

'Oppn unity needs rational narrative'

bined opposition can work only if it succeeds in creating a narrative against the regime. The Janata Party experiment came on the back of the Emergency and Jayaprakash Narayan's mass movement. During VP Singh's rule, the Bofors scandal had caught public imagination," said the IPAC founder.

Kishor said, "Mere political arithmetic, devoid of a rational narrative, is unlikely to strike a chord with people."

Kishor, who has given up political consultancy, recently revived his "Jan Surraaj" campaign in Bihar after a gap of more than a month during which he nursed a ligation injury.

Asked about the development in Maharashtra, Kishor said, "It is for the

people of that state to decide whether what has happened is appropriate or not. But normally a party does not lose its support base just because of some MLAs jumping ship. I don't see any serious impact on NCP."

He also scoffed at reports in a section of the media speculating that the Bihar CM had grown wary of a fate, similar to that of the NCP, being met by his JD(U).

"Politicians are far too hardnosed to be swept away by the cycle of breaking news. Maharashtra's development will have no impact outside that state, just like the upheaval in Bihar last year did not affect politics elsewhere". He, however, added, "I repeat that the Mahagathbandhan will not retain its current com-

position by the time the state faces its next assembly polls. Former CM Jitan Ram Manjhi's exit points in that direction. But any major shift is unlikely before Lok Sabha elections." On the fresh CBI chargesheet against Bihar Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav, he said, "People do not resent any politician facing legal action for alleged wrongdoing. But it is becoming a matter of concern to them that only those in the opposition are caught and those who make peace with the ruling dispensation are let off". He, however, added, "It is wrong to believe that crackdown by an investigating agency will help a leader reap political dividends by playing the victim card. Such attempts do not find traction with people".

NEW STUDY

Majority people want cars with a safety rating

Mumbai, Jul 04:

A study was conducted among customers to gauge their feature preferences, when it comes to choosing a personal car. The survey was commissioned by Skoda Auto India and conducted by NIQ BASES. It revealed a heavy inclination among customers towards the safety features of the car with 9 out of 10 customers who thought all cars in India should have a safety rating. Crash-ratings and number of airbags were the top two features driving the consumer car purchase decision as derived from the survey results. Fuel-efficiency, one of the popular features, occupied third place. About 67% of the respondents consisted of current car owners who

owned a car above Rs 5 lakh. Some 33% did not own a car, but intended to purchase one above Rs 5 lakh within a year. The survey was conducted on individuals between 18 and 54 years of age in the SEC A and B bracket, with 80% respondents being male, and 20% female.

The car's crash rating was the top driver of customer car purchase decision with an importance score of 22.3% followed by number of airbags with an importance score of 21.6%. Fuel efficiency emerged as the third most important driver with importance score of 15.0% when purchasing a car.

When it comes to crash rating for cars, maximum customer preference of 22.2% was observed for a 5-star rating followed closely

by 21.3% preference for a 4-star rating. Crash rating of zero is the least preferred with only 6.8% score.

While the awareness about existence of 2 sets of 5-star safety ratings on crash tests is high at about 76%, only about 30% of all customers in India identify child/rear occupants safety rating as being one of those two sets.

With a major focus on safety from the Government of India and other regulators, the study was conducted to gauge the perception of safety in cars among consumers. The survey went about tracking the features which were the most discriminating in driving consumer choice. And the position of safety in this list of features.

After escaping from father's sexual abuse, minor raped by 2 men

On pretext of rescuing her

Kota (RJ) July 04 (PTI): A 13-year-old girl, who was allegedly sexually abused by her 68-year-old father, was later allegedly gang-raped by two others on the pretext of rescuing the minor from her father, Baran Police said on Tuesday. All three accused have been arrested and would be produced before a court later on Tuesday, they said.

On June 26, police lodged a report after a man alleged his 13-year-old daughter had been missing from home since June 22. When she was rescued by police on June 30, the girl told them that her father had been sexually abusing her for around a year and a half and had

also threatened her with life if she spoke to anyone about it. Her mother had died around five years back and she had been living with her father since then, she told police.

Later, the minor came in contact with a 29-year-old man, who took her with him on June 22 on the pretext of rescuing the girl from her father, police said. But the man, along with a friend, raped her several times, they said.

On the basis of statements by the minor, police lodged a case of rape under sections of the IPC and POCSO Act against the accused father and a separate case of gang rape against the two men, a police officer said.

WARM WELCOME



President Droupadi Murmu being welcomed by Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Reddy at Hakimpet Air Force Station, in Secunderabad, Tuesday.

'Police best judge to decide regulation of traffic movement'

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Traffic authorities are the best judge to decide the issue of regulation of traffic in the city, the Delhi High Court said, dismissing a plea seeking a direction to the police to remove blockades on the Mathura Road crossing.

The high court also took judicial notice of a substantial increase in road traffic in the city over the last few years and the number of cars parked on the roads in front of the court premises and in the lanes alongside, causing traffic congestion.

"Traffic control is the sole domain of the traffic police. It is well settled that courts do not run the country and it is up to the

administration to take decisions for smooth functioning of the government," a bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad said in a judgement passed on Monday.

The judgement was made public on Tuesday.

The bench dismissed the public interest litigation (PIL) which sought to direct the authorities, including the Delhi government and the Delhi Traffic Police, to remove blockades erected at the Mathura Road crossing to disallow a right turn while coming from the additional building of the Supreme Court to either the apex court's main building or the Delhi High Court. "The traffic author-

ities are the best judges to decide the issue of regulation of traffic in the city and this court, while exercising its jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, is not inclined to sit over as an appellate authority over the decisions taken by the traffic authorities for regulating the movement of traffic in the city. In view of the above, this court is not inclined to entertain the instant PIL. Resultantly, the PIL is dismissed," the court said.

The Delhi government's standing counsel Santosh Kumar Tripathi and lawyer Arun Panwar submitted that for the first time, the stretch has become signal and congestion-free and it is a permanent arrangement now.

RELIGIOUS GATHERING



Kanvarias at Har ki Pauri ghat during the holy month of Shravan month, in Haridwar, Tuesday.

'Roadmap for 2030 will benefit UK and India'

Kolkata, Jul 04 (PTI):

UK trade minister Nigel Huddleston on Tuesday said the 2030 roadmap with India will bring immense benefits for both countries. Speaking at an event here, the minister said it will deepen cooperation and bring both the countries even closer.

"The 2030 roadmap agreed by our Prime Ministers in May 2021 is a practical plan to transform the relationship between United Kingdom and India. It will bring immense benefits for both the countries. We have committed to doubling trade between the two great nations," Huddleston said. He said both UK and India have global interests and global reach. "We are science and technology superpowers. We worked together on the Covid vaccine which saved hundreds of lives in several countries," Huddleston said. In 2022, the volume of bilateral trade between India and the UK stood at GBP 36 billion, supporting half a million jobs in both the countries. The minister said of the great global challenges, none is more



Nigel Huddleston

urgent than climate change. "We are proud to work with India and support initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance and the coalition for disaster-resilient infrastructure," the minister said. He also announced deepening of cooperation between the UK and West Bengal in electric mobility and sustainable construction sectors. He said to address the barriers for

faster adoption of electric vehicles, UK had worked with the West Bengal government to bridge the skill gaps in the ecosystem in the EV space. "Together (UK and West Bengal) we will make the transition to zero emission vehicles faster, more affordable and accessible to all," he added. Meanwhile, both the UK and India are negotiating a free-trade agreement

which has completed the tenth round of talks. Huddleston, who arrived here on Monday on a two-day visit to the metropolis, also met former West Bengal finance minister Amit Mitra.

"A pleasure to speak with @DrAmitMitra to reaffirm the UK's commitment to bolstering economic growth in this vibrant state," he tweeted.

BJP names Union minister Reddy Telangana president, Sunil Jakhar Punjab chief

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

The BJP on Tuesday named Union minister G Kishan Reddy, Sunil Jakhar and Babul Marandi its president in Telangana, Punjab and Jharkhand respectively, effecting key organisational changes in the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls and fuelling the speculation about a reshuffle in the Union cabinet.

In a statement, the party also announced former Union minister D Purandeswari as its new Andhra Pradesh president and brought in OBC leader Etela Rajender as its election management committee chairperson in Telangana where assem-



G Kishan Reddy



Sunil Jakhar

blly polls are due later this year.

Sources said there is a possibility of Kumar being inducted as a minister in the central government in a reshuffle in the coming days, with Reddy likely to quit to take up his new assignment. The development highlights the

BJP's emphasis on setting its house in order in Telangana where many relatively new but powerful entrants to the party were against the leadership of Bandi Sanjay Kumar, a combative ideologue liked by the party's central leaders but who is seen to have failed in tak-

ing along others, especially former Congress and ruling BRS functionaries who joined in large numbers in recent years.

With the Congress seeking to rally back to reclaim some of its lost ground in the southern state, the BJP is making a determined push to be the main challenger to the Bharat Rashtra Samithi and is working overtime to augment its ranks by persuading local satraps of other parties to switch over.

By elevating Rajender, an influential regional leader, and removing Kumar, the party has sent a positive signal to those looking for greener pastures in the state's triangular politics.

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WORLD CUP TROPHY TOUR



Students pose next to the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup India 2023 trophy at their school during its trophy tour, in Mumbai, Tuesday, July 4.

Top-ranked opponents now bring different kind of energy in us: Savita Punia

Bengaluru, Jul 04 (PTI):

Indian women's hockey team skipper Savita Punia on Tuesday said they are no more intimidated by top-ranked opponents and playing stronger sides instead brings out "a different kind of energy" in her teammates.

After finishing a creditable fourth at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics and a lowly ninth at the World Cup the following year, the Indian team has scripted some new highs under coach Janneke Schopman and Punia.

They won the Commonwealth Games bronze and the Nations Cup in 2022 and are now gearing for the Asian Games in Hangzhou, in September-October.

"For last two-three years after the Olympics, whenever we played against any top team be it in the Pro League, World Cup, or the Commonwealth Games, never have we lost by a big margin," Savita told reporters during a virtual media conference from



their SAI Camp here. "This is the big improvement. The new-found confidence in the team, the mindset that we have now for our opponents is different." She said the team used to be under pressure some years ago but things changed for the better after the impressive show in the Tokyo Games.

"Maybe it was not the same five-six years ago,

and of course, the ranking mattered. We used to play under a bit of pressure and that would affect our performance.

"But, after the Olympics and after working with Janneke, the focus is only on our team and performance. We just have to follow and execute our plans against our opponents, win and loss are with every team.

Pakistan to tour England next year in preparation for T20 World Cup

Karachi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Pakistan will tour England next year to play a four-match T20 series in preparation for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 in the United States and the West Indies.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said on Tuesday that besides the men's squad, the national women's team will also tour England in May next year for three T20s and three ICC Women's Championship 2022-25 fixtures.

The Pakistan men's team will also play three T20 internationals in the Netherlands and a similar series against Ireland before reaching England. Pakistan were beaten

by England in the final of the last T20 World Cup while Pakistan also made the semi-finals of the 2021 World Cup where they lost to Australia. The matches against England will be played at Leeds (May 22), Birmingham (May 25), Cardiff (May 28) and The Oval in London (May 30).

England is ranked second on the ICC T20I team rankings, while Pakistan is ranked fourth.

The women's team tour will commence with the first T20I in Birmingham on May 11 with the remaining two matches in Northampton (May 17) and Leeds (May 19).

Derby, Taunton and Chelmsford will stage the three ODIs on May 23, 26 and 29 respectively.

Chhangte, Manisha named men's and women's AIFF Players of Year for 2022-23

Bengaluru, Jul 04 (PTI):

India and Mumbai City FC winger Lallianzuala Chhangte was on Tuesday named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year, on the back of his impressive performance in the Indian Super League (ISL) and for the national team.

The 26-year-old Mizoram player featured in 12 matches during the international season for India, scoring two goals and providing one assist in the 2022-23 season. He beat national team-mates Nandhakumar Sekar and Naorem Mahesh Singh to the coveted award.

Chhangte, who is currently doing national duty in the SAFF Championships here,



played in 22 matches during Mumbai City FC's ISL Winners' Shield-winning campaign last season and scored 10 goals while providing six assists.

He also netted seven goals in seven matches in the Durand Cup last season, while also scoring one goal in three games in the Super Cup.

Manisha Kalyan was named as the AIFF

Footballer of the Year.

The Men's Coach of the Year award went to former India player Clifford Miranda, who guided Odisha FC to Super Cup triumph and also AFC Cup qualification.

Priya Parathi Valappil was named Women Coach of the Year. A former India international, Priya is the current head coach of the India women's U-17 team.

Another Mumbai City FC player Akash Mishra and India U-17 team member Shilji Shaji were named Men's and Women's Emerging Players of the Year. The best players and coaches of the 2022-23 season were picked by eminent former players, including ex-captains Shabbir Ali, IM Vijayan and Bhaichung Bhutia.

Sindhu slips to world number 15 in BWF rankings



New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Double Olympic medalist PV Sindhu slipped three places to drop to the 15th spot in the latest women's singles BWF World rankings issued on Tuesday.

Sindhu, who dropped out of the elite top 10 in April this year, now has 51,070 points from 13 tournaments. The 27-year-old, who will be in action at the Canada Open Super 500 this week, has looked off colour this season after returning

from a five-month long injury layoff following a stress fracture on her ankle en route her Commonwealth Games gold in August last year.

The highlight this season has been a final finish at the Madrid Spain Masters Super 300 and a semifinal at the Malaysia Masters Super 500 for Sindhu, who made early exits from a series of events at the start of the year.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are the top-ranked Indian men's doubles players at world number 3.

HS Prannoy, who occupies the 8th spot, is the best ranked Indian in the men's singles while Lakshya Sen and Kidambi Srikanth are placed 19th and 20th respectively.

In women's doubles, Treasa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand dropped one spot to the 17th position.

Harmanpreet, Mandhana drop a place each in ODI batting chart

Deepti holds on to third in T20I all-rounder list



Dubai, Jul 04 (PTI):

Indian women's team captain Harmanpreet Kaur and her deputy Smriti Mandhana dropped a place each to sixth and seventh respectively in the latest ICC rankings for batters in ODIs released here on Tuesday.

Swashbuckling batter Harmanpreet has 716 rating points while Mandhana has 714. Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu topped the chart with 758 points, the first player from the island nation to achieve the feat.

In bowling, left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad (617 rating points) and senior off-spinning all-rounder Deepti Sharma are placed eighth and tenth respectively in the list headed by England's Sophie Ecclestone, who has accumulated 751 points.

As far as the all-rounders are concerned, India's Deepti is placed sixth with 322 points. In T20Is, Mandhana is static on third

place with 722 points, while Deepti moved a place up to fourth in bowling with 729 points, leaving Renuka Singh on ninth place with exactly 700 points.

Deepti, however, continued to hold on to the third place in the all-rounder's list with 393 points.

Meanwhile, Athapaththu has become the first player from her country to top the women's ODI player rankings after starring in a 2-1 series win over New Zealand in the ICC Women's Championship.

The left-handed opener thus emulated Sanath Jayasuriya, who is the only Sri Lanka player to top the ODI batting rankings for men, for 181 days between September 2002 and May 2003.

Athapaththu's two centuries in three matches have lifted her six places, overtaking the likes of Harmanpreet, Meg Lanning and Laura Wolvaardt and displacing Australia's Beth Mooney, who was at the top of the batting charts since May 10. Athapaththu won player of the match awards for her 108 not out off 83 balls in the first match and 140 not out off 80 in the final match. She was also named player of the series, making a rapid rise from seventh position, her previous career-best ranking.

Only two other Sri Lanka players have reached number one position in the women's rankings, both in the year 2014 - left-arm seam bowler Udeshika Prabodhani (T20I bowling) and Shashikala Siriwardene (T20I all-rounders).

Athapaththu, who has scored all her country's top 10 individual scores in women's ODIs, is currently at the highest-ever points tally by a Sri Lanka woman in ODIs with 758 rating points.

The next best is just 587 by Dedunu Silva, who also has the next highest-ranking, reaching 11th position in April 2010.

Meanwhile, New Zealand captain Sophie Devine has shot up six places to 13th after smashing a match-winning 137 in the second ODI of the series in Galle.

Sofia Kenin surprises Coco Gauff in all-US match at Wimbledon



Sofia Kenin of the US celebrates winning a point from Coco Gauff.

Wimbledon, Jul 04 (AP):

Sofia Kenin used to be the up-and-coming American, the one who was a Grand Slam champion at age 21, the one who beat a teenage Coco Gauff on the way to that trophy, the one who right afterward broke into the Top 10 in the WTA rankings, then soon made another run to a major final.

After all of that came a series of health issues a lingering foot injury, a bout with COVID-19, a right ankle problem and three first-round exits in a row at major tournaments, all of which added up to a slide down the rankings. Coming into Wimbledon, Kenin was ranked 128th, so low she needed to go through three qualifying rounds just to get into the main draw, where she was placed in the bracket against none other than Gauff. It's Gauff who is now in the Top 10 at age 19 and seeded No. 7 at the All England Club, who was a Slam runner-up at last year's French Open, who was a quarterfinalist or better at four of the most recent nine majors. And yet it was Kenin who came out on top in their highlight-filled matchup on a windy, chilly Monday at No. 1 Court, beating Gauff 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

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Guru Pranam Utsav: A Celebration of Art and Legacy

Shilpa Mitra

Vaishali Kala Kendra, a renowned dance institute based in Noida, recently organized a three-day dance festival titled "Guru Pranam Utsav." This festival has been celebrated for over three decades in memory of the late Guru Shrinath Raut, who dedicated his life to promoting Odissi as a cultural dance form. The event aimed to honor Guru Raut's teachings and continue his legacy of Guru Shishya Parampara.

Vaishali Kala Kendra, dedicated to propagating Odissi dance and vocal music in India, strives to raise awareness and enhance the popularity of this art form. The institute has set its sights on bringing Odissi to the pinnacle of international fame and glory. The Guru Pranam Utsav serves as a homage to Guru Srinath Raut, who was the first guru of the festival's organizer. This year marked the 35th anniversary of this esteemed event. The festival not only pays tribute to Guruji but also aims to spread the fragrance of Odissi across the region. To achieve this, artists from India and abroad are invited to participate and honor the late Guru Raut.

The festival was held at the Indira Gandhi Auditorium in Noida and the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi.

The first day of the festival was dedicated to dance performances. The evening commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the esteemed guest, Dr. Mahesh Sharma, followed by a Shradhanjali (tribute) to Late Guru Srinath Raut. The dance repertoire began with an invocatory dance item called Manglacharan, performed by emerging dancers from Vaishali Kala Kendra. The evening continued with various dance items such as Sthayee Nritya, Basant, Saberi Pallavi, and captivating Bharatanatyam presentations by disciples of Guru Raman Velayudhan Thyagarajan.

The highlight of the day was a presentation of "Ramayan," aimed at instilling life lessons from this epic in today's generation.

Dr. Mahesh Sharma presented the Guru Srinath Raut Nritya Chudamani Award to Guru Raman Velayudhan Thyagarajan for his selfless contributions to the field of dance. He praised Vaishali Kala Kendra for recognizing and honoring artists who have dedicated themselves to art and culture. Dr. Sharma appreciated the performances, especially the rendition of Ramayana, and applauded the efforts of all the participants.

The second day of the festival was dedicated to music. The event began with a presentation by Shri Siddharth Kishore, who mesmerized the audience with a rendition of raag Madhuvanti Chota Khayal in 3 taal, followed by a soulful Bhajan in raag Bhageshree. Dr. Neeta Mathur presented a Khayal, a popular form of Hindustani classical music, and Pushtu Marg Havelli Sangeet, a traditional temple music composed of devotional

padas by medieval period saints. Accompanied by talented musicians, both artists delivered captivating performances. The concluding keynote address was given by the esteemed guest, Shri Chetan Joshi, a renowned flutist and recipient of the Sangeet Natak Academy Award. Shri Joshi emphasized the beauty of Indian art and culture and commended Vaishali Kala Kendra for providing a platform for artists and organizing such a remarkable festival.

The third day of the festival once again highlighted dance, featuring Odissi and Bharatanatyam presentations. The evening commenced with the traditional lamp lighting and a heartfelt tribute to Guru Srinath Raut by the chief guest of the evening, Shri Amarendra Khatua, former Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, along with other distinguished guests. The performances began with an enchanting Manglacharan, an ode to Lord Krishna, presented by senior disciples of Vaishali Kala Kendra.

Dr. Jyoti Shrivastava took the stage next and presented "Oriya Geet Muha Muhi Kishor," a soul-stirring performance that showcased her command over various emotions and conveyed a strong satvik bhava (spiritual expression). This was followed by a mesmerizing presentation of "Kedar Komoudi Pallavi," a choreography by Guru Durga Charan Ranbir, and "Ashtashambhu," a composition by Late Guru Srinath Raut. The Pallavi exhibited lyrical movements and intricate footwork, while Ashtashambhu depicted the eight forms of Lord Shiva with powerful footwork and balanced postures.

The evening further showcased the talents of guest artists Shri Manoranjan Nayak and Raseswari Nayak, who pre-

sented a captivating duet in Odissi, featuring "Ardhanareshwar." Additionally, Bharatanatyam duet performances were presented by Bhadra Sinha and Gayatri Sharma. To conclude the festival on a high note, the Guru Srinath Raut Sahitya Chudamani Award was presented to Smt. Maya Das in recognition of her outstanding work in the Odissi world, particularly her translation of Abhinaya Chandrika.

The audience and esteemed guests showered appreciation on all the performances. In the concluding keynote address, Dr. Arshiya Sethi, the guest of honor, reflected on the greatness of Guruji and commended Vaishali Kala Kendra for its relentless efforts to promote art and artists.

The artistic direction of the entire event was skillfully handled by Dr. Jyoti Shrivastava. In these fast-paced times, art serves as a means to slow down and reflect on our lives. The Guru Pranam Utsav aimed to counteract the effects of the pandemic by providing a platform for artistic expression. The event was impeccably organized, visually captivating, and thoroughly entertaining for the audience. The three-day festival, "Guru Pranam Utsav: A Celebration of Art and Legacy," paid homage to the late Guru Srinath Raut and his teachings. Through mesmerizing dance performances, soul-stirring music, and the recognition of outstanding contributions, the festival successfully achieved its objective of spreading the essence of Odissi and promoting the rich cultural heritage of India. Vaishali Kala Kendra's unwavering commitment to the art form and its efforts to nurture and honor artists have truly made a significant impact in the world of dance.



Garima Jain emphasizes impact over screen space

Garima Jain is talented actress who is currently seen as Sakshi in Star Bharat's popular show 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho,' shares her perspective on the significance of screen space and the importance of leaving a lasting impact as an actor.

Garima Jain expressed her belief that screen space should not be the primary concern for actors. Instead, she emphasized the significance of the character's depth and

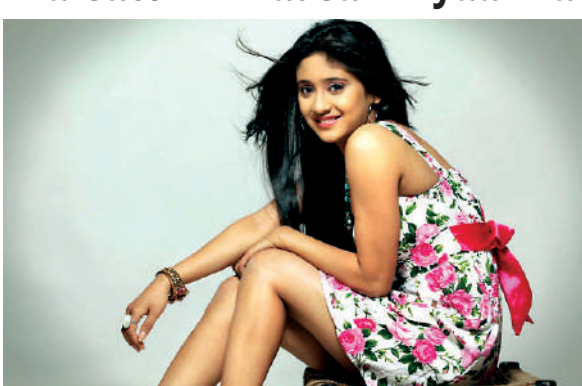
about the role I portray and the impact it creates," said Garima. "I have always focused on delivering my best performance and leaving a lasting impression, regardless of the screen time allocated to me. Every opportunity, no matter how small, is a chance to showcase my talent and connect with the audience."

As Sakshi in 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho,' Garima Jain has continued to impress audiences with her portrayal of a grey shade character in the show who is here to create a rift between Dev and Vidhi as Jay has instructed her. With her performance as a grey shade character in the show Garima has changed her viewers perspective who typecasted her in girl next door roles. However, her ability to bring depth and authenticity to her role as 'Sakshi' has made her a standout performer in the show, capturing the hearts of viewers with her talent and versatility.

the impression it leaves on the audience. Throughout her successful career, Garima has portrayed various small roles with limited screen time, but she has always dedicated herself wholeheartedly to each character. She says, "For me, it's not about the amount of screen space I receive; it's



Shivangi Joshi finds parallels between Life and Role in 'Barsatein - Mausam Pyaar Ka'



In the world of television, popular actress Shivangi Joshi, renowned for her remarkable performances in serials like 'Begurassai' and 'Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai,' is gearing up to captivate audiences once again in the upcoming romance drama 'Barsatein - Mausam Pyaar Ka'. Taking on the role of Aradhana Sahni, Shivangi draws striking similarities between her own persona and the character she portrays, revealing a profound connection to her real-life self.

Recognizing the significance of forging a bond with her viewers, Shivangi explains her approach in selecting roles that resonate

deeply with the audience. When she encountered the character of Aradhana, an instant connection was established, as the actress found herself mirrored within the role. She shares, "As an actor, it is vital to establish a connection with your audience, and I strive to choose roles that strike a chord with them. Aradhana resonated with me immediately because I see a lot of myself in her."

Eagerly anticipating the opportunity to portray an optimistic yet strong-willed character, Shivangi expresses her excitement about embarking on this new chapter with 'Barsatein - Mausam Pyaar Ka'.

Akanksha Puri surprised by Salman Khan's apology for Kiss Incident

Akanksha Puri, recently evicted from 'Bigg Boss OTT' Season 2, expressed her surprise at host Salman Khan's apology for a seemingly innocuous task, particularly in regard to the kiss shared between Jad Hadid and herself. Despite the apology, Akanksha maintains her belief that there was nothing wrong with the act. During the Weekend Ka Vaar episode of 'Bigg Boss OTT 2', Salman Khan apologized for the controversial kiss. In a media interaction following her eviction, Akanksha stated, "I am surprised by Salman Khan's apology. It might be his perspective, but personally, I still don't see any issue with it. When Salman Khan asked me, I gave the same response that I am giving now—it was just a task. As an artist, I treated it as a scene, performing alongside a co-star. That's how I viewed it, and nothing else matters to me."

While Akanksha believes she played a decent game on the show, she believes she was targeted with ill intentions, leading to her eviction. She explained, "I feel I was targeted from the beginning. I didn't have the opportunity to play my game fully as I spent very little time in the house. The narrative portrayed me as fake, over-prepared, and overconfident. I believe people were given misinformation about me, and the duration of the show was too short for me to rectify the preconceived narrative."



Chinmayee and Sheehan talk about their sibling bond

While filming television shows, especially family centric ones, actors naturally form strong bonds, more so in the case of a brother-sister relationship. From sharing inside jokes, hiding each other's secrets or quarrelling over food, a sibling bond is truly special. One such on-screen brother-sister duo is Chinmayee Salvi and Sheehan Kapahi who play Sakhi and Atharva Wagle in Sony SAB's Wagle Ki Duniya. After having filmed together for over two-and-a-half years, both have become as thick as thieves. When Atharva was kidnapped in the recent episode, his sister Sakhi comforted him with a bowl of ice-cream when he returned



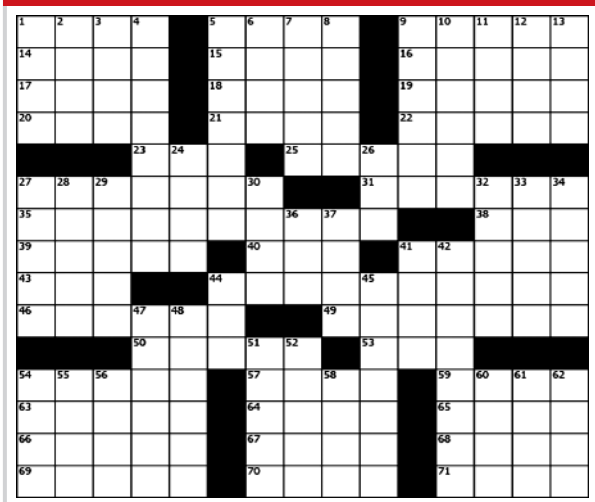
and assured him that no matter what, she would always be around for him. Extending this camaraderie to their real life, actors Chinmayee and Sheehan's bond is equally heartwarming. From helping each other study for exams to cheer-

ing one another through life they are always seen sharing a special bond.

Talking about her bond with Sheehan, Chinmayee Salvi from Sony SAB's Wagle Ki Duniya said, "Working with Sheehan in Wagle Ki Duniya has been nothing

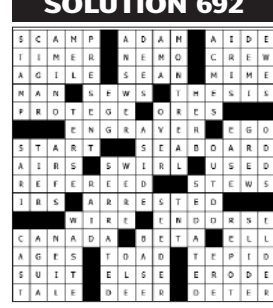
short of a laughter riot. We are always cracking jokes and pulling each other's leg while also teasing Sumeet Sir and Pariva Ma'am who play our onscreen parents. The storyline where Atharva was kidnapped on the show, really brought Sheehan and me closer. There's a lovely scene where I hug Sheehan after he's returned home and tell him that 'you're not a part of my life, but you are my life' and this struck us deeply. That moment solidified our bond, and we knew we would always have each other's backs. Be it practicing football with him or helping him revise for his exams, Sheehan and I are always having a blast with each other."

CROSSWORD 693



- ACROSS**
1. Morose
 5. Long tale
 9. Listens to
 14. Wine valley
 15. Not any
 16. Blacksmith's block
 17. English river
 18. Attired
 19. Cut bread
 20. Magician's rod
 21. _____ wolf
 22. Laid bathroom flooring
 23. Tumult
 25. Margins
 27. Highest mountain
 31. Tempt
 35. On purpose
 38. It follows Oct.
 39. Presses clothes
 40. Manipulate
 41. Large spoon
 43. Recipe abbr.
 44. Gap
- DOWN**
1. Chew on
 2. Volcanic emission
 3. On top of
 4. Chinese dialect
 5. Confine
 6. Marco _____
 7. Foolish
 8. Surrendered
 9. Hurry
 10. Register
 11. Sinful
 12. Gambling cubes
 13. Arctic transport
 24. Society girls
 26. Wow!
 27. Corrects copy
 28. Stanza
 29. Wed secretly

46. Boil
49. Begin again
50. Wild animal
53. That female
54. Zeal
57. Harvest
59. Uncluttered
63. Keaton or Sawyer
64. Vex
65. Venture
66. Pinnacles
67. Actor _____ Guinness
68. Continually
69. Untidy
70. Scheme
71. School official
30. Faithful
32. Calcutta's country
33. Use crayons
34. Occasion
36. Cleopatra's snake
37. Rip apart
41. Eyelid hair
42. Sat in on
44. Ocean
45. Aretha Franklin song
47. Certain steaks (hyp.)
48. Religious dissent
51. _____ metal
52. Warble
54. Genesis man
55. Wedding confetti
56. Water barriers
58. Toast topping
60. Roof edge
61. Region
62. Coastal bird



BRIEF

Foundation laid



Chittoor: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy on Tuesday laid the foundation for the revival of the now defunct Chittoor Dairy in collaboration with Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (GCMMLF), better known as Amul. The production at Chittoor Dairy was suspended for over 20 years mounting the debts to Rs 182 crore. It was cleared by the present government to inject new life into it.

Board director

New Delhi: Krishna Kumar Thakur, a 1998-batch officer of Indian Railway Personnel Service (IRPS), has been appointed as a director on the board of BHEL, an official statement said. Prior to joining BHEL, Thakur was heading the human resources and administration function of Central Railway as Chief Personnel Officer, state-owned BHEL said in a statement. "On his appointment as Director on the Board of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Krishna Kumar Thakur, 49, has assumed charge as Director (Human Resources) of the public sector engineering and manufacturing enterprise," it said.

Appointment

Chennai: Global enterprise software company Ramco Systems has appointed Sundar Subramanian as its chief executive officer, the company said on Tuesday. Prior to taking up the new responsibility, Subramanian was serving leading multinational information technology services and consulting companies. Ramco Systems chairman P R Venketrama Raja said, "...the appointment of Sundar Subramanian as the CEO will bolster our leadership team, bringing in operational excellence, and effective decision-making and creating an environment for collaboration and growth."

Govt will be facilitator for startups, not regulator: Piyush Goyal

Gurugram, Jul 04:

The government will always act as a facilitator to strengthen the startup ecosystem and not act as a regulator, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Tuesday. He said that stakeholders of this ecosystem will do self-regulation.

Addressing the Startup20 summit here, the minister said, the message that should go out from here is the joint commitment of all the 22 nations, who have participated, that the governments will not be looking at impeding the progress of the work that startups are doing. The best way is



to be out of the startups ecosystem, he said, adding the government is not expected to start regulating or dictating or micro-managing the ecosystem. "Our role will always be that of a facilitator and I do not see the government becoming an administrator or a regulator of this sector," he said. He added that the job of

the government is to give an initial push or early stage finance to budding entrepreneurs. The minister also said that India provides a unique opportunity to the world of startups. India has the advantage of skilled talent, affordability, growing startup culture, and aspirational population, Goyal said. He invited the startups of the world to come and explore opportunities in India. The Startup20 Summit, organized by the Startup20 Engagement Group under the India G20 Presidency, kicked off on Monday here. If at all there are issues, there are problems we would like to look at finding solutions

to them through possibly self-regulation, he said, adding, "let them (startups) create their ecosystem that will ensure orderly growth, orderly way of accounting, way of financing, way of reporting," Goyal said. "I would personally like to commit myself not to interfere in the startup world," he said. Goyal also said that the kind of policy recommendations that have come from the deliberations here will lay the basic foundation for this startup journey moving up from "startup India to startup world". The Startup20 communique, he said, "can truly be the new dawn of global startup ecosystem".

NMDC wins ASSOCHAM Awards

For Mineral Development and Employer Brand

Hyderabad, Jul 04:

India's Mining Major, NMDC won the 'Mineral Development Award' and the 'Employer Brand of the Year Award' at ASSOCHAM Business Excellence Awards 2023 in Kolkata on Sunday. Recognising NMDC's immense contribution to the mining sector, Anurag Srivastava, IAS, Secretary, Industry, Commerce and Enterprise Department, Government of West Bengal presented the ASSOCHAM Awards to NMDC at the Indian Mining and Minerals Conclave 2023. The awards were received by M. Jayapal Reddy, Executive Director (RP&Env) on behalf of NMDC. As iron ore's largest producer in the country and



the sixth largest producer in the world, NMDC is a key player in the mineral's development. The company's state-of-the-art R&D Centre is dedicated to improve productivity, ensure zero-waste mining, and develop cutting-edge beneficiation technology. NMDC is one of India's most dependable and respected companies. The CPSE's unique HR practices contribute to the holistic development of its employees and stakeholders

making it an excellent employer brand. Congratulating his team, Amitava Mukherjee, CMD (Additional Charge) said, "As India deepens its trust with self-reliance, NMDC as a Government of India enterprise is committed to shouldering the responsibility. We are constantly reinventing to enhance production efficiency at various stages of our value chain and build a culture of growth in our organization."

Investors become richer by Rs 7.90 lakh cr in 5 days

BSE-listed firms' valuation hits new peak of Rs 298.57 lakh cr

New Delhi, Jul 04:

Equity investors' wealth went up by Rs 7.90 lakh crore in five days of rally in the BSE Sensex, which is on a record-breaking run helped by unabated foreign fund inflows and largely bullish investor sentiments. Rallying for the fifth straight session, the 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 274 points or 0.42 per cent to settle at its all-time closing high of 65,479.05 on Tuesday. During the day, the benchmark surged 467.92 points or 0.71 per cent to hit its lifetime intra-day peak of 65,672.97. Investors' wealth climbed Rs 7,90,235.84

crore in five days of rally. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms also reached an all-time high of Rs 2,98,57,649.38 crore on Tuesday.

Sensex gained over 2,500 points in the past five sessions. Bajaj Finance was the biggest gainer in the Sensex chart, climbing 7.17 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finserv which rallied 5.76 per cent. Tech Mahindra, Sun Pharma, NTPC, Titan, Wipro, Tata Consultancy Services, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Infosys, State Bank of India and ITC were the other major gainers. Bharti Airtel, Axis Bank, Reliance Industries, IndusInd Bank, Tata Steel and UltraTech Cement were among the laggards.

UK-WEST BENGAL PARTNERSHIP



UK Minister for International Trade Nigel Huddleston and Chairman, Newtown Kolkata development Authority, Debashis Sen during the announcement of UK-West Bengal partnership on electric mobility and green construction, in Kolkata, Tuesday.

Govt plans to double turnover of automobile industry to Rs 15 lakh crore: Gadkari

Jaipur, Jul 04:



The government intends to double the turnover of the automobile industry to Rs 15 lakh crore from Rs 7.5 lakh crore at present, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari said on Tuesday. Speaking at a public meeting in Rajasthan's Pratapgarh district to highlight achievements of the central government in the last nine years, Gadkari also targeted Congress saying that in the name of removing poverty, Congress leaders eliminated their own poverty. "The turnover of the automobile industry is Rs 7.55 lakh crore, and four and a half crores have got jobs in the sector. This industry gives maximum

GST to the government. We have decided that we will make this industry of Rs 15 lakh crore," he said, adding that the industry will generate ten crore jobs. He also said that India has beaten Japan in automobile manufacturing and has come in number 3 position globally after China and the US. Laying emphasis on the importance of education, he said, "Knowledge is a great power, and converting knowledge into wealth

is our future". He said that farmers today are not only food providers but also energy providers by producing ethanol and solar electricity. From auto rickshaws to cars, vehicles will run on ethanol and India's import will reduce and farmers will prosper.

The minister said that in the last nine years, the Modi government has taken several steps to make progress. The minister also targeted Congress in the programme. He said that Congress ruled for nearly 60 years and the slogan of eliminating poverty was given, but in place of removing poverty, Congress people got their "poverty" eliminated. BJP state president CP Joshi, former minister Srichand Kriplani and other leaders also addressed the programme.

Kia unveils updated Seltos

New Delhi, Jul 04:



Kia, India's leading mass premium carmaker, is ready to grow the premium RV segment with the most anticipated launch of its latest innovation, the New Seltos. Designed for the always-on-the-go new-age customers, the New Seltos delivers a power-packed, smarter, and safer driving experience, accentuated by stunning exteriors and all-new interiors.

Seltos is one of the biggest brands for Kia Corporation with 1 out of every 10 Kia cars sold globally being a Seltos. The new Seltos will grow the mid-SUV segment by re-inventing and revamping it with its best-in-segment features and stunning design. Seltos brand currently contributes 55% to Kia

India's overall sales.

Building on this success, Kia India also unveiled a new transformation journey - Kia 2.0. Under Kia 2.0, the company has set ambitious targets, including attaining a 10% market share, doubling the existing network of touchpoints from 300+ to 600+, and growing RV leadership with new innovative products. These initiatives demonstrate Kia's commitment to expansion, customer satisfaction, and market leadership.

The new Seltos comes equipped with the most evolved and segment-best Level 2 ADAS with 17 features, which comes only in super premium cars like EV6 in India. Combined with additional 15 Robust

safety features (Standard across the range), the new Seltos boasts a remarkable 32 safety features, setting a new benchmark for safety in the segment. Powered by an efficient Smartstream G1.5 T-GDi Petrol engine, generating a commanding 160ps of power and 253 Nm of Torque, Kia India now offers the most powerful engine in the rapidly growing mid-SUV segment.

The New Seltos is equipped with many segment-leading features such as Dual Screen Panoramic Display with 26.04 cm Fully Digital Cluster & 26.03 cm HD Touchscreen Navigation, Dual Zone Fully Automatic Air Conditioner, and R18 46.20 cm Crystal Cut Glossy Black Alloy Wheels.

Hero MotoCorp to commence Harley-Davidson X440 bookings from today

Deliveries to begin in October

New Delhi, Jul 04:



Hero MotoCorp on Tuesday said it will commence bookings for the Harley-Davidson X440 across the country from 4:40 pm onwards with deliveries expected to commence from October onwards. The 440-cc bike, which is being manufactured by Hero MotoCorp at its Neemrana plant, could be booked online with a booking amount of Rs 5,000. Additionally, customers can also reserve the Harley-Davidson X440 at all Harley-Davidson dealerships and select

Hero MotoCorp outlets across the country, it added. The motorcycle is available in three variants Denim, Vivid and S at an introductory price point of Rs 2.29 lakh, Rs 2.49 lakh and Rs 2.69 lakh (ex-showroom), respectively. Deliveries of Harley-Davidson X440 will commence from October 2023 onwards, the company said.

Amazon introduces personalized products with launch of 'Customize' feature

Bengaluru, Jul 04:

Amazon India's first-ever free self-serve product customization feature, "Customize Your Product" is now available across a wide selection of more than 10,000 plus products from 76 different categories. This enhanced feature offers an intuitive customization experience that provides visual design tools to customers to personalize products, along with an interactive product preview option to view the final customized product in real-time. The feature enables customers to personalize a wide range of products including window blinds, blankets, home decor, wall art, signage, furniture, engraved pen, necklace, water bottle, mugs, apparel, jewelry organizer, golf clubs, phone covers, notebooks and many more as per their creative requirements. Catering to the evolving

personalization needs of customers, this feature taps into India's fragmented and under-served personalized gifting products market. By providing an opportunity to innovate, the platform boosts customer engagement and converts a limited product selection to an unlimited one (personalized engraved jewelry, custom sized ergonomic office chairs, apparel/mugs/hats with customer chosen image/text for parties, gifts, or simply swag). It encompasses multiple options for capturing innovative messages and pictures for expressing a celebration or an emotion. Apart from a wide variety of font styles and colors to choose from for adding/engraving text, the feature also offers an option for uploading precious memories in the form of images and notes and allowing customers to choose from other customizations a seller provides.

Markets fire on all cylinders: Sensex, Nifty end at new closing highs

Mumbai, Jul 04:

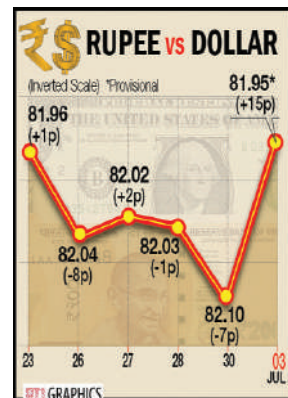


Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty advanced further to settle at record highs for the fourth straight session on Tuesday, driven by unabated foreign fund inflows and largely bullish investor sentiments. Besides, heavy buying in index majors Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv, Infosys, HDFC Bank and TCS added to the optimism in the equity market. Rallying for the fifth straight session, the 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 274 points or 0.42 per cent to settle at its all-time closing high of 65,479.05. During the day, the benchmark surged 467.92 points or 0.71 per cent to hit its lifetime intra-day peak of 65,672.97. The NSE Nifty climbed 66.45 points or 0.34 per cent to end at a fresh record high of 19,389. During the day, it advanced 111.6 points or 0.57

per cent to hit its all-time intra-day peak of 19,434.15. Bajaj Finance was the best performer in the Sensex chart, surging 7.71 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finserv, Tech Mahindra, Sun Pharma, NTPC, Titan, Wipro, Tata Consultancy Services, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Infosys, State Bank of India and ITC. On the other hand, Bharti Airtel, Axis Bank, Reliance Industries, IndusInd Bank, Tata Steel and UltraTech Cement were among the laggards.

Rupee falls 11 paise to close at 82.02 against US dollar

Mumbai, Jul 04:



The rupee pared initial gains and settled for the day lower by 11 paise to close at 82.02 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday amid bargain buying from oil importers and hedgers. However, a positive tone in domestic markets, wherein benchmark indices witnessed record high levels and steady foreign fund inflows, supported the rupee at lower levels.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 81.90 against the dollar and settled at 82.02 (provisional), down 11 paise from its previous close.

During the day, the rupee touched a high of 81.87 and a low of 82.03 against the greenback. On Monday, the rupee had settled at 81.91 against the dollar. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies,

rose 0.01 per cent to 102.99. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 1.22 per cent to USD 75.56 per barrel. "Rupee erased the early morning gains and became the worst performer among Asian currencies following bargain buying from the oil importers and hedgers. The speculative activities and inflows remained limited due to the closure of US markets," Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities, said.

Bandhan Mutual Fund launches Financial Services Fund

Mumbai, Jul 04:

Bandhan Mutual Fund announced the launch of the Bandhan Financial Services Fund, an open-ended equity scheme, offering investors the opportunity to benefit from the multi-year growth opportunities in the financial services sector. The fund will be actively managed by a team that has a strong pedigree and expertise in leveraging the vast opportunities across this attractive value chain, providing investors with an opportunity to benefit from the growth story of the economy. The New Fund Offer will open on Monday, July 10, 2023, and close on Monday, July 24, 2023. Investment in Bandhan Financial Services Fund can be made through licensed mutual fund distributors and online platforms, as well as, directly on https://www.bandhanmutu-

al.com. Highlighting why investors should consider investing in the Financial Services Sector, Mr. Vishal Kapoor, CEO, Bandhan AMC said, "A significant portion of India's economic growth is fueled by the financial services sector. Powerful enablers like increasing financial inclusion, growing digitization, and the relatively stronger balance sheet of banks and NBFCs provide visibility for strong earnings growth for this sector. It has been a key driver of returns for the capital market with the Financial Services Index growing 18X since inception compared to 10X for the Nifty 500 Index." Mr. Sumit Agrawal, Fund Manager for Bandhan Financial Services Fund added, "The financial services sector is agile in embracing new businesses and themes that could further enhance its growth prospects."



CENTRAL Chronicle

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India's Road Network

Driving Economic and Social Advancement

India's unprecedented road network growth over the past nine years has positioned the country as a global leader in infrastructure development. With a remarkable expansion of 59 percent, India now boasts the second-largest road network in the world. This growth has not only transformed the transportation landscape but has also brought forth a multitude of economic and social benefits. One significant outcome of this road network expansion is the substantial increase in toll revenues. From Rs 4,770 crore in 2013-14, toll revenues have surged to Rs 41,342 crore. This surge can be attributed to the efficient implementation of Fastags, which have reduced waiting times at toll plazas to an average of just 47 seconds. Such streamlined processes enhance the overall travel experience and promote seamless connectivity. The improved road infrastructure has revolutionized connectivity, reaching remote areas, hilly terrains, and previously difficult-to-access regions. This enhanced connectivity has facilitated better access to essential services, markets, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, disaster management, and law enforcement. Moreover, the upgraded road network has spurred economic development in these regions, opening up new avenues for trade, commerce, and tourism. Businesses now find it easier to transport goods, thus boosting trade activities and contributing to regional economic growth. Furthermore, the upgraded road network has proven to be a boon for India's tourism industry. Destinations that were once challenging to reach are now more accessible to both domestic and international tourists. This has had a direct positive impact on the local economy, generating employment opportunities in the tourism sector and bolstering the overall growth of the industry. The benefits of India's road network expansion extend beyond the civilian domain. The Indian Army has greatly benefited from the improved connectivity, experiencing enhanced strategic mobility. The efficient movement of troops, equipment, and supplies across different regions of the country is crucial for defence preparedness, swift deployment during emergencies, and maintaining territorial integrity. The road network provides essential connectivity to strategically important locations, including border posts, forward bases, airfields, and defence installations. This ensures seamless access for personnel, supplies, and equipment, enabling effective control and defence of these vital areas. The extensive road infrastructure initiatives have played a pivotal role in overhauling India's overall infrastructure landscape. This progress has been instrumental in promoting economic growth and social advancement. The government's steadfast commitment to leveraging this extensive road network to drive India's transformation is commendable. As India continues to prioritize infrastructure development, it is essential to maintain the momentum and invest in further enhancing the road network. Addressing any existing gaps and ensuring sustainable maintenance will be crucial in harnessing the full potential of this expansive infrastructure. By doing so, India will not only continue to stimulate economic growth but also improve the quality of life for its citizens. India's road network is a testament to the nation's progress and determination to build a prosperous future. With continued investment and strategic planning, the country is well on its way to becoming a global leader in infrastructure development, setting an example for others to follow.

Hidden Hazards

The warning by the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding the potential carcinogenicity of aspartame, a widely used sweetener found in carbonated drinks, diet sodas, and low-calorie food items, is set to shake the cola industry to its core. For decades, the adverse effects of sugary beverages have been a subject of global studies. However, the connection between diet drinks and negative health outcomes has been met with skepticism, sparking heated debates between health experts, nutritionists, and the powerful food industry. As a result, consumers have been left in a state of confusion when it comes to their consumption of addictive colas laced with artificial sweeteners. While regulatory bodies in many countries, including the US Food and Drug Administration, have consistently approved carbonated drinks since the 1980s, soft drink manufacturers have reaped billions of dollars in profits. However, the forthcoming WHO warning, expected to be announced in mid-July following a review of aspartame's safety, should serve as a wake-up call for users of sugar substitutes. In fact, the WHO recently advised against the use of all artificial sweeteners, such as aspartame, saccharin, sucralose, and stevia, stating that they not only fail to reduce weight but also increase the risk of type 2 diabetes, heart ailments, and adult mortality. Naturally, the powerful food industry will vehemently oppose these latest findings, as the stakes are high. In such a situation, it is prudent for consumers to adhere to the adage "when in doubt, stay out." Parents should take the initiative to instill healthy eating habits in their children, ensuring they do not develop an addiction to fast food and sugary beverages. Embracing good eating practices among the younger generation will yield long-term benefits. The health risks associated with artificial sweeteners are not a new revelation, but the WHO's warning brings renewed urgency to address this issue. While the debate has often been clouded by the interests of the food industry, it is imperative to prioritize public health. Governments and regulatory agencies must take a proactive approach by conducting thorough and independent research to evaluate the long-term effects of these sweeteners on human health. Transparent communication and education campaigns should be launched to inform the public about the potential risks and promote healthier alternatives. Furthermore, the responsibility lies not only with regulatory bodies and the food industry but also with individuals to make informed choices about their dietary habits. It is essential for consumers to be proactive in understanding the ingredients and nutritional content of the products they consume. Opting for natural sweeteners, such as honey or maple syrup, and reducing overall sugar intake can be a step towards a healthier lifestyle. The alarming rise in obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases underscores the urgency of addressing the issue of artificial sweeteners and their impact on public health. It is time for a paradigm shift towards prioritizing the well-being of individuals over corporate profits. Governments, health organizations, and consumers must work hand in hand to demand stricter regulations, comprehensive labeling, and accurate information about the potential risks associated with artificial sweeteners. The WHO's warning serves as a crucial reminder that our dietary choices have far-reaching consequences for our health. By embracing healthier eating practices and reducing our reliance on artificial sweeteners, we can take control of our well-being and pave the way for a healthier future. It is time to break free from the addictive grip of artificially sweetened colas and choose a path towards better health and well-being for ourselves and future generations.

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

PADDY PLANTATION

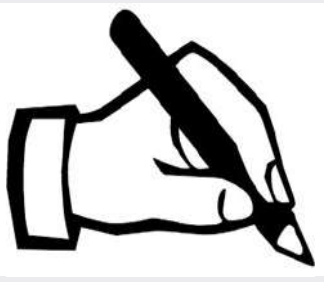


Farm labourers plants paddy saplings in a field during monsoon season, in Jalandhar, Tuesday, July 4.

India, USA ushers in an era of technology driven Equal collaboration



DR JITENDRA SINGH



Prime Minister Narendra Modi's just concluded visit to the USA has instantly gone down in the history as it establishes India as a major global player in the years to come. While India and the USA usher in an era of technology driven equal collaboration, it marks the beginning of a journey of which, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi aptly put it, "Sky is not the limit". Indeed, the credit goes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi who, during the last 9 years, took a series of unorthodox and path-breaking decisions, which enabled India to achieve a quantum jump in key areas, as a result of which, for example, the USA which had begun its Space journey several years before India, today solicits India as an equal partner in its future endeavours. During a ceremony at the Willard Inter-Continental Hotel in Washington on June 21, India became the 27th country to sign the Artemis Accords. The Artemis Accords establish a practical set of principles to guide civilian space exploration cooperation among nations for peaceful purposes. It enables India to participate in the US led Artemis programme for exploration of moon and other celestial objects. Significantly, the pact will pave the way for easing of restrictions on import of Critical Technologies in space domain especially electronics, benefiting Indian companies to develop systems and innovate for US markets. It will also facilitate participation of India in more scientific programmes jointly, allow access to common standards for long term engagements in activities including human Spaceflight programmes and stronger engagements with the US in more strategic areas including micro-electronics, quantum, space security etc. The Artemis Accord is a non-binding agreement with no financial commitments. It was signed on October 13, 2020 by eight Founder Nations - Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, UAE, UK and the United States. Its members include the traditional US allies like Japan, France, New Zealand, UK, Canada, South Korea, Australia and Spain while African nations like Rwanda, Nigeria etc are the new partners. Let us try to understand how India will stand to gain by joining the Artemis Accords. According to an estimate, global government expenditure for space programmes hit a record of approximately \$103 billion last year. With almost \$62 billion, the US Govt spent more than half of the total. The U.S. was followed by China, with almost \$12 billion, which is not a part of the consortium, as also Russia which ranks 5th with an annual spending of \$3.4B. India ranks 7th with an annual budget of \$1.93B. Let us also try to compare the Space programmes of various nations by the number of Orbital launches in the year 2022. PayloadSpace website says 186 orbital launches were attempted last year, with 76 by the US, China 62, Russia 21 while India made 5 orbital launches. Now, let us compare the third key parameter, viz. number of satellites in space. As of 4th May 2023, the satellite tracking website "Orbiting Now" lists 7,702 active satellites in various Earth orbits. US has the maximum 2,926 operational satellites, followed by China - 493, UK - 450, Russia - 167, while India ranks 8th with 58 satellites. India's space programme is six decades old, and the ISRO came

into being seven years later in 1969; international cooperation has been its hallmark with ISRO collaborating with various launch agencies such as Russia's RSCOSMOS and Europe's ESA, while ISRO has launched over 385 foreign satellites from over 34 countries. Before 2014, ISRO used to undertake launches now and then, but after PM Narendra Modi opened the doors of the Space sector to private sector participation, today ISRO is working with nearly 150 private StartUps. Deep Space Missions require billions of dollars and benefit humanity at large, it is only imperative that nations pool in their resources for the benefit of humankind. Without losing time, like-minded nations have to move on, collaborate and work on each other's gains and experiences and as PM Narendra Modi stresses, "we must not work in silos". We may not have to wait long to witness the first major explicit gain of the newfound India-US camaraderie in the Space sector. An Indian astronaut may be sent to the International Space Station (ISS) next year. US President Joe Biden has already confirmed this in the White House after a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday. The joint statement by India and the United States during PM Modi's ongoing visit said NASA would provide "advanced training" to Indian astronauts at one of its facilities. Other sectors too will see a leap in mutual gains as the two sides. U.S. memory chip firm Micron Technology, Inc said on Thursday it would invest up to \$825 million in a new chip assembly and test facility in Gujarat, India, its first factory in the country. Total investment in the facility will be \$2.75 billion, with support from the Union Government and Gujarat State government. President Biden and PM Modi also agreed to the establishment of a joint Indo-U.S. Quantum Coordination Mechanism to facilitate collaboration among industry, academia, and government, and work towards a comprehensive Quantum Information Science and Technology agreement. A \$2 million grant program is being launched under the U.S.-India Science and Technology Endowment Fund for the joint development and commercialization of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum technologies, and encourage public-private collaborations to develop High Performance Computing (HPC) facilities in India. President Biden also reiterated his government's commitment to work with U.S. Congress to lower barriers to U.S. exports to India of HPC technology and source code. The U.S. side pledged to make its best efforts in support of India's Center for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) joining the U.S. Accelerated Data Analytics and Computing (ADAC) Institute. As also, 35 innovative joint research collaborations in emerging technologies will be funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and India's Department of Science and Technology (DST). President Biden assured the US support for India's leadership as Chair of the Global Partnership on AI. The two leaders applauded Google's intent to continue investing through its \$10 billion India Digitization Fund, including the first and largest international research facility on U.S. soil. In the health sector, research institutes of both countries will collaborate on affordable cancer technology programmes, including for the development of AI enabled diagnostic and prognosis prediction tools, and on diabetes research. Giving wings to India's civil aviation sector, Air India will buy 220 Boeing planes for \$34 billion. The most apparent sign of India-US ties being at its ever best is that, as PM Modi mentioned in his address to the US Congress, the US is today not only India's largest trade partner but the Defence sector collaboration reflects the trustworthy relationship. To conclude with the closing sentence of the Joint Statement issued at the end of PM Narendra Modi's USA visit, "Our (India and USA) ambitions are to reach ever greater heights..." (Writer is MoS (IC) Science & Technology.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Troubled Manipur

The violence-ridden state of Manipur demands more than just a heavy-handed approach of police and military deployment to maintain law and order. It is a region ravaged by bloodshed, death, destruction, and a deep-rooted mistrust in the government. A former Army official has likened Manipur to a "stateless" entity, drawing parallels with war-torn Lebanon. The path to resolution remains elusive, with no consensus on the necessary measures to be taken. While addressing security concerns is crucial, a sincere and inclusive political initiative is indispensable to bring peace and reconciliation to the warring communities. Manipur urgently needs political solutions to heal its wounds and restore harmony.

MK Nair, Raipur

Revitalize Peace

It is imperative for Prime Minister Modi and the Union Government to kickstart a new dialogue with the conflicting ethnic groups. Support and rehabilitation must be extended to the victims of violence. If the state government fails to ensure the safety of its citizens, it forfeits the right to govern. The Prime Minister should intensify efforts to resolve the crisis in the northeastern state. Relying solely on the military is not enough; the government must take decisive actions to quell the ongoing violence and reinstate the political process. It is time to revitalize peace through meaningful dialogue and concrete steps.

Shyam Sundar, New Delhi

Equality Imperative

Former J&K CM Farooq Abdullah has once again urged the Centre to reconsider the implications of implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), echoing his past concerns during the abrogation of Article 370 and criminalization of triple talaq. The UCC stands as a crucial milestone towards achieving gender justice and social equality in India. Its purpose is to ensure that every citizen, irrespective of their religious or cultural background, is bestowed with equal rights and opportunities under a unified legal framework. It is imperative for the government and civil society to collaborate in establishing a comprehensive and impartial set of laws that fosters fairness, justice, and equity for all.

Rakesh Gupta, Korba

Misdirection Tactics

The BJP's intentions to shift attention away from the ongoing 'civil war' in Manipur are glaringly apparent as they employ the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) as a diversionary tactic. Many perceive the UCC as an exercise aimed at targeting Muslims, adding to its contentious nature. Minorities and the Opposition view it as a tool promoting Hindu majoritarianism. Critics argue that the UCC encroaches upon the constitutional freedom of individuals to practice their chosen religion and adhere to their community's personal laws. This presents an opportune moment for the Opposition to demand transparency and clarity regarding the specifics of the proposed UCC, highlighting the urgent need to address Manipur's pressing concerns.

Muzakkr Khan, Mumbai

Revolutionizing Agriculture: Government Initiatives for Sustainable Growth



Yash Pal Ralhan

Urea Shortage Addressed: Introducing Neem-Coated Urea

Urea, a vital artificial fertilizer that enriches soil with nitrogen, has been plagued by misuse and shortages for decades. In a bold move to combat black marketing and benefit crop health, the government has introduced neem-coated urea. This revolutionary step, coupled with the issuance of soil health cards to farmers, ensures appropriate and efficient use of urea. With the adverse impacts of climate change on

crop production, the need for urea becomes even more pronounced until alternative seeds resilient to these changes are developed through agricultural research.

PM-PRANAM Scheme: Boosting Farmers' Well-being

Under the broad-based PM-PRANAM scheme, the government aims to rejuvenate soil productivity, enhance farmers' welfare, and ensure food security and environmental sustainability. Providing financial assistance to states for promoting alternative fertilizers and reducing chemical fertilizer usage aligns our agrarian economy towards greater sustainability and environment-friendliness. The northeastern states, particularly Sikkim, have already embraced domestic fertilizers,

significant savings in foreign exchange reserves. By decreasing imports and increasing exports, the impact on the country's GDP becomes apparent. Prime Minister Modi's vision of India achieving a prominent global economic position by 2027 relies on reducing imports and fostering self-sufficiency.

Safeguarding Farmers' Livelihoods

While encouraging organic options, it is essential to preserve farmers' livelihoods. The Cabinet's decision to continue the urea subsidy scheme for three more years is commendable. Additionally, the introduction of sulphur-coated urea (Urea Gold) addresses the issue of sulphur deficiency in soil. This dual approach reduces input costs for farmers, curbs agflation, and promotes indigenous urea production, aligning with sustainable agricultural practices.

Promoting Economic Growth and Self-Sufficiency

The prudent financial policy of encouraging domestic fertilizer production results in

supporting sugar farmers and managing prices. Recognizing the significance of sugar cane cultivation, the government has increased the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) to 315 per quintal. This move supports sugar cane farmers, stimulates sugar production, and maintains affordable sugar prices. These measures provide a much-needed boost to the agriculture sector.

Supporting Sugar Farmers and Managing Prices

A Revolutionary Step for Economic Development

The Cabinet's approval of 1451 crore for promoting organic manure showcases the government's commitment to sustainable agriculture. If implemented meticulously, these initiatives can revolutionize the economic development of our nation and contribute to GDP growth. The impact will be far-reaching, benefiting farmers, enhancing environmental sustainability, and positioning India as a global leader in sustainable agriculture. In the pursuit of these initiatives, the nation eagerly awaits the arrival of bountiful rains. The combination of favorable weather conditions and government support will propel Indian agriculture towards a prosperous and sustainable future, uplifting the lives of farmers and securing the nation's food security.

US condemns Khalistan arson

● **Against Indian Consulate in San Francisco**

New York, Jul 04 (PTI):

India's consulate in San Francisco came under an attack from Khalistan supporters who tried to set the diplomatic facility on fire in the second such act of violence within months, drawing strong condemnation from the US government which termed it a "criminal offence".

A video by Khalistan supporters, dated July 2 posted on Twitter, showed the act of arson at the Indian Consulate in San Francisco. The video, with the words "violence begets violence" emblazoned over it, also showed news articles related to the



death of Canada-based Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF) chief Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

Nijjar, one of India's most wanted terrorists who carried a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on his head, was shot dead outside a gurdwara in Canada last month. Responding to the incident, State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller in a tweet

on Monday said: "The US strongly condemns the reported vandalism and attempted arson against the Indian Consulate in San Francisco on Saturday. Vandalism or violence against diplomatic facilities or foreign diplomats in the US is a criminal offence." Diya TV, a South Asian broadcast TV network in the US, said in a tweet that "a fire was set

early Sunday morning between 1:30-2:30 am in the San Francisco Indian Consulate." "The fire was suppressed quickly by the San Francisco Department, the damage was limited and no staffers were harmed. Local, state and federal authorities have been notified," it said. The outlet also posted a video of the arson attack.

A poster being shared on social media says that a "Khalistan Freedom Rally" will be organised on July 8 that will start in Berkeley, California and end at the Indian embassy in San Francisco.

This is the second time within months that the Indian Consulate in San Francisco came under attack from Khalistani supporters.

WILDLIFE DIPLOMACY



Indonesian President Joko Widodo, right, and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese react as they visit the Sumatran tiger enclosure at Taronga Zoo in Sydney, Tuesday, July 4. Widodo is on a 3-day visit to Australia.

Pak govt makes overnight changes in anti-corruption laws

Islamabad, Jul 04 (PTI):

Pakistan's government has made overnight changes in the anti-corruption laws to make them more stringent, hours before former premier Imran Khan's appearance before the country's apex anti-graft investigation agency on Tuesday in a corruption case.

Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani, who is working as acting president in the absence of President Arif Alvi, who is away on pilgrimage, issued an ordinance to empower the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) to arrest a suspect during inquiry period and also allow the NAB court to remand a suspect for 30 days in custody after arrest instead of earlier 15 days.

The ordinance was issued at the advice of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. "The prime minister's advice in para 6 of the summary is approved. The National Accountability (Amendment) Ordinance,

2023, is signed and promulgated," a notification signed by Sanjrani stated.

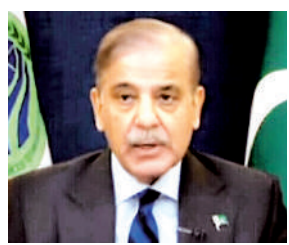
The changes were made around midnight and just hours before Khan was set to appear before the NAB.

Khan, 70, left with his wife Bushra Bibi from Lahore to Islamabad as both were to appear before the NAB in the Al-Qadir Trust case, his media team announced in a WhatsApp message. The Al-Qadir Trust case alleges that the PTI chief and his wife obtained billions of rupees and land from a real estate firm for legalising Rs 50 billion that was identified and returned to the country by the UK during the previous government led by Khan. The Al-Qadir Trust case is about corruption of at least Rs 50 billion. Khan has denied any wrongdoing and accused the government of targeting him for political reasons. Interestingly, the same government earlier had changed the NAB law to reduce the remand period to 14 days from the original 90 days.

'Hydra-headed monster' of terrorism must be fought with full vigour, conviction: Sharif

● **At SCO summit**

Islamabad, Jul 04 (PTI):



Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said the "hydra-headed monster" of terrorism and extremism whether committed by "individuals, groups or at state level" must be fought with full vigour and conviction, as he warned against using it as a cudgel for diplomatic point-scoring. Addressing the 23rd meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State (CHS) hosted by India in a virtual format, he also talked about religious minorities.

"The hydra-headed monster of terrorism and extremism whether committed by individuals, societies or states must be fought with full vigour and conviction. Any temptation to use it as a cudgel for diplomatic point-scoring

must be avoided under all circumstances," he said. "Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including state terrorism, must be condemned in clear and unambiguous terms. There can be no justification for the killing of innocent people regardless of the cause or pretext." He noted that while the sacrifices made by Pakistan in fighting the scourge of terrorism were without a parallel, the phenomenon continued to plague the region and was a "serious obstacle" to peace and stability.

He also talked about the issue of religious minorities and said that the practice of demonising reli-

gious minorities in the "pursuit of domestic political agendas" should be stopped, without naming any country.

Sharif also tried to rake up the Kashmir issue and highlighted the importance of UN resolutions to address the long overdue disputes.

He also talked about the three evils of terrorism, extremism and separatism and urged the SCO countries to take concerted and immediate actions, both in their national and collective capacity, to combat them. He also highlighted the importance of connectivity by saying that it had become a defining feature in the modern global economy. He added that it was rightly hailed as a vehicle for peace and prosperity.

He also talked about the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which he said could be a "game changer" for connectivity and prosperity in the region.

Pak court declares Toshakhana case against Khan inadmissible

Islamabad, Jul 04 (PTI):

The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday declared the Toshakhana case against the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan inadmissible.

Khan, 70, was indicted in the Toshakhana case on May 10 by Additional Sessions Judge Humayun Dilawar, who rejected objections about the admissibility of the case. The PTI chief then approached the IHC, which had stayed criminal proceedings on the case till June 8.

Following the resumption of the hearing in June, Justice Aamer on June 23 reserved his verdict on the petition, saying that he would look into the matter after Eid ul-Adha.

On Tuesday, Chief Justice Amir Farooq declared the Toshakhana case against Khan inadmissible, ARY News re-



Imran Khan

ported.

The Toshakhana is a department under the administrative control of the Cabinet Division and stores precious gifts given to rulers, parliamentarians, bureaucrats, and officials by heads of other governments and states and foreign dignitaries. The Toshakhana issue

over the sale of state gifts received by the cricketer-turned-politician became a major issue in national politics after the Election Commission of Pakistan disqualified the former premier for making "false statements and incorrect declaration".

Khan was accused of misusing his 2018 to 2022 premiership to buy and sell gifts in state possession that were received during visits abroad and worth more than Rs140 million (USD 635,000).

In his petition, the PTI chair objected to filing a complaint after a specified period. His lawyer, Khawaja Haris, maintained that a complaint could only be filed within four months of submitting the return.

Government of India Ministry of Communications Department of Telecommunications

Inviting applications for the post of Chairperson, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, New Delhi

Government of India, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, invites applications from Indian Nationals for the post of Chairperson in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

TRAI is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. It is mandated to regulate the telecommunication services, adjudicate disputes, dispose of appeals and to protect the interests of service providers and consumers of the telecom sector, to promote and ensure orderly growth of the telecom sector.

The detailed eligibility conditions and other terms and conditions appointment may be seen on the web-sites www.dot.gov.in or <http://www.trai.gov.in> or <http://www.dopt.gov.in>.

The last date for receipt of applications is 04th August 2023

CBC 06201/11/0008/2324

Want to see expansion of UNSC permanent seats to include India, Brazil, Germany, Japan: UK

United Nations, Jul 04 (PTI):

The UK has called for the expansion of the UN Security Council's permanent seats to include India, Brazil, Germany and Japan as well as African representation, underlining that it is high time the powerful UN body entered the 2020s.

Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations and President of the Security Council for the month of July Ambassador Barbara Woodward's comments came as she briefed UN correspondents on the pro-

gramme of work of the Security Council for the month.

On reform of the UN Security Council, "we want to see the expansion of the Council's permanent seats to include India, Brazil, Germany and Japan and African representation. It's high time the Council entered the 2020s," Woodward told reporters here on Monday.

Woodward referred to remarks by British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly last week in which he announced the UK's ambition to drive forward reform of the multilateral system.

Woodward said the UK's presidency of the Security Council in July marks the first step in that process.

Responding to a question on the reason behind UK's support for permanent UNSC membership for India, Brazil, Germany and Japan, Woodward said: "Our thinking behind the four countries that we supported was partly to do with geographical balance.

"Introducing India and Brazil would bring a wider geographical representation into the Council, but also to bring in countries that have more influence than they had when the

original Security Council was put together in 1945 for obvious reasons," she said.

"There's a sort of combination of recognising the world as it is today, alongside geographical balance, and that's behind our position too on Africa," she said.

Last week, the UN General Assembly adopted a draft oral decision to continue governmental negotiations (IGN) on the Security Council reform at the 78th session of the UN General Assembly that will commence in September.

Masked assailants attack journalist and lawyer in Russia's Chechnya province

Moscow, Jul 04 (AP):

Unidentified masked assailants in the Russian province of Chechnya attacked and beat a journalist and a lawyer on Tuesday, a violent incident that continued a pattern of rampant human rights abuses in the region.

Novaya Gazeta journalist Elena Milashina and lawyer Alexander Nemov had just arrived in Chechnya to attend the trial of Zarema Musayeva, the mother of two local activists who have challenged Chechen authorities. Just outside the airport, their vehicle was blocked by several cars and they were beaten by

several masked assailants, who put guns to their heads and broke their equipment.

Novaya Gazeta said that Milashina sustained a brain injury and had several fingers broken and Nemov had a deep cut on his leg. They were taken to a hospital in Chechnya's main city, Grozny, where Milashina repeatedly lost consciousness, according to her newspaper.

Canada assures safety of Indian diplomats

● **After Khalistani posters named Indian officials**

Toronto, Jul 04 (PTI):

Canada has assured India of the safety of its diplomats following the circulation of Khalistani posters online which named Indian officials and termed the "promotional material" circulating ahead of a Khalistan rally "unacceptable".

The statement by Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly came a day after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said India has asked its partner countries such as Canada, the UK and the US not to give space to "extremist Khalistani ideology" as it is "not good" for relations. Noting Canada's commitment to the safety of

diplomats, Minister Joly highlighted the country's adherence to the Vienna Conventions.

"Canada takes its obligations under the Vienna Conventions regarding the safety of diplomats very seriously," she said in the statement on her Twitter account on Tuesday.

"Canada remains in close contact with Indian officials in light of some of the promotional material circulating online regarding a protest planned for July 8, which are unacceptable," Joly said.

Joly also emphasised that the actions of a few individuals "do not speak for an entire community or Canada." Jaishankar, when asked about reports of Khalistani posters in Canada naming Indian diplomats, said the issue will be raised with the government of that country.

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Date: 06.07.2023

Bailadila Iron Ore Mines, Bachel Complex, NMDC Ltd. invites e-bids for the following works. Interested tenderers may visit and download Tender Documents from CPP Portal or www.nmdc.co.in or <http://www.msseccommerce.com/eprochome/nmdc/>. Any corrigendum/addendum to be issued, the bidder must visit the online portal from time to time to notice the same. Corrigendum/addendum will not be published in any newspaper. The offer has to be submitted online at the given MSTC portal only till 03:30 PM and will be opened on 04:00 PM on respective last dates.

MSTC Ref.No./NMDC/Bachel/23-24/ET/	NMDC Tender No. BIOM/BC/CONTRACTS/OTE/73/23-24	Short Description of Work	EMD (Rs.)	Last Date of Sub'n	
1	84/256	C-281	Supporting of Existing retaining wall at SSP and miscellaneous Slope Protection works at SSP Screening plant, Dep.-5.	39,000/-	06.08.2023
2	85/257	C-293	Providing and laying of double plastic cement bags filled with fine ore/slime for making protection wall at the toe of dumps at FOD, Tailing dam no.1 and other peripheral areas related to environmental protection works at Bachel complex for the year 23-24	16,500/-	06.08.2023
3	86/258	C-294	Refurbishment of old dumper maintenance shed in deposit-5.	31,900/-	07.08.2023
4	87/259	C-296	Increasing height of existing check-dam in between Pit no. 2 and Pit no.3 at FOD area	39,800/-	07.08.2023
5	88/260	C-298	Construction of Buttress wall of 260 meters below SG Stockpile at Dep-5 mine, BIOM Bachel Complex	54,300/-	08.08.2023
6	89/261	C-299	Construction of Buttress wall of 200 meters below SG Stockpile at Dep-5 mine, BIOM Bachel Complex	42,800/-	08.08.2023
7	90/262	LP-026	Hiring of 02 no. of Poclain EX-110 with 04 nos. of Tipper's/01 no. of Ex-110 Poclain only to enhance the rake loading of Dep.-5, fine & CLO for parallel loading at Conveyor 106 & 74 hoppers at Loading Plant on annual basis through OTE	61,000/-	10.08.2023
8	91/263	E-023	Electrification of Godown at CSD Bachel	15,945/-	10.08.2023
9	92/264	E-024	Removing and cleaning weed growth before and after monsoon under the OH lines 33/11/3.3KV HT Lines connecting to main sub-station Hilltop Dep-5	11,133/-	11.08.2023
10	93/266	C-264	Rehabilitation work of Tailing Dam-1, BIOM Bachel Complex	1,58,500/-	11.08.2023
11	94/267	C-272	Diversion of Sewer Pipeline at Subhash Nagar, Bachel	39,200/-	12.08.2023
12	95/268	ENV-003	Replacement of 4 Nos. Effluent Treatment Plants at Bachel Complex.	1,42,600/-	12.08.2023
13	100/274	T&S-002	CA/MC for BH-85 Dumper Simulator for a period of Three years at Bachel Complex.	94,900/-	13.08.2023

HOD (M&S and Contracts)
BIOM, Bachel Complex

Department of Health Research Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Government of India

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ICMR-DHR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE YEAR 2023-24

One of the major mandates of ICMR and DHR is to augment capacity strengthening of Indian scientists. This ICMR-DHR international fellowship programme is intended to create a pool of talented health research personnel by facilitating advanced training and exposure to the latest advancements in knowledge through interaction with the international scientists in emerging areas of clinical/medicine/health sciences.

- Short Term International Fellowships for Senior Indian Biomedical Scientists**

Duration of Fellowships: Two weeks to 3 months
Number of Fellowships: Twenty five (25) fellowships per year
Age limit: Below 57 years as on last date of receipt of application
- Long Term International Fellowships for Young Indian Biomedical Scientists**

Duration of Fellowships: 6 to 12 months
Number of Fellowships: Forty (40) fellowships per year
Age limit: Below 45 years as on last date of receipt of application

Applications should be submitted online through the website portal of ICMR/DHR: www.icmr.nic.in; www.dhr.gov.in. Details of the eligibility criteria, format of application, terms and conditions, and guidelines of the programme are available on ICMR and DHR websites.

Last date of receipt of applications: 31st August, 2023

CBC 17152/12/0011/2324

BRIEF



Vice Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar with Brigadier General Abdul Raheem Abdul Latheef, Vice Chief of Defence Force of Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF).

Divert

New Delhi: Four flights were diverted from the Delhi airport in the afternoon on Tuesday due to bad weather in the national capital, according to an official. The official said three flights were diverted to Amritsar and one flight to Lucknow. All were domestic flights.

Attach

New Delhi: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has attached the house of two brothers, arrested in a Pakistan-sponsored narco-terror case, in Amritsar district of Punjab, an official said on Tuesday. The residential property of Bikramjit Singh alias Vicky and his brother Maninder Singh alias Mani has been attached under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) after it was designated as "proceeds of terrorism", a spokesperson of the federal agency said.

Summon

New Delhi: India summoned the Canadian envoy and issued a demarche over increasing activities by pro-Khalistani elements in Canada, people familiar with the matter said on Tuesday. The summoning of the Canadian high commissioner came following pro-Khalistani groups releasing some posters that featured Indian diplomats.

Injure

New Delhi: A miscreant was injured on Tuesday after security forces opened fire at a mob that was allegedly trying to loot a police armoury in Thoubal district of restive Manipur, officials said. A security force personnel also suffered injuries, they said.

Booked

Jaipur: Police have booked an unidentified man for allegedly sexually harassing a foreigner after a video purportedly showed a man inappropriately touching her on the way to her hotel, officials said on Tuesday. SHO of Vidhayakpuri Police Station Bharat Singh Rathore said that after a video was received on police helpline WhatsApp number, police registered a case under Section 354 of IPC on Monday night.

Mishap

Hazaribag: Six persons were killed and three injured when the SUV in which they were travelling fell into a well in Jharkhand's Hazaribag district on Tuesday afternoon, an official said.

UUC Impersonation Case

College principal, SFI leader surrender before police

Thiruvananthapuram, Jul 04 (PTI): A principal-in-charge of an aided college here and a Students' Federation of India (SFI) leader, accused in a case of alleged impersonation of a University Union Councillor (UUC), surrendered before police on Tuesday. Principal-in-charge G J Shaiju and SFI leader A Visakh surrendered at Kattakada police station in the morning and presently their questioning and recording of statement is being carried out, an officer said. There is a possibility

that the two would be arrested after the conclusion of their interrogation, the officer added. The two surrendered before police pursuant to a Kerala High Court order dismissing their anticipatory bail pleas in the case. The court also directed them to surrender before the investigating officer on or before July 4 while observing that the offences alleged against the accused were serious in nature. The court had observed that dishonest and fraudulent conduct by the accused were prima facie evident and custodial interroga-

tion was essential. The matter pertains to the elections held on December 5, 2022 at Christian College, Kattakada in Thiruvananthapuram where two candidates — Anakha A S and Aromal V L — were unanimously elected to the posts of University Union Councillors. When the proforma for furnishing details of the University Union Councillors elected from the college was submitted to Kerala University, it however showed the name of Visakh as the University

More than 6,500 Amarnath pilgrims leave Jammu for Kashmir

Jammu, Jul 04 (PTI) The fifth batch of more than 6,500 Amarnath pilgrims left the Jammu city in the early hours of Tuesday for the twin base camps in Kashmir, officials said. The 62-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,888-metre-high cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas commenced from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district on July 1. The officials said the pilgrim footfall at the shrine is likely to cross the 50,000 mark later in the day as the yatra is progressing smoothly, with devotees from across the country thronging the base camps to have a glimpse of the naturally formed ice-shiv-

lingam and offer their prayers. A total of 6,597 pilgrims, including 1,429 women, 160 seers and 323 children, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for the valley in a convoy of 253 vehicles amid tight security arrangements in the early hours of Tuesday, they said. The officials said 4,475 pilgrims, headed for Pahalgam, left in a convoy of 160 vehicles for the valley at around 4.10 am, while another convoy of 93 vehicles carrying 2,122 pilgrims was the first to leave for the Baltal base camp at 3.40 am. With this, a total of 24,162 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 30, the day the first batch of pilgrims was flagged off by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

HC dismisses plea against mandatory uniform for auto drivers

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI) The Delhi High Court on Tuesday dismissed a petition challenging mandatory uniforms for auto rickshaw and taxi drivers in the city. A bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad rejected the petition and orally observed that this amounted to gross misuse of a public interest litigation (PIL). The high court's order came on a petition by Chaalak Shakti, a drivers' union, which has challenged mandatory uniform for auto rickshaw and taxi drivers and alleged that such labelling was in violation of the Constitution. The petition-

er's counsel had earlier said prescribing a uniform curtailed the drivers' freedom of expression and also acted as a symbol of their status. The Delhi government's counsel had said certain discipline has to be followed in relation to uniforms. The high court had earlier asked the government counsel to clarify whether khaki or grey coloured uniform is prescribed for auto drivers in the national capital. In its plea, the petitioner has alleged that hefty challoans of up to Rs 20,000 were being imposed on drivers in the national capital for not wearing uniforms even though the law on the subject was vague and ambiguous. It has submitted that there is com-

CONVOCATION CEREMONY



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar with his wife Sudesh Dhankhar, Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and others during the 25th convocation ceremony of Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Tuesday.

Meghalaya CM seek's Centre's nod for one-time teachers' training prog

Shillong, Jul 04 (PTI) Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma on Tuesday sought the Education Ministry's nod to allow one-time training for the huge number of untrained elementary school teachers. According to the chief minister, the northeastern state has a huge backlog of untrained teachers due to limited institutional facilities. A total of 34,730 elementary school teachers attended off-line course from 2013 to 2019 and the state still has a huge backlog of 18,900 untrained elementary school teachers, Sangma said. "I request you to kindly allow the state

government to clear the backlog as a one-time amnesty programme for the Secondary, Higher Secondary in-service teachers of Meghalaya under IGNOU programmes," Sangma said in a letter to Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. Indra Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is the national resource centre for open and distance learning. The problem, he said, was compounded as there are only seven District Institutes of Education & Training (DIET) and one Teacher Training Centre with an intake of 550 trainees per academic session.

MONSOON RAINS



Commuters during Monsoon rainfall, in Gurugram, Tuesday.

Border states to get financial aid to set up rehabilitation homes

For victims of trafficking
New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI) The government has decided to provide financial assistance to states and union territories in border areas to set up protection and rehabilitation homes for victims of trafficking, particularly minor girls from neighbouring countries, a senior official said. Noting that India is a source as well as destination country for trafficking of persons, the official said the source countries are Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar from where women and girls are trafficked in the guise of providing a better life, jobs and good living conditions in India. "A majority of those trafficked are minor girls or young women, who after their arrival in

India are sold and forced into commercial sex work. These girls/women often reach major cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad etc. from where they are taken out of the country mainly to the Middle East and South East Asia," the official said. The official said states bordering these countries need to be more vigilant and have adequate facilities to provide relief and rehabilitation services to the victims of trafficking. "The government has decided to provide financial assistance to States/UTs in border areas to set up protection and rehabilitation homes for the victims of trafficking particularly for minor girls and young women," the official said. These homes will provide services like shelter, food, clothing, counselling,

primary health facilities and other daily requirements. The official said the government will help build infrastructure to combat child trafficking in border areas. The victims will be produced before the child welfare committee to declare fit facility for providing sponsorship as per the Mission Vatsalya Scheme guideline and accordingly, the states/UTs will be requested to do the needful, he said. The government has provided funding to all states and union territories under the Nirbhaya Fund to set up and strengthen Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUS) in every district of the country. In addition, funding has also been provided for AHTUS in border guarding forces such as BSF and SSB, the official said.

MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE

Toddler's parents attend inquiry, demand justice

Chennai, Jul 04 (PTI) The parents of an 18-month-old toddler whose right arm was amputated allegedly due to medical negligence at a state-run facility, here, on Tuesday demanded justice to their son. Thasthakir Meera and Azeesa, the parents of the one-and-a-half-year-old boy whose arm was surgically removed on July 2, said apart from the agony of seeing their son with one hand, they were anguished at being accused of taking the issue of medical lapse to the media for personal gains. "We admitted our son at the Rajiv Gandhi Government General

Hospital (RGGGH) on June 25 to be treated for fluid collection in his brain. Both his arms were in good condition then. But we are now seeing him with one arm," misty-eyed Azeesa said. "Instead of addressing the problem, we are being accused of seeking publicity for personal gains," her husband Thasthakir told reporters after the couple attended an inquiry by a high-level panel probing the issue of medical negligence. The couple hail from Ramanathapuram. The toddler was diagnosed with hydrocephalus - a neurological disorder caused by an abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal

fluid in the brain. When he was five-months-old, the boy underwent ventriculoperitoneal shunting. The inquiry commission obtained their written response to 21 questions, Azeesa, accompanied by her husband and other relatives, told mediapersons. She claimed the wrong administration of the IV cannula on her son's right arm led to complications. "The skin around the inserted portion till the wrist turned reddish and I immediately took it to the notice of a nurse. If only the nurse responded promptly and removed the IV line on time, then my son would not have lost the arm," she said.

'ISF open to alliance with like-minded parties for future elections'

Kolkata, Jul 04 (PTI) Indian Secular Front (ISF), a relatively new political outfit in West Bengal, is open to alliance with like-minded parties for fighting future elections, its leader and lone MLA Nawsad Siddique said. He said though the ISF is not in alliance with any party after the 2021 assembly elections, which it fought in pact with the CPI(M) and Congress, tie-ups are taking place at the grassroots level for the July 8 panchayat elections. Siddique said to win future elections, the ISF will team up with parties who think about people and country. "In the coming days, we will go with like-minded parties to fight elections," he told PTI in an interview.



Nawsad Siddique
Lok Sabha elections are slated to be held in 2024. ISF has put up candidates mainly in South and North 24 Parganas, Howrah and Murshidabad districts for the rural polls. "At the grassroots level, alliances have happened in pockets to defeat the ruling party," he said. Popular among his supporters as 'Bhaijan', Siddique won from Bhangar assembly constituency in South 24 Parganas to be the only

opposition party to win other than the BJP in the 2021 assembly polls which was handsomely won by the Trinamool Congress. Nawsad, a descendant of Muhammad Abu Bakr Siddique, the first Pir of Furfura Sharif, claimed that he has never asked for votes in the name of religion. "I will never ask for votes saying I am the Pirzada of Furfura Sharif and have never done so, because it is wrong to ask for votes in the name of religion and those who cast their franchise in favour of such people become the most deprived," he said. Claiming that the BJP and TMC ask for votes in the name of religion, Siddique said the real issues affecting people are joblessness, high prices of essentials and industrial-

sation. He claimed that the condition of Hindus have remained the same after the 2014 general elections and that the situation of Muslims have not improved following the 2011 state polls. He alleged that the percentage of Muslims in government jobs in Bengal has deteriorated. "After Tata (Motors) was forced out (from Singur), not a single big company has come to set up units in Bengal," he said. He said his party stands for providing relief to the people. Maintaining that corruption is a big issue for the ensuing three-tier rural polls, the ISF MLA said it has invaded various spheres from jobs for money scam to bribe for getting caste certificates or free housing schemes.

Senior officials reach naxal infested areas

Mainpur, Jul 04:

Gariaband Collector Akash Chikara, Senior Superintendent of Police Amit Tukaram Kamble reached Aamamora village situated on a Naxal-affected area and atop an inaccessible hill, covering a distance of 26 kilometers by motor cycle. It is known that due to this area being a Naxal-affected area, big public representatives and senior officers are not able to visit, as well as the villagers of this area are struggling with many basic problems, but after the reach of senior district officials it was no less than a festival for the villagers.

Senior Superintendent of Police Amit Kamble, Divisional Forest Officer Manivasgan S, District Panchayat CEO Smt. Rita Yadav, CRPF along with



Gariaband District Collector Akash Chikara covered a distance of 26 kilometers in a motor cycle through rough, river-river, rocky hill and unpaved trails. It is noteworthy that this village is

located about 35 kilometers away from the main road and about 110 families are living here.

In order to accelerate the pace of development in the district, Collector Akash Chikara, after as-

suming office, is continuously visiting remote areas and taking stock of the development works and the basic facilities of the citizens. Distribution of uniforms and textbooks to the children in the school entrance festival and health check-up and material distribution camp were organized in the village. Apart from this, urad seed packets were distributed to 31 beneficiaries by the Agriculture Department, vegetable mini kit seeds to 20 beneficiaries by the Horticulture Department and ration cards to 14 beneficiaries by the Food Department. Senior Superintendent of Police Amit Kamble said that the district administration has reached the village to make change and address grievances.

'Beti Bachao Beti Badhaon' scheme started by signature campaign

Kawardha, Jul 04:

Taking forward the women empowerment campaign, a chowk in urban body areas of Kabirdham district will be named after Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao. This decision was taken by District Collector Janmejy Mahobe, while reviewing the functioning of Women and Child Development Department and Sakhi One Stop Center.

In the meeting, he gave necessary guidelines to the officers of the urban bodies and started the signature campaign by making the "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" scheme more effective under Mission Shakti for the safety, rescue and empowerment of girls. In this campaign, all the district level officers including Collector, Forest Officer, Additional Collector, District Panchayat CEO participat-



ed in the signature campaign of Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao and took this campaign forward by signing. In the meeting, the Collector has constituted an Internal Complaints Committee under the Sexual Harassment of Women Act 2013 at every workplace of the "Sakhi" One Stop Center, where 10 or more officers-employees are appointed, to create a safe environment for women in the offices. Under the Beti Bachao

Beti Padhao Yojana, a special campaign will be launched by the Women and Child Development Department in coordination with other departments, under which many will be conducted every month. Similarly, under the Chhattisgarh Mahila Kosh, work is being done in the field of economic empowerment of women by providing loans to women groups and personal loans at very low annual interest rates.

In order to reduce the dropout rate among girls, the district education officer was directed to organize school entrance festival, write slogans on the topic "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao". The Collector directed the Nodal Department, Women and Child Development Department, District Kabirdham for the successful implementation of the scheme and providing maximum benefits of this scheme.

Nikita Dewangan tops in Asst. Teacher entrance exam

Belongs of Baghbahra

Baghbahra, Jul 04:

Nikita Dewangan of Baghbahra has topped in the 'Asst. Teacher' entrance exam all over the state and brought laurels for her family and region. Belonging to a middle class family, Nikita passed on the credit of her success to her elder sister, mother and father and all the teachers. She said that my objective was just to become a teacher, but the results have further motivated her and would try for the Civil Services in the near future. Nikita has taken part in the Primary School and Middle School exam and got 113 out of 150 for



Primary School and topped in it. For the middle school she secured 42nd rank and said that she would be joining middle school. Nikita Dewangan is D/o late Hariram Dewangan and her elder sister Namita is working as lecturer in

Kohakuda and brother Navneet looks after the shop after his father's demise. The entire responsibility of the house is on her mother Pramila and sister-in-law Bhuneshwari. Nikita informed that her sister always used to mo-

tivate her for studies and due to which she got this success. Apart from this the guidance by teachers and coaching class also came handy. It is notable here that Nikita has completed her Class 10th from local NMA School and 11 and 12th from Saraswati Shishu Mandir and Bsc from local Government College. She completed BED from Ram Darshan Institute of Education Janghora (Pithora). After this she took up coaching and took part in few entrance exams and even not qualifying in it, she continued her efforts and finally topped in the Asst. Teacher's entrance exam.

Nandini-Ahirwara, Jul 04:

Samridh Singh, S/o Somesh Singh, PA to senior MLA Dhanendra Sahu, secured 98 percentile in the international-level exam SAT and got selected for University of Texas, Arlington, USA with scholarship of Rs 1 cr for his B.Tech. in Computer Science. From this University, the well-known Astronaut Kalpana Chawla has also studied. From other Universities also, Samridh has got scholarship offers of upto Rs 1.84 cr. After the written exam, he cleared all the six rounds for the scholarship test and it is for this achievement CM Bhupesh Baghel presented to him a prize of Rs 5 lakh. Samridh has been talented student since childhood and has won the award of Pride of DAV School. He



has played upto nationals in the Boxing, Karate as well. In the year 2021, he created a world record in push-ups and got his name registered in the Asia

Book of World Record. Samridh said that on reaching upto this level, both his mother and father and his sister (who is NIT student) have extended her lot of help and apart

■ For Computer Science course with Rs 1 cr scholarship

from this the contribution by teachers of DAV Nandini School was also commendable.

Samridh informed that for this achievement, he remained away from all electronic and social media for last 5 yrs.

It is notable here that the average package of University of Texas Arlington is minimum Rs 80 lakh and 95% of its students gets selected in the topmost companies.

Samridh also met the Governor of Chhattisgarh and other Ministers, including MLA Satyanaryan Sharma, Dhanendra Sahu, Amitesh Shukla and former CM Dr Raman Singh and sought their blessings.

Villagers boycott classes in Govt Primary School

■ In Gram Khursipar



were deserted look and all the chairs and table in the class were empty. Total strength of student is 74:

Teacher working in the school informed that the total strength of students in the School is 74 and earlier there were 3 teachers posted in the School. But one of the teacher's has been attached to other school and now there are just two teachers, one male and other is female. On the other hand, the male teacher is paralysed and due to which shortage of teacher in the school is regularly being felt for long. When we asked the parents about why the students are not coming to school, they informed that so long as there are not sufficient teachers in the school, till then all the classes will be boycotted.

Level of education falling:

Sarpanch informed that there are at present two teachers working in the School and one of them is paralysed and other teacher looks after entire work of head master and she is busy in making documents only.

In this way there is no teacher in the School and therefore we are keeping children at home and not sending them to School, because the level of education is continuously degrading. We have been demanding teacher for quite long time, immediately three teachers should be appointed in the School and then only we will send our students to school.

Balod, Jul 04:

The parents and students of Government Primary School in Gram Khursipar boycotted the school on Monday and only teachers were found present. Sarpanch Rohit Kumar Thakur informed that we are demanding teachers for long time, but no new teacher has been appointed so far and there are only two teachers behind 74 students in the School.

The quality of education in the school is continuously falling each day due to lack of teachers. Sarpanch informed that till the demand of teachers is not fulfilled, the children will not go to school. It is notable here that on Monday, all the classrooms

Public awareness rally taken out under SVEEP



Bilaspur, Jul 04: In order to create awareness among all the citizens to use their voting rights and ensure 100% polling, Voter Awareness Programme 'SVEEP' is being organised in the district. As per instruction from EC, under the voter awareness programmes, variety of activities are being organised and in this the villagers are taking part in large number and actively participating. 'Didis' of Women Self-Help Group (WSHG) are also playing an important role in creating awareness among the women and other people. In the voter awareness

programme organised in Gram Shivtari of Kanta block and Jorapara of Takathpur block of the district, first an awareness rally was organised and in this women were carrying banners in their hand. All present on the occasion were administered pledge for exercising their franchise. In the same way, NSS workers also took out a rally in Govt HS School Gobaripat and Kota and created public awareness. In the SVEEP programme at Janpad Panchayat Bilha, officers and employees were administered voting pledge in the meeting hall.

NSS starts 'Ashirwad Yatra' from Gram Bamhani

Pithora, Jul 03:

Founder of Neelanchal Sewa Samiti (NSS) Dr Samapt Agrawal has launched 'Jan Ashirwad Yatra' from Basna Vidhan Sabha on July 1. During a press conference in Pithora at Neelanchal office, Dr Agrawal informed media persons that for overall development of Basna VS area; in the field of health; sports; drinking water and to create awareness about sanitation and launching public awareness campaign; for felicitation of talented persons in rural areas; 'Kirtan Dal'; senior citizens; honour of girls; felicitation of talented boys and girls and others such programmes will be organised. He



took part in the Shrimad Bhagwat Gyan Yagna held last on Jan 16 and distributed citation certificates to all the 25000 girls and women for creating Golden Book of World Records. Neelanchal Sewa Samiti has started its 'Ashirwad Yatra' from Gram Bamhani of Basna VS area on July 1.

Pappu Ali appointed State President RMC INTUC

Simga, Jul 04:

As per orders from National President Rashtriya Mazdoor Congress (RMC) (INTUC) Ranjit Singh, Pappu Ali has been appointed as the State President (RMC) INTUC Chhattisgarh. It is hoped by the national body that Pappu Ali would work for the welfare of labourers in the organised and inorganised sector in the government, semi-government institutions of the central and state government and industries. Kamlesh Sahu, Vijay Gupta, Deksingh Chouhan, Mahesh Rajak, Narendra Yadav, Girdhari



Nishad, Harsh Sharma, Raju Soni, Dilip Verma and other persons has extended greetings to Pappu Ali on his appointment as the State President RMC INTUC.

91 girl students distributed bi-cycles



■ Under Saraswati Cycle Yojana

Birkoni, Jul 04:

A total of 91 girl students of Naveen Kanya Shala,

Birkoni, were distributed bi-cycles free of cost under 'Saraswati Cycle Yojana' by 'sabhapati' of District Panchayat Mahasamund Amar Arun Chandrakar here on Monday. In this programme, Sarpanch

Gram Panchayat Tamradhwaj Nishad, Shala Vikas Samiti President Balram Patel, Hemraj Sahu, Jagdish Prasad Chandrakar, Mannu Malekar, Shatrughan Yadav,

Principal Tameshwari Sahu, senior lecturer Ragini Chandrakar, Parsa Sinha, Anupama Manikpuri, Santrm Sahu, Shravan Sinha, Chitrasen Sahu, Manharan Sahu and others were present.

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank Branch: Maharana Pratap Chowk, Bilaspur (C.G)

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

Whereas:
The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 26.04.2023 Calling upon the Borrower- Mr Mahesh Chand Pandey & Guarantor: Mrs Vandana Pandey W/o Mr Mahesh Chand Pandey, Both of their Add.: House No.927, Gali No.5, Nandaniketan, Bhariya Nagar, Bilaspur with our Indian Bank, Bilaspur Branch to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 37,00,184/- (Rupees Thirty Seven lakh and One Hundred Eighty Four only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this 28th day of June of the year 2023.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank for an amount of Rs. 37,00,184/- (Rupees Thirty Seven lakh and One Hundred Eighty Four only) and interest thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Property No. 1. All that part & parcel of the property consisting Diverted Bhumiswami land situated at Village-Mangla, PH No 21/33, Khasra No. 1576/8 RNM-Bilaspur, Block-Bilha, Tah-Dist-Bilaspur, area 1500 sqft owned by Mahesh Chandra Pandey, Boundaries (as per sale deed) North- Land being purchased by the Dayashanker Pandey, South-Land of Daulat Khatri, East-Land of Railway, West-Road

Property No. 2. Diverted Bhumiswami land situated at Village-Mangla, PH No 21/33, Khasra No. 1576/5 (after mutation kh no 1576/7) RNM-Bilaspur, Block-Bilha, Tah-Dist-Bilaspur, area 750 sqft owned by Mahesh Chandra Pandey, Boundaries (as per sale deed) North-Remaining Land of seller, South-Land of Kamal Agarwal, East-Land of Railway, West-Road

Date: 04.07.2023, Place- Bilaspur Authorised Officer (Indian Bank)

Police achieve success in 'Operation Muskaan'

Launched to trace missing children

559 missing children were recovered and handed over to their parents

Raipur, Jul 04:

In accordance with the instructions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, Operation Muskaan is being conducted in the state to trace missing children. The Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu had issued orders to the Director General of

Police Ashok Juneja to execute a comprehensive campaign in this regard. Following the instructions, under the supervision of the Inspector General of Police CID, Mr. S.C. Dwivedi, a state-wide campaign called "Operation Muskaan" was conducted from June 1 to June 30, 2023, to trace missing children, in which the state Police achieved significant success.

Various guidelines were provided to the districts by the Police Headquarters regarding

the effective operation of "Operation Muskaan". The Superintendents of Police and the Nodal Officers nominated in the districts followed these guidelines and contributed commendably to making this campaign a success. The campaign was undertaken within Chhattisgarh and in different states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi, and Karnataka. In "Operation Muskaan", 72

boys and 487 girls have been recovered, making a total of 559 missing children recovered from across the state.

The number includes 76 children from Janjgir-Champa, 56 from Raipur, 52 from Bilaspur, and 52 from Sakti. The remaining children were recovered from other districts. The recovered boys and girls were handed over to their families. The Police achieved success in restoring the smiles on the faces of the missing children and their parents.

Single use plastic will be banned in Raj Bhavan

On the instructions of Governor Vishwa Bhushan Harichandan

Raipur, Jul 04: Today, on the occasion of International Plastic Bag Free Day, Governor Vishwa Bhushan Harichandan instructed the officials to completely ban single use plastic in Raj Bhavan. Cloths should be used in place of single use plastic for any material used in Raj Bhavan. Gunny bags or jute bags should be used. He said that plastic pollution is the biggest challenge facing the world today. We all have to change our mind set to actively reduce its use and reduce plastic pollution and carry it with us whenever we go to the



market. Make sure to carry a cloth or jute bag. Nature protects us all, so small steps are necessary to save nature. The Governor has appealed to the countrymen including the people of the state to

take a pledge not to use single use plastic from today and make united efforts to make this earth better. Harichandan instructed the officials that single use plastic should be completely banned in

Raj Bhavan. Cloth bags or jute bags should be used instead of single use plastic for any material used in Raj Bhavan. He said that plastic pollution is the biggest challenge facing the world today.

IIT Bhilai researchers develop possible low-cost, long-lasting solution for diabetes

Raipur, Jul 04: The threat of diabetes, further precipitated by the modern lifestyle, cannot be understated. According to the World Health Organisation, diabetes is one of the leading causes of death and could become a global epidemic in the coming decades.

All type 1 and advanced-stage type 2 diabetes patients rely on the external administration of insulin, a hormone that is normally secreted by the pancreas, to regulate blood glucose levels. Often, this is done via injections which need to be administered daily. This process is inconvenient and painful to the patient and also carries the risk of hypoglycemia, or low blood sugar levels, which can be fatal. Researchers at IIT Bhilai, led by Dr. Suchetan Pal from the Department of Chemistry, in collaboration with researchers from Shiv Nadar University, have worked to develop 'smart

insulin'. The formulation is developed from bio abundant materials and has shown immense promise in diabetes treatment.

The material developed in this study releases insulin for a longer duration (for two days), while regular insulin works for 12 hours. This was observed in diabetic rats as a model before moving to human trials. If the human trial is successful, the patients will have reduced insulin injection frequency and hence will experience improved quality of life. This promising formulation will be evaluated for low-cost, long-acting insulin and a potential artificial pancreas in humans. This work has been published in ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, an internationally reputed journal. The research is supported by the IIT Bhilai, HDFC-CSR grant, DST, and DBT Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award.

Recalculation, revaluation results of 10th, 12th declared

Raipur, Jul 04: The recalculation / revaluation test results of the High School and Higher Secondary Main Examinations 2023 organized by the Chhattisgarh Board of Secondary Education have been released. Candidates can check their result by entering their roll number in the website of Board of Secondary Education www.cgbse.nic.in.

Students who had applied for recalculation/re-valuation and those who want to apply for supplementary/attempt examination 2023, can submit online application form by July 04, 2023, through co-ordination institution or development block's government school in the district headquarters.

Raipur, Jul 04:

The Child Health Program (Chirayu) is proving to be a lifesaver for children suffering from health problems since birth.

The aim of this scheme is to examine and cure four types of health problems in children like defects at birth, disability, developmental delay, and deficiency.

Under the program, children between 0 and 18 years of age studying in Anganwadis or government and government-aided schools can reap the healthcare benefits.

A target has been set to conduct preliminary

Chirayu Scheme is providing a new lease of life to children

Children suffering from various diseases are successfully treated

health checkups of all children enrolled in all Anganwadis twice a year and of children studying in all government schools once a year. The scheme has proved to be a boon for 874 children in the Mahasamund district so far, which include 126 cases of cleft lip and palate, 195 club foot cases, 82 congenital cataract cases, 21 neural tube defect cases, and 450 cases of congenital heart disease. 9 mobile healthcare teams are operating in the district, and 2 doctors, 1 pharmacist, 1 lab technician, and 1 A.N.M. have been posted in each team.

Neelkanth Nishad, a



student studying at Bagbahara Government Secondary School in Tamora village development block, was suffering from Thalassemia and Splenomegaly.

The Chirayu team found in its health check-up at the Government Secondary School that Neelkanth's hands and legs were thinner than normal and he had a swollen belly along with bulging eyes.

He was brought to the hospital, where a special medical team conducted his checkup. It was found that the child's spleen was enlarged and he had low haemoglobin levels. After sonography and

other microscopic tests, it was found that Neelkanth was suffering from Thalassemia and Splenomegaly.

Thalassemia and Splenomegaly are serious and challenging diseases. For a B.P.L. family, it requires strong morale and the government's special assistance to avail their child's treatment from a good medical institute.

In such a dire situation, Mr. Neelkanth was taken to the state-level medical institute from time to time by the Chirayu team under the National Child Health Program, and after successful surgery, he was discharged from the ICU.

Indefinite strike of contract employees enter second day

Medical services were provided to the general public by organizing free health camps at the picket site itself by contract employees

Bemetara, Jul 04:

All departmental contract employees of medical department provided medical services to the general public today by setting up a free health camp at the picket site itself. In which Dr. Vipin Soni, Dr. Brijesh Dubey, Dr. Yogesh Janghel, ICTC Counselor Purnik Nayak Nursing Officer from the Health Department, along with blood bank in-charges, staff nurses, TB patients were given nutritional food, blood test, BP sugar, cold cough fever etc. Health-related medical services were provided to many people at the local level at the picket site itself.

The strike by the contractual employees continued for the second day



today also for the one-point demand contract regularization of contract employees at Tehsil Office Jaistambh Chowk Bemetara picket site. For the demand of regularization of contract, in order to convey their demands to the government, they raised their voice and posted on Twitter WhatsApp. It is to be known that by closing all

the government offices, the contract employees of all the departments of Chhattisgarh are unitedly present at the site of indefinite strike.

The health system has collapsed due to the health department contract employees going on strike, as well as the district panchayat district The general public is facing a huge problem due to



the strike of Panchayat, Women and Child Development Department, Agriculture Department, Education Department, Pradhan Mantri Mukhyamantri Sadak Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission employees,

have been completely closed, a situation of lock-out has been created in many places, due to the contract employees going on strike, departmental heads are unable to take over the office. sweating for,

Vidya Jain, District President of Anganwadi to support the demand for regularization of contractual employees,

Chhattisgarh State Health Employees Association reached the protest site along with entire employee to support the Bemetara strike.

District Vice President of Contract Employees Federation Deepti Dhurandhar, Meenakshi, Shimpi Banerjee, Block President Berla and Khandarsa Mukesh Soni, and Balwant Banjare told that the demand of contract employees is very old in which the main top leadership of Congress party Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, Deputy Chief Minister Mr. TS Various ministers, including Singhdev ji, have been talking about regularization of contractual employees through various media outside and inside the assembly.

Forest Department will offer Gedi to the public

Raipur, Jul 04: In a new initiative for the 'Hareli Tihar', the state government will now offer the public the opportunity to purchase Gedi (stilts) at various places. Forest Department offices and C-Mart will provide a good-quality 'Gedi' for purchase at a fixed rate. Basod (Bamboo artisans) can also sell 'Gedi' to interested individuals, generating additional income for them. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest Srinivasa Rao shared that in a move to celebrate the 'Hareli Tihar', the Forest Department, as per the directions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, will produce and sell 'Gedi' at various places. Playing 'Gedi'

has long been associated with this traditional festival, with families in rural areas eagerly participating in playing Gedi, a lively play enjoyed by children and youth. It serves as a joyous welcome to the rainy season, as it is easy to traverse the muddy terrain of villages using Gedi. Gedi is constructed from bamboo, with two pieces of bamboo fixed at equal distances (two feet above the ground at each bamboo stick) with the help of nails and tied with rope, forming the base for the footrest, which is known as 'Pauva'. The sound produced by Gedi creates a vibrant atmosphere, further enhancing the festive spirit.

Glorious celebration of 21st Foundation Day

At Allons Public School, Bemetara

Bemetara, Jul 04: The 21st Foundation day of Allons Public School was celebrated in the presence of the Chief Guest and the founder of Allons Public School, Kamaljeet Arora and an eminent educationist Govind Mudliar, the Guest of Honour, Director Puskal Arora, Principal-Dr. Satyajit Hota and Sunil Sharma - Director. The program started with the worshiping of the Goddess Saraswati by lighting a lamp with the Deep Prajwalan Song - 'Subham Karoti Kalyanam'.

Chhattisgarh state anthem, welcome song, school birthday song and APS song were sung by the students from the Lata Mangeshkar Club which

were appreciated by the audience.

Vandana Dance, Pre-Primary presentation, Classical fusion, Folk Dance, Meri Pyari Maa, School Chale hum, Rajasthani Dance were performed by the member of the Natraj Club. Shiv Strotam dance was performed brilliantly by the teachers named Banani Kar from Aryabhata & Talina Chakraborty from the Chanakya Club and overwhelmed the audience. A Kathak dance was performed by an energetic and hilarious performer mother of Aarush class-VII named Rani Nandini. Rhythmic Yoga was presented by the members of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy Club (Health & Hygiene club).

On the auspicious occasion of the foundation day, the student who fetched

the laurels at the National Level, Khilendra Dhruw Class-IX was facilitated with the Eklavya Award. Allons Brave Child (ABC) Award achieved by Manav Janghel, Class-VIII and Riya Tandon, Class-IX for life saving adventures. Career Character Conscious Cadet (C4) Award achieved by Rupanshu Kumar Anand, Class-XI Science, Dileep Kumar Mandavi, Class-VII, Khilendra Dhruw, Class-IX, Abhishek Sahu, Class-VII, Navpreet Kour Ubeja, Class-VIII, Shreya Parihar, Class-VII and Aditya Tiwari, Class-X with the reflection in developing their character and career building skills. Honour card achieved for academic excellence by Manshi Maravi, VIII, Navpreet Kour Ubeja, VIII, Mrigank Ranjan Swain, VIII, Nidhi Sahu, IX,

Lekhram Tandon, IX, Kunal Masram-IX, Aditi Sharma-X, Aiswary Narayan Netam-X, Aditya Tiwari-X, Rupanshu Kumar Anand-XI Science,



Ankush Thakur-XI Science, Aushraj Bhargav-XI Science, Srijan Tikaria-XI Commerce, Tulsi Soni-XI Commerce and Reman

Lal-Xi Commerce. The awards from Smile Foundation were given to the students with the hands of Kamaljeet Arora-Chairman, Govind Mudliar-an eminent educationist, Sunil Sharma-Director and Dr. Satyajit Hota-Principal.

Kamaljit Arora the founder of Allons Public School said, "Exactly two years ago, when Bemetara district was not formed then the foundation of the Allons School was laid. Today it has become as a large banyan tree. Under the shade of which, away from home but in a home-like environment, the ambitious students are engaged in the growth of their knowledge. He said that the students of the school have become doctors, engineers, lawyers, NDA, CS, MBA and CA etc. It is a re-

markable achievement of the school. He wished that all the students of the school will be ideal citizens of the country. The school will avail all the opportunities to develop their character and leadership skills."

Govind Mudliar - an eminent educationist said, "that the school is developing with the success of the students in different fields. The school has produced many doctors, engineers, lawyers and CA etc. This school is the Aadhar, the base for other 12schools of MPower. He wished to see the school in the form of a maximum development on its 25th Foundation day. He said that Allons Public School is an excellent school for imparting good education with moral values to the students."

The mentor of the school, our beloved Dr.

Satyajit Hota-thanked the teachers and parents for their cooperation for achieving the success of the students on the occasion of the 21st Foundation Day of the school. The school develops the different talents of the students.

Anchoring was done by teachers named P. Patle and Xavier Joseph with the students named Aditi Sharma and Khushi Sahufrom Munshi Premchand & John Milton Club. The stage decoration was done by Ranjeet Singh from MF. Husain Club. The live tele communication was done by Abhishek Mishra and Umesh Kale from Coding and decoding club. A vote of thanks was given by Arun Kumar Pal. The program concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

CS chairs high-level meeting

To review the arrangements for the PM's visit to Chh'garh



Juneja was also present in the meeting. Additional Chief Secretary to Chief

Minister Subrata Sahoo, Additional Chief Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Department Renu

G Pillay, Principal Secretary of Home Department Manoj Pingua, Secretary to Governor

Amrit Khalkho, Secretary of Higher Education Department Siddharth Komal Pardeshi, Secretary of Energy Department Ankit Anand, Secretary of General Administration Department D.D. Singh, Special Secretary of Urban Administration Department Ayyaj Tamboli, Director of Health Services Jayaprakash Maurya, Raipur Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, IG Raipur Range Ajay Yadav, Commissioner of Raipur Municipal Corporation Mayank Chaturvedi, Director of Public Relations Saumil Ranjan Chaubey, and other officers of different departments, which include the Public Works Department, Railway, Airport, National Highways Authority of India, Indian Oil Corporation, and Telecom Corporation of India, were present.

CM directs for high-level security for PM

Raipur: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel chaired a high-level meeting with senior officers at his official residence in context of PM Narendra Modi's arrival on July 7. In this meeting the preparations for PM's arrival in capital city Raipur were reviewed. CM asked to ensure high-level security



during his visit. Meeting was attended by CS Amitabh Jain,

DGP Ashok Juneja, Adtl. CS Subrata Sahoo and other officers.

CAUGHT IN THE RAINS



With heavy showers in the evening hours, many were unprepared and were caught in the rains on way back home.

ED submits thousand pages charge-sheet in the Court

Against all five accused in the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam



Raipur, Jul 04: Enforcement Directorate (ED) presented a thousand pages charge-sheet in the Court here on Tuesday, against the state's Rs 2000 cr liquor scam. As per information in this regard, ED has unearthed a Rs 2000 cr liquor scam in Chhattisgarh and in this case, ED has made Anwar Dhebar, Nitesh Purohit, Pappu Dhillion, Arvind Singh and Arunpati Tripathi as the accused. In this regard the ED submitted a 1600 page charge-sheet in the Special Court of Judge Ajay Singh Rajput in Raipur. It is worthwhile to mention here that ED had conducted raids in this context in Chhattisgarh for last two-three

Cong releases list of scams committed during Raman regime

Alleges irregularities of Rs 1 lakh cr Asks when will PM Modi get the investigation done



Raipur, Jul 04: Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Chhattisgarh, the Congress leveled serious allegation of irregularities against erstwhile Raman government. Irregularities of over Rs 1 lakh crore were committed during erstwhile BJP government led by Dr Raman Singh, alleged Pradesh Congress Communication Head Sushil Anand Shukla while addressing a press conference at PCC headquarters Rajiv Bhavan

here today. Targeting BJP the Congress released list of 34 scams that were allegedly committed in Raman regime. When will the Prime Minister Narendra Modi get all those scams investigated?, asked Shukla.

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi talks about curbing corruption,

yet he becomes silent when corruption cases are related to the BJP, Shukla said, adding that the whole country is waiting for his friend Adani to break his silence on the scams.

The BJP had a government in Chhattisgarh for 15 years, he said and added that many new records of corruption were set in

those 15 years. There has been a scam of more than 1 lakh crore in Raman regime, he alleged. He said that Chief Minister also wrote a letter to the ED to seek investigation into scams committed during erstwhile BJP government. A complaint of disproportionate assets against Raman Singh was also lodged with the PMO, he said.

Now that BJP government is at the centre Raman Singh's scams are not being investigated, he alleged.

The people of the state believe that being the leader of the BJP, Raman Singh has got the protection of the central government, whereas central agencies reach out to the leaders of the opposition for investigation, he said.

Shah to chalk out strategy for Assembly polls

To hold meeting with senior leaders on Wednesday evening

Raipur, Jul 04: Union Home Minister Amit Shah would be on visit to Chhattisgarh on Wednesday evening. During his brief visit, he would be staying at the party headquarters situated at Kushabhau Thakre premises during which he would chalk out strategy with the senior leaders of the party on the upcoming Legislative Assembly polls in Chhattisgarh.

Party insiders said that select few leaders from the saffron brigade would be present during the high-profile meeting with visiting HM Amit Shah and

his team. It is understood that the party high command has already conducted internal survey on the poll exercise and have identified strength and shortcomings of the party which would be shared with key leaders. According strategy would be chalked out on the basis of the discussion during the high-level meeting. BJP would also go for drastic changes in the policy-making committee of the party in Chhattisgarh which would be working in co-ordination with the central leadership.

After reaching in the evening, he would meet at party office and return back to New Delhi next morning.

School Admission festival held

Raipur, Jul 04: Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Raipur Rural Satyanarayan Sharma on Tuesday attended the School Admission festival at Laxminarayan Girls Higher Secondary School situated at Gurukul premises on Kalibadi Road here. He welcomed the students and presented text book, copy and stationary to the new students. Chairman of the Bharatkhande Lalitkala Siksha Samiti, the governing body of school,



Taral Modi, Vice President Ajay Tiwari, Secretary Sobha Khandelwal were also present whereas Dr Suresh

Shukla presided over the function. Students were also offered sweets on the occasion.

Workshop on 'Way Toward Happiness Through Co-existential Living' held

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jul 04: National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur's Department of Mechanical Engineering and Department of Humanities & Social Sciences organized a valedictory and feedback session, on 4th July 2023, successfully concluding the workshop themed 'Way Toward Happiness Through Co-existential Living'. Dr. NV Ramana Rao, Director, NIT Raipur presided over the session as the Chief Guest. Dr. Samir Bajpai, Head, Career Development Centre was the Special Guest for the session. Dr. Bajpai, in his address, shared his views on how Value Education was started in NIT Raipur, in



which students of NIT Raipur went to Achhoti for 5 years and got benefited from the camp at Abhyudaya Sansthan, Achhoti.

Dr. Heena Chavda, Faculty, value education and psychological Counsellor summarized the important of universal human values explained in this program

for ten days to the people present in the meeting. For example, due to lack of proper understanding of universal human values, human self and family relationship, one remains unhappy, and not with facilities; money gives convenience and not happiness. To be happy, it is necessary to develop mutual coordination,

Right understanding in the self and family and trust will increase only by certain conduct. Why are we living? and what is the way to live a right life?, is the first necessity to develop Right understanding, etc. She Threw light on some important sutras of A. Nagraj like "If there is mistake then there is no understanding and if there is understanding then there is no mistake", "Anger is the manifestation of one's incapacity" etc. In the end, She described in detail the various activities the students are conducting in the consciousness development based value education taken by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. All the Activities can be seen on

youtube channel "value education nit raipur". After this, some participants expressed their views on what they learned from this ten-day happiness workshop and expressed their wish that such workshops should continue.

Dr. NV Ramana Rao enlightened the criticality of value education. He expatiated the role of mental health and happiness and its impact on our work rate, addressing how holistic education is stressed and distinctly mentioned in the National Education Policy (2020). He gave invaluable advice for leading a healthy life weighing on certain qualities such as patience, support, truthfulness, honesty, etc. stating the vitality of a healthy mind and body.

Tax collection in first quarter is about 21 percent of total target for this year

Commercial Taxes Minister T.S. Singhdeo reviewed departmental work



Raipur, Jul 04: Commercial Taxes Minister T.S. Singhdeo on Tuesday reviewed the departmental work at New Rest House, Raipur. He instructed the departmental officers to motivate more and more traders and businessmen to deposit GST. He said that the development of the state is linked with tax collection. Therefore, according to the target, collect it as per the provisions of the GST Act. In the meeting, Singhdeo reviewed the division and circle-wise collection of GST as well as its sector-wise receipts. Secretary, Commercial Tax Department, Mr. Himshikhar Gupta, Commissioner, Mr. Ritesh Agarwal and Special Commissioner, Mr. T.L. Dhruv also attended the review meeting. Commercial Tax Minister Mr. Singhdeo gave instructions to increase revenue collection by removing deficiencies where there is shortfall in tax collection as per the target in the current financial year. He also

asked to organize a departmental meeting in the coming months of August and September to review the tax collection in the state. Mr. Singhdeo gave instructions in the meeting to register maximum number of people associated with trade and business under the GST Act. This will increase the tax base of the state and increase in revenue.

It is worth mentioning that at present a total of one lakh 73 thousand dealers are registered under GST in the state. Of these, 15 thousand are dealers with a turnover of more than five crores. And the number of dealers taking advantage of composition is 35,000. In the meeting,

Secretary, Commercial Tax Department, Mr. Himshikhar Gupta instructed the departmental officers to continuously monitor the receipt of GST from the top 100 dealers who collect more. He asked for a thorough review of tax collection in those commodity areas where tax collection is not as per the expectation.

Commissioner of Commercial Tax Department Mr. Ritesh Agarwal told in the meeting that in the current financial year 2023-24, a target of tax collection of Rs 22 thousand crore has been set. In the first quarter of this year (from April 1, 2023 to June 25, 2023), a tax of Rs 4512 crore 35 lakh has been collected, which is about 21 percent of the target for the whole year. Mr. Agarwal said that in the last financial year 2022-23, there has been an increase of Rs 2929 crore 89 lakh in

tax collection in the state, which is about 20 percent more than the year 2021-22. In the last financial year, a total tax collection of Rs 17808 crore 66 lakh has been done while in 2021-22 the revenue of Rs 14878 crore 77 lakh was received.

It was told in the meeting that in the first quarter of this year, compared to the first quarter of last year, 150 percent increase in the solar energy sector, 109 percent in non-ferrous metals, 20 percent in construction infrastructure, 4 percent in electricals, 10 percent in Tires and Tubes and 56 percent more GST has been received in Pharmaceuticals and Medicines. In the review meeting, Additional Commissioner of Commercial Taxes Department, Mr. T.R. Dhurve and Mrs. Neelima Tigga along with officers from all the divisions and circles were present.

Two tried to self-immolate, police prevented it



Annoyed over failing to get justice from Revenue and Police department

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jul 04: A case of alleged encroachment on the land and then showing high-handedness in the dealings by elite in the capital city has come to fore. Failing to get justice, the victims tried to commit self-immolation with use of Kerosene oil outside Khamtarai thana on Tuesday. But the po-

lice present there managed to nab them and avoid any untoward incident. The case is that of Avanti Vihar of Khamardih thana area.

The victim of the case is R/o Avanti Vihar Pawan baghel and Daulal Yadav. They said that they are having 1500 sq. ft. plot in city's Gitanjali Nagar and one of the elite has tried to encroach upon the same and construct a road there and are troubled on account of the same. The land of the victim is the place where the road is passing from. But even after demarca-

tion of the plot, the Patwari is not taking out place for the road.

Both the victims have lodged complaint with the Revenue and Police department and other places, but to no avail. Therefore failing to get justice and having lost faith in the system and its working, both reached Khamardih Thana and immersing themselves in Kerosene, tried to commit self-immolation. A video of the same has also come forward and it was timely action by the police that the lives of two were saved.

Plate Mill marks record production & despatch of High Tensile Plates

Bhilai, Jul 04: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Plate Mill Department along with the RCL has set a new milestone in the production and despatch of High Tensile Plates in the month of June 2023. The production of HT plates achieved an ever best monthly record by producing 45,375 T surpassing the previous best of 34,652 T, made in June, 2022. A despatch record has also been made by the department by 37,470 T of High Tensile Plates against its previous of 29,131 T, achieved in June, 2022. It has also resulted in highest ever despatch of HT Plates in the first Quarter, with 68,731 T dispatched in the first quarter of 2023-24, surpassing the previous best of 61,755 T, made in 2022-23.



Under the guidance of Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (Bhilai Steel Plant) and Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) the planning by PPC and production of high tensile heats in SMS-2 followed by reheating of slabs in furnaces, Rolling, finishing, inspection, testing and heat treatment of these plates in Plate mill has taken a quantum jump. Plate Mill for the

Collective and associated departments for this achievement.

The focus of modern India lies in continuous development in the field of technology and infrastructure. SAIL has been an important partner in the role of nation building. There is huge demand for plates in the field of infrastructure and Indian Railways (especially in Railway over bridges as the rail corridor for high speed trains). HT Plates are particularly steel grade over E350 BR and above. Production and supply of the Value Added Special Grade Steel Plates will serve dual purpose of generating higher revenue above garden variety plates, and will help in achieving market leadership amongst the competitors in India.

Employees of Power Zone felicitated with Pali & Karm Shiromani Awards



Bhilai, Jul 04: Employees belonging to Power zone of Bhilai Steel Plant were awarded with the 'Pali Shiromani' and 'Karm Shiromani Puraskar' on July 03, 2023 for their exemplary work performance under the 'Shiromani Puraskar Yojana' of Bhilai Steel

Plant. Pali Shiromani Award winner of the Power zone included Syed Jamsheed Ali, Sr Manager, PNBS and Karm Shiromani Award winner KS Srinivas, MOCT, PEM were felicitated for their exemplary work. The function was presided over by Rajiv

Pandey, CGM (Power Facilities). Departmental HODs HK Sahu, GM I/c (PNBS & PEM), Sanjay Nikhar, GM (PNBS), Abhay Kumar, GM (PNBS), Prabhakar Sawa Khobragade, GM (PEM), P Krishna Mohan, GM (PNBS), Rahul Nigam, GM (PEM), Sheikh Zakir, GM (PNBS),

Pankaj, AGM (PNBS) and other executives of the various section presented the award winners with a certificate of merit, memento and appreciation letter for the spouse of the employee. The programme was conducted by the Personnel Office of P&E Zone.

BSP's BRM felicitates Contractual Workers with Suraksha Sajagta Awards



Bhilai, Jul 04: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Bar and Rod Mill (BRM) Department organised Safety Awards Programme to felicitate the Contractual Workers engaged in the plant to promote safety culture. The Suraksha Sajagta Award ceremony for the year 2022 was held at SEGR Building Conference Hall on July 01, 2023. Mukesh Kumar Gupta, CGM (BRM) was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Addressing the gathering, Mukesh

Kumar Gupta spoke on the role of Suraksha Sajagta Awards and appreciated the contractual workers for their importance and contribution towards the Plant. Gupta also emphasized upon the importance of safety and safety training and urged the workers present to abide by the safety measures at all instances. The contractual workers of BRM were felicitated under three categories, namely 'Suraksha Sarvottam', 'Suraksha Anmol' and 'Suraksha

Daksh' for their contribution towards safety & work culture. Mukesh Kumar Gupta, CGM (BRM) felicitated the selected workers by giving them gifts and wished them a bright future. General Managers of BRM SK Behera, Sachchidanand Tripathi and Ashish also felicitated the workers and appreciated their contribution in the progress of the Plant. Other Senior Officials of the Plant were also present on this occasion, along with personnel.

Meeting of I Square CFT Team held for safety enhancement

Bhilai, Jul 04: An important meeting of the Cross Functional Team of Incident Investigation (I Square CFT Team) for safety enhancement by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant was organised in the Conference Hall of Executive Director (Finance & Accounts) on June 29. In this program, Dr Ashok Kumar Panda, Executive Director (Finance & Accounts), Leader of "I Square CFT team" of SAIL BSP, was present as the Chief Guest.

On this occasion, cluster owner of "I Square CFT team", Anish Sengupta, CGM (URM), Saumya Tokdar, CGM (Blast Furnace), Anup Kumar Dutta, CGM (Sinter Plants), SK Gajbhiye, CGM (Mechanical), Indrajit Sengupta, GM I/c (RMD), Madhu Pillai, GM (Instrumentation), Nirmal Kumar Detha, GM (SMS-2 Mechanical), BK Mohapatra Chief Fire Officer and AP Pansari AGM (Finance & Accounts) were present.



"I Square CFT" Team Leader Executive Director (Finance & Accounts) Dr Ashok Kumar Panda while addressing the gathering apprised the members about the seriousness of Incident Investigation to strengthen the safety in the plant. At the same time, he congratulated all the successful participants of "Train the Trainer" of Incident Investigation and expressed the need to train a greater number of personnel and officers of the plant in Incident Investigation. He also instructed them to start

these programs as soon as possible. In his speech, he said that in order to prevent the recurrence of accidents, "Why Why Analysis" must be carried out seriously in Incident Investigation. So that the root causes of the accident can be known and appropriate efforts can be made to remove it and prevent its recurrence. At the beginning of the program, Chief Fire Officer BK Mohapatra threw light on the usefulness of the meeting. Along with this, the meeting was first started with safety sharing.

At the end of the meeting, Executive Director (Finance & Accounts) Dr Ashok Kumar Panda, leader of the I Square CFT team, awarded certificates for certified trainers to the trainers who successfully completed the "Train the Trainer" training on Incident Investigation. It may be noted that under this important training, a special training program has been designed by BSP's safety consultant "Swasya Solutions" to make the officers and employees of the plant proficient in "Train the Trainer" of Incident

Investigation. In this training, only after passing through the prescribed evaluation method, the trainees who get the prescribed marks are eligible for training as certified trainers. A total of 37 plant executives were certified as Certified Trainers in Incident Investigation's "Train the Trainer". These include:- Ajay Kaushal, Amit Kumar Singh, Anurag Pathak, Bharat Goyal, Dr. AR Sontke, BC Mandal, Gangadhar More, Gaurav Singhal, Gone Ajay Kumar, Hemant Kumar Verma, Janak Lal Meshram, Kuldeep Singh Tomar, Manish Kashyap, Nitin Goyal, Palvendra Singh, Prashant Kumar, Rajat Kumar Sarkar, Rakesh Chowdhary, Ranjan Kumar Panda, Sandeep Gupta, SR Shende, Sanjay Kumar Pandey, Shakeel Ahmed Khan, Shashikant Banyan, Shiv Kumar, S Narendra Rao, T S Verma, V Janardhan Rao, Vijay Kumar, V K Chowdhary, Satyawan Nayak, etc.

BJP leaders invite people for Prime Minister's rally



Bhilai, Jul 04: Rajya Sabha MP Saroj Pandey distributed the invitation cards among the shopkeepers and common people in the Indra Market, Moti Complex and other areas of Durg City for the public rally of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to be held in Raipur on

July 7. She moved across Sarafa Line, Gandhi Chowk, Jawahar Chowk, Hatni Bazar and other areas to distribute the cards. BJP State Working Committee member Usha Tawari, former Mayor Chandrika Chandrakar, BJP District Vice President Natwar

Tamarkar, Kantilal Jain, Secretary Ashish Nimje, Leader of Opposition Ajay Verma, Spokesperson Dinesh Dewangan, Media in-charge Raja Mahobia, Rakesh Duggad, Senior BJP leader Chainsukh Bhattar, Former Mandal President Lukesh Baghel,

Shekhar Chandrakar, Nitesh Sahu, Sarita Mishra, Swati Sahu and others accompanied her. Rajya Sabha MP Saroj Pandey said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the most respected leader of the world, is scheduled to arrive on the holy land of Chhattisgarh on July 7. She said that our country is moving towards becoming a world guru and the credit goes to the famous Prime Minister of the country, Narendra Modi, who took decisions with historical and far-reaching consequences. She appealed to the residents of Durg Bhilai to attend the general meeting in maximum number. Councilor Devnarayan

Chandrakar, Narendra Banjare, Dr Dev Narayan Tandi, Councilor Gayatri Sahu, Narendra Banjare, Omprakash Sen, Ajit Vaidya Chameli Sahu, Shashi Sahu, Kumari Sahu, Hema Sharma, Kumud Baghel, Tanuja Baghel, Pilia Sahu, Santosh Kosare, Dr Bhavna Diwakar, Seema Sharma, Deepak Dewangan, Asha Subba, Mamta Jain, Seema Tidke, and others were present. In Bhilai, MP Vijay Baghel met the people at Boria Market area. On the completion of 09 years tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he conducted a special public outreach campaign to



make the people aware of the working of 09 years of the government. MP Vijay Baghel, BJP District President Brijesh Bichpuria met the people and traders at this market. Counting the achievements of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he said that the country is

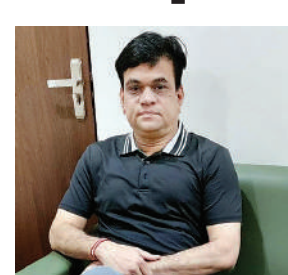
moving forward to become Vishwa Guru under the leadership of Narendra Modi. BJP General Secretary Yogendra Singh, Prem Lal Sahu, Amar Sonkar, Former Mandal President Gajanan Banchole, Brijendra Singh, Shiv Sagar

Mishra, Bhagchand Jain, Rajni Kant Pandey, Mogra Deshmukh, Ashok Jain, Manoj Tiwari, Sanjay Dani, Anjay Dubey, Sharda Gupta, Mahendra Pratap Singh, Nirmala Naidu, Rashmi Singh, Leena Nayyar, and other party workers were present.

WHAT AFTER THIS? Is Equal to ENDLESS GREED

Who says, Money, power, Wealth, Status, Luxury, Lavishness can fully satisfy we Humans? Even in case, we have all these ornamental Materialistic comforts either through our ancestral legacy or hard earned by ourselves. Presently, the whole life-style of existing generations in Maximum part of the Globe seems to be hitting countless targets, achieving results but sadly away from absolute 'PEACE OF MIND'. Own, family members, Extended relatives, neighbours, strangers all ap-

pear to be 'LIFELESS MOVING BODIES WITHOUT RESTING SOULS'. Under such incredible swings of 'NEGATIVITY' rapping the whole of our existence, what could be the remedial alternate to come out of such vicious circle? In my opinion, we all have almost forgotten to live for ourselves than for others/society, respect ourselves than respecting others, believing our own strength and potency than being helped by the crutches supported by others, these all at the cost of catching far-off 'BIRDS' than to have what is in our own



HANDS. I, not only believe, but am damn sure it is not the 'world' which makes you restless rather it is your own 'SET OF MIND' which always gets fascinated towards others at the cost of your 'SELF-IGNORANCE'. If one hon-

estly does analyse his or her life-journey since birth, one must count all factors together as a 'BUNCH OF FORTUNE' like the place of your birth, the family in which you are born and brought-up the culture, resources, environment, people with whom we lived and living and in addition to this our analytical approach must pass through all these layers then No, doubt you can find your deserving place where you are or you ought to be and this critical approach of SELF-ASSESSMENT will certainly make you more satisfied

if not matches your life-style with A 'MAN BORN WITH SILVER SPOON'. However, Rose can't be compared with Lotus, Lion can't be with fish and similarly snakes can't be with fox, This is what a real RAINBOW of the universe, where each colour has its own significance which can never be overruled. By GV Rajshekher Rao, Fulbright Scholar (USA)/PRINCIPAL TATA DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL, SONADIH, Baloda Bazar, Chhattisgarh

'Rural devp possible through positive approach'

● Chhattisgarhi Film 'Zero Banhi Hero' draws attention with strong message

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jul 04: Giving a strong message of rural development, the regional film of Chhattisgarh "Zero Banhi Hero" has been able to draw attention of audience in the initial days of film release. Film made by first women Director Bharati Verma focus on rural development in which she narrates that the development is possible with positive approach. She said that the



social media could be a handy tool for the betterment of region, state and country and not just be a means of entertainment for youth. Buoyed with the success of movie, Director Bharati Verma said that they have beautifully picturised the movie whereas the songs

and dialogues too have become popular with local touch given. Film also deals with political satire which has been also the reason for the success. Folk songs too have been added to attract the local people in the film being screened across Chhattisgarh including Shyam Cinema in Raipur.



BRIEF



Lord Shiva devotees or 'Kanwaris' carry holy water during 'Kanwar Yatra' in the month of 'Shrawan', in Haridwar, Tuesday.

Watery grave

Kathua: Two youths hailing from Himachal Pradesh were feared drowned in Ranjit Sagar dam in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, a police official said. Gagan (20) and Sahil (19), both residents of Sadar Bazar area of Dalhousie, were taking bath when they ventured into the deep waters and went missing around 4.15 pm, he said.

Exempt

Ranchi: The High Court of Jharkhand on Tuesday exempted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi from personal appearance in a Ranchi court in the Modi surname case. Justice SK Dwivedi also ordered that no coercive steps be taken against Gandhi. The senior Congress leader had moved the high court challenging the Ranchi MP-MLA court order that had directed him to appear in person in a defamation case. The case will be heard again on August 16.

Divert

New Delhi: Four flights were diverted from the Delhi airport in the afternoon on Tuesday due to bad weather in the national capital, according to an official. The official said three flights were diverted to Amritsar and one flight to Lucknow. All were domestic flights. Light rainfall or thundershower has been predicted for Delhi on Tuesday.

Protest

Bhubaneswar: V K Pandian, the private secretary to Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, on Tuesday faced the ire of Aam Admi Party (AAP) workers when they allegedly threw eggs at the IAS officer's carcade during his visit to Subarnapur district. The incident took place on the Kota Samalei-Ulunda road when Pandian's carcade was on its way to Subarnapur town.

Deferred

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday deferred the oath taking ceremony of DERC chairperson-designate Justice (retd) Umesh Kumar and sought responses from the Centre and the office of the Lieutenant Governor on a plea of the Delhi government challenging the law governing such an appointment.

Weather
High 36 Low 26

MARKET
NIFTY 19,389.00
SENSEX 65,479.05

BULLION
GOLD 58,466
SILVER 69,691

PM's strong message on terrorism in presence of Pak PM Sharif

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

In a veiled reference to Pakistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday told leaders of the SCO nations that the grouping must not hesitate to criticise countries supporting cross-border terrorism as an instrument of state policy and there must not be any "double standards" in combating terrorist activities.

With Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russia's Vladimir Putin listening, Modi said at a virtual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) that "decisive action" is required to deal with terrorism and terror financing. Chairing the summit, Modi talked about



PM Narendra Modi attends the virtual SCO Summit, Tuesday.

the growing importance of the SCO and said, "It is our shared responsibility to understand each other's

needs and sensitivities and resolve all challenges through better cooperation and coordination." The remarks came amid the lingering border row between India and China. In his opening remarks, Modi also highlighted the need for boosting connectivity, but asserted that it is essential to respect the basic principles of the SCO charter, especially the sovereignty and territorial integrity of member states, while making such efforts. There has been increasing global criticism of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). India has been severely critical of the BRI as the project includes the so-called China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that passes through Pakistan occupied Kashmir.

'India leads in spirituality, technology and economy'

Amaravati, Jul 04 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said India was marching ahead in various fields, including technology and economy even as spiritual centres are re-viving in the country.

In his virtual address during the inauguration of Sai Hira Global Convention Centre at Prasanthi Nilayam in Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh, Modi pointed out that 40 per cent of the total real-time online transactions took place in India and urged the devotees to transform the entire district of Puttaparthi (Sri Satya Sai district) into a

digital economy. Noting that climate change posed a big challenge to the entire world in 21st century, Modi said India has taken up initiatives like Mission LiFE in the global platform. Affirming that the world trusts India's leadership, he said India is holding the presidency of the prestigious G-20 this year, whose theme of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" is drawn from the country's fundamental thinking.

He further said that India has the third largest startup ecosystem in the world and was competing with big countries in areas such as digital technology and 5G technology.

Uddhav goes to SC again over Shinde's disqualification

Accuses Maha Speaker of bias

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Shiv Sena (UBT) has once again knocked the door of the Supreme Court seeking direction to the Maharashtra assembly speaker to expeditiously adjudicate the disqualification petitions filed against Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and other Sena MLAs, who had tied up with the BJP to form a new government in June 2022, in a time-bound manner. The plea by Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) MLA Sunil



Prabhu, who as chief whip of the undivided Shiv Sena had in 2022 filed the disqualification petitions against Shinde and other MLAs, alleged Speaker Rahul Narwekar is deliberately delaying the adjudication despite the May 11 verdict of the apex court.

"The petitioner is constrained to invoke the extraordinary jurisdiction of this court under Article 32

Honorary doctorate

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI)

India's chief national badminton coach Pullela Gopichand was awarded an honorary doctorate by Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence, Karnataka on the occasion of its second convocation. Gopichand, along with four other eminent Indians, were bestowed with the honour by President Droupadi Murmu on Monday for their contribution to nation-building.

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PM to visit Ch'garh on July 7

Set to inaugurate, lay foundation stones of multiple projects

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Rajasthan on July 7 and 8 during which he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of about 50 projects worth around

Rs 50,000 crore, official sources said Tuesday. All these states, except Uttar Pradesh, are slated to go to polls later this year. On Friday, Prime Minister Modi will first travel from Delhi to Raipur, where he will lay the foundation stone and dedicate multiple projects, including the six-lane sections of the Raipur-Vishakhapatnam corridor, to people. Thereafter, he will attend a public meeting. The prime

minister will then travel to Gorakhpur where will attend a programme at the Gita Press, the sources said. Thereafter, he will flag off Vande Bharat trains on three routes and also lay the foundation stone for redevelopment of the Gorakhpur railway station. From Gorakhpur, Modi will travel to his constituency, Varanasi, where he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of multiple key projects.

CSAS terms UCC as threat to existence of tribals

Raipur, Jul 04:

Chhattisgarh Sarva Adivasi Samaj (CSAS), an umbrella body of tribal groups in the state, on Tuesday said the Central government should not be in a hurry to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), as such a law will be a threat to the existence of tribals who have their own customary rules to govern their society.

CSAS president and former Union minister Arvind Netam in a press conference here said his organisation does not completely object to a common civil law, but the Centre should take every one into confidence before bringing it forth. He, how-

ever, said it seems impractical to implement the UCC in a tribal society.

The Law Commission of India has invited suggestions for the UCC in the country and tribal communities of Chhattisgarh have submitted their opinions keeping in view their customary rules, Netam said. The UCC aims to enact a common law related to birth, marriage and property rights. The tribal community is governed by its customary laws in matters of birth, divorce, partition, succession, inheritance, land and property and this is its identity which is different from the rest of the castes, communities and religions, he said.

ENJOYING RAINS



Tourists react during monsoon rain at the Taj Mahal, in Agra, Tuesday.

Security forces bust Naxalite camp; recover explosives

Bijapur, Jul 04 (PTI):

Security forces on Tuesday busted a Naxalite camp in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district following an encounter and recovered explosives and other materials, police said.

The face-off took place in the early hours of the day in a hilly forest near Isulnar village, where Naxalites had set up a transit camp, a senior police official said.

The security forces received a tip-off about the presence of 40-50 armed Naxalites, including senior leaders like Company No. 02 commander Vella Modiyam, division military in-charge Rahul Telam, and Gangalur area committee secretary Dinesh Modiyam

About the face-off....

The face-off took place in the early hours of the day in a hilly forest near Isulnar village, where Naxalites had set up a transit camp. The security forces received a tip-off about the presence of 40-50 armed Naxalites, including senior leaders like Company No. 02 commander Vella Modiyam, division military in-charge Rahul Telam, and Gangalur area committee secretary Dinesh Modiyam in forest of Isulnar. Sensing the presence of the patrolling team, Naxalites opened indiscriminate fire on security personnel prompting them to retaliate, he said. However, they managed to escape from the spot, leaving behind their belongings.

Items recovered...

A tiffin bomb, eight gelatin sticks, 20 meter cordex wire, 15 meter fuse wire, four detonators, batteries, solar plate, Maoist bags and literature and items of daily use were recovered from the hideout.

Naxalites opened indiscriminate fire on security personnel prompting them to retaliate, he said.

However, they managed to escape from the spot, leaving behind their belongings, he added. A tiffin bomb, eight gelatin sticks, 20 meter cordex wire, 15 meter fuse wire, four detonators, batteries, solar plate, Maoist bags and literature and items of daily use were recovered from the hideout, he said. Blood stains found at the spot suggest that three to four Naxalites were either killed or injured in the firing, but their colleagues managed to remove them from the scene, the official said, adding that a search operation was underway in nearby areas.

Ten killed as truck rams into hotel

In Maharashtra's Dhule

Mumbai, Jul 04 (PTI):

Ten people were killed and 26 injured after a truck hit four vehicles and rammed into a roadside hotel in northern Maharashtra's Dhule district on Tuesday morning, police said. The truck driver and his assistant too were killed in the accident that took place around 10.45 am near Palasner village on the Mumbai-Agra highway, more than 300 km from the state capital.

As per an RTO official, the truck had dashed a motorcycle a few km ahead of the accident spot and the driver was apparently speeding in panic. Near Palasner, he lost



control of the multi-axle truck which hit two motorcycles, a car and a container truck from behind before ramming into a hotel and overturning, he said.

Police had earlier said that a brake failure apparently led to the accident. The victims included a few people waiting for a bus near the hotel. There were two women and a 17-year-old youngster among the deceased, police said.

The driver and his assistant were residents of Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.

SRK injured in LA

Mumbai, Jul 04 (PTI):

Get well soon wishes for Shah Rukh Khan flooded social media platforms on Tuesday after reports that the star was injured and underwent surgery in Los Angeles where he was shooting for a project. Though there was no official confirmation from Khan's office, sources close to him were quoted as saying that he received a minor nose injury and now was back home in Mumbai.

According to ETimes, Shah Rukh began bleeding and was immediately rushed to hospital. His team was informed by the doctors that there was nothing to worry. There was no response from his



team despite several attempts. There is no update on when the actor got injured or the project he was shooting for.

Worried fans took to social media to wish the 57-year-old actor a speedy recovery. "Get well soon my King, Allah is with you all the time," a fan wrote on Twitter. "I wish for ur speedy recovery sir! Get well soon... sending lots of

Undergoes surgery....

Shah Rukh Khan reportedly had a surgery in the US after he met with an accident in Los Angeles during a shoot, reported ETimes. According to the report, the actor is back to India and he is recuperating at home. ETimes quoted a source as saying, "SRK was shooting in Los Angeles for a project and he ended up hurting his nose. He began bleeding and was immediately rushed to a hospital. His team was informed by the doctors that there was nothing to worry and that King Khan would need to undergo a minor surgery to stop the bleeding. Post the operation, SRK was spotted with a bandage on his nose."

love and positivity your way," a fan tweeted. "He will be fine. In Sha Allah," prayed another.

Kerala police raids offices of Malayalam online news channel

KUWJ condemns action against its employees

Kochi, Jul 04 (PTI):

A special team of the Kochi city police has carried out searches at the offices of a Malayalam online news channel as part of an investigation to trace its editor following a case filed against him under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act by an MLA belonging to the ruling Left.

Police said their teams carried out searches at the offices of "Marunadan Malayali" in Thiruvananthapuram and an office-cum-residence in Kochi last night and seized computers and memory cards as part of their in-

vestigation to find out the whereabouts of its absconding editor, Shajan Skaria. The police intensified the action against the online channel, days after the Kerala High Court dismissed Skaria's anticipatory bail plea in the complaint lodged by Kunnathunad MLA P V Sreenijn with the Elamakkara police.

In a Facebook post, the online channel condemned the police action against it, alleging that it was being hunted down by the police. The online channel said the police search at its office lasted till midnight, and computers, cameras, and laptops were seized. It was further alleged the police also reached the residences of its employees and seized their personal computers.



Prashant Kishor

Patna, Jul 04 (PTI):

'Oppn unity needs rational narrative'

bined opposition can work only if it succeeds in creating a narrative against the regime. The Janata Party experiment came on the back of the Emergency and Jayaprakash Narayan's mass movement. During VP Singh's rule, the Bofors scandal had caught public imagination," said the IPAC founder.

Kishor said, "Mere political arithmetic, devoid of a rational narrative, is unlikely to strike a chord with people."

Kishor, who has given up political consultancy, recently revived his "Jan Surraaj" campaign in Bihar after a gap of more than a month during which he nursed a ligation injury.

Asked about the development in Maharashtra, Kishor said, "It is for the

people of that state to decide whether what has happened is appropriate or not. But normally a party does not lose its support base just because of some MLAs jumping ship. I don't see any serious impact on NCP."

He also scoffed at reports in a section of the media speculating that the Bihar CM had grown wary of a fate, similar to that of the NCP, being met by his JD(U).

"Politicians are far too hardnosed to be swept away by the cycle of breaking news.

Maharashtra's development will have no impact outside that state, just like the upheaval in Bihar last year did not affect politics elsewhere". He, however, added, "I repeat that the Mahagathbandhan will not retain its current com-

position by the time the state faces its next assembly polls. Former CM Jitan Ram Manjhi's exit points in that direction. But any major shift is unlikely before Lok Sabha elections." On the fresh CBI chargesheet against Bihar Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav, he said, "People do not resent any politician facing legal action for alleged wrongdoing. But it is becoming a matter of concern to them that only those in the opposition are caught and those who make peace with the ruling dispensation are let off". He, however, added, "It is wrong to believe that crackdown by an investigating agency will help a leader reap political dividends by playing the victim card. Such attempts do not find traction with people".

NEW STUDY

Majority people want cars with a safety rating

Mumbai, Jul 04:

A study was conducted among customers to gauge their feature preferences, when it comes to choosing a personal car. The survey was commissioned by Skoda Auto India and conducted by NIQ BASES. It revealed a heavy inclination among customers towards the safety features of the car with 9 out of 10 customers who thought all cars in India should have a safety rating. Crash-ratings and number of airbags were the top two features driving the consumer car purchase decision as derived from the survey results. Fuel-efficiency, one of the popular features, occupied third place. About 67% of the respondents consisted of current car owners who

owned a car above Rs 5 lakh. Some 33% did not own a car, but intended to purchase one above Rs 5 lakh within a year. The survey was conducted on individuals between 18 and 54 years of age in the SEC A and B bracket, with 80% respondents being male, and 20% female.

The car's crash rating was the top driver of customer car purchase decision with an importance score of 22.3% followed by number of airbags with an importance score of 21.6%. Fuel efficiency emerged as the third most important driver with importance score of 15.0% when purchasing a car.

When it comes to crash rating for cars, maximum customer preference of 22.2% was observed for a 5-star rating followed closely

by 21.3% preference for a 4-star rating. Crash rating of zero is the least preferred with only 6.8% score.

While the awareness about existence of 2 sets of 5-star safety ratings on crash tests is high at about 76%, only about 30% of all customers in India identify child/rear occupants safety rating as being one of those two sets.

With a major focus on safety from the Government of India and other regulators, the study was conducted to gauge the perception of safety in cars among consumers. The survey went about tracking the features which were the most discriminating in driving consumer choice. And the position of safety in this list of features.

After escaping from father's sexual abuse, minor raped by 2 men

On pretext of rescuing her

Kota (RJ) July 04 (PTI): A 13-year-old girl, who was allegedly sexually abused by her 68-year-old father, was later allegedly gang-raped by two others on the pretext of rescuing the minor from her father, Baran Police said on Tuesday. All three accused have been arrested and would be produced before a court later on Tuesday, they said.

On June 26, police lodged a report after a man alleged his 13-year-old daughter had been missing from home since June 22. When she was rescued by police on June 30, the girl told them that her father had been sexually abusing her for around a year and a half and had

also threatened her with life if she spoke to anyone about it. Her mother had died around five years back and she had been living with her father since then, she told police.

Later, the minor came in contact with a 29-year-old man, who took her with him on June 22 on the pretext of rescuing the girl from her father, police said. But the man, along with a friend, raped her several times, they said.

On the basis of statements by the minor, police lodged a case of rape under sections of the IPC and POCSO Act against the accused father and a separate case of gang rape against the two men, a police officer said.

WARM WELCOME



President Droupadi Murmu being welcomed by Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Reddy at Hakimpet Air Force Station, in Secunderabad, Tuesday.

'Police best judge to decide regulation of traffic movement'

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Traffic authorities are the best judge to decide the issue of regulation of traffic in the city, the Delhi High Court said, dismissing a plea seeking a direction to the police to remove blockades on the Mathura Road crossing.

The high court also took judicial notice of a substantial increase in road traffic in the city over the last few years and the number of cars parked on the roads in front of the court premises and in the lanes alongside, causing traffic congestion.

"Traffic control is the sole domain of the traffic police. It is well settled that courts do not run the country and it is up to the

administration to take decisions for smooth functioning of the government," a bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad said in a judgement passed on Monday.

The judgement was made public on Tuesday.

The bench dismissed the public interest litigation (PIL) which sought to direct the authorities, including the Delhi government and the Delhi Traffic Police, to remove blockades erected at the Mathura Road crossing to disallow a right turn while coming from the additional building of the Supreme Court to either the apex court's main building or the Delhi High Court. "The traffic author-

ities are the best judges to decide the issue of regulation of traffic in the city and this court, while exercising its jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, is not inclined to sit over as an appellate authority over the decisions taken by the traffic authorities for regulating the movement of traffic in the city. In view of the above, this court is not inclined to entertain the instant PIL. Resultantly, the PIL is dismissed," the court said.

The Delhi government's standing counsel Santosh Kumar Tripathi and lawyer Arun Panwar submitted that for the first time, the stretch has become signal and congestion-free and it is a permanent arrangement now.

RELIGIOUS GATHERING



Kanvarias at Har ki Pauri ghat during the holy month of Shravan month, in Haridwar, Tuesday.

'Roadmap for 2030 will benefit UK and India'

Kolkata, Jul 04 (PTI):

UK trade minister Nigel Huddleston on Tuesday said the 2030 roadmap with India will bring immense benefits for both countries. Speaking at an event here, the minister said it will deepen cooperation and bring both the countries even closer.

"The 2030 roadmap agreed by our Prime Ministers in May 2021 is a practical plan to transform the relationship between United Kingdom and India. It will bring immense benefits for both the countries. We have committed to doubling trade between the two great nations," Huddleston said. He said both UK and India have global interests and global reach. "We are science and technology superpowers. We worked together on the Covid vaccine which saved hundreds of lives in several countries," Huddleston said. In 2022, the volume of bilateral trade between India and the UK stood at GBP 36 billion, supporting half a million jobs in both the countries. The minister said of the great global challenges, none is more



Nigel Huddleston

urgent than climate change. "We are proud to work with India and support initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance and the coalition for disaster-resilient infrastructure," the minister said. He also announced deepening of cooperation between the UK and West Bengal in electric mobility and sustainable construction sectors. He said to address the barriers for

faster adoption of electric vehicles, UK had worked with the West Bengal government to bridge the skill gaps in the ecosystem in the EV space. "Together (UK and West Bengal) we will make the transition to zero emission vehicles faster, more affordable and accessible to all," he added. Meanwhile, both the UK and India are negotiating a free-trade agreement

which has completed the tenth round of talks. Huddleston, who arrived here on Monday on a two-day visit to the metropolis, also met former West Bengal finance minister Amit Mitra.

"A pleasure to speak with @DrAmitMitra to reaffirm the UK's commitment to bolstering economic growth in this vibrant state," he tweeted.

BJP names Union minister Reddy Telangana president, Sunil Jakhar Punjab chief

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

The BJP on Tuesday named Union minister G Kishan Reddy, Sunil Jakhar and Babul Marandi its president in Telangana, Punjab and Jharkhand respectively, effecting key organisational changes in the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls and fuelling the speculation about a reshuffle in the Union cabinet.

In a statement, the party also announced former Union minister D Purandeswari as its new Andhra Pradesh president and brought in OBC leader Etela Rajender as its election management committee chairperson in Telangana where assem-



G Kishan Reddy



Sunil Jakhar

blly polls are due later this year.

Sources said there is a possibility of Kumar being inducted as a minister in the central government in a reshuffle in the coming days, with Reddy likely to take up his new assignment. The development highlights the

BJP's emphasis on setting its house in order in Telangana where many relatively new but powerful entrants to the party were against the leadership of Bandi Sanjay Kumar, a combative ideologue liked by the party's central leaders but who is seen to have failed in tak-

ing along others, especially former Congress and ruling BRS functionaries who joined in large numbers in recent years.

With the Congress seeking to rally back to reclaim some of its lost ground in the southern state, the BJP is making a determined push to be the main challenger to the Bharat Rashtra Samithi and is working overtime to augment its ranks by persuading local satraps of other parties to switch over.

By elevating Rajender, an influential regional leader, and removing Kumar, the party has sent a positive signal to those looking for greener pastures in the state's triangular politics.

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WORLD CUP TROPHY TOUR



Students pose next to the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup India 2023 trophy at their school during its trophy tour, in Mumbai, Tuesday, July 4.

Top-ranked opponents now bring different kind of energy in us: Savita Punia

Bengaluru, Jul 04 (PTI):

Indian women's hockey team skipper Savita Punia on Tuesday said they are no more intimidated by top-ranked opponents and playing stronger sides instead brings out "a different kind of energy" in her teammates.

After finishing a creditable fourth at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics and a lowly ninth at the World Cup the following year, the Indian team has scripted some new highs under coach Janneke Schopman and Punia.

They won the Commonwealth Games bronze and the Nations Cup in 2022 and are now gearing for the Asian Games in Hangzhou, in September-October.

"For last two-three years after the Olympics, whenever we played against any top team be it in the Pro League, World Cup, or the Commonwealth Games, never have we lost by a big margin," Savita told reporters during a virtual media conference from



their SAI Camp here. "This is the big improvement. The new-found confidence in the team, the mindset that we have now for our opponents is different." She said the team used to be under pressure some years ago but things changed for the better after the impressive show in the Tokyo Games.

"Maybe it was not the same five-six years ago,

and of course, the ranking mattered. We used to play under a bit of pressure and that would affect our performance.

"But, after the Olympics and after working with Janneke, the focus is only on our team and performance. We just have to follow and execute our plans against our opponents, win and loss are with every team.

Pakistan to tour England next year in preparation for T20 World Cup

Karachi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Pakistan will tour England next year to play a four-match T20 series in preparation for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 in the United States and the West Indies.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said on Tuesday that besides the men's squad, the national women's team will also tour England in May next year for three T20s and three ICC Women's Championship 2022-25 fixtures.

The Pakistan men's team will also play three T20 internationals in the Netherlands and a similar series against Ireland before reaching England. Pakistan were beaten

by England in the final of the last T20 World Cup while Pakistan also made the semi-finals of the 2021 World Cup where they lost to Australia. The matches against England will be played at Leeds (May 22), Birmingham (May 25), Cardiff (May 28) and The Oval in London (May 30).

England is ranked second on the ICC T20I team rankings, while Pakistan is ranked fourth.

The women's team tour will commence with the first T20I in Birmingham on May 11 with the remaining two matches in Northampton (May 17) and Leeds (May 19).

Derby, Taunton and Chelmsford will stage the three ODIs on May 23, 26 and 29 respectively.

Chhangte, Manisha named men's and women's AIFF Players of Year for 2022-23

Bengaluru, Jul 04 (PTI):

India and Mumbai City FC winger Lallianzuala Chhangte was on Tuesday named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year, on the back of his impressive performance in the Indian Super League (ISL) and for the national team.

The 26-year-old Mizoram player featured in 12 matches during the international season for India, scoring two goals and providing one assist in the 2022-23 season. He beat national team-mates Nandhakumar Sekar and Naorem Mahesh Singh to the coveted award.

Chhangte, who is currently doing national duty in the SAFF Championships here,



played in 22 matches during Mumbai City FC's ISL Winners' Shield-winning campaign last season and scored 10 goals while providing six assists.

He also netted seven goals in seven matches in the Durand Cup last season, while also scoring one goal in three games in the Super Cup.

Manisha Kalyan was named as the AIFF

Footballer of the Year.

The Men's Coach of the Year award went to former India player Clifford Miranda, who guided Odisha FC to Super Cup triumph and also AFC Cup qualification.

Priya Parathi Valappil was named Women Coach of the Year. A former India international, Priya is the current head coach of the India women's U-17 team.

Another Mumbai City FC player Akash Mishra and India U-17 team member Shilji Shaji were named Men's and Women's Emerging Players of the Year. The best players and coaches of the 2022-23 season were picked by eminent former players, including ex-captains Shabbir Ali, IM Vijayan and Bhaichung Bhutia.

Sindhu slips to world number 15 in BWF rankings



New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Double Olympic medalist PV Sindhu slipped three places to drop to the 15th spot in the latest women's singles BWF World rankings issued on Tuesday.

Sindhu, who dropped out of the elite top 10 in April this year, now has 51,070 points from 13 tournaments. The 27-year-old, who will be in action at the Canada Open Super 500 this week, has looked off colour this season after returning

from a five-month long injury layoff following a stress fracture on her ankle en route her Commonwealth Games gold in August last year.

The highlight this season has been a final finish at the Madrid Spain Masters Super 300 and a semifinal at the Malaysia Masters Super 500 for Sindhu, who made early exits from a series of events at the start of the year.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are the top-ranked Indian men's doubles players at world number 3.

HS Prannoy, who occupies the 8th spot, is the best ranked Indian in the men's singles while Lakshya Sen and Kidambi Srikanth are placed 19th and 20th respectively.

Harmanpreet, Mandhana drop a place each in ODI batting chart

Deepti holds on to third in T20I all-rounder list



Dubai, Jul 04 (PTI):

Indian women's team captain Harmanpreet Kaur and her deputy Smriti Mandhana dropped a place each to sixth and seventh respectively in the latest ICC rankings for batters in ODIs released here on Tuesday.

Swashbuckling batter Harmanpreet has 716 rating points while Mandhana has 714. Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu topped the chart with 758 points, the first player from the island nation to achieve the feat.

In bowling, left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad (617 rating points) and senior off-spinning all-rounder Deepti Sharma are placed eighth and tenth respectively in the list headed by England's Sophie Ecclestone, who has accumulated 751 points.

As far as the all-rounders are concerned, India's Deepti is placed sixth with 322 points. In T20Is, Mandhana is static on third

place with 722 points, while Deepti moved a place up to fourth in bowling with 729 points, leaving Renuka Singh on ninth place with exactly 700 points.

Deepti, however, continued to hold on to the third place in the all-rounder's list with 393 points.

Meanwhile, Athapaththu has become the first player from her country to top the women's ODI player rankings after starring in a 2-1 series win over New Zealand in the ICC Women's Championship.

The left-handed opener thus emulated Sanath Jayasuriya, who is the only Sri Lanka player to top the ODI batting rankings for men, for 181 days between September 2002 and May 2003.

Athapaththu's two centuries in three matches have lifted her six places, overtaking the likes of Harmanpreet, Meg Lanning and Laura Wolvaardt and displacing Australia's Beth Mooney, who was at the top of the batting charts since May 10. Athapaththu won player of the match awards for her 108 not out off 83 balls in the first match and 140 not out off 80 in the final match. She was also named player of the series, making a rapid rise from seventh position, her previous career-best ranking.

Only two other Sri Lanka players have reached number one position in the women's rankings, both in the year 2014 - left-arm seam bowler Udeshika Prabodhani (T20I bowling) and Shashikala Siriwardene (T20I all-rounders).

Athapaththu, who has scored all her country's top 10 individual scores in women's ODIs, is currently at the highest-ever points tally by a Sri Lanka woman in ODIs with 758 rating points.

The next best is just 587 by Dedunu Silva, who also has the next highest-ranking, reaching 11th position in April 2010.

Meanwhile, New Zealand captain Sophie Devine has shot up six places to 13th after smashing a match-winning 137 in the second ODI of the series in Galle.

Sofia Kenin surprises Coco Gauff in all-US match at Wimbledon



Sofia Kenin of the US celebrates winning a point from Coco Gauff.

Wimbledon, Jul 04 (AP):

Sofia Kenin used to be the up-and-coming American, the one who was a Grand Slam champion at age 21, the one who beat a teenage Coco Gauff on the way to that trophy, the one who right after broke into the Top 10 in the WTA rankings, then soon made another run to a major final.

After all of that came a series of health issues a lingering foot injury, a bout with COVID-19, a right ankle problem and three first-round exits in a row at major tournaments, all of which added up to a slide down the rankings. Coming into Wimbledon, Kenin was ranked 128th, so low she needed to go through three qualifying rounds just to get into the main draw, where she was placed in the bracket against none other than Gauff. It's Gauff who is now in the Top 10 at age 19 and seeded No. 7 at the All England Club, who was a Slam runner-up at last year's French Open, who was a quarterfinalist or better at four of the most recent nine majors. And yet it was Kenin who came out on top in their highlight-filled matchup on a windy, chilly Monday at No. 1 Court, beating Gauff 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

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Guru Pranam Utsav: A Celebration of Art and Legacy

Shilpa Mitra

Vaishali Kala Kendra, a renowned dance institute based in Noida, recently organized a three-day dance festival titled "Guru Pranam Utsav." This festival has been celebrated for over three decades in memory of the late Guru Shrinath Raut, who dedicated his life to promoting Odissi as a cultural dance form. The event aimed to honor Guru Raut's teachings and continue his legacy of Guru Shishya Parampara.

Vaishali Kala Kendra, dedicated to propagating Odissi dance and vocal music in India, strives to raise awareness and enhance the popularity of this art form. The institute has set its sights on bringing Odissi to the pinnacle of international fame and glory. The Guru Pranam Utsav serves as a homage to Guru Srinath Raut, who was the first guru of the festival's organizer. This year marked the 35th anniversary of this esteemed event. The festival not only pays tribute to Guruji but also aims to spread the fragrance of Odissi across the region. To achieve this, artists from India and abroad are invited to participate and honor the late Guru Raut.

The festival was held at the Indira Gandhi Auditorium in Noida and the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. The first day of the festival was dedicated to dance performances. The evening commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the esteemed guest, Dr. Mahesh Sharma, followed by a Shradhanjali (tribute) to Late Guru Srinath Raut. The dance repertoire began with an invocatory dance item called Manglacharan, performed by emerging dancers from Vaishali Kala Kendra. The evening continued with various dance items such as Sthayee Nritya, Basant, Saberi Pallavi, and captivating Bharatanatyam presentations by disciples of Guru Raman Velayudhan Thyagarajan.

The highlight of the day was a presentation of "Ramayan," aimed at instilling life lessons from this epic in today's generation. Dr. Mahesh Sharma presented the Guru Srinath Raut Nritya Chudamani Award to Guru Raman Velayudhan Thyagarajan for his selfless contributions to the field of dance. He praised Vaishali Kala Kendra for recognizing and honoring artists who have dedicated themselves to art and culture. Dr. Sharma appreciated the performances, especially the rendition of Ramayana, and applauded the efforts of all the participants.

The second day of the festival was dedicated to music. The event began with a presentation by Shri Siddharth Kishore, who mesmerized the audience with a rendition of raag Madhuvanti Chota Khayal in 3 taal, followed by a soulful Bhajan in raag Bhageshree. Dr. Neeta Mathur presented a Khayal, a popular form of Hindustani classical music, and Pushtu Marg Haveli Sangeet, a traditional temple music composed of devotional

padas by medieval period saints. Accompanied by talented musicians, both artists delivered captivating performances. The concluding keynote address was given by the esteemed guest, Shri Chetan Joshi, a renowned flutist and recipient of the Sangeet Natak Academy Award. Shri Joshi emphasized the beauty of Indian art and culture and commended Vaishali Kala Kendra for providing a platform for artists and organizing such a remarkable festival.

The third day of the festival once again highlighted dance, featuring Odissi and Bharatanatyam presentations. The evening commenced with the traditional lamp lighting and a heartfelt tribute to Guru Srinath Raut by the chief guest of the evening, Shri Amarendra Khatua, former Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, along with other distinguished guests. The performances began with an enchanting Manglacharan, an ode to Lord Krishna, presented by senior disciples of Vaishali Kala Kendra.

Dr. Jyoti Shrivastava took the stage next and presented "Oriya Geet Muha Muhi Kishor," a soul-stirring performance that showcased her command over various emotions and conveyed a strong satvik bhava (spiritual expression). This was followed by a mesmerizing presentation of "Kedar Komoudi Pallavi," a choreography by Guru Durga Charan Ranbir, and "Ashtashambhu," a composition by Late Guru Srinath Raut. The Pallavi exhibited lyrical movements and intricate footwork, while Ashtashambhu depicted the eight forms of Lord Shiva with powerful footwork and balanced postures.

The evening further showcased the talents of guest artists Shri Manoranjan Nayak and Raseswari Nayak, who pre-

sented a captivating duet in Odissi, featuring "Ardhanareshwar." Additionally, Bharatanatyam duet performances were presented by Bhadra Sinha and Gayatri Sharma. To conclude the festival on a high note, the Guru Srinath Raut Sahitya Chudamani Award was presented to Smt. Maya Das in recognition of her outstanding work in the Odissi world, particularly her translation of Abhinaya Chandrika.

The audience and esteemed guests showered appreciation on all the performances. In the concluding keynote address, Dr. Arshiya Sethi, the guest of honor, reflected on the greatness of Guruji and commended Vaishali Kala Kendra for its relentless efforts to promote art and artists.

The artistic direction of the entire event was skillfully handled by Dr. Jyoti Shrivastava. In these fast-paced times, art serves as a means to slow down and reflect on our lives. The Guru Pranam Utsav aimed to counteract the effects of the pandemic by providing a platform for artistic expression. The event was impeccably organized, visually captivating, and thoroughly entertaining for the audience. The three-day festival, "Guru Pranam Utsav: A Celebration of Art and Legacy," paid homage to the late Guru Srinath Raut and his teachings. Through mesmerizing dance performances, soul-stirring music, and the recognition of outstanding contributions, the festival successfully achieved its objective of spreading the essence of Odissi and promoting the rich cultural heritage of India. Vaishali Kala Kendra's unwavering commitment to the art form and its efforts to nurture and honor artists have truly made a significant impact in the world of dance.



Garima Jain emphasizes impact over screen space

Garima Jain is a talented actress who is currently seen as Sakshi in Star Bharat's popular show 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho,' shares her perspective on the significance of screen space and the importance of leaving a lasting impact as an actor.

Garima Jain expressed her belief that screen space should not be the primary concern for actors. Instead, she emphasized the significance of the character's depth and

about the role I portray and the impact it creates," said Garima. "I have always focused on delivering my best performance and leaving a lasting impression, regardless of the screen time allocated to me. Every opportunity, no matter how small, is a chance to showcase my talent and connect with the audience."

As Sakshi in 'Na Umra Ki Seema Ho,' Garima Jain has continued to impress audiences with her portrayal of the character. She portrays a grey shade character in the show who is here to create a rift between Dev and Vidhi as Jay has instructed her. With her performance as a grey shade character in the show Garima has changed her viewers perspective who typecasted her in girl next door roles. However, her ability to bring depth and authenticity to her role as 'Sakshi' has made her a standout performer in the show, capturing the hearts of viewers with her talent and versatility.

the impression it leaves on the audience. Throughout her successful career, Garima has portrayed various small roles with limited screen time, but she has always dedicated herself wholeheartedly to each character. She says, "For me, it's not about the amount of screen space I receive; it's



Shivangi Joshi finds parallels between Life and Role in 'Barsatein - Mausam Pyaar Ka'



In the world of television, popular actress Shivangi Joshi, renowned for her remarkable performances in serials like 'Begurassai' and 'Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai,' is gearing up to captivate audiences once again in the upcoming romance drama 'Barsatein - Mausam Pyaar Ka'. Taking on the role of Aradhana Sahni, Shivangi draws striking similarities between her own persona and the character she portrays, revealing a profound connection to her real-life self.

Recognizing the significance of forging a bond with her viewers, Shivangi explains her approach in selecting roles that resonate

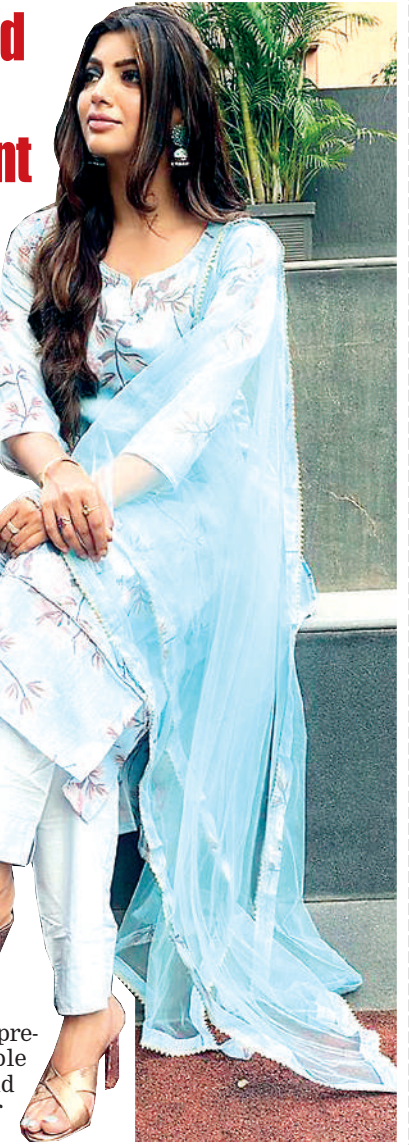
deeply with the audience. When she encountered the character of Aradhana, an instant connection was established, as the actress found herself mirrored within the role. She shares, "As an actor, it is vital to establish a connection with your audience, and I strive to choose roles that strike a chord with them. Aradhana resonated with me immediately because I see a lot of myself in her."

Eagerly anticipating the opportunity to portray an optimistic yet strong-willed character, Shivangi expresses her excitement about embarking on this new chapter with 'Barsatein - Mausam Pyaar Ka'.

Akanksha Puri surprised by Salman Khan's apology for Kiss Incident

Akanksha Puri, recently evicted from 'Bigg Boss OTT' Season 2, expressed her surprise at host Salman Khan's apology for a seemingly innocuous task, particularly in regard to the kiss shared between Jad Hadid and herself. Despite the apology, Akanksha maintains her belief that there was nothing wrong with the act. During the Weekend Ka Vaar episode of 'Bigg Boss OTT 2', Salman Khan apologized for the controversial kiss. In a media interaction following her eviction, Akanksha stated, "I am surprised by Salman Khan's apology. It might be his perspective, but personally, I still don't see any issue with it. When Salman Khan asked me, I gave the same response that I am giving now—it was just a task. As an artist, I treated it as a scene, performing alongside a co-star. That's how I viewed it, and nothing else matters to me."

While Akanksha believes she played a decent game on the show, she believes she was targeted with ill intentions, leading to her eviction. She explained, "I feel I was targeted from the beginning. I didn't have the opportunity to play my game fully as I spent very little time in the house. The narrative portrayed me as fake, over-prepared, and overconfident. I believe people were given misinformation about me, and the duration of the show was too short for me to rectify the preconceived narrative."



Chinmayee and Sheehan talk about their sibling bond

While filming television shows, especially family centric ones, actors naturally form strong bonds, more so in the case of a brother-sister relationship. From sharing inside jokes, hiding each other's secrets or quarrelling over food, a sibling bond is truly special. One such on-screen brother-sister duo is Chinmayee Salvi and Sheehan Kapahi who play Sakshi and Atharva Wagle in Sony SAB's Wagle Ki Duniya. After having filmed together for over two-and-a-half years, both have become as thick as thieves. When Atharva was kidnapped in the recent episode, his sister Sakshi comforted him with a bowl of ice-cream when he returned



and assured him that no matter what, she would always be around for him. Extending this camaraderie to their real life, actors Chinmayee and Sheehan's bond is equally heartwarming. From helping each other study for exams to cheer-

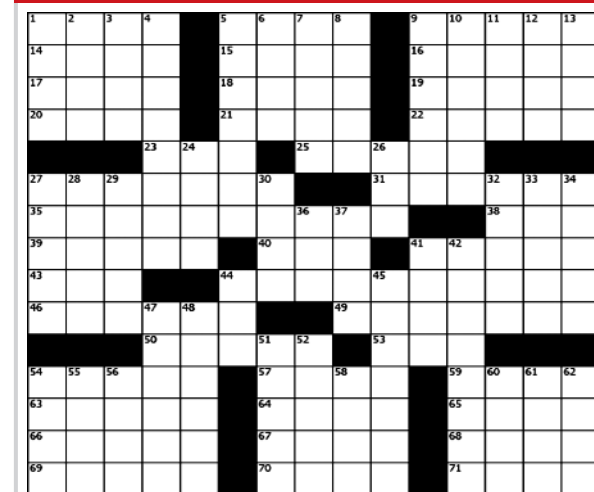
ing one another through life they are always seen sharing a special bond.

Talking about her bond with Sheehan, Chinmayee Salvi from Sony SAB's Wagle Ki Duniya said, "Working with Sheehan in Wagle Ki Duniya has been nothing

short of a laughter riot. We are always cracking jokes and pulling each other's leg while also teasing Sumeet Sir and Pariva Ma'am who play our onscreen parents. The storyline where Atharva was kidnapped on the show, really brought Sheehan and me closer. There's a lovely scene where I hug Sheehan after he's returned home and tell him that 'you're not a part of my life, but you are my life' and this struck us deeply. That moment solidified our bond, and we knew we would always have each other's backs. Be it practicing football with him or helping him revise for his exams, Sheehan and I are always having a blast with each other."

CROSSWORD

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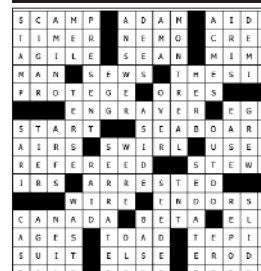
ACROSS

1. Morose
5. Long tale
9. Listens to
14. Wine valley
15. Not any
16. Blacksmith's block
17. English river
18. Attired
19. Cut bread
20. Magician's rod

DOWN

1. Chew on
2. Volcanic emission
3. On top of
4. Chinese dialect
5. Confine
6. Marco
7. Foolish
8. Surrendered
9. Hurry
10. Register
11. Sinful
12. Gambling cubes
13. Arctic transport
24. Society girls
26. Wow!
27. Corrects copy
28. Stanza
29. Wed secretly

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BRIEF

Foundation laid



■ Chittoor: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy on Tuesday laid the foundation for the revival of the now defunct Chittoor Dairy in collaboration with Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (GCMMLF), better known as Amul. The production at Chittoor Dairy was suspended for over 20 years mounting the debts to Rs 182 crore. It was cleared by the present government to inject new life into it.

Board director

■ New Delhi: Krishna Kumar Thakur, a 1998-batch officer of Indian Railway Personnel Service (IRPS), has been appointed as a director on the board of BHEL, an official statement said. Prior to joining BHEL, Thakur was heading the human resources and administration function of Central Railway as Chief Personnel Officer, state-owned BHEL said in a statement. "On his appointment as Director on the Board of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Krishna Kumar Thakur, 49, has assumed charge as Director (Human Resources) of the public sector engineering and manufacturing enterprise," it said.

Appointment

■ Chennai: Global enterprise software company Ramco Systems has appointed Sundar Subramanian as its chief executive officer, the company said on Tuesday. Prior to taking up the new responsibility, Subramanian was serving leading multinational information technology services and consulting companies. Ramco Systems chairman P R Venketrama Raja said, "...the appointment of Sundar Subramanian as the CEO will bolster our leadership team, bringing in operational excellence, and effective decision-making and creating an environment for collaboration and growth."

Govt will be facilitator for startups, not regulator: Piyush Goyal

Gurugram, Jul 04:

The government will always act as a facilitator to strengthen the startup ecosystem and not act as a regulator, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Tuesday. He said that stakeholders of this ecosystem will do self-regulation.

Addressing the Startup20 summit here, the minister said, the message that should go out from here is the joint commitment of all the 22 nations, who have participated, that the governments will not be looking at impeding the progress of the work that startups are doing. The best way is



to be out of the startups ecosystem, he said, adding the government is not expected to start regulating or dictating or micro-managing the ecosystem. "Our role will always be that of a facilitator and I do not see the government becoming an administrator or a regulator of this sector," he said. He added that the job of

the government is to give an initial push or early stage finance to budding entrepreneurs. The minister also said that India provides a unique opportunity to the world of startups. India has the advantage of skilled talent, affordability, growing startup culture, and aspirational population, Goyal said. He invited the startups of the world to come and explore opportunities in India. The Startup20 Summit, organized by the Startup20 Engagement Group under the India G20 Presidency, kicked off on Monday here. If at all there are issues, there are problems we would like to look at finding solutions

to them through possibly self-regulation, he said, adding, "let them (startups) create their ecosystem that will ensure orderly growth, orderly way of accounting, way of financing, way of reporting," Goyal said. "I would personally like to commit myself not to interfere in the startup world," he said. Goyal also said that the kind of policy recommendations that have come from the deliberations here will lay the basic foundation for this startup journey moving up from "startup India to startup world". The Startup20 communique, he said, "can truly be the new dawn of global startup ecosystem".

NMDC wins ASSOCHAM Awards

■ For Mineral Development and Employer Brand

Hyderabad, Jul 04:

India's Mining Major, NMDC won the 'Mineral Development Award' and the 'Employer Brand of the Year Award' at ASSOCHAM Business Excellence Awards 2023 in Kolkata on Sunday. Recognising NMDC's immense contribution to the mining sector, Anurag Srivastava, IAS, Secretary, Industry, Commerce and Enterprise Department, Government of West Bengal presented the ASSOCHAM Awards to NMDC at the Indian Mining and Minerals Conclave 2023. The awards were received by M. Jayapal Reddy, Executive Director (RP&Env) on behalf of NMDC. As iron ore's largest producer in the country and



the sixth largest producer in the world, NMDC is a key player in the mineral's development. The company's state-of-the-art R&D Centre is dedicated to improve productivity, ensure zero-waste mining, and develop cutting-edge beneficiation technology. NMDC is one of India's most dependable and respected companies. The CPSE's unique HR practices contribute to the holistic development of its employees and stakeholders

making it an excellent employer brand. Congratulating his team, Amitava Mukherjee, CMD (Additional Charge) said, "As India deepens its trust with self-reliance, NMDC as a Government of India enterprise is committed to shouldering the responsibility. We are constantly reinventing to enhance production efficiency at various stages of our value chain and build a culture of growth in our organization."

Investors become richer by Rs 7.90 lakh cr in 5 days

■ BSE-listed firms' valuation hits new peak of Rs 298.57 lakh cr

New Delhi, Jul 04:

Equity investors' wealth went up by Rs 7.90 lakh crore in five days of rally in the BSE Sensex, which is on a record-breaking run helped by unabated foreign fund inflows and largely bullish investor sentiments. Rallying for the fifth straight session, the 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 274 points or 0.42 per cent to settle at its all-time closing high of 65,479.05 on Tuesday. During the day, the benchmark surged 467.92 points or 0.71 per cent to hit its lifetime intra-day peak of 65,672.97. Investors' wealth climbed Rs 7,90,235.84

crore in five days of rally. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms also reached an all-time high of Rs 2,98,57,649.38 crore on Tuesday.

Sensex gained over 2,500 points in the past five sessions. Bajaj Finance was the biggest gainer in the Sensex chart, climbing 7.17 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finserv which rallied 5.76 per cent. Tech Mahindra, Sun Pharma, NTPC, Titan, Wipro, Tata Consultancy Services, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Infosys, State Bank of India and ITC were the other major gainers. Bharti Airtel, Axis Bank, Reliance Industries, IndusInd Bank, Tata Steel and UltraTech Cement were among the laggards.

UK-WEST BENGAL PARTNERSHIP



UK Minister for International Trade Nigel Huddleston and Chairman, Newtown Kolkata development Authority, Debashis Sen during the announcement of UK-West Bengal partnership on electric mobility and green construction, in Kolkata, Tuesday.

Govt plans to double turnover of automobile industry to Rs 15 lakh crore: Gadkari

Jaipur, Jul 04:



The government intends to double the turnover of the automobile industry to Rs 15 lakh crore from Rs 7.5 lakh crore at present, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari said on Tuesday. Speaking at a public meeting in Rajasthan's Pratapgarh district to highlight achievements of the central government in the last nine years, Gadkari also targeted Congress saying that in the name of removing poverty, Congress leaders eliminated their own poverty. "The turnover of the automobile industry is Rs 7.55 lakh crore, and four and a half crores have got jobs in the sector. This industry gives maximum

GST to the government. We have decided that we will make this industry of Rs 15 lakh crore," he said, adding that the industry will generate ten crore jobs. He also said that India has beaten Japan in automobile manufacturing and has come in number 3 position globally after China and the US. Laying emphasis on the importance of education, he said, "Knowledge is a great power, and converting knowledge into wealth

is our future". He said that farmers today are not only food providers but also energy providers by producing ethanol and solar electricity. From auto rickshaws to cars, vehicles will run on ethanol and India's import will reduce and farmers will prosper.

The minister said that in the last nine years, the Modi government has taken several steps to make progress. The minister also targeted Congress in the programme. He said that Congress ruled for nearly 60 years and the slogan of eliminating poverty was given, but in place of removing poverty, Congress people got their "poverty" eliminated. BJP state president CP Joshi, former minister Srichand Kriplani and other leaders also addressed the programme.

Kia unveils updated Seltos

New Delhi, Jul 04:



Kia, India's leading mass premium carmaker, is ready to grow the premium RV segment with the most anticipated launch of its latest innovation, the New Seltos. Designed for the always-on-the-go new-age customers, the New Seltos delivers a power-packed, smarter, and safer driving experience, accentuated by stunning exteriors and all-new interiors.

Seltos is one of the biggest brands for Kia Corporation with 1 out of every 10 Kia cars sold globally being a Seltos. The new Seltos will grow the mid-SUV segment by re-inventing and revamping it with its best-in-segment features and stunning design. Seltos brand currently contributes 55% to Kia

India's overall sales.

Building on this success, Kia India also unveiled a new transformation journey - Kia 2.0. Under Kia 2.0, the company has set ambitious targets, including attaining a 10% market share, doubling the existing network of touchpoints from 300+ to 600+, and growing RV leadership with new inno-

novative products. These initiatives demonstrate Kia's commitment to expansion, customer satisfaction, and market leadership.

The new Seltos comes equipped with the most evolved and segment-best Level 2 ADAS with 17 features, which comes only in super premium cars like EV6 in India. Combined with additional 15 Robust

safety features (Standard across the range), the new Seltos boasts a remarkable 32 safety features, setting a new benchmark for safety in the segment. Powered by

an efficient Smartstream G1.5 T-GDi Petrol engine, generating a commanding 160ps of power and 253 Nm of Torque, Kia India now offers the most powerful engine in the rapidly growing mid-SUV segment.

The New Seltos is equipped with many segment-leading features such as Dual Screen Panoramic Display with 26.04 cm Fully Digital Cluster & 26.03 cm HD Touchscreen Navigation, Dual Zone Fully Automatic Air Conditioner, and R18 46.20 cm Crystal Cut Glossy Black Alloy Wheels.

Hero MotoCorp to commence Harley-Davidson X440 bookings from today

■ Deliveries to begin in October

New Delhi, Jul 04:



Hero MotoCorp on Tuesday said it will commence bookings for the Harley-Davidson X440 across the country from 4:40 pm onwards with deliveries expected to commence from October onwards. The 440-cc bike, which is being manufactured by Hero MotoCorp at its Neemrana plant, could be booked online with a booking amount of Rs 5,000. Additionally, customers can also reserve the Harley-Davidson X440 at all Harley-Davidson dealerships and select

Hero MotoCorp outlets across the country, it added. The motorcycle is available in three variants Denim, Vivid and S at an introductory price point of Rs 2.29 lakh, Rs 2.49 lakh and Rs 2.69 lakh (ex-showroom), respectively. Deliveries of Harley-Davidson X440 will commence from October 2023 onwards, the company said.

Amazon introduces personalized products with launch of 'Customize' feature

Bengaluru, Jul 04:

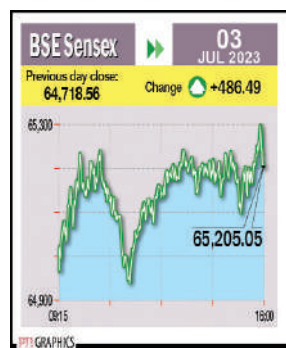
Amazon India's first-ever free self-serve product customization feature, "Customize Your Product" is now available across a wide selection of more than 10,000 plus products from 76 different categories. This enhanced feature offers an intuitive customization experience that provides visual design tools to customers to personalize products, along with an interactive product preview option to view the final customized product in real-time. The feature enables customers to personalize a wide range of products including window blinds, blankets, home decor, wall art, signage, furniture, engraved pen, necklace, water bottle, mugs, apparel, jewelry organizer, golf clubs, phone covers, notebooks and many more as per their creative requirements. Catering to the evolving

personalization needs of customers, this feature taps into India's fragmented and under-served personalized gifting products market. By providing an opportunity to innovate, the platform boosts customer engagement and converts a limited product selection to an unlimited one (personalized engraved jewelry, custom sized ergonomic office chairs, apparel/mugs/hats with customer chosen image/text for parties, gifts, or simply swag). It encompasses multiple options for capturing innovative messages and pictures for expressing a celebration or an emotion. Apart from a wide variety of font styles and colors to choose from for adding/engraving text, the feature also offers an option for uploading precious memories in the form of images and notes and allowing customers to choose from other customizations a seller provides.

Markets fire on all cylinders: Sensex, Nifty end at new closing highs

Mumbai, Jul 04:

Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty advanced further to settle at record highs for the fourth straight session on Tuesday, driven by unabated foreign fund inflows and largely bullish investor sentiments. Besides, heavy buying in index majors Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv, Infosys, HDFC Bank and TCS added to the optimism in the equity market. Rallying for the fifth straight session, the 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 274 points or 0.42 per cent to settle at its all-time closing high of 65,479.05. During the day, the benchmark surged 467.92 points or 0.71 per cent to hit its lifetime intra-day peak of 65,672.97. The NSE Nifty climbed 66.45 points or 0.34 per cent to end at a fresh record high of 19,389. During the day, it advanced 111.6 points or 0.57



per cent to hit its all-time intra-day peak of 19,434.15. Bajaj Finance was the best performer in the Sensex chart, surging 7.71 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finserv, Tech Mahindra, Sun Pharma, NTPC, Titan, Wipro, Tata Consultancy Services, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Infosys, State Bank of India and ITC. On the other hand, Bharti Airtel, Axis Bank, Reliance Industries, IndusInd Bank, Tata Steel and UltraTech Cement were among the laggards.

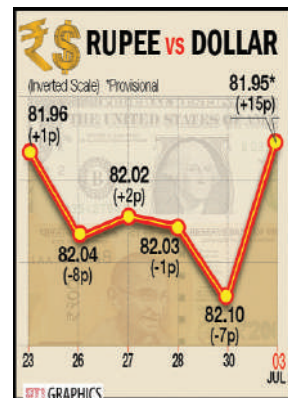
Rupee falls 11 paise to close at 82.02 against US dollar

Mumbai, Jul 04:

The rupee pared initial gains and settled for the day lower by 11 paise to close at 82.02 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday amid bargain buying from oil importers and hedgers. However, a positive tone in domestic markets, wherein benchmark indices witnessed record high levels and steady foreign fund inflows, supported the rupee at lower levels.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 81.90 against the dollar and settled at 82.02 (provisional), down 11 paise from its previous close.

During the day, the rupee touched a high of 81.87 and a low of 82.03 against the greenback. On Monday, the rupee had settled at 81.91 against the dollar. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies,



rose 0.01 per cent to 102.99. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 1.22 per cent to USD 75.56 per barrel. "Rupee erased the early morning gains and became the worst performer among Asian currencies following bargain buying from the oil importers and hedgers. The speculative activities and inflows remained limited due to the closure of US markets," Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities, said.

Bandhan Mutual Fund launches Financial Services Fund

Mumbai, Jul 04:

Bandhan Mutual Fund announced the launch of the Bandhan Financial Services Fund, an open-ended equity scheme, offering investors the opportunity to benefit from the multi-year growth opportunities in the financial services sector. The fund will be actively managed by a team that has a strong pedigree and expertise in leveraging the vast opportunities across this attractive value chain, providing investors with an opportunity to benefit from the growth story of the economy. The New Fund Offer will open on Monday, July 10, 2023, and close on Monday, July 24, 2023. Investment in Bandhan Financial Services Fund can be made through licensed mutual fund distributors and online platforms, as well as, directly on https://www.bandhanmutu-

al.com. Highlighting why investors should consider investing in the Financial Services Sector, Mr. Vishal Kapoor, CEO, Bandhan AMC said, "A significant portion of India's economic growth is fueled by the financial services sector. Powerful enablers like increasing financial inclusion, growing digitization, and the relatively stronger balance sheet of banks and NBFCs provide visibility for strong earnings growth for this sector. It has been a key driver of returns for the capital market with the Financial Services Index growing 18X since inception compared to 10X for the Nifty 500 Index." Mr. Sumit Agrawal, Fund Manager for Bandhan Financial Services Fund added, "The financial services sector is agile in embracing new businesses and themes that could further enhance its growth prospects."



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India's Road Network

Driving Economic and Social Advancement

India's unprecedented road network growth over the past nine years has positioned the country as a global leader in infrastructure development. With a remarkable expansion of 59 percent, India now boasts the second-largest road network in the world. This growth has not only transformed the transportation landscape but has also brought forth a multitude of economic and social benefits. One significant outcome of this road network expansion is the substantial increase in toll revenues. From Rs 4,770 crore in 2013-14, toll revenues have surged to Rs 41,342 crore. This surge can be attributed to the efficient implementation of Fastags, which have reduced waiting times at toll plazas to an average of just 47 seconds. Such streamlined processes enhance the overall travel experience and promote seamless connectivity. The improved road infrastructure has revolutionized connectivity, reaching remote areas, hilly terrains, and previously difficult-to-access regions. This enhanced connectivity has facilitated better access to essential services, markets, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, disaster management, and law enforcement. Moreover, the upgraded road network has spurred economic development in these regions, opening up new avenues for trade, commerce, and tourism. Businesses now find it easier to transport goods, thus boosting trade activities and contributing to regional economic growth. Furthermore, the upgraded road network has proven to be a boon for India's tourism industry. Destinations that were once challenging to reach are now more accessible to both domestic and international tourists. This has had a direct positive impact on the local economy, generating employment opportunities in the tourism sector and bolstering the overall growth of the industry. The benefits of India's road network expansion extend beyond the civilian domain. The Indian Army has greatly benefited from the improved connectivity, experiencing enhanced strategic mobility. The efficient movement of troops, equipment, and supplies across different regions of the country is crucial for defence preparedness, swift deployment during emergencies, and maintaining territorial integrity. The road network provides essential connectivity to strategically important locations, including border posts, forward bases, airfields, and defence installations. This ensures seamless access for personnel, supplies, and equipment, enabling effective control and defence of these vital areas. The extensive road infrastructure initiatives have played a pivotal role in overhauling India's overall infrastructure landscape. This progress has been instrumental in promoting economic growth and social advancement. The government's steadfast commitment to leveraging this extensive road network to drive India's transformation is commendable. As India continues to prioritize infrastructure development, it is essential to maintain the momentum and invest in further enhancing the road network. Addressing any existing gaps and ensuring sustainable maintenance will be crucial in harnessing the full potential of this expansive infrastructure. By doing so, India will not only continue to stimulate economic growth but also improve the quality of life for its citizens. India's road network is a testament to the nation's progress and determination to build a prosperous future. With continued investment and strategic planning, the country is well on its way to becoming a global leader in infrastructure development, setting an example for others to follow.

Hidden Hazards

The warning by the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding the potential carcinogenicity of aspartame, a widely used sweetener found in carbonated drinks, diet sodas, and low-calorie food items, is set to shake the cola industry to its core. For decades, the adverse effects of sugary beverages have been a subject of global studies. However, the connection between diet drinks and negative health outcomes has been met with skepticism, sparking heated debates between health experts, nutritionists, and the powerful food industry. As a result, consumers have been left in a state of confusion when it comes to their consumption of addictive colas laced with artificial sweeteners. While regulatory bodies in many countries, including the US Food and Drug Administration, have consistently approved carbonated drinks since the 1980s, soft drink manufacturers have reaped billions of dollars in profits. However, the forthcoming WHO warning, expected to be announced in mid-July following a review of aspartame's safety, should serve as a wake-up call for users of sugar substitutes. In fact, the WHO recently advised against the use of all artificial sweeteners, such as aspartame, saccharin, sucralose, and stevia, stating that they not only fail to reduce weight but also increase the risk of type 2 diabetes, heart ailments, and adult mortality. Naturally, the powerful food industry will vehemently oppose these latest findings, as the stakes are high. In such a situation, it is prudent for consumers to adhere to the adage "when in doubt, stay out." Parents should take the initiative to instill healthy eating habits in their children, ensuring they do not develop an addiction to fast food and sugary beverages. Embracing good eating practices among the younger generation will yield long-term benefits. The health risks associated with artificial sweeteners are not a new revelation, but the WHO's warning brings renewed urgency to address this issue. While the debate has often been clouded by the interests of the food industry, it is imperative to prioritize public health. Governments and regulatory agencies must take a proactive approach by conducting thorough and independent research to evaluate the long-term effects of these sweeteners on human health. Transparent communication and education campaigns should be launched to inform the public about the potential risks and promote healthier alternatives. Furthermore, the responsibility lies not only with regulatory bodies and the food industry but also with individuals to make informed choices about their dietary habits. It is essential for consumers to be proactive in understanding the ingredients and nutritional content of the products they consume. Opting for natural sweeteners, such as honey or maple syrup, and reducing overall sugar intake can be a step towards a healthier lifestyle. The alarming rise in obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases underscores the urgency of addressing the issue of artificial sweeteners and their impact on public health. It is time for a paradigm shift towards prioritizing the well-being of individuals over corporate profits. Governments, health organizations, and consumers must work hand in hand to demand stricter regulations, comprehensive labeling, and accurate information about the potential risks associated with artificial sweeteners. The WHO's warning serves as a crucial reminder that our dietary choices have far-reaching consequences for our health. By embracing healthier eating practices and reducing our reliance on artificial sweeteners, we can take control of our well-being and pave the way for a healthier future. It is time to break free from the addictive grip of artificially sweetened colas and choose a path towards better health and well-being for ourselves and future generations.

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

PADDY PLANTATION

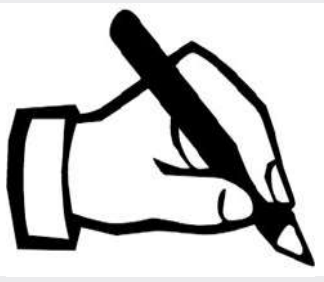


Farm labourers plants paddy saplings in a field during monsoon season, in Jalandhar, Tuesday, July 4.

India, USA ushers in an era of technology driven Equal collaboration



DR JITENDRA SINGH



Prime Minister Narendra Modi's just concluded visit to the USA has instantly gone down in the history as it establishes India as a major global player in the years to come. While India and the USA usher in an era of technology driven equal collaboration, it marks the beginning of a journey of which, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi aptly put it, "Sky is not the limit". Indeed, the credit goes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi who, during the last 9 years, took a series of unorthodox and path-breaking decisions, which enabled India to achieve a quantum jump in key areas, as a result of which, for example, the USA which had begun its Space journey several years before India, today solicits India as an equal partner in its future endeavours. During a ceremony at the Willard Inter-Continental Hotel in Washington on June 21, India became the 27th country to sign the Artemis Accords. The Artemis Accords establish a practical set of principles to guide civilian space exploration cooperation among nations for peaceful purposes. It enables India to participate in the US led Artemis programme for exploration of moon and other celestial objects. Significantly, the pact will pave the way for easing of restrictions on import of Critical Technologies in space domain especially electronics, benefiting Indian companies to develop systems and innovate for US markets. It will also facilitate participation of India in more scientific programmes jointly, allow access to common standards for long term engagements in activities including human Spaceflight programmes and stronger engagements with the US in more strategic areas including micro-electronics, quantum, space security etc. The Artemis Accord is a non-binding agreement with no financial commitments. It was signed on October 13, 2020 by eight Founder Nations - Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, UAE, UK and the United States. Its members include the traditional US allies like Japan, France, New Zealand, UK, Canada, South Korea, Australia and Spain while African nations like Rwanda, Nigeria etc are the new partners. Let us try to understand how India will stand to gain by joining the Artemis Accords. According to an estimate, global government expenditure for space programmes hit a record of approximately \$103 billion last year. With almost \$62 billion, the US Govt spent more than half of the total. The U.S. was followed by China, with almost \$12 billion, which is not a part of the consortium, as also Russia which ranks 5th with an annual spending of \$3.4B. India ranks 7th with an annual budget of \$1.93B. Let us also try to compare the Space programmes of various nations by the number of Orbital launches in the year 2022. PayloadSpace website says 186 orbital launches were attempted last year, with 76 by the US, China 62, Russia 21 while India made 5 orbital launches. Now, let us compare the third key parameter, viz. number of satellites in space. As of 4th May 2023, the satellite tracking website "Orbiting Now" lists 7,702 active satellites in various Earth orbits. US has the maximum 2,926 operational satellites, followed by China - 493, UK - 450, Russia - 167, while India ranks 8th with 58 satellites. India's space programme is six decades old, and the ISRO came

into being seven years later in 1969; international cooperation has been its hallmark with ISRO collaborating with various launch agencies such as Russia's RSCOSMOS and Europe's ESA, while ISRO has launched over 385 foreign satellites from over 34 countries. Before 2014, ISRO used to undertake launches now and then, but after PM Narendra Modi opened the doors of the Space sector to private sector participation, today ISRO is working with nearly 150 private StartUps. Deep Space Missions require billions of dollars and benefit humanity at large, it is only imperative that nations pool in their resources for the benefit of humankind. Without losing time, like-minded nations have to move on, collaborate and work on each other's gains and experiences and as PM Narendra Modi stresses, "we must not work in silos". We may not have to wait long to witness the first major explicit gain of the newfound India-US camaraderie in the Space sector. An Indian astronaut may be sent to the International Space Station (ISS) next year. US President Joe Biden has already confirmed this in the White House after a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday. The joint statement by India and the United States during PM Modi's ongoing visit said NASA would provide "advanced training" to Indian astronauts at one of its facilities. Other sectors too will see a leap in mutual gains as the two sides. U.S. memory chip firm Micron Technology, Inc said on Thursday it would invest up to \$825 million in a new chip assembly and test facility in Gujarat, India, its first factory in the country. Total investment in the facility will be \$2.75 billion, with support from the Union Government and Gujarat State government. President Biden and PM Modi also agreed to the establishment of a joint Indo-U.S. Quantum Coordination Mechanism to facilitate collaboration among industry, academia, and government, and work towards a comprehensive Quantum Information Science and Technology agreement. A \$2 million grant program is being launched under the U.S.-India Science and Technology Endowment Fund for the joint development and commercialization of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum technologies, and encourage public-private collaborations to develop High Performance Computing (HPC) facilities in India. President Biden also reiterated his government's commitment to work with U.S. Congress to lower barriers to U.S. exports to India of HPC technology and source code. The U.S. side pledged to make its best efforts in support of India's Center for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) joining the U.S. Accelerated Data Analytics and Computing (ADAC) Institute. As also, 35 innovative joint research collaborations in emerging technologies will be funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and India's Department of Science and Technology (DST). President Biden assured the US support for India's leadership as Chair of the Global Partnership on AI. The two leaders applauded Google's intent to continue investing through its \$10 billion India Digitization Fund, including the first and largest international research facility on U.S. soil. In the health sector, research institutes of both countries will collaborate on affordable cancer technology programmes, including for the development of AI enabled diagnostic and prognosis prediction tools, and on diabetes research. Giving wings to India's civil aviation sector, Air India will buy 220 Boeing planes for \$34 billion. The most apparent sign of India-US ties being at its ever best is that, as PM Modi mentioned in his address to the US Congress, the US is today not only India's largest trade partner but the Defence sector collaboration reflects the trustworthy relationship. To conclude with the closing sentence of the Joint Statement issued at the end of PM Narendra Modi's USA visit, "Our (India and USA) ambitions are to reach ever greater heights..." (Writer is MoS (IC) Science & Technology.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Troubled Manipur

The violence-ridden state of Manipur demands more than just a heavy-handed approach of police and military deployment to maintain law and order. It is a region ravaged by bloodshed, death, destruction, and a deep-rooted mistrust in the government. A former Army official has likened Manipur to a "stateless" entity, drawing parallels with war-torn Lebanon. The path to resolution remains elusive, with no consensus on the necessary measures to be taken. While addressing security concerns is crucial, a sincere and inclusive political initiative is indispensable to bring peace and reconciliation to the warring communities. Manipur urgently needs political solutions to heal its wounds and restore harmony.

MK Nair, Raipur

Revitalize Peace

It is imperative for Prime Minister Modi and the Union Government to kickstart a new dialogue with the conflicting ethnic groups. Support and rehabilitation must be extended to the victims of violence. If the state government fails to ensure the safety of its citizens, it forfeits the right to govern. The Prime Minister should intensify efforts to resolve the crisis in the northeastern state. Relying solely on the military is not enough; the government must take decisive actions to quell the ongoing violence and reinstate the political process. It is time to revitalize peace through meaningful dialogue and concrete steps.

Shyam Sundar, New Delhi

Equality Imperative

Former J&K CM Farooq Abdullah has once again urged the Centre to reconsider the implications of implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), echoing his past concerns during the abrogation of Article 370 and criminalization of triple talaq. The UCC stands as a crucial milestone towards achieving gender justice and social equality in India. Its purpose is to ensure that every citizen, irrespective of their religious or cultural background, is bestowed with equal rights and opportunities under a unified legal framework. It is imperative for the government and civil society to collaborate in establishing a comprehensive and impartial set of laws that fosters fairness, justice, and equity for all.

Rakesh Gupta, Korba

Misdirection Tactics

The BJP's intentions to shift attention away from the ongoing 'civil war' in Manipur are glaringly apparent as they employ the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) as a diversionary tactic. Many perceive the UCC as an exercise aimed at targeting Muslims, adding to its contentious nature. Minorities and the Opposition view it as a tool promoting Hindu majoritarianism. Critics argue that the UCC encroaches upon the constitutional freedom of individuals to practice their chosen religion and adhere to their community's personal laws. This presents an opportune moment for the Opposition to demand transparency and clarity regarding the specifics of the proposed UCC, highlighting the urgent need to address Manipur's pressing concerns.

Muzakkr Khan, Mumbai

Revolutionizing Agriculture: Government Initiatives for Sustainable Growth



Yash Pal Ralhan

Urea Shortage Addressed: Introducing Neem-Coated Urea

Urea, a vital artificial fertilizer that enriches soil with nitrogen, has been plagued by misuse and shortages for decades. In a bold move to combat black marketing and benefit crop health, the government has introduced neem-coated urea. This revolutionary step, coupled with the issuance of soil health cards to farmers, ensures appropriate and efficient use of urea. With the adverse impacts of climate change on

crop production, the need for urea becomes even more pronounced until alternative seeds resilient to these changes are developed through agricultural research.

PM-PRANAM Scheme: Boosting Farmers' Well-being

Under the broad-based PM-PRANAM scheme, the government aims to rejuvenate soil productivity, enhance farmers' welfare, and ensure food security and environmental sustainability. Providing financial assistance to states for promoting alternative fertilizers and reducing chemical fertilizer usage aligns our agrarian economy towards greater sustainability and environmental friendliness. The northeastern states, particularly Sikkim, have already em-

braced domestic fertilizers, serving as guiding examples for the nation.

Safeguarding Farmers' Livelihoods

While encouraging organic options, it is essential to preserve farmers' livelihoods. The Cabinet's decision to continue the urea subsidy scheme for three more years is commendable. Additionally, the introduction of sulphur-coated urea (Urea Gold) addresses the issue of sulphur deficiency in soil. This dual approach reduces input costs for farmers, curbs agflation, and promotes indigenous urea production, aligning with sustainable agricultural practices.

Promoting Economic Growth and Self-Sufficiency

The prudent financial policy of encouraging domestic

fertilizer production results in significant savings in foreign exchange reserves. By decreasing imports and increasing exports, the impact on the country's GDP becomes apparent. Prime Minister Modi's vision of India achieving a prominent global economic position by 2027 relies on reducing imports and fostering self-sufficiency.

Supporting Sugar Farmers and Managing Prices

Recognizing the significance of sugar cane cultivation, the government has increased the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) to 315 per quintal. This move supports sugar cane farmers, stimulates sugar production, and maintains affordable sugar prices. These measures provide a much-needed boost to the agriculture sector.

A Revolutionary Step for Economic Development

The Cabinet's approval of 1451 crore for promoting organic manure showcases the government's commitment to sustainable agriculture. If implemented meticulously, these initiatives can revolutionize the economic development of our nation and contribute to GDP growth. The impact will be far-reaching, benefiting farmers, enhancing environmental sustainability, and positioning India as a global leader in sustainable agriculture. In the pursuit of these initiatives, the nation eagerly awaits the arrival of bountiful rains. The combination of favorable weather conditions and government support will propel Indian agriculture towards a prosperous and sustainable future.

US condemns Khalistan arson

● **Against Indian Consulate in San Francisco**

New York, Jul 04 (PTI):

India's consulate in San Francisco came under an attack from Khalistan supporters who tried to set the diplomatic facility on fire in the second such act of violence within months, drawing strong condemnation from the US government which termed it a "criminal offence".

A video by Khalistan supporters, dated July 2 posted on Twitter, showed the act of arson at the Indian Consulate in San Francisco. The video, with the words "violence begets violence" emblazoned over it, also showed news articles related to the



death of Canada-based Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF) chief Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

Nijjar, one of India's most wanted terrorists who carried a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on his head, was shot dead outside a gurdwara in Canada last month. Responding to the incident, State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller in a tweet

on Monday said: "The US strongly condemns the reported vandalism and attempted arson against the Indian Consulate in San Francisco on Saturday. Vandalism or violence against diplomatic facilities or foreign diplomats in the US is a criminal offence." Diya TV, a South Asian broadcast TV network in the US, said in a tweet that "a fire was set

early Sunday morning between 1:30-2:30 am in the San Francisco Indian Consulate." "The fire was suppressed quickly by the San Francisco Department, the damage was limited and no staffers were harmed. Local, state and federal authorities have been notified," it said. The outlet also posted a video of the arson attack.

A poster being shared on social media says that a "Khalistan Freedom Rally" will be organised on July 8 that will start in Berkeley, California and end at the Indian embassy in San Francisco.

This is the second time within months that the Indian Consulate in San Francisco came under attack from Khalistani supporters.

WILDLIFE DIPLOMACY



Indonesian President Joko Widodo, right, and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese react as they visit the Sumatran tiger enclosure at Taronga Zoo in Sydney, Tuesday, July 4. Widodo is on a 3-day visit to Australia.

Pak govt makes overnight changes in anti-corruption laws

Islamabad, Jul 04 (PTI):

Pakistan's government has made overnight changes in the anti-corruption laws to make them more stringent, hours before former premier Imran Khan's appearance before the country's apex anti-graft investigation agency on Tuesday in a corruption case.

Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani, who is working as acting president in the absence of President Arif Alvi, who is away on pilgrimage, issued an ordinance to empower the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) to arrest a suspect during inquiry period and also allow the NAB court to remand a suspect for 30 days in custody after arrest instead of earlier 15 days.

The ordinance was issued at the advice of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. "The prime minister's advice in para 6 of the summary is approved. The National Accountability (Amendment) Ordinance,

2023, is signed and promulgated," a notification signed by Sanjrani stated.

The changes were made around midnight and just hours before Khan was set to appear before the NAB.

Khan, 70, left with his wife Bushra Bibi from Lahore to Islamabad as both were to appear before the NAB in the Al-Qadir Trust case, his media team announced in a WhatsApp message. The Al-Qadir Trust case alleges that the PTI chief and his wife obtained billions of rupees and land from a real estate firm for legalising Rs 50 billion that was identified and returned to the country by the UK during the previous government led by Khan. The Al-Qadir Trust case is about corruption of at least Rs 50 billion. Khan has denied any wrongdoing and accused the government of targeting him for political reasons. Interestingly, the same government earlier had changed the NAB law to reduce the remand period to 14 days from the original 90 days.

'Hydra-headed monster' of terrorism must be fought with full vigour, conviction: Sharif

● **At SCO summit**

Islamabad, Jul 04 (PTI):



Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said the "hydra-headed monster" of terrorism and extremism whether committed by "individuals, groups or at state level" must be fought with full vigour and conviction, as he warned against using it as a cudgel for diplomatic point-scoring. Addressing the 23rd meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State (CHS) hosted by India in a virtual format, he also talked about religious minorities.

"The hydra-headed monster of terrorism and extremism whether committed by individuals, societies or states must be fought with full vigour and conviction. Any temptation to use it as a cudgel for diplomatic point-scoring

must be avoided under all circumstances," he said. "Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including state terrorism, must be condemned in clear and unambiguous terms. There can be no justification for the killing of innocent people regardless of the cause or pretext." He noted that while the sacrifices made by Pakistan in fighting the scourge of terrorism were without a parallel, the phenomenon continued to plague the region and was a "serious obstacle" to peace and stability.

He also talked about the issue of religious minorities and said that the practice of demonising reli-

gious minorities in the "pursuit of domestic political agendas" should be stopped, without naming any country.

Sharif also tried to rake up the Kashmir issue and highlighted the importance of UN resolutions to address the long overdue disputes.

He also talked about the three evils of terrorism, extremism and separatism and urged the SCO countries to take concerted and immediate actions, both in their national and collective capacity, to combat them. He also highlighted the importance of connectivity by saying that it had become a defining feature in the modern global economy. He added that it was rightly hailed as a vehicle for peace and prosperity.

He also talked about the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which he said could be a "game changer" for connectivity and prosperity in the region.

Pak court declares Toshakhana case against Khan inadmissible

Islamabad, Jul 04 (PTI):

The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday declared the Toshakhana case against the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan inadmissible.

Khan, 70, was indicted in the Toshakhana case on May 10 by Additional Sessions Judge Humayun Dilawar, who rejected objections about the admissibility of the case. The PTI chief then approached the IHC, which had stayed criminal proceedings on the case till June 8.

Following the resumption of the hearing in June, Justice Aamer on June 23 reserved his verdict on the petition, saying that he would look into the matter after Eid ul-Adha.

On Tuesday, Chief Justice Amir Farooq declared the Toshakhana case against Khan inadmissible, ARY News re-



Imran Khan

ported.

The Toshakhana is a department under the administrative control of the Cabinet Division and stores precious gifts given to rulers, parliamentarians, bureaucrats, and officials by heads of other governments and states and foreign dignitaries. The Toshakhana issue

over the sale of state gifts received by the cricketer-turned-politician became a major issue in national politics after the Election Commission of Pakistan disqualified the former premier for making "false statements and incorrect declaration".

Khan was accused of misusing his 2018 to 2022 premiership to buy and sell gifts in state possession that were received during visits abroad and worth more than Rs140 million (USD 635,000).

In his petition, the PTI chair objected to filing a complaint after a specified period. His lawyer, Khawaja Haris, maintained that a complaint could only be filed within four months of submitting the return.

Government of India Ministry of Communications Department of Telecommunications

Inviting applications for the post of Chairperson, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, New Delhi

Government of India, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, invites applications from Indian Nationals for the post of Chairperson in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

TRAI is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. It is mandated to regulate the telecommunication services, adjudicate disputes, dispose of appeals and to protect the interests of service providers and consumers of the telecom sector, to promote and ensure orderly growth of the telecom sector.

The detailed eligibility conditions and other terms and conditions appointment may be seen on the web-sites www.dot.gov.in or <http://www.trai.gov.in> or <http://www.dopt.gov.in>.

The last date for receipt of applications is 04th August 2023

CBC 06201/11/0008/2324

Want to see expansion of UNSC permanent seats to include India, Brazil, Germany, Japan: UK

United Nations, Jul 04 (PTI):

The UK has called for the expansion of the UN Security Council's permanent seats to include India, Brazil, Germany and Japan as well as African representation, underlining that it is high time the powerful UN body entered the 2020s.

Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations and President of the Security Council for the month of July Ambassador Barbara Woodward's comments came as she briefed UN correspondents on the pro-

gramme of work of the Security Council for the month.

On reform of the UN Security Council, "we want to see the expansion of the Council's permanent seats to include India, Brazil, Germany and Japan and African representation. It's high time the Council entered the 2020s," Woodward told reporters here on Monday.

Woodward referred to remarks by British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly last week in which he announced the UK's ambition to drive forward reform of the multilateral system.

Woodward said the UK's presidency of the Security Council in July marks the first step in that process.

Responding to a question on the reason behind the UK's support for permanent UNSC membership for India, Brazil, Germany and Japan, Woodward said: "Our thinking behind the four countries that we supported was partly to do with geographical balance.

"Introducing India and Brazil would bring a wider geographical representation into the Council, but also to bring in countries that have more influence than they had when the

original Security Council was put together in 1945 for obvious reasons," she said.

"There's a sort of combination of recognising the world as it is today, alongside geographical balance, and that's behind our position too on Africa," she said.

Last week, the UN General Assembly adopted a draft oral decision to enhance the role of the Security Council reform at the 78th session of the UN General Assembly that will commence in September.

Masked assailants attack journalist and lawyer in Russia's Chechnya province

Moscow, Jul 04 (AP):

Unidentified masked assailants in the Russian province of Chechnya attacked and beat a journalist and a lawyer on Tuesday, a violent incident that continued a pattern of rampant human rights abuses in the region.

Novaya Gazeta journalist Elena Milashina and lawyer Alexander Nemov had just arrived in Chechnya to attend the trial of Zarema Musayeva, the mother of two local activists who have challenged Chechen authorities. Just outside the airport, their vehicle was blocked by several cars and they were beaten by

several masked assailants, who put guns to their heads and broke their equipment.

Novaya Gazeta said that Milashina sustained a brain injury and had several fingers broken and Nemov had a deep cut on his leg. They were taken to a hospital in Chechnya's main city, Grozny, where Milashina repeatedly lost consciousness, according to her newspaper.

Canada assures safety of Indian diplomats

● **After Khalistani posters named Indian officials**

Toronto, Jul 04 (PTI):

Canada has assured India of the safety of its diplomats following the circulation of Khalistani posters online which named Indian officials and termed the "promotional material" circulating ahead of a Khalistan rally "unacceptable".

The statement by Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly came a day after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said India has asked its partner countries such as Canada, the UK and the US not to give space to "extremist Khalistani ideology" as it is "not good" for relations.

diplomats, Minister Joly highlighted the country's adherence to the Vienna Conventions.

"Canada takes its obligations under the Vienna Conventions regarding the safety of diplomats very seriously," she said in the statement on her Twitter account on Tuesday.

"Canada remains in close contact with Indian officials in light of some of the promotional material circulating online regarding a protest planned for July 8, which are unacceptable," Joly said.

Joly also emphasised that the actions of a few individuals "do not speak for an entire community or Canada." Jaishankar, when asked about reports of Khalistani posters in Canada naming Indian diplomats, said the issue will be raised with the government of that country.

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// e-Tender Notice //

Date: 06.07.2023

Bailadila Iron Ore Mines, Bachel Complex, NMDC Ltd. invites e-bids for the following works. Interested tenderers may visit and download Tender Documents from CPP Portal or www.nmdc.co.in or <http://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/nmdc/>. Any corrigendum/addendum to be issued, the bidder must visit the online portal from time to time to notice the same. Corrigendum/addendum will not be published in any newspaper. The offer has to be submitted online at the given MSTC portal only till 03:30 PM and will be opened on 04:00 PM on respective last dates.

MSTC Ref.No./NMDC/Bachel/23-24/ET/	NMDC Tender No. BIOM/BC/CONTRACTS/OTE/73/23-24	Short Description of Work	EMD (Rs.)	Last Date of Sub'n
1	84/256	C-281	Supporting of Existing retaining wall at SSP and miscellaneous Slope Protection works at SSP Screening plant, Dep.-5.	39,000/- 06.08.2023
2	85/257	C-293	Providing and laying of double plastic cement bags filled with fine ore/slime for making protection wall at the toe of dumps at FOD, Tailing dam no.1 and other peripheral areas related to environmental protection works at Bachel complex for the year 23-24	16,500/- 06.08.2023
3	86/258	C-294	Refurbishment of old dumper maintenance shed in deposit-5.	31,900/- 07.08.2023
4	87/259	C-296	Increasing height of existing check-dam in between Pit no. 2 and Pit no.3 at FOD area	39,800/- 07.08.2023
5	88/260	C-298	Construction of Buttress wall of 260 meters below SG Stockpile at Dep-5 mine, BIOM Bachel Complex	54,300/- 08.08.2023
6	89/261	C-299	Construction of Buttress wall of 200 meters below SG Stockpile at Dep-5 mine, BIOM Bachel Complex	42,800/- 08.08.2023
7	90/262	LP-026	Hiring of 02 no. of Poclain EX-110 with 04 nos. of Tipper's/01 no. of Ex-110 Poclain only to enhance the rake loading of Dep.-5, fine & CLO for parallel loading at Conveyor 106 & 74 hoppers at Loading Plant on annual basis through OTE	61,000/- 10.08.2023
8	91/263	E-023	Electrification of Godown at CSD Bachel	15,945/- 10.08.2023
9	92/264	E-024	Removing and cleaning weed growth before and after monsoon under the OH lines 33/11/3.3KV HT Lines connecting to main sub-station Hilltop Dep-5	11,133/- 11.08.2023
10	93/266	C-264	Rehabilitation work of Tailing Dam-1, BIOM Bachel Complex	1,58,500/- 11.08.2023
11	94/267	C-272	Diversion of Sewer Pipeline at Subhash Nagar, Bachel	39,200/- 12.08.2023
12	95/268	ENV-003	Replacement of 4 Nos. Effluent Treatment Plants at Bachel Complex.	1,42,600/- 12.08.2023
13	100/274	T&S-002	CAMC for BH-85 Dumper Simulator for a period of Three years at Bachel Complex.	94,900/- 13.08.2023

HOD (M&S and Contracts)
BIOM, Bachel Complex

Department of Health Research Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Government of India

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ICMR-DHR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE YEAR 2023-24

One of the major mandates of ICMR and DHR is to augment capacity strengthening of Indian scientists. This ICMR-DHR international fellowship programme is intended to create a pool of talented health research personnel by facilitating advanced training and exposure to the latest advancements in knowledge through interaction with the international scientists in emerging areas of clinical/medicine/health sciences.

- Short Term International Fellowships for Senior Indian Biomedical Scientists**
Duration of Fellowships: Two weeks to 3 months
Number of Fellowships: Twenty five (25) fellowships per year
Age limit: Below 57 years as on last date of receipt of application
- Long Term International Fellowships for Young Indian Biomedical Scientists**
Duration of Fellowships: 6 to 12 months
Number of Fellowships: Forty (40) fellowships per year
Age limit: Below 45 years as on last date of receipt of application

Applications should be submitted online through the website portal of ICMR/DHR: www.icmr.nic.in; www.dhr.gov.in. Details of the eligibility criteria, format of application, terms and conditions, and guidelines of the programme are available on ICMR and DHR websites.

Last date of receipt of applications: 31st August, 2023

CBC 17152/12/0011/2324

BRIEF



Vice Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar with Brigadier General Abdul Raheem Abdul Latheef, Vice Chief of Defence Force of Maldives National Defence Force (MDF).

Divert

New Delhi: Four flights were diverted from the Delhi airport in the afternoon on Tuesday due to bad weather in the national capital, according to an official. The official said three flights were diverted to Amritsar and one flight to Lucknow. All were domestic flights.

Attach

New Delhi: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has attached the house of two brothers, arrested in a Pakistan-sponsored narco-terror case, in Amritsar district of Punjab, an official said on Tuesday. The residential property of Bikramjit Singh alias Vicky and his brother Maninder Singh alias Mani has been attached under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) after it was designated as "proceeds of terrorism", a spokesperson of the federal agency said.

Summon

New Delhi: India summoned the Canadian envoy and issued a demarche over increasing activities by pro-Khalistani elements in Canada, people familiar with the matter said on Tuesday. The summoning of the Canadian high commissioner came following pro-Khalistani groups releasing some posters that featured Indian diplomats.

Injure

New Delhi: A miscreant was injured on Tuesday after security forces opened fire at a mob that was allegedly trying to loot a police armoury in Thoubal district of restive Manipur, officials said. A security force personnel also suffered injuries, they said.

Booked

Jaipur: Police have booked an unidentified man for allegedly sexually harassing a foreigner after a video purportedly showed a man inappropriately touching her on the way to her hotel, officials said on Tuesday. SHO of Vidhayakpuri Police Station Bharat Singh Rathore said that after a video was received on police helpline WhatsApp number, police registered a case under Section 354 of IPC on Monday night.

Mishap

Hazaribag: Six persons were killed and three injured when the SUV in which they were travelling fell into a well in Jharkhand's Hazaribag district on Tuesday afternoon, an official said.

UUC Impersonation Case

College principal, SFI leader surrender before police

Thiruvananthapuram, Jul 04 (PTI): A principal-in-charge of an aided college here and a Students' Federation of India (SFI) leader, accused in a case of alleged impersonation of a University Union Councillor (UUC), surrendered before police on Tuesday.

Principal-in-charge G J Shaiju and SFI leader A Visakh surrendered at Kattakada police station in the morning and presently their questioning and recording of statement is being carried out, an officer said.

There is a possibility

that the two would be arrested after the conclusion of their interrogation, the officer added.

The two surrendered before police pursuant to a Kerala High Court order dismissing their anticipatory bail pleas in the case.

The court also directed them to surrender before the investigating officer on or before July 4 while observing that the offences alleged against the accused were serious in nature. The court had observed that dishonest and fraudulent conduct by the accused were prima facie evident and custodial interroga-

tion was essential.

The matter pertains to the elections held on December 5, 2022 at Christian College, Kattakada in Thiruvananthapuram where two candidates — Anakha A S and Aromal V L — were unanimously elected to the posts of University Union Councillors.

When the proforma for furnishing details of the University Union Councillors elected from the college was submitted to Kerala University, it however showed the name of Visakh as the University

Union Councillor elected from the college, in place of Anakha. Police action was taken on a complaint lodged by the Registrar of University.

The court had said the principal of a college was not entitled by law to nominate a person to the post of University Union representative, even if it falls vacant by resignation or otherwise. Police have registered an FIR under sections 419 (punishment for cheating by personation), 409 (criminal breach of trust) and 420 (cheating) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

More than 6,500 Amarnath pilgrims leave Jammu for Kashmir

Jammu, Jul 04 (PTI)

The fifth batch of more than 6,500 Amarnath pilgrims left the Jammu city in the early hours of Tuesday for the twin base camps in Kashmir, officials said.

The 62-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,888-metre-high cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas commenced from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district on July 1. The officials said the pilgrim footfall at the shrine is likely to cross the 50,000 mark later in the day as the yatra is progressing smoothly, with devotees from across the country thronging the base camps to have a glimpse of the naturally formed ice-shiv-

lingam and offer their prayers. A total of 6,597 pilgrims, including 1,429 women, 160 seers and 323 children, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for the valley in a convoy of 253 vehicles amid tight security arrangements in the early hours of Tuesday, they said. The officials said 4,475 pilgrims, headed for Pahalgam, left in a convoy of 160 vehicles for the valley at around 4.10 am, while another convoy of 93 vehicles carrying 2,122 pilgrims was the first to leave for the Baltal base camp at 3.40 am. With this, a total of 24,162 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 30, the day the first batch of pilgrims was flagged off by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

HC dismisses plea against mandatory uniform for auto drivers

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI)

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday dismissed a petition challenging mandatory uniforms for auto rickshaw and taxi drivers in the city.

A bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad rejected the petition and orally observed that this amounted to gross misuse of a public interest litigation (PIL).

The high court's order came on a petition by Chaalak Shakti, a drivers' union, which has challenged mandatory uniform for auto rickshaw and taxi drivers and alleged that such labelling was in violation of the Constitution. The petition-

er's counsel had earlier said prescribing a uniform curtailed the drivers' freedom of expression and also acted as a symbol of their status.

The Delhi government's counsel had said certain discipline has to be followed in relation to uniforms. The high court had earlier asked the government counsel to clarify whether khaki or grey coloured uniform is prescribed for auto drivers in the national capital.

In its plea, the petitioner has alleged that hefty challoans of up to Rs 20,000 were being imposed on drivers in the national capital for not wearing uniforms even though the law on the subject was vague and ambiguous. It has submitted that there is com-

plete ambiguity about the colour of uniform to be worn by auto drivers on duty as Rule 7 of the Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules, 1993 prescribes khaki but the permit conditions laid down by the state authorities mandate grey.

The petition also highlighted there are dozens of prominent shades of both khaki and grey, and since no particular shade had been stipulated, the enforcement authorities enjoyed a huge discretion about who they wanted to prosecute.

It has also stated the uniform itself has not been defined so as to mean pant-shirt, safari suit or kurta-pyjama and that even specifications of fabrics, trims and accessories are also absent.

Meghalaya CM seek's Centre's nod for one-time teachers' training prog

Shillong, Jul 04 (PTI)

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma on Tuesday sought the Education Ministry's nod to allow one-time training for the huge number of untrained elementary school teachers.

According to the chief minister, the northeastern state has a huge backlog of untrained teachers due to limited institutional facilities.

A total of 34,730 elementary school teachers attended off-line course from 2013 to 2019 and the state still has a huge backlog of 18,900 untrained elementary school teachers, Sangma said. "I request you to kindly allow the state

government to clear the backlog as a one-time amnesty programme for the Secondary, Higher Secondary in-service teachers of Meghalaya under IGNOU programmes," Sangma said in a letter to Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is the national resource centre for open and distance learning.

The problem, he said, was compounded as there are only seven District Institutes of Education & Training (DIET) and one Teacher Training Centre with an intake of 550 trainees per academic session.

CONVOCATION CEREMONY



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar with his wife Sudesh Dhankhar, Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and others during the 25th convocation ceremony of Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Tuesday.

MONSOON RAINS



Commuters during Monsoon rainfall, in Gurugram, Tuesday.

Border states to get financial aid to set up rehabilitation homes

For victims of trafficking

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI)

The government has decided to provide financial assistance to states and union territories in border areas to set up protection and rehabilitation homes for victims of trafficking, particularly minor girls from neighbouring countries, a senior official said.

Noting that India is a source as well as destination country for trafficking of persons, the official said the source countries are Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar from where women and girls are trafficked in the guise of providing a better life, jobs and good living conditions in India. "A majority of those trafficked are minor girls or young women, who after their arrival in

India are sold and forced into commercial sex work. These girls/women often reach major cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad etc. from where they are taken out of the country mainly to the Middle East and South East Asia," the official said.

The official said states bordering these countries need to be more vigilant and have adequate facilities to provide relief and rehabilitation services to the victims of trafficking.

"The government has decided to provide financial assistance to States/UTs in border areas to set up protection and rehabilitation homes for the victims of trafficking particularly for minor girls and young women," the official said.

These homes will provide services like shelter, food, clothing, counselling,

primary health facilities and other daily requirements.

The official said the government will help build infrastructure to combat child trafficking in border areas.

The victims will be produced before the child welfare committee to declare fit facility for providing sponsorship as per the Mission Vatsalya Scheme guideline and accordingly, the states/UTs will be requested to do the needful, he said. The government has provided funding to all states and union territories under the Nirbhaya Fund to set up and strengthen Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUS) in every district of the country. In addition, funding has also been provided for AHTUS in border guarding forces such as BSF and SSB, the official said.

MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE

Toddler's parents attend inquiry, demand justice

Chennai, Jul 04 (PTI)

The parents of an 18-month-old toddler whose right arm was amputated allegedly due to medical negligence at a state-run facility, here, on Tuesday demanded justice to their son. Thasthakir Meera and Azeesa, the parents of the one-and-a-half-year-old boy whose arm was surgically removed on July 2, said apart from the agony of seeing their son with one hand, they were anguished at being accused of taking the issue of medical lapse to the media for personal gains.

"We admitted our son at the Rajiv Gandhi Government General

Hospital (RGGGH) on June 25 to be treated for fluid collection in his brain. Both his arms were in good condition then. But we are now seeing him with one arm," misty-eyed Azeesa said.

"Instead of addressing the problem, we are being accused of seeking publicity for personal gains," her husband Thasthakir told reporters after the couple attended an inquiry by a high-level panel probing the issue of medical negligence. The couple hail from Ramanathapuram. The toddler was diagnosed with hydrocephalus - a neurological disorder caused by an abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal

fluid in the brain. When he was five-months-old, the boy underwent ventriculoperitoneal shunting.

The inquiry commission obtained their written response to 21 questions, Azeesa, accompanied by her husband and other relatives, told mediapersons. She claimed the wrong administration of the IV canula on her son's right arm led to complications. "The skin around the inserted portion till the wrist turned reddish and I immediately took it to the notice of a nurse. If only the nurse responded promptly and removed the IV line on time, then my son would not have lost the arm," she said.

'ISF open to alliance with like-minded parties for future elections'

Kolkata, Jul 04 (PTI)

Indian Secular Front (ISF), a relatively new political outfit in West Bengal, is open to alliance with like-minded parties for fighting future elections, its leader and lone MLA Nawsad Siddique said.

He said though the ISF is not in alliance with any party after the 2021 assembly elections, which it fought in pact with the CPI(M) and Congress, tie-ups are taking place at the grassroots level for the July 8 panchayat elections. Siddique said to win future elections, the ISF will team up with parties who think about people and country.

"In the coming days, we will go with like-minded parties to fight elections," he told PTI in an interview.



Nawsad Siddique

Lok Sabha elections are slated to be held in 2024.

ISF has put up candidates mainly in South and North 24 Parganas, Howrah and Murshidabad districts for the rural polls.

"At the grassroots level, alliances have happened in pockets to defeat the ruling party," he said.

Popular among his supporters as 'Bhaijan', Siddique won from Bhangar assembly constituency in South 24 Parganas to be the only

opposition party to win other than the BJP in the 2021 assembly polls which was handsomely won by the Trinamool Congress.

Nawsad, a descendant of Muhammad Abu Bakr Siddique, the first Pir of Furfura Sharif, claimed that he has never asked for votes in the name of religion.

"I will never ask for votes saying I am the Pirzada of Furfura Sharif and have never done so, because it is wrong to ask for votes in the name of religion and those who cast their franchise in favour of such people become the most deprived," he said.

Claiming that the BJP and TMC ask for votes in the name of religion, Siddique said the real issues affecting people are joblessness, high prices of essentials and industrial-

sation. He claimed that the condition of Hindus have remained the same after the 2014 general elections and that the situation of Muslims have not improved following the 2011 state polls.

He alleged that the percentage of Muslims in government jobs in Bengal has deteriorated.

"After Tata (Motors) was forced out (from Singur), not a single big company has come to set up units in Bengal," he said.

He said his party stands for providing relief to the people. Maintaining that corruption is a big issue for the ensuing three-tier rural polls, the ISF MLA said it has invaded various spheres from jobs for money scam to bribe for getting caste certificates or free housing schemes.

Senior officials reach naxal infested areas

'Beti Bachao Beti Badhaon' scheme started by signature campaign

Mainpur, Jul 04:

Gariaband Collector Akash Chikara, Senior Superintendent of Police Amit Tukaram Kamble reached Aamamora village situated on a Naxal-affected area and atop an inaccessible hill, covering a distance of 26 kilometers by motor cycle. It is known that due to this area being a Naxal-affected area, big public representatives and senior officers are not able to visit, as well as the villagers of this area are struggling with many basic problems, but after the reach of senior district officials it was no less than a festival for the villagers.

Senior Superintendent of Police Amit Kamble, Divisional Forest Officer Manivasgan S, District Panchayat CEO Smt. Rita Yadav, CRPF along with



Gariaband District Collector Akash Chikara covered a distance of 26 kilometers in a motor cycle through rough, river-river, rocky hill and unpaved trails. It is noteworthy that this village is located about 35 kilometers away from the main road and about 110 families are living here.

In order to accelerate the pace of development in the district, Collector Akash Chikara, after as-

suming office, is continuously visiting remote areas and taking stock of the development works and the basic facilities of the citizens. Distribution of uniforms and textbooks to the children in the school entrance festival and health check-up and material distribution camp were organized in the village. Apart from this, urad seed packets were distributed to 31 beneficiaries by the Agriculture Department, vegetable mini kit seeds to 20 beneficiaries by the Horticulture Department and ration cards to 14 beneficiaries by the Food Department. Senior Superintendent of Police Amit Kamble said that the district administration has reached the village to make change and address grievances.

Kawardha, Jul 04:

Taking forward the women empowerment campaign, a chowk in urban body areas of Kabirdham district will be named after Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao. This decision was taken by District Collector Janmejy Mahobe, while reviewing the functioning of Women and Child Development Department and Sakhi One Stop Center.

In the meeting, he gave necessary guidelines to the officers of the urban bodies and started the signature campaign by making the "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" scheme more effective under Mission Shakti for the safety, rescue and empowerment of girls. In this campaign, all the district level officers including Collector, Forest Officer, Additional Collector, District Panchayat CEO participat-



ed in the signature campaign of Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao and took this campaign forward by signing. In the meeting, the Collector has constituted an Internal Complaints Committee under the Sexual Harassment of Women Act 2013 at every workplace of the "Sakhi" One Stop Center, where 10 or more officers-employees are appointed, to create a safe environment for women in the offices.

Under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Yojana, a special campaign will be launched by the Women and Child Development Department in coordination with other departments, under which many will be conducted every month. Similarly, under the Chhattisgarh Mahila Kosh, work is being done in the field of economic empowerment of women by providing loans to women groups and personal loans at very low annual interest rates.

In order to reduce the dropout rate among girls, the district education officer was directed to organize school entrance festival, write slogans on the topic "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao". The Collector directed the Nodal Department, Women and Child Development Department, District Kabirdham for the successful implementation of the scheme and providing maximum benefits of this scheme.

Pappu Ali appointed State President RMC INTUC



Simga, Jul 04: As per orders from National President Rashtriya Mazdoor Congress (RMC) (INTUC) Ranjit Singh, Pappu Ali has been appointed as the State President (RMC) INTUC Chhattisgarh. It is hoped by the national body that Pappu Ali would work for the welfare of labourers in the organised and inorganised sector in the government, semi-government institutions of the central and state government and industries. Kamlesh Sahu, Vijay Gupta, Deksingh Chouhan, Mahesh Rajak, Narendra Yadav, Girdhari Nishad, Harsh Sharma, Raju Soni, Dilip Verma and other persons has extended greetings to Pappu Ali on his appointment as the State President RMC INTUC.

Villagers boycott classes in Govt Primary School

In Gram Khursipar

Balod, Jul 04: The parents and students of Government Primary School in Gram Khursipar boycotted the school on Monday and only teachers were found present. Sarpanch Rohit Kumar Thakur informed that we are demanding teachers for long time, but no new teacher has been appointed so far and there are only two teachers behind 74 students in the school. The quality of education in the school is continuously falling each day due to lack of teachers. Sarpanch informed that till the demand of teachers is not fulfilled, the children will not go to school. It is notable here that on Monday, all the classrooms were deserted look and all the chairs and table in the class were empty.

Total strength of student is 74: Teacher working in the school informed that the total strength of students in the School is 74 and earlier there were 3 teachers posted in the School. But one of the teacher's has been attached to other school and now there are just two teachers, one male and other is female. On the other hand, the



male teacher is paralysed and due to which shortage of teacher in the school is regularly being felt for long. When we asked the parents about why the students are not coming to school, they informed that so long as there are not sufficient teachers in the school, till then all the classes will be boycotted.

Level of education falling: Sarpanch informed that there are at present two teachers working in the School and one of them is paralysed and other teacher looks after entire work of head master and she is busy in making documents only. In this way there is no teacher in the School and therefore we are keeping children at home and not sending them to School, because the level of education is continuously degrading. We have been demanding teacher for quite long time, immediately three teachers should be appointed in the School and then only we will send our students to school.

Samriddh Singh gets selected in University of Texas, Arlington

Nandini-Ahirkara, Jul 04:

Samriddh Singh, S/o Somesh Singh, PA to senior MLA Dhanendra Sahu, secured 98 percentile in the international-level exam SAT and got selected for University of Texas, Arlington, USA with scholarship of Rs 1 cr for his B.Tech. in Computer Science. From this University, the well-known Astronaut Kalpana Chawla has also studied. From other Universities also, Samriddh has got scholarship offers of upto Rs 1.84 cr. After the written exam, he cleared all the six rounds for the scholarship test and it is for this achievement CM Bhupesh Baghel presented to him a prize of Rs 5 lakh. Samriddh has been talented student since childhood and has won the award of Pride of DAV School. He has played upto nationals in the Boxing, Karate as well. In the year 2021, he



created a world record in push-ups and got his name registered in the Asia Book of World Record. Samriddh said that on reaching upto this level, both his mother and father and his sister (who is NIT student) have extended her lot of help and apart from this the contribution by teachers of DAV Nandini School was also commendable. Samriddh informed that for this achievement, he remained away from all electronic and social media for last 5 yrs. It is notable here that the aver-

For Computer Science course with Rs 1 cr scholarship

Shukla and former CM Dr Raman Singh and sought their blessings.

age package of University of Texas Arlington is minimum Rs 80 lakh and 95% of its students gets selected in the topmost companies. Samriddh also met the Governor of Chhattisgarh and other Ministers, including MLA Satyanaryan Sharma, Dhanendra Sahu, Amitesh

NAME CHANGE

IT IS INFORMED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT I SMT. AMINA BEGUM W/O MOHAMMAD IMRAN KHAN RESIDENT OF PLOT NO. 27, ASHRAFI ROAD, FARID NAGAR, SUPELA, BHILAI DISTT. DURG (C.G.). I HAVE CHANGED MY OLD NAME KUMARI AMINA KHATUN D/o AHMAD ALI, SO IN THE FUTURE I SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED BY NEW NAME THAT IS SMT. AMINA BEGUM W/O MOHAMMAD IMRAN KHAN RESIDENT OF PLOT NO. 27, ASHRAFI ROAD, FARID NAGAR, SUPELA, BHILAI DISTT. DURG (C.G.) IN ALL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

SMT. AMINA BEGUM
W/O MOHAMMAD IMRAN KHAN
RESIDENT OF PLOT NO. 27,
ASHRAFI ROAD, FARID NAGAR,
SUPELA, BHILAI DISTT. DURG

FORM NO. 14
(See Regulation 33(2))
By Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication.

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR
797/2, Shanti Kunj, South Civil Lines, Jabalpur-482001

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.
RC/110/2020 13-06-2023

BANK OF BARODA
Versus
SHOE PARK

TO
(CD 1) SHOE PARK, SEEMA, M.B. TRADE, CENTRE, 2ND, FLOOR NEAR GHADI CHOWK, DHAMTARI, C.G.- 493773 Dhamtari, 0
(CD 2) SEEMA GYANCHANDANI HOUSE NO.- 15, MAHALAXMI ENCLAVE, SHIHAWA ROAD, DHAMATARI, C.G. Dhamtari, CHHATTISGARH - 0
(CD 3) SHRI SHAILENDRA GYANCHANDANI HOUSE NO.- 15, MAHALAXMI ENCLAVE, SHIHAWA ROAD, DHAMATARI, C.G. Dhamtari, CHHATTISGARH - 0
(CD 4) SHRI CHUHADMAL GYANCHANDANI AMAPARA WARD, AMAPARA CHOWK, DHAMTARI, C.G. Dhamtari, CHHATTISGARH - 0

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR in OA/1163/2019 an amount of Rs 12321000.00 (Rupees One Crore Twenty Three Lakhs Twenty One Thousands Only) along with pendente lite and future interest @ 12% Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 04/07/2019 till realization and costs of Rs 126000 (Rupees One Lakh Twenty-Six Thousands Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.

3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of your assets on or before the next date of hearing.

4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 18/07/2023 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.

5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 13/06/2023
(Vaatsalya Kumar)
Recovery Officer
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
JABALPUR (M.P.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

That I am authorized Advocate Jairam Bhagwanji (District Court Durg) LIC Housing Finance Ltd Branch - Chouhan Estate, Bhilai, Distt. - Durg (C.G.) I publish this information as per the authority and instructions received from my party Smt. Priyanka Barnela W/o Piantu Jangid R/o Shyamala Mukhaji Ward Dhamtari Durg Tah. & Distt. Durg (C.G.) That by my party Sellers Shri. Gagandeep Singh S/o Late. Shri. Ajit Singh S/o Power Of Attorney From Minor Kamaljeet Singh & Other R/o Mohan Nagar Durg Tah. & Distt. Durg (C.G.) Buyers Smt. Achra Agrawal W/o Shri. Ashok Agrawal R/o Kasaridih Durg, Tah. & Distt. Durg (C.G.) In the name of the land owner is entitled to land. Monza - Chikhalpi, Kharsa No. - 315/1 Part, Area - 0.01 Hect 1000 Sqft. In the name of the land owner is entitled to land Registry dated 28/04/2014 Vol. No. - 371 Pages 61-70, Document number 789. SRO Durg, Whose original registries paper as shown above has been lost somewhere, so that no one misuses the said original registries paper, its information has been lodged in the concerned police station, and the general public who has any kind of ownership in relation to the said plot / land. If you are the owner, then submit your objection by being present in my office within Fifteen days of publication of this information, otherwise any claim, objection will be void and ineffective after the period.

Published for information and perusal
DATE :- 04/07/2023

Advocate
Jairam Bhagwanji
Plot No. 20, Beside Petrol Pump,
New Adarsh Nagar, Durg,
Mo. No. 93028-38684

Indian Overseas Bank

Branch: Chikhalputi, Bandha Para, NH30, Near Hotel Rajiv Palace, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh-494226
e-mail: iob3277@iob.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
[Under Proviso to Rule 6(2) and Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6(2) and Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Indian Overseas Bank (Secured Creditor) will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on the date mentioned below, for recovery of outstanding dues specified below for each account (along with further interest at contractual rates and rests, besides costs / charges incurred till the date of repayment in full) due to Indian Overseas Bank, (Secured Creditor).

E-auction Sale Date : 10.08.2023

Sl. No.	Name of the Account & Branch	Outstanding dues (as per Sale Notice)	Reserve Price Rs. EMD Rs
1.	M/s T. S. Traders (Proprietor Mr. Vijay Ghosal), Address: EWS-32, Housing Board Colony, Bandha Para, Kondagaon-494226 and Guarantor: Mrs. Anita Ghosal, Address: EWS-32, Housing Board Colony, Bandha Para, Kondagaon-494226.	Rs.19,63,000/- (as on 23.06.2023) (+) interest & Other Charges	Rs. 17,03,000/- Rs. 1,70,300/-

Description of the Immovable Property: All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Land and Building situated at Survey No. 1106/4, Plot No. 32, House No. EWS/32, Bandha Para, Housing Board Colony, Kondagaon, Tehsil Kondagaon and District Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, PIN: 494226, measuring area 717.26 sq.ft. owned by Mrs. Anita Ghosal wife of Mr. Vijay Ghosal. **Bounded As per deed:** On the North by: Road, On the South by: Boundary Wall, On the East by: EWS 33, On the West by: EWS 31

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the service providers link <https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi> and link provided in Indian Overseas Bank, Branch - Chikhalputi, Secured Creditors Website i.e. www.iob.in/TenderDetails.aspx?Tendertype=E_Auction. This may also be treated as a Notice under Rule 6(2) and Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrower/s and guarantor/s of the said loan about holding of e-auction on the above mentioned date.

Date: 23.06.2023, Place: Raipur
Authorised Officer, Indian Overseas Bank

NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I, TELUKULA DEVAKI DEVI W/o TELUKULA DHILLISWARA RAO resident of House No.-13/8, Priyadarshini Parisar, East Railway Under Bridge, Supela, Bhilai, Teh. & Distt. Durg (C.G.) have changed my old name TELUKULA DEVAKI DEVI W/o TELUKULA DHILLISWARA RAO. So in future I should be recognized by my new name that is DEVAKI RAO W/o TELUKULA DHILLISWARA RAO in all Government and other Documents.

DEVAKI RAO
House No.-13/8,
Priyadarshini Parisar,
East Railway Under Bridge,
Supela, Bhilai,
Teh. & Distt. Durg (C.G.)

बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र
Bank of Maharashtra
राजपुर ज़ोनल ऑफिस का उद्घाटन
एक परिवार एक बैंक

Raipur Zonal office 1st Floor, Chawala Complex, Sai (Devendra) Nagar-492001
टेली: 0771-2887611/72/73/74,
ई-मेल: recovery_rai@mahabank.co.in

Head Office: LOKMANGAL, 1501, SHIVAJINAGAR, PUNE-5

Branch: Durg-Bhilai (C.G.)

CORRIGENDUM

In the possession notice published in Central Chronicle Bhilai Edition on 02.07.2023. On Serial No. 1 Borrower- C M Syndicate, the amount in Demand Notice will be read / treated as Rs. 15842892.10 +intt. & other charges from 31.07.2022 instead of Rs. 15842892.10 +intt. & other charges from 31.07.2023

Authorised Officer

DEMAND NOTICE
Date-05/07/2023

Notice is hereby given that the following (Borrowers) and (Guarantors) have defaulted in repayment of principal and interest of the loan facilities obtained by them from the Bank of Maharashtra and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses. Further borrower & guarantor are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Name of the Borrower / Guarantor & Address	Nature & Amount of Credit Facility / Details of Property / Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced	Date of Notice	Date of NPA	Present Outstanding (as on 10.05.2023)	
				Principal	Unapplied interest
Borrowers: 1. Shri Omesh Sharma S/o Shri Matish Kumar Sharma, 2. Smt. Reena Sharma W/o Shri Omesh Sharma & 3. Ankur Sharma S/o Shri Omesh Sharma, All of their Add.: EWS-188, Vaishali Nagar, Bhilai, District- Durg (CG)	HSG LOAN A/c No- 60324730771 Equitable Mortgage of House No. EWS -188, Chhattisgarh Grih Nirman Mandal, Vaishali Nagar, Ward No. 10, Bhilai, Dist- Durg (C.G.), Total area of Plot-1054.48 sq ft. Bounded as follows: North: Road, East: House no. EWS-187, South: House no. EWS-173, West: House No. EWS-189. Asset ID - 20002954690	11.05.2023	28.02.2022	Principal - Rs 17,17,509/-	Unapplied interest till 10/05/2023 Rs. 3,23,489/- Total- Rs 20,40,998/- (Rupees Twenty lakhs forty thousand nine hundred ninety eight only)

Hence, this Paper Publication. The above Borrower(s) and/or their Guarantor(s) (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

This notice is also being published in vernacular language.
The English version shall be final in case any question of interpretation arises.

Date: 05.07.2023, Place: Raipur
Chief Manager / Authorized Officer Bank of Maharashtra

SVATANTRA MICRO HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD.
Office No 1, Ground Floor, Pushpak CHS, Opp. Gomantak Hall, Malaviya Road, Vile Parle (East), Mumbai 400 057. TEL- 18001234427 / 022 26101076-79 Email : collections@mhfcindia.com

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

NOTICE is hereby given that the following borrower/s who have availed loan from Svatanttra Micro Housing Finance Corporation Limited (SMHFC) have failed to pay Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs) of their loan to SMHFC and that their loan account has been classified as Non-performing Asset as per the guidelines issued by National Housing Bank. The borrower(s) have provided security of the immovable property/ies to SMHFC, the details of which are described herein below. The details of the loan and the amounts outstanding and payable by the borrower/s to SMHFC as on date are also indicated here below. The borrower(s) as well as the public in general are hereby informed that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of SMHFC, the secured creditor has initiated action against the following borrower(s) under the provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the SARFAESI Act). If the following borrower(s) fail to repay the outstanding dues indicated against their names within 60 (Sixty) days of this notice, the undersigned will exercise any one or more of the powers conferred on the Secured Creditor under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, including power to take possession of the property/ies and sell the same. The public in general is advised not to deal with property/ies described here below.

Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of secured asset(s) (immovable property/ies)
Loan No : APP-021-228 Mrs. Nutan Sahu Mr. Naresh Kumar Sahu	08-06-2023 Rs.4,08,969/-	Flat No. 301, E (EWS), RDA Kamal Vihar, Sector 4, Raipur, District: Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492015
Loan No : APP-021-383 Mr. Ashok Kumar Patel Mrs. Bandana Devi Patel	08-06-2023 Rs.4,77,954/-	Flat No. 430, I (LIG), RDA Kamal Vihar, Sector 4, Raipur, District: Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492015
Loan No : APP-021-786 Mrs. Hemin Mr. Laharman Nirmalkar	08-06-2023 Rs.2,94,272/-	Flat No. 610, E (EWS), RDA Kamal Vihar, Sector 4, Raipur, District: Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492015
Loan No : APP-022-794 Mr. Md. Tahir Khan Mrs. Anwari .	08-06-2023 Rs.2,96,165/-	Flat No.723, F, RDA - Indraprastha Phase II Ews Indraprastha Colony, Raipur, Tehsil Indr District Raipur-492013
Loan No : APP-024-601 Mrs. Nazma Shaikh Mr. Nadeem Shaikh	08-06-2023 Rs.2,89,765/-	Flat No. 512, D (EWS), RDA Kamal Vihar, Sector 4, Raipur, District: Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492015
Loan No : APP-025-049 Mrs. Ragini Pahune Mr. Deepak Pahune	08-06-2023 Rs.2,89,755/-	Flat No. 407, D (EWS), RDA Kamal Vihar, Sector 4, Raipur, District: Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492015
Loan No : APP-033-445 Mrs. Rubi Singh Mr. Shammii Kapur Singh	08-06-2023 Rs.5,00,739/-	Flat No. 408, AH-01/B-5, RDA Kamal Vihar, Sector 11B, Raipur, District: Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492015

Place: Chhattisgarh
Date : 05-07-2023
Authorised Officer
For Svatanttra Micro Housing Finance Corporation Limited

Police achieve success in 'Operation Muskaan'

Launched to trace missing children

559 missing children were recovered and handed over to their parents

Raipur, Jul 04:

In accordance with the instructions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, Operation Muskaan is being conducted in the state to trace missing children. The Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu had issued orders to the Director General of

Police Ashok Juneja to execute a comprehensive campaign in this regard. Following the instructions, under the supervision of the Inspector General of Police CID, Mr. S.C. Dwivedi, a state-wide campaign called "Operation Muskaan" was conducted from June 1 to June 30, 2023, to trace missing children, in which the state Police achieved significant success.

Various guidelines were provided to the districts by the Police Headquarters regarding

the effective operation of "Operation Muskaan". The Superintendents of Police and the Nodal Officers nominated in the districts followed these guidelines and contributed commendably to making this campaign a success. The campaign was undertaken within Chhattisgarh and in different states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi, and Karnataka. In "Operation Muskaan", 72

boys and 487 girls have been recovered, making a total of 559 missing children recovered from across the state.

The number includes 76 children from Janjgir-Champa, 56 from Raipur, 52 from Bilaspur, and 52 from Sakti. The remaining children were recovered from other districts. The recovered boys and girls were handed over to their families. The Police achieved success in restoring the smiles on the faces of the missing children and their parents.

Single use plastic will be banned in Raj Bhavan

On the instructions of Governor Vishwa Bhushan Harichandan

Raipur, Jul 04: Today, on the occasion of International Plastic Bag Free Day, Governor Vishwa Bhushan Harichandan instructed the officials to completely ban single use plastic in Raj Bhavan. Cloths should be used in place of single use plastic for any material used in Raj Bhavan. Gunny bags or jute bags should be used. He said that plastic pollution is the biggest challenge facing the world today. We all have to change our mind set to actively reduce its use and reduce plastic pollution and carry it with us whenever we go to the



market. Make sure to carry a cloth or jute bag. Nature protects us all, so small steps are necessary to save nature. The Governor has appealed to the countrymen including the people of the state to

take a pledge not to use single use plastic from today and make united efforts to make this earth better. Harichandan instructed the officials that single use plastic should be completely banned in

Raj Bhavan. Cloth bags or jute bags should be used instead of single use plastic for any material used in Raj Bhavan. He said that plastic pollution is the biggest challenge facing the world today.

IIT Bhilai researchers develop possible low-cost, long-lasting solution for diabetes

Raipur, Jul 04: The threat of diabetes, further precipitated by the modern lifestyle, cannot be understated. According to the World Health Organisation, diabetes is one of the leading causes of death and could become a global epidemic in the coming decades.

All type 1 and advanced-stage type 2 diabetes patients rely on the external administration of insulin, a hormone that is normally secreted by the pancreas, to regulate blood glucose levels. Often, this is done via injections which need to be administered daily. This process is inconvenient and painful to the patient and also carries the risk of hypoglycemia, or low blood sugar levels, which can be fatal. Researchers at IIT Bhilai, led by Dr. Suchetan Pal from the Department of Chemistry, in collaboration with researchers from Shiv Nadar University, have worked to develop 'smart

insulin'. The formulation is developed from bio abundant materials and has shown immense promise in diabetes treatment.

The material developed in this study releases insulin for a longer duration (for two days), while regular insulin works for 12 hours. This was observed in diabetic rats as a model before moving to human trials. If the human trial is successful, the patients will have reduced insulin injection frequency and hence will experience improved quality of life. This promising formulation will be evaluated for low-cost, long-acting insulin and a potential artificial pancreas in humans. This work has been published in ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, an internationally reputed journal. The research is supported by the IIT Bhilai, HDFC-CSR grant, DST, and DBT Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award.

Recalculation, revaluation results of 10th, 12th declared

Raipur, Jul 04: The recalculation / revaluation test results of the High School and Higher Secondary Main Examinations 2023 organized by the Chhattisgarh Board of Secondary Education have been released. Candidates can check their result by entering their roll number in the website of Board of Secondary Education www.cgbse.nic.in.

Students who had applied for recalculation/re-valuation and those who want to apply for supplementary/attempt examination 2023, can submit online application form by July 04, 2023, through co-ordination institution or development block's government school in the district headquarters.

Raipur, Jul 04:

The Child Health Program (Chirayu) is proving to be a lifesaver for children suffering from health problems since birth.

The aim of this scheme is to examine and cure four types of health problems in children like defects at birth, disability, developmental delay, and deficiency.

Under the program, children between 0 and 18 years of age studying in Anganwadis or government and government-aided schools can reap the healthcare benefits.

A target has been set to conduct preliminary

Chirayu Scheme is providing a new lease of life to children

Children suffering from various diseases are successfully treated

health checkups of all children enrolled in all Anganwadis twice a year and of children studying in all government schools once a year. The scheme has proved to be a boon for 874 children in the Mahasamund district so far, which include 126 cases of cleft lip and palate, 195 club foot cases, 82 congenital cataract cases, 21 neural tube defect cases, and 450 cases of congenital heart disease. 9 mobile healthcare teams are operating in the district, and 2 doctors, 1 pharmacist, 1 lab technician, and 1 A.N.M. have been posted in each team.



Neelkanth Nishad, a student studying at Bagbahara Government Secondary School in Tamora village development block, was suffering from Thalassemia and Splenomegaly.

The Chirayu team found in its health check-up at the Government Secondary School that Neelkanth's hands and legs were thinner than normal and he had a swollen belly along with bulging eyes.

He was brought to the hospital, where a special medical team conducted his checkup. It was found that the child's spleen was enlarged and he had low haemoglobin levels. After sonography and

other microscopic tests, it was found that Neelkanth was suffering from Thalassemia and Splenomegaly. Thalassemia and Splenomegaly are serious and challenging diseases. For a B.P.L. family, it requires strong morale and the government's special assistance to avail their child's treatment from a good medical institute.

In such a dire situation, Mr. Neelkanth was taken to the state-level medical institute from time to time by the Chirayu team under the National Child Health Program, and after successful surgery, he was discharged from the ICU.

Indefinite strike of contract employees enter second day

Medical services were provided to the general public by organizing free health camps at the picket site itself by contract employees

Bemetara, Jul 04:

All departmental contract employees of medical department provided medical services to the general public today by setting up a free health camp at the picket site itself. In which Dr. Vipin Soni, Dr. Brijesh Dubey, Dr. Yogesh Janghel, ICTC Counselor Purnik Nayak Nursing Officer from the Health Department, along with blood bank in-charges, staff nurses, TB patients were given nutritional food, blood test, BP sugar, cold cough fever etc. Health-related medical services were provided to many people at the local level at the picket site itself.



The strike by the contractual employees continued for the second day today also for the one-point demand contract regularization of contract employees at Tehsil Office Jaistambh Chowk Bemetara picket site. For the demand of regularization of contract, in order to convey their demands to the government, they raised their voice and posted on Twitter WhatsApp. It is to be known that by closing all

the government offices, the contract employees of all the departments of Chhattisgarh are unitedly present at the site of indefinite strike.

The health system has collapsed due to the health department contract employees going on strike, as well as the district panchayat district The general public is facing a huge problem due to



the strike of Panchayat, Women and Child Development Department, Agriculture Department, Education Department, Pradhan Mantri Mukhyamantri Sadak Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission employees.

Along with this, sub-health centers, primary health centers, community health centers, OPDs

have been completely closed, a situation of lock-out has been created in many places, due to the contract employees going on strike, departmental heads are unable to take over the office. sweating for,

Vidya Jain, District President of Anganwadi to support the demand for regularization of contractual employees,

Chhattisgarh State Health Employees Association reached the protest site along with entire employee to support the Bemetara strike.

District Vice President of Contract Employees Federation Deepti Dhurandhar, Meenakshi, Shimpi Banerjee, Block President Berla and Khandarsa Mukesh Soni, and Balwant Banjare told that the demand of contract employees is very old in which the main top leadership of Congress party Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, Deputy Chief Minister Mr. TS Various ministers, including Singhdev ji, have been talking about regularization of contractual employees through various media outside and inside the assembly.

Forest Department will offer Gedi to the public

Raipur, Jul 04: In a new initiative for the 'Hareli Tihar', the state government will now offer the public the opportunity to purchase Gedi (stilts) at various places. Forest Department offices and C-Mart will provide a good-quality 'Gedi' for purchase at a fixed rate. Basod (Bamboo artisans) can also sell 'Gedi' to interested individuals, generating additional income for them. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest Srinivasa Rao shared that in a move to celebrate the 'Hareli Tihar', the Forest Department, as per the directions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, will produce and sell 'Gedi' at various places. Playing 'Gedi'

has long been associated with this traditional festival, with families in rural areas eagerly participating in playing Gedi, a lively play enjoyed by children and youth. It serves as a joyous welcome to the rainy season, as it is easy to traverse the muddy terrain of villages using Gedi. Gedi is constructed from bamboo, with two pieces of bamboo fixed at equal distances (two feet above the ground at each bamboo stick) with the help of nails and tied with rope, forming the base for the footrest, which is known as 'Pauva'. The sound produced by Gedi creates a vibrant atmosphere, further enhancing the festive spirit.

Glorious celebration of 21st Foundation Day

At Allons Public School, Bemetara

Bemetara, Jul 04: The 21st Foundation day of Allons Public School was celebrated in the presence of the Chief Guest and the founder of Allons Public School, Kamaljeet Arora and an eminent educationist Govind Mudliar, the Guest of Honour, Director Puskal Arora, Principal-Dr. Satyajit Hota and Sunil Sharma - Director. The program started with the worshiping of the Goddess Saraswati by lighting a lamp with the Deep Prajwalan Song - 'Subham Karoti Kalyanam'.

Chhattisgarh state anthem, welcome song, school birthday song and APS song were sung by the students from the Lata Mangeshkar Club which

were appreciated by the audience. Vandana Dance, Pre-Primary presentation, Classical fusion, Folk Dance, Meri Pyari Maa, School Chale hum, Rajasthani Dance were performed by the member of the Natraj Club. Shiv Strotam dance was performed brilliantly by the teachers named Banani Kar from Aryabhata & Talina Chakraborty from the Chanakya Club and overwhelmed the audience. A Kathak dance was performed by an energetic and hilarious performer mother of Aarush class-VII named Rani Nandini. Rhythmic Yoga was presented by the members of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy Club (Health & Hygiene club).

On the auspicious occasion of the foundation day, the student who fetched

the laurels at the National Level, Khilendra Dhruw Class-IX was facilitated with the Eklavya Award. Allons Brave Child (ABC) Award achieved by Manav Janghel, Class-VIII and Riya Tandon, Class-IX for life saving adventures. Career Character Conscious Cadet (C4) Award achieved by Rupanshu Kumar Anand, Class-XI Science, Dileep Kumar Mandavi, Class-VII, Khilendra Dhruw, Class-IX, Abhishek Sahu, Class-VII, Navpreet Kour Ubeja, Class-VIII, Shreya Parihar, Class-VII and Aditya Tiwari, Class-X with the reflection in developing their character and career building skills. Honour card achieved for academic excellence by Manshi Maravi, VIII, Navpreet Kour Ubeja, VIII, Mrigank Ranjan Swain, VIII, Nidhi Sahu, IX,



Lekhram Tandon, IX, Kunal Masram-IX, Aditi Sharma-X, Aiswary Narayan Netam-X, Aditya Tiwari-X, Rupanshu Kumar Anand-XI Science,

Ankush Thakur-XI Science, Aushraj Bhargav-XI Science, Srijan Tikaria-XI Commerce, Tulsi Soni-XI Commerce and Reman

Lal-Xi Commerce. The awards from Smile Foundation were given to the students with the hands of Kamaljeet Arora-Chairman, Govind Mudliar-an eminent educationist, Sunil Sharma-Director and Dr. Satyajit Hota-Principal.

Kamaljit Arora the founder of Allons Public School said, "Exactly two years ago, when Bemetara district was not formed then the foundation of the Allons School was laid. Today it has become as a large banyan tree. Under the shade of which, away from home but in a home-like environment, the ambitious students are engaged in the growth of their knowledge. He said that the students of the school have become doctors, engineers, lawyers, NDA, CS, MBA and CA etc. It is a remarkable achievement of the school. He wished that all the students of the school will be ideal citizens of the country. The school will avail all the opportunities to develop their character and leadership skills."

Govind Mudliar - an eminent educationist said, "that the school is developing with the success of the students in different fields. The school has produced many doctors, engineers, lawyers and CA etc. This school is the Aadhar, the base for other 12schools of MPower. He wished to see the school in the form of a maximum development on its 25th Foundation day. He said that Allons Public School is an excellent school for imparting good education with moral values to the students."

The mentor of the school, our beloved Dr.

Satyajit Hota-thanked the teachers and parents for their cooperation for achieving the success of the students on the occasion of the 21st Foundation Day of the school. The school develops the different talents of the students.

Anchoring was done by teachers named P. Patle and Xavier Joseph with the students named Aditi Sharma and Khushi Sahufrom Munshi Premchand & John Milton Club. The stage decoration was done by Ranjeet Singh from MF. Husain Club. The live telecommunication was done by Abhishek Mishra and Umesh Kale from Coding and decoding club. A vote of thanks was given by Arun Kumar Pal. The program concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

CS chairs high-level meeting

To review the arrangements for the PM's visit to Chh'garh



Raipur, Jul 04: Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain chaired a high-level meeting at Mantralaya Mahanadi Bhavan in preparation for the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Chhattisgarh on July 7.

During the meeting, key officials of the state government discussed various arrangements for the visit, including electricity, traffic, security, drinking water, and healthcare services. The Chief Secretary issued instructions to departmental officers responsible for organising programs during the Prime Minister's visit, emphasising the need for thorough preparations. The Chhattisgarh Director General of Police Ashok

Juneja was also present in the meeting. Additional Chief Secretary to Chief

Minister Subrata Sahoo, Additional Chief Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Department Renu

G Pillay, Principal Secretary of Home Department Manoj Pingua, Secretary to Governor

Amrit Khalkho, Secretary of Higher Education Department Siddharth Komal Pardeshi, Secretary of Energy Department Ankit Anand, Secretary of General Administration Department D.D. Singh, Special Secretary of Urban Administration Department Ayyaj Tamboli, Director of Health Services Jayaprakash Maurya, Raipur Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, IG Raipur Range Ajay Yadav, Commissioner of Raipur Municipal Corporation Mayank Chaturvedi, Director of Public Relations Saumil Ranjan Chaubey, and other officers of different departments, which include the Public Works Department, Railway, Airport, National Highways Authority of India, Indian Oil Corporation, and Telecom Corporation of India, were present.

CM directs for high-level security for PM

Raipur: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel chaired a high-level meeting with senior officers at his official residence in context of PM Narendra Modi's arrival on July 7. In this meeting the preparations for PM's arrival in capital city Raipur were reviewed. CM asked to ensure high-level security



during his visit. Meeting was attended by CS Amitabh Jain, DGP Ashok Juneja, Addl. CS Subrata Sahoo and other officers.

CAUGHT IN THE RAINS



With heavy showers in the evening hours, many were unprepared and were caught in the rains on way back home.

ED submits thousand pages charge-sheet in the Court

Against all five accused in the Rs 2000 cr liquor scam



Raipur, Jul 04: Enforcement Directorate (ED) presented a thousand pages charge-sheet in the Court here on Tuesday, against the state's Rs 2000 cr liquor scam. As per information in this regard, ED has unearthed a Rs 2000 cr liquor scam in Chhattisgarh and in this case, ED has made Anwar Dhebar, Nitesh Purohit, Pappu Dhillion, Arvind Singh and Arunpatri Tripathi as the accused. In this regard the ED submitted a 1600 page charge-sheet in the Special Court of Judge Ajay Singh Rajput in Raipur. It is worthwhile to mention here that ED had conducted raids in this context in Chhattisgarh for last two-three

Cong releases list of scams committed during Raman regime

Alleges irregularities of Rs 1 lakh cr Asks when will PM Modi get the investigation done



Raipur, Jul 04: Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Chhattisgarh, the Congress leveled serious allegation of irregularities against erstwhile Raman government. Irregularities of over Rs 1 lakh crore were committed during erstwhile BJP government led by Dr Raman Singh, alleged Pradesh Congress Communication Head Sushil Anand Shukla while addressing a press conference at PCC headquarters Rajiv Bhavan

here today. Targeting BJP the Congress released list of 34 scams that were allegedly committed in Raman regime. When will the Prime Minister Narendra Modi get all those scams investigated?, asked Shukla. While Prime Minister Narendra Modi talks about curbing corruption,

those 15 years. There has been a scam of more than 1 lakh crore in Raman regime, he alleged. He said that Chief Minister also wrote a letter to the ED to seek investigation into scams committed during erstwhile BJP government. A complaint of disproportionate assets against Raman Singh was also lodged with the PMO, he said.

Now that BJP government is at the centre Raman Singh's scams are not being investigated, he alleged.

The people of the state believe that being the leader of the BJP, Raman Singh has got the protection of the central government, whereas central agencies reach out to the leaders of the opposition for investigation, he said.

Shah to chalk out strategy for Assembly polls

To hold meeting with senior leaders on Wednesday evening

Raipur, Jul 04: Union Home Minister Amit Shah would be on visit to Chhattisgarh on Wednesday evening. During his brief visit, he would be staying at the party headquarters situated at Kushabhau Thakre premises during which he would chalk out strategy with the senior leaders of the party on the upcoming Legislative Assembly polls in Chhattisgarh.

Party insiders said that select few leaders from the saffron brigade would be present during the high-profile meeting with visiting HM Amit Shah and

his team. It is understood that the party high command has already conducted internal survey on the poll exercise and have identified strength and shortcomings of the party which would be shared with key leaders. According strategy would be chalked out on the basis of the discussion during the high-level meeting. BJP would also go for drastic changes in the policy-making committee of the party in Chhattisgarh which would be working in co-ordination with the central leadership.

After reaching in the evening, he would meet at party office and return back to New Delhi next morning.

School Admission festival held

Raipur, Jul 04: Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Raipur Rural Satyanarayan Sharma on Tuesday attended the School Admission festival at Laxminarayan Girls Higher Secondary School situated at Gurukul premises on Kalibadi Road here. He welcomed the students and presented text book, copy and stationary to the new students. Chairman of the Bharatkhande Lalitkala Siksha Samiti, the governing body of school,



Taral Modi, Vice President Ajay Tiwari, Secretary Sobha Khandelwal were also present whereas Dr Suresh

Shukla presided over the function. Students were also offered sweets on the occasion.

Workshop on 'Way Toward Happiness Through Co-existential Living' held

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jul 04: National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur's Department of Mechanical Engineering and Department of Humanities & Social Sciences organized a valedictory and feedback session, on 4th July 2023, successfully concluding the workshop themed 'Way Toward Happiness Through Co-existential Living'. Dr. NV Ramana Rao, Director, NIT Raipur presided over the session as the Chief Guest. Dr. Samir Bajpai, Head, Career Development Centre was the Special Guest for the session. Dr. Bajpai, in his address, shared his views on how Value Education was started in NIT Raipur, in



which students of NIT Raipur went to Achhoti for 5 years and got benefited from the camp at Abhyudaya Sansthan, Achhoti.

Dr. Heena Chavda, Faculty, value education and psychological Counsellor summarized the important of universal human values explained in this program

Right understanding in the self and family and trust will increase only by certain conduct. Why are we living? and what is the way to live a right life?, is the first necessity to develop Right understanding, etc. She Threw light on some important sutras of A. Nagraj like "If there is mistake then there is no understanding and if there is understanding then there is no mistake", "Anger is the manifestation of one's incapacity" etc. In the end, She described in detail the various activities the students are conducting in the consciousness development based value education taken by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. All the Activities can be seen on

youtube channel "value education nit raipur". After this, some participants expressed their views on what they learned from this ten-day happiness workshop and expressed their wish that such workshops should continue.

Dr. NV Ramana Rao enlightened the criticality of value education. He expatiated the role of mental health and happiness and its impact on our work rate, addressing how holistic education is stressed and distinctly mentioned in the National Education Policy (2020). He gave invaluable advice for leading a healthy life weighing on certain qualities such as patience, support, truthfulness, honesty, etc. stating the vitality of a healthy mind and body.

Tax collection in first quarter is about 21 percent of total target for this year

Commercial Taxes Minister T.S. Singhdeo reviewed departmental work



Raipur, Jul 04: Commercial Taxes Minister T.S. Singhdeo on Tuesday reviewed the departmental work at New Rest House, Raipur. He instructed the departmental officers to motivate more and more traders and businessmen to deposit GST. He said that the development of the state is linked with tax collection. Therefore, according to the target, collect it as per the provisions of the GST Act. In the meeting, Singhdeo reviewed the division and circle-wise collection of GST as well as its sector-wise receipts. Secretary, Commercial Tax Department, Mr. Himshikhar Gupta, Commissioner, Mr. Ritesh Agarwal and Special Commissioner, Mr. T.L. Dhruv also attended the review meeting. Commercial Tax Minister Mr. Singhdeo gave instructions to increase revenue collection by removing deficiencies where there is shortfall in tax collection as per the target in the current financial year. He also

asked to organize a departmental meeting in the coming months of August and September to review the tax collection in the state. Mr. Singhdeo gave instructions in the meeting to register maximum number of people associated with trade and business under the GST Act. This will increase the tax base of the state and increase in revenue.

It is worth mentioning that at present a total of one lakh 73 thousand dealers are registered under GST in the state. Of these, 15 thousand are dealers with a turnover of more than five crores. And the number of dealers taking advantage of composition is 35,000. In the meeting,

Secretary, Commercial Tax Department, Mr. Himshikhar Gupta instructed the departmental officers to continuously monitor the receipt of GST from the top 100 dealers who collect more. He asked for a thorough review of tax collection in those commodity areas where tax collection is not as per the expectation.

Commissioner of Commercial Tax Department Mr. Ritesh Agarwal told in the meeting that in the current financial year 2023-24, a target of tax collection of Rs 22 thousand crore has been set. In the first quarter of this year (from April 1, 2023 to June 25, 2023), a tax of Rs 4512 crore 35 lakh has been collected, which is about 21 percent of the target for the whole year. Mr. Agarwal said that in the last financial year 2022-23, there has been an increase of Rs 2929 crore 89 lakh in

tax collection in the state, which is about 20 percent more than the year 2021-22. In the last financial year, a total tax collection of Rs 17800 crore 66 lakh has been done while in 2021-22 the revenue of Rs 14878 crore 77 lakh was received.

It was told in the meeting that in the first quarter of this year, compared to the first quarter of last year, 150 percent increase in the solar energy sector, 109 percent in non-ferrous metals, 20 percent in construction infrastructure, 4 percent in electricals, 10 percent in Tires and Tubes and 56 percent more GST has been received in Pharmaceuticals and Medicines. In the review meeting, Additional Commissioner of Commercial Taxes Department, Mr. T.R. Dhurve and Mrs. Neelima Tigga along with officers from all the divisions and circles were present.

Two tried to self-immolate, police prevented it



Annoyed over failing to get justice from Revenue and Police department

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jul 04: A case of alleged encroachment on the land and then showing high-handedness in the dealings by elite in the capital city has come to fore. Failing to get justice, the victims tried to commit self-immolation with use of Kerosene oil outside Khamtarai thana on Tuesday. But the po-

lice present there managed to nab them and avoid any untoward incident. The case is that of Avanti Vihar of Khamardih thana area.

The victim of the case is R/o Avanti Vihar Pawan baghel and Daulal Yadav. They said that they are having 1500 sq. ft. plot in city's Gitanjali Nagar and one of the elite has tried to encroach upon the same and construct a road there and are troubled on account of the same. The land of the victim is the place where the road is passing from. But even after demarca-

tion of the plot, the Patwari is not taking out place for the road.

Both the victims have lodged complaint with the Revenue and Police department and other places, but to no avail. Therefore failing to get justice and having lost faith in the system and its working, both reached Khamardih Thana and immersing themselves in Kerosene, tried to commit self-immolation. A video of the same has also come forward and it was timely action by the police that the lives of two were saved.

Plate Mill marks record production & despatch of High Tensile Plates

Bhilai, Jul 04: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Plate Mill Department along with the RCL has set a new milestone in the production and despatch of High Tensile Plates in the month of June 2023. The production of HT plates achieved an ever best monthly record by producing 45,375 T surpassing the previous best of 34,652 T, made in June, 2022. A despatch record has also been made by the department by 37,470 T of High Tensile Plates against its previous of 29,131 T, achieved in June, 2022. It has also resulted in highest ever despatch of HT Plates in the first Quarter, with 68,731 T dispatched in the first quarter of 2023-24, surpassing the previous best of 61,755 T, made in 2022-23.



Under the guidance of Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (Bhilai Steel Plant) and Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) the planning by PPC and production of high tensile heats in SMS-2 followed by reheating of slabs in furnaces, Rolling, finishing, inspection, testing and heat treatment of these plates in Plate mill has taken a quantum jump. Plate Mill for the

Collective and associated departments for this achievement.

The focus of modern India lies in continuous development in the field of technology and infrastructure. SAIL has been an important partner in the role of nation building. There is huge demand for plates in the field of infrastructure and Indian Railways (especially in Railway over bridges as the rail corridor for high speed trains). HT Plates are particularly steel grade over E350 BR and above. Production and supply of the Value Added Special Grade Steel Plates will serve dual purpose of generating higher revenue above garden variety plates, and will help in achieving market leadership amongst the competitors in India.

Employees of Power Zone felicitated with Pali & Karm Shiromani Awards



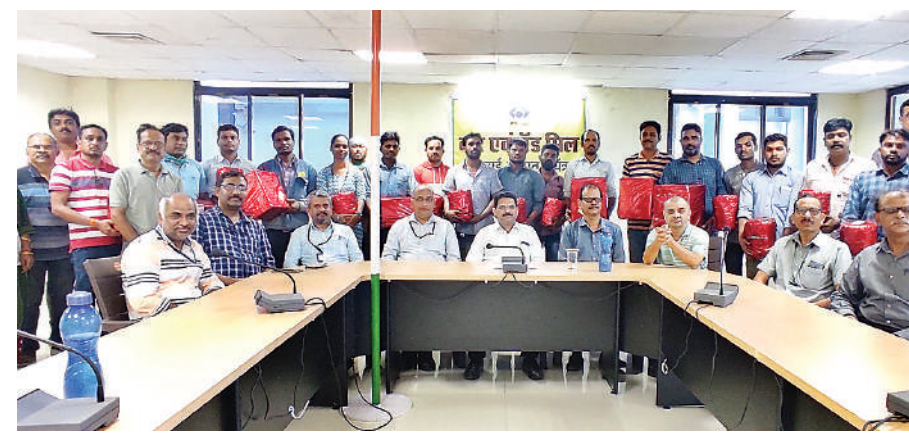
Bhilai, Jul 04: Employees belonging to Power zone of Bhilai Steel Plant were awarded with the 'Pali Shiromani' and 'Karm Shiromani Puraskar' on July 03, 2023 for their exemplary work performance under the 'Shiromani Puraskar Yojana' of Bhilai Steel

Plant. Pali Shiromani Award winner of the Power zone included Syed Jamsheed Ali, Sr Manager, PNBS and Karm Shiromani Award winner KS Srinivas, MOCT. PEM were felicitated for their exemplary work. The function was presided over by Rajiv

Pandey, CGM (Power Facilities), Departmental HODs HK Sahu, GM I/c (PNBS & PEM), Sanjay Nikhar, GM (PNBS), Abhay Kumar, GM (PNBS), Prabhakar Sawa Khobragade, GM (PEM), P Krishna Mohan, GM (PNBS), Rahul Nigam, GM (PEM), Sheikh Zakir, GM (PNBS),

Pankaj, AGM (PNBS) and other executives of the various section presented the award winners with a certificate of merit, memento and appreciation letter for the spouse of the employee. The programme was conducted by the Personnel Office of P&E Zone.

BSP's BRM felicitates Contractual Workers with Suraksha Sajagta Awards



Bhilai, Jul 04: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Bar and Rod Mill (BRM) Department organised Safety Awards Programme to felicitate the Contractual Workers engaged in the plant to promote safety culture. The Suraksha Sajagta Award ceremony for the year 2022 was held at SEGR Building Conference Hall on July 01, 2023. Mukesh Kumar Gupta, CGM (BRM) was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Addressing the gathering, Mukesh

Kumar Gupta spoke on the role of Suraksha Sajagta Awards and appreciated the contractual workers for their importance and contribution towards the Plant. Gupta also emphasized upon the importance of safety and safety training and urged the workers present to abide by the safety measures at all instances. The contractual workers of BRM were felicitated under three categories, namely 'Suraksha Sarvottam', 'Suraksha Anmol' and 'Suraksha

Daksh' for their contribution towards safety & work culture. Mukesh Kumar Gupta, CGM (BRM) felicitated the selected workers by giving them gifts and wished them a bright future. General Managers of BRM SK Behera, Sachchidanand Tripathi and Ashish also felicitated the workers and appreciated their contribution in the progress of the Plant. Other Senior Officials of the Plant were also present on this occasion, along with personnel.

Meeting of I Square CFT Team held for safety enhancement

Bhilai, Jul 04: An important meeting of the Cross Functional Team of Incident Investigation (I Square CFT Team) for safety enhancement by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant was organised in the Conference Hall of Executive Director (Finance & Accounts) on June 29. In this program, Dr Ashok Kumar Panda, Executive Director (Finance & Accounts), Leader of "I Square CFT team" of SAIL BSP, was present as the Chief Guest.

On this occasion, cluster owner of "I Square CFT team", Anish Sengupta, CGM (URM), Saumya Tokdar, CGM (Blast Furnace), Anup Kumar Dutta, CGM (Sinter Plants), SK Gajbhiye, CGM (Mechanical), Indrajit Sengupta, GM I/c (RMD), Madhu Pillai, GM (Instrumentation), Nirmal Kumar Detha, GM (SMS-2 Mechanical), BK Mohapatra Chief Fire Officer and AP Pansari AGM (Finance & Accounts) were present.



"I Square CFT" Team Leader Executive Director (Finance & Accounts) Dr Ashok Kumar Panda while addressing the gathering apprised the members about the seriousness of Incident Investigation to strengthen the safety in the plant. At the same time, he congratulated all the successful participants of "Train the Trainer" of Incident Investigation and expressed the need to train a greater number of personnel and officers of the plant in Incident Investigation. He also instructed them to start

these programs as soon as possible. In his speech, he said that in order to prevent the recurrence of accidents, "Why Why Analysis" must be carried out seriously in Incident Investigation. So that the root causes of the accident can be known and appropriate efforts can be made to remove it and prevent its recurrence. At the beginning of the program, Chief Fire Officer BK Mohapatra threw light on the usefulness of the meeting. Along with this, the meeting was first started with safety sharing.

At the end of the meeting, Executive Director (Finance & Accounts) Dr Ashok Kumar Panda, leader of the I Square CFT team, awarded certificates for certified trainers to the trainers who successfully completed the "Train the Trainer" training on Incident Investigation. It may be noted that under this important training, a special training program has been designed by BSP's safety consultant "Swasya Solutions" to make the officers and employees of the plant proficient in "Train the Trainer" of Incident

Investigation. In this training, only after passing through the prescribed evaluation method, the trainees who get the prescribed marks are eligible for training as certified trainers. A total of 37 plant executives were certified as Certified Trainers in Incident Investigation's "Train the Trainer". These include:- Ajay Kaushal, Amit Kumar Singh, Anurag Pathak, Bharat Goyal, Dr. AR Sontke, BC Mandal, Gangadhar More, Gaurav Singhal, Gone Ajay Kumar, Hemant Kumar Verma, Janak Lal Meshram, Kuldeep Singh Tomar, Manish Kashyap, Nitin Goyal, Palvendra Singh, Prashant Kumar, Rajat Kumar Sarkar, Rakesh Chowdhary, Ranjan Kumar Panda, Sandeep Gupta, SR Shende, Sanjay Kumar Pandey, Shakeel Ahmed Khan, Shashikant Banyan, Shiv Kumar, S Narendra Rao, T S Verma, V Janardhan Rao, Vijay Kumar, V K Chowdhary, Satyawan Nayak, etc.

BJP leaders invite people for Prime Minister's rally



Bhilai, Jul 04: Rajya Sabha MP Saroj Pandey distributed the invitation cards among the shopkeepers and common people in the Indra Market, Moti Complex and other areas of Durg City for the public rally of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to be held in Raipur on

July 7. She moved across Sarafa Line, Gandhi Chowk, Jawahar Chowk, Hatni Bazar and other areas to distribute the cards. BJP State Working Committee member Usha Tawari, former Mayor Chandrika Chandrakar, BJP District Vice President Natwar

Tamarkar, Kantilal Jain, Secretary Ashish Nimje, Leader of Opposition Ajay Verma, Spokesperson Dinesh Dewangan, Media in-charge Raja Mahobia, Rakesh Duggad, Senior BJP leader Chainsukh Bhattar, Former Mandal President Lukesh Baghel,

Shekhar Chandrakar, Nitesh Sahu, Sarita Mishra, Swati Sahu and others accompanied her. Rajya Sabha MP Saroj Pandey said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the most respected leader of the world, is scheduled to arrive on the holy land of Chhattisgarh on July 7. She said that our country is moving towards becoming a world guru and the credit goes to the famous Prime Minister of the country, Narendra Modi, who took decisions with historical and far-reaching consequences. She appealed to the residents of Durg Bhilai to attend the general meeting in maximum number. Councilor Devnarayan

Chandrakar, Narendra Banjare, Dr Dev Narayan Tandi, Councilor Gayatri Sahu, Narendra Banjare, Omprakash Sen, Ajit Vaidya Chameli Sahu, Shashi Sahu, Kumari Sahu, Hema Sharma, Kumud Baghel, Tanuja Baghel, Pilia Sahu, Santosh Kosare, Dr Bhavna Diwakar, Seema Sharma, Deepak Dewangan, Asha Subba, Mamta Jain, Seema Tidke, and others were present. In Bhilai, MP Vijay Baghel met the people at Boria Market area. On the completion of 09 years tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he conducted a special public outreach campaign to



make the people aware of the working of 09 years of the government. MP Vijay Baghel, BJP District President Brijesh Bichpuria met the people and traders at this market. Counting the achievements of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he said that the country is

moving forward to become Vishwa Guru under the leadership of Narendra Modi. BJP General Secretary Yogendra Singh, Prem Lal Sahu, Amar Sonkar, Former Mandal President Gajanand Banchoore, Brijendra Singh, Shiv Sagar

Mishra, Bhagchand Jain, Rajni Kant Pandey, Mogra Deshmukh, Ashok Jain, Manoj Tiwari, Sanjay Dani, Anjay Dubey, Sharda Gupta, Mahendra Pratap Singh, Nirmala Naidu, Rashmi Singh, Leena Nayyar, and other party workers were present.

WHAT AFTER THIS? Is Equal to ENDLESS GREED

Who says, Money, power, Wealth, Status, Luxury, Lavishness can fully satisfy we Humans? Even in case, we have all these ornamental Materialistic comforts either through our ancestral legacy or hard earned by ourselves. Presently, the whole life-style of existing generations in Maximum part of the Globe seems to be hitting countless targets, achieving results but sadly away from absolute 'PEACE OF MIND'. Own, family members, Extended relatives, neighbours, strangers all ap-

pear to be 'LIFELESS MOVING BODIES WITHOUT RESTING SOULS'. Under such incredible swings of 'NEGATIVITY' rapping the whole of our existence, what could be the remedial alternate to come out of such vicious circle? In my opinion, we all have almost forgotten to live for ourselves than for others/society, respect ourselves than respecting others, believing our own strength and potency than be helped by the crutches supported by others, these all at the cost of catching far-off 'BIRDS' than to have what is in our own



HANDS. I, not only believe, but am damn sure it is not the 'world' which makes you restless rather it is your own 'SET OF MIND' which always gets fascinated towards others at the cost of your 'SELF-IGNORANCE'. If one hon-

estly does analyse his or her life-journey since birth, one must count all factors together as a 'BUNCH OF FORTUNE' like the place of your birth, the family in which you are born and brought-up the culture, resources, environment, people with whom you lived and living and in addition to this our analytical approach must pass through all these layers then No, doubt you can find your deserving place where you are or you ought to be and this critical approach of SELF-ASSESSMENT will certainly make you more satisfied

if not matches your life-style with A 'MAN BORN WITH SILVER SPOON'. However, Rose can't be compared with Lotus, Lion can't be with fish and similarly snakes can't be with fox, This is what a real RAINBOW of the universe, where each colour has its own significance which can never be overruled. By GV Rajshekher Rao, Fulbright Scholar (USA)/PRINCIPAL TATA DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL, SONADIH, Baloda Bazar, Chhattisgarh

'Rural devp possible through positive approach'

● Chhattisgarhi Film 'Zero Banhi Hero' draws attention with strong message

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jul 04: Giving a strong message of rural development, the regional film of Chhattisgarh "Zero Banhi Hero" has been able to draw attention of audience in the initial days of film release. Film made by first women Director Bharati Verma focus on rural development in which she narrates that the development is possible with positive approach. She said that the



social media could be a handy tool for the betterment of region, state and country and not just be a means of entertainment for youth. Buoyed with the success of movie, Director Bharati Verma said that they have beautifully picturised the movie whereas the songs

and dialogues too have become popular with local touch given. Film also deals with political satire which has been also the reason for the success. Folk songs too have been added to attract the local people in the film being screened across Chhattisgarh including Shyam Cinema in Raipur.



BRIEF



Lord Shiva devotees or 'Kanwaris' carry holy water during 'Kanwar Yatra' in the month of 'Shrawan', in Haridwar, Tuesday.

Watery grave

Kathua: Two youths hailing from Himachal Pradesh were feared drowned in Ranjit Sagar dam in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, a police official said. Gagan (20) and Sahil (19), both residents of Sadar Bazar area of Dalhousie, were taking bath when they ventured into the deep waters and went missing around 4.15 pm, he said.

Exempt

Ranchi: The High Court of Jharkhand on Tuesday exempted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi from personal appearance in a Ranchi court in the Modi surname case. Justice SK Dwivedi also ordered that no coercive steps be taken against Gandhi. The senior Congress leader had moved the high court challenging the Ranchi MP-MLA court order that had directed him to appear in person in a defamation case. The case will be heard again on August 16.

Divert

New Delhi: Four flights were diverted from the Delhi airport in the afternoon on Tuesday due to bad weather in the national capital, according to an official. The official said three flights were diverted to Amritsar and one flight to Lucknow. All were domestic flights. Light rainfall or thundershower has been predicted for Delhi on Tuesday.

Protest

Bhubaneswar: V K Pandian, the private secretary to Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, on Tuesday faced the ire of Aam Admi Party (AAP) workers when they allegedly threw eggs at the IAS officer's carcade during his visit to Subarnapur district. The incident took place on the Kota Samalei-Ulunda road when Pandian's carcade was on its way to Subarnapur town.

Deferred

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday deferred the oath taking ceremony of DERC chairperson-designate Justice (retd) Umesh Kumar and sought responses from the Centre and the office of the Lieutenant Governor on a plea of the Delhi government challenging the law governing such an appointment.

Weather
High 36 Low 26

MARKET
NIFTY 19,389.00
SENSEX 65,479.05

BULLION
GOLD 58,466
SILVER 69,691

PM's strong message on terrorism in presence of Pak PM Sharif

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

In a veiled reference to Pakistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday told leaders of the SCO nations that the grouping must not hesitate to criticise countries supporting cross-border terrorism as an instrument of state policy and there must not be any "double standards" in combating terrorist activities.

With Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russia's Vladimir Putin listening, Modi said at a virtual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) that "decisive action" is required to deal with terrorism and terror financing. Chairing the summit, Modi talked about



PM Narendra Modi attends the virtual SCO Summit, Tuesday.

the growing importance of the SCO and said, "It is our shared responsibility to understand each other's

needs and sensitivities and resolve all challenges through better cooperation and coordination." The remarks came amid the lingering border row between India and China. In his opening remarks, Modi also highlighted the need for boosting connectivity, but asserted that it is essential to respect the basic principles of the SCO charter, especially the sovereignty and territorial integrity of member states, while making such efforts. There has been increasing global criticism of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). India has been severely critical of the BRI as the project includes the so-called China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that passes through Pakistan occupied Kashmir.

'India leads in spirituality, technology and economy'

Amaravati, Jul 04 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said India was marching ahead in various fields, including technology and economy even as spiritual centres are re-viving in the country.

In his virtual address during the inauguration of Sai Hira Global Convention Centre at Prasanthi Nilayam in Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh, Modi pointed out that 40 per cent of the total real-time online transactions took place in India and urged the devotees to transform the entire district of Puttaparthi (Sri Satya Sai district) into a

digital economy. Noting that climate change posed a big challenge to the entire world in 21st century, Modi said India has taken up initiatives like Mission LiFE in the global platform. Affirming that the world trusts India's leadership, he said India is holding the presidency of the prestigious G-20 this year, whose theme of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" is drawn from the country's fundamental thinking.

He further said that India has the third largest startup ecosystem in the world and was competing with big countries in areas such as digital technology and 5G technology.

Uddhav goes to SC again over Shinde's disqualification

Accuses Maha Speaker of bias

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Shiv Sena (UBT) has once again knocked the door of the Supreme Court seeking direction to the Maharashtra assembly speaker to expeditiously adjudicate the disqualification petitions filed against Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and other Sena MLAs, who had tied up with the BJP to form a new government in June 2022, in a time-bound manner. The plea by Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) MLA Sunil



Prabhurao, who as chief whip of the undivided Shiv Sena had in 2022 filed the disqualification petitions against Shinde and other MLAs, alleged Speaker Rahul Narwekar is deliberately delaying the adjudication despite the May 11 verdict of the apex court.

"The petitioner is constrained to invoke the extraordinary jurisdiction of this court under Article 32

Honorary doctorate

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI)

India's chief national badminton coach Pullela Gopichand was awarded an honorary doctorate by Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence, Karnataka on the occasion of its second convocation. Gopichand, along with four other eminent Indians, were bestowed with the honour by President Droupadi Murmu on Monday for their contribution to nation-building.

NH Narayana Health

HEART VALVE CLINIC

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

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

Free Registration | ECG | Consultation

For more information
9538052378

NH MMI Narayana Superspecialty Hospital, Lalpur, Raipur

PM to visit Ch'garh on July 7

Set to inaugurate, lay foundation stones of multiple projects

New Delhi, Jul 04 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Rajasthan on July 7 and 8 during which he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of about 50 projects worth around

Rs 50,000 crore, official sources said Tuesday. All these states, except Uttar Pradesh, are slated to go to polls later this year. On Friday, Prime Minister Modi will first travel from Delhi to Raipur, where he will lay the foundation stone and dedicate multiple projects, including the six-lane sections of the Raipur-Vishakhapatnam corridor, to people. Thereafter, he will attend a public meeting. The prime

minister will then travel to Gorakhpur where will attend a programme at the Gita Press, the sources said. Thereafter, he will flag off Vande Bharat trains on three routes and also lay the foundation stone for redevelopment of the Gorakhpur railway station. From Gorakhpur, Modi will travel to his constituency, Varanasi, where he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of multiple key projects.

CSAS terms UCC as threat to existence of tribals

Raipur, Jul 04:

Chhattisgarh Sarva Adivasi Samaj (CSAS), an umbrella body of tribal groups in the state, on Tuesday said the Central government should not be in a hurry to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), as such a law will be a threat to the existence of tribals who have their own customary rules to govern their society.

CSAS president and former Union minister Arvind Netam in a press conference here said his organisation does not completely object to a common civil law, but the Centre should take every one into confidence before bringing it forth. He, how-

ever, said it seems impractical to implement the UCC in a tribal society.

The Law Commission of India has invited suggestions for the UCC in the country and tribal communities of Chhattisgarh have submitted their opinions keeping in view their customary rules, Netam said. The UCC aims to enact a common law related to birth, marriage and property rights. The tribal community is governed by its customary laws in matters of birth, divorce, partition, succession, inheritance, land and property and this is its identity which is different from the rest of the castes, communities and religions, he said.



Tourists react during monsoon rain at the Taj Mahal, in Agra, Tuesday.

Security forces bust Naxalite camp; recover explosives

Bijapur, Jul 04 (PTI):

Security forces on Tuesday busted a Naxalite camp in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district following an encounter and recovered explosives and other materials, police said.

The face-off took place in the early hours of the day in a hilly forest near Isulnar village, where Naxalites had set up a transit camp, a senior police official said.

The security forces received a tip-off about the presence of 40-50 armed Naxalites, including senior leaders like Company No. 02 commander Vella Modiyam, division military in-charge Rahul Telam, and Gangalur area committee secretary Dinesh Modiyam

About the face-off....

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Items recovered...

A tiffin bomb, eight gelatin sticks, 20 meter cordex wire, 15 meter fuse wire, four detonators, batteries, solar plate, Maoist bags and literature and items of daily use were recovered from the hideout.

Naxalites opened indiscriminate fire on security personnel prompting them to retaliate, he said.

However, they managed to escape from the spot, leaving behind their belongings, he added. A tiffin bomb, eight gelatin sticks, 20 meter cordex wire, 15 meter fuse wire, four detonators, batteries, solar plate, Maoist bags and literature and items of daily use were recovered from the hideout, he said. Blood stains found at the spot suggest that three to four Naxalites were either killed or injured in the firing, but their colleagues managed to remove them from the scene, the official said, adding that a search operation was underway in nearby areas.

Ten killed as truck rams into hotel

In Maharashtra's Dhule

Mumbai, Jul 04 (PTI):

Ten people were killed and 26 injured after a truck hit four vehicles and rammed into a roadside hotel in northern Maharashtra's Dhule district on Tuesday morning, police said. The truck driver and his assistant too were killed in the accident that took place around 10.45 am near Palasner village on the Mumbai-Agra highway, more than 300 km from the state capital.

As per an RTO official, the truck had dashed a motorcycle a few km ahead of the accident spot and the driver was apparently speeding in panic. Near Palasner, he lost



control of the multi-axle truck which hit two motorcycles, a car and a container truck from behind before ramming into a hotel and overturning, he said.

Police had earlier said that a brake failure apparently led to the accident. The victims included a few people waiting for a bus near the hotel. There were two women and a 17-year-old youngster among the deceased, police said.

The driver and his assistant were residents of Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.

SRK injured in LA

Mumbai, Jul 04 (PTI):

Get well soon wishes for Shah Rukh Khan flooded social media platforms on Tuesday after reports that the star was injured and underwent surgery in Los Angeles where he was shooting for a project. Though there was no official confirmation from Khan's office, sources close to him were quoted as saying that he received a minor nose injury and now was back home in Mumbai.

According to ETimes, Shah Rukh began bleeding and was immediately rushed to hospital. His team was informed by the doctors that there was nothing to worry. There was no response from his



team despite several attempts. There is no update on when the actor got injured or the project he was shooting for.

Worried fans took to social media to wish the 57-year-old actor a speedy recovery. "Get well soon my King, Allah is with you all the time," a fan wrote on Twitter. "I wish for ur speedy recovery sir! Get well soon... sending lots of

Undergoes surgery....

Shah Rukh Khan reportedly had a surgery in the US after he met with an accident in Los Angeles during a shoot, reported ETimes. According to the report, the actor is back to India and he is recuperating at home. ETimes quoted a source as saying, "SRK was shooting in Los Angeles for a project and he ended up hurting his nose. He began bleeding and was immediately rushed to a hospital. His team was informed by the doctors that there was nothing to worry and that King Khan would need to undergo a minor surgery to stop the bleeding. Post the operation, SRK was spotted with a bandage on his nose."

love and positivity your way," a fan tweeted. "He will be fine. In Sha Allah," prayed another.

Kerala police raids offices of Malayalam online news channel

KUWJ condemns action against its employees

Kochi, Jul 04 (PTI):

A special team of the Kochi city police has carried out searches at the offices of a Malayalam online news channel as part of an investigation to trace its editor following a case filed against him under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act by an MLA belonging to the ruling Left.

Police said their teams carried out searches at the offices of "Marunadan Malayali" in Thiruvananthapuram and an office-cum-residence in Kochi last night and seized computers and memory cards as part of their in-

vestigation to find out the whereabouts of its absconding editor, Shajan Skaria. The police intensified the action against the online channel, days after the Kerala High Court dismissed Skaria's anticipatory bail plea in the complaint lodged by Kunnathunad MLA P V Sreenijn with the Elamakkara police.

In a Facebook post, the online channel condemned the police action against it, alleging that it was being hunted down by the police. The online channel said the police search at its office lasted till midnight, and computers, cameras, and laptops were seized. It was further alleged the police also reached the residences of its employees and seized their personal computers.