



BRIEF



Young women tie 'Rakhi' to Border Security Force (BSF) personnel during a ceremony on the occasion of 'Raksha Bandhan' at the Attari-Wagah Border post, in Amritsar district, Thursday.

'Yuva samvad'

New Delhi: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will visit Chhattisgarh to address a youth rally on September 2, as the party gears up for assembly polls this year. Gandhi will visit Raipur to attend 'yuva samvad' on September 2 afternoon and reach out to first time voters, apprising them of the development work that the state government has done, leaders said.

Cylinder blast

New Tehri: Three people, including a married couple, were injured in a village here on Thursday when an LPG cylinder exploded and caused a fire, police said. All three, Balbir Singh Negi (45), his wife Rina Devi (42) and their relative Abhishek Chauhan (19) have been admitted to the Boradi district hospital, Lambgaon police station SHO Mahipal Singh Rawat said. He added that the incident occurred in Kordi village of Tehri. The official said Negi's injuries are severe.

'Student suicides serious issue'

President Murmu calls for help in beating negative thinking among them

Raipur, Aug 31 (PTI):

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday expressed concern over the "very serious issue" of students committing suicide, and urged all stakeholders to help them beat negative thinking and cope with study pressure in a positive way.

Making a fervent appeal to teachers, family members and society to help out students by understanding their psychology, she said every individual has a unique talent and one should understand one's own interests and abilities to choose the right direc-



President Droupadi Murmu with Chhattisgarh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan and Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel during the state level launch of the theme of the year 'The Year of Positive Change' of Brahma Kumaris, in Raipur, Thursday.

tion accordingly. Victory and defeat are part of life, she said, adding that momentary failure often paves the way to a big success in future. The president was speaking at the state-level launch of 'Sakaratak Parivartan Ka Varsh' (Year of Positive

Change) of Brahma Kumaris at Shanti Sarovar Retreat Centre in Chhattisgarh capital Raipur. Referring to the recent suicide by two National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) aspirants in Rajasthan, the president

said, "On the one hand, our country is reaching new heights every day..We have hoisted our flag on the Moon and brought laurels in the field of sports at international level. It is a beautiful picture of changing India."

"But on the other hand, there is a very serious issue I want to put forth before you. Just a few days ago, two students preparing for NEET ended their lives. Many children studying for competitive exams have committed suicide in the past. I am pained when students develop negative thinking and take such extreme steps," she said. Competition is a positive thing that improves life. Victory and defeat are part of life. There are many examples of the fact that momentary failure often paves the way to a big success in future, she said.

Police jawan killed by unidentified assailants

Cops suspect role of Naxalites

Bijapur, Aug 31 (PTI):

A police jawan was killed by unidentified assailants at a village in the Naxalite-hit Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh, police said on Thursday. The incident appears to be the handiwork of Maoists but the investigation is underway into all possible angles, they said.

The incident took place on Wednesday in Duvlipara village under Gangaloor police station limits where the deceased, identified as Assistant Constable Budhram Awlam, had gone to drop his relative on his motorcycle, a senior police official said. Awlam, who was posted at Toynar police station, was on leave and had gone to his native place Jangla in the district, he said.

Govt calls special session of Parliament between Sep 18 and 22

New Delhi, Aug 31 (PTI):

The government has convened a special session of Parliament for five days between September 18 and 22, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said on Thursday.

There was no official word on the agenda of the session which will be held days after the G20 Summit in the national capital on September 9 and 10.

"Special Session of Parliament (13th Session of 17th Lok Sabha and 261st Session of Rajya

Sabha) is being called from 18th to 22nd September having five sittings. Amid Amrit Kaal looking forward to having fruitful discussions and debate in Parliament," Joshi said on X. Sources said the special session could see parliamentary operations being shifted to the new Parliament building which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 28. Final touches are being given to the new Parliament building to make it ready to host sessions.

'Adani family secretly invested in own shares'

New Delhi, Aug 31 (PTI):

Billionaire Gautam Adani's group was on Thursday hit by fresh allegations of associates of the promoter family using Mauritius-based 'opaque' investment funds to secretly invest hundreds of millions of dollars to fuel the spectacular rise in group stocks during 2013 to 2018, a charge the conglomerate denied vehemently. The Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) said documents obtained by it revealed details of a complex

Rahul seeks JPC probe into fresh report on Adani

Mumbai: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday sought a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe into reports that Adani family associates secretly invested "hundreds of millions" in the company through opaque investment funds based in Mauritius. Addressing a press conference in Mumbai, Gandhi referred to news articles by some prominent foreign newspapers on Adani Group. "These are not random newspapers. These newspapers affect investment in India and the perception of India in the rest of the world. They are stating that over a billion dollars of money went from India, was circulated in different places and then came back to India," he said.



offshore operation in two Mauritius-based funds managed by the partners of the promoter family to support prices of shares of group companies from 2013

to 2018 - a period during which the ports-to-energy conglomerate saw meteoric rise to become India's largest and most powerful businesses.

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Jaya Verma Sinha first woman to head Railway Board

New Delhi, Aug 31 (PTI):

The government on Thursday appointed Jaya Verma Sinha as the first woman CEO and Chairperson of the Railway Board, the apex decision-making body for the national transporter.

She was at the centre stage of the railways' media interactions recently when, as the Member (Operations and Business Development), she explained the complex signalling system after the tragic Balasore accident which killed nearly 300 people. "The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Jaya Verma Sinha, Indian Railway Management Services (IRMS), Member (Operations & Business Development), Railway Board to the post of Chairman & Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Railway Board," an order said. She will assume charge on or after September 1 and



her tenure will be till August 31, 2024. Sinha is slated to retire on October 1, but will be re-employed the same day till her tenure gets over.

She succeeds Anil Kumar Lahoti. An Alumnus of the Allahabad University, Sinha joined the Indian Railway Traffic Service in 1988 and worked in Northern Railway, S E Railway and Eastern Railway.

She also worked as Railway Advisor in the High Commission of India, Dhaka, Bangladesh for four years. The Maitree Express from Kolkata to Dhaka was inaugurated during her tenure in Bangladesh. She also worked as the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah Division.

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Smugglers nabbed with cannabis



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 31: Durg Police nabbed two smugglers and recovered about four kilograms of cannabis from their possession. They were smuggling cannabis in a Toyota Innova car.

Durg Police is running a campaign against illegal drug dealers as per the instructions of Superintendent of Police Shalabh Sinha and supervision of Additional Superintendent of Police

(Rural) Anant Sahu and Deputy Superintendent of Police (Crime) Rajeev Sharma. A joint team of ACCU and Utai Police Station was formed and deployed for action.

The team was continuously keeping an eye on the drug dealers and the network of informers was activated. Meanwhile, the police team received a tip about a person who was transporting illegal drugs from Durg towards his home village Dumardih

Utai in a vehicle Toyota Innova number CG 04 TA 1755. The team intercepted the vehicle Toyota Innova bearing registration number CG 04 TA 1755 and checked it.

The two persons traveling in the car were identified as Ajay Kshatriya (36) son of Gajadhar Kshatriya a resident of Dumardih, Utai and Roshan Sahu (24) son of Ramkumar Sahu a resident of Panchsheel Nagar, Durg. Police recovered about four kilos of

cannabis from a black bag kept in the vehicle.

Police seized the cannabis worth Rs 32000, two Vivo mobiles worth Rs 20,000, vehicle used in the incident Toyota Innova number CG 04 TA 1755 worth Rs 4,50,000 and cash amount Rs 1250, total worth Rs 5,03,250. The accused were taken into custody. Further action is being taken against the accused under NDPS Act from Utai police station.

ACCU in-charge Inspector Santosh Mishra, ASI Chandrashekhar Soni, Head Constable Roman Sonwani, Constables Rajkumar Chandra, Ashwani Yadu, Meghraj Chelak from ACCU and Utai SHO Inspector Kapil Dev Pandey, Sub-Inspector KL Gaur, ASI Rajkumar Deshmukh, Head Constable Hemant Chandel, Constable Dushyant Lahare, Vijay Kurre, Mukesh Yadav and Tamradhwaj Chandrakar played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Fire Mishap at BSP's Blast Furnace # 6



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 31: A major fire broke out at the Blast Furnace # 6 of Bhilai Steel Plant in the wee hours of Thursday. It took about twelve hours to completely douse the flames and cool down the entire area.

There was no loss of life



or affect on production as this furnace has been closed. It is suspected that the fire was the outcome of a cable theft attempt by unknown thieves.

In its official press communiqué, BSP authorities informed that smoke was reported at the Closed Blast Furnace No. 6 of

SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant at the early hours (4:45 am) of 31st August 2023.

The Control Room and Fire Brigade were informed without any delay. Taking immediate action, the Fire Tenders surrounded the spot from all sides and began extinguishing the fire. The fire

has been brought under control.

The fire broke out in cables at the Cable Room and Control Room of Blast Furnace No 6. There was no loss of life or damage in this incident. The actual cause of the fire incident will be known after complete investigation.

DAV celebrates Vedic Prachar Saptah and Rakshabandhan

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 31: Vedas - the breath of God are supposed to be the treasure - trove of Hindu religion, tradition and culture. Considering their immense significance in shaping the moral aspect of the personalities of the children, DAV Public School, Hudco celebrated Ved Prachar Saptah from August 23, 2023 to August 29, 2023 under the aegis of Arya Pradeshik Pratiniidhi Upsabha, DAV College Managing Committee and Regional Director.

The celebration was inaugurated with a 'Prabhat Pheri' from the school campus to the neighbouring locality with the participation of students and teachers to spread awareness among the community about the unique features of the holy Vedas and the teachings of Arya Samaj and Maharishi Dayanand, which was followed by Vedic Havana.



Each day began with an auspicious Yajana performed by the Sanskrit department and Acharyas from Arya Samaj Sec 6 with their entire team in the campus. The school staff and students along with the members of Parents Teacher Associations created a divine

ambience with their melodious chanting of Vedic mantras and bhajans.

The event promoted the wide philosophy of ancient Vedas through several informative activities and competitions spanned over a week. The relevance of Vedas was

explained to the students. Morning Assemblies were conducted on the theme of Vedas which include Arya Samaj ke Niyam, poetry recitation and declamation on the importance of Vedas. The concluding day, the Purnahuti was graced by Prashant Kumar (Principal cum Deputy Regional Officer, CG Zone A).

He apprised the students with rich legacy of Arya Samaj, and basic human values that form an integral part of our lives. He also highlighted that Vedas are the storehouse of knowledge and help us in guiding our lives, purifying our lives, our mind as well as the environment.

To increase the thrill, the school also organised the Rakhi celebration which was followed by Purnahuti making the children aware about the virtuous bond of love between a brother and a sister which is one of the deepest and noblest of all human emotions.

The tiny tots, in traditional attire enthusiastically participated in tying rakhi to the first person of the school, Principal with a concept of safe-guarding and protecting them as a brother. The vibrant, colorful attires and innocent smiles brightened the ambience and lifted the spirit.

The main objective behind celebrating Raksha Bandhan' was to make the children aware of the virtuous bond of love between a brother and a sister which is one of the deepest and noblest of all human emotions.

The program concluded with the Principal addressing the students and inspiring them to always cherish this bond of love with their siblings and also said that trust, respect, equality and courtesy establish strong relationships and festivals such as Raksha Bandhan keep reminding people of their importance in their lives.

Employees of BSP accorded warm farewell on superannuation



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 31: 86 Employees, posted in various departments and mining towns of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant have retired after their long service on August 31, 2023. The Farewell Ceremony for the 86 retiring personnel was organized at the Multipurpose Hall of Bhilai Niwas, Indira Place, Civic Centre, Bhilai

on August 31, 2023.

Samir Swarup, ED (Rowghat), along with Sandeep Mathur, CGM (Personnel) and SK Soni, GM (Personnel-NW & Mines) handed over the Superannuation Orders and Service Certificates to the Superannuating personnel. Saheeram Jakhar, DGM (SCCA) was also present on this occasion.

Samir Swarup, ED

(Rowghat) bid farewell to the departing steel fraternity and wished them a healthy and happy life. Swarup also appreciated the retiring employees for their commendable contribution to their respective fields.

Underlining their contribution, the departing steel fraternity was wished a healthy and happy life by the Plant Management.

SAIL crucial partner in development of the P17 A frigates

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 31: Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), one of India's largest steel producers, has once again contributed significantly to India's defence capabilities by providing the entire quantity of special steel plates of about 4000 Tonnes for the construction of the seventh frigate ship under the indigenous P17 A Project for the Indian Navy.

The upcoming launch of this seventh frigate ship, the fourth warship built by M/s Mazagon Dock Ltd, is scheduled for launch on September 01, 2023 by Jagdeep Dhankar, Vice President of India. This event marks a significant milestone for the nation's

maritime security. SAIL has emerged as a crucial partner in the development of the P17 A frigates, underlining the company's commitment in advancing India's defence indigenization.

The commendable efforts of SAIL extend beyond the current warship; the company had also provided an equal quantity of special steel for the construction of the sixth frigate, named "Vindhyagiri", recently launched by Droupadi Murmu, President of India.

The P17 A Project comprises the construction of a total of four ships by M/s Mazagon Dock Ltd and three ships by M/s GRSE. The launch of three ships by Mazagon Dock Ltd occurred between September 2019 and

September 2022, while M/s GRSE successfully launched three ships between December 2020 and August 2023. SAIL's contributions, in terms of steel supply for these vessels amount to about 28,000 tonnes, which underscores the company's capabilities to supply high-end products for critical use.

In its rich history of supporting India's defence sector, SAIL has not only supplied steel for the P17 A Project but has also played an integral role in providing steel for various defence projects, including the aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, warships such as INS Udaygiri and INS Surat and for the artillery gun Dhanush among others.

SSV-X shines in Inter School Regional Level Competition



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 31: Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sector X, Bhilai, participated in Inter School Music Competition on August 29, 2023 which was held at Krishna Public School, Nehru Nagar, Bhilai and the Senior choir won the 1st position in the group song competition under the CG Folk song category.

The Junior choir won the 1st Runners Up Position in the group song competition under the patriotic song category. The school choir participated

under the able guidance of Vandana Mishra and K Sanjay and made the school proud by bringing the laurel. Bipin Deshmukh, Principal, SSV congratulated the school choir, Music Department and Parents for this success.

The President, SSES, V Ramachandran, Secretary, SSES, S Swaminathan and other members of Management of Sri Sankara Educational Society congratulated the school choir and Music Department for their success.

Free Medical camp organised at Village Borigarika

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 31: 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 organized a one-day free Health Camp, at Village Borigarika.

The Medical Team from CSR department, comprising of Dr Nishi Minz, Pharmacist, AS Gaur, Rekha Dev for Blood-Sugar and BP examination, Shambhu for registration, volunteered their services for the camp. Ashutosh Soni, from the CSR department was also present during the Health Camp along with Gunjeshwari, Village Sarpanch of Borigarika. A total of 38 villagers from vil-



lage Borigarika, including 10 men, 18 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.

Various events mark BSP's National Sports Day Celebrations

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Aug 31: National Sports Day was jointly celebrated by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's, Sports, Culture and Civic Amenities (SCCA), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Education departments on August 29, 2023, through a series of Sports events and felicitations of Sportsmen. Every year BSP Collective celebrates National Sports Day to commemorate the Birth Anniversary of Wizard of Hockey, Major Dhyan Chand.

In the morning, a Tennis Ball Cricket Match was organized at



Pant Stadium, Sector-1, Bhilai, where Township's cricketers displayed their sporting talents. SK Soni, GM (Personnel-NW & Mines) was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Addressing the gathering, Soni spoke on the im-

portance of Sports Day and felicitated the sportsmen. An afternoon Football Match was also organized to mark the National Sports Day, at Sports Complex, Sector-9, Bhilai. Dr AK Lal, ACMO (M&HS) was the Chief

Guest on this occasion. Arjuna Awardee and former Olympian Rajendra Prasad, DGM (Education), OP Sagar, AGM (Executive Establishment), and GD Gandhi, Secretary (Chhattisgarh Football



Association) along with Mohan Lal, were also present as Special Guests. The National Sports Day Celebrations by the SAIL-BSP Collective concluded with a Badminton Match, which was organised at the Indoor Stadium,

Indira Place, Civic Centre, Bhilai, in the evening. Pawan Kumar, ED (P&A) was the Chief Guest of the Valedictory Ceremony. State-level young players showcased their sports-talent in the match. Sandeep Mathur, CGM

(Personnel), SK Soni, GM (Personnel-NW & Mines), and H Shekhar GM (Personnel-ED P&A Secretariat) were present as Special Guests. Addressing the gathering, Pawan Kumar, spoke on the life of Major Dhyan Chand and his contributions to Indian Sports. Kumar also appreciated the initiatives of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant for patronising sports and games. Mentioning the national and international sports-personalities from the Steel City Pawan Kumar appreciated the dedication and hardwork of the players and congratulated former National player Saheeram Jakhar, DGM (SCCA) for the

dedicated sports activities. It is also noteworthy that a School-Level Kabaddi Tournament was also organized by Plant's CSR Department for the Village children at Machandur, to mark the National Sports Day on August 29, 2023. Various Senior officials from the Plant Management were also present in the events organised on this occasion, along with sportsmen and sports-lovers from the township. The events were organized under the guidance of Saheeram Jakhar and under coordination of Abhijit Bhowmick from SCCA Department.

Any challenge can be braved with positive thinking and perseverance: Guv

It feels as if one of our own has returned home: CM

In 'Sakaratomak Parivartan Ka Saal- 2023' prog by PBIV

Raipur, Aug 31:

After the address by the President of India Droupadi Murmu at the inauguration of Prajapita Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya's (PBIV) 'Sakaratomak Parivartan Ka Saal- 2023', the Governor in Bishwahaan Harichandan in his address said that "The Year of Positive Change" is quite relevant. Positive change refers to the change that benefits individuals, families, communities and nation as a whole. When a society embraces positive change, it becomes stronger. We all know that change is the law of nature. The conservative and traditionalist society opposed to the required change and up-



grade in beliefs and traditions gets cut off from the mainstream. Change with time and need is necessary in the society. The tree that doesn't bends during the storm often gets uprooted. We should adapt to our changing circumstances. This organization can play an important role in positive transformation of society through spiritual knowledge and Raj Yoga.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in his address said that the arrival

of the President is a moment of great pride for the people of Chhattisgarh. On behalf of the three crore citizens of Chhattisgarh, I would like to thank the President for her visit. Today, we the people of Chhattisgarh are feeling elated to have the head of the entire nation amongst us. It feels as if one of our own has returned home. This state is a tribal state, a large number of people belonging to Scheduled Caste and Other Backward Classes

reside here. This state is a state of farmers, this is a state of the deprived. Ensuring justice to every deprived person is the spirit of the Constitution. We have been receiving spiritual guidance from Prajapita Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya in the implementation of policies, schemes and programs of Chhattisgarh state.

On this occasion, Executive Secretary of the Institute Brahmakumar Mrityunjay from Mount Abu, Director of Raipur Seva Kendra Brahma Kumari Savita Devi, Regional Director of Indore Zone Brahma Kumari Hemlata, Director of Bhilai Center Brahma Kumari Asha, Additional Director of Academician Services Division Leena, National Coordinator of the division, Mr. Nathmal, and other representatives of the organization along with a large number of citizens were present on the occasion.

CLEANING OF SCRAP



The cleaning of scrap in the form of table and machinery of RMC was removed from Madhav Rao Sapre School premises here on Thursday.

Big relief to the govt pensioners of Ch'garh

Raipur, Aug 31:

The state government, led by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, has increased the dearness allowance of government pensioners in Chhattisgarh. The Finance Department issued an order in this regard on Thursday.

The state government has announced an increase in the

dearness allowance by 4 percent for basic pension and family pension under the seventh pay scale, and this dearness relief is effective from July 1.

After this increment, the DA for government pensioners has been increased to 42 percent. Furthermore, the state government has also announced an increase in the dearness allowance by 9 percent for the

basic pension and family pension under the sixth pay scale, and this dearness relief is effective from July 1. After this increment, the DA for government pensioners has been increased to 221 percent.

In a significant development, approval from both Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh states is necessary for providing dearness

relief to pensioners. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had penned a letter to Madhya Pradesh's Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan in this regard seeking approval to increase the DA of pensioners. Subsequently, upon receiving approval from the Madhya Pradesh Government, a prompt decision was made to increase the DA for pensioners.

Rakhi made of cow dung and paddy tied on wrist of CM



Raipur, Aug 31:

Rakhi made from cow dung and paddy seed was tied on the wrist of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel by the sisters of Bihan group of Gariaband and

Chairperson of the State Women's Commission, Kiranmayi Nayak on the occasion of Rakshabandhan festival. They wished Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel good luck by tying this special Rakhi

State Women's Commission Chairperson Nayak tied special rakhi on CM's wrist on Raksha Bandhan

on his wrist last night. Mrs. Nayak bought Rakhi prepared by the sisters of Bihan group of Gariaband and tied it on the wrist of the Chief Minister.

It is noteworthy that Chief Minister Mr. Baghel has appealed to the people of the state to use Rakhi made by rural people on the festival of Rakshabandhan. The Chief Minister also gave gifts to Mrs. Nayak on Rakshabandhan.

Father, son looted by two accused

Raipur, Aug 31:

A father and son were looted by two unknown accused in Shaheed Manomohan Singh Bakshi ward Kota Sraswati Nagar area of city during night and entire incident has been recorded in CCTV. In CCTV footage it is clearly visible that accused all of sudden fell down from a bike and seeing which the father and son on a vehicle stop near them and tried to pass on help to them.

When both father and son tried to lift the two, they entered into controversy with the two and started searching their pockets. On registering

protest, the accused tried to threaten them on knife-point and demand purse and mobile form the youth. Somehow the youth manage to escape and tried to save his life. Here the two accused nabbed father and pull him down and here the youth came back and tried to save his father. Here the accused looted them of purse and mobile and ran away.

According to eye witnesses, both father and son alighting at the Saraswati Nagar station were going back home and were carrying a small bag as well. They were coming from Champa to Raipur and fell victim of loot by the two accused.

PM candidate should be from Cong, Rahul most appropriate: Baghel

From new organization I.N.D.I.A. heading 26 political parties

Raipur, Aug 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel commenting upon the PM candidate from I.N.D.I.A coalition said that tomorrow all the parties will reach a consensus and decide upon the candidate to head the new organization and only time will tell, and added that he feels confident that for this Rahul Gandhi is the most appropriate person. Commenting upon handling naxalism, CM Baghel said that all political leaders have different strategies to handle and find solution to this problem. The last government in the state adopted the strategy of bullet-v s - bullet. They gave full freedom to police and paramilitary forces and therefore



many individuals lost their lives. When the Congress government in state came to power, we felt that solution to any problem is not possible without bombs, bullets and violence and dialogues and talks is the only way out. So in order to win the confidence

where we handed over 4200 acre land to around 1700 farmers in the region. To a question on religious conversion in the state, CM Baghel said that if it is happening in entire country, then the Centre should formulate law and take action likewise. Baghel further said that as & when many leaders have taken out statistics about large number of religious conversion in Chhattisgarh and under whose term more number of Churches have been constructed, then I have challenged that it is during the term of BJP and they (BJP) are not accepting this challenge that highest number of religious conversion has taken place during BJP's term only.

Claims and objections now to be taken till September 11

Election Commission of India extended the last date, special camps will also be organized in all polling centers on September 2-3

Raipur, Aug 31: The Election Commission of India has extended the last date for receiving claims and objections for the second special brief revision of the voter list-2023 currently going on in the state. Now, as the final date is October 1, 2023, claims and objections for addition, deletion and amendment of names in the voter list will be received till September

11. During this period, special camps will also be organized for this in all the polling centers of the state on Saturday, September 2nd and Sunday, September 3rd. The Election Commission of India has appealed to the people to register their names in the voter list and exercise their franchise to ensure strong democracy and their participation in voting. The period for submission of claims and objections was earlier fixed from August 2 to August 31 under the Second Special Brief Revision-2023 program of Electoral Rolls with photographs in the state by the Election Commission of India, New Delhi. The com-

mission has now extended the last date for this till September 11, 2023. The commission has given instructions to all the collectors and district election officers for its wide publicity. All the recognized political parties of the state have also been informed in writing about this. Special camps will be organized in all the polling stations for the second special summary revision of voter list on coming Saturday, September 2 and Sunday, September 3. Keeping in view the upcoming assembly general elections-2023 in Chhattisgarh, second special summary revision of electoral rolls is very important. Citizens of the

state, who have not been able to submit their application or claim-objection to the polling station or booth level officer by August 31, 2023 for any reason, can now submit their application to the polling station by September 11, 2023. The Commission has launched an online voter portal voters.eci.gov.in to facilitate this and appealed to use the Voters Helpline App as much as possible. The claims and objections received for the second special brief revision of the electoral roll with photos-2023 will be resolved by September 28th and its final publication will be done on October 4th, 2023 as before.

LPG domestic gas cylinder to be available in Raipur for Rs 974

LPG becomes cheaper after two years

Raipur, Aug 31:

Common men were facing severe problems with the constant rise of LPG domestic gas cylinder. Now they have got some relief after two years after Central Government announcement to reduce the price of LPG Gas cylinder. LPG companies have reduced the prices of domestic LPG by Rs 200. According to this, now 14.2 kg domestic gas cylinder which was sold for Rs 1174, will be available for Rs 974. Along with this, those under Ujjwala scheme will get gas cylinder for Rs 903. On the other hand, the price of 19.2 kg commercial gas



cylinder has increased to Rs 1900.50. On September 1, 2021, the price of domestic gas cylinder was Rs 956 and the price of commercial gas cylinder was Rs 1858. There is a possibility that the prices of domestic gas cylinders may fall slightly more in the coming days. This can be a big relief for the consumers. It is notable that on Tuesday, August 29 itself,

the central government had announced to reduce the price of domestic gas cylinder by Rs 200, but at that time there was confusion among the companies whether the reduction would be given to the consumers in the form of subsidy or the price would be reduced directly. On Wednesday, the entire situation became clear to the companies and they announced a reduction in

the prices. Under this, now consumers will get domestic cooking gas cheaper by Rs. 200. The process of increasing the prices of LPG started during the Corona period and the companies had increased the prices drastically. On December 1, 2020, the price of 14.2 kg domestic gas cylinders was Rs 665, which increased to Rs 956 by September 2021. Since then the prices were continuously increasing. On the other hand the prices of petrol and diesel have remained stable for the last one and a half years. In Raipur, petrol is being sold at Rs 102.45 per liter and diesel at Rs 95.44 per liter. Market sources said that there may be some relief in the prices of petrol and diesel in the coming days.

Three Raipur players selected for LIC's Central Zone Volleyball team

Raipur, Aug 31:

The 37th Central Zone Volleyball Selection Competition was organized by the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), Gwalior Division, at LNIPE from August 28 to 29. Providing insights into the competition, Vinay Baiswade, Joint Secretary of the Sports and Recreation Committee, Raipur, stated that players from 8 divisions working in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh participated in the event.



Central Zone Volleyball Team. Aside from the trio's triumphant advancement to the Central Zone team, D. Mallik from the LIC Raipur division also earned a place in the esteemed top 16 priority list.

The Senior Divisional Manager of LIC Raipur division, Ashok Thakur, lauded these four exemplary players for their remarkable achievements. He extended his heartfelt best wishes as they gear up for the upcoming All India

Life Insurance Corporation Games, scheduled to transpire in Goa from November 28 to December 01. The occasion was graced by other esteemed personalities including Manager (Personnel) N. Venkatesh, Vice President of Raipur Division Insurance Employees Union T.K. Mishra, Secretary of the Sports and Recreation Committee in Raipur, Gajendra Patel, and Joint Secretary Vinay Baiswade.

Political parties wooing influencers to create digital environment

Raipur, Aug 31: In the election battle of Chhattisgarh Assembly Elections 2023, this time the demand for Internet Media Influencers and YouTubers has increased. Political parties are wooing influencers for election campaigning and creating an atmosphere in favour of the party.

While the Congress is currently struggling to broadcast the achievements of the state government through them, the BJP is also engaged in posting content for the party. According to experts, internet media marketers, digital marketing managers from cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Pune have become active in the state. From millions of followers to micro influencers are

- CG Election 2023: Demand for YouTubers with millions of followers
- Digital influencers can be game changer for parties in 2023 assembly elections



also in the election market. It is notable that State Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had taken a meeting of influencers in July. Political parties are preparing to campaign in the elections with their help. State Congress Committee IT Cell Chief, Jaivardhan Bissa said that some influencers have been talking about the achievements of Bhupesh Government in the past

also. They are not associated with any party and posts what they think is right. Influencers who have more than 10,000 followers on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube or other digital platforms, through the message can be conveyed instantly. Both influencers and YouTubers can be effective in delivering short-term content to attract voters' attention. For this, they

are suitable for short content on digital platforms like TikTok, Instagram Reels and Snapchat. As per political observers, influencers on internet media can play an important role in setting market trends. Similarly, they can prove to be helpful in publicity to create an atmosphere in favour of a candidate and to spread his/her qualities to as many people as possible. In the digital age, those who have more followers are powerful. Influencers working effectively on digital platforms can prove to be very helpful in elections. Through internet media, 40 percent people of the state can be reached. According to IT experts, Chhattisgarh has 90 lakh to 10 million users of various internet media. Of these, there are around 60 lakh smartphone holders with WhatsApp. According to figures, the number of YouTube users in the country is around 448 million. In such a situation, YouTube is at number two in terms of users. WhatsApp is at number one with 53 crore users and Facebook is at number three with 41 crore users.

News in Brief

Governor, CM warmly welcome President Droupadi Murmu



Raipur, Aug 31: The President of India Droupadi Murmu arrived in Raipur today as a part of her two-day visit to Chhattisgarh. Chhattisgarh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel extended a warm welcome to the President at the Swami Vivekananda Airport, Raipur. The President also received a guard of honour here. Raipur Mayor Aijaz Dhebar, Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain, Director General of Police Ashok Juneja, Raipur Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, and Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal also extended a warm welcome to the President at the airport.

President Droupadi Murmu visits Lord Jagannath Temple

Located in Gayatri Nagar



Raipur, Aug 31: President Droupadi Murmu visited the Lord Jagannath Temple located in Gayatri Nagar, Raipur. She offered prayers to the deities - Lord Jagannath, Balbhadr Ji, and Subhadra Ji, and wished for the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of the citizens of the country. Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, MLAs Kuldeep Juneja and Brijmohan Agrawal, Mayor Aijaz Dhebar, Additional Chief Secretary Subrat Sahoo, former State Chief Information Commissioner MK Raut, and the Chairman of the Temple Committee, Shri Purandhar Mishra along with members of the Temple Committee and other dignitaries were also present on the occasion.

President visits Mahant Ghasidas Memorial Museum



Raipur, Aug 31: President Droupadi Murmu visited the Mahant Ghasidas Memorial Museum in Raipur. The Minister of Culture, Amarjeet Bhagat, accorded a warm welcome to the President. The President came face-to-face with the archaeological splendour of Chhattisgarh in the museum and observed the ancient and collectible items concerned with the historical background of the place. She observed prehistoric stone tools, ancient sculptures, inscriptions, copper plates, and coins recovered from Chhattisgarh and other regions, and also received information about the materials related to tribal culture kept in the museum. On this occasion, Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan and Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel also visited the museum along with the President.

Raipur Mayor hands over key to the President



Raipur, Aug 31: The first citizen of the capital city Raipur Mayor Aijaz Dhebar handed over a symbolic key on welcome of the President of India Droupadi Murmu at the Airport. As per the customs, on arrival of the President of India to any capital city, the first citizen of the city - the Mayor is supposed to hand-over customary key to the President and welcoming her, saying that this city is ready to welcome her. On this occasion the Chief Secretary Shri Amitabh Jain, Director General of Police Ashok Juneja, Raipur Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, and Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal also extended a warm welcome to the President at the airport.

President Droupadi Murmu, Governor plants saplings



Raipur, Aug 31: President Droupadi Murmu and Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan planted saplings in the Raj Bhavan premises today. Murmu planted a sapling of 'Parijat' and Harichandan planted a sapling of 'White Champa'.

Academic growth in CU towards excellence: Prof. Chakrawal

Faces of medal holders lit up during the rehearsal of the convocation ceremony

Bilaspur, Aug 31: The rehearsal of the grand and graceful Tenth Convocation ceremony of Guru Ghasidas University (a Central University) was organized today, on 31.08.2023 from 11 am in the Rajat Jayanti Sabhagar. The rehearsal of the arrangements to be made during the 45-minute stay of Honorable President Madam Droupadi Murmu was successfully completed keeping in mind the stipulated time period. During the rehearsal, the convoy, along with the Chief Guest and other dignitaries reached the venue at the scheduled time and the President

along with all the guests were welcomed by Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal.

On the arrival of the Chief Guest, President Droupadi Murmu, a group photograph was taken with the guests at the venue, first, with the members of the Executive Council and the Academic Council and then with the students. For this, seating arrangements for both the groups were made outside the Rajat Jayanti Sabhagar of the university.

The sequence of rehearsal of the procession of the Tenth Convocation was arranged in such a way that the first to move towards the stage from Hall No. 1 were the Registrar, the members of the Academic Council, members of the Executive



Council, the Deans, the guests, and the Vice-Chancellor/Chancellor. During the return journey, the procession returned from the venue of the ceremony to Hall No. 1 in the opposite order.

The programme started by lighting the lamp and offering flowers before the statues of Ma Saraswati and Baba Guru Ghasidasji. On this occasion, Tarang Band of the University presented Saraswati Vandana. Vice-

Union Minister of State Renuka Singh.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University gave permission to start the Tenth Convocation ceremony. After that, while presenting the annual report of the university, Professor Chakrawal highlighted the achievements of the university. He said that the Central University is expanding nationally and internationally in the field of academics, research and innovation. The Vice-Chancellor spoke about patents, research papers, Swabhiman Thali Yojana, Swavalambi Chhattisgarh Yojana, Shraavan Line Yojana, placements and other achievements. He expressed pride and joy at the presence of Honorable President Mrs. Droupadi Murmu as a guest.

Live broadcast on LED screen A huge LED screen

has been installed in the rear part of the stage on which the entire ceremony will be broadcast live, including the name, subject, picture of the medal and title holders and complete information about the medal or title received will be broadcast when they reach the stage.

The program was conducted by Assistant Professor, Dr. Garima Tiwari and the vote of thanks was presented by Professor Manish Shrivastava, Registrar of the University. On this occasion, Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Alok Kumar Chakrawal, the Registrar, Prof. Manish Shrivastava, members of the Executive Council, members of the Academic Council, Deans, Heads of Departments, teachers, officers, and employees were present.

Awareness program held for voting in Durga College

Raipur, Aug 31:

Various voter awareness programs are being organised vigorously in the district under SVEEP for 100 percent polling in the upcoming assembly elections.

In this episode, keeping in view the Raksha Bandhan festival, a voter awareness program on Rakhi theme was organised by young voters in Durga College.

In this program, students roamed around the college and tied voter bands to each other in place of Rakhi and gave the message of voter awareness. In Durga Mahavidyalaya, students tied 'Chunav Chirai' Rakhi to each other and encouraged them to vote. Principal of Durga Mahavidyalaya, Dr. Pratibha Mukherjee Sahukar was specially present in the program.



SVEEP Nodal Officer Sunita Chansoria, SVEEP Campus Ambassador Deepa Yadav and college office staff, professors and students were present. Campus Ambassador Deepa Yadav said that all the newly admitted students must make their Voter ID card.

Principal Dr. Pratibha Mukherjee Sahukar appealed to the students to vote.

Unemployment allowance to youth for financial support: CM

Raipur, Aug 31:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Monday transferred the amount for August 2023 to the beneficiaries of the Unemployment Allowance Scheme organized at his residence office in Raipur. He also gave appointment letters to the ITI training officers. On this occasion, he virtually transferred an amount of Rs 34 crore 55 lakh 65 thousand under unemployment allowance to 1 lakh 29 thousand 886 youth.

Along with this, he also provided appointment letters to 82 ITI officers selected for the post of Training Officer. Addressing the program, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel said that under the Unemployment Allowance Scheme run by our gov-



ernment in Chhattisgarh, an amount of Rs 146.98 crore has been transferred to the unemployed so far. Chief Minister Mr. Baghel said that placement camps are being organized continuously by the Government of Chhattisgarh. Wherever new employment opportunities are created in the public or private sector, their benefits are being extended to the educated un-

employed. He said that the objective of the Unemployment Allowance Scheme is not only to provide financial support to the educated-unemployed youth, but also to connect them with employment and self-employment. Truly, I feel happy when an unemployed person gets employment. In this scheme, so far we have linked 6692 people with employment and self-em-

ployment. Of these, 4,718 youths were receiving unemployment allowance. Recently we have taken out recruitment for 42,000 government posts. The recruitment process is being completed rapidly. Chief Minister Mr. Baghel said that we are also providing skill training to the youth through Livelihood College, Polytechnic, ITI, so that they can easily get employment with their skills. At present 7200 youth are receiving training. Deputy Chief Minister T.S. Singh Dev and Food Minister Amarjit Bhagat also addressed the function. On this occasion, Chairman Chhattisgarh State Mineral Corporation Girish Dewangan and Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain and others were present.

Commissioner Dhavde inspects polling stations



Jagdalpur, Aug 31:

Commissioner Shyam Dhavde inspected the polling stations of Bastar district on Monday and observed the work of revision of voter list along with basic necessary

arrangements. He took stock of the polling booths of the city, two polling booths of MLB 2 Kanya Shala, Pandaripani, Palawa, Kurenga, Potanar, Lohandiguda, Lamdaguda. The Commissioner took cog-

nizance from the Booth Level Officer about the status of senior citizen-disabled voters, updated status of the voter list, correction work, correction work of the list through the App, register of BLOs. He also inspected the condition of basic facilities like water, electricity, rape and toilets in the polling station.

The Commissioner asked the Returning Officers to form a good team for the successful implementation of election work in the polling stations. On this occasion, Deputy Commissioner Madhuri Som, SDM Tokapal Bharat Kaushik along with Tokapal Tehsildar, Lohandiguda Naib Tehsildar and other officers were present.

Collector gave pension authorization letters



Jagdalpur, Aug 31:

Bastar Collector Vijay Dayaram distributed pension authorization letters to 18 government servants retiring on August 31 in a program organized at the Astha meeting hall of the district office on Thursday. The Collector discussed with the retired employees and appreciated them for their government service. Retired employees were honoured with garlands, shawls and PPO letters. Collector Vijay, while congratulating and wishing all the retirees, said that they should

use their experience and knowledge in giving direction to the community and society. Collector Vijay Dayaram said that the way a government servant feels pride while holding the post. It is necessary to leave the post with the same pride. Our retiring government employees have made invaluable contribution to the Bastar region as government servants. Our government servants who are retiring on 31st August have devoted most of their lives to government work. It is the duty of the administra-

tion to pay them all their entitlements and issue them pension authorization letter on the last day of service. He said that our retired government servants are being provided their rights and entitlements on time as per the government rules. On this occasion, senior treasury officer Shri Sonwani said that pension authorization letters have been issued to 18 government servants retiring this month. On this occasion, Deputy Director Bharati Korram Kashyap from the office of Joint Director of Treasury, Accounts and Pension and other officers and employees of the District Treasury and retiring dignitaries were present. Retiring Kishore Jadhav welcomed this initiative of the government administration and said that for the government servant, all his entitlements are being paid on time on the last day of service, this is a sensitive and commendable initiative.

NABARD organises Capacity Building Programme for its officers, staff

Raipur, Aug 31:

As part of the three-month campaign for Preventive Vigilance starting from August 16, 2023 to November 15, 2023, NABARD Chhattisgarh Regional Office organised a Capacity Building Programme for its officers and staff members on "Awareness Building on Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informer (PIDPI) Resolution" and "Role of Inquiry Officer (IO) / Presenting Officer (PO) in conducting inquiries". Sanjay Pillai, IPS (Retd.), Director General, Jail & Correctional Services, was invited as Chief Guest and as an expert on the occasion to sensitize the officers, staff members and District Development Managers on August 29th,



Sanjay Pillai, IPS (Retd.) addressing the participants during the programme.

2023. At the outset, Dr. Surendra Babu, General Manager welcomed everyone and briefly outlined the importance of PIDPI in present day context. Dr. Gyanendra Mani, CGM, explained the initiatives of NABARD on Corporate Governance, not only in our organisation but also in respect of supervised entities. CGM also outlined how NABARD is maintaining complete transparency in fulfilling its mandate of rural pro-

perity and also promoting the corporate governance within the organization and its supervised entities. Sanjay Pillai, guided the participants about the provisions of Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informer (PIDPI) Resolution, related guidelines and measures put in place by different Government Departments and Central Vigilance Commission. He discussed, in detail by citing examples, the due proce-

dures to be followed in investigating vigilance cases. He also urged all participants to meticulously follow guidelines, rules and due procedures in discharging their official duties.

He also emphasized on maintaining complete transparency about disclosure of investments, immovable properties, etc. He briefly outlined the entire process of Departmental Inquiry and important role of Inquiry Officers / Presenting Officers in reaching the ultimate judgement. The session was interactive, engaging and very informative. The session was well appreciated by all the participants. The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Sheetanshu Shekhar, General Manager, NABARD.

150 children of Sanskar tied Rakhis to 40 brothers

Of Shivanand Ashram



Jagdalpur, Aug 31: 150 students of Sanskar The Gurukul Chidhaipadar celebrated the festival of Raksha Bandhan this year with the children living in Shivanand Ashram, Dharampura. Along with celebrating Rakshabandhan with their families, the children of Sanskar The Gurukul also celebrated Rakshabandhan with their friends in the Ashram and

dedicated the festival day to strengthen the bond of brotherhood and harmony. 150 children of Sanskar School tied rakhis to 40 children of the Ashram and pledged to stand by and protect each other. During this time the students also took different gifts with them and by distributing them, celebrated with the children of the Ashram.

Respite for Bastar farmers, rain returns after fortnight

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Aug 31: The past three days have brought intermittent rainfall to Bastar, offering a much-needed respite to the region's farmers. This return of rain comes as a relief, as the dry spell in the area over the last two weeks had raised concerns about crop damage.

Farmers in Bastar, who largely rely on the monsoon for their agricultural activities, welcomed the recent showers, drawing a parallel between the rainfall and the auspicious occasion of Raksha Bandhan. Rainfall was observed on Sunday, both in the morning and afternoon.



The earlier absence of rain had led to the formation of cracks in the fields, causing anxiety among farmers about potential crop losses. The recent return of light to moderate

rainfall has alleviated these worries, visibly easing the tension among the farming community. The Meteorological Department explained that the current rainy

spell in Bastar can be attributed to a cyclonic circulation in the upper atmosphere, extending around the Northeast.

This atmospheric condition has led to the western end of the monsoon trough lying in the foothills of the Himalayas, while the eastern end extends to areas like Gorakhpur, Patna, Bankura, and Digha, eventually stretching southeastwards to the east-central Bay of Bengal. The renewed rains have brought a renewed sense of optimism to Bastar's farming landscape, where the rhythm of rain is closely intertwined with the livelihoods of the people.

Old employee of businessman turns out to be accused

In theft incident at businessman's house

Central Chronicle News



Kondagaon, Aug 31: When the son of Mohammad Ashraf Khan, a businessman of Farsgaon, was locking the shutter of his shop, then an unknown person attacked him with a stick from the back and he turned, he was hit for the second time and the thief ran away towards farm nearby.

A complaint in this regard was filed by the victim businessman at Farsgaon police station and on which the SP Kondagaon immediately resolved the police and formed three teams and broke the investigation.

All the CCTV cameras of the city were searched to find out about the clue in case of the unknown thief and the people around the incident site were interrogated along with the technical investigation. The

technical assistance revealed that Vinay Patel, a former employee of the grocer, has kept this excess amount of cash in the village and the money is also being deposited in the bank.

When nabbed the accused accepted the crime and said that he had deposited the looted amount in two separate banks and kept some in his own house which was recovered and some of the money was said to be spent. The stick used in the incident was also seized by the police.

GENERAL NOTICE

My client Shri Kamlesh Kumar and Shri Ramesh Kumar Sahu, S/o Late Nandlal Sahu, is R/o Gram/Post, Thana and Tehsil-Kasdol, District Balodabazar - Bhatapara (C.G.). Both the above brothers are having residential diverted land in revenue record of Kasdol on P.N. No. 27/3C, land area-0.028 hect. And 27/3N, land-0.028 hect., jointly owned and registered in their name. The above piece of land is the land purchase by their mother Smt. Radha Bai W/o Late Nandlal Sahu. After the mother's death, the above property as per Revenue Court Tehsildar, Kasdol, vide R.R.No. 19/A/27, year 2013-14, order date 25/06/2014 was obtained by Shri Kamlesh Kumar and Shri Ramesh Kumar. The photocopy of above decision is not readable/poor in visibility and could not be made available. The above registered property, on which both the brothers are having joint ownership without any controversy for last 12 yrs, belongs to them. The brother will be taking loan keeping the above property mortgaged in the bank.

So for the above loan, if any person, body, government/non-government institution is having any objections, then they can claim or raise objections within 15 days of publication of this notice in writing in front of me. No complaint, claims would be accepted on expiry of this notice period.

Dated: 30/08/2023

By - Subhashchandra Dubey
Notary Advocate
Civil Court premises, Kasdol, District Balodabazar-Bhatapara (C.G.)

व्यायालय कलेक्टर, दुर्ग जिला- दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

॥ व्यक्तिगत उपस्थिति समन ॥
रा.प्र.क्र. 166/ब-121/वर्ष 2022-23
प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, युनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, शाखा- चरोडा भिलाई तहसील व जिला दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

प्रेषिनी
1. श्री बैल प्रसाद दुबे पिता घनश्याम प्रसाद दुबे
2. श्रीमती मंदाकिनी दुबे पति श्री बैल प्रसाद दुबे, दोनों का पता-पी.एच.नं.-07 प्लाट नं.-65, मौजा-सांका खुशुब विहार अनावेलकर तहसील पाटन जिला दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

उपरोक्त वादी द्वारा इस न्यायालय में वितीय आसियों का प्रतिभूतिकरण और पुनर्गठन और प्रतिभूतिकृत प्रवर्तन अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 14 के अन्तर्गत अनावेदकों द्वारा आवेदक बैंक से वितीय एवं जेन की सुरक्षा हेतु बैंक के पक्ष में रखी गई बचक संपत्ति-युग्म एवं भवन म.नं. 191 वाई नं. 36 समन बैंक के पास न्यू सुचीयार भिलाई जिला दुर्ग में स्थित है को बकाया राशि की अदायगी नहीं करने के कारण रिक भौतिक संपत्ति पर पर प्रकरण संस्थित कर प्राकृतिक न्याय सिद्धांत के अन्तर्गत अनावेदक को इस न्यायालय द्वारा समन सुनवाई किये जाने हेतु सुचना पत्र जारी कर आहूत किया गया था। जोरी सुचना पत्र जारी किया गया था।

व्यायालय कलेक्टर, दुर्ग जिला- दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

॥ व्यक्तिगत उपस्थिति समन ॥
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यदि अनावेदकों को प्रकरण में समन सुनवाई का युक्तियुक्त अवसर प्रदान किया जाना है। अतएव इस समन के जरिये अनावेदक को आदेश दिया जाता है कि आप इस मामले की आगामी पेशी दिनांक 4/9/2023 को कलेक्टर दुर्ग के न्यायालय में व्यक्तिगत रूप से अनिवार्यतः उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष प्रस्तुत करें। यदि आप निर्धारित सुनवाई तिथि को अनुपस्थित पाये गये तो मामले की सुनवाई आपकी गैरहाजिरी में की जाकर आपके विरुद्ध एक पक्षीय कार्यवाही की जावेगी।

BJP playing poll cards to ensure victory

Central Chronicle News



Singh. In this episode, on August 27, Devarbija Shaktikendra's meeting was held at Devangan Bhawan, where the work of the central government was highlighted and under contact support campaign, met social, political and religious senior workers and asked for their support by telling them about the policies of Modi government and their work, in which Bhuneshwar Dewangan, Mukesh Dewangan, Hemlal Dewangan, Ashok Dewangan Vishnu and others were present. On this occasion, officials of all Morcha cells of Assembly, Mandal, Shakti Kendra, public representatives, senior leaders, active workers and Matri Shakti were present.

the assembly constituencies, discuss directly with the workers and highlight the shortcomings of the state Congress government, and the corruption of the local MLAs.

In this series, the responsibility of the Bemetara assembly is being handled by the MLA of Prunpur assem-

blly of Bihar state, National Minister of BJP Mahila Morcha, Nisha

Central Chronicle News

Berla, Aug 31: The BJP is constantly busy preparing for the upcoming assembly elections and before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the 2023 assembly elections is a semi-final for the party and to win this election battle, BJP's migrant MLAs will visit

the assembly constituencies, discuss directly with the workers and highlight the shortcomings of the state Congress government, and the corruption of the local MLAs.

In this series, the responsibility of the Bemetara assembly is being handled by the MLA of Prunpur assem-

blly of Bihar state, National Minister of BJP Mahila Morcha, Nisha

Efforts were made by fellow workers to rescue Birja

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Aug 31: When Birja Bai found herself entangled with the crusher machine, her fellow laborers at the site made valiant attempts to free her. Regrettably, their efforts were in vain, and she sustained grave injuries before the machine could be stopped and her body extricated. In critical condition, she was rushed to the Markam Tola government hospital, where her unfortunate demise was confirmed. Subsequently, her body was transported to Khairagarh Civil Hospital for a post-mortem examination, overseen by senior doctor Dr. Praveen Parihar.

Growing resentment towards crusher management

The aftermath of this tragedy has stirred anger among the deceased woman's family and the Kalkasa villagers against the crusher management. It was revealed that Birja Bai was a mother of four - a son and three daughters. With one daughter already married, she was eager to arrange marriages for her remaining daughters. To support this endeavor, her husband and son worked as laborers outside. Her sudden death has cast a shadow of distress over the family. In response to the mounting concerns, the police have launched an investigation into the matter. The community's quest for justice centers on the post-mortem report, anticipated to shed light on the exact circumstances that led to the heart-breaking incident.

After receiving information about the woman's death at the crusher mine, the police have initiated their investigation. However, we are awaiting the post-mortem report, after which further actions will be taken.

- Rajesh Devas, T/Khairagarh

शपथ पत्र

Central Chronicle News

मैं सोरम साहू आ. धनु राम साहू पता - मितान चौक सुभाष नगर दुर्ग, निवास करता हूँ जो कि निम्नलिखित शपथ पत्र प्रस्तुत करता हूँ कि :-

1. यह कि मैं उपर बताए पते पर निवास करता हूँ।
2. यह कि मेरे पासपोर्ट में मेरा नाम सोरम कुमार साहू आ. धनु राम साहू है जसके मेरे सभी दस्तावेजों में मेरा नाम सोरम साहू आ. धनु राम साहू है।
3. यह कि मेरे पासपोर्ट में मेरा नाम सोरम कुमार साहू होने पर मुझे कई परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है जिससे मैं अपने पासपोर्ट में अपना नाम दस्तावेजों के आधार पर सोरम साहू करना चाहता हूँ।
4. यह कि सोरम कुमार साहू और सोरम साहू एक ही व्यक्ति मेरा ही नाम है।
5. यह कि नाम परिवर्तन के संबंध में यह शपथ पत्र माननीय महोदय के समक्ष प्रस्तुत है।

शपथकर्ता

1. श्री भाले एन्ड सन्स
प्रोप- श्री खिलेश कुमार भाले
2. श्रीमती शुभानी भाले-पति श्री खिलेश कुमार भाले, दोनों निवासी-जुलिया मार्केट, तहसील व जिला दुर्ग

व्यायालय कलेक्टर, दुर्ग जिला- दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

॥ व्यक्तिगत उपस्थिति समन ॥
रा.प्र.क्र. 167/ब-121/वर्ष 2022-23
प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, युनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, शाखा- पाटन, तहसील- पाटन जिला दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

उपरोक्त वादी द्वारा इस न्यायालय में वितीय आसियों का प्रतिभूतिकरण और पुनर्गठन और प्रतिभूतिकृत प्रवर्तन अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 14 के अन्तर्गत अनावेदकों द्वारा आवेदक बैंक से वितीय एवं जेन की सुरक्षा हेतु बैंक के पक्ष में रखी गई बचक संपत्ति-युग्म एवं भवन का समूची भाग प्लाट नं.-65 ख.नं. 111 / 8 क्षेत्रफल 960 वर्गफीट मौजा-सांका खुशुब विहार कौलीनी तहसील पाटन जिला दुर्ग में स्थित है को बकाया राशि की अदायगी नहीं करने के कारण रिक भौतिक संपत्ति पर पर प्रकरण संस्थित कर प्राकृतिक न्याय सिद्धांत के अन्तर्गत अनावेदक को इस न्यायालय द्वारा समन सुनवाई किये जाने हेतु सुचना पत्र जारी कर आहूत किया गया था। जोरी सुचना पत्र जारी किया गया था।

यदि अनावेदकों को प्रकरण में समन सुनवाई का युक्तियुक्त अवसर प्रदान किया जाना है। अतएव इस समन के जरिये अनावेदक को आदेश दिया जाता है कि आप इस मामले की आगामी पेशी दिनांक 4/9/2023 को कलेक्टर दुर्ग के न्यायालय में व्यक्तिगत रूप से अनिवार्यतः उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष प्रस्तुत करें। यदि आप निर्धारित सुनवाई तिथि को अनुपस्थित पाये गये तो मामले की सुनवाई आपकी गैरहाजिरी में की जाकर आपके विरुद्ध एक पक्षीय कार्यवाही की जावेगी।

आम सूचना

व्यक्तिगत उपस्थिति समन

रा.प्र.क्र. 167/ब-121/वर्ष 2022-23

प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, युनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, शाखा- पाटन, तहसील- पाटन जिला दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

व्यायालय कलेक्टर, दुर्ग जिला- दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

॥ व्यक्तिगत उपस्थिति समन ॥
रा.प्र.क्र. 167/ब-121/वर्ष 2022-23
प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, युनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, शाखा- पाटन, तहसील- पाटन जिला दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

उपरोक्त वादी द्वारा इस न्यायालय में वितीय आसियों का प्रतिभूतिकरण और पुनर्गठन और प्रतिभूतिकृत प्रवर्तन अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 14 के अन्तर्गत अनावेदकों द्वारा आवेदक बैंक से वितीय एवं जेन की सुरक्षा हेतु बैंक के पक्ष में रखी गई बचक संपत्ति-युग्म एवं भवन का समूची भाग प्लाट नं.-65 ख.नं. 111 / 8 क्षेत्रफल 960 वर्गफीट मौजा-सांका खुशुब विहार कौलीनी तहसील पाटन जिला दुर्ग में स्थित है को बकाया राशि की अदायगी नहीं करने के कारण रिक भौतिक संपत्ति पर पर प्रकरण संस्थित कर प्राकृतिक न्याय सिद्धांत के अन्तर्गत अनावेदक को इस न्यायालय द्वारा समन सुनवाई किये जाने हेतु सुचना पत्र जारी कर आहूत किया गया था। जोरी सुचना पत्र जारी किया गया था।

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, Re Sustainability Limited (formerly known as Ramky Enviro Engineers Limited), hereby inform you that our company has been granted Environmental Clearance (EC) by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, Delhi, for the establishment and operation of a Common Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage & Disposal Facility at Kharsa No. 1004 to 1022, 1027 & 1028 in Kesda Village, Sigma Tehsil, Baloda Bazar District, Chhattisgarh. Copies of the Environmental Clearance and its associated terms and conditions are available at the MoEF&CC office and can also be accessed on the website: www.environmentclearance.nic.in

National Head - IWM & BMW

बैंक ऑफ बरौडा

Regional Office, First Floor, Zonal Market, Sector-10 Bhillai (C.G.)-490006
PH: 0788-2261058

TENDER NOTICE

Bank of Baroda invites tenders from competent contractors having sound technical and financial capacity for repairing work of RSETI BUILDING at Dhantari, Chhattisgarh. For more details & updates kindly visit our Website www.bankofbaroda.com /tender.asp (In tender section Go to Bhopal Zone select Dhantari Region).

The application / Tender is to be submitted to Regional Head, Bank of Baroda Regional office, Dhantari Region, CIVIC Center, BHILAI (C.G.)
Date: 01.09.2023
Place: Bhillai (C.G.)

Before the Regional Director, Ministry of Corporate Affairs

North Western Region

In the matter of the Companies Act, 2013, section 14 of Companies Act, 2013 and rule 41 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014

AND

In the matter of M/s. Pankaj Ispat Limited having its registered office at Office No. 401 - 404, 407-408, 4th floor, Harshit Corporate, G.E. Road, Raipur CT 492001

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the company intending to make an application to the Central Government under section 14 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with aforesaid rules and is desirous of converting into a private limited company in terms of the special resolution passed at the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on 25.08.2023 to enable the company to give effect for such conversion.

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change/status of the company may deliver or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his interest and grounds of objection to the Regional Director, Ahmedabad, ROC Bhavan, Opp Ruppal Park Society, Behind Ankur Bus Stop, Nanarapur, Ahmedabad-380013 within fourteen days from the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant company at its registered office.

For and on behalf of the Applicant:-
Harshit Corporate, G.E. Road, Raipur CT 492001.
Sd/-
U02710CT2006PLC018486
Email: pankaj.ispat@rediffmail.com
Date: 31.08.2023, Place: Raipur

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK

(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Doolmur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

Branch Office: Krishna Complex, Opp. Aurobindo Netralaya, Main Road, Sadar Bazar, Raipur-492001

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagees have availed loans from Jana Small Finance Bank Limited, by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you, your loan account has been classified as Non Performing Asset, whereas Jana Small Finance Bank Limited being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagees as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagee	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) Mr. Bhukhan Sahu, S/o. Sukhran Sahu, 2) Mrs. Hemkumari Bai, W/o. Bhukhan Sahu	Loan Account No. 31389420000472 Loan Amount: Rs.7,12,500/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of diverted land bearing residential Plot No.78, total admeasuring area of 1184 Sq.ft., Part of Kharsa No.171, 172, 173-2, 175, 181, 196, 198, 199-1,2-3-4-5, 200 to 203, 208, 209, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 204/1, 223, 167, 233, 234 (total 29 Kharsa), New Kharsa No.167/2, Situated at Dhanushi Aawas Yojna Phase-I, P.H. No.13, Mouza Gram Dhanushi, R.N.M. Mandir Hasoud, New R.N.M. Chhandhauri, Tehsil Arang & District Raipur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: Plot No.77, West by: E.W.S. Area, North by: Road and South by: Boundary Wall/ Others Land.	01-08-2023 & 28-08-2023	Rs.7,44,472.90 (Rupees Seven Lakh Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Two and Ninety Paise Only) as on 21-08-2023
2	1) Mr. Radheshyam Joshi, S/o. Ramvallabh Joshi, 2) Mrs. Kamla Joshi, W/o. Radheshyam Joshi	Loan Account No. 31389420000051 Loan Amount: Rs.7,32,600/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of diverted land bearing residential Plot No.68, total admeasuring area of 635 Sq.ft. (58.99 Sq.mtrs.), Part of Kharsa No.6/33, situated at 'Avinash Sun City' Colony, Gram Daldal Seoni, Kushabhad Thakre Ward No.26, P.H. No.41, R.N.M. Raipur-1, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: Plot No.69, West by: Plot No.67, North by: Boundary Wall and South by: Colony Road.	01-08-2023 & 28-08-2023	Rs.7,19,777.32 (Rupees Seven Lakh Nineteen Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Seven and Thirty Two Paise Only) as on 21-08-2023
3	1) Mr. Surendra Mohan Chadar, S/o. Kharg Ram Chadar, 2) Mrs. Sharda Chadar, W/o. Surendra Mohan Chadar	Loan Account No. 45089610000172 Loan Amount: Rs.7,00,000/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of diverted land bearing House No. L.I.G. 235, total admeasuring area of 899.75 Sq.ft. (83.62 Sq.mtrs.), Under Deen Dayal Aawas Yojana (CG Housing Board), situated at Gatapar (Ahanpur), Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: House No.236, West by: House No.234, North by: 7.5 Mtr. Wide Road and South by: House No.241.	01-08-2023 & 28-08-2023	Rs.7,18,412.20 (Rupees Seven Lakh Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred Twelve and Twenty Paise Only) as on 21-08-2023
4	1) Mr. Ramkumar Kaiwari, S/o. Manrakhn Kaiwari, 2) Mrs. Nageshwari Kaiwari, W/o. Ramkumar Kaiwari	Loan Account No. 45089420000861 Loan Amount: Rs.15,31,735/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of land bearing Survey No.508/11 (Paiki), total admeasuring area of 872 Sq.ft. (81.04 Sq.mtrs.), situated at Dewangan (Mokha), Gram Malhar, P.H. No.35, Ward No.5, R.N.M. Masturi, Tehsil Masturi & District Bilaspur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: Land of Nathuram & Dilnar, West by: Malhar to Jaitpur Main Road, North by: Remaining Land of Seller and South by: Land of Ramdhan.	01-08-2023 & 28-08-2023	Rs.15,74,877.52 (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Seventy Four Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Seven and Fifty Two Paise Only) as on 21-08-2023

NOTICE TO BORROWER/ CO-BORROWER/ GUARANTOR/ MORTGAGEE

Notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagee as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within 60 days of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No.6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other interests which may become payable fill the date of payment, is not paid, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to Jana Small Finance Bank Limited against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagees of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(1) of the said act, you are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 01.09.2023, Place: Raipur & Bilaspur (C.G.)

Sd/- Authorized Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

व्यायालय कलेक्टर, दुर्ग जिला- दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

॥ व्यक्तिगत उपस्थिति समन ॥
रा.प्र.क्र. 167/ब-121/वर्ष 2022-23
प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, युनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, शाखा- पाटन, तहसील- पाटन जिला दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

उपरोक्त वादी द्वारा इस न्यायालय में वितीय आसियों का प्रतिभूतिकरण और पुनर्गठन और प्रतिभूतिकृत प्रवर्तन अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 14 के अन्तर्गत अनावेदकों द्वारा आवेदक बैंक से वितीय एवं जेन की सुरक्षा हेतु बैंक के पक्ष में रखी गई बचक संपत्ति-युग्म एवं भवन का समूची भाग प्लाट नं.-65 ख.नं. 111 / 8 क्षेत्रफल 960 वर्गफीट मौजा-सांका खुशुब विहार कौलीनी तहसील पाटन जिला दुर्ग में स्थित है को बकाया राशि की अदायगी नहीं करने के कारण रिक भौतिक संपत्ति पर पर प्रकरण संस्थित कर प्राकृतिक न्याय सिद्धांत के अन्तर्गत अनावेदक को इस न्यायालय द्वारा समन सुनवाई किये जाने हेतु सुचना पत्र जारी कर आहूत किया गया था। जोरी सुचना पत्र जारी किया गया था।

89-Year-old Tamil Nadu panchayat president's inspiring journey sparks internet love

Heartwarming stories often prove age is just a number, and one such tale of 89-year-old Veeramamma Amma, the President of Arittapatti Panchayat, has captured the internet's heart. Hailing from Tamil Nadu, Veeramamma Amma's resilience and determination have turned her into a viral sensation, inspiring admiration for her exceptional journey.

Indian Administrative Service officer Supriya Sahu took to social media to share Veeramamma Amma's remarkable journey. Sahu's post said, "Veeramma Amma, popularly known as 'Arittapatti Paati,' the 89-year-old Panchayat President of Arittapatti Panchayat, is truly an inspiring woman. Fit as a fiddle, she is the oldest Panchayat President in TN."

In their interaction, Veeramamma Amma revealed her secret to fitness and positivity - simple home-cooked traditional meals like millets and her dedication to working in her agricultural field all day. Arittapatti, under her



leadership, holds the distinction of being Madurai's first Biodiversity Heritage Site.

The viral story has left netizens inspired and moved by Veeramamma Amma's energy and commitment. One user paid tribute, saying, "Special tribute & salutes to Veeramamma Amma for her relentless and undaunted spirit. May God bless her with lots of courage and strength to work forward."

Another commenter highlighted her impact, "Very rare... She is the proven record of Women Empowerment." The sentiment of simple living found appreciation as well, with a user writing, "Simple living is the best living always."

The story resonated deeply, with one netizen noting, "So wonderful to bring out these beautiful real stories deep from the rural part of Arittapatti. These are real motivating stories. To have a Panchayat President of 89 years and so fit and effective a leader: She should be given a prestigious award for a great contribution."

Veeramma Amma's journey serves as a beacon of empowerment, resilience, and community dedication. Her story reminds us that age cannot deter the pursuit of dreams and the betterment of society.

These are real motivating stories. To have a Panchayat President of 89 years and so fit and effective a leader: She should be given a prestigious award for a great contribution."

Air pollution remains the most severe external threat to human health worldwide, with its greatest impact concentrated in six nations, including India, according to the University of Chicago's Energy Policy Institute (EPI). The annual Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) report underlines that as global pollution rose in 2021, its toll on human well-being surged as well.

The study proposes that adhering to World Health Organization guidelines by permanently reducing fine particulate pollution (PM2.5) could extend the global life expectancy by 2.3 years per person, a collective gain of 17.8 billion life-years. The findings indicate that particulate pollution's impact on life expectancy is comparable to smoking, more than three times that of alcohol consumption, unsafe water, and over five times that of transport injuries.

A significant revelation from the report is that 75% of air pollution's effect on global life expectancy is concentrated in six countries: Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, China, Nigeria, and Indonesia. In these regions, people lose between one to over six years of their lives due to air quality. Michael Greenstone, a University of Chicago professor, emphasizes the gravity of the situation, suggesting that this crucial informa-



Air pollution greatest global threat to human health

tion should be paired with frequent, locally generated air quality data.

The research also highlights the disparity in air pollution infrastructure, particularly in Asia and Africa. These regions contribute nearly 93% of life years lost due to pollution, yet only a fraction of their governments provide open air quality data or have air quality standards. The funding landscape further underscores the urgency, with

inadequate investment in air quality infrastructure, despite the monumental impact on human health.

The report stresses the need for timely, reliable, and open air quality data as a foundation for clean air efforts by governments and civil society. The Clean Air Fund reveals a stark contrast in philanthropic funds allocated to regions facing the brunt of air pollution, with Africa and Asia receiving disproportionate-

ly less than Europe, the US, and Canada.

The AQLI director, Christa Hasenkopf, underscores the potential of targeted funding to address the gaping infrastructure deficits. In an era where data forms the backbone of informed policy decisions, bridging the gaps in air quality monitoring infrastructure becomes a shared responsibility to safeguard the health and well-being of populations worldwide.

Climate Change Toll: Urgent Action to Avert Tragedy

A harrowing study warns that human-caused climate change could precipitate the premature deaths of approximately one billion individuals within the next century, should global warming breach two degrees Celsius. The research, published in *Energies* journal, underscores the dire ramifications of carbon emissions from the oil and gas sector, accounting for over 40% of emissions and impacting vulnerable communities worldwide.

Proposing aggressive energy policies, the study underscores the critical need for immediate reductions in carbon emissions. It advocates heightened efforts from governments, corporations, and citizens to expedite the global economy's decarbonization, ultimately minimizing the projected human toll. The study highlights the consensus around the "1,000-ton rule," estimating that each future



premature death correlates with burning approximately 1,000 tons of fossil carbon. Joshua Pearce, a professor at the University of Western Ontario, stresses the urgency for transformative action: "Anthropogenic global

warming equates to a billion premature dead bodies over the next century. Obviously, we have to act. And we have to act fast." Pearce's call for reform hinges on revisiting language and metrics surrounding global warming

to galvanize policymakers and industry leaders. The profound impact on children and future generations stemming from climate change becomes more evident as scientific models evolve. This study magnifies the inextricable

link between greenhouse gas emissions and liabilities that cannot be brushed aside. To avert catastrophic future losses, the research underscores the imperative to expedite the transition away from fossil fuels.

Onam Joy: Young skater dazzles in Kerala's Kasavu Saree

The festive spirit of Onam has enveloped Kerala in an aura of joy and celebration. Amidst the traditional revelry, a heartwarming video has taken social media by storm, showcasing the enchanting blend of tradition and talent.

Five-year-old Airah Aymen Khan has gracefully merged tradition and modernity by displaying her remarkable skating skills while donning the iconic Kasavu saree. Captured at a private skatepark in Kochi by photographer Navaf Sharafudheen, the video has garnered over a million views on Instagram, resonating with people worldwide.

The Kasavu saree, a



cherished garment worn during occasions like Onam, has become a symbol of cultural heritage. Airah's flawless skating performance in this attire symbolizes the fusion of tradition and individual prowess, inspiring awe and admiration.

As Kerala marks the 10-day-long harvest festival of Onam, the spirit of unity and festivity binds people together. The festi-

val's rich cultural significance, exemplified by the spirit of King Mahabali's welcome on Uthradam, resonates with people across all walks of life.

This heartwarming video encapsulates the essence of Onam, illustrating that age-old traditions can seamlessly blend with contemporary talents, creating moments of pure joy and celebration.

Exoplanet's Thermometer Molecule: Insights into Alien Temperatures



The discovery of the rare and temperature-sensitive molecule, chromium hydride (CrH), within an exoplanet's atmosphere has kindled scientific optimism. Researchers envision harnessing this molecule, sometimes dubbed a "thermometer for stars," to gauge temperatures and attributes of similar exoplanets. Renowned for its efficacy in assessing temperatures of certain celestial bodies such as cool stars and brown dwarfs, chromium hydride (CrH) thrives in the temperature range of 1,200-2,000 Kelvin (925-1725 degrees Celsius). This unique property has spurred intrigue among scien-

tists, particularly in terms of extrapolating these findings to exoplanets. The lead researcher of the study, Laura Flagg, an astronomer from Cornell University, elucidated that the presence of this metal hydride could offer insights into exoplanets, which reside beyond our solar system. One such exoplanet, WASP-31b, a gas giant positioned 1,252 light-years away, orbits a hotter and more massive F-type star. Although classified as a "hot Jupiter," the gas giant's equilibrium temperature was confirmed at 1,400 Kelvin (1,125 degrees Celsius), marking a pivotal detection in the realm of exoplanetary exploration.

Promising Breakthrough

Dr. Krishna Kumar Vepakomma



Surgeons at the New York University Langone Transplant Institute accomplished a remarkable feat by performing a kidney transplant using a pig's kidney in a person who had died. This breakthrough is significant because it indicates that using pig organs could be a potential solution for organ shortages in human transplant procedures. The transplant took place on July 14 under the leadership of Dr. Robert Montgomery, who heads the Department of Surgery and directs the NYU Langone Transplant Institute. By using a pig kidney with specific genetic changes, the doctors were able to prevent immediate rejection by the human body. This procedure marked a major advancement in the field of xenotransplantation (the transfer of organs between species). The pig kidney, which was genetically modified, continued

to function well for more than 32 days after transplantation. This shows promise for eventually conducting similar transplants in living patients who require organ replacements.

The pig kidney's performance exceeded expectations. It demonstrated the ability to concentrate urine and eliminate creatinine, a byproduct of muscle function that can be harmful if it accumulates in the body. This suggests that the pig kidney was able to function similarly to a human kidney. In addition to the NYU

Langone study, researchers at the University of Alabama at Birmingham also achieved success with pig kidney transplants. In their study, they used pig kidneys with multiple gene alterations, and these kidneys worked for about a week without being rejected.

Both Dr. Montgomery and Jayme E. Locke, who led the University of Alabama's study, believe that these successful experiments could lead to clinical trials involving living human patients. This would be a critical step toward confirming the safety and effectiveness of pig organ transplants. Across the globe, scientists are actively investigating the potential of utilizing animal organs to rescue human lives. In the face of an insufficient number of organs available for transplantation, this research is intently focused on addressing this critical concern. The groundbreaking advancement

achieved through pig kidney transplants instills optimism for closing the gap between the pressing need for organs and the limited supply. As scientists keep working on these important tests, they're learning important things that can make using pig organs for human transplants better. They're closely watching the person who got a pig kidney at NYU Langone and doing more research to make this method even better. This could help save more lives in the future. Even though there are still difficulties to work through, like the differences between pig and human proteins, these successful tests are a big step forward. Scientists are learning important things from these studies that can help make using pig organs for human transplants better in the future.

(Writer is a Professor & Principal (Retd.) Rajiv Nagar, Hyderabad)

For restful sleep in aged, ambient temperature should be 20-25 degrees Celsius



Newly published research highlights a pivotal factor in securing restful sleep for older adults: maintaining an ambient night-time temperature between 20 and 25 degrees Celsius. This crucial temperature range emerges as a key determinant for sleep quality, with a decline of 5-10% in sleep efficiency observed as ambient night-time bedroom temperatures rose to 30 degrees Celsius among individuals aged 65 years and above.

The implications of suboptimal sleep quality extend beyond immediate discomfort, correlating with cognitive decline, dementia, mood disturbances, and reduced

daytime productivity. The study, conducted by the Marcus Institute for Aging Research and Harvard Medical School, underscores the potential for improved sleep quality through personalized thermal adjustments in home environments. As cities face the combined impact of climate change and urban-induced warming, the study's findings assume larger significance in the realm of climate adaptation. Amir Baniassadi, the lead researcher, emphasizes the study's relevance in understanding the effects of climate change on sleep quality, particularly among economically vulnerable older adults.

North Korea simulates Nuclear strikes on South Korea

● And rehearsed occupation of its rival

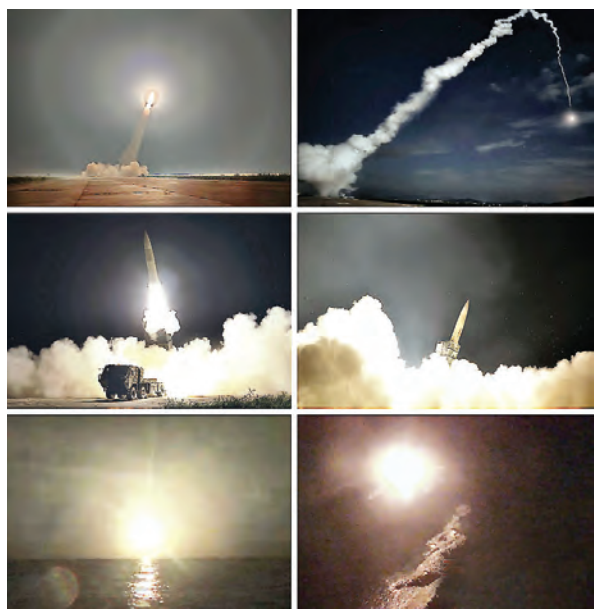
Seoul, Aug 31 (AP):

North Korea said Thursday its latest missile launches simulated "scorched earth" nuclear strikes on South Korea and that it's also been rehearsing an occupation of its rival's territory in the event of conflict.

Pyongyang has previously tested nuclear-capable missiles and described how it would use them in potential wars with South Korea and the US. But the North's disclosure of detailed war plans reaffirmed its aggressive nuclear doctrine to intimidate its opponents, as it escalates its protest of the ongoing South Korean-US military exercises that it views as a major security threat, observers say.

North Korea's military said it fired two tactical ballistic missiles from the capital on Wednesday night to practice "scorched earth strikes" at major command centers and operational airfields in South Korea, according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

The North's military said the missiles carried



This combination of photos provided by the North Korean government shows what it says a tactical nuclear strike drill in Pyongyang, North Korea. Independent journalists were not given access to cover the event depicted in this image distributed by the North Korean government. The content of this image is as provided and cannot be independently verified. Korean language watermark on image as provided by source reads: "KCNA" which is the abbreviation for Korean Central News Agency.

out their simulated strikes through air bursts, suggesting it confirmed the explosions of dummy warheads at a set altitude.

North Korea said its missile tests were response to the United States' flyover of long-range B-1B bombers for a joint aerial training with South Korea earlier

Wednesday as part of the allies' field exercises.

"(The aerial drill) is a serious threat to (North Korea) as it was just pursuant to the scenario for a preemptive nuclear strike at" North Korea, the Korean People's Army general staff said.

"The KPA will never overlook the rash acts of the US

forces and the (South Korean) military gangsters."

The missile launches Wednesday were the latest in the North's barrage of weapons tests since last year.

According to South Korean and Japanese assessments, the two short-range missiles travelled a distance of 360-400 kilometers at the maximum altitude of 50 kilometers before landing in the waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff called the launches "a grave provocation" that threatens international peace and violates UN Security Council resolutions that ban any ballistic launches by North Korea. The US Indo-Pacific Command said the US commitment to the defense of South Korea and Japan remains "ironclad."

South Korean and Japanese authorities said their warplanes conducted combined aerial drills with US B-1B bombers respectively on Wednesday. South Korea's Defense Ministry said that Wednesday's B-1B deployment is the 10th flyover by US bombers on the Korean Peninsula this year.

Italy train crash: 5 workers killed in tragedy

Rome, Aug 31 (AP): A speeding work train slammed into a group of workers doing nighttime track maintenance in northern Italy early Thursday, killing five of them, authorities said.

The crash occurred shortly after midnight at the station in Brandizzo, a town in Italy's Piedmont region. Piedmont Gov. Alberto Cirio provided the death toll and said the crash's cause was under investigation. Brandizzo Mayor Paolo Bodoni said there were indications that the crew of the train, which state radio said was believed to be going some 160 kilometres per hour (100 mph), was unaware there were workers on the tracks, reported La Stampa, a newspaper in Piedmont's main city, Turin. The train consisted of an engine car used to move empty train cars. "The first information reaching me refers to a scarcity of communication between the (work) team and who should have signalled the passage of the train, but we need to see what really happened," Bodoni was quoted as saying. "There is also the question of the train's speed, which needs to be determined." Two workers who avoided being hit were being treated for shock at a hospital, La Stampa said.

NATIONAL DAY PARADE



Military personnel on armored vehicles salute during the National Day parade in Putrajaya, Malaysia, Thursday, Aug. 31. Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim urged Malaysians to unite and reject racial and religious bigotry, as the country marked its 66th year of freedom from British rule on Thursday with fireworks and a street parade.

Honour killing: Woman doctor shot dead by father

Lahore, Aug 31 (PTI): In yet another case of honour killing in Pakistan, a 25-year-old woman doctor was shot dead in Punjab province, police said on Thursday.

The incident took place in the Mianwali district of Punjab, some 300 km from Lahore, the provincial capital.

According to police, Sidra Khan wanted to marry a fellow doctor but her father disapproved of it. "Over a week ago, Sidra's father came to her

clinic in Mianwali city and argued with her over the matter. During the argument, he pulled out a gun and opened fire on her leaving her critically injured," the police said.

She was rushed to hospital but succumbed to her wounds on Wednesday. Her father is still at large.

A murder case has been registered against the suspect.

Earlier this month, a newlywed couple was shot dead in the Punjab province. A number of

people, especially women, are killed in Pakistan every year in the name of honour.

According to human rights activists, around 1,000 women are killed in the name of honour every year in the country.

The victims of honour killings are widely perceived to have brought shame and dishonour to their families either by marrying against their will or having an affair. Often, the family members are behind such killings.

64 people killed in fire in multi-storey building in Johannesburg



Medics and emergency works at the scene of a deadly blaze in downtown, Johannesburg Thursday, Aug. 31. Dozens died when a fire ripped through a multi-story building in Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city, emergency services said Thursday.

Johannesburg, Aug 31 (PTI):

At least 64 people were killed and 43 others injured after a massive fire broke out on Thursday in a multi-storey building occupied by migrants in the central business district here in South Africa's biggest city, emergency services said. Authorities said it was unclear what sparked the blaze at the five-storey building in the city centre.

City of Johannesburg emergency services spokesperson Robert Mulaudzi said firefight-

ers were alerted to the fire in a building on the corner of Delvers and Alberts streets at about 1:30 a.m.

Dozens of emergency and rescue workers are still on the scene as bodies continue to be brought out.

"We managed to evacuate the people who were inside the building as soon as we arrived while we were conducting firefighting operations," Mulaudzi said, adding that most of those treated for injuries had suffered smoke inhalation or minor injuries. Mulaudzi

said arrangements were being made to accommodate those who had been left homeless by the incident.

The fire gutted the building. A total of 64 bodies were recovered and 43 were injured in the fire, Mulaudzi said.

A video posted by Mulaudzi on X, formerly known as Twitter, showed fire trucks and ambulances outside the building with burnt-out windows. A toddler was among the deceased.

Of the injured, some suffered smoke inhalation with others sustaining minor injuries.

Mulaudzi said the fire had been contained and that they were busy with "damping down" as well as search and recovery operations.

He said the death toll may increase because there was an informal settlement inside the building which may have resulted in people being trapped while trying to flee.

"Every floor has an informal settlement, and those that were trying to evacuate were trapped because of the structures between the floors," the News24 website quoted Mulaudzi as saying.

Rishi Sunak appoints Grant Shapps as new defence minister

London, Aug 31 (PTI):

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Thursday appointed Grant Shapps as his new defence minister in a mini reshuffle following the resignation of Ben Wallace as Defence Secretary for personal reasons.

Shapps, who was Energy Security and Net Zero Secretary in the Cabinet, has been a strong supporter of Sunak as Conservative Party leader. The new post of Defence Secretary marks his fifth ministerial portfolio within a year, having previously served as Transport Secretary and briefly also as Home Secretary.

"I'm honoured to be appointed as Defence Secretary by Rishi Sunak. I'd like to pay tribute to the enormous contribution Ben Wallace has made to UK defence & global security over the last four years," Shapps, 54, tweeted soon after his meeting with the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street.

Another Sunak ally and Indian-origin junior minister, Claire Coutinho, replaces Shapps in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. The

Minister for children will take over the energy security brief, marking her first Cabinet post since being elected a Tory MP in 2019.

Coutinho, 38, is a London-born Oxford University graduate whose migrant parents are of Goan descent. She worked as an aide to Sunak in the Treasury department when he was Chief Secretary and before being promoted as Chancellor.

Fellow Conservative MP David Johnston will step into her former junior ministerial post at the Department for Education.

The mini reshuffle was on the cards ever since Wallace had announced his intention to step down from frontline politics a few weeks ago, a move he made official with his resignation letter to Sunak on Thursday.

"After much reflection, I have taken the decision to ask that I be allowed to step down. I won my seat in 2005 and after so many years it is time for me to invest in the parts of life that I have neglected, and to explore new opportunities.

Tropical storm Idalia's path of destruction continues



Jewell Baggett stands beside a Christmas decoration she recovered from the wreckage of her mother's home, as she searches for anything salvageable from the mobile home her father had acquired in 1973 and built multiple additions on to over the decades, in Horseshoe Beach, Fla., after the passage of Hurricane Idalia.

Perry (US), Aug 31 (AP): Tropical Storm Idalia descended on the Carolinas on its way out to the Atlantic Ocean on Thursday, leaving a trail of flooding and destruction throughout the Southeast that stretched back to its landfall as a hurricane in Florida.

Rescue and repair efforts continued in the areas the storm passed on Wednesday and there was no immediate word on the toll from the ferocious winds and inundating waters, but authorities counted at least one death. The storm left as many as a half-million customers without power in Florida and other states at one point as it ripped down power poles and lines.

Still, it was far less destructive than feared, providing only glancing blows to Tampa Bay and other more populated areas as it came ashore with 125 mph (201 kph) in rural Florida. The weakening storm still packed winds of up to 60 mph (96 kph) as it blasted through Georgia and South Carolina on Wednesday evening. It was expected to reach the North Carolina coast Thursday and roll off into the ocean through the weekend.

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper, who declared a statewide emergency earlier this week as Idalia approached,

had warned residents in coastal and eastern inland counties to prepare for heavy rainfall and localised flooding and urged them to stay off roads covered by water.

In South Carolina, the storm coupled with king tides to send seawater flowing over sand dunes and spilling onto beachfront streets.

In Charleston, a surge from Idalia topped the seawall that protects the downtown, sending ankle-deep ocean water into the streets and neighbourhoods where horse-drawn carriages pass million-dollar homes and the famous open-air market. Preliminary data showed the Wednesday evening high tide reached just over 9.2 feet (2.8 metres), more than 3 feet (0.9 metres) above normal and the fifth-highest reading in Charleston Harbour since records were first kept in 1899. Bands from Idalia also brought short-lived tornadoes. One flipped a car in suburban Goose Creek, South Carolina, causing minor injuries, authorities said. No major damage was reported.

After travelling across the Gulf of Mexico, Idalia came ashore Wednesday morning near Keaton Beach, pummeling Florida's remote and lightly populated Big Bend region with powerful winds.

US OKs military aid to Taiwan

Washington, Aug 31 (AP): The Biden administration has approved the first-ever US military transfer to Taiwan under a programme generally reserved for assistance to sovereign, independent states.

The State Department notified Congress of the sale on Wednesday. It said the material would "be used to strengthen Taiwan's self-defense capabilities through joint and combined defense capability and enhanced maritime domain awareness and maritime security capability."

The package is modest only USD 80 million of what Congress had set aside as a potential USD 2 billion but the implications of using the so-called Foreign Military Financing programme to provide it will likely infuriate China.

150 migrants rescued from sailboat incidents near Greece's Islands

Athens, Aug 31 (AP):

About 150 migrants were rescued from overloaded sailboats provided by smugglers in two separate incidents Wednesday far off a western Greek island and off a Cycladic island near the Greek capital, the coast guard said.

In the first case, a group of 76 people was rescued from a yacht in distress 64 nautical miles (74 miles, 118 kilometers) southwest of the Ionian Sea island of Zakynthos in western Greece, a coast guard statement said.

All were taken onto a passing Egyptian-flagged cargo ship, and there were no reports of anybody missing.

It was not immediately clear where the sailboat had set out from, but the area lies on the route often used by smuggling vessels carrying migrants from

Turkey or northern Africa to Italy. In the second incident, about 80 people were safely evacuated from a sailboat off Kythnos island, one of the Cyclades to the southeast of Athens. The coast guard said all were in good health and were taken to the port of Kythnos.

Also Wednesday, in two separate incidents the Greek coast guard picked up 29 migrants from boats off islands near Turkey in the eastern Aegean Sea. On Tuesday, another 90 people were rescued in four separate incidents in the eastern Aegean.

Greece has seen an increase in the arrival of smuggling boats bringing migrants into the country over the last two months, mainly small dinghies heading to eastern Aegean islands from the nearby Turkish coast. For decades, the country has

been a preferred entry point into the European Union for people fleeing conflict or poverty in the Middle East, Africa and Asia and hoping for a better life in Europe.

More than 17,300 people have reached Greece by land and sea so far this year, according to the latest United Nations figures. About 13,500 of them arrived by sea with 5,500 reaching Lesbos alone.

Arrivals make up more than a tenth of this year's total successful Mediterranean crossings, most of which - about 113,000 - were to Italy. Arrivals in Greece for the whole of 2022 totalled 19,000.

In June, a battered fishing trawler heading from Libya to Italy with an estimated 500-750 people on board sank in international waters off southwestern Greece.

छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग
 नर्सों के लिए, सेक्टर-19, नया रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)
 सूचना (अ.) 0771-2489864, 0771-2331525, 2448956 वेबसाइट: www.psc.cg.gov.in
 क्रमांक 2451/18/परीक्षा/2023 रायपुर, दिनांक 29 AUG 2023
व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2023 के संबंध में महत्वपूर्ण सूचना
 व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2023 को लिखित परीक्षा दिनांक 03 सितम्बर 2023 को बिलासपुर में आयोजित की जाएगी।
 परीक्षा का तिथि: 03.09.2023
 परीक्षा का समय: 11:00 A.M. TO 01:00 P.M.
 परीक्षा का स्थान: बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) में निर्धारित परीक्षा केंद्रों पर आयोजित की जाएगी।
 उम्मीदवारों को परीक्षा के लिए आवेदन पत्र दिनांक 23.08.2023 को जारी कर दिया गया है। अन्तर्गत अधिसूचना की वेबसाइट www.psc.cg.gov.in से प्रवेश पत्र डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। अधिसूचना द्वारा किये गये अन्य सूचनाओं को ध्यान से पढ़ें।
 सचिव
 छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग,
 नया रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)
 G-04814/1

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH, BILASPUR
Tender Notice
 No. 11083/CPC/2023 Bilaspur, dated 28/08/2023
 The High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur invites bids (Technical and Financial) from eligible bidders for the Supply, Testing, Installation and Maintenance of the following articles for the use in the High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur:-
 Desktop Computer System - 175 Pcs.
 Interested Parties may view and download the detailed Tender (terms and conditions and Technical Specification) of articles on the website viz. https://highcourt.cg.gov.in
 I)- Documents Download start Date -28/08/2023
 II)- Last Date of Submission Physical documents -20/09/2023 (04:30 PM)
 (Arvind Kumar Verma)
 Registrar General
 High Court of Chhattisgarh,
 Bilaspur (C.G.)
 G-04819/3

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट द्वितीय निविदा सूचना
 क्र. 82/न.पा.नि./सो.प्र. शाखा/2023-24 दिनांक 31/08/2023
 नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर के विभिन्न विभाग अंतर्गत कर्मचारी उपलब्ध कराने हेतु ऑनलाइन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-
 निविदा नं. कार्य का विवरण अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में) निविदा दस्तवेज/समिति कानून की अंतिम तिथि
 146060 कुरात कर्मचारी (42 कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर) उपलब्ध कराने बाबत 58.72 15/09/2023
 उरोक्त प्रत्येक कार्य को निविदा को सामान्य शर्तों, शर्तों, शर्तों, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेबसाइट <https://proc.cgstate.gov.in> से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।
 उपायकृत
 नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
 Green City, Clean City, Dream City

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH, BILASPUR
NOTICE
 No. 11220/CPC/2023 Bilaspur, Dated 29/08/2023
 advt. no. 01/2023 (Steno)
 Vide Adv. no. 01/2023, applications were invited for recruitment to the post of Stenographer on the establishment of this High Court. Phase-I Written Test (M.C.Q.) for the said post is scheduled to be held on 10.09.2023 from 11.00 A.M. to 01.00 P.M. at Devkinandan Girl's Higher Secondary School, Pratap Chowk, Bilaspur (C.G.).
 List of eligible, ineligible and list of application received after cut off date have already been uploaded in the website of this High Court.
 Admit Cards of the eligible candidates will be uploaded in website of this High Court and the candidates may download the admit cards from the website of this High Court.
 For detailed information the candidate may visit website of this High Court i.e. <https://highcourt.cg.gov.in>.
 (Arvind Kumar Verma)
 Registrar General



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LPG Price Cut

Benevolence or Political Calculus?

As the political landscape anticipates significant state elections, the Union Government's decision to reduce domestic cooking gas prices by Rs 200 per cylinder has sent ripples through both economic and electoral spheres. This move, offering a semblance of relief to households grappling with escalating LPG costs, inevitably raises the question of its underlying intent. While it is touted as a well-timed gesture, the nuances surrounding the decision hint at a delicate interplay between genuine empathy and strategic political maneuvering. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's description of the price cut as a "gift to crores of my sisters of the country on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan" adds a layer of sentimentality. This language of upliftment and betterment resonates with the core ethos of governance, particularly in addressing the needs of economically vulnerable segments. However, when viewed against the backdrop of impending state elections, the decision assumes a more complex dimension. The journey of LPG prices has been anything but consistent. Earlier this year, the cost of a cooking gas cylinder surged past the Rs 1,100 mark, marking a significant burden on household budgets. Throughout 2021, consistent upward revisions and frequent hikes underscored the financial challenges faced by families. This situation, coupled with competing promises from political rivals about easing these economic pressures, has elevated LPG pricing into a key issue impacting the daily lives of citizens. Yet, it is important to consider the timing and motive of the LPG price reduction. As five states prepare for elections later this year, the move raises eyebrows about the convergence of economic policy with political calculations. The correlation between policy adjustments and electoral calendars is a familiar pattern in democracies worldwide, often sparking debates on whether such measures genuinely prioritize public welfare or are motivated by the pursuit of power. The essence of governance lies in balancing the immediate needs of citizens with the long-term vision for the nation's progress. While a reduction in LPG prices is undoubtedly a relief for millions of households, it is crucial to assess whether such policy interventions are sporadic or part of a consistent effort to address economic challenges. The success of programs like the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, which has considerably increased LPG connections, can be compromised if economic policies are perceived as short-term strategies catering to election cycles. This raises broader questions about the relationship between politics and economics. Can policies aimed at enhancing the well-being of citizens be kept separate from electoral strategies? The electorate deserves reassurance that their welfare remains a paramount concern regardless of political agendas. The current decision on LPG prices, while welcome, prompts a call for greater transparency and a commitment to enduring economic policies that uplift the lives of all citizens. As the nation's democracy matures, citizens are becoming increasingly discerning about political moves that carry economic implications. The reduction in LPG prices is more than just a cut in costs; it is a reminder of the intricate dance between governance and politics. While a reduction in financial burdens is appreciated, citizens seek enduring solutions that transcend electoral timelines, truly resonating with the values of a nation aiming for holistic progress.

Cinematic Resurgence

Bollywood's Vibrant Return to Kashmir's Landscapes

As the curtain rises on a new chapter, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha heralds a stirring tale from the valley—an account of Bollywood's resounding return to the scenic embrace of Kashmir. A vibrant resurgence in film tourism has swept across the region, a rejuvenation that has seen more than 300 movies and television series gracing its breathtaking landscapes since the advent of a novel film policy two years ago. This cinematic renaissance holds within it the potential to amplify Jammu and Kashmir's economy and weave a tapestry of job opportunities for its youthful denizens. In yesteryears, the spellbinding allure of Kashmir's panoramas beckoned filmmakers from the bustling precincts of Bollywood. The cinematic lens spanned its vistas, and hidden gems like Chenani unveiled their splendor as coveted shooting locales—testament to the kaleidoscopic diversity of Jammu and Kashmir's terrain, serving as an exquisite backdrop to tales spun on celluloid. The hallowed spaces of the region—the reverberant Shiv Mandir of Gulmarg, the bridges that stride across its rivers, the ethereal Shri Shankaracharya Temple, and the sacred Shri Mata Vaishno Devi path—etched indelible imprints within the tapestry of Indian cinema's visual storytelling. It's noteworthy to reflect on the industry's indomitable spirit, exemplified by iconic TV serials like "Gul Gulshan Gulfaam," where the audacity to tread the Jammu and Kashmir terrain was displayed even amidst the tempestuous throes of instability. These endeavors not only celebrated the region's aesthetic splendor but underscored the industry's unyielding commitment to continue its creative voyage in the face of adversity. The current landscape, crowned by a dramatic decline in security concerns and buoyed by an amenable film policy, stands as a monument to transformation. Bollywood's triumphant return to Jammu and Kashmir, with an impressive tally of over 300 productions filmed in its embrace, serves as a resounding testament to the region's rekindled magnetism as a cinematic haven. The luminous presence of Bollywood's illustrious luminaries, coupled with the spirited hum of film crews dotting diverse shooting venues, paints an evocative tableau of Jammu and Kashmir's triumphant return to the industry's affections. Once again, the valley stands poised to take center stage, its ethereal beauty and cultural opulence adorning the silver screen as it captivates audiences across the nation. This year's Independence Day festivities stand as a pivotal chapter, instilling renewed belief among producers, directors, and actors. The gradual return to normalcy casts a hopeful ray, both for the entertainment arena and the region as a cohesive entity. It signifies a heartening stride forward for the local economy, while unfurling the resplendent cultural and scenic tapestry of Jammu and Kashmir to a global audience through the medium of cinema and television. The symbiotic dance between film tourism and the local economy yields monumental rewards for Jammu and Kashmir. It transcends mere film shoots, enveloping an entire ecosystem that ushers in a sweeping economic renaissance. Film productions orchestrate not only their own creative cadence but orchestrate hundreds of local talents who partake in the symphony as crew members and artists. This engenders a cascade of job opportunities, nurturing livelihoods and ushering economic prosperity. Furthermore, the presence of the film industry catalyzes peripheral sectors such as vehicle rentals, equipment suppliers, property use agreements, and compensation disbursement for location utilization. The demand for ancillary services like catering and event management experiences an upward surge as they cater to the exigencies of the production units. This symphony of businesses flourishes, each note enhancing the grand composition of economic prosperity, contributing in tandem with the existing tourism industry. The stage is set for local artists and technicians to harmonize their talents with seasoned luminaries, enriching their skill set and fortifying the local talent pool within the entertainment realm. Beyond the confines of the silver screen, the stunning locales that grace films and TV productions beckon tourists to tread on hallowed ground. This synergy, where the film industry harmonizes with the local economy, invigorates Jammu and Kashmir's economic tapestry while unfurling its cultural and natural splendors to a global audience—a masterstroke that resonates as a clarion call to explore its treasures firsthand. This dynamic interface not only augments economic horizons but also serves as an eloquent conduit to beckon travelers, inviting them to immerse themselves in the region's cultural tapestry. It is, without a doubt, a momentous juncture for Jammu and Kashmir, an affirmation that the golden days of Bollywood have rekindled their vibrant embrace within its breathtaking landscapes.

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

BOAT RACE COMPETITION



Participants during a boat race competition at Kumarakom in Kottayam district during onam festivities.

India's G-20 presidency laid the foundation of an inclusive global health architecture



MANSUKH MANDAVIYA



As India is in preparation to host the 18th G20 Heads of State and Government summit in New Delhi, we must acknowledge that the foundation of the bridge that connects the Global South and Global North to build a truly inclusive and holistic Universal Health Architecture has been laid when India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Health Ministerial Meeting in Gandhinagar said "Let us open our innovations for public good. Let us avoid duplication of funding. Let us facilitate equitable availability of technology." It is heartening to see that the members of the powerful international forum have come a long way to act on the sum of the collective wisdom we gleaned during and since the pandemic years—real freedom begins only when the health of the humanity remains uncompromised. No amount of economic well-being can be enjoyed by societies, if a virus decides to play havoc, and we are ill-prepared to respond; that has been the underlying premise of deliberations on critical health priorities under India's G20 presidency. Ministers, senior policy makers and multilateral agencies have unequivocally supported India's G20 health priorities that highlighted complexities of accessibility and affordability of health services for all. In the process, we have successfully managed to build an overarching consensus that collective global action is the way forward to prevent, prepare and respond to future health emergencies, and our recovery from the pandemic must be equitable. Some of the crucial global action on health include building consensus on the principles and architecture of a medical countermeasure platform that can reduce existing inequities in access to vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and other solutions that form the

arsenal to combat health crises; a global initiative on digital health that can capture strides of digital health initiatives of countries in a way to cut short the distance of other countries towards adapting solutions to their specific context; evolving our understanding of how climate and health affect each other so that specific solutions can be prioritised; and dipping into our reservoir of traditional medicines so that the health of our future can gain from the wisdom of our past. **Need for a Medical Counter Measures platform** The Covid-19 vaccination and diagnostic coverage across the globe revealed our entrenched inequities, which we must overcome. In an increasingly interconnected world, the threat from pathogen to one country is a threat to the world, and we must agree upon the principles and a global architecture that can enable equitable and timely access to vaccines, diagnostic tests, medicines, and other solutions for all countries. Such a global platform should be inclusive, which means it takes into consideration voices that face access barriers to solutions; efficient, which means it builds on existing capabilities and networks with speed; agile and adaptable; which means it has inbuilt flexibility to rapidly adapt to changing needs and scientific evidence; and be accountable, which means there is clear and shared responsibility in a transparent framework. It should make available affordable medical solutions at speed. Through G20, we have committed to a WHO led consultation with adequate representation of low- and middle-income countries on building an interim mechanism to implement such a platform without delay, so that we are not caught unprepared when the next health

emergency strikes. The G-20 countries have underscored the need to bolster regional manufacturing capabilities of vaccines, therapeutic and diagnostic products particularly in developing countries as well as collectively nurture an ecosystem of R&D so that market failures in health-emergencies can be pre-empted. **Launch of Global Initiative on Digital Health** Digital Health has emerged as one of the most powerful accelerators towards achieving universal healthcare. Through the pandemic we in India have experienced the transformative potential of digital tools in public health. During Covid-19, platforms such as Co-Win and e-Sanjeevani envisaged as digital public goods proved to be absolute game-changers, completely democratising the way vaccines and healthcare services were delivered to over one billion people, including the most vulnerable population. India is already creating a national digital health ecosystem — Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) that empowers patients to store and access their medical records and share them with healthcare providers to ensure appropriate treatment and follow-ups. That over 120 countries have developed their national digital health policies or strategies indicate the appetite for digital health tools across the world including low-income countries. But till a few days back there was no existing common platform and language for countries to exchange learnings on digital health initiatives, even when willing to do so. Functioning in such disconnected silos in digital health means there are huge duplications around similar products. That is set to change after the launch of WHO led global initiative on digital health (GIDH) on 19th August under India's G-20 presidency. The unanimous support of G-20 countries on this initiative has ensured that the world will decisively move towards a global digital health regime from a fragmented digital health space to bridge the gaping digital-divide between countries. This initiative aims to support countries to plan and implement high quality digital health systems and help patients access healthcare services based on a people-centric approach with the highest regard for privacy and ethics. Such a

structure should offer means to ensure that the quality of digital health services offered to people worldwide meet a certain standard, a platform is created to capture and share the digital health journey of countries as well as highlight their needs in a way that one country can learn from the other shortening its long road to achieve healthcare for all. **Prioritising Climate and Health** Despite climate consciousness seeping into all sectors, the complex links between how climate impacts health across the one-health spectrum that covers human health, animal health and plant health is yet to be fully decoded. India's presidency has for the first time acknowledged the need to unravel these invisible links through G-20 so that we can prioritise solutions. G-20 countries have committed to prioritise low-carbon, high-quality sustainable and climate resilient health systems, to ensure that our health sector is not becoming a laggard at a time when all sectors are doing their bit to attain net-zero goals. In our outcome document, G-20 countries have also promised to tackle anti-microbial resistance (AMR) through the one-health approach. **Role of Traditional Medicine** At a time when the world over there is a revolution around integrated medicine promoting holistic health and wellness, we think it is our responsibility to revive the potent traditional medicine systems and offer their untapped benefits to the humanity through global groups like G-20. Last year, Our Hon' Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the WHO-Global Centre for Traditional Medicine at Jamnagar in Gujarat and opened the doors of our ancient wellness wisdom for the world. We are taking that legacy forward in G-20 with member countries recognizing the potential role of evidence-based traditional and complementary medicine in health. "Aarogya paramam bhagyaam, swasthya sarvartha sadhanam" says a timeless shloka, meaning "Freedom from diseases is the ultimate destiny, and good health is the basis for achieving every other wealth". We at G-20 after the humbling experience of the pandemic, have paid heed, and decided that the time to act is now. (Author is Union Health and Family Welfare Minister, India)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RTI Mandate

The Supreme Court has issued a directive to the Central Information Commission (CIC) and State Information Commissions (SICs), emphasizing the proper execution of Section 4 of the RTI Act. This section mandates public authorities to maintain and disseminate records for easy public access. The order followed a petition by Kishan Chand Jain, urging effective Section 4 implementation. Courts' repeated interventions underscore a worrisome pattern of RTI Act enforcement. Escalating lawsuits at CIC and SICs highlight restricted information access under RTI guidelines. Despite a Department of Personnel and Training Office Memorandum for third-party audits, inadequate participation persists. The apex court's intervention reflects the Act's essence in ensuring transparency, advocating accessible public information, and bolstering RTI activists' vital efforts for accountability and openness.

Yash Pal Raihan, Jalandhar Election concern!

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) appear concerned about the upcoming 2024 Election. Despite grappling with inflation, Union Minister Anurag Thakur announced a reduction of Rs 200 per domestic LPG cylinder, with Ujjwala Yojana beneficiaries getting Rs 400 off. This move puzzles as the Modi government previously deregulated the item. Just before the election, free gas connections are offered under the Ujjwala Yojana, sparking questions about the timing. The economy, impacted by COVID-19, raised doubts about the government's economic focus. While India briefly became the 5th largest global economy, pandemic setbacks pushed it back to 6th place. Amidst comparisons to past governments, anticipations arise of potential pre-election price cuts and freebies.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee, Faridabad

Youth protection amid polarization

Instances like a teacher allegedly inciting violence against a fellow student based on religious identity in Uttar Pradesh's Wuzaffarnagar, and another teacher reportedly assaulting a student for writing "Jai Shri Ram" on a blackboard in Jammu and Kashmir, raise concerns about educators straying from their role as dream enablers for young minds. Such actions not only fail in their duty but also undermine the work of countless unsung educators. Targeting youth based on religion is condemnable and demands no tolerance. To remedy this, strong administrative will is essential to take appropriate action against erring teachers. Society must rebuild trust with affected youth, reassuring them that such incidents contradict the country's constitutional promises. Political figures must realize that their hateful rhetoric incurs a tangible cost paid by our youngest generation.

Mohammad Taukir, West Champaran

What Unites G-20 Leaders in India

Vivek Shukla

As the forthcoming G20 summit is going to take place in the national capital after a couple of days, there is a place that can unite many G20 nations. If you roam around inside the York Cemetery near India Gate, you are bound to see a small grave that unites the US, Brazil, and Japan, the three major G-20 member countries. The small symbolic grave belongs to the unfortunate passengers of Japan Airlines that crashed on the fateful June 14, 1972, in the barren land in South Delhi. Altogether, 82 passengers perished in the crash. The ill-fated plane was mainly carrying passengers from Japan, Brazil, and the US. Japan Airlines flight from the International Airport in Bangkok, Thailand to Palam International Airport in New Delhi. On June 14, 1972, the plane crashed short of the New Delhi airport, killing 82 of the 87 occupants: 10 of 11 crew members and 72 of 76 passengers. Four people on the ground were also killed. The epitaph written on the grave announces: "In memory of those US, Brazilian, and Japanese passengers of the ill-fated plane." George Solomon of Delhi Brotherhood society and the

priest of Pitampura church says, "I place flowers at the symbolic grave whenever I visit. I think US President Joe Biden, Brazil President Lula da Silva, and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida must visit the symbolic grave of their compatriots and place a wreath there." Sixteen of the deceased were Americans. Brazilian actress Leila Diniz was also among those killed. The sole Indian passenger on the flight was Dr. K.K.P. Narasinga Rao, a senior official of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The exact cause of the accident remains disputed. Investigators representing Japan pointed to the possibility of a false glide path signal causing the crash. Indian investigators claimed the crash was caused by pilot error, specifically the captain ignoring instrument indications and not having sight of the runway. "I feel bad that nobody from the US, Japan, or Brazil visits the grave. It is high time that the visiting leaders should be told about it," says George Solomon. **Will Japan's PM meet our 'Japanese'?** Meanwhile, the Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida would like to meet the tender-looking diminutive

Katsu Sana, 87, while he is in Delhi. Katsu Sana is also known as Katsua behn. She has not missed even a single all-religion prayer since she was first asked to join in a way back in 1969. She recites Buddhist prayers on October 2 and on January 30. Japanese by birth, Katsu Sana came to India in 1959 to study Buddhism in the land of Buddha. In the process, she taught both Hindi and Gandhi's thoughts as well. "While exploring Buddhism here, I started loving India deeply. That has forced me to stay here for the rest of my life. I learned Hindi and about the life and times of Gandhi ji from Kaka Sahab Kalalker in Delhi," informs Katsu Sana, who looks after the affairs of the Vishwa Shanti Stupa, also known as the World Peace Pagoda, located in the heart of Delhi in the Indraprastha Park. **South Korean War Memorial in Delhi** And when South Korean President Moon Jae-in moves to his hotel after his arrival here in the capital on September 8 to take part in the G20 summit, he may not visit the South Korean War Memorial. However, he could visit Shimayya Park in the Delhi Cantonment area during his almost four-day stay here. It is not very far from the Army Base hospital. Alas, not

many people are aware that the capital has a South Korean war memorial too, built at Shimayya Park. South Korea greatly owes India for sending medical and custodian forces during the Korean War from 1950-53. "Both India and South Korea agreed to build a war memorial here to commemorate the service India had provided to South Korea during the wartime," South Korea's envoy in India, Shin Bong-kil, once said. Well, such memorials are there in all the 22 countries that had helped South Korea when it was fighting a grim war with North Korea. There is also a bust of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. He is highly respected there since he wrote a poem on the great heritage of Korea in 1929. "There is a stamp of Korean architecture there in the war memorial. The South Korean government has requested the Indian government to allot a piece of land in Shimayya Park for emotional reasons. Gen. Shimayya is not only an Indian military hero but also a hero of the Korean War. It has been decades since the end of the Korean war, but even to this day, he is remembered by Koreans with gratitude and affection for his tactical support," sources said. India also rushed 3500 custodian forces to assist

South Korea in the post-war settlement for the prisoners of war while other countries sent their combat forces. India played a neutral role and contributed peacefully. An acclaimed Delhi-based architect, late Anup Kothari, had designed the South Korean embassy in Delhi. "I am very proud of the fact that I was responsible for the designs of the South Korean, Bulgarian, and Ethiopian missions. An interesting thing happened when I was designing the South Korean embassy. The ambassador wanted me to include a South Korean pagoda on the campus. So he asked me, 'Would you like to go to South Korea?' Newsweek had covered a very famous architect, Professor Kim, who had won a competition for the queen of Iran. So I mentioned, 'If I have to go to South Korea, I have to meet this man.' So the ambassador said, 'Alright, we'll arrange it.' And I had the opportunity to spend a week with him, see his work, and meet his people. His office was quite international," Kothari narrated this anecdote to this writer a couple of years ago in his office. Kothari had also designed the PTI building in Delhi and Jaslok Hospital in Mumbai.

BRIEF

New launch



Chandigarh: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will launch the Mera Bill-Mera Adhikar Scheme from Gurugram on September 1, Haryana's Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala said on Wednesday. She will launch this scheme in a programme to be organised in Sector 15 of Gurugram, the JJP leader said, as per an official statement. Chautala said that under this scheme, the consumers will have to upload the receipt of the purchase of the goods on a portal.

IPO opening

New Delhi: The initial share sale of multispecialty hospital chain Jupiter Life Line Hospitals will open for public subscription on September 6. The three day initial public offering (IPO) will conclude on September 8 and the bidding for anchor investors will open on September 5, according to the red herring prospectus (RHP). The IPO comprises fresh issue of equity shares worth Rs 542 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of 44.5 lakh equity shares by promoter group entities and other shareholders.

Vehicle financing



New Delhi: Commercial vehicle maker Ashok Leyland on Thursday said it has partnered with CSB Bank Ltd for offering vehicle financing solutions to its customers. The two companies have signed a Memorandum of Understanding and the partnership will enable them to offer customised financial solutions to the automaker's customers, Ashok Leyland said in a statement. "The partnership with CSB Bank will benefit customers with financial products, which are specifically tailored for a hassle-free experience."

GDP grows at 7.8 pc in Apr-Jun

India remains fastest growing economy

New Delhi, Aug 31:

India recorded an economic growth rate of 7.8 per cent in the April-June quarter of 2023-24 and remained the fastest growing large economy mainly due to better performance by agriculture and financial sectors, government data showed on Thursday. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) expanded by 13.1 per cent in the April-June quarter of 2022-23. India remained the fastest-growing major economy as China posted a 6.3 per cent growth in April-June 2023. According to the National Statistical Office (NSO) data, the agriculture sector gross value added (GVA)



recorded growth of 3.5 per cent, up from 2.4 per cent in the April-June quarter of 2022-23. The expansion in 'financial, real estate and professional services' GVA was 12.2 per cent, up from 8.5 per cent in the year-ago quarter. However, the GVA in the manufacturing sector decelerated to 4.7 per cent in the first quarter of the current fiscal compared to 6.1 per cent in the year-ago period.

The growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the January-March quarter of 2022-23 was 6.1 per cent and 4.5 per cent during October-December. "Real GDP or GDP at constant (2011-12) prices in Q1 2023-24 is estimated to attain a level of Rs 40.37 lakh crore, as against Rs 37.44 lakh crore in Q1 2022-23, showing a growth of 7.8 per cent as compared to 13.1 per cent in Q1 2022-23,"

NSO said in a statement. It further said the nominal GDP or GDP at current prices in the first quarter of 2023-24 has been estimated at Rs 70.67 lakh crore, as against Rs 65.42 lakh crore in the year-ago period, showing a growth of 8 per cent as compared to 27.7 per cent in Q1 2022-23.

The NSO will release quarterly GDP estimates for the July-September, 2023 (Q2 2023-24) on November 30, 2023. As per the data, the output (GVA) in the 'mining and quarrying' decelerated to 5.8 per cent in the first quarter from 9.5 per cent a year ago, 'electricity, gas, water supply and other utility services' to 2.9 per cent from 14.9 per cent, and 'construction' to 7.9 per cent from 16 per cent.

Food inflation still a concern; uncertainty due to shortfall of monsoon: Suresh Narayanan

New Delhi, Aug 31:

Food inflation is still a cause of concern despite measures taken by the government to check overall price rise and the movement of commodity prices needs to be closely watched for a long-term impact, Nestle India Chairman & Managing Director Suresh Narayanan said on Thursday. Going by publicly available information, now it is reasonably clear that with a 30 per cent deficit in the monsoon, Kharif crops might get impacted, even if the sowing is good, said Narayanan in a media roundtable here. With this El Nino impact not fully played out, we still have to watch for the spec-



tre of food inflation, he said. "There will be pressure in terms of food inflation. Headline inflation will get mitigated because of various steps that the government will take but food inflation is still a cause for concern," Narayanan said. However, he also added, "Immediately put, I would not say that something

alarmist is happening in terms of commodity prices. But we would have to watch this space and see how it evolves, impact being really for 2024 rather than immediate impact we will have."

On increased milk prices, Narayanan said it has a few structural issues as well. "We talked about the post-Covid impact on the milch herd and then we had the lumpy skin disease and various other things, but that still has to be played out and plus the cost of production has gone up sharply. There has been a 30-40 per cent increase in the cost of feed," said Narayanan adding "We do not expect the former to be able to absorb all of them."

FM asks RRBs to remove duplication of PMJDY accounts

New Delhi, Aug 31:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman asked Regional Rural Banks to make efforts to remove duplication of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts. During the review meeting with heads of RRBs, the finance minister emphasised the need to increase penetration under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) and financial inclusion and stated that a roadmap has to be prepared for completing the designated activities in a timebound manner. The minister urged the RRBs to remove duplication of PMJDY accounts and facilitate storage facility for apple growers particularly in J&K and Himachal Pradesh, an official statement said. During the review meeting of Regional Rural Banks of Northern Region here, the Finance Minister emphasised on digital capability upgradation of RRBs and instructed MD and CEO Punjab National Bank



(PNB) to ensure that all RRBs by the bank to acquire digital onboarding capability by November 1, 2023. The Centre has 50 per cent stake in RRBs while sponsor banks and state governments own 35 per cent and 15 per cent, respectively. The finance minister also asked banks to map RRBs with MSME clusters and put greater thrust on increasing network of rural branches in cluster areas identified by the MSME ministry. Along with Financial Services Secretary Vivek Joshi, Additional Secretary and senior officials of the ministry, representatives of Reserve Bank and Nabard and other senior government officials of states and bank representatives were present at the meeting.

RBI Guv asks urban co-op banks for rigorous follow-up to recover bad loans

Mumbai, Aug 31:

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das asked urban cooperative banks to go for rigorous follow-up of large NPA borrowers for effective recovery, and not to camouflage their actual financial position by innovative accounting practices.

In a statement, the RBI said the Governor held a conference of directors on the boards of select large urban cooperative banks (UCBs) in Mumbai Zone. The Reserve Bank has started engaging with the directors of its regulated entities functioning in different segments of the financial system. Two separate conferences were held with directors on boards of public sector banks and private sector banks in May 2023. The governor reinforced the need for board's involvement in upholding rigorous credit risk management including robust underwriting standards, effective post



sanction monitoring, timely recognition and mitigation of incipient stress, rigorous follow-up of large NPA borrowers for effective recovery, and maintaining adequate provisioning. "He emphasised that the role of Directors is very significant in ensuring the integrity and transparency of financial statements, and cautioned against use of innovative accounting practices to camouflage the actual financial position," the central bank said. Das urged the Boards to be more proactive in asset liability management and the necessity of managing liquidity risk in a more systematic manner. He also

stressed that the Board's role is pivotal in establishing a robust IT and cybersecurity infrastructure and availability of requisite skills at the bank level. He emphasised the management of the UCBs should enjoy the required autonomy in their functioning. The RBI further said the governor stressed that the quality of governance was the most important aspect in ensuring stability of individual banks and urged the Directors of UCBs to further strengthen governance practices. Going forward, the Reserve Bank would be convening similar Conferences of Directors on Boards of other Urban Cooperative Banks in other regions of the country. Deputy governors M Rajeshwar Rao and Swaminathan J, along with executive directors representing the RBI's Departments of supervision, regulation and enforcement, and other senior officials, also participated in the Conference.

Plastic manufacturers push for import duty hike and PLI scheme to spur growth

Kolkata, Aug 31:

The All India Plastics Manufacturers Association (AIPMA) has called for a revision in import duties on plastic goods and inclusion of production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for the sector to spur growth. Association president Mayur D Shah said they want the government to raise the import duty to 20 per cent from 10 per cent now and emphasized that these measures are essential to spur the growth of the 'Make in India' initiative within the plastics industry. On the sidelines of the 6th Technology Conference for Growth of Plastic Industry in the city, Shah said, "AIPMA's comprehensive study revealed that plastic goods worth Rs 37,500 crore were imported during the fiscal year 2021-22, with China accounting for 48 per cent of these imports." "AIPMA after a de-

tailed study identified 553 plastic products that could be potentially substituted with domestic manufacturing, a strategic move that is projected to create a substantial demand for raw materials, plastics processing machinery, and tools," he said. "This shift is estimated to generate approximately 5,000 new job opportunities. Leveraging the PLI scheme will attract fresh investments, as the substitution of these 553 identified products necessitates a new capital expenditure of Rs 1.5 lakh crore," Arvind Mehta, chairman of AIPMA's governing council, said. Presently, the Indian plastic industry employs over 1.5 million individuals and comprises around 50,000 enterprises, with 95 per cent falling under the small and micro-enterprise category. India's plastic exports amount to approximately Rs 35,000 crore annually.

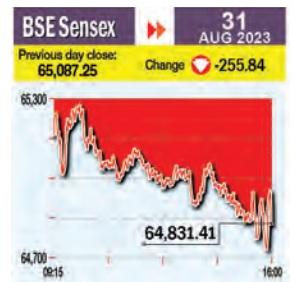
URBAN DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

Transforming Urban Landscape 2014-2023
Press Conference by Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, and Manoj Joshi, Secretary of Housing & Urban Affairs.

Sensex falls 256 points due to selling in banking, FMCG shares on F&O expiry

Mumbai, Aug 31:

Benchmark Sensex closed lower by around 256 points in a volatile trade on Thursday, snapping its three-day gaining streak due to selling in banking, FMCG and oil and gas shares amid weak Asian cues. The BSE barometer fell by 255.84 points or 0.39 per cent to close at 64,831.41 points with 22 of its constituents ending in the red. The index opened higher and later touched a high of 65,178.33 in early trade. It, however, failed to hold onto the gains and plunged 553 points from the day's high to touch a low of 64,723.63 amid selling on the expiry of derivatives contracts for

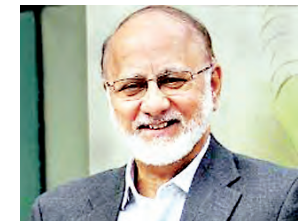


August month. The broader Nifty of NSE also lost 93.65 points or 0.48 per cent to settle at 19,253.80 with 35 of its stocks ending in the red. "Markets traded volatile on the monthly expiry day and lost nearly half a per cent," Ajit Mishra, SVP, Technical Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said.

Hero Electric to diversify into premium space under A2B brand

New Delhi, Aug 31:

Hero Electric on Thursday said it will diversify into premium segment under the A2B brand as it aims to create differentiated brands to cater to multiple segments in the electric mobility space. Under the A2B brand, the company will introduce a diverse portfolio of premium products including electric bikes, scooters, and other new variants in the category. "We are embarking on a de-aggregation strategy with specific brand offerings in different segments. This tactical move aims to focus on our traditional turf with the Hero Electric brand, while allowing us to break into newer segments as



competition builds up in this sector," Hero Electric MD Naveen Munjal said in a statement. Hero Electric CEO Sohinder Gill said the company believes that differentiation is key to market dominance. "Going forward we will enter categories under specialist brand entities to bring focus to the market segments they represent, complementing the Hero brand as a legacy player in the mass mobility segment," he stated.

Vantage unveils Copy Trading Upgrade

Mumbai, Aug 31:

Vantage is pleased to present its upgraded Copy Trading features on the Vantage App. With this upgrade, copy traders will be able to copy trades from signal providers at the click of a button or apply to become signal providers. The copy trading user interface is now even more seamless, allowing traders to view both their copy trading and regular trading accounts on a single account management page. They are also able to view their profit-sharing summary within the same profile page, regardless of whether they are a copy trader, a signal provider, or both. Earlier this year, Vantage received the Best-in-Class Social



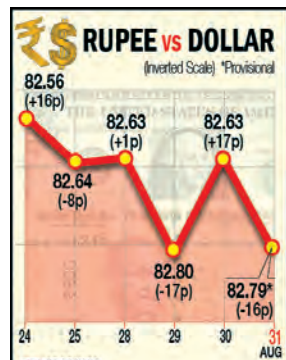
Copy Trading Award 2023 from ForexBrokers.com, in a nod to the team's continued innovation and app development. The dedicated Copy Trading tab helps copy traders to discover new signal providers, highlighting them by their historical performance.

The Community tab also enhances copy traders' ability to search and filter for suitable signal providers by their risk appetite, preferred trading asset classes, performance data and other relevant filters. The new upgrade also allows signal providers to be paid more frequently through a profit-sharing feature, where signal providers can set their profit-sharing ratio to a maximum of 50%. Speaking on the development Lian Jie, Assistant Director of App Marketing at Vantage, "It is with our utmost pleasure to unveil the upgraded Copy Trading function, with an exciting range of features to better suit the needs of our copiers and signal providers."

Rupee falls 16 paise to settle at 82.79 against US dollar

Mumbai, Aug 31:

The rupee depreciated by 16 paise to settle at 82.79 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, tracking a firm American currency and rising crude oil prices. Forex traders said that negative sentiment in the equity market and outflow of foreign funds also weighed on the domestic unit. Investors were also awaiting the domestic GDP data which is scheduled to be announced later in the day. At the inter-bank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 82.65 and moved between the peak of 82.58 and the lowest level of 82.76 during intraday trade. The Indian currency finally settled at 82.79 (provisional) against the dol-



lar, registering a fall of 16 paise compared to the previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee closed at 82.63 against the dollar. The latest US data indicated that the pace of growth was less than expected, raising hopes for the easing of interest rates by the Federal Reserve.

Samsung organises Coding & Programming and IoT courses

Mumbai, Aug 31:

Samsung India's flagship CSR program Samsung Innovation Campus concluded the Coding & Programming and IoT courses for its first batch of 92 students in Bhilai, reiterating Samsung's commitment to being India's strong partner and working alongside the Government in its mission to empower the country's youth and #Powering Digital India. The students who were mentored and trained at Chhattisgarh Swami Vivekanand Technical University, Bhilai participated in a hackathon held between August 23-25, 2023 in Govt.



Polytechnic Berla Boriya, Chhattisgarh. The students were felicitated by officials from Samsung and Electronics Sectors Skills Council of India (ESSCI), which is executing the program through its nationwide network of approved training and education partners. The first

batch of students from the institute were certified in future tech courses like Coding & Programming and IoT, showcasing the program's effectiveness in transforming young minds into competent tech professionals. These courses help students become job-ready.

Dharamjit accorded grand welcome after joining BJP



Central Chronicle News

Pandariya, Aug 31: Dharamjit Singh's first arrival in Pandariya after joining BJP entry saw a grand welcome. In a convoy of 25 vehicles via village Lormi, the villagers in Kapadah, Pendrikhurd,

Kishungarh, Ramtala and Mohtra BJP workers welcomed Singh everywhere. BJYM workers from Ramtala to Pandariya welcomed with a bike rally raising slogans. He was also given a grand welcome by the five circle presidents of Pandariya,

Kui Kukdoor, Pandatarai, Kunda and Dullapur and all their office bearers and workers at the old bus stand. Addressing the public meeting at Chowpatty complex in Gandhi Chowk, Mr. Singh said that Pandariya is my birth-

place: I have a relation of life, death and heart with Pandariya and said that he has joined BJP after getting influenced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Along with this, former MLA Tokhan Sahu also addressed the meeting and said that Pandariya is his maternal grandfather; Dharamjit Singh is my Ram, I am his Laxman, both of us will work together to win in Pandariya Lormi.

In the program, Mandal President Gajpal Sahu, Ratiram Bhatt, P a r m e s h w a r Chandravanshi, Mukesh Singh, Sukhdev Dhurve, Mila Morcha President Anju Sharma, seniors included Kuldeep Chhabra, Virendra Singh Raj, Nandlal Chandrakar, Janak Chandrakar, Virendra Sharma, Khem Singh Thakur, Jallu Sahu, and others were present.

INC organizes BLA training in Bharatpur Assembly



Central Chronicle News

Janakpur, Aug 31: As per the instructions of the Pradesh Congress Committee, the Congress Party organized a training program for BLAs of Janakpur and Kotadol blocks in Bharatpur Vidhan Sabha at Janakpur Community Hall.

All the BLAs of Bharatpur Vidhan Sabha were present in the training programme, and booth level agents were trained in the programme by

Saurav Mishra, the master trainer appointed by the State Congress Committee.

Booth level agents were trained on the nuances of many important points like observation of voter list, voter mapping, addition of new names, deletion of wrong names, amendment of voter ID card, linking of voters with Aadhaar card etc.

Master trainer Saurav Mishra shared information regarding taking the campaign of the Congress

party among the voters to all the booth level agents by working actively in their booths and observing the voter list properly.

Along with giving complete information about filling Form 6 Form 7 Form 8 through offline medium of election, Mishra also gave information about filling Form 6 Form 7 Form 8 through online medium and mobile application from the website of Chhattisgarh Election Commission, downloading E-epic, apart



from giving important information like name and number of polling station, BLO, ERO, DEO, map of his assembly, number and name of each booth in his assembly.

District Congress Committee Ashok Srivastava, President Block Congress Committee Janakpur Ravi Pratap Singh, President Block Congress Committee Kotadol Manikpuri and BLAs of Congress Party were present.

Former DP member claims ticket from Bharatpur Sonhat Assembly

Central Chronicle News

Mahendragarh, Aug 31: Former DP member Bhagwan Singh has claimed ticket from Bharatpur Sonhat Assembly, along with hundreds of workers and villagers in a stage show of power by his followers who demanded him to contest the upcoming elections from the region.

It is important to mention here that Bhagwan Singh has been a previous candidate from Congress in 1993, but due to manipulation in the B form, the B form was not



Bhagwan Singh

submitted, thereby he was deprived of contesting the elections. At that time Congress candidate Lal Vijay Pratap Singh who was supported from Mahendragarh assembly constituency, by Singh

won while Bhagwan Singh had left his job as a teacher because of the elections.

The common people of the assembly have demanded from the Congress High Command that Bhagwan Singh should be given ticket from Bharatpur Sonhat Assembly so that this seat goes to the Congress. State in-charge Ms. Shelja, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, State Congress President Deepak Baij, Dr. Charan Das Mahant, and T S Singh Deo have been sent a letter demanding the same.

Central Chronicle News

Kharora, Aug 31: A five day Rudrabhishek of 1.25 lakh mortal remains of Shilving and Shiv Mahapuran Katha concluded here with devotion.

Thousands of devotees of the region took part and on August 20, a felicitation ceremony was organized by Seva Sugandham Jan Kalyan Samiti Raipur, in which mothers, sisters and small children from the village and surrounding areas were engaged in making the mortal remains of Shiva Linga with great devotion.

200 people were honoured with citations mainly Kaushal Prasad

Five-day Shiv Mahapuran Katha concludes



Sahu, Ayodhya Prasad Sahu, Narendra Verma to name a few.

Nagpanchami special worship was recited on the concluding day, and storyteller Pandit Lalit Sharma told the story on

the concluding day, the importance of twelve Jyotirlingas, Ganga, Narmada, Godavari, Gomti holy rivers and the reason for the origin of the stories.

Kalsarp Yoga puja,

Pitru Dosh puja etc. were performed which many people took advantage of. There was special cooperation from the youth of the village apart from public representatives and others.

Rakshabandhan festival celebrated in GPS

Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, Aug 31: Rakshabandhan, the festival of brother-sister, was celebrated with great pomp in Geeta Public School and on this occasion the students were given an opportunity to make rakhi, in which all the children participated enthusiastically and got first, second and third in the competition. At the end of the competition, Saurabh Dubey, the principal of the organization, while addressing the children, encouraged the contestants to participate in this type of competition even further and also wished everyone a happy Raksha Bandhan.

Central schemes not used: Sharma

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Aug 31: Talking to reporters at the local rest house, Assam MLA Rupak Sarma who is in the state to campaign for BJP said that the Congress government of Chhattisgarh itself is not able to develop because there is no money for development.

The development funds were used to contest elections in other states, while on the contrary, the amount of various development schemes coming from the centre could not be utilized due to deliberate non-payment of state share, he said.

The BJP government at the Centre had started the work by giving approval



to fulfill the years old demand of railway line of Mungeli area, but as soon as the government changed, the Congress government did not give 49 percent state share for the railway line, due to which the work has stopped, he further said.

He said that BJP is preparing its election manifesto after taking the opinion of the people of Chhattisgarh, which will be of great public interest, and the centre government schemes are not used here by the state government.

On this occasion, MLA Punnulal Mohle, former MP Lakhnail Sahu, District BJP President Shailesh Pathak, Assembly Media Incharge Bhupendra Singh Thakur, journalists and BJP leaders were present.

SVEEP Rakhi bonds between seniors and new voters with Collector

● **Commissioner and SDM celebrated Raksha Bandhan at the Blind School**

Central Chronicle News

Manendragarh, Aug 31: The spirit of Raksha Bandhan intertwined with the essence of democracy as Collector Narendra Kumar Dugga, joined by Municipal Commissioner Lavina Pandey, SDM Abhilasha Paikara, and Tehsilidar Neerajkant Tiwari, celebrated the occasion with a unique twist - 'Sangi Vote Dehe Jabo'. At the Lions Club-operated elderly home near the bus stand, the elderly sisters, first-time voters, and BLO (Booth Level Officer) sisters joined hands to tie 'SVEEP' Rakhis around Collector Dugga's wrist.



This symbol of Rakhi represented not just a bond of protection but also a pledge for a healthy and enduring life. The heartwarming gesture spread smiles across the faces of the elderly residents. Amidst the festivities, Collector Dugga's presence stirred a wave of enthusiasm among the citizens, motivating

them to exercise their fundamental right to vote. The event also saw Rakhis adorning the wrists of newly eligible 18+ voters, while the elderly members received BLO kits. With a considerable number of young voters in the district, concerted efforts are underway to inspire a complete voter turnout among them. The

fervour continued as Municipal Commissioner Lavina Pandey and SDM Abhilasha Paikara tied Rakhis to the wrists of new voter brothers from the Blind School. The gesture was a reminder of the importance of their voice in shaping the future through voting. In a similar vein, the municipal council's cleanliness advocates tied Rakhis while spreading the message of voting.

The occasion witnessed the participation of Deputy Collector Praveen Bhagat, Lions Club member Shailesh Jain Dal, and various citizens and public representatives. Dr. S.K. Acharya, Krishna Kant Tamrakar, Neeraj Agrawal, Santosh Jain, Kaushal Arora, Narottam Sharma, and Sunder Lal Dugga were among those who joined the celebration in large numbers.

Seema Nishad secures gold in Kickboxing

Exceptional performance amidst fierce competition showcases dedication and skill

Central Chronicle News

Simga, Aug 31: The resounding clash of talent reverberated through the boxing ring during the week-long Junior Category Kickboxing National Competition, a breathtaking event that unfolded in Ranchi, Jharkhand from August 22nd to 27th. This sporting extravaganza brought together over 3000 spirited participants hailing from 28 states, igniting the arena with their fervour and zeal.

Amid this intense display of skill and determination, the spotlight unequivocally belonged to Seema Nishad, a rising star who seized the gold medal, a testament to her exceptional prowess and unwavering commitment to the sport. In a mesmerizing



showcase of sportsmanship, young athletes etched their names in the annals of kickboxing glory. Silver medal was claimed by the remarkable Allowkick Warden, while the podium's bronze resplendently adorned the achievements of Devash Ratre, Manikpuri, Adarsh Manikpuri, Sagar Turkar, and Kajim Raja. The crowning moment of glory unfolded within the grandeur of the Nishad Hall, as MLA

Shivartan Sharma, a patron of athletic achievement, welcomed the participants with open arms. Draping them in the traditional Gamchas, Sharma's gesture resonated as a symbol of unwavering support, a boost to the spirits of these young contenders.

Amidst this camaraderie, Sharma extended his heartfelt felicitations to the medalists, accentuating that their triumphs were an em-

bodiment of sheer excellence. He emphasized that genuine success sprouts from the soil of relentless dedication, much like the tale of Eklavya from ancient lore. Drawing a parallel, he eloquently stressed that success is earned when one invests heart and soul into their pursuits, regardless of challenges encountered. Not confining her influence to the ring, Seema Nishad demonstrated her leader-

ship by advocating for her team's needs. A clarion call for financial support, echoing with a request for a contribution of 15,000 rupees, reverberated through the arena. This gesture underlined the athletes' commitment to their passion beyond the confines of the boxing arena, showcasing their tenacity and resilience.

The event's aura was further heightened by the presence of luminaries such as Coach Aman Soni, Hemnath Nishad, President of the Nagar Panchayat, and Bhagwat Sonkar, esteemed Chief of the Society, among other dignitaries. With their watchful eyes fixed on the promising horizon, they united to celebrate these emerging stars and their unrelenting pursuit of excellence.

● **A heartfelt salute to the sanctified sibling connection**

Central Chronicle News

Arang, Aug 31: The halls of Sujan Sonkar Vidya Mandir Higher Secondary School (SSVMHSS) in Arang were filled with happiness as the Raksha Bandhan festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm. The event, named "Creating Rakhis, Building Unity," saw the lively participation of students from primary and secondary grades. Using their imagination, these young artists carefully crafted beautiful Rakhis using various materials like rice grains, flowers, leaves, peacock feathers, and delicate silk threads. They lovingly



added vermilion marks and performed aarti before tying these handcrafted Rakhis onto their friends' wrists, symbolizing the strong bond between brothers and sisters. In return, brothers shared thoughtful gifts with their sisters. The school's principal spoke about the importance of Raksha Bandhan, where brothers promise to protect their sisters. He shared stories from

our culture, like Lord Krishna protecting Draupadi, to highlight the festival's significance. These stories inspire the celebration's spirit, encouraging everyone to enjoy it wholeheartedly. The celebration also showcased unity, as teachers tied Rakhis on their male colleagues' wrists, promoting a sense of togetherness that adds value to the school's relationships.

Prithvi Shaw to make Northamptonshire return in 2024



Northampton, Aug 31 (PTI):

Young Indian opener Prithvi Shaw will return to Northamptonshire County Cricket Club in 2024 after his stint this year was cut short due to a knee injury.

He made a huge impact during its domestic One-Day Cup campaign, hammering a record-breaking 244 off 153 balls against Somerset, followed by an unbeaten 126 off 76 deliveries against Durham.

Shaw scored 429 in four contests at an incredible average of 143.00 before a knee injury halted his glorious season.

"I'm so excited to be heading back to Northamptonshire next summer. Even though it was over quickly, I really enjoyed my time there," he told the club in a release.

"It's a great club to be a part of, and I felt so welcome by everyone immediately. I can't wait to get back over. My goal is always to help win games for the team, and it was so disappointing to get injured and have to leave early this time." Shaw's return to NCCC next year will be for both the County Championship and the One-Day Cup.

NCCC head coach John Sadler expressed his eagerness to welcome him back to the side. "Prithvi is a phenomenal talent and what he delivered for us in such a short space of time was incredible. He was utterly disappointed not to stay longer due to his injury as he wanted to play some red-ball cricket, so the chance for him to do this next year is really exciting for us all."

Kishan's batting position becomes bone of contention ahead of Asia Cup opener

Pallekele, Aug 31 (PTI):

Ishan Kishan is set to play the wicketkeeper-batter role in the absence of K L Rahul but question remains over the left-hander's batting slot going into the Asia Cup opener against Pakistan on September 2.

The temptation will be to hand Kishan the opening position with Rahul not available for the first two games of the continental event. He had opened the innings in India's last ODI series against the West Indies along with Shubman Gill, and made a good impression.

Kishan made 184 runs in that series from three matches, averaging 61.33 and his scores read 52, 55 and 77. But it was a rather straightforward move as Rohit Sharma was given a rest during the ODIs against the West Indies.

Now that Rohit has returned to the side and will occupy one opening slot, the Indian think-tank will have to put in a thought as to where to accommodate Kishan. Opening is also Kishan's most successful slot in the batting order as he had made double hundred there against Bangladesh last year. Former Indian coach Ravi Shastri too had favoured Kishan opening saying his uninhibited striking will give India an early upper hand over their opponents. If he opens, then Gill will have to come



down to No. 3 and Virat Kohli will have to take the No. 4 slot. It also

means that the returning Shreyas Iyer will have to move down to No.5.

If it happens that way then Hardik Pandya will be coming in at No.6 and there will be no place for Suryakumar Yadav in the side.

Despite his modest record, India were dabbling with the option of Suryakumar in the ODIs because of his prowess at the backend of the innings. If India indeed want to accommodate Suryakumar in the 11 then they might just have to put a temporary hold on Shreyas' comeback. The other option India can explore to give Kishan a place at No. 3 Rohit and Gill as openers with Kohli at No. 4 and Shreyas at No. 5.

The 25-year-old from Jharkhand can also be fitted in the middle-order as he has a reasonable record at No. 4, scoring two fifties in four innings.

They can mull the southpaw at number five too as it gives a certain stability at the top but the only peril is that Kishan has not batted in that position in his 17-match ODI career.

Sanju Samson is here as the travelling reserve keeping in mind the injury of Rahul, and he is not a part of the 17-member India squad.

India will not be able to use his services as a wicketkeeper batsman because one of the players, Rahul in this case, has to be ruled out of the Asia Cup for Samson to come into the equation.

I don't have any ego, I can bowl with new ball or at death: Shami

Pallekele, Aug 31 (PTI):

Mohammed Shami won't mind if he is asked to bowl with a worn-out Kookaburra instead of a shiny white in the ODIs, saying he does not have an ego and would purely go by the team's requirements.

With Jasprit Bumrah back in the mix for the Asia Cup, it will be interesting to see who will be the Gujarat slinger's new ball partner in the match against Pakistan on Saturday.

In Bumrah's absence, Shami and Mohammed Siraj shared the new ball in the ODI series against Australia in March this year. "I don't have any hesitancy to bowl with the new ball or the old ball. I don't have an ego like that. All three of us (Bumrah, Shami & Siraj) are bowling very well, so it depends on the management on who will play," Shami told Star Sports ahead of Asia Cup.

"Depends on whether I have the new ball or whether the team requires me at any stage during the match, I'm always on," said India's best exponent of swing bowling in current times. For someone, who has 162 wickets from 90 games with an economy rate of 5.60, Shami doesn't get too fussy about the for-



mat and colour of the ball. "There is too much talk about the white ball or red ball, if you bowl in the right areas I don't think that there is any difficulty in any ball," said the Bengal speedster.

"There is only one goal, to go and give 100%, the result will come running to us if we give our 100%. So it is very important to focus and execute, it's a very simple plan."

Bumrah's presence will certainly boost the team's morale ahead of a big event like World Cup.

"For a long time we didn't have Jassi (Bumrah), so we felt the loss of a good player like him. You sometimes feel like I wish this player was there, to make your combination set. "So having Jassi, especially in the white-ball format, has made our bowling very strong. He's looking fit and he's playing well, hopefully, we have a good Asia Cup."

Viacom 18 bags India's home series broadcast rights for nearly Rs 6000 crore

New Delhi, Aug 31 (PTI):

Viacom 18 on Thursday created a near monopoly in Indian cricket broadcasting sphere by bagging both TV and digital rights of the national team's home series for the next five years with a cumulative bid of approximately Rs 6000 crore, beating Star India and Sony in a three-way battle.

The BCCI had invited separate e-bids for both linear (TV) and digital for best price discovery. "Viacom 18 paid Rs 3101 crore (approximately) for digital and Rs 2862 crore for linear (TV). As has been the trend, digital has fetched more in Rs 5963 crore (approx) deal.

"With IPL digital rights being bought by Viacom for Rs 26,000 crore plus, they now have almost all the high profile cricket properties save IPL linear (TV) and ICC events," a broad-

casting industry source, tracking developments closely, told PTI on conditions of anonymity. The rights will come into effect with India's three-match home series against Australia beginning September 22 and end on March 31, 2028.

"Congratulations @viacom18 for winning the @BCCI Media Rights for both linear and digital for the next 5 years. India Cricket will continue to grow in both spaces as after @IPL and @wpl120, we extend the partnership @BCCI Media Rights as well," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said on 'X', formerly Twitter. India will be playing 88 international games across three formats including 25 Tests, 27 ODIs and 36 T20Is with per match value of the deal standing around Rs 67.76 crore. This is nearly Rs 7.76 crore more than last cycle's Rs 60 crore per match value. However, the

BCCI is getting Rs 175 crore less than Rs 6138 crore it received during last cycle which had more games, specifically 102. If one looks at the prevailing market sentiments, it is not a bad price to fetch as the per match valuation has increased. One needs to factor in that only marquee Test matches and series versus England and Australia will fetch a decent advertisement revenue. For matches against other nations, it is only the T20 which is the cash cow. India will play Australia in 21 games and will be pitted against England in 18 matches across three formats during the next five years. The BCCI fell way short of the billion dollar mark (at least by Rs 2300 crore) and one of the reasons for that could be the declining popularity of the ODI format and there are 27 of them in the next cycle.

Lalit returns in India's hockey squad for Asian Games

Bengaluru, Aug 31 (PTI):

Veteran striker Akashdeep Singh and young Karthi Selvam have been dropped but experienced Lalit Upadhyay made a comeback to the 18-member Indian men's hockey team selected for the upcoming Asian Games in Hangzhou, China.

Hockey India selectors dropped three players -- Akashdeep, Karthi and defender Jugraj Singh from the champion side of the Asian Champions Trophy held in Chennai earlier this month.

Drag-flicker Harmanpreet Singh and midfielder Hardik Singh will continue to don the roles of captain and vice-captain in the Asian



Games. Jugraj has been replaced by Sanjay, while Lalit and Abhishek came in place of Akashdeep and Karthi. The team has two goalkeepers in veteran PR

Sreejesh and Krishan Bahadur Pathak.

Besides two goalkeepers, the Asian Games-bound team will have six defenders, five midfielders and as many forwards.

Meanwhile, goalkeeper Savita Punia will lead the 18-member Indian women's hockey team in the Asian Games.

Experienced Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam, Baljeet Kaur and Jyoti Chhatri are the three players, who were part of tour of Germany and Spain last month, missed the bus.

The official announcement of the teams were made during a special send-off ceremony organised by Hockey India for the Asian Games-bound sides here.

Caroline Wozniacki beats Petra Kvitova



New York, Aug 31 (AP):

When Caroline Wozniacki finished off the biggest victory of her still-fresh comeback following 3 1/2 years away from tennis, she sat in her U.S. Open sideline chair, leaned forward and covered her face with both hands. Then she leaned back, glanced over at her husband and her father in the stands, and smiled.

Two gold chains dangled from her neck, each carrying a name written in cursive: Olivia, for her 2-year-old daughter, and James, for her 10-month-old son. Yes, Wozniacki clearly made the right choice to come out of retirement and try her hand at this tennis thing again, making it to the third round at Flushing Meadows by

beating two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova 7-5, 7-6 (5) in Arthur Ashe Stadium on Wednesday night. "This couldn't be better. It's a dream come true. If you had asked me three years ago," Wozniacki said, "I would have said I'll never be back here, playing on this court."

The 33-year-old from Denmark won the 2018 Australian Open and reached No. 1 in the rankings she's currently No. 623 during her first stint on tour. Wozniacki left the sport in early 2020 to start a family, and later spent time working as a TV analyst, and now she and former NBA player David Lee are the parents of two children. She returned to competition this month and now is back at Flushing Meadows for the first time since 2019.

US Open



Bopanna-Ebden make winning start

New York, Aug 31 (PTI):

India's Rohan Bopanna and his Australian men's doubles partner Matthew Ebden advanced to the second round of the US Open with a straight-set win over Christopher O'Connell and Aleksandar Vukic here. Bopanna and Ebden, who are seeded sixth, brushed aside the Australian duo 6-4 6-2 in less than an hour (55 min-

utes) to win their first round match comfortably on Wednesday.

The 43-year-old Bopanna and 35-year-old Ebden converted three of their five break points while giving no break opportunity to their rivals.

The two had a first serve percentage of 72 per cent.

The Indo-Australian pair, which reached the Wimbledon semifinals, earned the first break in

game nine to go up 5-4.

The two found an early break in the second set and quickly raced to 5-2 before sealing the tie.

Bopanna, a US Open runner-up in 2010, and Ebden will meet the winner of the first round match between USA's Aleksandar Kovacevic and Nicolas Moreno De Alboran, and Kazakhstan's Andrey Golubev and Russia's Roman Safiullin.

Djokovic and Swiatek roll, Tsitsipas falls in hot



New York, Aug 31 (AP):

Novak Djokovic and Iga Swiatek rolled to straight-set victories to move into the third round at the U.S. Open on Wednesday, fighting not only their opponents but sticky, 85-degree Fahrenheit (29-degree Celsius) weather on the hottest day at the tournament so far.

"That's why we train several hours a day in humid, hot conditions so we can be ready for whatever awaits you on court," the second-seeded Djokovic said after a 6-4, 6-1, 6-1 victory in Arthur Ashe Stadium over 76th-ranked Bernabe Zapata Miralles of Spain. "I still have the hunger," said the 36-year-old from Serbia who owns 23 Grand Slam titles. "I still got it." Swiatek, the top-seeded defending champion from Poland, had only slightly more trouble in her 6-3, 6-4 victory over 322nd-ranked Australian Daria Saville in Louis Armstrong Stadium. Swiatek has never lost in a

major to a player outside the top 100. In the biggest upset of the day, seventh-seeded Stefanos Tsitsipas fell in the second round to 128th-ranked Swiss qualifier Dominic Stricker 7-5, 6-7 (2), 6-7 (5) 7-6 (6), 6-3.

Ending the four-hour match with a forehead winner that just caught the baseline, Stricker raised his hands and flopped on his back to celebrate his first-ever victory over a top-10 player in only his third Grand Slam appearance.

"I'm just super happy right now," Stricker told the Grandstand crowd. "I came out and felt good from the first set on. ... I just kept playing high-level tennis." Tsitsipas, a Grand Slam finalist at the Australian Open and French Open, has still never advanced beyond the third round at Flushing Meadows. The Greek is the second-highest seed to go down on the men's side after No. 4 Holger Rune of Denmark lost to 63rd-ranked Spaniard Roberto Carballes Baena.

Oppn bloc INDIA ready to make country that has 'bent its knee before China' win: Shiv Sena (UBT)

Mumbai, Aug 31 (PTI):

The Shiv Sena (UBT) on Thursday said the message from the meeting of the opposition bloc INDIA in Mumbai is that it is ready to make today's India, which has "bent its knee before China", win.

In an editorial in party mouthpiece 'Saamana', the Uddhav Thackeray-led party also sought to link the Centre's recent decision to slash LPG cylinder prices to rising influence of the opposition bloc INDIA.

The Centre on Tuesday announced a Rs 200 per cylinder cut in prices of domestic cooking gas. At present, a 14.2-kg LPG cylinder in Delhi costs Rs 1,103, more than double the rate of May 2020.

"The INDIA alliance is taking solid steps to overthrow the reign of fear in the country. The INDIA alliance is ready to make today's India, which has bent its knee before China,



A poster featuring Shiv Sena founder Balasaheb Thackeray put up at Worli ahead of the meeting of Indian National Development Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), in Mumbai, Thursday.

win," the editorial said. "The INDIA alliance has taken a flight of an eagle to save the honour and self-respect of the states and provinces, and respect of every religion and not just one person and his wealthy friends. This is the message from the Mumbai meeting," it said.

On Monday, Beijing re-

leased the 2023 edition of the so-called "standard map of China" that laid claim over Arunachal Pradesh and Aksai Chin as regions within its borders. It led to an acrimonious tussle between the ruling National Democratic Alliance and the opposition parties led by the Congress.

SC panel on prison reforms

'Transgender prisoners must be treated at par with other inmates'

New Delhi, Aug 31 (PTI): Transgender prisoners must be treated at par with other categories of inmates and should enjoy equal rights and facilities, the Supreme Court Committee on Prison Reforms has said.

In its final synopsis of reports filed in the apex court, the committee headed by former top court judge Justice (ret'd) Amitava Roy has recommended that jail staff and correctional administration at all levels, particularly the guarding personnel, must be given adequate and regular training in order to equip them to appropriately interact with transgender prisoners.

It said instances of abuse, harassment or violence committed against transgender inmates must be curbed and this may be achieved through a series of workshops and training sessions with relevant resource persons from academia and civil society.

GANGES PRAYERS



Students of Rishikesh Parmarth Niketan Gurukul offer prayers to the Ganges river, in Rishikesh, Thursday.

Goa AAP chief Amit Palekar arrested for 'misrepresentation of facts' in road accident case

Panaji, Aug 31 (PTI):

The Goa Crime Branch on Thursday arrested state Aam Aadmi Party president Amit Palekar for allegedly misrepresenting facts in connection with an accident wherein a Mercedes car mowed down three people near Panaji earlier this month, an official said.

Palekar has been accused of misrepresenting facts by introducing a wrong person as the car driver before the investigation officer in an attempt to save the main accused who was at the wheels at the time of the accident, a senior police official told PTI. The AAP

leader, however, said he has nothing to do with the crime and claimed the action against him was part of a "dirty politics". Palekar was arrested under Indian Penal Code section 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence, or giving false information to screen offender), the police official said.

Earlier, businessman Paresch Sawardekar, who owns a chain of supermarkets and a real estate firm, was arrested after the Mercedes car he was allegedly driving in an inebriated condition on August 7 hit five vehicles in Banastarim village near Panaji, killing three persons, police had said.

Protests erupt in Karnataka over release of Cauvery river water to TN

Bengaluru, Aug 31 (PTI):

With Karnataka starting release of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu in compliance with the directives of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA), protests have erupted in southern parts of the State.

Various farmers' bodies staged demonstrations in Mysuru, Mandya and Chamarajanagar in Cauvery heartland against the government's move; the BJP accused the Congress government of "doing nothing" to protect the interests of Karnataka.

The opposition party also charged the govern-

ment with not taking up legal battle properly against the DMK-led Tamil Nadu government as the party there in power is a key ally in the newly formed INDIA bloc, where Congress is a key player.

The Karnataka government on Wednesday started releasing 5,000 cusecs of water to TN following the CWMA's August 28 directive to it.

Previously, the CWMA had ordered Karnataka to release 10,000 cusecs of water everyday. After releasing it for a few days initially, Karnataka again approached the CWMA, saying there was no adequate rainfall in the

Cauvery basin.

Taking Karnataka's point of view into consideration, the CWMA directed the government to ensure that 5,000 cusecs of water reaches Biligundlu just at the border of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu daily.

Karnataka farmers, especially from districts in and around Cauvery and Kabini river and Krishnaraja Sagar dam in Mysuru have been staging protests since Thursday.

Farmers in Mandya took out a march raising slogans against the Congress government, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and the Deputy Chief Minister D

K Shivakumar, who holds the Water Resources portfolio.

In Srirangapatna, farmers staged a "shirtless" protest. Standing in the Cauvery river, they held the water in their palm and raised slogans blaming the state government for taking an "anti-farmers stand".

Similar protests were staged by farmers in Chamarajanagar district.

Reacting to the release of water, former CM B S Yediyurappa wondered why Tamil Nadu was exerting pressure on Karnataka to release more water when there was no crisis in the neighbouring state.

Bangladeshi girl dies of health complications

Nagpur, Aug 31 (PTI): A 15-month-old Bangladeshi girl, who was admitted in a critical state to a private hospital in Nagpur city on August 27 after her health deteriorated on board a Delhi-bound Vistara flight, died early on Thursday due to medical complications, an official of the hospital said.

The Bengaluru-New Delhi flight on which the girl was flying along with her family members was rerouted and it made an emergency landing at the Nagpur airport late Sunday night. The toddler fell unconscious after suffering a cardiac arrest mid-flight. Co-passengers promptly initiated life-saving measures by providing CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) to the baby, he said. The child passed away at 3.15 am on Thursday after a relentless struggle for the last three

days, said Aejaz Shami, Deputy General Manager (Branding and Communications) at the KIMS-Kingsway Hospitals, where the girl was admitted.

The child was in a critical state after several resuscitation efforts mid-flight and during transfer to the hospital, he said in a release. The child suffered from several complications, including renal and cardiac failures, he added. "The staff and doctors at the hospital offered round-the-clock care to the child and in spite of exemplary care, the child could not survive and was declared dead at 3.15 am today," he said. The girl's parents and relatives were counselled regularly and at last understood the fate of the child as she started developing multi-organ dysfunction one by one, Shami added.

PROTEST MARCH



People evicted from Silsako Beel stage a protest against Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) demanding rehabilitation and compensation to the evicted families, in Guwahati, Thursday.

Amarnath Yatra concludes, over 4.4 lakh pilgrims offer prayers at cave shrine

Srinagar, Aug 31 (PTI): The 62-day annual Amarnath Yatra concluded on Thursday with more than 4.4 lakh pilgrims offering prayers at the cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas this year.

Officials said a total of 4,45,338 devotees paid obeisance to the naturally formed ice 'Shivling' during the pilgrimage which commenced on July 1 through Baltal and Pahalgam routes.

They said 48 people, including pilgrims and service providers, died during the course of the yatra this year and 62 suffered injuries. The deaths were due to weather-related incidents or natural causes, they added.

The number of pilgrims who undertook the yatra this year was higher than last year's 3.65 lakh. The yatra this year remained peaceful and incident-free, the officials said.

Arvinder Singh Lovely appointed Cong's Delhi unit chief

New Delhi, Aug 31 (PTI):

The Congress on Thursday appointed Arvinder Singh Lovely as the chief of its Delhi unit, replacing Anil Chaudhary.

Continuing his organizational rejig in the state units, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge appointed Lovely, a former minister in the Sheila Dikshit government, to head the party's unit in the national capital.

Talking to PTI after his appointment, Lovely thanked Congress leader Sonia Gandhi and the entire party leadership. "I have to strengthen the Congress in Delhi," he said. "The people are fed up of the leadership in Delhi in the last seven to eight years. People are in



favour of Rahul Gandhi ji. Our former presidents have worked hard and people are working to strengthen the Congress organisation," Lovely said. Asked about the INDIA alliance in which both the Congress and the AAP are members and the challenges ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, he

said, "My role is just to strengthen the Congress and raise the voices of the people of Delhi."

"The decision on how we will fight the elections and with whom we will fight will be taken by the party high command. I have no role in it. The Delhi Congress will accept whatever the high command says," he added.

Lovely, an old Congress hand, had joined the BJP in 2017 but came back to the Congress fold just months after quitting the grand old party.

The party appreciated the contribution of the outgoing Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee chief Anil Chaudhary, according to a statement issued by AICC general secretary in-charge KC Venugopal.

MLA Virendra Raghuvanshi resigns from BJP ahead of MP assembly polls

Shivpuri, Aug 31 (PTI): Ahead of the Madhya Pradesh assembly polls due this year-end, MLA Virendra Raghuvanshi on Thursday announced his resignation from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), claiming he was "ignored" in the party.

In a letter addressed to MP BJP president Vishnu Dutt Sharma and released in a press conference here, Raghuvanshi, who represents Kolaras assembly seat in Shivpur district, said he had informed about his "pain" in the last three-five years to the chief minister (Shivraj Singh Chouhan) and the top leadership. "But they all have not taken note of it, he claimed. "In the Gwalior-Chambal division, party workers like me were

being ignored by the newly arrived BJP members though we worked dedicatedly for the party in the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha polls," he further claimed. Raghuvanshi alleged that corrupt officials were being posted in the Kolaras constituency to create hurdles in the developmental works being carried out by him and to harass him and his workers.

He also targeted BJP leader and Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, who quit the Congress in 2020 following which a number of Congress legislators also resigned and joined the ruling party. When the state Congress government collapsed in 2020, he (Scindia) had said farmers' loans of Rs 2 lakh were not being waived as promised, Raghuvanshi claimed.

Six galleries to come together for Delhi Contemporary Art Week from September 3

New Delhi, Aug 31 (PTI):

The Delhi Contemporary Art Week will begin here at Bikaner House from September 3 with the participation of six city-based art galleries, showcasing the works of emerging artists from India and the South Asian region, including Bangladesh and Pakistan. The six participating galleries — Blueprint12, Exhibit 320, Gallery Espace, Latitude 28, Shrine Empire, and Vadehra Art Gallery — will showcase a line-up of artists from India and the sub-continent who have worked across styles, media, themes and techniques. The exhibition by Gallery

Espace, which will showcase the works of 10 contemporary textile art from across India whose practices explore the myriad possibilities of fibre and yarn as art mediums. While textile designer Gopika Nath crocheted, knitted and embroidered pieces are inspired by the sea and coast of Goa, Devi Seetharam's large compositions are dominated by white mundus, the traditional male attire in Kerala. The selection of artworks features pieces made in wool, silk, jute and assorted fabrics, using a variety of techniques — knitting, crochet, batik, weaving, braiding and stitching, quilting and beadwork - to address social, political,

ecological, and art historical themes. "This year the Gallery Espace space at Bikaner House will have a curated presentation of textile art showcasing the many diverse, ingenious and dynamic ways in which contemporary Indian artists are making art with fibre or fabric as material, or as idea, drawing on the rich textile traditions of India and speaking to experiences and concerns that we can all relate to today," Renu Modi, founder-director of Gallery Espace, said. The Latitude 28 gallery will showcase the works of Pakistani visual artist Farhat Ali, who primarily focuses on reinterpretation of history and popular imagery.

Factory owner, manager booked for culpable homicide

Morena (MP), Aug 31 (PTI): Police have registered a case of culpable homicide against the owner and manager of a processed food products factory in Morena district of Madhya Pradesh after five labourers died there due to inhalation of a suspected poisonous gas, an official said on Thursday.

The police have taken the factory manager into custody, but the owner is on the run, he said. Five labourers, including three brothers, died after inhaling the suspected poisonous gas at Sakshi Food Products factory in Dhanelia area of the district on Wednesday. The factory makes tutti frutti, made using raw papaya, and sugar-free chemicals used in food products. Gas had started emanat-

ing from a tank inside the factory around 11 am on Wednesday and the five labourers entered it one after the other to check it, officials said.

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