indian skipper who has scored 11 of India's 16 goals in the event.

Chhetri is the only player to score a hat-trick in the competition.

"Sunil has always been a role model and a leader in every sense for the boys and girls. But he's not only talking, he's showing that with his test results once again," Stimac had said.

"In this camp, he was in top-five positions in all the tests we executed. So that's the best way of leading the team and showing them how much it can be done.

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTD):

Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on Thursday predicted that Indian athletes will return with the country's best-ever medal haul from the Asian Games later this year.

India are expected to send one of the largest contingents to the Asian Games this year with athletes competing in non-traditional sports like kurash, jujutsu, and chess.

A total of 600 athletes are expected to represent India across various sports, compared to 570 in the last edition and 541 in 2014.

"The improvement in facilities by the government has resulted in India's best-ever performance at the last Olympics, Paralympics, Deaflympics and Commonwealth Games. We won a record number of medals and we will do similarly in the Asian Games.

"I think India will have the best-ever performance in the Asian Games,"



Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur during a visit to Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range, in New Delhi, Thursday, June 8.

Thakur told reporters on the occasion of Mission Olympic Cell's (MOC) 100th meeting here.

India returned with a best-ever haul of 69 medals, including 15 gold, 24 silver and 30 bronze from the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta and

Pelambang, Indonesia.

The minister informed that over 350 proposals of TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) group athletes worth Rs 45 crore have also been approved in this Olympic cycle.

"For the preparation for Asian Games the govern-

ment has till now sanctioned over Rs 220 crore. The government has spent Rs 450 crore in the current Olympic cycle on training and equipment. We have approved proposals of TOPS group athletes worth Rs 45 crore," Thakur said.

Rohit, Kohli keen to nurture 'next big thing' Gill

London, Jun 08 (PTD):

Shubman Gill is the "next big thing" in Indian cricket and Indian batting stalwarts Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli are keen to help the 23-year-old grow.

Gill has had a dream run across formats in the last one year which has prompted his national team captain Rohit to term him as the "next big thing".

"Shubman Gill has got so much potential. Without a doubt in my mind, the next big thing in Indian cricket," Rohit told the ICC on the sidelines of the World Test Championship final against Australia. "He has got everything required to get success at this level. I just hope he continues this good run of form," Rohit added. If the skipper was effusive in his praise, his long-time teammate and Gill's idol Kohli wants to help the youngster with all his knowledge acquired during his 15 years of top-flight cricket.

"What I know, he has told me that he has looked up to my career when I was coming up the ranks, he speaks to me a lot about the game and I am keen to help him grow," Kohli said. Gill's cover drive has an uncanny resemblance with Kohli's execution and the maestro is fully aware. Kohli's fans known as 'Viratians' call him 'King' and now Gill,



the heir apparent, is being termed as the 'Prince'. "All these tags of King and Prince are great for the public but the job of any senior cricketer is to help any youngster groom youngsters and give them insight that you have experienced throughout your career, so that they can manage their ups and downs. "He is a lovely kid, he is playing amazingly well and I wish he continues that in this (ongoing Test match) as well," said India's No. 1 batter of last decade.

India lacked positive mindset by opting to field: Shastri



London, Jun 08 (PTD):

Disappointed by India's defensive approach, former head coach Ravi Shastri has said Rohit Sharma did not show a "positive mindset" by electing to bowl in the World Test Championship final against Australia here.

India left out veteran off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin and preferred a four-pronged pace attack to go with left-arm spin bowling allrounder Ravindra Jadeja as they chose to bowl under over-cast conditions.

The decision backfired as Steve Smith (95 batting) and Travis Head (146 bat-

ting) shared an unbroken 251-run partnership to put Australia in a commanding 327/3 heading into day two.

"From what came out today, the mindset was to field if they won the toss, hence the choices in the bowling department - four seamers one spinner," Shastri told ICC after the end of the opening day's play on Wednesday.

"If the mindset was positive you'd want to bat, rough it out in the first session and see if you can put 250 on board. Don't think too big 250-260 and if the conditions got better and you saw the first session through, you could have got more," he added.

India had Australia at 73/2 at lunch on day one but after the skies cleared up it became a batting beauty as Smith and Head swung the momentum in their favour.

Shastri further said Australia are in a prime position and it's up to Pat Cummins and his men to let India back into the marquee contest.

Carlos Alcaraz and Novak Djokovic will meet in semis

Paris, Jun 08 (API):

Two weeks ago, before the start of play at the French Open, the brackets were set for the tournament, and one possible semifinal matchup immediately demanded attention: No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz, the Next Big Thing in men's tennis, against No. 3 Novak Djokovic, the Current Big Thing in men's tennis.

The heightened anticipation was not merely because it would be fascinating to see the two of them play at Roland Garros. It also would be fascinating to see them play each other, period: They've only met once, and it was 13 months ago, with Alcaraz coming out on top. So get ready: Alcaraz and Djokovic will finally share the stage again on Friday in Court Philippe Chatrier, where they will compete for a spot in the championship match. "Since the draw came out, everyone was expecting that match the semifinal against Novak.



Myself, as well," Alcaraz said after completing his half of the bargain by outclassing Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-2, 6-1, 7-6 (5) in the quarterfinals Tuesday night. "I really want to play that match." A moment later, Alcaraz observed: "If you want to be the best, you have to beat the best."

That echoed, word for word, the phrase Djokovic uttered hours earlier as he looked ahead after beating Karen Khachanov 4-6, 7-6 (0), 6-2, 6-4 on Tuesday. "It's definitely the biggest challenge for me, so far in the tournament. If you want to

be the best, you have to beat the best. He's definitely a guy to beat here. I'm looking forward to that."

The other men's pairing in the final four will include No. 22 Alexander Zverev, who advanced to that round in Paris for the third consecutive time by defeating Tomas Martin Etcheverry 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4. Two years ago, Zverev lost to Stefanos Tsitsipas in five sets; last year, Zverev left the stadium in a wheelchair after tearing ligaments in his right ankle late in the second set against Rafael Nadal.

INTERIM RELIEF

Court directs not to evict AAP MP Chadha from official bungalow

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

In an interim relief to AAP MP Raghav Chadha, a Delhi court has directed the Rajya Sabha secretariat to not evict him of a Type-7 bungalow in Lutyens' Delhi, which is usually allotted to law-makers who are former ministers, chief ministers or governors, till the pendency of his application and without following the due process of law.

The court will now decide the maintainability of Chadha's application against the March 3, 2023 order of the Rajya Sabha secretariat cancelling the allotment of the bungalow to him on July 10.

Nobody from the Rajya Sabha secretariat was immediately available for comments on the judicial order and the MP's peti-

Till it decides his plea

tion. During the proceedings, the counsel for the RS secretariat objected to the maintainability of the application.

Additional District Judge Sudhanshu Kaushik had on June 1, after hearing the arguments from both sides on the issue of maintainability, fixed the matter for July 10 for order.

The court had in April directed the secretariat not to dispossess Chadha of the bungalow till the pendency of the application "without due process of law". "At this stage, I do not deem it expedient to comment on the arguments raised by the plaintiff that the allotment once made by the secretariat cannot be cancelled under

any circumstances during the entire tenure of a Member of Parliament," the judge had said.

However, I do find force in the second limb of the argument advanced on behalf of the plaintiff that a person cannot be dispossessed except by following the due process of law, the judge said.

"Since, the plaintiff (Chadha) is occupying an accommodation, which falls under the category of public premises, the defendant (Rajya Sabha Secretariat) is obligated to follow the due process of law," he said.

The judge noted Chadha's submission that the secretariat was acting in "haste" and there was a strong likelihood that he

might be dispossessed without following the due process of law.

"In view of these circumstances, a prima-facie case is made out for issuing directions to the effect that the plaintiff shall not be dispossessed from the bungalow without due process of law," the judge said.

He observed that the balance of convenience also was in favour of Chadha as he was residing in the accommodation along with his parents.

"Plaintiff would indeed suffer irreparable injury, in case he is dispossessed without the due process of law. Accordingly, till the next date of hearing, the defendant is directed not to dispossess the plaintiff from bungalow without due process of law," the judge said.

NEW CAMPUS INAUGURATION



Delhi Lt Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel and BJP MP Gautam Gambhir during the inauguration of the new campus of the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU), in New Delhi, Thursday.

Girl pulled out from borewell declared dead at hospital

Sehore (MP), Jun 08 (PTI):

The two-and-a-half-year-old girl, who was pulled out from a borewell in Sehore district of Madhya Pradesh on Thursday after nearly 52 hours of rescue efforts, was declared dead at a hospital, police said.

A police official said on the condition of anonymity that the minor had already died in the borewell and when she was pulled out, her body was found decomposing.

The victim's body was sent for post-mortem, he said.

The girl - Srishti - had fallen into the 300-foot borewell in Mungavali village around 1 pm on Tuesday. She was pulled out at 5.30 pm on Thursday and was rushed to the district hospital in an ambulance for a check up, another official said.

She was initially stuck at the depth of about 40 feet in the borewell, but due to vibrations caused by machines engaged in the rescue operation, she slid down further to about 100 feet, making the task more difficult, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on Wednesday.

An official on Thursday said she had further slipped to the depth of around 135 feet.

An Army team also joined the rescue operation, while teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the State Disaster Emergency Response Force (SDERF) were also part of the rescue operation, officials said.

A team of robotic experts also joined the operation on Thursday morning to rescue her, they said.

'Crocodile makes herself pregnant in first such case'

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

The first ever known case of a crocodile who made herself pregnant without male intervention has been identified at a zoo in Costa Rica, scientists say.

The crocodile produced a foetus that was 99.9 per cent genetically identical to herself, the researchers said.

The team, including researchers at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in the US, noted that the finding is the "first documentation" of this very rare mode of reproduction in a crocodile species.

Over the past two decades, zoologists have increasingly documented the vertebrate repro-

ductive strategy of facultative parthenogenesis (FP) in which females lay eggs or give birth without mating.

A wide range of organisms including birds, reptiles like lizards and snakes as well as some fishes, have been shown to reproduce in this strange manner, the researchers said. The study, published recently in the journal Biology Letters, documented the first evidence of FP in the American crocodile, *Crocodylus acutus*.

The latest research is based on the 2018 observation of a female crocodile held in captivity for 16 years, which laid a clutch of 14 eggs, one of which contained a fully formed, but stillborn,

foetus.

The rare reproductive strategy in crocodilian species has particularly intrigued scientists as these organisms lack sex chromosomes and their sex determination is controlled by the temperature in which eggs develop and hatch.

Scientists say the trait might be inherited from an evolutionary ancestor, so dinosaurs might also have been capable of self-reproduction.

"This evidence offers tantalizing insights into the possible reproductive capabilities of extinct archosaurian relatives of crocodilians, notably the Pterosauria and Dinosauria," the authors wrote in the study.

The crocodile who laid the egg was ob-

tained when she was two years old and was kept apart from other crocodiles for its entire life in Parque Reptilania.

Researcher Warren Booth, who works at Virginia Tech in the US, and colleagues analysed the foetus and found that it was over 99.9 per cent genetically identical to its mother, confirming that there was no male intervention in its birth.

"Building on previous studies, the data advances our understanding of the distribution of FP in vertebrates, particularly in that all previous studies relate to species whose sex is genetically determined," the authors added.

Kerala fishermen take to the shores on treasure hunts

Thiruvananthapuram, June 08 (PTI):

With the Arabian Sea getting wild and stormy as the SouthWest Monsoon makes an entrance, and the trawling ban too set to begin on June 9, fishermen on the Kerala coast are left with no option but to stay ashore and look for treasure that the sea might throw up on to the sands.

On the eve of the trawling ban coming into force in the state's coastal waters, fishermen, who are already jobless due to Cyclone Biparjoy, were seen trying to find an alternate source of income through 'treasure hunting'. On Thiruvananthapuram's Shangumugham Beach, scores of fishermen were scouring the shores - un-

mindful of the huge waves - for coins, gold, and other valuables.

Many have already got gold in the form of chains, pendants, and earrings.

"When the rains (monsoon) start, the sea becomes rough, churning out everything on its bed. So we get money. There is no other way to earn anything during this time," Cyril, a local fisherman, said.

Showing a Rs 10 coin that he just picked up from the sand while fighting the waves hitting the shore, the fisherman said, "A few years ago, we used to get gold and other valuables. But after the Corona pandemic, we are mostly getting only coins."

There are many like Cyril who go in search of possible treasure.

INTERNATIONAL STUDY

'Arctic sea ice-free summer could happen a decade earlier than thought'

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

The Arctic could get its first summer free of sea ice by as early as the 2030s, a new study published in the journal Nature Communications has found. The study by an international team of researchers, led by Yeon-Hee Kim at Pohang University of Science and Technology in South Korea, predicted that the sea ice-free Arctic could happen 10 years earlier than previously thought, regardless of the greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions scenario. Arctic sea ice area (SIA) has been declining rapidly throughout

the year during recent decades with a steeper decline since 2000, the study said. In the Arctic Ocean, the sea ice area grows and shrinks over the course of the year. Additional sea ice forms in the winter, increasing sea ice area and usually reaches its maximum extent in March. In contrast, sea ice area reduces to its lowest in September, following melting in summer.

The study attributed GHG increases, increased human influence in the Arctic cryosphere and reduction in aerosol emissions since the 1980s following the El Chichon volcanic eruption to be the

drivers of the Arctic SIA reduction, observed throughout the year. Previous models have underestimated the extent of contribution of GHG to SIA reduction, the study said. This study compared satellite observations with advanced climate models and conducted an updated detection and attribution analysis of the observed Arctic SIA changes across all months over the 1979-2019 period. It also said that this study had a smaller observed uncertainty because it used SIA for analysis. Previous studies were mostly based on sea ice extent, it said. While SIA is defined as the actual

area covered with sea ice, sea ice extent is the total area of all grid cells with at least 15 per cent sea ice concentration and hence is strongly grid dependent.

Further, based on the quantified GHG contribution to the observed Arctic SIA reduction, the study has projected the future timing of the ice-free Arctic Ocean under the different Shared Socioeconomic Pathway (SSP) emission scenarios, which are scenarios of projected socioeconomic global changes up to 2100, used to derive greenhouse gas emissions scenarios with different climate policies.

MEDICAL CAMP



Locals at a medical camp organised by the Assam Rifles for people of violence-hit areas in Manipur.

'COVID-19 can cause brain cells to fuse'

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

Infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus can cause brain cells to fuse, initiating malfunctions that lead to chronic neurological symptoms, according to a study. SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, has been detected in the brains of people with "long COVID" months after their initial infection. The new research, published in the journal Science Advances, explored how SARS-CoV-2 alters the function of the nervous system. "We discovered COVID-19 causes neurons to undergo a cell fusion process, which has not been seen before," said Professor Massimo Hilliard from The University of Queensland,

Australia. "After neuronal infection with SARS-CoV-2, the spike S protein becomes present in neurons, and once neurons fuse, they don't die. They either start firing synchronously, or they stop functioning altogether," Hilliard said. The researcher likened the role of neurons to that of wires connecting switches to the lights in a kitchen and a bathroom. "Once fusion takes place, each switch either turns on both the kitchen and bathroom lights at the same time, or neither of them," Hilliard said. "It's bad news for the two independent circuits," he added. The discovery offers a potential explanation for persistent neurological effects after a viral infection, the researchers said.

ED questions TMC leader Abhishek's wife in coal case

Kolkata, Jun 08 (PTI):

Senior TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee's wife Rujira was grilled by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday for nearly four hours in connection with the coal pilferage case, officials said.

The investigators had a three-page questionnaire for Rujira, who reached the ED office at CGO Complex around 12.40 pm. "She (Rujira) was asked questions about certain accounts in foreign banks. Her statements were recorded," an ED official told PTI.

Asked about Rujira's questioning by the ED sleuths, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee declined to comment, stating that Rujira would speak in case she felt there was any need.



Security personnel stand guard in front of Enforcement Directorate's (ED) office during the appearance of Senior TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee's wife Rujira for questioning in the coal pilferage case, in Kolkata, Thursday.

"Please, (since) it's my family matter and I do not want to talk about it. Rujira is a mature girl. If needed she will talk about it," Banerjee told reporters at the state secretariat.

Rujira was stopped at the Kolkata airport on Monday when she at-

tempted to board a flight to UAE with her two children. She was then served summons to appear before the agency at 11 am on June 8.

However, she reached the CGO Complex around 12.40 pm along with her lawyer. She left the ED office around 4.20 pm follow-

ing her questioning.

Abhishek, the Chief Minister's nephew has alleged the questioning was an attempt at "harassing" his family and was aimed at halting his mass outreach campaign ahead of the panchayat elections in the state.

Tight security arrangements were made around the CGO Complex to prevent any untoward incident, a senior police officer said.

Both CBI and the ED have earlier questioned Rujira in the coal case.

The CBI is probing allegations of illegal-mining of coal from abandoned mines of Eastern Coalfields, estimated to be worth thousands of crores of rupees, officials said.

The ED is probing the money trail related to the case.

Hospital uses extreme cold therapy to treat cancer patient unfit for surgery

New Delhi, Jun 08 (PTI):

A 55-year-old woman suffering from gall bladder cancer and deemed unfit for surgery underwent cryoablation, a new form of minimally invasive treatment that kills carcinogenic cells with extremely cold gases, at a private hospital here.

The procedure was performed by the Department of Interventional Radiology at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, which claimed it to be a "first-of-its-kind procedure" in north India for cancer treatment. Explaining the procedure, Ajit Yadav, a consultant at the Department of Interventional Radiology, said, "Cryoablation works on the principle of the 'freeze-thaw-freeze'

cycle. A thin needle called a cryoprobe is placed directly into the cancerous area under ultrasound or CT scan guidance."

"The cryoprobe circulates extremely cold gas like liquid nitrogen to freeze and kill cancer cells.

कालड़ा बर्न एवं
प्लास्टिक कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी सेंटर
कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी
झुरियां, झांड़, दाग, तिल, अनचाहे बाल आदि (आधुनिक लेजर द्वारा), मुहांसे, दाग, नाक, होठ, रोड़ी, वक्ष, पेट आदि (प्लास्टिक सर्जरी द्वारा) तथा अंग कटने-जलने की अति विशेष चिकित्सा.
आर.के.सी.के सामने, चौथे कालनी एवं परचैदी नाका, धमतरी रोड, कलर्स मॉल के पास, रायपुर
कॉल : 9827143060/8871003060
Ajay Advt.