

BRIEF



IAF's helicopters shower flower petals as the national flag is being unfurled at the rampart of the Red Fort, during full dress rehearsal for the celebrations of 77th Independence Day, in New Delhi, Sunday.

Terminated

Kochi: The Kerala government on Sunday decided to terminate the service of a nurse working on contract basis at a taluk hospital in Angamally near Ernakulam for allegedly wrongly administering a rabies vaccine to a feverish child. The incident took place on August 11 when the seven-year-old child was sitting in front of the laboratory awaiting a blood test.

Address

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu will address the nation on the eve of the 77th Independence Day on August 14, the Rashtrapati Bhavan said on Sunday. The address will be broadcast from 7 pm on the entire national network of Akashvani and telecast on all Doordarshan channels in Hindi followed by the English version, the Rashtrapati Bhavan said in a statement.

KHARGE TO VOTERS

'Back Congress in 2024 LS elections'

■ Confident of party's win in Chh'garh

Janjgir, Aug 13:

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday expressed confidence that his party will once again win the Chhattisgarh assembly polls due by the year-end, and urged people to support it in the next year's Lok Sabha elections "to save Constitution and democracy".

He was speaking at 'Bharose Ka Sammelan', an event organised here by the Congress government in Chhattisgarh. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and leaders of the ruling party were present at the event. "The Bharatiya Janata Party-led Centre is trying to destroy the people. But people should remain alert and elect the Congress to power in the next Lok Sabha election. We are confident of the party's victory in Chhattisgarh (assembly polls)," Kharge said. "We want to save the Constitution and democracy. Therefore, we have to work in the entire country," he said.

He criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "not answering questions" asked by Rahul



Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge with Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and others during the 'Bharose Ka Sammelan' programme, in Janjgir-Champa district, Sunday.

What Kharge said....

"The Bharatiya Janata Party-led Centre is trying to destroy the people. But people should remain alert and elect the Congress to power in the next Lok Sabha election. We are confident of the party's victory in Chhattisgarh (assembly polls)," Kharge said. "We want to save the Constitution and democracy. Therefore, we have to work in the entire country," he said. He criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "not answering questions" asked by Rahul Gandhi and opposition INDIA alliance leaders on the Manipur issue during his speech in Parliament.

Gandhi and opposition INDIA alliance leaders on the Manipur issue during his speech in Parliament.

"Instead, he continued to blame the Congress party and mock its leaders in his speech," Kharge said. The Congress chief accused PM Modi of working to divide the country and society, and

also slammed him for asking what the Congress did in the last 70 years.

"No member of the Gandhi family became prime minister, chief minister or minister after Rajiv Gandhi. The Gandhi family never fought for power as its members just wanted to serve the nation," he said.

Mild tremor in Chh'garh; no casualty

Pendra, Aug 13:

A mild tremor of 3.6 magnitude hit the border area of Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (GPM) and Korba districts in Chhattisgarh on Sunday morning, officials said.

The aftershocks were felt in some parts of the two districts, but so far there was no report of any

loss of life or property, according to officials.

"A 3.6 magnitude tremor was felt in Pendra town and adjoining areas at 9.09 am, with its epicentre five kilometres deep from the earth's surface in Chandauti village, on the border of Korba and GPM districts," a Meteorological department official here said.

FISCAL HEALTH

Chh'garh second best after Maha

■ Bengal, Punjab, Kerala biggest laggards

Mumbai, Aug 13 (PTI):

Chhattisgarh, one of the poorest states in the country, is the second best in overall fiscal health scorecard after Maharashtra, and ahead of Telangana, while the bottom three are Bengal, Punjab and Kerala, shows a report by a foreign brokerage. Based on the FY24 first budget estimates, the top three states are Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Telangana, and the bottom three states are Bengal, Punjab and Kerala, shows a report on the fiscal health of the key 17 states, penned by Kaushik Das, the chief economist at Deutsche Bank India. Based on the FY23 revised budget estimates, Maharashtra tops the ranking, followed by Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Telangana and Jharkhand.

PFI PLOT CASE

NIA raids in 5 states, devices seized

New Delhi, Aug 13 (PTI):

The National Investigation Agency on Sunday conducted a series of raids in five states as part of its continued efforts to foil the Popular Front of India's conspiracy to disturb peace by driving a communal wedge among the people and destabilise the country, an official said.

Fourteen locations were searched in Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar, leading to the seizure of several digital devices as well as incriminating documents, a spokesperson of the federal agency said.

The official said the raids were conducted in Kannur and Malappuram districts of Kerala, Dakshin Kannada in Karnataka, Nashik and Kolhapur in Maharashtra, Murshidabad in West Bengal and Katihar in Bihar.

About raids...

The official said the raids were conducted in Kannur and Malappuram districts of Kerala, Dakshin Kannada in Karnataka, Nashik and Kolhapur in Maharashtra, Murshidabad in West Bengal and Katihar in Bihar. "The NIA has been working to unravel and thwart the attempts by PFI and its top leadership to create an armed cadre and raise a PFI Army for establishing an Islamic caliphate in India by 2047 through acts of terror, violence and sabotage."

Bengal and Katihar in Bihar. "The NIA has been working to unravel and thwart the attempts by PFI and its top leadership to create an armed cadre and raise a PFI Army for establishing an Islamic caliphate in India by 2047 through acts of terror, violence and sabotage."

JCC (J) MLA Dharmjeet Singh joins BJP

Raipur, Aug 13:

Legislator Dharmjeet Singh, who was expelled from the Janta Congress Chhattisgarh (J) last year, joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) here on Sunday, ahead of the state assembly polls due this year-end. Former Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer SSD Badgaiya also joined the main opposition party in Chhattisgarh during a function held at Kushabhau Thakre Parisar, the state BJP's headquarters in Raipur. Union minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who is also BJP's joint in-charge for the Chhattisgarh assembly polls, state party president Arun Sao, former chief minister Raman Singh and other senior party leaders were present on the occasion. Welcoming Dharmjeet Singh and Badgaiya into the BJP, Sao said people from different parties and sections of society have been joining the BJP, which clearly indicates a "wind of change" is blowing in Chhattisgarh and after November, lotus will bloom in the state.

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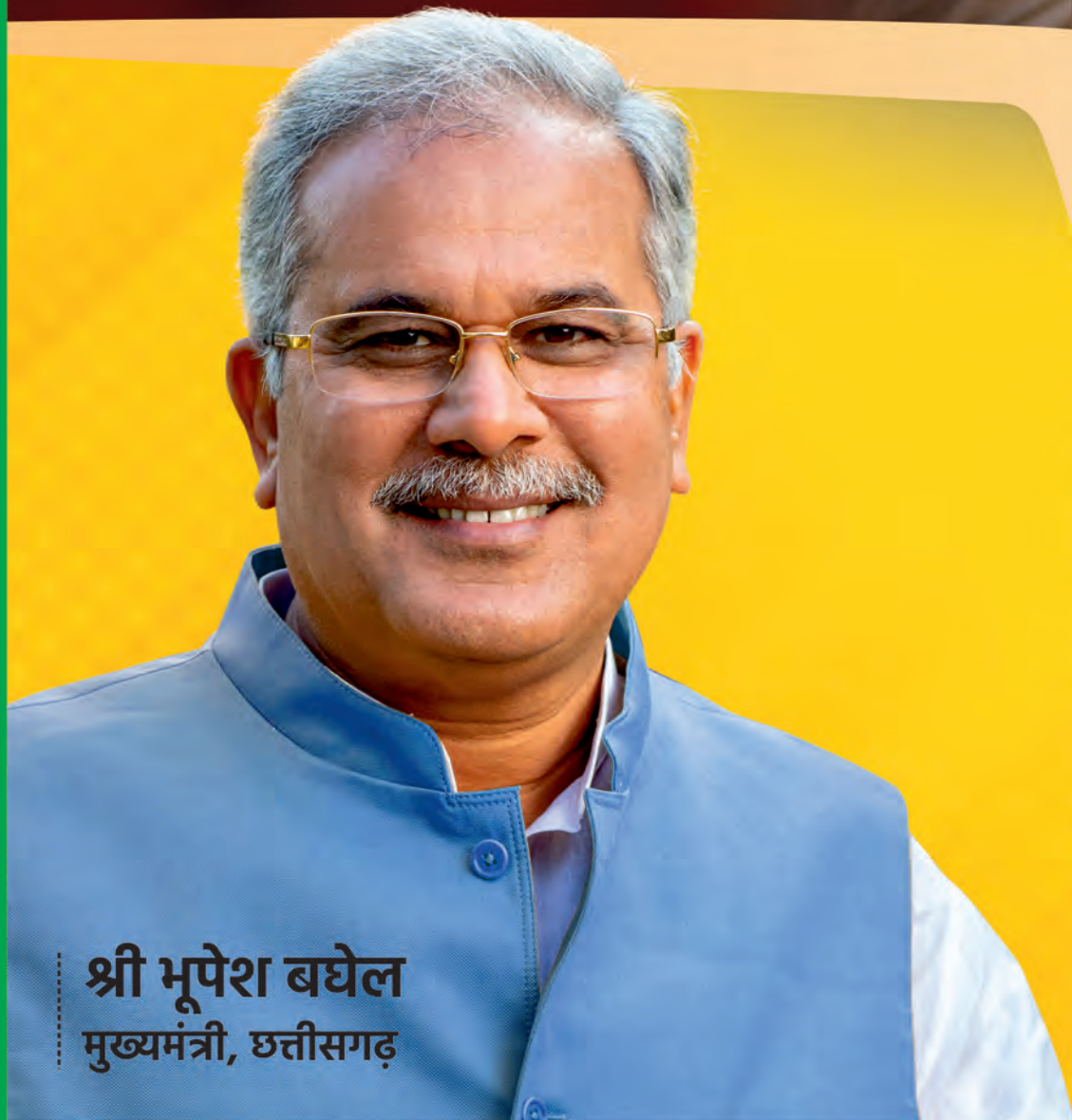


जीत रहे युद्ध कुपोषण के विरुद्ध

मुख्यमंत्री सुपोषण अभियान

आंगनवाड़ी केंद्रों में
बच्चों को पोषक आहार

2.65 लाख
बच्चे सुपोषित



श्री भूपेश बघेल
मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़

किशोरियों व महिलाओं को संतुलित आहार
चिककी लड्डू, गुड़ व चना और आयरन व फोलिक
एसिड की गोलियां

1.65 लाख
महिलाओं ने दी एनीमिया को मात

छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार - भरोसे की सरकार

State stood with people in adverse conditions: Baghel

Medical College in Janjgir-Champa to be named after state's first female MP Minimata

Huge crowd present in 'Bharose ka Sammelan' held in Janjgir-Champa

Janjgir-Champa, Aug 13: The Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel addressing at the 'Bharose Ka Sammelan' in Khokhara of Janjgir-Champa district said that the name of the first medical college to be opened in Janjgir-Champa will be in the name of first female MP of Chhattisgarh Minimata, as her electoral area was Janjgir-Champa. This medical College will be constructed on 25 acre land. In his address in Chhattisgarhi language, CM Baghel said that the state government stood

with the people of the state even during adverse situations. The government was with the farmers and fulfilled loan waiver promise and purchase of paddy on MSP. He said that on Aug 20, the new installment under Rajiv Gandhi Kissan Nyay Yojana would be credited directly into farmers account on August 20.

Rajya Sabha MP Kharge was welcomed by garlanding him with a huge garland and presenting him with famous 'Kosa' shawl of Janjgir-Champa and 'khumari' by CM Bhupesh Baghel, Speaker State Assembly Dr Charandas Mahant, former Union Minister Kumari Selja, Dy. CM of State TS Singh Deo, LS MP Deepak Baij. On this occasion the cabinet ministers and public representatives and citizens were present in large number.

CM Baghel further said that his Government is working for the welfare of



farmers, labourers, women, poor, youth and people from all sections of the society. The government has worked to take forward all sections of the society and for their protection as well. Through various schemes, funds worth more than Rs. 1.75 lakh cr has been transferred directly into the accounts of the beneficiaries

and in this there is no middlemen, as the money has been transferred directly into people's pocket. This year we have purchased 107 lakh MT of paddy from farmers and the amount reached into their account on the third day itself. This year the government plans to purchase 20 quintal per acre from farmers, he added.

CM Baghel said that Chhattisgarh is the only state in the country where the labourers is being given financial benefit of Rs 7000 per annum. We are purchasing Tendupatta at Rs 4000 per standard lot of bag from more than 13 lakh families of forest people. In entire country, cowdung is not purchase anywhere, but in Chhattisgarh

we are purchasing it at Rs 2 per kg. Benefit of 'half-bijli' yojana has been passed onto 42 lakh families in the state and now we would construct 'Jaitkhambh' in every block and the Sarpanch of Gram Panchayats will get it constructed. Now there is not a single society which can say that the government has not given us land

or money for construction of building etc.

CM Baghel said that the tradition and culture of Chhattisgarh has got a new identity. We are holding programmes like 'Ramayan Mahotsav', 'Rashtriya Adivasi Mahotsav', 'Yuwa Mahotsav' and others. People are now returning towards farming and agriculture. Now from 12 lakh the strength of farmers has increased to 26 lakh and they are associated with Rajiv Gandhi Kissan Nyay Yojana. The crops other than paddy too have been brought under various schemes. CM Baghel said that the condition of farmers five years back was in bad shape and there was more of corruption and commission business. Now it is his government who has strengthened the condition of farmers. In earlier government the unemployment allowance was just Rs 300 and now we have paid UA of Rs 112 cr to 1.22 lakh

eligible unemployed youths.

On this occasion Leader of Opposition in RS Mallikarjun Kharge, and CM Baghel and other guests inspected the stalls and exhibitions of different schemes by the department. CM Baghel gave information to Kharge about the state government's schemes and its development.

The programme was attended by LS MP Deepak Baij, LS MP Jyotsna Mahant, Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Ravindra Choubey, Mohammed Akbar, Dr Shiv Kumar Daharia, Jaisingh Agrawal, Amarjeet Bhagat, Anila Bhedia, Kawasi Lakhma, Umesh Patel, Moham Markam, Guru Rudrakumar, State Planning Commission President Dr Premjai Singh Tekam, Parliamentary Secretaries, MLAs and Chairmen of Boards and Corporations and citizens.

Prisoner in Central Jail dies under mysterious circumstances

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Aug 13: A prisoner in the Central Jail Raipur, Chhattisgarh died under mysterious circumstances. Prisoner Pankaj Rai (30) fell unconscious in the jail.

The deceased youth was a resident of Bihar Patna. He was lodged in the jail in NDPS case. After information from the jail administration, Ganj police station sent the dead body for post-mortem.

Postmortem was done after the arrival of the

relatives.

Meanwhile the relatives have blamed the jail administration. It has been said in the allegation that even after the death on Thursday, no one was informed by the jail.

Information about this was received from the people who came to meet the other prisoner.

At the same time, it has also been said in the allegation that two-three days ago there was a fight with Pankaj in the jail. However, the matter will be revealed after the PM

report comes.

According to the information available, Pawan Rai was nabbed from Raipur by DRI three years ago while taking major action and 'Ganja' was recovered from his possession.

He was a truck driver and was lodged in Raipur Central Jail.

He suddenly fell unconscious in the jail on Thursday and subsequently he was brought to the jail hospital and then to Ambedkar hospital where the doctors declared him brought dead.

Contractor himself is writing, 50% commission is being taken

● Says Baghel on the FIR against Priyanka in MP

Raipur, Aug 13: Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's tweet on demand for 50 per cent commission in Madhya Pradesh has sparked off political reactions in Chhattisgarh also. Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in his reaction to the FIR lodged against Priyanka Gandhi said in a conversation with the media "when the contractors

themselves are writing that 50 per cent commission is being taken, then what other proof is needed? The FIR will not hide the truth."

Priyanka Gandhi had posted a tweet in which it was claimed that 50 per cent commission is being taken in the Shivraj government in MP. However, BJP has categorically denied this. BJP's legal cell has registered FIRs in 41 districts against not only Priyanka Gandhi but also many leaders including Kamal Nath, Arun Yadav in MP.

FULL DRESS REHEARSAL



Full dress rehearsal was held at the Police Parade ground for the final Independence Day parade to be held on Tuesday.

Students should contribute in building a new India and a self-reliant India: Guv

Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan virtually attended the third convocation of O.P Jindal University Raigarh
522 students were awarded degrees

522 students were awarded 22 gold, 24 silver and 22 bronze medals, PhD degree, postgraduate, graduate and diploma degrees in the convocation ceremony.

Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan congratulated all the students, parents and teachers who received the degree. Addressing the convocation event, he said that today India is called the country of youth and it is estimated that by the year 2030, the maximum number of youth in the world will be in our country. In such a situation a massive change is needed in future we need such an education system which is based on positive methods of teaching and learning that will encourage self-reliance. He further added



that the new National Education Policy 2020 is well-planned to develop such an eco-system which will enhance the talent of our young generation. National Education Policy aims to prepare students

for the future while equipping them with the best of our traditions. Educational institutions have an important role in this. During his speech to the students, Governor Biswabhusan

Harichandan emphasized that with the completion of their education, they are now entering the real world. In a rapidly changing world, critical thinking and adaptability are crucial skills. It is now their responsibility to use their education to benefit their families, society, and country. They should strive to help those who are disadvantaged and underprivileged in society, and ensure that they have access to government schemes and resources. As the largest democracy in the world, students should be proud of their country and always prioritize its interests. Furthermore, they should be at the forefront of addressing social and other issues that hinder the nation's growth and development.

Sutureless Valve successfully implanted 65-year-old patient

● In Heart Surgery Department of Ambedkar Hospital

Raipur, Aug 13: A new history was created with implantation of a sutureless aortic valve in the heart of a 65-year-old woman with severe aortic valve stenosis, at the Department of Heart, Chest and Vascular Surgery, Advanced Cardiac Institute (ACI) of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, affiliated to Pt Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College, Raipur. It sounds strange to hear as to how can a valve be implanted without stitching, but it is true and it has become possible because of new research in medical science.

Before coming to ACI of this hospital, the patient was having difficulty in breathing for 9 months and

her heart was working only 40 percent due to severe aortic valve stenosis. The valve was developed in such a manner that it does not require stitching and it easily fits inside the heart. This valve is used in patients in the high risk category such as aged people beyond 60 years and those with weak pumping capacity of the heart, explained Dr Krishnakant Sahu, HO, Heart, Chest and Vascular Surgery Department.

The advantage of applying this valve is that the valve is implanted in just 15 to 20 minutes, which reduces the patient's cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) time, said Dr Sahu, adding that the side effects of CPB machine in the body are greatly reduced. The patient gets a lot of valve area due to which the blood flow in the patient's body is more as compared

to other valves, he said. According to him the patient with this valve does not need to take blood thinners.

Medical College Dean Dr Tripti Nagaria and Superintendent of Ambedkar Hospital, Dr SBS Netam have congratulated the doctors and nursing staff of the cardiac surgery department for this successful operation. The team of Dr Krishnakant Sahu that performed this operation comprised Dr Rajnish Malhotra (Proctor), Dr Nishant Singh Chandel, Dr Satwashi (PG), Dr Sanjay Tripathi (JR), Dr Tanya Chhoda (cardiac anaesthetist), perfusionists-Vikas, Digheshwar, Nursing staff-Rajendra, Narendra, Dushyant, Chhaiba, Munesh, Kiran, Priyanka, Kusum, Shiba, Bhupendra, Harish and Tejendra.



State badminton team triumphs with gold and silver

Receives grand welcome at railway station



Raipur, Aug 13: The Chhattisgarh Badminton Team returned home in triumph after a remarkable showing at the West Zone Championship held in Indore. Their commendable performance not only secured a gold and silver victory but also garnered them a grand welcome upon their arrival at the railway station in Raipur. In a display of sheer excellence, the Chhattisgarh Under-19 girls' team clinched the gold medal by defeating Maharashtra in a thrilling contest. Meanwhile, the Under-19 boys' team showcased their mettle by securing a well-deserved silver medal.

earning them a gold medal in the mixed doubles category. In the senior category, the dynamic partnership of Ayush Makhija and Sujay Tamboli further contributed to the state's success with another gold medal.

While Hiral Chauhan and Harshita Ayush Makhija gracefully accepted the silver medal, their dedication and determination were evident through-

out their performances. The heartwarming reception awaited the team as they arrived in Raipur, basking in the glory of their achievements. Led by Pawan Malik and under the expert guidance of coaches Aditya Nair and Prakhar Dixit, the Chhattisgarh Badminton Team's outstanding display serves as a testament to their hard work, skill, and teamwork.

Rural industries should be established in RIPA: Choubey

Raipur, Aug 13: The Panchayat and Rural Development Minister, Ravindra Choubey, emphasised boosting the rural economy through livelihood-focused activities within the state's developing RIPA zones, considering the local requirements. He stressed the promotion of traditional industries within these zones. To support rural industries in RIPA, he advocated comprehensive infrastructure development and the establishment of youth-led ventures. Mr. Choubey urged the involvement of diverse classes and families engaged in traditional businesses in RIPA centres. Mr. Choubey conducted a review meeting of Panchayat Department schemes at Thakur Pyarelal Rajya Panchayat Nimora's auditorium in Raipur. He also inaugurated the District Panchayat Resource Centre



building, worth Rs 3.06 crore. Panchayat and Rural Development Minister, Ravindra Choubey, shared with the officials that the state aimed to provide 11,76,146 houses to the beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G). Presently, 868,223 houses have been completed, while 307,923 are in progress. Emphasising prompt completion of ongoing construction, he instructed the officials to swiftly execute sanctioned MNREGA projects. The Minister directed officials to complete all ongoing MNREGA projects within two months. He instructed the officials to link all

women associated with Gauthan to the activities of the National Rural Livelihood Mission and government schemes, notably those by the Labour Department. Furthermore, he underlined the necessity of financial literacy training for all women in self-help groups.

During a review meeting, Choubey instructed the officials to encourage more villagers to engage in schemes of the Panchayat and Rural Development Department. This approach will boost people's income and support the rural economy. He instructed the officials to expedite ongoing rural industry growth

and economic activities within Gauthans. He also instructed the officials to complete the process of delving into the ODF under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) in compliance with the SBM provisions. Additionally, he approved projects concerning solid and liquid waste management and directed the district administration to expedite their completion. Additional Chief Secretary of Panchayat and Rural Development Department Subrat Sahoo, Secretary of Panchayat and Rural Development Department R.K. Prasanna, Secretary School Education Dr. S. Bhartidasan, Joint Secretary Dr. Gaurav Singh, Commissioner MNREGA Rajat Bansal, Director of Panchayat Department Kartikeya Goyal, Director of SCERT Rajesh Rana, and senior officers were present.

Our govt gives recognition to the place where Shaheed Vir Narayan Singh sacrificed his life: CM

Raipur, Aug 13:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel dedicated several development works worth Rs. 132.42 cr to the people of Raipur on Saturday. Mr. Baghel unveiled the grand statue of Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh at the historic Jai Stambh Chowk in Raipur. The Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for underground cabling and electrification work worth Rs. 102 cr for Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Ltd (CSPDCL).

During the event, the Chief Minister highlighted that in the 1857 revolt, places like Delhi, Jhansi, and Awadh were rebellion centres. Chhattisgarh was equally active in this revolt. Despite being a zamindar, Veernarayan Singhji defied the British orders, leading to his capture and subsequent hanging on December 10 at Jaistambh Chowk, marking his valorous stand against British rule.

His body remained on the gallows for days. His descendants fled, living in hiding, enduring hard-



ships. Eventually, their genealogy was established, with the state government recognising their true lineage. Such martyrs' sacrifices led to the country's freedom.

He shared that the state government has installed a 15-foot statue of Shaheed Vir Narayan Singh. He praised the district administration for their excellent execution of various projects. He inaugurated the 'Rajak Gudi', an Urban Industrial Park (UIP) and laid the foundation stone for various renovation works for parks and lakes. He also inaugurated the 36 community halls for various communities that were approved during the Bhent-Mulakat Abhiyan program.

Deputy Chief Minister T S Singh Deo addressed the gathering, highlighting the homeland's brave heroes who sacrificed their lives for the people. Mr. Rajendra Singh Dewan, Shaheed Virnarayan Singh's seventh-generation descendant, shared Sonakhan's history and the brave tale through poetry.

CM unveils a statue of Shaheed Vir Narayan Singh in Raipur:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel unveiled a 15-foot bronze statue of freedom fighter Shaheed Vir Narayan Singh, weighing 2 tonnes, at Jaistambh Chowk in Raipur. Crafted by sculptors Radheshyam Chakradhari and Lav Chakradhari from



Thanaud village, the statue and beautification work cost Rs. 51 lakh.

CM inaugurates CSPDCL's project worth Rs 112 cr

Chief Minister carried out bhumi-poojan and laid the foundation stone of CSPDCL's Rs. 109 crore underground cabling and electrification project. This initiative aims to enhance urban aesthetics by organising electrical wires by burying them into roads. Additionally, new sub-station and transformers at Mathpuraina

- For the people of Chhattisgarh
- CM dedicates development projects worth Rs. 132.42 cr to the people of Raipur, unveils a 15-foot statue of Shaheed Vir Narayan Singh

and ISBT, costing Rs 3 crore, were inaugurated, ensuring uninterrupted power supply for local residents.

CM inaugurates the Urban Industrial Park "Rajak Gudi"

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the Urban Industrial Park, "Rajak Gudi," at Narayya Talab in the centre of the city, constructed by Raipur Smart City Ltd at a cost of Rs. 69 lakh. The park is equipped with both manual and automatic washing machines, including two 25-kg clothes squeezing machines, a 60-kg washer machine, and a 50-kg dryer machine. Besides catering to traditional businesses, the park focuses on generating em-

ployment for washerman community families. Training will be provided to these families for soap and detergent production. Over 100 washerman families involved in traditional business will benefit from this initiative, enhancing their livelihood through this employment-oriented initiative.

CM inaugurates the renovation works worth Rs.12 cr of 16 parks and lakes in Raipur

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel laid the foundation stone for various works related to water conservation initiated by Raipur Smart City Ltd. With the construction of these buildings, hundreds of families from different communities will have a suitable place for their social and cultural events.

MP Deepak Bajj, MLAs Kuldeep Juneja and Vikas Upadhyay, Mayor Aijaz Dhebar, Chairman Pramod Dubey, Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, and Municipal Commissioner Mr. Mayank Chaturvedi were present.

Mockdrill to start power plant immediately after blackout



Raipur, Aug 13:

In order to re-operate thermal power plants in the event of sudden blackout in the state, a mockdrill (rehearsal) was successfully conducted at the Chhattisgarh State Load Despatch Center for supply of start-up power from Hasdeo Bango hydro power plant. With prompt inclusion of the second line in the Islanding Scheme through employees and engineers posted in the field of the power company, electricity was supplied from the Bango hydropower plant in 1 hour 24 minutes to start the Korba-West plants.

In the event of a sudden blackout, it is difficult to restart the power plants, for this electricity is required immediately, which can be supplied immediately from hydroelectric plants. This mockdrill was done on August 11, 2023 at the Load Despatch Center at Danganिया

Headquarters under the special presence and efficient guidance of Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company's Managing Director Mrs Ujjwala Baghel and Generation Company's Managing Director SK Katiyar.

This "Black Start" mockdrill was monitored by expert engineers of Western Regional Load Dispatch Center in Mumbai using SCADA system. As per the provisions of Indian Electricity Grid Code and State Grid Code, this type of mockdrill has to be done twice in a year. Executive Director RK Shukla, DK Chavda, KS Manothia, AK Verma, Additional Chief Engineer Sharda Sonwani, Girish Gupta and Executive Director of Generation Company, MS Kanwar and his team were present at the State Load Despatch Center Danganिया during mockdrill.

Exhibition in 'Bharose ka Sammelan' becomes a center of attraction for people



Janjgir-Champa, Aug 13:

With the Leader of Opposition Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge as the Chief Guest and presided over by the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, the 'Bharose ka Sammelan' program was organized at Police Line Khokhra of District Headquarters on Sunday. On this occasion, an exhibition and stall were set up by the district administration, which became the center of attraction for the people. In this exhibition, the public welfare schemes run by the state government were displayed in an attractive and elegant manner.

Appreciating these efforts, the citizens said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, there have been many changes in the lives of the common people during the last five years. The standard of living of the people has improved due to the schemes being run by the government, and people are benefiting from them. The Chief Minister has won the hearts of the public through these schemes.

Today, in the 'Bharose Ka Sammelan', CM Bhupesh Baghel launched a total of 1043 development works worth Rs. 467 crore 32 lakh 92 thousand

for the residents of the district. These include the inauguration of 192 development works worth more than Rs 87 crore 24 lakh 21 thousand and Bhumi Pujan of 851 development works worth more than Rs 379 crore 78 lakh 71 thousand.

Deputy Chief Minister TS Singh Deo, Assembly Speaker Dr. Charandas Mahant, Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Transport Minister Mohammad Akbar, and Agriculture and Biotechnology Minister Ravindra Choubey, Women and Child Development Minister Mrs. Anila Bhediya, PHE Minister Guru Rudra Kumar, Urban Administration Minister Shiv Kumar Dahariya, Excise Minister Kawasi Lakhma, Revenue Minister Jai Singh Agarwal, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Amarjeet Bhagat, Higher Education, Sports, and Youth Welfare Minister Umesh Patel, and Korba MP Jyotsna Mahant were present during the Bharose ka Sammelan.

'School life offers opportunity for overall development'



Raipur, Aug 13:

The student cabinet of Shri Gujarati Hindi Medium HS School run by Shri GujaratiShikshanSangh was administered oath in presence of Shri Ramji Bhai Patel, President of Patron Committee as chief guest while Magan Bhai Patel VP, Patron Committee was present as special guest. The office bearers of Executive Committee, School Principal AnisMemon, English Medium School Principal DrShailesh Pandey, Administrator V K Mishra and others were present.

The school cabinet which is formed in memory of Late Dr APJ Kalam

witnessed YashRai administered oath as Head Boy, VidyaYadav Head Girl, Praveen Sharma Deputy Head Boy and MauliYadav Deputy Head Girl. SushilJagat took oath as Student Coordinator. All of them were administered oath by the chief guests and pinned batches.

The four houses- Vallabh Bhai Patel, Pani Lakshmi Bai, Swami Vivekananda and Sahid Veer Narayan Singh were also formed and their office bearers were administered oath.

Chief GurstRamji Bhai Patel in his speech asked the students that student life help in developing their full potential. Senior faculty NarendraTadge anchored the programme.

New laws would provide more safety to women, girls: Harshita

Takathpur, Aug 13:

The Union Home Minister Amit Shah produced three new bills to bring changes into the British period Indian Criminal System and in this the serious crimes related to women and children and the criminal violence against them has been taken seriously and provisions have been made for strict punishment to the guilty and it is definitely most welcome.

It is in support of which now the women can openly used their rights, says former Chairperson State Women's Commission Harshita Pandey in a statement after a press note released by HM Amit Shah in the Lok Sabha, the other day.

Harshita in her press release has said that changes in these laws is being carried out at the time when there are reports of molestation with 5000 women in last four years of rule as per figures given by the



Chhattisgarh government and around 46,116 women are reported missing and more than 11000 cases of misbehaviour, murder and abduction are reported in different thanas all over the state. There has been considerable increase in crimes against women and girl children in states like Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and others and with the passing of new bills for amendments into the penal code and other laws, there would be justice to the needy with strictest of the punishment to the guilty. The government through

amendments in the PIC through bill 2023 is going to increase the provision of punishment upto 20 yrs in case of molestation or the molestation by a group. In case of molestation with girls below 18 yrs, the government is going to link the punishment for sentence of death to be hanged.

In the same way cases will be filed for making sexual intercourse by presenting wrong identity. Not only this the investigation and checking procedure too has been kept in favour of women and it is in the presence of female Judicial Magistrate that the entire medical check-up and other procedure would be completed with that of the victim in the presence of her parents in her house itself and during this the name of victim will remain confidential.

With amendments into the new laws and IPC, these safety rights and laws would act as milestone in providing safety to the members of the fairer sex.

Police bust betting racket and 15 arrested

Recover 14.5 lakh

Raipur, Aug 13:

Police have arrested 'satta' operators for allegedly facilitating satta operation through Mahadeo and Reddy Anna Online Betting App. A CA turned out to be mastermind of this illegal satta operation. Eight persons have been arrested along with him for their alleged involvement in illegal online satta operation. A cash of Rs 14.5 lakh, 21 mobile phones, five pass-books, 12 ATM cards, 12 check books, three laptops, two computer systems and three diaries were recovered from them.

Transactions worth crores of rupees were made in the accounts of the arrested persons. Eight of them have been arrested by the Khamtarai police station, five from Gudhiyari and two from Telibandha. SSP Prashant Agrawal and ASP Abhishek Maheshwari disclosed the matter on Saturday. He told that the bankers will also be questioned in this regard and



action will be taken against all the names involved in it.

The action comes in the wake of report lodged by one Arun Jal in Police Station Khamtarai. The complainant lives in Trimurti Nagar Raipur and works for welding. Since wife Sangeeta Jal used to work in Rajat Agrawal's house one year ago he was identified with Rajat Agrawal. Rajat Agrawal met the complainant about two months ago near Walter Gate DRM office and said that he needed a bank account in urgent. He promised to return it after transacting for a few days. The complainant believed him and gave his PAN

card, Aadhaar card, passport size photo to him. Rajat Agrawal brought the form of HDFC Bank Devendra Nagar and got the complainant's signature and opened the bank account. Similarly, his wife Sangeeta Jal got an account opened in HDFC Bank. Rajat Agrawal kept passbook and ATM card with him and also got the mobile number inserted in the accounts without knowledge of the complainant. After a few days, Rajat informed the complainant about the closure of his bank account. On this the complainant went to the HDFC Bank Devendra Nagar branch to find out the reason. The bank manager told him to

stop the transaction due to excessive money in his account.

When Rajat Agrawal was asked about the transactions done in the said bank accounts, he started evading the reply. On the report lodged by the complainant, the police started the investigation. During interrogation, Rajat Agrawal confessed to have committed this crime along with his accomplices Himanshu Singh, Mantu Manjhi, Madan Kumar Yadav, Mohd, Umair, Mohit Tank, CA Farhan and Upendra Das.

In the investigation of the complaint made at Khamtarai police station, it was found that Rajat Agrawal along with his accomplices Himanshu Singh, Mantu Manjhi, Madan Kumar Yadav, Mohammad Umair, Mohit Tank, Mo Farhan and Upendra Das opened accounts on the documents of others. They used to obtain documents from people by telling them about lucrative loan schemes. The same bank accounts were used for online betting money transactions.

'Patriotism Is The Richest Resource For A Prosperous Country'



Dr. ARVIND NERAL

Patriotism is a feeling of attachment and commitment to a country. It's not short frenzied outburst of emotions, but the tranquil and steady dedication of lifetime. It does not consist only in waving the flag but in striving that our country shall be righteous as well as strong. It is one of the deepest and noblest aspirations of human spirit. Our responsibility as a patriot citizen is to address the inequalities that linger and we must secure our birthright freedom for all people. Real hero is someone who understands the degree of responsibility that comes with his freedom. Citizenship consists in the service of the country. It is the richest resource of a successful



society. Patriotism refers to the passionate love one has for his country. This virtue pushes him to work for the country selflessly to make it better. We refer to our country as our motherland and have same love and affection as we have for our mothers. After all, our country, like mothers, nurtures us and helps us grow. Patriotism enhances the life quality of the citizens by making people work for the betterment of the country with no conflict of interest. Citizens should have the spirit of brotherhood and attitude to support one another. It eliminates selfish and harmful motives and in turn lessens corruption. Thus, a happier environment with peace and harmony will prevail. As born after independence,

most of we Indians may not get the opportunity and honour to die for the country, but by dedicating ourselves to the development, we may live for the nation and that is real patriotism. It does not require any special sacrifice. Just insure your devoted and honest contribution for the betterment of the country. If 130 crore Indians take the oath that they will not violate traffic rules, will not waste even a grain of food on the plate, avoid unnecessary electric consumption, will pay all the taxes honestly and timely...we can imagine what we can achieve. It's the responsibility of every citizen to prepare road for the development of the country. Being proud of the country and thinking about the country's welfare

is what a true patriot does. It helps to build up bonds with fellow countrymen and also helps in promoting the idea of fraternity. We must remember that a country suffers, not only because of violence of bad people, but also because of the silence of good people. The pride that one takes while expressing love about their motherland is an essay sign of patriotism. The Citizens must imbibe in them the virtue of patriotism to help the country prosper. It's the loyalty of a person for his own nation and his commitment to spend the life for betterment of the country. (Writer is Professor & H.O.D. Department of Pathology, Pt. J.N.M. Medical College, Raipur (C.G.))

Public meeting resolves local issues

Pushpa Jagannath Sahu takes the lead

Fingeshwar, Aug 13:

A resolute effort towards community well-being unfolded as Pushpa Jagannath Sahu orchestrated a vital public gathering in Pendra Gram Panchayat. The event aimed to address prevalent concerns faced by the community. Sahu, a prominent community leader, proactively tackled several pressing issues during this well-attended meeting against the backdrop of picturesque

Pendra. A crucial problem brought to light was the prolonged non-functioning of the Atal Jyoti street lights for over 15 days. The enduring inconvenience faced by the villagers, especially the farming sector, prompted swift action. The Janpad President swiftly engaged Junior Engineer D.K. Thakur, securing a commitment to restore the electric lines responsible for the street lights within a day. Beyond lighting, the discussion also delved into

the scarcity of irrigation water, posing challenges for agriculture. Sahu swiftly communicated with irrigation engineer Joshi, who pledged to address the issue promptly. The meeting also proved effective in addressing concerns of pension and ration card holders, promptly resolving their grievances. The event also disseminated information about Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's farmer-oriented initiatives. Sahu

allocated personal funds, earmarking Rs 2 lakh for water coolers at Bajrang Chowk, and Rs 4 lakh for water tank construction and drainage, reinforcing the region's infrastructure. She also directed the district engineer to plan and execute the projects promptly. Addressing the villagers, Pushpa Sahu expressed her unwavering confidence in Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's commitment to the community's welfare. She extended gratitude to all attendees for their support. The event saw notable figures such as Gram Pradhan Pawan Khare, Sarpanch Pawan Khare, Chandrasah Sahu, Ganga Ram Sahu, Hemant Sahu, Youth Jay Sahu (Deputy State President of Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce), and others, who applauded the event's efforts wholeheartedly.

Teachers' uncertain strike casts shadow on children's education

Pithora, Aug 13:

The educational landscape in Chhattisgarh is marred by an air of uncertainty as more than a lakh assistant teachers resort to an indefinite strike since August 10. This movement, under the banner of the Samagra Shikshak Federation, echoes through the corridors of the state, demanding equitable salaries, just calculation of service tenure based on first appointment dates, and comprehensive fulfillment of all entitlements. As Chhattisgarh navigates an election year, the state finds itself enshrouded in an unsettling atmosphere of continuous strikes. The collective force of assistant teachers has raised their voices, driven by legitimate aspirations, even as their strike resonates across primary schools, causing ripples in the education sector. The agitation, emanating from grassroots levels, swiftly gained momentum, culminating in a procession of assistant teachers from disparate corners converging on the state capital. This procession stands as a testament to the steadfast determination of these educators to see their demands met. In Pithora development block of Mahasamund district, the second day of the strike bore witness to a fervent gathering of assistant teachers. Chants of solidarity reverberated as educators raised



their voices, demanding their rightful dues. The culmination of the protest took the form of a spirited bike rally, with assistant teachers and headmasters taking the forefront. A poignant memorandum, addressed to the Chief Minister and presented to the SDM's office, underscored the urgency of redressing their grievances. The memorandum served as a stark reminder that failing to heed these demands would perpetuate the in-

definite strike. The event was graced by an array of officials and leaders, who stood in solidarity with the cause. Among them, District Vice President Loknath Sinha, District Secretary Durwasa Goswami, Block Spokesperson Anil Patnaik, District President of Women's Wing Jyoti Devan, Block President Neha Guardia, and a host of others lent their support to the resolute educators.

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Richa Jogi unveils Minimata statue in Kasdol



Katagi, Aug 13: In a significant event that marked the 51st anniversary of Minimata, Richa Jogi, daughter-in-law of Chhattisgarh's first Chief Minister and founder of Chhattisgarh Janata Congress (J), late Ajit Jogi, unveiled a revered statue at Satnam Bhavan in Kasdol. The occasion witnessed the presence of an enthusiastic gathering, including Chhattisgarh Janata Congress (J) party members, regional officials, supporters, and enlightened members of the Satnami community, graced by Jagat Guru Manharan

Das. Addressing the gathering, Jagat Guru Manharan Das and Richa Jogi underlined the significance of the day, commemorating not only the auspicious Punyatithi of Mini Mata but also the revered Risham Lal Jangde, a Constituent Assembly member. They reiterated that true followers of Late Ajit Jogi remain within the Chhattisgarh Janata Congress (J), while those driven by power and personal gains have forsaken the party. Dr. Richa Jogi shed light on Mini Mata's inspiring life and seized the moment to motivate

young girls present, urging them to prioritize education and uphold the honour of their parents. A symbolic welcome was extended to Congress party joiners, marked by the draping of scarves around their shoulders. In a fervent conclusion to the event, the Congress government faced sharp criticism for its purportedly insincere act of consuming holy Ganga water alongside the public. The spotlight turned to pressing concerns encompassing opposition to alcohol, unemployment, and women's dignity. The gathering affirmed the Congress party's commitment to gearing up for state-wide elections. Distinguished party members in attendance included Mahesh Dewangan, Uday Charan, Dr. Ameen Khan, Manoj Banjara and others, rendering the event a momentous congregation.

Mungeli pays respects to Minimata



Mungeli, Aug 13:

The Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Educational Institute, in conjunction with the Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Residential School, solemnly commemorated the anniversary of Mini Mata's passing. The event was graced by the presence of Rajendra Dwivshakar, the institution's President, and HR Manager Asker. With participation from educators across all grade levels, the gathering re-

flected upon the life and substantial socio-political contributions of Mini Mata, tracing her journey from birth onwards. Distinguished speakers underscored the brilliance of Mini Mata, lauding her groundbreaking role as Chhattisgarh's first female Member of Parliament. Her consecutive election victories spanning five terms, starting in 1952, showcased her remarkable political prowess. Throughout her lifetime, Mini Mata passionately

Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Residential School observes anniversary

dedicated herself to combating untouchability, alleviating poverty, eradicating illiteracy, and driving backwardness to oblivion. The state government annually bestows honours upon those who, like Mini Mata, contribute to uplifting the underprivileged. The legislative assembly building of the state also stands as a tribute to her legacy. Tragically, her life was cut short in a plane crash in 1972. The commemoration drew to a close with a poignant two-minute silence in memory of Mini Mata. The event witnessed the participation of esteemed institution officials, including Principal Aasha Diwaker, Vice Principal Chhatrapal Dahire, alongside teachers, students, and staff.

GHS Bharuwadih celebrates World Indigenous Day



Kharora, Aug 13:

The Government Higher Secondary (GHS) School Bharuwadih celebrated with vibrant celebrations as it observed both World Indigenous Day and Quit India Movement Day with fervour. The event saw students and teachers joining hands to conduct a puja in honor of the tribal goddess Mogi Mata and pay homage to the revered freedom fighter, Gundadhar Ji. The festivities kicked off with a series of engaging activities, including soulful songs, spirited slogans, insightful speeches, and moving poems presented by both students and teachers. These activities served as a collective tribute to the indigenous community and their significant contributions. Dinesh Kumar Verma, the school's principal, took the opportunity to educate the students about the essence of World Indigenous Day, emphasizing the crucial role indigenous communities play in safeguard-

ing our environment. He highlighted that governments globally recognize and applaud their invaluable efforts, leading to the commemoration of their respect and accomplishments every year on August 9. The success of this enlightening program was owed in large part to the dedication of the school's educators, Krishna Kumar Sahu and Nemchand Dhivar, who played instrumental roles in making the event a resounding success.

Anjrel's residents left in the lurch due to BSP's neglect of fundamental needs

Gulf between BSP's assurances and reality

Abhishek Banerjee

Narayanpur, Aug 13: Anjrel, a village nestled within the Khodgaon Panchayat of Narayanpur District, finds itself entangled in the aftermath of Bhilai Steel Plant's (BSP) mining endeavours. The village, located merely a kilometer away from a bustling mining zone, stands as a stark testament to the contradictions between BSP's pre-mining commitments and the harsh realities that have unfolded.

With their primary means of subsistence severed, they face an uncertain future. Forest produce, once abundant, is now inaccessible due to mining operations. This has triggered a chain reaction, leaving the villagers without options for sustenance. The once-thriving community now battles for survival, feeling the weight of BSP's unfulfilled promises.

Basic amenities elude villagers

The picturesque charm of Anjrel Village belies the hardships its residents endure daily. Basic amenities, including access to clean and safe drinking water, have become a distant dream. Despite BSP's touted initiatives, borewell drilling remains incomplete, forcing the villagers to rely on unreliable water sources. Moreover, a month-long ordeal without electricity has cast a shadow over their lives. The villagers' frustrations simmer as BSP's assurances of development seem hollow and insincere.

Devgudi's unfulfilled destiny

Devgudi, a symbol of faith and aspiration for the villagers, stands as a poignant reminder of BSP's unfulfilled assurances. The heart of their dreams and progress, the center's construction remains incomplete, shattering the villagers' trust. False claims and empty pledges have left a bitter taste in their mouths, fueling their determination to hold BSP accountable.



Infrastructure mirage
BSP's pre-mining pledges of infrastructure development remain a dis-

tant memory in Anjrel. BSP had boasted about constructing roads, bridges, and other infra-

structure. The lack of proper roads has placed pregnant women at risk, as makeshift transportation arrangements endanger their well-being.

Tribals unite against mining menace in Abujhmad

As mining operations expand their footprint, the villagers' cries grow louder. The loss of forest access and cattle grazing rights further drives home the grim consequences of mining.

In a unified stance against environmental degradation, tribal villagers across the district have embarked on a nine-month-long protest, vying to safeguard their water bodies, forests, and land from the detrimental effects of mining. Anjrel Village's struggle is em-

blematic of a larger battle between promised development and harsh realities, highlighting the urgent need for accountability and genuine progress.

As the villagers of Anjrel stand resilient in their fight, the echoes of their voices reverberate across the district, sparking a movement to preserve their way of life amidst the tumultuous tide of mining operations.

MOTILAL OSWAL HOME LOANS

Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited
Regd. Office: Motilal Oswal Tower, Rahimtullah Sayani Road, Opp. Parel ST Depot, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025. Tel: (022) 47189999
Website: www.motilaloswalhf.com, Email: hfquery@motilaloswal.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/IES)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as Aspire Home Finance Corporation Ltd), under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice/s on the date mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrower/s to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/date of receipt of the said notice(s).

The borrower/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account. The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited, for the amount and interest thereon as per loan agreement. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sr No.	Loan Agreement No. / Name of the Borrower/ Co Borrower/Guarantor	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Date of possession Taken	Description of the Property/ies Mortgaged
1	LXDR00217-180066574 Sevankumar Anand Ram Shrivastav & Kishorekumar Anandram Shrivastav	14-09-2021 for Rs. 476900/-	10-08-2023	KH/ NO/ - 334/1, PH/NO/ - 29, RNM - DONGARGAON, VILLAGE - GHORDA, BLOCK JANPAD PANCHAYAT AND DONGARGAON, RAJNANDGAON, CHHATTISGARH - 491441

Place: Chattisgarh
Date : 14.08.2023

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
(Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited)

STRESSED ASSETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH-1, KOLKATA
"Nagaland House", 8th Floor, 11 & 13 Shakespeare Sarani, Kolkata - 700071
Ph: 033-22810622/23, Fax: 033-22829134, E-mail: sbl.04151@sbi.co.in

E-AUCTION NOTICE

Authorised Officer's Details : Name: Sridip Banerjee, e-mail ID : clo5.04151@sbi.co.in, Mobile No: 9674712147

[Refer notice to Rule 8(6)] read with Rule 9(1)
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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 provision Rule 8(b) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION : DATE : 04.09.2023
TIME : 300 MINUTES FROM 11.00 A.M. TO 4.00 P.M. WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSIONS OF 10 MINUTES FOR EACH BID. Interested bidder may deposit Pre-Bid EMD with MSTC before the close of e-Auction. Credit of Pre-bid EMD shall be given to the bidder only after receipt of payment in MSTC's Bank account and updation of such information in the e-auction website. This may take some time as per banking process and hence bidders, in their own interest, are advised to submit the pre-bid EMD amount well in advance to avoid any last minute problem.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India (Lead Bank) Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 04.09.2023 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM (through website https://www.mstccommerce.com/auction/home/ibapi/index.jsp) for recovery of Rs. 1,09,39,50,226.44 (Rupees One Hundred Nine Crores Thirty Nine Lakh Fifty Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Six and Forty Four Paise Only) as on 31.07.2023 plus Accrued Interest and Charges thereafter due to the Secured Creditor from Saumya Mining Limited formerly Saumya Mining Private Limited (Borrower), Mr Ashok Jain (Personal Guarantor), Mrs Pradnya Jain (Personal Guarantor) & Mr Ajay Jain (Personal Guarantor) and Saumya Infraventures Private Limited (Corporate Guarantor). Details of the properties and Reserve Price and Earnest Money deposit will be as under:

Sl. No.	Description of property/assets	a) Reserve Price b) EMD c) Bid Incremental Amount
1.	(Property ID: SBIN 200001422938) (Under Symbolic Possession) Multiple patches open lands at Kharsa No's 1805, 1804/1, 1806/1, 1862, 1510/2, 1736, 1737, 1731/2, 1734/2, 1735, 1509/3, 1818/2, 1569/1, 1681/3, 1453/5, 1462, 1570, 1571, 1724/2, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1857/1, 1768, 1752/1, 1752/3, 1754/2, 1756/2, 1804, 1806/2, 1453/3, 1459/2, 1460, 1760/2, 1775/2, 1776/1, 1776/2, 1791, 1792, 1795, 1779/3, 1787/2, 1743/2, 1752/2, 1754/1, 1756/1, 1753/3, 1753/4, 1738, 1739, 1755, 1770, 1742, 1786/1, 1787/1, 1753/1, 1753/2 via Deed Nos 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2854, 2855, 2856, 2857, 2858, 2859, 600, 596, 593, 591, 590, 592, 602, 595, 589, 594 in the name of Saumya Mining Limited and Kharsa Nos: 1447/2, 1459, 1741/1, 1773/1, 1775/3 via Deed Nos 904 and 905 in the name of Ashok Kumar Jain admeasuring 11.135 Hectares at Mouza : Aruda, PH.30, P.S. : Pussore, Tahsil : Raigarh, Under Aruda Gram Panchayat, Dist. : Raigarh, Chhattisgarh. Date and time of Property Inspection : 21.08.2023 03:00 P.M. to 04:00 P.M.	a) Rs. 2,07,00,000.00 b) Rs. 20,70,000.00 c) Rs. 1,00,000.00

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor website https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others, https://www.mstccommerce.com/auction/home/ibapi/index.jsp

Date: 14.08.2023, Place : Kolkata
Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

Full dress rehearsal of Independence Day preparations held

ADM Arvind Ekka in role of chief guest hoists flag, inspects parade



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 13: Independence Day will be celebrated with full dignity on August 15 in the district headquarters Durg with enthusiasm. The full-dress rehearsal of the preparations was done on Sunday at the Police Ground, the venue of the event.

ADM Arvind Ekka played the role of chief guest. He hoisted the flag at Police Ground, the venue of Independence Day main function, inspected the parade and greeted the audience present. Superintendent of Police Shalabh Sinha was also present.

After the flag hoisting, the contingents of the pa-

rade cheered the President on the tune of Jana-Gana-Mana. The parade contingents led by the Platoon Commanders passed in front of the stage and saluted the chief guest. During the rehearsal, colorful cultural programs were presented by the students of various schools of the city.

On this occasion, District Panchayat CEO Ashwani Dewangan, Additional Collector Gokul Rawate, Joint Collector Harvansh Singh Miri, SDM Mukesh Rawte and Jageshwar Kaushal, District Education Officer Abhay Jaiswal and officers of police department and other departments were present.

HM Tamradhwaj Sahu to hoist flag on Independence Day

State Home, Public Works, Agriculture, Tourism and Dharmaswa Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu will hoist the flag at the main function of Independence Day at the district headquarters Durg. After hoisting the flag, HM will take salute of the parade and read the message of the Chief Minister to the public. Flag hoisting will be done by the chief guest at 9:00 hrs at a dignified Independence Day function organized by the district administration. In the program, after the "Harsh Fire" and March Past, spectacular cultural programs will be presented by the school students. The relatives of the freedom fighter will be honoured in the main function. The chief guest will depart after the prize distribution ceremony. Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena has assigned different responsibilities while issuing necessary guidelines to the district level officers for the preparations for organizing the national festival.

Freedom Run today

On instructions of Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena, District Sports and Youth Welfare Department Durg is organizing 'Independence Run' on the eve of Independence Day.

Freedom Run will start at 8:00 hrs from the main gate of Ravi Shankar Stadium Durg, cover Adarsh Kanya Shala, Gandhi Chowk, Patel Chowk, Old Durg Police Station, Indira Market, Farishta Complex Chowk, Pacharipara New Bus Stand Road, Bus Stand and Church Road again. It will end after reaching the main gate Ravi Shankar Stadium.

According to the information received from the Assistant Director of the Sports and Youth Welfare Department, school and college students, teachers, sportspersons, eminent citizens, all government and non-government officials-employees and journalists of all local newspapers are invited in the freedom race.

Social Science exhibition organised at DAV Hudco



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 13: DAV HUDCO organised Social Science Exhibition in the school premises on August 12, 2023 with a view to showcase India's journey from 1857 till date. The exhibition aimed to ingrain creativity and engage the students and the teachers to synergize experiences and motivate each other to design and create something novel.

The Exhibition showcased various projects, working and non working models prepared by the students of classes 5 to 10, as a part of their project-based learning methodology. The projects and models that were put on display were related to the field of social studies, encompassing the

subjects History, Civics, Geography and Economics. A walk through the history section was equivalent to a walk through time. The highlights of the exhibition were Making of Constitution, LPG policy, Globalization, Water Harvesting, Green Revolution, Importance of Democracy at grass root level through Village Panchayat.

The spotlight of the program was the video clips displaying India's struggle since 1857 till 21st century. There were models and charts depicting life right from the era of slavery to the ages of Communication, Information Technology and last but not the least the launching of Chandrayan 3.

The Exhibition was inaugurated by Prashant Kumar (Deputy Regional Officer, CG Zone A). Speaking about the exhibition he said that Social science revitalizes mind as well as soul and also help the students to figure out their role in the society, get the information about Indian culture, History, Economic, Political and Social conditions and above all grooms informed and active citizens.

He further added that Social Science Exhibition is an effective medium to give the school students a beautiful opportunity to express their creativity. He extolled the dedicated efforts of the students, teachers of the Social Science Department and the parents to make the exhibition a grand success.

Bhilai Steel Plant organises free Medical camp at Village Khapri Siloda

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 13: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, conducts several public welfare activities as part of its organizational social responsibility towards the community in and around its areas of operations. The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department of the Plant organised a one-day free Health Camp, at Village Khapri Siloda, on August 12, 2023.

The Medical Team from CSR department, com-



prising of Dr Nishi Minz, Pharmacist, Shashi Bhushan Rai, Rekha Dev for Blood-Sugar and BP examination, Shambhu for registration, volunteered their services for the camp. Sita Sinha, from the CSR department

was also present during the Health Camp.

A total of 42 villagers from village Khapri Siloda, including 19 men, 13 women and 10 children, availed free health services at the day long Health Camp and free

medicines were distributed to them.

It is noteworthy that Health Camp is one of the prime initiatives, through which BSP's CSR Department has contributed substantially towards Public Health & Medicine. The CSR Department of Bhilai Steel Plant, conducts health camps on regular basis in the adjoining areas or mines, with the aim of ensuring adequate medical & Health facilities to the communities within which it works.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 13: On Sunday, under the campaign "Hamar Beti Hamar Maan", the Raksha team of Durg Police led by Shilpa Sahu, DSP, IUCAW, gave tips on safety measures to the girls and investigation of women-related crimes to students of Gurukul, Sanichari Bazar Durg run by Langurveer Mandir.

It was under the direction of Superintendent of Police Shalabh Sinha, Additional Superintendent of Police City Sanjay



Dhruv and under the guidance of Additional Superintendent of Police IUCAW Meeta Pawar, that

the Raksha team gave guidance on legal rights, good touch-bad touch and preventive measures against sexual harassment and exploitation, cyber-crime and social media-related crime, to girl students.

Important helpline numbers, information about Abhyukti app, and essential emergency numbers were given to the students. The team explained why it was necessary for every student to remember the mobile number of parents.

Goswami shares views at Samajik Samagam



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 13: Bhilai based Virendra Ayodhya Puri Goswami, Adhipati of Antarrashtriya Jagadguru Dashnaam Gosai Goswami Ekta Akhada Parishad and

former State President of Chhattisgarh Sanatan Dashnaam Goswami Samaj, attended the Samajik Samagam organised by BJP the other day. He shared his views on the social issues during this convention.

BJP State President Arun Sao, Leader of Opposition Narayan Chandel, BJP OBC Morcha National President, Telangana MP Naresh and other senior leaders were present.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 13: In Hemchand Yadav University, Durg, a total of 104568 online applications were received till the last day of closure of the online portal of the university, for admission in the first year of graduation and first semester of postgraduate classes in session 2023-24.

Giving this information, the Registrar of the University, Bhupendra Kuldeep and the Dean of Student Welfare, Dr Prashant Srivastava jointly informed that due to the opening of 10 new government colleges in Durg division this year, the number of seats available for admission to students has in-

creased by about three thousand.

This year, the total number of seats available for undergraduate first year classes in all the faculties is 49225, while at the postgraduate level, a total of 13560 seats are available for the students. 41300 applications have been received for postgraduate classes.

Dr Srivastava told that according to the information received from various colleges on the last day of closure of admission portal, 39818 applications for 15585 seats in BA first year, 40209 applications for 17850 seats in BSc first year, 11800 seats for BCom first year, 17529 applications have been received for BBA first semester, 1037 applications for

1030 seats, 2702 applications for 1265 seats for BCA first year and 3273 applications for 1695 seats for Law/Diploma and other graduate courses. In English medium colleges, 737 applications have been received for 200 BSc seats, 426 applications for 100 B Com seats, 312 applications for 100 BCA seats, and only 02 applications for 50 PGDCA seats.

On August 13, all the colleges will issue the final merit admission list on the basis of available vacant seats. It will be mandatory for all the applicants who are placed in the merit list to take admission by August 14. There is no need to apply online for admission in second and third year classes of

graduation.

Applicants of these classes can directly contact the concerned college. Similarly, both the autonomous colleges affiliated to the University, Government Vishwanath Yadav Tamaskar Autonomous Post Graduate College, Durg and Government Digvijay Autonomous College, Rajnandgaon have their own portals for admission. Admission is not being done in both these colleges through the admission portal of the university.

According to Dr Rajamani Patel, Deputy Registrar of Examinations of the University, 06 more examination results have been declared for the semes-

ter examination May-June 2023. Out of 228 examinees who appeared in MA English II Semester, 214 have been declared passed, thus result is 94 percent.

Similarly, 309 candidates out of 342 who appeared in MA Economics second semester were declared successful, result being 90 percent. Out of 202 candidates who appeared in M Sc II Semester Physics, 151 candidates passed, thus result was 75 percent. 146 out of 165 candidates who appeared in M Sc IV Semester Physics passed, result was 88 percent. Out of 764 candidates who appeared in MA Political Science second semester, 639 candidates were declared passed, result was 84 percent.

BNS College registers outstanding result in University exam

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 13: Students of Bhilai Nair Samajam College, Sector -08 produced outstanding result in University Exam results for 2022-23. Overall the result were close to cent percent with some exceptional performances in different courses.

In B Ed II sem Pooja Sahu secured 79.33% followed by Sabya Neha Turkey 78.22% and Madhu Smitha Tirkey 78%. In B Ed IVth sem Manish secured 83.52% followed by Tarun sahu 82.41% and Shobha Rani Sahu 82.11%. Likewise in B Com I year Aarti Singh scored 66.5%, Nishi Singh 61%.

B Com II year Nitin J scored 76%, Akansha Soni 71% and in B Com final Neelam Thakur scored 66.66%



the crowning glory goes to the inaugural batch of new course Post Graduate Diploma in Yoga (PGDY) in which Purnima Verma secured first position with an impressive 85.6% followed by Jyoti Sahu 82% and Tabassum Rab 81.6%.

President of BNS Suresh Pillai, General Secretary VRC Pillai, Vice President College A Jaya Kumar and other members of governing body congratulated the top rankers for exceptional performances and extended best wishes to Principal & team BNS College for their committed efforts in facilitating such result.

Registration is open for admission in regular mode for B Com, BBA, BCA, BCA, M Com, PGDCA, PGDY (Yoga).

Chief Minister to confer Vasundhara Samman on Sudhir Saxena today

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 13: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will honour eminent journalist, writer and editor Sudhir Saxena with 23rd Vasundhara Samman. The function will be organized at 11.30 hrs on August 14, on the 47th death anniversary of Late Devi Prasad Choubhe, at a function to be organized at the Chief Minister's residence in Raipur.

The honour is given by monthly magazine Kriti Vasundhara in association with Department of

Culture, Government of Chhattisgarh and Shri Chaturbhuj Memorial Foundation. Ravindra Choubhe, senior political leader and Minister in Government of Chhattisgarh will specially be present in the function.

Renowned journalist, columnist and associated with many prestigious institutions of journalism, Rajesh Badal will address the function as the keynote speaker. Culture Minister Amarjit Bhagat will preside over the program. Padma Shri Mamta Chandrakar, Vice-

Chancellor of Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya, Khairagarh will be present as special guest.

Giving the above information, organizing committee president Dr Arun Kumar Srivastava and Secretary Mumtaz said that special issues of Kriti Bahumat and Kriti Vasundhara magazines will also be dedicated on this occasion. Also, folder of the NGO, Shri Chaturbhuj Memorial Foundation, working for multidimensional service to senior citizens, will also be released in the function.

OBITUARY



Bhilai: Bhagwati Rajput (72), resident of Street 12, Shikshak Nagar, Kohka left for heavenly abode on August 12. The last rites of her mortal remains were performed on August 13 at native village Kandarka, Dhamdha Block. She was the mother of Sachchidanand Rajput, Circulation Incharge, Navabharat Bhilai, Rama and Anuradha.

Thousands celebrate India Day at iconic Wanderers Stadium in Johannesburg

Johannesburg, Aug 13 (PTI):

Over 15,000 people participated in the India Day event at the iconic Wanderers Cricket Stadium in this South African city to celebrate India's Independence Day.

Hosted by the India Club, comprising expatriate Indians living and working in the economic hub of South Africa, the 12-hour event saw non-stop entertainment featuring dances from all regions of India by expats who have formed associations in South Africa, as well as local artists from all South African communities. Several Indian companies in South Africa had stalls featuring their products and services, while queues formed at food joints offering all the re-

gional cuisine of India as well as South African delicacies.

"We are delighted at the ever-increasing support that we find from not only local and expatriate Indians, but hundreds of people from the other communities in South Africa," said India Club Chairman Manish Gupta, who explained how the weekend preceding August 15 was always selected for convenience. India Club has been hosting the event annually but had to suspend it for two years due to the Covid pandemic.

"After starting as a small event 15 years ago to mark India's Independence Day on August 15 at a shopping centre in the suburb of Randburg in Johannesburg, we moved

to the popular Zoo Lake outdoor venue a few years ago.

"The Covid pandemic brought an abrupt end to our plans for two years, but last year we realised that even the Zoo Lake had become too small to cater for all, so we moved to the Wanderers, which was again filled last night," Gupta added.

India's newly appointed High Commissioner Prabhakar said: "I am out of India now but I feel like I am back in India. I see the whole of India here. So many people from different regions and states of India are being represented here."

"I left India on August 2 and I am back in India today," he told the cheering audience. Television presenter

Nkosazana Dambuzi and her partner Mlue Maguba garnered considerable attention for their traditional outfits that they had specially tailored during a trip to India.

"I've enjoyed the diversity of the performances that were on offer today. We've seen South African performers and even artists from (neighbouring) Botswana on stage. In as much as we are celebrating India, we've seen such a variety of tribes and nations represented here today," said Dambuzi.

Indian Consul General in Johannesburg Mahesh Kumar launched the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign by distributing the tricolour to many youth and business leaders at the event.

WILDFIRE RECOVERY EFFORTS



Members of a search-and-rescue team walk along a street, Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, in Lahaina, Hawaii, following heavy damage caused by wildfire.

China's foreign minister visits Cambodia

Phnom Penh, Aug 13 (AP):

China's foreign minister visited Cambodia over the weekend to reaffirm his country's commitment to the southeast Asian country after its incumbent prime minister handed off the job to his son following a one-sided election last month, officials said.

Wang Yi is the first foreign leader to visit Cambodia, days after Hun Sen's announcement that his 45-year-old son and the country's army chief, Hun Manet, is replacing him.

A video of the meeting was posted on Hun Sen's Telegram channel on Sunday. Eang Sophalleth, Hun Sen's spokesman, told reporters after the meeting that Wang Yi expressed China's willingness to cooperate with the newly-appointed prime minister. Cambodia's foreign ministry later released a state-



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen's son, right, shakes hands with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, left, during a meeting in Peace Palace in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Sunday, Aug. 13. China's foreign minister visited Cambodia over the weekend to reaffirm his country's commitment to the southeast Asian country after its incumbent prime minister handed off the job to his son following a one-sided election last month, officials said.

ment citing Wang Yi as expressing China's support for "the Kingdom's emerging government leadership."

Hun Sen, the longest-

serving government head in Asia, and his party sealed a landslide victory in the country's general election after barring the main opposition group the

Candlelight Party from contesting the polls on a technicality. Western nations and rights groups criticised the election saying it was neither "free" nor "fair." Wang Yi met with both Hun Sen, his newly appointed son as well as Foreign Minister Prak Sokhonn. He praised the election saying it was free and fair, with more than 80 per cent of Cambodians participating in the presence of several dozens of foreign observers. On August 7, King Norodom Sihamoni formally appointed Hun Manet as the new premier. He will take office on August 22 when the new National Assembly adopts the new cabinet.

Hun Manet won his first seat in Parliament in the election, and the handover from his father is part of a larger, generational shift: Many younger lawmakers

mostly educated in the West are expected to take up ministerial positions, including Hun Sen's youngest son and others related to older party members. Cambodia is a key Chinese diplomatic partner, helping dampen criticism of Beijing within the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, several of whose members are engaged in territorial disputes with China in the South China Sea.

In return, China has gained an outsized role in Cambodian politics and the economy, as seen in the numerous Chinese-funded projects, hotels and casinos dotting the landscape. China's state banks have also financed airports, roads and other infrastructure built with Chinese loans. More than 40 per cent of Cambodia's USD 10 billion in foreign debt is owed to China.

2 terrorists killed in exchange of fire with Pakistan's security forces

Karachi, Aug 13 (PTI):

Two terrorists were killed by security forces on Sunday after they attacked a convoy, believed to be carrying Chinese engineers, in the port city of Gwadar in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province, the army said.

Gwadar is one of the focal points of the multi-billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) with many Chinese workers working at the port. China is investing heavily in Balochistan under the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the military's media wing, the terrorists attacked at 10 am, using small arms and hand grenades.

"However, due to the efficient and swift response, two terrorists were sent to hell with no harm to any military or civil persons," the ISPR said.

It said the military expressed its resolve to "thwart efforts of the enemies of peace and prosperity in the country". There was no mention of any attack on Chinese engineers in the statement.

The Baloch Liberation Army - Majeed Brigade, a militant group active in Balochistan, claimed responsibility for the attack.

Earlier, media outlets in Quetta reported that a convoy of Chinese engineers came under attack as they were passing through the main Gwadar town but reports

said they had escaped any casualties or injuries.

An earlier statement by the ISPR said security forces launched an operation after the inputs about the presence of terrorists in the area, killing one militant and injuring three others.

"The security forces have cordoned off the entire area [and] launched a search operation," the ISPR said.

"I strongly condemn the heinous terror attack on the Chinese workers' convoy in Gwadar. Thankfully, no loss of life happened, but there are reports that the ambush has been repulsed and the attackers have been killed," Senator Sarfraz Bugti said on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Indian journalist felicitated

For outstanding reportage focussing on India-US relations

Washington, Aug 13 (PTI):

An Indian journalist has been felicitated by a business body here in recognition of his exceptional contribution to journalism focused on the US-India relationship.

Rohit Sharma, who works with various Indian and international media outlets, was presented the Distinguished Senior Journalist Award by US-India SME Council during its 20th annual gala early this week.

Elisha Pulvarti, CEO of the US-India SME Council, praised Sharma's outstanding dedication to providing comprehensive insights into the dynamics of the US-India relationship through print and TV media, a media release said on Saturday.

Senator Van Hollen was bestowed with the Mahatma Gandhi Global



Rohit Sharma, an Indian journalist working with various news media outlets, being felicitated by a business body for his exceptional contribution to journalism focused on the US-India relationship, in Washington.

Peace Award during the event.

Hollen took the opportunity to emphasise the significance of the India-US relationship and underscore the strength of the bond between the two nations.

The US India SME Council, a non-profit or-

ganisation established two decades ago, has emerged as a premier advocate for businesses based in Washington, DC.

Its membership comprises US-based small to medium-sized business enterprises owned and operated by Indian Americans and Asian Americans.



Russia evacuates 2,000 in Far East flooding

Moscow, Aug 13 (AP):

Over 2,000 people have been evacuated from flooded areas of the Primorye region in Russia's Far East, emergency officials said Sunday.

Heavy downpours flooded villages in the region in the aftermath of Typhoon Khanun, which battered Japan earlier this week before making its way toward the Korean peninsula. The remnants of the storm, now downgraded from typhoon status, were slated to bring double the monthly rainfall to some areas of the region

over the weekend, according to Russian state media.

"More than 2,000 people, including 405 children, have been evacuated in Primorye," the Russian Emergency Situations Ministry said on Telegram.

Over 4,300 residential buildings were flooded and 28 settlements cut off by floodwaters, with 16 of the region's districts affected. On Friday, local officials said that downpours had already caused floods in seven districts and killed at least three people a woman and two children, ages 10 and 12.

7 killed in Ukraine's Kherson region, including a 23-day-old baby girl

Kyiv, Aug 13 (AP):

Seven people including a 23-day-old baby girl were killed in Russian shelling in Ukraine's southern Kherson region on Sunday, the country's Internal Affairs Ministry said.

Artillery shelling in the village of Shiroka Balka, on the banks of the Dnieper River killed a family a husband, wife, 12-year-old boy and 23-day-old girl and another resident.

Two men were killed in the neighbouring village of Stanislav, where a woman was also wounded.

The attack on Kherson province followed Ukrainian Deputy Defense Minister Hanna Maliar's comments on Saturday attempting to quell rumors that Ukrainian forces had landed on the occupied left (east) bank of the

Dnieper in the Kherson region.

"Again, the expert hype around the left bank in the Kherson region began. There are no reasons for excitement," she said.

Kherson regional Gov. Oleksandr Prokudin said Sunday that three people had been wounded in Russian attacks on the province on Saturday.

Ukrainian military officials said Saturday evening that Kyiv's forces had made progress in the south, claiming some success near a key village in the southern Zaporizhzhia region and capturing other unspecified territories.

Ukraine's General Staff said they had "partial success" around the tactically important Robotyne area in the Zaporizhzhia region, a key Russian stronghold that Ukraine needs to retake in order to continue pushing south

towards Melitopol.

"There are liberated territories. The defense forces are working," General Oleksandr Tarnavskiy, commander of Ukraine's southern forces, said of the southern front.

Battles in recent weeks have taken place on multiple points along the over 1,000-kilometer (600-mile) front line as Ukraine wages a counteroffensive with Western-supplied weapons and Western-trained troops against Russian forces who invaded nearly 18 months ago.

Ukrainian troops have made only incremental gains since launching a counteroffensive in early June.

In Russia, local officials reported on Sunday that air defense systems shot down two drones over the Belgorod region and one over the neighbouring Kursk region, both of which border Ukraine.

Fiction writers fear the rise of AI, but also see it as a story to tell

New York, Aug 13 (AP):

For a vast number of book writers, artificial intelligence is a threat to their livelihood and the very idea of creativity. More than 10,000 of them endorsed an open letter from the Authors Guild this summer, urging AI companies not to use copyrighted work without permission or compensation.

At the same time, AI is a story to tell, and no longer just in science fiction.

As present in the imagination as politics, the pan-

demio or climate change, AI has become part of the narrative for a growing number of novelists and short story writers who only need to follow the news to imagine a world upended.

"I'm frightened by artificial intelligence, but also fascinated by it. There's a hope for divine understanding, for the accumulation of all knowledge, but at the same time there's an inherent terror in being replaced by non-human intelligence," said Helen Phillips, whose upcoming novel "Hum" tells of a wife and mother who

loses her job to AI. "We've been seeing more and more about AI in book proposals," said Ryan Doherty, vice president and editorial director at Celadon Books, which recently signed Fred Lunsker's novel "Sike," featuring an AI psychiatrist. "It's the zeitgeist right now. And whatever is in the cultural zeitgeist seeps into fiction," Doherty said. Other AI-themed novels expected in the next two years include Sean Michaels' "Do You Remember Being Born?", in which a poet agrees to collaborate with

an AI poetry company; Bryan Van Dyke's "In Our Likeness," about a bureaucrat and a fact-checking program with the power to change facts; and A.E. Osborn's "Awakened," about a gay witch and her titanic clash with AI. Crime writer Jeffrey Diger, known for his thrillers set in contemporary Greece, is working on a novel touching upon AI and the metaverse, the outgrowth of being "continually on the lookout for what's percolating on the edge of societal change," he said.

Pak media watchdog bans coverage of 11 persons

Critical of military and previous government

Islamabad, Aug 13 (PTI):

Pakistan electronic media watchdog has stopped TV channels from giving air space to 11 people, including journalists, accused of criticising the military and the Shehbaz Sharif-led previous government and declared proclaimed offenders' or absconders by courts.

The Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra) issued a directive on Saturday, cit-

ing a decision from the Sindh High Court that such people cannot enjoy certain rights like appearing on television, the Dawn newspaper reported.

Pemra directive has also said that under section 27 of Pemra Ordinance 2002, "hereby prohibits media coverage of above-mentioned individuals being proclaimed offenders on electronic media and refrain from airing any news, reports, statements or tickers of these individuals".

While warning the news channels of serious penalties in case of a violation of the directive, Pemra has also referred the matter to

the Council of Complaints, reported Dawn.

The 11 persons include Sabir Shakir, Moid Peerzada, Wajahat Saeed Khan, Shaheen Sehbai, Adil Farooq Raja, Ali Nawaz Awan, Murad Saeed and Hammad Azhar. Shakir, Peerzada, Saeed Khan and Sehbai are journalists who are considered supporters of former premier Imran Khan, who was ousted as prime minister in April last year when he fell out with the powerful military establishment. Saeed, Awan and Azhar were part of Khan's government.

Adil Farooq Raja is a former Army major who lives

in the UK and has been extremely critical of the Army because of the treatment meted out to Khan. These people have been implicated in different cases, a familiar tactic to silence critics in Pakistan, and declared proclaimed offenders' for failing to appear before courts. It is believed that they have fled the country to evade their arrests.

The tenure of the Sharif-led government ended when he dissolved the National Assembly on August 9 to pave the way for a neutral caretaker setup to run the country until the next general elections.



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Balancing Justice and Freedom

Rethinking Sedition Law

In a progressive stride, the prospect of repealing the antiquated sedition law has emerged on the horizon. Union Home Minister Amit Shah's announcement regarding the proposed removal of the sedition law is a welcome step in our legal and societal evolution. However, as we embark on this transformative journey, it is imperative to ensure that the proposed substitute strikes a delicate equilibrium between safeguarding national integrity and upholding individual freedoms. The sedition law, a relic from colonial times, has often been criticized for its potential for misuse, particularly against activists and journalists. Its removal from the legal landscape signifies an essential course correction, aligned with the principles of a democratic society. This commendable move also underscores the responsiveness of our governance to the changing demands of our times. The decision is a product of a broader initiative aiming to overhaul our criminal justice system. The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill-2023, which seeks to replace the Indian Penal Code, is a comprehensive effort to modernize our legal framework. However, as we embrace change, it is crucial to ensure that the new provisions do not inadvertently replicate the same issues that plagued the sedition law. One aspect that demands careful consideration is the introduction of an offence aimed at acts endangering sovereignty, unity, and integrity. While safeguarding these fundamental aspects of our nation is of paramount importance, the wording and interpretation of this new provision should be finely calibrated. It must avoid any semblance of reimagining the sedition law under a different guise. The proposed reforms encompass a wide spectrum of changes, from digitization to scientific evidence. The emphasis on forensic sciences and streamlined procedures is a positive leap toward efficient and transparent justice delivery. However, the implementation of these measures must be accompanied by rigorous oversight and continuous refinement to ensure that they truly serve the cause of justice. It is heartening to observe the attention paid to crime against women, which has often been a glaring blind spot in our legal framework. The heightened punishments for heinous offences and the prioritization of victim protection are commendable steps toward building a safer society. The stipulation that family members of arrested individuals receive certificates of police responsibility is a progressive move that promotes accountability and reduces the potential for abuse. Yet, the pursuit of justice must not eclipse the principles of fairness and due process. The expansion of powers to attach property and the curtailment of remission powers demand robust safeguards to prevent overreach and misuse. Balancing stringent punishments with avenues for rehabilitation and reform is pivotal to creating a just and humane legal system.

Protecting Autonomy

Reevaluating CEC Selection Process

The recent introduction of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023, in the Rajya Sabha has sparked intense debate and controversy. This contentious Bill aims to alter the selection panel for appointing the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and his/her deputies, raising concerns about the independence and integrity of the election process in India. The proposed changes have ignited a furor among Opposition parties, who argue that the Bill undermines the Supreme Court's previous ruling and poses a threat to the sanctity of the electoral system. In a landmark ruling five months ago, the Supreme Court outlined a transparent and balanced approach to appointing the CEC and Election Commissioners. It decreed that a committee consisting of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and the Chief Justice of India (CJI) would recommend these crucial appointments. This decision was hailed as a significant step toward safeguarding the impartiality of the Election Commission (EC) and ensuring its autonomy from political influence. However, the recent Bill has raised eyebrows by proposing the replacement of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) with a Cabinet minister on the selection panel. This move has sparked justified concerns about potential government interference in the appointment process, compromising the EC's ability to function independently. By allowing two out of three committee members to be government representatives, the Bill tilts the balance in favor of the executive, undermining the essence of the apex court's ruling. The timing of this Bill is also raising suspicions, as it comes ahead of crucial Assembly elections in states like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana, with the Lok Sabha elections looming on the horizon. Critics argue that this move could enable the government to maintain a firm grip on the selection of top election officials, potentially influencing the fairness and impartiality of the electoral process. The very foundation of a healthy democracy lies in the integrity and credibility of its electoral system. The Election Commission plays a pivotal role in upholding these principles, and any attempts to compromise its independence must be met with scrutiny and resistance. The selection of CECs and Election Commissioners has historically been marred by lack of transparency and undue influence. The Supreme Court's directive to establish a balanced selection committee was a critical step towards addressing this issue and reinforcing the EC's autonomy. It is imperative to remember that the EC's role goes beyond individual elections; it safeguards the essence of democracy itself. A robust and unbiased electoral process ensures that the voice of the people is accurately represented and that the foundation of our nation's governance remains strong. Any alterations to the selection process, especially those that undermine the composition of the committee, risk eroding the EC's ability to fulfill its constitutional duties effectively. In light of these concerns, it is crucial for the government to heed the apprehensions raised by various quarters and consider a thorough reevaluation of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023. Preserving the sanctity of the electoral process is not merely a legal formality; it is a moral obligation to the citizens of the country. The proposed changes to the selection panel warrant careful reconsideration to ensure that the EC remains an unbiased and robust pillar of our democracy. As we stand on the precipice of crucial elections, the integrity of our electoral system must remain sacrosanct.

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

TIRANGA RALLY



Police personnel take part in a 'Tiranga Rally' ahead of Independence Day, in Jabalpur, Sunday, Aug. 13.

Depression isn't just sadness it's often a loss of pleasure

CIARA MCCABE



It's often thought that if someone is depressed, they will feel sad or low most of the time. But what many don't realise is that these aren't the only symptoms of depression. Another common symptom of depression that is sometimes overlooked is the feeling that you no longer find the things you used to enjoy to be interesting or pleasurable. Known as anhedonia, this symptom is present in up to 75% of adults and young people with depression. But despite how common this symptom is, it remains one of the most difficult symptoms to treat and manage.

Loss of pleasure

Anhedonia is defined as the reduced interest or pleasure in all or almost all activities a person previously enjoyed. If a person has anhedonia for an extended period of time (at least two weeks consistently), they can be diagnosed with depression even if they may not feel sad or low.

Although mainly associated with depression, anhedonia can also be a symptom of other disorders such as schizophrenia, anxiety and Parkinson's disease.

In in-depth interviews my colleagues and I conducted with young people about depression, anhedonia was described by many as not just a loss of joy, but also less motivation to do things. For some, this lack of drive was only related to specific things such as going to school or seeing friends. But for others, it was more severe, and they felt they didn't want to do anything at all not even live. But despite how troubling anhedonia can be, it's often not the main target of depression treatment.

It's recommended that cases of mild depression are treated with talking therapy. People with more moderate or severe cases of depression may be prescribed antidepressants.

While all these treatments aim to help patients cope with and overcome symptoms, over half of people with depression don't respond to their first recommended treatment. Even after changing treatments, approximately 30% of patients still experience symptoms.

It's been argued that one reason for these low response rates may be because current treatment techniques don't adequately target anhedonia. Research also shows that having anhedonia predicts chronic relapsing of depression. It's even possible that some antidepressant treatments might make anhedonia worse.

Why might this be? One possibility is that current standard treatments focus mainly on treating the depressed mood and brain processes that underpin low mood but not anhedonia.

For example the main aim of talking therapies, such as cognitive behavioural therapy, is to reduce negative thinking in patients. The most common antidepressant medications also mainly target serotonin, which is thought to underpin in part, how the brain processes negative information.

But as anhedonia is reduced in life, treatments such as behavioural activation (a form of talking therapy) could be better for anhedonia. This is because behavioural activation aims to help people with depression take simple, practical steps towards enjoying life again. Yet some studies find behavioural activation is no better than standard treatments in managing anhedonia. This might be because the very nature of anhedonia includes a lack of motivation making it difficult for patients to engage in any therapy, even forms which may most benefit them.

Anhedonia has also been linked to dysfunctional reward mechanisms in the brain. As such, treatments which focus more on improving the way the brain processes reward could help alleviate anhedonia more effectively than current treatments.

But the brain's reward system isn't straightforward, and actually involves various sub-processes including anticipation, motivation, pleasure and learning about reward. Problems with any one of these sub-processes could be contributing to anhedonia. As such, it will be important for

research to uncover how these sub-processes operate in people with anhedonia to develop better targets for treatment.

Treatment options

While anhedonia may be complex, that doesn't mean there's no hope for those who are affected by it. For instance, research shows that talking therapies which focus on reward processing could help reduce anhedonia. A recent pilot study also found that a new type of talk therapy called augmented depression therapy may work better than cognitive behavioural therapy in treating depression. This is because augmented depression therapy specifically targets anhedonia by having patients focus on both their negative and positive experiences.

Further, antidepressants that target neurotransmitters involved in the reward system (such as dopamine) might be better suited for patients with anhedonia. Early work examining drugs such as ketamine, which can affect dopamine activity, suggest it may have promise for treating anhedonia.

And while it can be hard to find motivation if you're experiencing anhedonia, trying to find time for fun, enjoyable activities or experiences like a hobby you used to love or even a new hobby could help alleviate anhedonia.

(Writer is a Professor of Neuroscience, Psychopharmacology and Mental Health, University of Reading.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PM Modi's disappointing address

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's response to the no-confidence motion in Parliament left many perplexed. The Opposition sought answers on the Manipur violence, yet PM Modi dedicated most of his time to recounting Congress' historical shortcomings. His speech resembled an election rally, focusing on wooing voters rather than addressing urgent concerns. Notably, the Manipur issue was addressed only after the Opposition's protest and walkout. This misuse of parliamentary time highlights a disheartening disregard for taxpayers' money.

Rakesh Gupta Korba

DMK's misplaced analogy

While condemning the heinous crimes against women in Manipur, comparing them to Draupadi's plight in the Mahabharata raises controversy. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman aptly referenced the 1989 assault on then-Opposition leader J Jayalithaa in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. Public recollection endures. DMK MP M Kanimozhi must exercise caution when drawing parallels from Hindu scriptures.

Srinivas Krishnan, Chennai

Nuh and Manipur Unrest

Gross police inaction is evident in Nuh and Manipur, where violent culprits wreaked havoc. Shockingly, in Manipur, the police purportedly surrendered two women to a mob that shamefully paraded them nude. Similarly, in Nuh, law enforcement permitted troublemakers an unchecked role in a procession organized by the VHP. Why weren't these known troublemakers preemptively detained? Regrettably, the failure to quell communal unrest in Nuh allowed it to spill over into Gurugram. The police's lackadaisical approach resulted in tragic loss of life and property. Immediate and robust intervention is imperative to prevent further deterioration.

MK Nair, Raipur

Policy Overhaul

The distressing suicides in India's prosperous state prompt a reevaluation of the perennial debt crisis in agriculture. Urgent action is required through national and regional banks, offering adaptable loans and interest-free initiatives. The lack of a robust fiscal policy at the national level further compounds farmers' woes. A strategic allocation of revenue from direct and indirect taxes towards farmer welfare emerges as a promising strategy to alleviate agriculture's struggles. A comprehensive policy overhaul is imperative to rejuvenate the farming sector and provide the essential support it deserves.

Krishna Kumar, Kollam, Kerala

How to manage Diabetes effectively at work

In pursuit of professional growth and career aspirations, maintaining good health is paramount. Your health should never hinder your professional journey. Among the prevalent health conditions today that require effective management, particularly in the workplace, is diabetes. With careful planning and deliberate actions, you can ensure stable blood sugar levels, enabling you to perform optimally throughout your workday and beyond.

Dr. Prashant Advani, a Consultant Physician at Advani Heart line in Raipur, emphasizes the urgency, stating, "In India, the number of people living with diabetes has surged to over 101 million from 77 million in 2019. Managing diabetes is crucial to mitigate future health risks associated with this chronic lifestyle condition. The challenge is especially pronounced for working professionals, many of whom are engaged in desk jobs. Consequently, individuals with diabetes often struggle to maintain consistent lifestyle adjustments and medication adherence. Taking proactive steps to effectively manage diabetes and diligently following the prescribed treatment regi-

men is imperative for better health outcomes."

Ashwini Pawar, the Medical Affairs Director for Abbott in India, underscores the significance of disease management for people with diabetes. She notes that many individuals do not adhere to their medication schedules. Abbott is committed to not only treating diseases but also aiding individuals in cultivating healthier habits and overcoming barriers to timely medication. Innovative solutions, such as special coatings on tablets to facilitate easier swallowing, are part of Abbott's approach. By implementing such measures, the aim is to empower patients to effectively manage their diabetes, leading to healthier lives and optimal performance.

Here are seven crucial steps to effectively manage diabetes in the workplace

1. Devise a Diabetes Action Plan Suited to Your Work Life: The journey to managing diabetes alongside work begins even before you arrive at the office. Prioritize adequate sleep and establish a daily routine that includes a nutritious breakfast to stabilize blood sugar levels.

- Choose between having breakfast at home or the workplace, ensuring it is balanced and free from excessive salt and saturated fats.

2. Snack smart: Whether a co-worker is munching on chips or fried foods or candy, or offering everyone mithai with celebratory news, you are always surrounded with unhealthy temptations. Avoiding snacking entirely can be tough, so have them in moderation, and be mindful of what you eat. Keep healthy snacks at hand - fruits, salad, nuts, yogurt - for when cravings hit. Also remember to stay hydrated with water over sugary and caffeinated drinks.

3. Craft a Nutrient-rich Lunch: Pack lunch smartly so you can enjoy a healthy, balanced meal and aren't only dependant on outside food. A diabetes-friendly diet includes leafy greens (like spinach), non-starchy vegetables (like carrots, tomatoes, onions, okra, cauliflower), healthy carbs (like whole grains and brown rice), lean proteins (including eggs, beans, and chicken), and fruits low in carbohydrates (such as

oranges). On days with special events, whether a colleague's birthday or team lunch, watch your calorie intake beforehand. In addition to following a balanced diet, it is crucial to monitor your glucose levels before and after meals. Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) devices can be helpful in tracking your glucose levels throughout the day, providing real-time data to aid in managing your diabetes.

4. Adhere to Medication Schedule: Consistency in taking prescribed medication is pivotal for glycemic control. Set reminders, such as alarms on your phone or sticky notes on your desk, to ensure timely medication administration.

5. Transparent Communication with Your Team: If you feel comfortable, talk to your manager and team about living with diabetes. This may help you request for more flexible adjustments, or even consistency with lunch breaks. You can also discuss critical steps necessary in case of a glucose emergency, so they know how to help you if such situations arise.

6. Get moving: Many at work have sedentary lifestyles. Physical activity helps people with diabetes manage their condition better. Get active by stretching at your desk, taking short walks around the office, up and down the stairs, or even outside. A recent study found that a post-meal walk also helps lower your blood sugar levels. Further, try fitting exercise into your routine before or after work.

7. Manage Stress Effectively: When you are stressed, you may notice your glucose levels changing. Sometimes, you may be overwhelmed at work. Good coping mechanisms help keep your blood sugar levels in check when things get difficult. Try meditating in a quiet corner, finding time to unwind (talk to a colleague or take a break), and identify and manage stressors.

Strive to establish a diabetes-friendly routine that aligns with your needs, enabling you to effectively manage diabetes while excelling in your professional endeavors.

BRIEF

Scale up



New Delhi:

Diagnosics platform Redcliffe Labs is looking to scale up its operations with 250 laboratories and 10,000 collection centres by 2025 and plans to go public in 2025-26, according to its founder and Managing Director Dheeraj Jain. The company, which commenced operations in 2018, has 81 laboratories and over 2,000 collection centres in small cities and towns. Redcliffe Labs, which has raised USD 80 million so far, has set an ambitious target of having 700 laboratories and 25,000 collection centres by 2027-28.

Wind up

Kolkata: After completion of the takeover of two Srei group firms through NCLT route, state-owned asset reconstruction company NARCL is expected to retain only one of the acquired companies, official sources said. The Kolkata bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has approved the resolution plan of NARCL for takeover of the twin Srei firms under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.

Bounce back

Chennai: Manufacturers of air compressors Elgi Equipments Ltd expects the sales during the second quarter of the current financial year, to bounce back to normal levels, the company said on Sunday. The Tamil Nadu-based company declared its financial results for the April-June 2023 quarter with its profit after tax growing by 24.2 per cent, to Rs 60.5 crore, from Rs 48.7 crore registered in the corresponding quarter of last year.

Top

New Delhi: State-owned Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has emerged as the top performer among public sector lenders in loan and deposit growth in percentage terms during the first quarter of the current financial year. The deposit and advances of the Pune-based lender recorded nearly 25 per cent rise, the highest by any public sector bank during the April-June quarter.

'Not so keen on any other new acquisitions'

New Delhi, Aug 13:

Tata Steel - which is in an expansion mode in India - is not so keen on any other new acquisitions, the company CEO T V Narendran has said.

The statement from Narendran has come amid Vedanta Ltd reviewing and evaluating its steel and steel-making raw materials businesses.

In June, Vedanta Ltd said it will immediately begin the review and evaluate a broad range of options including potential strategic sale of some or all of its steel businesses.

"Not so keen on any other new acquisitions... We don't need it," Narendran said in a reply to a question on his company's interest in buying Vedanta Ltd's steel business.

There is a lot to do at Tata Steel's existing sites, he added. The company has a plan to scale up its



T V Narendran

annual installed steel making capacity to 40 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) by 2030 in India, from around 22 MTPA at present.

In June 2018, Vedanta Limited acquired Jharkhand-based steel company ESL Steel Limited through an insolvency resolution process.

The company set up a green field integrated manufacturing facility, which is currently commissioned at a capacity of 2.5 MT per annum.

Speaking on Tata Steel UK operations, Narendran, who is also the MD of the company, said "we are (still) engaged with the UK government to find a solution. If we can find a common ground with the government (there)."

There is no problem in the UK. The production is not affected. The only challenge is the upstream assets are old and reliability of the equipment is sometimes not so great, he said.

India-headquartered Tata Steel owns the UK's largest steelworks at Port Talbot in South Wales and employs around 8,000 people across all its operations in the country.

The company had sought 1.5 billion pounds from the UK government to execute its decarbonisation plans. However, the British government earlier this year made a counter offer which was much lower to the company's expectations.

Sebi levies Rs 60 lakh fine on individual

New Delhi, Aug 13: Capital markets regulator Sebi has levied fine totalling Rs 60 lakh on an individual for violating market norms. The penalty is to be paid by Manish Goel (Manish Kr. Goyal), a Sebi-registered research analyst, within 45 days. In its 46-page order on Friday, Sebi found that Manish had collected Rs 4.16 crore from 583 clients by charging them for services provided as a Research Analyst. However, he failed to comply with basic requirements of research analyst (RA) norms and also promised assured returns and mis-sold his services to clients. The regulator also observed that Manish assured the members of the Whatsapp/Telegram groups that they would get one stock recommendation for free in case anyone suffers a loss on account of a particular stock recommendation. "... the promise of an assured return in the Whatsapp/Telegram chats, which were not supported by any research on noticee's part, amounted to dissemination of misleading information which amounted to a violation of PFUTP (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices) regulations," Sebi's adjudicating officer Soma Majumder said in the order.

SBI Card enables RuPay credit cards on UPI

New Delhi, Aug 13: SBI Card, India's largest pure-play credit card issuer, and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) have announced the linking of SBI credit cards on RuPay platform with UPI. Starting 10 August 2023, SBI Card customers will be able to make UPI transactions through their credit cards issued on RuPay. The functionality can be availed through registering the credit card with third party UPI apps. This will further enhance the avenues for customers using SBI Card on RuPay platform on UPI merchants, thus facilitating enhanced, convenient, and seamless payments experience.

According to Rama Mohan Rao Amara, MD&CEO, SBI Card, "With this functionality, the SBI Card customers will be able to use their SBI Card-issued RuPay credit cards on UPI platform. Today, UPI has be-



come a massive digital platform enabling millions of transactions every day. This should give our customers greater flexibility and mobility along with hassle-free usage. With this, the industry is going to witness a significant increase in credit card usage."

Dilip Asbe, MD & CEO, NPCI, said, "The addition of SBI RuPay Credit Cards on UPI rails is a big milestone in the growth trajectory of digital payments in India. This partnership will enable seamless UPI

payments for SBI RuPay credit cardholders, providing them digitally enabled credit card lifecycle experience. With the rising demand for credit cards in the country, it becomes imperative to continuously build innovative payment solutions such as linking RuPay Credit Cards with UPI, that are convenient, swift, and secure."

Cardholders can enroll their active primary cards on UPI and make payments to merchants (P2M transactions) using their credit cards.

PGI unveils the new collection: 'Men of Platinum'

Mumbai, Aug 13:

Platinum Guild International (PGI), India's Men of Platinum, proudly continues to celebrate the indomitable spirit of men of character. These extraordinary men lead with their values, holding self-belief, resilience, compassion, and courage close to their hearts. With these qualities as their guiding force, they have crafted a new narrative of success. Forged from 95% pure platinum and inspired by celestial origins, each exquisite piece in this collection embodies the strength and essence of these remarkable men. Like the resilient nature of platinum, they stand strong, as beacons of inspiration and influence to those around them. Just as platinum never fades, they leave a lasting impact

on the lives of those they touch.

Step into the world of Men of Platinum, where every statement piece tells a tale of character and conviction. Of remarkable men who embrace their values with unwavering dedication, remaining true to themselves and their beliefs, even amidst life's most challenging moments. Like the enduring nature of platinum, their spirits stay untarnished through the passage of time, inspiring an entire generation through thoughtful acts and humble gestures. Men of Platinum boasts a design language that is both unique and meaningful. Each intricate element is thoughtfully embedded with significance, reflecting the values and qualities of the exceptional men it represents.

'Rural growth outpaces urban demand'

Trend to continue over next 6 months

New Delhi, Aug 13:

Rural growth, which was lagging after the pandemic, has outpaced urban demand and this trend is likely to continue over the next six months led by a good monsoon, Pidlite Industries Managing Director Bharat Puri said.

Moreover, as the inflationary pressure cools down after two years of volatility, Puri said now he sees 'stability' in input prices, which is providing him with a lot more elbow room to invest back into the marketplace.

Puri says he is "increasingly optimistic" as he looks forward as there is clearly increased construction activity, leading to good demand.

The company, which recently entered into the



Bharat Puri

Paints market and has a presence in 2-3 states, would expand further to other markets based on consumer responses. It is an organic business for Pidlite, which will grow steadily, he added.

When asked about the current quarter (July-September), Puri said there has been disruption at some places due to rains.

"Q2 up to now has been

a very unnatural quarter simply because of these massive rain incidences ... So, we have disruptions in the North," said Puri in a virtual media round-table.

However, he also added: "But overall, I would say that once all of this stabilises, we do not see a great difference between conditions in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 actually, but this question will probably be best answered four weeks later, once we get a lot more stability in the natural circumstances."

On outlook on volume growth, Puri said "We divide our business into three categories core, growth and pioneer. Given the first quarter, we expect the same trends to continue for the rest of the year," he added.

Pyramid Technoplast Ltd IPO opens on Aug 18

Plans public issue of up to Rs. 153.05 cr

Mumbai, Aug 13:

Pyramid Technoplast Limited, an industrial packaging company known for its expertise in manufacturing polymer based molded products is planning to raise up to Rs. 153.05 crore from its public issue to fund its growth plans. The company plans to use issue proceeds for repayment of outstanding borrowings, funding working capital requirement and general corporate purposes.

The public issue will open for subscription on August 18 and will close on August 22, 2023. The company's shares will be listed in the BSE & NSE. The Book Running Lead

Managers to the Offer are PNB Investment Services Limited and First Overseas Capital Limited. The Registrar to the Offer is Bigshare Services Private Limited.

The initial public offering of up to 92.20 lakh equity shares of face value Rs. 10 each comprises of fresh issue of up to 55 lakh equity shares and an offer for sale of up to 37.20 lakh equity shares by the promoter group - Credence Financial Consultancy LLP. Company has fixed price band of Rs. 151-166 per equity share for the public issue.

The company plans to raise up to Rs. 153.05 crore from the public issue at the higher price band of Rs. 166 per share. The minimum lot size for the application is 90 shares and multiple thereof.



DP World Chennai's 'MV Navios Constellation' berthed at the Chennai Container Terminal, Sunday.

SRAM & MRAM expects to collaborate SK Hynix, GlobalFoundries

For chip plant in India

New Delhi, Aug 13:

UK-based SRAM & MRAM Group is in advanced stage of discussion with semiconductor makers SK Hynix and GlobalFoundries to collaborate for its proposed Rs 30,000 crore chip manufacturing plant and a testing facility in India, a top company official said.

SRAM & MRAM Group Chairman Sailesh Lachu Hiranandani told PTI that his group will hold majority stake in the joint venture and the application to seek the Centre's approval for the project will be submitted within a week.

"We are only the investment partner. We are al-



Sailesh Lachu Hiranandani

ready in negotiations with SK Hynix from Korea. They are going to be our partner in India. Technical partner has to have all the IPs (Intellectual Properties). Our role is very much defined," Hiranandani said.

SK Hynix is among the top three global memory or storage semiconductor companies.

SRAM & MRAM Group has proposed to set up a semiconductor manufacturing plant and a testing unit in Odisha.

"My vice president is in touch with them (GlobalFoundries). We might get GlobalFoundries on board," Hiranandani said. GlobalFoundries makes chips and its customers include Qualcomm, MediaTek, NXP etc.

Email query sent to SK Hynix and GlobalFoundries elicited no reply.

The Odisha government has already approved the proposal of SRAM & MRAM Group, which has diversified business interests across agri commodities, information technology etc.

RBI selects McKinsey and Company, Accenture Solutions to use AI, ML

Mumbai, Aug 13:

The Reserve Bank has selected global consultancy firms McKinsey and Company India LLP and Accenture Solutions Pvt Ltd India to develop systems using artificial intelligence and machine learning for its supervisory functions. The RBI is looking to extensively use advanced analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning to analyse its huge database and improve regulatory supervision over banks and NBFCs. For this purpose, the central bank plans to hire external experts. In September last year, the RBI invited expressions of

To improve regulatory supervision

interest (EOI) for engaging consultants for the use of advanced analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning for generating supervisory inputs. Based on the scrutiny/evaluation set out in the EOI document, the central bank had shortlisted seven applicants to participate in the request for proposal process (RFP) for the selection of consultant(s). The seven firms were Accenture Solutions Private Limited; Boston Consulting Group (India) Pvt Ltd; Deloitte Touche

Tohmtsu India LLP; Ernst and Young LLP; KPMG Assurance and Consulting Services LLP; McKinsey and Company; and Pricewaterhouse Coopers Pvt Ltd. Of these, McKinsey and Company India LLP and Accenture Solutions Private Limited India have been awarded the contract, as per a Reserve Bank document. The value of the contract is about Rs 91 crore. While the RBI is already using AI and ML in supervisory processes, it now intends to upscale it, to ensure that the benefits of advanced analytics can accrue to the Department of Supervision in the central bank.

Sebi to focus on tech; plans Geotagging solution

New Delhi: Capital markets regulator Sebi is betting big on technology, as it plans to implement a Geotagging solution in the current financial year to strengthen the process of its enforcement activities. While focussing on technology, Sebi said it plans to undertake various projects to boost its information technology (IT) capacity and build a "fault-tolerant" architecture. The move is aimed at further enhancing its technological and cybersecurity capability, and to better serve its stakeholders. "In the coming year, Sebi plans to implement a Geotagging Solution to strengthen the process of its enforcement activities," the regulator said in its annual report for 2022-23.

Deloitte for independent external probe into Hindenburg allegations

Adani firm says reasons for resignation not convincing

New Delhi, Aug 13:

Before resigning as an auditor of an Adani Group firm, Deloitte had sought an independent external examination of allegations made by a US short-seller but the company said the allegations had no effect on financial statements and the reasons cited for quitting were not convincing to warrant such a move. In a 163-page filing with stock exchanges relating to Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP's resignation, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ)



said that in meetings with its leadership, Deloitte indicated concern over a lack of a wider audit role as auditors of other listed Adani companies.

However, the firm conveyed to the auditor that it was not within its remit to recommend such appointments as other entities are "completely independent". "The Audit Committee (of APSEZ) was of the

view that the grounds advanced by Deloitte for resignation as Statutory Auditor were not convincing or sufficient to warrant such a move," said Gopal Krishna Pillai, former union home secretary and chairman of the Audit Committee of APSEZ, in a statement. "Deloitte was not willing to continue as ... auditor and, therefore, it was agreed to amicably

end the client-auditor contractual relationship," he said. In the August 12 resignation letter, Deloitte said it was resigning as auditor of APSEZ with immediate effect "because we are not statutory auditors of a substantial number of other Adani Group of companies."

It went on to state that it had given a qualified opinion in audit of financial statements for quarters ended March 2023 and June 2023. APSEZ appointed MSKA & Associates, an independent member firm of BDO International, as its statutory auditors in place of Deloitte, until the date of its next annual general meeting to be held in 2024, the company said in a filing.

Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve unveils cutting-edge elephant surveillance

● Using Thermal Drones

Central Chronicle News

Mainpur, Aug 13: In a groundbreaking initiative to bolster elephant conservation, Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve orchestrated a series of impactful programs across local villages, amplifying awareness and community engagement.

The day kicked off with spirited rallies at 10 am in various locations, drawing enthusiastic participation from rural dwellers and schoolchildren alike. These rallies set the stage for captivating activities, such as quizzes and painting contests, showcasing the inventive prowess and elephant knowledge of young minds. The event's overarching goal was to educate attendees, especially children, about diverse methods of elephant safe-



guarding and consciousness.

A momentous leap forward, Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve unveiled its employment of drone technology enhanced with thermal cameras to facilitate vigilant nocturnal monitoring of elephant herds. This pioneering approach enables continuous tracking of elephant movement, even under the shroud of darkness.

The initiative's ripple effect ensures swift trans-

mission of vital information to local communities, strengthening collaborative efforts to ensure both the well-being of elephants and the safety of residents.

Guided by Chhattisgarh's Forest Minister Mohammed Akbar, Sudhir Agrawal, Chief Principal Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), and Varun Jain, Deputy Director of Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve, the World Elephant Day celebrations spanned multiple



regions, including Arsiakanhar, Risgav, Kulhadighat, and Mainpur Wildlife Sanctuary.

The day's activities culminated in riveting question-answer competitions held across diverse villages, engaging schoolchildren and villagers alike. Honoring excellence, winners of these contests received commendations, igniting a spirit of active participation and knowledge exchange.

Furthermore, Udanti

Sitanadi Tiger Reserve orchestrated specialized training for its personnel in the application of drone and thermal camera technology.

Spearheaded by Abhishek Singh, this training aimed to arm the staff with requisite skills for effective nocturnal elephant monitoring. The comprehensive instruction encompassed insights into elephant behavior, tracking techniques, and data collection methods.

Health boost for Mungeli's young ones

● De-worming campaign commences

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Aug 13: A concerted effort to safeguard the health and well-being of children has been launched in Mungeli district with the commencement of a De-Worming Week from August 10 to 16. The campaign was inaugurated by the Collector at the Nutritional Rehabilitation Center situated within the district hospital, where children were administered Albendazole tablets, a renowned anti-parasitic medication.

Highlighting the critical importance of this initiative, the Collector underscored that robust action against worm infestations is pivotal in preventing a range of distressing symptoms such as abdominal pain, weakness, vomiting, and loss of appetite among



children. Ensuring the widespread administration of Albendazole medication emerged as a key focus during the event, prompting directives from the Collector to relevant department officials to ensure seamless coverage. In a heartfelt appeal to parents, the Collector urged them to proactively engage with nearby Anganwadi centers or health facilities to avail Albendazole tablets for their children. The Chief Medical and Health Officer further highlighted that a total of 3,50,246 children, aged 1 to 19

years, will be beneficiaries of this health initiative, receiving complimentary Albendazole tablets at schools and Anganwadi centers by August 16. Moreover, on August 17, a supplementary round of Albendazole distribution will cater to any children who may have missed out. The inauguration event witnessed the esteemed presence of significant dignitaries including the Deputy Collector, District Magistrate, Civil Surgeon, and a panel of medical experts from the district's premier hospital.

Proud and glorious moment for DAVPS Bachel

Central Chronicle News

Bachel, Aug 13: The Booming Buds of DAV Public School, Bachel, achieved great success in the district level Yoga Compilation held at Kirandul on Aug 10, 2023. It was a great delight to see the participants perform various asanas with so much agility.

Students moved from one pose to another effortlessly and seamlessly. The competition boosted the confidence and self-esteem of the young yoga enthusiasts. Total participants were 14 (9 boys and 5 girls).

For the Traditional Yog, first position was bagged by Tarun Kumar Sahu and 2nd position remained with Praveen



Kumar Kashyap in the 9-14 years age group. In the Rhythmic Yog pair, Ankush Nayak and Ankit Sharma stood first.

In the Artistic Yog, Tarun Kumar Sahu again showcased his marvellous pose and bagged the first position and Mohit Karmkar stood sec-

ond in the age group 9-14 years and 14-18 years respectively.

Principal, Dr. Chetna Sharma and her team showered their blessings on these charismatic little ones and congratulated their parents and mentors for this astounding achievement.

Leaders engage in fierce grassroots campaigning

● Amidst development void in Pandaria

Central Chronicle News

Pandaria, Aug 13: As the Vidhan Sabha elections approach, the political landscape in Pandaria is ablaze with new contenders jostling for attention. In a bid to secure their places in the upcoming assembly elections, various parties have unleashed a flurry of candidates into the fray, each armed with fervent campaigns and zealous ambitions.

The Congress party, a prominent player in the region, has unveiled a roster of potential representatives, including the incumbent MLA Mamata Chandrakar, District President Neelu Chandravanshi, Mahesh



Chandravanshi, Arjun Tewari, Tukaram Chandravanshi, Vishnu Sahu, Anand Thakur, Kanshi Nath Singh Thakur, and Yogeshwar Chandrakar. These aspirants have thrown themselves wholeheartedly into the electoral battle, tirelessly engaging with the electorate and weaving a web of connections.

Beyond the Congress bastion, the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) also seeks to leave an indelible

mark on the constituency. Bhavna Bohra, Visheshar Patel, Kranti Gupta, Motiram Chandravanshi, Ajit Chandravanshi, Jallu Sahu, Gopal Sahu, Yaswant Chandrakar, Kailash Chandravanshi, Dinesh Chandravanshi, Jyoti Bhuneshwar Chandrakar, Ramsarup Sahu, Pradeep Kaivart, along with numerous other dynamic aspirants, are actively engaging with the public through wall writings and participation

in events. In parallel, Ravi Chandravanshi from the Congress and Chaitram Raj from the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) are vigorously steering their campaign endeavours.

Amidst this feverish political landscape, Pandaria itself grapples with an absence of dynamic leadership. Despite the surge of contenders vying for electoral laurels, the block yearns for the emergence of visionary leaders who

can steer its developmental course. Notably, the region has seen luminaries like Baidyanath Chandrakar and Dharmjeet Singh don the mantle of MLA, yet the block continues to await comprehensive and sustained leadership.

The developmental landscape of Pandaria portrays a stark contrast to the aspirational fervour of its political contenders. Infrastructure woes persist, with prolonged electricity shortages casting shadows over forested expanses. In Bagha, tribal communities thirst for clean drinking water, exposing a critical gap in access. Further, the block grapples with road connectivity, education, and healthcare challenges, painting a vivid portrait of an area at the crossroads of progress.

Traffic system uncontrolled in Rajim city

Rajim, Aug 13: Traffic system is uncontrolled in Rajim city, as reportedly flow of tourists and devotees in Prayagraj of Chhattisgarh is increasing from thousands to lakhs. Also, there is no arrangement of traffic police at any square intersection to organize the traffic, due to which there is an atmosphere of fear among the passers-by fearing big accidents.

It may be noted that NH 130C passes through the interior routes in the heart of the city and heavy vehicles coming from outside also have to pass through this route, sometimes big trucks face a lot of difficulty in turning due to the small width of the road. After bathing at the Triveni Sangam here, the world's famous



Panchmukhi Kuleshwarnath Mahadev and Lord Vishnu's Rajivlochan temple people also reach the waterfall located in the district, the place of Goddess sitting in the mountains, the world's largest Shivaling Bhuteshwar Nath Mahadev, etc., remain a special sight of the crowd.

It is necessary to tell that the assembly headquarters Rajim is connected with four district headquarters and capital headquarters. District head-

quarter Gariaband is located at a distance of 45 kms, Mahasamund 44, Raipur 45, Dhamtari 65 and capital Naya Raipur 30 kms. Tourists keep coming from all these places from early morning till late night.

Roadways coming from the capital Raipur, which starts from the Triveni Sangam Mahanadi Bridge, the same Pandit Shyamacharan Shukla Chowk, Pandit Sundarlal Sharma Chowk, Govardhan Chowk,

Mahamaya Chowk, Rajim Bhaktin Mata Chowk, Chaubandha Tiraha, College Chowk on Chhura Marg, near the Court of Law, Mahasamund Marg, Shivaji Chowk, Shri Ram Chowk, Tehsil Chowk, Krishi Upaj Mandi Chowk, Riverside VVIP Marg, Rajeev Lochan Marg etc. creates a jam like situation.

It may be also noted that since it has been raining, the condition of the roadside has turned from bad to worse. It is also necessary to mention that the population of the city is increasing day by day, but the facilities which should be available for the passengers are proving to be negligible, in spite of the city to be one of the most important tourist destinations of Chhattisgarh.

Minimata dedicated her whole life to human service: Tiwari

Central Chronicle News

Bemetara, Aug 13: Minimata's death anniversary was observed in Akoli village of Bemetara assembly constituency. First of all, chief guest farmer leader Yogesh Tiwari paid tribute to Minimata. On this occasion, the farmer leader while addressing the people present said that Guru Minimata is the first woman MP of Chhattisgarh.

Minimata dedicated her whole life to human service. She played an important role in getting the Untouchability Prevention Act passed in the Parliament to protect the rights of Dalits.



She raised her voice from the society to the Parliament in protest against child marriage and dowry system. Minimata was also aware and cooperative towards labor interests and women's education.

She also did remarkable work in the direction of providing employment and industrial training opportunities to local residents in Bhillai Steel Plant. Born in Assam, Minimata got settled in the public life of

Chhattisgarh after marriage.

She had given a new height to women's identity. Minimata's service-oriented and inspirational personality will always be remembered, he maintained.

MLA Mandavi and DM reach remote village Koter

● By crossing the waist-deep river water

Central Chronicle News

Bijapur, Aug 13: Bijapur district is geographically surrounded by mountains, plateaus, rivers, forests, it is a very complicated task to reach the government schemes to the last person as compared to normal districts.

Along with geography, the biggest problem here is Naxalism, due to which the sensitivity increases even more. Despite the adverse circumstances, on the special initiative of the regional MLA and the

district administration, the administration is slowly reaching those places as well.

Where no public representative, government staff could ever reach. Similarly, there is village Koter situated in Gangalur area of Bijapur block, where MLA Vikram Shah Mandavi, District Panchayat President Shankar Kudiya, Collector Rajendra Kumar Katara along with district and panchayat level public representatives including education, health, PHE, CREDA, District officers and field staff of various departments, including women and child development, reached out and

took care of the basic facilities of the villagers.

Gaita, Perma, Pujari cordially welcomed the MLA, Collector and public representatives and informed them about various basic facilities and their demands, in which quick initiative was taken.

The villagers apprised about the problem of single teacher school, in which the MLA and Collector instructed the District Education Officer present on the occasion to make arrangements for the graduate youth of the village as Shiksha Doot.

At the same time, all the transformers of village Koter were tested on the spot by the technical staff,



including the smooth operation of the electrical system in the Anganwadi center, in which all the transformers were found to be correct and the cable was told about burning. The MLA instructed to make the electricity system run smoothly by laying cables within two days.

Villagers informed about the water problem, on which instructions were given to repair the boring of Dongripara, Patelpara and Nayapara, to install new pipes. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, the villagers were informed about providing tap connections to all the houses soon and getting 5 dual pumps installed from

the CREDA department.

In order to provide better health facilities, it was said to set up a health center according to the rules. On the other hand, the villagers told that 60 cases of individual forest rights letters have been deposited in the CEO district office. MLA Mr. Vikram Mandavi motivated the villagers to get benefited from various schemes of the government. At the same time, 12 women self-help groups are currently working in the village.

The MLA, who is engaged in procurement of cow dung, vermicompost production and greens-vegetable production, gave guidance to

conduct economic activities by connecting with various schemes of the government and gave information about easy loan disbursement to the CEO District Panchayat Dilip Uike present on the occasion.

Women of the group instructions were given to guide and cooperate and by taking regular meeting of Gauthan Committee, the plans of the government were told in detail to the chairman and the member about the amount to be received from the government. During the visit all the district level officer's were and public representatives were present.

ACT triumph sets India's sights on Asian Games: Fulton

Chennai, Aug 13 (PTI):

The Asian Champions Trophy title triumph will "really count" as India set sights on Asian Games gold in order to secure automatic qualification to 2024 Paris Olympics, said head coach Craig Fulton.

The India hockey team fought back from two goals down to eke out a 4-3 win over Malaysia in the final to claim their fourth ACT title here on Saturday.

With the Hangzhou Asian Games scheduled to commence on September 23, Fulton was asked whether a thrilling final like this will help the side in the continental showpiece event.

"Finals are cagier; they never go smooth. It comes down to a moment or shootouts. So, it's important to have a game like this because it really counts.

"At the same time, it's (ACT) not the Asian Games. So, our feet are firmly on the ground. But, if you said to me to win the Asian Games and lose this final, I would obviously vouch for winning the Games," added Fulton.

Fulton said the comeback story of the team had begun two months back. "Two months ago," Fulton told PTI on the sidelines after India's comeback win. Asked about the biggest learning from this tournament, he said, "Not to have back-

India jump to No 3 place in FIH rankings after ACT triumph

New Delhi: Giving them a big boost ahead of the Asian Games, India on Sunday rose to third place in FIH rankings following their Asian Champions Trophy triumph. India (2771.35 points) jumped one place to third and went past England (2763.50 points) behind top-ranked Netherlands (3095.90 points) and Belgium (2917.87 points). This was the second time India rose to No 3 in FIH rankings. India had achieved a similar ranking in 2021 after securing a bronze in the Tokyo Olympics, which was their first medal at the Games in 41 years. On Saturday, the Harmanpreet Singh-led side defeated Malaysia 4-3 to lift the ACT title. They made an incredible comeback from 1-3 down.

to-back tournaments; that would be a start." Several teams had reservations over the timing of ACT with the Asian Games just weeks away India were trailing 1-3 at half-time before they turned things around in the second half. Decoding the performance, Fulton, while giving due credit to Malaysia, said that coming into the final after a "high-quality" semifinal against Japan the previous day hadn't been easy. India thrashed Japan 5-0 in the last-four stage.

Lakshya counting on recent form to win medal at World Championships

Guwahati, Aug 13 (PTI):

A maiden medal at the Asian Games and breaking into the world's top 5 remain on his radar but Lakshya Sen's first priority is to extend his rich vein of form at the World Championships. And, he is counting on his recent showing to deliver the goods.

After enduring a rough patch, Sen turned around his fortune with



a title-winning run in Canada in July and followed it up with two semifinal finishes at the US Open and Japan Open.

The 21-year-old from Almora, who claimed a maiden bronze at the World Championships in 2021, will hope to secure another medal when he begins his campaign in Copenhagen, Denmark on August 21. "World Championships being just a week ahead, I feel the past

tournaments which I played will really help me go into the tournament," Sen told PTI on the sidelines of the inauguration of India's National Centre of Excellence here. "The preparation has been good. The past few tournaments, the form has been going well, but there are still a few more things to learn and improve. "With time, it will get better and match preparation for this

tournament is really good as I have played a lot of good matches in the recent past, and that will give me a lot of confidence. "Another week or 10 days, I'm looking forward to really good training and then doing well at the World Championships."

Asian Games, the continental multi-sport event, scheduled to be held from September 23 to October 8 in Hangzhou, China is another big-ticket event which is on his radar.

प्रतिमा अनावरण

कार्यालय, नगर पालिक निगम, दुर्ग के द्वारा पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री, पूर्व राज्यपाल एवं पूर्व केन्द्रीय मंत्री **आदरणीय श्री मोतीलाल वीरा जी** की प्रतिमा अनावरण कार्यक्रम में आप सादर आमंत्रित हैं।

मुख्य अतिथि मान. श्री भूपेश बघेल जी मुख्यमंत्री - छत्तीसगढ़ शासन	अध्यक्षता मान. डॉ. चरणदास महंत जी विधानसभा अध्यक्ष, छत्तीसगढ़
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विशेष अतिथि
 मा. श्री मोहम्मद अकबर जी केबिनेट मंत्री-छत्तीसगढ़ शासन एवं प्रभारी मंत्री, दुर्ग जिला
 मा. श्री तासध्वज साहू जी केबिनेट मंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन, मा. श्री रविन्द्र चौधे जी केबिनेट मंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन
 मा. डॉ. शिव कुमार झरिया जी केबिनेट मंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन, मा. श्री दीपक बेज जी सांसद एवं अध्यक्ष छ.ग. प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी, श्री गिरीश देवांगन जी अध्यक्ष, खनिज विकास निगम, छत्तीसगढ़, मा. श्री आर. एन. वर्मा जी उपाध्यक्ष-अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग, छ.ग. शासन मा. श्री राजेन्द्र साहू जी अध्यक्ष, जिला सहकारी केन्द्रीय बैंक मर्यादित, दुर्ग
 मा. श्री अलताफ अहमद जी अध्यक्ष, मदरसा बोर्ड, छ.ग. शासन, मा. श्री गवा पटेल जी, पूर्व उप महापौर, दुर्ग
 मा. श्री अब्दुल गनी जी, प्रभारी, लोकवि, न.पा.नि. दुर्ग, मा. श्रीमती बबीता गुरु यादव जी वार्ड पार्षद, मा. प्रदीप चौधे, मा. प्रतिमा चन्द्राकर, मा. सितविज चन्द्राकर, मा. लक्ष्मण चन्द्राकर

कार्यक्रम | दिनांक 14 अगस्त 2023, सोमवार, सायं 5.00 बजे
स्थान : राजेन्द्र पार्क चौक, सिविल लाईन, दुर्ग

किसान नेता

योगेश तिवारी जी

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विशाल

त्रिपिंगा

यात्रा

दिनांक 14 अगस्त
समय दोपहर 02 बजे
स्थान - मां कारोकन्या मंदिर बेरला

Heavy rains trigger landslides, block roads 'Not aware of what transpired between Pawars'

● One person injured in Shimla

Shimla, Aug 13 (PTI):

Heavy rains in Himachal Pradesh in the past 24 hours triggered landslides and uprooted trees, damaging houses and vehicles and blocking 150 roads.

In a rain-related incident on Sunday, a conductor of a private bus was injured when a tree got uprooted and fell on the vehicle near ISBT here, officials said.

A total of 452 roads, including a maximum of 236 in Mandi, 59 in Shimla and 40 in Bilaspur district are now closed for vehicular traffic, according to the state emergency operation centre. Three vehicles parked on the roadside were damaged following a landslide at Dudhli in the suburbs of Shimla city. A landslide also occurred near St. Edwards School, while uprooted trees



People pull a vehicle to a safer place after a landslide following heavy rainfall, in Shimla, Sunday.

blocked the road for some time near 103 Tunnel in the heart of the state capital. The ply of essential commodities such as milk, newspapers and edibles here and in upper Shimla areas has been erratic over the past few days.

Three houses, cow sheds and vehicles were damaged near Dagsech in the Namhol area of Bilaspur district following a landslide on the Shimla Mataur road. The administration has vacated nine

houses after the land in the area started sinking, officials said.

A large number of heavy vehicles got stranded on both sides of the road at Chakki Mor near Koti on the Shimla-Kalka National Highway connecting Shimla and Chandigarh due to continuous landslides on the road stretch. The small vehicles are being diverted through alternate routes.

This road stretch got blocked on August 2 due to

a major landslide in which 50 metres of the road caved in. The road was reopened on August 8 but continued slides are making commute difficult.

Reports of damage to houses and agricultural land are also pouring in from several places in the Mandi district, including Chatru Panchayat in the Balh area and Lot and Dhishit panchayats in the Gohar area. Incessant rains for the last 48 hours have caused havoc in all parts of the Hamirpur district, leading to a spate in the Beas river and its tributaries. The worst affected are the areas where the nullahs of Maan and Kunah are located, officials said. The rains and landslides have caused widespread damage to crops, fertile land and official and private buildings in all parts of Hamirpur. The district administration has warned the people not to venture out and avoid going near the Beas riverbank and nullahs.

Mumbai, Aug 13 (PTI):

Maharashtra NCP president Jayant Patil on Sunday said he was not aware of what transpired between Sharad Pawar and Ajit Pawar, amid a buzz in political circles of a 'secret' meeting in Pune between the NCP founder and his nephew, who is the state's deputy chief minister.

Patil also said it was "not a secret meeting".

State Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said he has no information about such a meeting.

"I can't add to your knowledge," the BJP leader told reporters.

Sharad Pawar and state Deputy CM Ajit Pawar, who heads the group of rebel MLAs of the NCP, are believed to have met at the residence of a businessman in Pune on Saturday.

Visuals aired by regional news channels showed Sharad Pawar arriving at



Jayant Patil

the residence of the businessman in Koregaon Park area at around 1 pm on Saturday. He left by around 5 pm. Later, Ajit Pawar was seen leaving the premises in a car at 6.45 pm while apparently trying to avoid cameras.

Talking to reporters on Sunday, Jayant Patil said it was "not a secret meeting".

"I went with Pawar saheb to a common acquaintance and left early. I am not aware of what transpired later," he said.

Patil said his brother had received a notice from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) seeking information about some company.

'NCP will not go with BJP'

Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar on Sunday said his party will not go with the BJP though some "well-wishers" are trying to persuade him.

Addressing reporters at Sangola in Solapur district of Maharashtra, Pawar said any association with BJP doesn't fit into NCP's political policy. "As the national president of the NCP, I am making it clear that my party (NCP) will not go with the BJP. Any association with the Bharatiya Janata Party does not fit in NCP's political policy," he said. Pawar revealed that some "well-wishers" are trying to persuade him but he

will never align with the Bharatiya Janata Party.

"Some of us (Ajit Pawar-led NCP group) have taken a different stand. Some of our well-wishers are trying to see if there can be any change in our stand. That is why they are trying to have a cordial discussion with us," he said without taking names.

Queried about his "secret" meeting in Pune on Saturday with his nephew and Deputy CM Ajit Pawar, who is part of the Shiv Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra, the senior Pawar said, "I want to tell you a fact that he is my nephew."

"Four days ago, he (Patil's brother) went to the ED office and submitted all the details he knew. It is wrong to link the ED notice to yesterday's meeting," the NCP leader said.

On speculations that he

may join the Ajit Pawar faction, Patil said he has already made his stand clear.

Asked if he is with Sharad Pawar, Patil said, "Yes, don't keep any doubt in your mind."

With 10-fold jump in tourist footfall, Varanasi balances tradition and change

Varanasi, Aug 13 (PTI):

L. A Nandi statue faces the Kashi Vishwanath temple at the centre of Varanasi's Godowlia crossing, continuing the centuries-old tradition of the guardian deity pointing in the direction of Lord Shiva's abode. Just behind, a massive screen plays a call to buy advertising space. Benares, as the city was once known, is "older than history, older than tradition, older even than leg-



Crowd at Godowlia Chauraha, in Varanasi. Varanasi may be "older than history", but is currently transitioning - tradition and modernness in tow - into one of the centre-pieces of the central government's promotion of religious tourism.

end", Mark Twain famously wrote.

But the fabled city of

temples, ghats and soul searching is transitioning tradition and modernness

in tow into a centrepiece of the government's promotion of religious tourism.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a recent Mann Ki Baat address, said the recent jump in the number of tourists in Varanasi, reflects a "cultural reawakening."

According to Uttar Pradesh tourism department's official website, the city has 10 times the number of tourists it had before the Covid pandemic. In 2019, the total number of tourists in the city amounted to nearly 68 lakh.

New Delhi, Aug 13 (PTI):

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday alleged the Centre has rendered the country's health system "sick" with even AIIMS facilities grappling with staff shortage, drawing a sharp rebuttal from Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya. Taking to X, formerly known as Twitter, Kharge targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi, citing a media report which claimed that 19 All India Institutes of Medical



Mallikarjun Kharge

Sciences (AIIMS) are facing a shortage of doctors and other staff.

"Loot and jumlas have made the country unhealthy. Only lies are embedded in every word of Modi ji! (The government) claimed that it has set up

many AIIMS. The truth is that our AIIMS are facing a severe shortage of doctors and other staff," the Congress chief said in Hindi. "Mr. Modi, from apathy during the coronavirus pandemic to scams in Ayushman Bharat... your government has made the country's health system sick," Kharge alleged. "The people have been awakened, your deceit has been recognised and the time has come for your government's farewell," he added.

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