

BRIEF



Tourists at the Mughal Garden, Nishat Bagh, on World Tourism Day, in Srinagar, Wednesday.

Import

New Delhi: India is considering importing cheetahs from northern Africa due to concerns that some of these big cats from Namibia and South Africa have developed a winter coat in Indian summer, officials said on Wednesday. According to officials, one of the biggest challenges faced in the first year of managing cheetahs in India was the unexpected development of winter coats by some cheetahs during the Indian summer and monsoon, in anticipation of the African winter (June to September). Even African experts did not expect it, a senior forest official said.

Raid

Chandigarh: A team of officials from the Punjab Vigilance Bureau on Wednesday raided the Patiala residence of Bharat Inder Singh Chahal, the former advisor to ex-chief minister Amarinder Singh, in a disproportionate assets case, official sources said. The raid was conducted to nab Chahal but he was not there, they said. Chahal, a close aide of Singh, was booked in August under the relevant sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

Expel

Patna: JD(U) spokesperson Ranbir Nandan was on Wednesday expelled from the party, amid speculations that he was planning a return to the BJP, which he had quit a decade ago. Nandan shared a screenshot on social media of a letter addressed to Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and JD(U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan' informing them that he was "resigning from the party's primary membership".

NIA raids terrorists, gangsters based in India, Canada

Several detained after raids in 5 states, 2 UTs

New Delhi, Sep 27 (PTI):

The National Investigation Agency Wednesday detained several suspects during a massive multi-state crackdown on a nexus of terrorists, gangsters and drug-smugglers, an official said. The raids related to cases against the associates of Arsh Dallah, a listed terrorist, and many dreaded gangsters, a spokesperson of the federal agency said. The respective state police force provided necessary support to the day-long raids carried out at 53 locations in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and the union territories of Delhi and Chandigarh, a spokesperson of the federal agency said, the official said. The official said pistols, ammunition, a large number of digital devices and incriminating material were seized during the raids aimed at dismantling the terror-gangster-smuggler nexus.



The action focused on weapon suppliers, financiers and logistics providers associated with various hardcore gangs working with drug-smugglers and terror outfits based in Pakistan, the UAE, Canada, Portugal and other countries, he said. Some of the locations where raids were conducted included Amritsar, Moga, Fazilka, Ludhiana, Mohali, Faridkot, Barnala, Bhatinda, Ferozepur, SAS Naga and Jalandhar districts of Punjab; Rohtak, Sirsa, Fatehabad and Faridabad districts of Haryana; Sri Ganganagar, Jhunjhunu, Hanumangarh and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan; Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh; Dehradun and Udham Singh Nagar districts of Uttarakhand, the spokesperson said.

INDIA bloc talks about destroying 'Sanatan Dharma': Manoj Tiwari

Bilaspur, Sep 27:

The opposition grouping INDIA' which talks about "destroying" Sanatan Dharma" will no longer be able to sustain even in states, BJP parliamentary Manoj Tiwari said on Wednesday and defended his party's move to field MPs in upcoming assembly polls. Tiwari, the MP from the North-East Delhi constituency, was in Congress-governed Chhattisgarh to attend BJP's

Parivartan Yatra' in Bilaspur and Mungeli districts.



Assembly elections in Chhattisgarh are due by the year-end. Targeting the Congress over the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), which has more than two dozen opposition parties, Tiwari said, "The biggest thing is on what basis they (Congress) will win? They have formed an alliance that says it will destroy Sanatan Dharma."

Chh'garh govt withdraws plea from SC

Challenging ED's action in money laundering case

New Delhi, Sep 27 (PTI):

The Chhattisgarh government on Wednesday withdrew from the Supreme Court its plea challenging on the ground of jurisdiction the Enforcement Directorate's action against state government officials in a money laundering case. The money laundering case lodged in 2022 stems from an FIR registered on

a complaint by the Income Tax department over allegations of illegal collection of levy on coal as well as attempts to influence public servants through corrupt means in Chhattisgarh. The federal anti-money laundering agency claimed a "massive scam" took place between 2019 and 2021 in coal transportation in Chhattisgarh as part of which a "cartel" of politicians, officers and others was allegedly running a parallel system of extorting illegal levy. In its plea, the Chhattisgarh government claimed the

'CBI starts probe into killing of 2 Manipur youths'

Imphal, Sep 27 (PTI):

A team of CBI officials, led by the agency's Special Director Ajay Bhatnagar, has reached Manipur and started investigating the killing of two youths who had gone missing in July, Chief Minister N Biren Singh said. Singh told a press conference that Union Home Minister Amit Shah assured him that those who kidnapped and killed the two will be arrested and punished. "After landing in Imphal, they have started their investigation," the chief minister said without disclosing the place where the CBI team has gone. Photos of the bodies of the two missing youths went viral on social media, leading to protests by students in the state since Tuesday. The photos surfaced on social media on Monday.

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AFSPA extended in Manipur hills for 6 months

Valley areas kept out

Imphal, Sep 27 (PTI):

The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act or AFSPA was extended by another six months in Manipur on Wednesday barring 19 police stations falling under the Imphal valley and an area that shares its boundary with neighbouring Assam. An official notification said the state government is of the opinion after analysing the prevailing law-and-order situation that it is not expedient to have detailed assessment on the ground as security agencies are preoccupied in maintenance of law and order. "Now, therefore in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3 of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act... the Governor of Manipur hereby declare the entire

state of Manipur excluding the areas falling under the jurisdiction of 19 police stations...as disturbed Area for a period of six months with effect from October 1, 2023," the notification said. The police station areas where the Disturbed Areas Act has not been imposed are Imphal, Lamphel, City, Singjamei, Sekmai, Lamsang, Pastol, Wangoi, Porompat, Heingang, Lamlai, Iribung, Leimakhong, Thoubal, Bishnupur, Nambol, Moirang, Kakchin and Jirbam. Significantly, the areas that have been kept out of the purview of AFSPA are dominated by the majority Meitei community which includes Jirbam, adjacent to Silchar valley of Assam. With the extension of AFSPA, the Army and Assam Rifles cannot operate inside the areas under the 19 police stations without the consent of the state police.

'I don't own a house, but my govt made lakhs of daughters home-owners'

Bodeli, Sep 27 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said he does not have a house in his name, but "lakhs of daughters" of the country became house-owners thanks to his government's initiative. Crores of women belonging to tribal, Scheduled Caste and backward communities have now become 'lakhpati' as they own houses built under government schemes, he said. PM Modi,



who has been on a two-day visit to Gujarat starting Tuesday, was speaking at the launch of various development projects worth over Rs 5,000 crore in Bodeli town of tribal-dominated

Chhotaudepur district in Gujarat. Addressing a gathering on the occasion, he said, "Since I spent significant time with you, I know the issues faced by the poor and I have always tried to solve those issues. Today I am satisfied because my government has built four crore houses for people across the country. Unlike the past governments, a house for the poor is not just a number for us," he said.

MP SHOCKER

12-yr-old raped, left bleeding on street

Ujjain (MP), Sep 27 (PTI):

A girl, around 12 years of age, was found bleeding on a street in Ujjain city of Madhya Pradesh, and her medical examination confirmed that she had been raped, police said on Wednesday. A special investigation team (SIT) has been formed to probe the matter and a suspect has been detained, said MP home minister Narottam Mishra. The girl, who is being treated in a hospital in Indore, is out of danger, he said. The girl, found

here on September 25, probably hails from neighbouring Uttar Pradesh, but her identity is yet to be established as she is not able to tell her name and address to the police properly, an official said. "A girl, aged around 12 years, was found bleeding on a street located under the Mahakal police station area in Ujjain on Monday. She was taken to a hospital, where her initial medical examination confirmed that she had been raped," Superintendent of Police (SP) Sachin Sharma said.

CBI registers PE in Kejriwal bungalow case

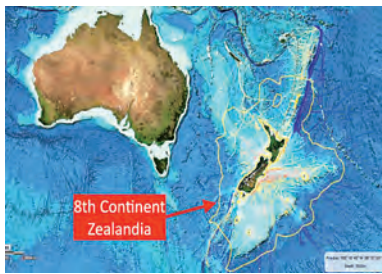
New Delhi, Sep 27 (PTI):

The CBI has registered a preliminary enquiry into alleged "irregularities and misconduct" with respect to the construction of a new official residence for Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, officials said on Wednesday. The ruling Aam Admi Party in Delhi rejected the allegation of any wrongdoing and accused the BJP of "using all its power to finish AAP". The CBI has registered the PE against unidentified public servants of the Delhi government, the officials said.

Scientists discover 8th 'continent' missing for 375 years

New Delhi, Sep 27:

After almost 375 years, geoscientists have discovered a continent that had been hiding in plain sight. The small team of geologists and seismologists has created a newly refined map of Zealandia or Te Riu-a-Maui, reported Phys.org. The researchers found it by using the data obtained from dredged rock samples recovered from the ocean floor. The details of the research have been published in the journal Tectonics.



Zealand Crown Research Institute GNS Science, who was part of the team that discovered Zealandia, BBC reported. Scientists say that Zealandia has always been difficult to study. Scientists are now studying collections of rocks and sediment samples brought up from the ocean bed, most of which came from drilling sites-others came from the shores of islands in the area. Phys.org reported that the study of the rock samples showed geologic patterns in West Antarctica that hinted at the possibility of a subduction zone near the Campbell Plateau off the west coast of New Zealand. The researchers did not find magnetic anomalies in that area, however, which argues against theories surrounding a strike-slip in the Campbell Fault.

According to a BBC report, Zealandia is a vast continent of 1.89 million sq miles (4.9 million sq km) it is around six times the size of Madagascar. The team of scientists informed that there are in fact 8 continents- and the latest addition breaks all records, as the smallest, thinnest, and youngest in the world. The new continent is 94 per cent underwater, with just a handful of islands, similar to New Zealand. "This is an example of how something very obvious can take a while to uncover," says Andy Tulloch, a geologist at the New

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28 सितम्बर 2023, दोपहर 12 बजे
सुमाभाठा, भाटापारा

राजीव गांधी किसान न्याय योजना

15वीं किस्त

24.52 लाख किसानों को 1,895 करोड़ रु का अंतरण

अब तक कुल 23,893 करोड़ रु की राशि का भुगतान

33,642 गन्ना किसानों को 57.18 करोड़ रु की प्रोत्साहन राशि



माननीय सांसद

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे जी

की गरिमामयी उपस्थिति में

गोधन न्याय योजना

5.16 करोड़ रु की 76 वीं किस्त का अंतरण
हितग्राहियों को अब तक 587.63 करोड़ रु का भुगतान

गोधन न्याय योजना में 3.72 लाख और
महात्मा गांधी ग्रामीण औद्योगिक पार्क में 11,762 हितग्राहियों को मिला लाभ

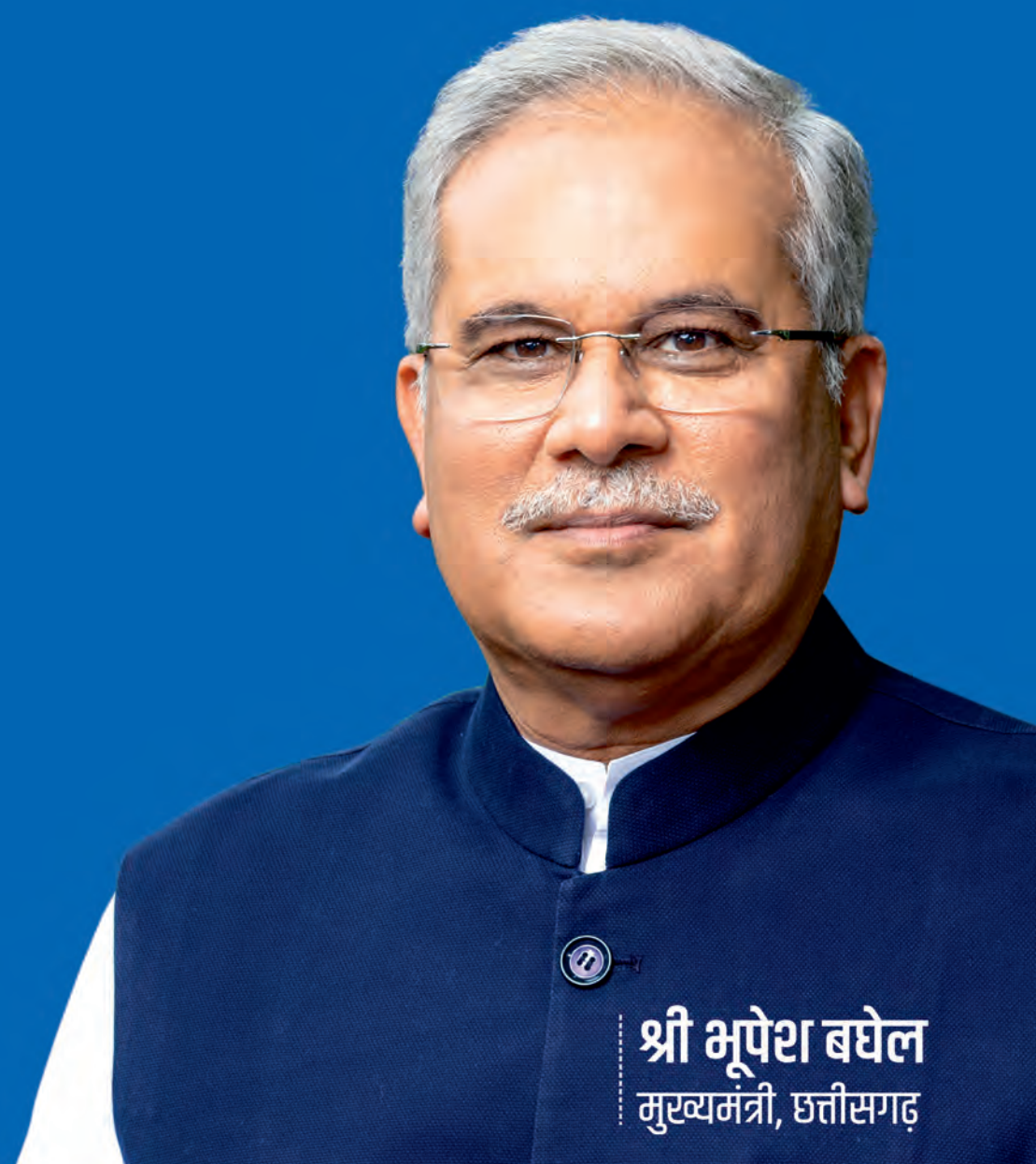
लोकार्पण एवं भूमिपूजन

बलौदा बाजार-भाटापारा जिले में 266 करोड़ रु की
राशि की लागत वाले 264 निर्माण एवं विकास कार्यों का

मुख्यमंत्री निर्माण श्रमिक पेंशन योजना का शुभारंभ

10 साल से पंजीकृत 60 वर्ष की आयु पूरी कर चुके निर्माण श्रमिकों को
जीवन पर्यन्त मिलेगी प्रति माह 1,500 रुपये की पेंशन

निर्माण/असंगठित एवं मजदूर श्रेणी के 1.3 लाख हितग्राहियों को
विभिन्न योजनाओं के तहत 55.76 करोड़ रु की राशि का वितरण



श्री भूपेश बघेल
मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़

छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार - भरोसे की सरकार



कृषक सह श्रमिक सम्मेलन

28 सितम्बर 2023 | दोपहर 12 बजे | सुमाभाठा, भाटापारा



मुख्य अतिथि

माननीय अध्यक्ष, अखिल भारतीय कांग्रेस कमेटी
नेता प्रतिपक्ष, राज्य सभा

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे जी

की गरिमामयी उपस्थिति में

राजीव गांधी किसान न्याय योजना के तहत 24.52 लाख किसानों को
1,895 करोड़ रु का अंतरण

33,642 गन्ना किसानों को 57.18 करोड़ रु की प्रोत्साहन राशि का वितरण

गोधन न्याय योजना के हितग्राहियों को 5.16 करोड़ रु की राशि का अंतरण

बलौदा बाजार-भाटापारा जिले में 266 करोड़ रु के लागत वाले
264 निर्माण एवं विकास कार्यों का लोकार्पण एवं भूमिपूजन

मुख्यमंत्री निर्माण श्रमिक पेंशन योजना का शुभारंभ : 10 साल से
पंजीकृत 60 वर्ष की आयु पूरी कर चुके निर्माण श्रमिकों को जीवन पर्यन्त
मिलेगी प्रति माह 1,500 रु की पेंशन

निर्माण/असंगठित एवं मजदूर श्रेणी के 1.3 लाख हितग्राहियों को विभिन्न
योजनाओं के तहत 55.76 करोड़ रु की राशि का वितरण

छत्तीसगढ़ प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी

CM Baghel gives gift worth Rs 1021.59 cr to people of capital city

Lays stone for 7 major development works

Raipur, Sep 27:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel gave gifts of development works to Raipur city worth Rs 1021.59 cr and laid stone for 7 major development works here on Wednesday. CM Baghel gave the gift to the people of city by garlanding on the statue of Shri Khoobchand Baghel at Tatyapara Naveen Market. Addressing the people, CM Baghel said that the government in the state is carrying out works keeping in mind the interest of general public and had granted sanction to these development works for their facilities. CM said that in last three months, the state government has dedicated and laid stone for development works worth Rs 3600 cr and this will directly benefit the public. Baghel said that with construction of River Front near Kharun River, it will provide a new venue for people for recreation and time to spend with their families. Baghel said that five years back, it is following upon the footsteps of Khoobchand Baghel and other well-known leaders, we have put forth the tagline of 'Gadhbo Naya Ch'garh' and it is under the same,



'CM sets an exemplary display of humanitarian gesture'

Raipur: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, known for his genuine interactions with the public and his fondness for children, displayed yet another aspect of his compassionate character today. During the Bhoomipujan programme organized by the Public Works Department in Naveen Market, Tatyapara, the Chief Minister spotted an ambulance stuck in a traffic jam from the stage. Without hesitation, he set aside his protocol, immediately paused the programme, and personally left his seat appealing to people to clear the path for the ambulance. The Chief Minister's actions prompted the vehicles to make way for the ambulance. Following this, he resumed his seat, and the programme continued. The audience present there commended the Chief Minister for his compassionate intervention, lauding his kindness.

that the state government is working for hike in income of people and infrastructure development. The PWD Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu present in the programme extended greetings to the people of capital city on sanction

of development works worth Rs 1004 cr. He said that in last five years, the government has laid massive network of roads and bridges in the entire state and added that with construction of roads, the problems of the people is

solved and it makes their life much easier. In this programme held at Tatyapara Naveen Market, Parliamentary Secretary Vikas Upadhyay, Chairman Housing Board Kuldeep Juneja, Chairman CMDC Girish Dewangan, President Waqf Salam Rizvi, District Panchayat President Domeswari Verma, Addl. Chief Secy. Subrat Sahoo, Secretary PWD Alok Katiyar, and other public representatives and offices were present.

Stone laid for following works:

- Widening of the road from Sharda Chowk to Tatyapara Chowk, at the cost of Rs 134.66 cr
- Six lane fly-over bridge from Telibandha Chowk and Ring Road No. 1 to Agrasen Dham Chowk Labhandi, to be built at a cost of Rs 473.17 cr
- Construction of Kharoon River Front, Modern Tehsil Building and construction of the new District Registrar Office
- Construction of flyover on NH 53 near Ring Road-1 Udyog Bhawan and an elevated corridor on Mana VIP Marg from Expressway (Temari)

Heads of Operation meet held at NTPC Naya Raipur



Raipur, Sep 27:

Heads of Operation Meet was held at NTPC Naya Raipur on Sept 26. Heads of Operation department from 39 stations of Coal, Gas & Hydro participated in meet. The program was inaugurated by C Sivakumar, RED (WR-II, USSC & ASH NI) and Arindam Sinha, ED (OS). Addressing the gathering through Virtual Mode, Ramesh Babu V, Director (Operations) underlined the importance of meeting stakeholders' expectations while referring

to increased power demand across the country. He also laid thrust on handholding of new entrants in Operation and encouraging one-to-one interaction with all line managers besides focus on safety of individuals who are working on the system. The theme of the Meet was 'competency enhancement & reliability improvement of units'. Discussions were held on gamut of issues from competency to forced outages, Unit capabilities and safety aspects, etc.

Shah to discuss strategy for poll campaign today

Union Home Minister to hold meeting with senior leaders

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Sept 27: Union Home Minister Amit Shah would be on day-long visit to Chhattisgarh on September 28.

According to the information received, the visiting Union Home Minister Shah would be holding meeting with the senior leaders on the preparations for the forthcoming Legislative Assembly polls in Chhattisgarh during a high-level meeting to be held at party headquarters situated at Kushabhau Thakre premises on Thursday afternoon. It is understood that during the meeting, the BJP heavy-weight

would share the outcome of the survey on the electoral prospects and would also take up the discussion on the probable for various seats. Nearly 30 candidates for various segments including the tribal-dominated Bastar would be taken up for consideration during the meeting.

Shah is likely to give further responsibility to Chhattisgarh leaders to create atmosphere in favour of the saffron brigade for the upcoming polls.

Party leaders said that select few leaders from Chhattisgarh would be invited for the crucial meeting in presence of the central leaders to finalise the election strategy. Strategy for the poll campaign would be taken up for discussion.

Shah would return back to New Delhi in the evening after the crucial meeting.

RS MP Kharge to attend farmers and labourers conference today

To be held in Balodabazar, Bhatapara district

Raipur, Sep 27: The opposition leader in the Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge will attend the Farmers and Labourers Conference on Sept 28. The Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will preside over the Farmers and Labourers Conference which will commence at 12 p.m. in Sumabhata village of Balodabazar-Bhatapara district. Various dignitaries including Dr. Charan Das Mahant, the Speaker of the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly, former Union Minister Kumari Selja, and Deputy Chief Minister Mr. T.S. Singh Deo will grace the conference as Chief Guest. In the conference, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will distribute the third instalment of Rs 1,895 crores of the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan NYAY Yojana to 24.52 lakh farmers in the state. He will dedicate 264 development works worth Rs. 266 crores to the Balodabazar-Bhatapara district.

Bajaj Auto launches Pulsar N150

Raipur, Sep 27:

Bajaj Auto, the world's most valuable two-wheeler and Three-wheeler Company, launched the all-new Pulsar N150 in India. The Pulsar N150 is the perfect addition to the expanding Pulsar portfolio, which has seen a slew of sensational launches over the past 18 months, including the biggest ever Pulsar N250 and the incredibly successful Pulsar N160.

With Pulsar N150, India's largest-selling sports bike family finds a worthy new entrant that promises to not only retain the legions of Pulsarmaniacs but also add a host of new ones to the fold.

The new Bajaj Pulsar N150 is a powerhouse on two wheels, boasting an impressive 14.5 PS peak power and 13.5 Nm torque and single-channel ABS for superior braking and traction.

The bike will be available in three striking colors - Racing Red, Ebony Black & Metallic Pearl White and is priced at Rs 1,17,677 ex-showroom. The design language boasts dynamic and ener-



getic character lines, tighter proportions, and modern aero dynamism. The muscular tank is contrasted with a sleek, stylish waist section that extends to a contoured step seat, making for an eye-catching profile. It is equipped with a sportier underbelly exhaust that growls at higher RPMs. Floating body panels such as belly pan, front fairing, and front fender complete the imposing profile.

Sarang Kanade, President - Motorcycles, Bajaj Auto said, "Twenty years ago, we launched the first Pulsar 150 cc mo-

torcycle that shook up the entry-level sport biking segment and has been India's largest selling 150cc since then. With the N150, Pulsar is back to rule the road in its biggest and boldest avatar.

Its aggressive styling, segment-leading features, stellar on-road performance and an incredibly attractive price point make it a splendid value addition to the Pulsar family. Our goal is to make the joy of riding accessible to everyone, and this new bike is a testimony to that mission."

CM inaugurates Bio-Ethanol Demonstration Plant

Saryuparin Brahmin Samaj felicitates young talents

Chhattisgarh Biofuel Development Authority prepared the plant's technical design

Bhilai, Sep 27:

To promote biofuel production in Chhattisgarh, a state-of-the-art bio ethanol demonstration plant has been established at village Godhi in Durg district. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel virtually inaugurated this plant on Wednesday.

The technical design and drawings of the plant have been prepared by Chhattisgarh Biofuel Development Authority under the guidance of scientists from CSIR and CSMRI, Government of India.

In this virtual inauguration ceremony organized at the Chief Minister's Residence Office, Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister TS Singhdev, Energy Secretary Ankit Anand and other senior officials were present.

The 1G Bio-Ethanol Demonstration Plant established by CBDA at the Biofuel Complex Project premises at village Godhi in Durg district has been set up purely for biofuel



research and development activities such as work in

the field of biofuel production, processing and conversion technologies. The plant will use starch containing compounds available in Chhattisgarh as local raw material such as surplus paddy, grains like wheat, spoiled rice grains which are not edible, sugarcane juice, molasses, maize etc.

It is worth noting that experimental (research) work of bio-ethanol production is going on in the Bio-Ethanol Plant by initially purchasing the surplus paddy of Feed 2 category of Kharif Year 2019-20 available in Markfed. A state-of-the-art bio-technology laboratory has also been established in the Biofuel Complex Project premises.

In the laboratory, quality testing of bio-ethanol will be done as per the criteria set by the Bureau of Indian Standards, efficiency improvement and innovation will be encouraged to increase the capacity to utilize the co-product and patents will be registered wherever possible.

Saryuparin Brahmin Samaj Bhilai-Durg honored the talented and meritorious children of the Samaj recently at Brahma Prakash Bhawan Smriti Nagar. Journalists of the Samaj were also honored. A total of 34 children were honoured with mementos and citations.

Meritorious students Neha Tiwari, Shaurya Tiwari, Riya Tiwari, Shubham Tiwari, Rahul Sharma, Harsh Sharma, Narayani Pandey, Rishabh Shukla, Shubb Mishra, Animesh Tripathi, Chetna Tiwari, Abhinav Mishra, Ishita Mishra, Vihaan Pandey, Rahul Sharma, Priyanshu Sharma, Ishaan Pandey, Saumya Tiwari, Rajshree Pandey, Kavya Mishra, Siddharth Pandey, Abhishek Tiwari, Aditi Mishra, Seema Dwivedi PhD, Ripusudan Mishra, Pradyuman Mishra, Khushi Mishra, Saumya Pandey and Anshuman Tiwari were honoured. Bhumika Upadhaya, Jhanvi Shukla, Pragya Mishra and Aadya Dubey were honored for clearing CA. Chief Guest Neeraj



Pal (BMC Mayor) honored the children and blessed them. He expressed pleasure to get an opportunity to honour the meritorious and talented students. Special Guest Rajeev Choubey hoped that the felicitated children of the society will become stronger and bring glory to the country. He prayed for their bright future.

President Prabhu Nath Mishra also said that the Brahmin community is engaged in education, sports and in other fields too. He wished all the best and a bright future to the children. Secretary Ravindra Shukla and

Journalists and media persons felicitated

On the occasion, Saryuparin Brahmin Samaj Bhilai-Durg honoured the journalists and media persons of the Samaj. New Press Club of Bhilai Nagar President Bhavana Pandey, Mayank Chaturvedi, Sangeeta Mishra, Sanjay Pandey, Anand Ojha, Sanjay Pathak, Yuvraj Pandey, Veena Dubey, Vijay Dubey, Akhilesh Tiwari, Shailesh Shukla and others were honoured.

Sunil Mishra conducted the programme. Vishnu Pathak, Chandra Shekhar Pandey, Nagendra Pandey, Sunil Mishra, Sanjay Pandey, Preeti Dubey, Arvind Tiwari, Satyendra Bahadur Tiwari, Kailash Pathak, Radha Krishna

Pandey, Janaki Saran Pandey, Ram Mishra, Ganesh Pandey, Krishna Pandey, Rukmani Dubey, Dinesh Kumar Mishra, Hari Shankar Pandey, Subhash Chandra Tiwari and others were present.

Kin of murdered youth end hunger strike

HMS condemns mgmt for curtailment of health benefits

BSP Officers Association welcomes 22 newly appointed young officers

Administration gives job offer letter; education arrangement for children

Bhilai, Sep 27:

Bhilai, Sep 27:



ceased decided to get the post mortem done.

In a meeting with the district administration on Wednesday, the district administration assured to arrange a job for the deceased's wife and education arrangements for the children.

The victim's family would meet the Chief Minister later on for demanding compensation. After the family expressed consent, the SDM gave the job offer letter.

Thereafter, the family decided to call off the hunger strike. Two minutes of silence was observed at the dharna site and floral tributes were paid to the deceased.

The post mortem will be performed on September 28 and thereafter the last rites would be performed at Shivnath Muktidham. Manikchand Sahu, Meharban Singh, Dr SK Agrawal, Jyoti, Ram Jaane, Saraswati Sahu, Sanjay Singh, Baldev Sahu and others were present.

An important meeting of Bhilai Shramik Sabha was held recently in which the union strongly condemned the SAIL management's move of curtailing the health benefits for the dependent sisters of the employees.

Various issues related to the employees were discussed in the meeting. ID cards were also distributed among the office bearers of the union.

All the members registered their protest against all the pending wage revision demands which have not been fulfilled till now and requested the management to resolve all the pending issues as soon as possible.

They demanded revocation of the circular issued arbitrarily by the management in which the health benefits have been curtailed for the dependent sisters. It was decided that a delegation of the union will meet the General Manager of the IR Department and register the union's protest on all the above issues.

HS Mishra, Prem Singh Chandel, Jogendra Rao, Devendra Kumar Singh,

Rajesh Sharma, GK Gahine, SB Singh, HN Bharti, VK Pate, Abhishek Mishra, Tikaram Sahu, A Chinaiyya, Vishal Kumar, Sitaram, Dashrath Patel, Brijesh Chaudhary, Anchu Kumar, Sujit Kumar and Umesh Tiwari were present. The meeting was conducted by Devendra Kumar Singh while HS Mishra presided over.

Prem Singh Chandel encouraged the youth in the union to come forward and claim their rights. He gave the basic mantra to struggle for the rights of the people. He said that nothing is achieved without struggle.

He said that if the management does not fulfill the pending demands, then the union is ready for aggressive movements. Emphasizing the power of the organization, HS Mishra said that even at the age of 74, he is struggling day and night for the interests of the workers. Attacks on the interests of the workers cannot be tolerated. He called for launching a protest again at Boria Gate. Earlier the union had struggled for two consecutive years at Boria Gate for the legitimate demands. In the end, Jogendra Rao proposed the vote of thanks.

BSP Officers Association organised a welcome ceremony for newly appointed officers at Bhilai Steel Plant on September 26, 2023. 22 young officers of Management Trainee 2023 batch were honoured in this program.

It may be noted that a new tradition has been started by the Officers Association of organizing a felicitation program for newly appointed Management Trainees joining as junior officers.

Under this new tradition, a dignified felicitation ceremony was organised at Pragati Bhawan in the presence of SEFI Chairman and OA-BSP President Narendera Kumar Banchhor.

Welcoming the newly appointed officers, Banchhor said that all young officers are joining a great institution like SAIL Bhilai Steel Plant. There is immense learning opportunities for all in the work culture of BSP.



The senior colleagues working in Bhilai Steel Plant have a wealth of experience. All the MTs have to enrich this experience further with energy. Our expectation from all you young managers is that you will take

appointed young officers to the achievements of OA. All the young managers were welcomed and honored by the OA BSP President, General Secretary and Treasurer.

At the end of the ceremony, OA General Secretary Parvinder Singh expressed gratitude. On this occasion, OA Treasurer Ankur Mishra, B Ushavalli, Dr Lata Dewangan, Tushar Singh, Akhilesh Mishra, Rami Thomas, Sanjay Tiwari, Saubhagya Ranjan Sahu, Milind Bansod, Vivek Gupta, Radhakishun, Ashish Gendre, GS Kumar, D Samanta, PS Sen, Pradeep Menon, Shovan Ghosh, MAR Sharif, RK Thakur, Nimesh Kumar Gupta, Rajendra Mantri, Oommen Tete, etc were specially present. The program was conducted by Santosh Kumar Singh.

Bhilai, Sep 27:

In the Suraj Sahu murder case, the kin of the deceased supported by Aam Aadmi Party were sitting on a hunger strike at Patel Square in Durg for the last 7 days.

On Wednesday, they called off the agitation after receiving a written assurance for employment to the widow and arrangements of education for children. They were demanding Rs 10 Lakh compensation, government job and arrangement for education of the orphaned

children. The body was kept at the mortuary as the family was not allowing an autopsy till the demands were fulfilled. AAP leader Meharban Singh said that the post mortem report in the murder is very important for the court proceedings.

The body was lying in the mortuary for the last seven days and further delay in autopsy could affect the findings. It was likely that the evidence could get destroyed due to decomposing body. Keeping all these facts in mind, the family of the de-

SAIL Chairman highlights company's robust performance during its 51st AGM

Bhilai, Sep 27:



Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) conducted its 51st Annual General Meeting (AGM), on Wednesday at Company's headquarters at Lodi Road, New Delhi. Amarendu Prakash, Chairman, SAIL addressed the shareholders in the meeting, held through a virtual platform, informed a press communique from local SAIL unit-the Bhilai Steel Plant.

Addressing the company's shareholders, Amarendu Prakash, Chairman, SAIL, said that he is very confident and bullish about the company while outlining what to look forward to in the future. He said that SAIL's inherent strength and its endeavour to work on the company's core areas in the recent past are the factors that gave him the optimism and belief that SAIL can face the uncertainty and volatility in the Steel Industry. Summarising the company's performance during FY 2022-23, he pointed

out that SAIL achieved a record annual production performance of 19.4 million tonnes (MT) and 18.3 MT of Hot Metal and Crude Steel respectively, where all its integrated Steel Plants achieved their best-ever production, leading to the best ever Crude Steel capacity utilization of about 94%. He also mentioned that SAIL surpassed a turnover of Rs 1 Lakh Crore for the second consecutive year. He added that focusing on the improvement of operating practices and realigning customer demand to optimize the product mix helped mitigate risks arising from volatility in the market.

While emphasizing on the two focus areas of the company which is to maximise capacity utilisation and providing best value to SAIL's customers, he said the same necessitat-

ed strategic interventions by way of ramping up of production, securing raw materials, improving the quality of inputs, reducing business risks over the long term in resource mobilization, and providing a better customer experience while focusing on decarbonisation and sustainability.

Chairman SAIL's address also included the company's sustainability initiatives, product development, digital interventions, future plans and ethical business practices adopted by it. Emphasising on the growth prospects of the Indian steel industry, he said that SAIL remains cognizant of the significant shifts that the steel industry is witnessing and is taking all necessary steps to strengthen its competitive advantage and enhance value for its stakeholders.

World Contraception Day observed at JLN Hospital & Research Centre

Bhilai, Sep 27:



World Contraception Day was observed by the Obstetrics & Gynecology Department of Pt Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital and Research Centre, Sector-9, on September 26, under the guidance of Dr Ravindranath M, CMO I/c (M&HS). This year's theme for the World Contraception Day-2023 was "Power of Options". Awareness Posters and Booklets were launched by Dr Ravindranath M, on this occasion after lighting the Ceremonial Lamp by the guests present.

Dr Pramod Binayake, Dr Vineeta Dwivedi, Dr Rajeev Kumar Paul, Dr Kaushalendra Thakur, Chief Medical Officers of M&HS Department were also present on this occasion, along with Dr Sangeeta Kamra, ACO (M&HS) & HoD of Obs Gynae Department, Dr Roshan, ACO (M&HS), Dr Shyla Jacob, ACO (M&HS), and other consultants of the hospital. Addressing the gathering Chief Guest Dr Ravindranath M, spoke on the

importance of this programme organized for making people aware about the various steps to be taken for Contraception. Dr Ravindranath also encouraged the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology to create awareness among the people about the safe use of contraceptive means. During the Welcome Address, Dr Sangeeta Kamra, ACO (M&HS) & HoD of Obs Gynae Department, said that only 40% of the married people in India use contraceptive methods, therefore the problem of unwanted pregnancy is very high in India. Preventing unwanted pregnancy is a better option. To control the population of India and to maintain proper distance between two children, it is necessary that people use different

means of contraception as per their need, Dr Kamra said. Information regarding various contraceptive devices and their benefits were featured through 23 posters made by the hospital's trainee doctors, nursing staff and nursing students. Dr Sambita Panda, ACO, Dr P Mercy, ACO and Nursing Administrators Shaila Abraham and Anubha reviewed the posters.

Winners of awareness competitions were felicitated by the dignitary guests, while the students of PG Nursing College performed a Street Play on need and importance of Contraception in Conjugal Life. The programme was compered by Dr Himani Gupta, while Dr Roshan Hussain proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Persistent cable theft plagues farmers in Bhakhara region

Thieves target cable from submersible motor pumps

Anwari, Sep 27:

In the Bhakhara region of the district, a troubling trend of cable theft from submersible motor pumps in farmers' fields has been on the rise. This persistent issue has left farmers in the area frustrated and concerned about their livelihoods. The thefts, which have been occurring over the past few days, have also baffled local law enforcement.

Over the years, cable thefts have plagued numerous villages in the Bhakhara region, includ-



ing Supela, Silghat, and Bhattheli, among others. Despite these incidents, the culprits have managed to evade capture by the police.

The latest incident was discovered when farmers Tejaram Sahu, Khilavan Sahu, Puran Lal Sahu, and Sonau Ram Devangan of Supela vil-

lage inspected their fields. They found that the cables from their motor pumps had been stolen, leading to difficulties in irrigating their crops. Upon closer examination, they realized that other farmers in the vicinity had also fallen victim to the thefts.

Local traders specializ-

ing in motor pump equipment have revealed that the stolen wires fetch a substantial price of around 3,000 rupees per kilogram in the market. This lucrative incentive may be encouraging the thieves to continue their criminal activities. Authorities suspect possible collusion between the thieves and individuals within the motor pump trade.

In response to these thefts, the affected farmers have lodged a formal complaint at the local police station. The police have assured them of a swift and thorough investigation to identify and apprehend the culprits behind these recurring incidents.

National Service Scheme Day celebrated with zest



Arang, Sep 27:

The Badri Prasad Lodhi Postgraduate Government College in Arang witnessed a spirited celebration of the National Service Scheme (NSS) Establishment Day, guided by the college's Principal and under the leadership of NSS officer Dharmendra Ghritlahare.

The event's chief guest, esteemed professor Dr. H.L. Varma, inaugurated the ceremony by lighting a lamp and paying homage to the iconic figure of the

National Service Scheme, Swami Vivekananda, portrayed in a portrait. The program kicked off with the NSS volunteers singing the NSS anthem, "Uthe Samaj Keliye Uthe."

Prof. Dharmendra Ghritlahare warmly welcomed the guests and outlined the day's agenda, shedding light on the NSS's objectives and ideals, with a focus on its motto, "Me Nahi Pahele Tum." Prof. Piyush Tandel provided practical insights into the NSS's goals for the volunteers,

Arang College hosts a vibrant NSS establishment day event

while Prof. Bhuneshwar Sahu emphasized the youth's role in the nation and society's development. Dr. H.L. Varma, the chief guest, shared his own NSS experiences from his student days. The cultural segment featured the song "Arpa Pari Ke Dhara" and showcased Chhattisgarh and India's rich cultural heritage.

The program concluded with an uplifting performance of the motivational song "Hum Honge Kamyab," followed by a vote of thanks from the program officer. The event was attended by Dr. Indu Soni, Prof. Vibha Satpathi, Sports Officer Reena Dhruv, Dr. Upendra Sahu, Purushottam Sahu, S.R. Mannade, along with officials, employees, and students.

Memorandum submitted to Chief Minister



Dongargaon, Sep 27:

At Konari Chowk, four kilometers away from the city, BJP representatives and workers expressed their anger over the dilapidated roads of the area and the illegal sale of liquor in the area and submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister and warned of blockade movement on the National Highway if the issue is not addressed.

The officials and workers who arrived during the program said that the roads of the area, especially the road leading to Dongargaon from Tumdibod, have become very dilapidated, while the MLA of the area, Daleshwar Sahu is not paying attention. The road was being constructed by the Public Works and due to the

BJP youth wing protests alleged PSC irregularities

Demand for CBI inquiry into 2021 PSC examination discrepancies

Mungeli, Sep 27:

The Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) organized a protest against alleged irregularities in the Public Service Commission (PSC) examination. They staged a procession carrying a mock corpse of the Chhattisgarh PSC, urging a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) inquiry into the 2021 PSC examination appointments.

This issue has added fuel to political tensions in the state, with the opposition criticizing the government. The High Court's recent order to halt the appointment of 18 candidates, issued during the



hearing of a public interest petition, has intensified the political landscape.

Responding to the High Court's orders, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has taken a proactive stance. On Sunday, BJYM organized a protest march from the BJP office to the City Police Station, symbolizing their opposition with the mock corpse of the CGPSC.

Tarun Khandekar, BJYM's district president, expressed concern about the government's handling of the state's youth's future. He criticized the government for allegedly bending the rules to favour their associates in the CGPSC examination, causing frustration among the youth. Khandekar also accused the government of making false promises regarding employment benefits and interfering in recruitment exams. The event saw active participation from numerous BJP workers.

Students, teachers and parents take a pledge

Prog organized under 'Meri-Mati, Mera-Desh' in GHS-KareliBadi

Kareli badi, Sep 27:

Under the direction of Principal Kishore Kumar Jangde, a program was organized under 'Meri-Mati, Mera-Desh' at Government Higher Secondary School, Kareli Badi. In which students and parents along with teachers held lamps in their hands and took a pledge to make India self-reliant and developed. Teacher Awadh Ram Sahu administered the pledge that 'we will realize the dream of making India self-reliant and developed by 2047, uproot the mentality of slavery, be proud of the country's prosperity and heritage, and maintain the unity of India'. Lecturer Brijesh Kumar Dewangan informed that youth are the future of the country and participation of youth is very important in the development of the coun-



try. The youth will have to come forward at every level, only then our country will become a developed nation. Poet Jitendra Sukumar Sahir said that this program will develop the feeling of patriotism and dedication towards

the soil among the children. Staff Lecturers Yamini Gaikwad, Madhu Singh, Rukmani Banchor, Bhavana Thakur, Bhuneshwar Prajapati, Harshal Chandrakar, Lukeshwari Dhruv were specially present.

Lecturer Dinesh Kumar Sahu honored

Kareli Badi, Sep 27:

Teacher felicitation program was organized under the aegis of Prajapita Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Sansthan (PBIS), Navapara.

Dinesh Kumar Sahu, lecturer of Government Higher Secondary School, Kundel (Madhuban), was honoured by Prajapita Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Sansthan (PBIS), Navapara by presenting him with a shawl and quince. Rajyogi Brahmakumar Ramnath Bhai, who came from Mount Abu, praised Dinesh Kumar's educational activities as well as social, cultural work and his teaching qualities and wished him a bright future. On this occasion, Brahmakumari Pushpa Behanji, Director of



Navapara Om Shanti Center, Dr. Shivswaropananand, from Mount Abu, Rajyogi Brahmakumar Ramnath Bhaji, Brahmakumar Narayan Bhaji, B r a h m a k u m a r i

Rajeshwari Didi, Sant Goversadhan Sharan Maharaj, teacher Premlata Sahu, Damin Sav Ajay. Sav, Hemant Sahu, Santosh Kumar Sahu, Umakant Sahu etc. were present.

Fight between ticket contenders in Bilaigarh Assembly

Katgi, Sep 27:

There is a huge fight going on in the Congress party regarding the ticket in the upcoming assembly elections. Contenders are feeling that this time also there is a strong atmosphere in favor of Congress; in such a situation every contender is busy for the ticket. There is a tremendous competition going on among the ticket contenders.

Currently Chandradev Rai is the sitting MLA from Congress Party and had won the election by more than ten thousand votes. Rai has done development work for his assembly constituency in the last 5 years; it seems that his ticket is almost certain. He has done a lot of work in his assembly



constituency on issues like roads, water, education, health and employment.

During his tenure as MLA, he worked to provide relief to the people in administrative work by constructing Sarangarh Bilaigarh district. SDM office in Giroudpuri is a major work done by him,

as earlier, people used to go to Kasdol or Bilaigarh for their work. By giving the status of Tehsil to Tundra Nagar Panchayat and opening of new Tehsil office, the general public is getting benefit, as the citizens of that place and nearby areas had to travel 20-25 kilometers for the works of

Tehsil, which was a waste of time and money, which has been completely saved. Rai has done a huge favour.

The people of Vananchal have benefited the most as the work of providing relief to the people by making Karmabhoomi Sonakhan, the birthplace of the first

martyr of Chhattisgarh, Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh, as a new tehsil has brought immense joy to the people of Vananchal. In such a situation, if the Congress party again gives ticket to its local MLA, then this seat is sure to go to the Congress.

However, since Bilaigarh assembly constituency is reserved, many claimants have submitted their claims from here. In the last elections, Congress had wrested this seat from BJP; along with BJP and Congress, BSP is also very strong here. BSP had given a strong fight in the last elections. Here BSP was at second position while BJP was at third position; hence this time too it seems that the main fight will be between Congress and BSP.

More than a dozen cattle die due to hunger and thirst

Katgi, Sep 27:

Sensational case of death of more than a dozen cattle due to hunger and thirst due to lack of fodder and water in Gram Panchayat Bhawan Ahta Malda has come to light and as per information the responsible people secretly dumped the dead cattle in River Mahanadi with the aim of suppressing the matter. In this case, a three-member investigation team has been formed by Himanshu Verma, CEO of District Panchayat Kasdol. Meanwhile, the Gothan officials, while trying their best to suppress the matter, loaded the dead



cattle bodies in a tractor and later washed them in the Mahanadi River.

The idea behind floating the cattle in the river was to show that the cattle were washed away with the flood, but this trick of those responsible was caught when the entire incident was videographed and it also went viral. A young man videographed the entire incident, when the officials of Gothan

came to know about it, they beat up the young man who was making the video on his mobile and broke his mobile.

It is noteworthy that under the ambitious Suraji village scheme of Chhattisgarh government, Gothans are being established in every village and cattle are kept in these cattle sheds and the government also releases funds for their fodder and water; but those responsible also keep an eye on the amount of donations given for the voiceless. There is also news of suppression in the amount of fodder for the cattle dying due to hunger and thirst in Malda.

What officer says

For the safety of animals, the state government has constructed Gothan in every Gram Panchayat, so that the cattle remain safe while eating fodder and water in the Gothan itself and do not harm the farmer's crop. But in Malda, ten cattle died simultaneously and two were in sick condition. An investigation team has been formed.

SP Singh (Assistant Director Animal Department)

Kasdol District Panchayat CEO Himanshu Verma has issued a cause notice to the Secretary and we have formed a three member investigation committee which will be presented to the block office after the completion of the investigation, regarding the video. Information is being sought about the video and further statement will be taken. Prima facie the death appears to be due to excessive rainfall and lack of fodder and water.

Prakash Chand Sahu (Investigating Officer)

The villagers had kept the abandoned cattle inside the panchayat building premises to save their paddy crop, I have been informed about the death due to excessive rains, by the time I reached the panchayat the dead cattle were recovered from the villagers. Information about Mahanadi excuse has been given.

Dhansay Kalvart Secretary Gram Panchayat Malda

Women's reservation a result of Rajiv Gandhi's vision: Mandale

Fingeshwar, Sep 27:

The passage of the Women's Reservation Bill 2023 in Parliament has been hailed by Ms. Rukhmani Mandale, Deputy President of Fingeshwar Nagar. She attributes this historic achievement to the foresight of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and sees it as a significant step toward gender equality. The Women's Reservation Bill, now the 128th constitutional amendment, ensures equitable representation for women, a milestone for half of India's population, as emphasized by Ms. Mandale. She also views this development as a response to the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) longstanding claims, which, for six decades, have falsely criticized India's progress and democratic system. Ms. Rukhmani Mandale recalled that it was during Rajiv Gandhi's leadership in 1989 when the Women's Reservation Bill was first introduced, aiming to empower women's partici-



pation in local bodies. In 1993, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao successfully reintroduced and passed the bill in Parliament, marking the inception of women's reservations in Panchayats and local bodies. Presently, around 1.5 million women are representing local bodies nationwide. Highlighting another significant milestone, Ms. Mandale mentioned that during Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's tenure, the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government proposed a bill in 2008, seeking one-third reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies. Initially introduced as the 108th constitutional amendment bill in the Rajya Sabha, it garnered overwhelming support on March 9, 2010. But regional parties created obstacles in this. The bill has now been successfully passed in Parliament by the current central government, aided by the Congress party's endorsement, fulfilling the vision set forth by Rajiv Gandhi.

Management through dialogue and sympathy is the foundation of our operations: CMD SECL

- SECL Steering Committee meeting held in Raipur
SECL management appeals to labour union representatives not to go on proposed strike



Majrul Haq Ansari (BMS), Gopal Narayan Singh (SEKMC), VM Manohar (CITU), A.K. Pandey (CMOA) and various heads of departments were present.

In addition to this various issues relating to production & productivity, safety, CIL's SOP of Dependent Employment and Transfer were discussed.

Korba, Sep 27: SECL Steering Committee meeting was held in Raipur Sept 25. The meeting was presided over by SECL CMD Dr Prem Sagar Mishra.

last financial year, SECL has provided employment to a record 704 landowners, the highest in the company's history.

CPI (M) to hold 'road-satyagrah' against the jam on Oct 02

Korba, Kusmunda (Korba), Sep 27: The Marxist Communist Party has demanded to make the movement of common citizens easy on the Korba-Kusmunda road.



Kusmunda and due to which there is jam and frequent accidents taking place. CPI (M) has said in its memorandum that the situation is so bad that school children are unable to go to school for several days.

A few days ago, the Collector had also given instructions to SECL and transport officials to organize the traffic and take legal action as per rules against vehicles parked randomly.

SECL management and transport officials. SECL is only engaged in earning profits by putting the lives of the general public at risk.

Mandaviya, Mathur takes stock of the PM's proposed meeting venue

- Memorandum submitted to Union Health Minister for Super Specialty Hospital



Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya and BJP state in-charge Om Mathur themselves reached Jagdalpur by special plane to take stock of the preparations for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bastar on October 3.

But NMDC has completed the construction of only the boundary wall. Today the people of Bastar depend on Raipur and Visakhapatnam for health.

that the much awaited NMDC's Super Specialty Hospital worth Rs 2 billion 32 crore 73 lakh is to be constructed in Kopaguda village of Khoopadar.

CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED (A Successor company of CSEB) ... NOTICE INVITING TENDER for 02 No. Peon (Unskilled Labour) ...

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT ... OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER ... e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE ...

Table with columns: क्र. (Sl. No.), कार्य का नाम (Name of Work), अनुमानित लागत (Estimated Cost), निविदा आमंत्रण तिथि (Tender Invitation Date), and other details.

FORM NO. 14 [See Regulation 33(2)] OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR ... DEMAND NOTICE/DOA NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा सूचना ...

कार्यालय प्रमुख अभियंता, लोक निर्माण विभाग, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, निर्माण भवन, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर जिला रायपुर (छत्तीसगढ़) ...

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE FOR CONTRACT WORK ...

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT ... OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER ... WATER RESOURCES & GROUND WATER SURVEY CIRCLE ...

संचालनालय कृषि, छत्तीसगढ़ इन्द्रावती भवन, ब्लॉक 2, द्वितीय तल, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर-492002 ...

Disease X

A Gathering Storm Demands Swift Attention

The world stands on the precipice of an impending catastrophe, a menace that could dwarf the grim toll of COVID-19. Enter Disease X - an enigmatic entity lurking ominously on the fringes of our collective consciousness, a deadly specter of potential devastation. Kate Bingham, a stalwart in the realm of health expertise, has sounded the alarm, and her words demand our unwavering attention. As the former chair of the UK's Vaccine Taskforce, she brings a wealth of knowledge and a somber warning that we dare not ignore. Disease X, as she warns, has the potential to plunge humanity into an abyss deeper and deadlier than even the horrors of the Spanish Flu of 1919-1920. Bingham's message is as stark as it is chilling. Disease X, a term coined by the World Health Organization (WHO), represents an enigma that haunts our collective future. It could be a virus, a bacterium, or a fungus, shrouded in obscurity, with no known treatments. Imagine, for a moment, the staggering human cost - a toll reminiscent of the darkest chapters of history, where pandemics have reaped a harvest of souls. Bingham paints a haunting picture and draws a parallel between Disease X and the 1918-1919 flu pandemic, which left a staggering death toll of at least 50 million souls worldwide, a number twice as grim as the casualties of World War I. Today, as she warns, we stand at the precipice of a similar precipice, with the potential for widespread death tolls should Disease X unleash its fury upon us. To confront this looming threat, Bingham urges a clarion call to action. It is a call that echoes through the corridors of global health agencies - a call for mass vaccination drives on an unprecedented scale. If we are to stand a chance against Disease X, we must mobilize with unprecedented speed and efficiency to deliver these life-saving vaccines. But what exactly is Disease X, and why does it haunt our collective imagination? It is a shadowy entity, an invisible foe that could be lurking among us even now. Bingham points out that scientists have identified 25 virus families, but the terrifying truth is that there could be more than one million undiscovered variants, waiting in the wings, poised to leap from one species to another. COVID-19, Bingham contends, was a stroke of luck, albeit a twisted one. It inflicted immense suffering and claimed the lives of over 20 million people worldwide, but a silver lining remained - a significant proportion of those infected managed to recover. But Disease X, she warns, may harbour the deadly combination of being as infectious as measles and as lethal as Ebola. Imagine the relentless march of a pathogen that spreads like wildfire and takes lives with ruthless efficiency. The specter of Ebola, with its devastating fatality rate of around 67 percent, looms large in our collective memory. Bingham reminds us of other harrowing episodes in recent history, like bird flu and MERS, which exacted a heavy toll on humanity. The unsettling truth is that we cannot afford to be complacent, assuming that the next pandemic will be easily contained. Disease X could shatter such illusions, plunging us into a darkness we are ill-prepared to confront. The question that echoes in our minds is this: Why are pandemics on the rise? Bingham offers a sobering explanation. Our modern world, with its intricate web of global connections, acts as a double-edged sword. While globalization fosters progress and innovation, it also facilitates the rapid transmission of pathogens across borders. Moreover, the inexorable march of urbanization sees more and more people cramming into cities, where close contact becomes inevitable, a perfect breeding ground for contagion. Yet, there is more to the story. The very earth beneath our feet is changing, and not for the better. Deforestation, modern agricultural practices, and the destruction of wetlands are rendering the boundaries between species increasingly porous. It is in this ecological upheaval that pathogens find new pathways to exploit, crossing over from animals to humans with alarming ease. The World Health Organization first raised the ominous specter of Disease X on its website in May, a clarion call to our collective vigilance. It serves as a stark reminder that a perilous international epidemic could be instigated by a pathogen, hitherto unknown in its capacity to afflict humanity.

Wastewater Vigilance

Leveraging Liquid Insights for Pandemic Preparedness

Arka Goswami

In the realm of public health, vigilance is the key to preempting the spread of infectious diseases. Timely detection and response can mean the difference between containment and catastrophe. In this context, wastewater surveillance emerges as a powerful and cost-effective tool, offering a comprehensive snapshot of public health that transcends conventional methods. Conventional pathogen surveillance typically involves sampling infected individuals, clinical testing, and complex coordination among various sites and laboratories. While undeniably valuable, this approach is not without its challenges. It demands substantial resources, consumes time, and is susceptible to bias due to disparities in public participation and testing frequency. Wastewater surveillance, on the other hand, presents a game-changing alternative. By monitoring wastewater, we gain rapid insights into community-wide infection rates. Wastewater carries a diverse array of microbes shed by individuals and communities alike, offering a comprehensive view of the pathogen landscape. This approach holds immense potential for building a robust surveillance framework and scientific ecosystem. However, its success hinges on a global network of surveillance, equitable distribution of technology, and data sharing mechanisms. Collaborative efforts between global and local public health organizations will be pivotal in ensuring timely and responsive interventions. The true beauty of wastewater surveillance lies in its ability to serve as an early warning system. By monitoring wastewater for the presence of pathogens, we can identify potential outbreaks and emerging threats before they escalate into full-blown pandemics. This proactive approach is crucial in an era where infectious diseases are increasingly interconnected on a global scale. Imagine a world where wastewater surveillance forms an integral part of our public health infrastructure. Picture a network of sensors strategically placed in sewage systems across the country, continuously analyzing samples for traces of pathogens. This data would provide an invaluable resource for public health officials, enabling them to pinpoint infection hotspots, track the emergence of new variants, and mobilize resources where they are most needed. Moreover, wastewater surveillance could revolutionize our approach to preventive healthcare. By harnessing the power of wastewater data, public health authorities can tailor interventions to specific communities and demographics, ensuring a more equitable and effective response to outbreaks. To harness the full potential of wastewater surveillance, we must invest in research, infrastructure, and global collaboration. We need standardized protocols, advanced technologies, and robust data-sharing mechanisms. Furthermore, we must foster an environment of cooperation between nations, sharing knowledge and resources to fortify our collective defenses against infectious diseases. In India, where the challenges of healthcare access and infrastructure are particularly acute, wastewater surveillance could be a game-changer. It offers a cost-effective means of monitoring public health at scale, providing valuable insights into disease dynamics. By embracing this innovative approach, India can take significant strides towards a more responsive and resilient public health system.

(Writer is from A-6 SSB Sarani, Sector -2C, Bidhanagar, Durgapur, West Bengal. Views are personal).

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

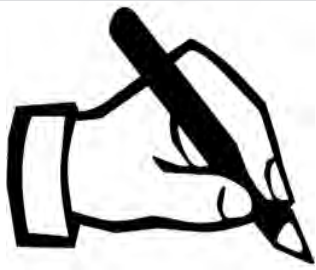
WORLD TOURISM DAY CELEBRATIONS



Flower petals being showered on tourists to welcome at the Agra Fort on World Tourism Day, in Agra, Wednesday, Sept. 27.

Fighting Hunger: A Global Crisis in Need of Urgent Solutions

YASH PAL RALHAN



In a world marked by remarkable technological advancements, economic growth, and dazzling innovations, it is a paradox that a profound crisis silently looms - the crisis of hunger and malnutrition. While we celebrate the strides humanity has made, it is crucial to recognize the stark reality that millions continue to grapple with hunger, their empty stomachs echoing a poignant reminder of our collective failure.

Consider India, a nation of over a billion dreams, where a staggering 800 million people depend on government rations for their daily sustenance. However, the recent reduction in allocation to the PM Poshan scheme in the national budget has sent an unsettling message - a message that hints at a lack of political concern for those who rely on this lifeline. This program, especially vital during the trying times of the COVID-19 pandemic, is anticipated to continue until June 2024, when a new government assumes office.

Yet, this issue transcends India's borders, posing a global challenge that demands our immediate attention. The world is haunted by the staggering revelation made by the head of the United Nations-backed World Food Programme - a revelation that sends shockwaves through our collective conscience. As many as 828 million people -

about 10% of the global population - regularly go to bed hungry.

This alarming figure is not a recent anomaly; in 2020, 811 million people grappled with hunger as the pandemic relentlessly pushed more individuals into the abyss of poverty and food insecurity. COVID-19 did not only expose the vulnerabilities in our global health systems but also laid bare the harsh realities of economic disparities. It slowed down economies and disrupted livelihoods, making the task of putting food on the table an increasingly arduous endeavor.

Furthermore, the global food security landscape was further imperiled by conflicts of immense proportions. The ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, a devastating geopolitical crisis, took a dire toll on global food production. Both Russia and Ukraine, major wheat producers responsible for a quarter of global wheat exports in 2019, found themselves embroiled in a brutal conflict. Moscow's invasion and the subsequent blockading of Ukraine's ports had catastrophic repercussions. Food grain prices soared worldwide, triggering an intensification of the crisis, particularly in vulnerable, impoverished nations.

Adding to this complex web of challenges is the specter of climate change, which has exacerbated the situation. Unpredictable

weather patterns and extreme climatic events have disrupted agricultural systems and threatened food security on an unprecedented scale. Our planet's changing climate is a silent accomplice in this global crisis, amplifying the suffering of those already on the brink.

In the midst of these formidable challenges, geopolitical cooperation and the prominence of international forums like BRICS and G20 have failed to quell the fires of conflict. The war in Ukraine rages on, defying resolution, and continues to cast a long, ominous shadow over global food security. It is a stark reminder that some issues, like the hunger crisis, remain immune to easy solutions.

In contrast, there are instances in history where international cooperation successfully addressed food shortages. Regional blocs like the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States offer glimpses of hope. They have effectively reduced hunger within their respective regions, demonstrating the potential of collaborative efforts in achieving tangible results.

As we turn our gaze to India, we find a nation grappling with its own set of challenges. While government schemes have made significant strides in socio-economic development, the specter of hunger continues to loom large. Initiatives like the Ujwala scheme, the Open Defecation Free (ODF) initiative, Ayushman Bharat, and the provision of free housing have undoubtedly improved the lives of millions. These programs have provided shelter, sanitation, and healthcare, addressing immediate needs and laying the groundwork for long-term improvements.

However, the deep-seated issue of malnutrition, particularly among children, remains a formidable adversary. The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) data reveals

a troubling increase in child stunting and wasting, directly impacting India's hunger index ranking. Stunted growth, often a consequence of childhood malnutrition, not only robs individuals of their physical potential but also restricts their access to education and opportunities, ultimately hampering the nation's progress.

The World Bank underlines the economic repercussions of childhood stunting, stating that "A 1 percent loss in adult height due to childhood stunting is associated with a 1.4 percent loss in economic activity." This sobering fact underscores the inextricable link between food security and economic development.

To address India's hunger crisis, a collective and coordinated effort is imperative. Government bodies, health institutions, academic organizations, and civil society must join hands to implement effective solutions. These solutions must not only cater to immediate food security but also align with the ambitious goal of eliminating hunger by 2030, in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

In a world teetering on the brink of a hunger crisis, cooperation is not merely an option; it is an imperative. The ongoing conflict in Ukraine, with its far-reaching consequences for global food security, serves as a poignant reminder that we must prioritize the resolution of conflicts that threaten the availability of food.

As we strive to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger, let us remember that hunger knows no borders or boundaries. It is a global crisis that requires a global response. Together, we can ensure that no one goes to bed hungry, regardless of their circumstances or where they call home.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Alarming Parliamentary Behaviour

A BJP Member of Parliament recently launched a disgraceful attack on a Muslim leader in India's parliament, labelling him a terrorist and resorting to abusive language. This conduct starkly contradicts the principles enshrined in India's constitution and casts a dark shadow on the nation's policy. It's essential that such unethical behavior faces severe consequences, as it not only threatens India's identity as a democracy but also endangers its global reputation. This incident raises alarming questions about the state of public discourse within the country. Regrettably, no meaningful action has been taken to address this issue, despite the urgency of preventing its recurrence.

Shaikh Abdul Rafe, Ajmer, Rajasthan

Economic Woes

Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh expressed concern over the dire situation facing ordinary households and small businesses. Citing the Reserve Bank of India's latest bulletin, he criticized the Union government for its inability to address high unemployment and inflation. Many are burdened with debt due to soaring costs and taxes, leading to hardships and even starvation. Ramesh argued that the government is concealing the true extent of the crisis. Despite efforts to hide the data, it's evident that the majority of the population is enduring immense suffering. Additionally, a 16% drop in foreign direct investment (FDI) signals waning confidence in India's economic policies and governance.

Tauqueer Rahmani, Mumbai

AIADMK's NDA exit

The All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), the BJP's key southern ally, has severed ties with the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). This move comes as the BJP seeks to expand its footprint in the region and shed its image as a Hindi heartland party. Consequently, the BJP has been virtually wiped out in southern India, failing to secure a single seat in Tamil Nadu without a coalition. The rupture stems from BJP's perceived arrogance, as it seeks to dominate its alliances, even in states where it lacks strength. To retain allies, the BJP must learn to respect their partnership or risk further departures from the NDA.

Hassan Khan, Mumbai

Titas Sadhu: The Accidental Cricketer Who Became an Asian Games Champion

Philem Dipak Singh

Titas Sadhu, a name that may not have resonated with many until recently, is now etched in the annals of Indian cricket history. An unassuming 18-year-old from the Hooghly district's Chinsurah, Titas has emerged as a revelation in the world of women's cricket. Her journey from being a scorekeeper at a local cricket club to a gold medalist at the Asian Games is nothing short of remarkable. Titas' heroics in the Asian Games have left cricket enthusiasts in awe. In the ICC U-19 World Cup final against England, she bowled a spell that read 4-0-6-2, displaying a level of skill and precision beyond her years. Fast forward to her second senior international match against Sri Lanka, and her figures were eerily similar: 4-0-6-3. A three-over spell that not only secured victory but also the gold medal for the Indian women's cricket team.

Reflecting on her stellar performance, Titas shared, "We all had a

clear plan of what we had to do. Obviously, we got a good momentum in the first over itself. We had discussed during the innings break that we will keep calm and stick to what we had decided." This calm and composed approach in high-pressure situations is a testament to her mental fortitude and preparation.

Titas' tryst with cricket was rather accidental. Raised in a sport-loving family, with her father Ranadeep being a decent state-level athlete, she was exposed to various sports from a young age. Her talents extended beyond the cricket field, as she made a name for herself in swimming as well. Despite scoring an impressive 93 percent in her state class X board exams, her passion for cricket led her to skip her plus two exams for two years.

Her journey into cricket began when she started keeping scores for her ancestral club, Rajendra Smriti Sangha, near Hooghly Mohsin College in Chinsurah. Little did she know that this role would eventually lead her to become an integral part of the playing eleven. One fateful



Titas Sadhu

day, her club needed an extra net bowler, and Titas was called upon. From that moment, her destiny took a different course, and she decided to drop out of school to pursue the sport she had grown to love. Titas' rise as a promising cricketer did not go unnoticed. Her coach, Shib Shankar Paul, who also mentors the Bengal women's team, recognized her potential early on. He recalls the day when he received a call from a former teammate, Priyanka Mukherjee, who described Titas as a tall and quick 16-year-old. Intrigued,

Paul decided to evaluate her at the Bengal nets.

What he witnessed left him pleasantly surprised. Titas possessed remarkable pace for her age, standing at nearly 5 feet 9 inches tall. Her physique was a rarity among pace bowlers from Bengal, with the legendary Jhulan Goswami being a notable exception. Titas showcased impressive outswing and remarkable grasping power.

Convinced of her potential, Shib Shankar Paul wasted no time in seeking approval from the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) to include Titas in the senior Bengal women's team. His persistence paid off, and Titas embarked on her journey in professional cricket. It was a moment of pride for both coach and player, as they recognized the beginning of something special. Following her remarkable performance in the Asian Games, Titas reached out to her coach with gratitude. "Thank you, sir, for all the support," she expressed. Her words echoed the sentiment of many who have witnessed her meteoric rise in

the world of cricket.

Titas Sadhu's story is a testament to the power of determination, talent, and the unwavering support of mentors and family. From a chance opportunity to become a net bowler to clinching gold at the Asian Games, her journey is an inspiration for aspiring cricketers across the country.

In a sport often dominated by established names and experienced players, Titas has emerged as a shining star. Her ability to thrive under pressure, coupled with her natural talent, makes her a valuable asset for Indian women's cricket. As she continues to hone her skills and gain experience, the future holds immense promise for this young champion.

Titas Sadhu's journey is a reminder that in the world of sports, greatness can emerge from the most unexpected places. Her story serves as an inspiration for all those who dare to dream and pursue their passions relentlessly. As she stands proudly with her gold medal, Titas embodies the spirit of resilience and the pursuit of excellence that defines the world of sports. (PTI)

BRIEF

Futuristic technologies



New Delhi: Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday said that Indian and the US companies should form joint ventures to develop futuristic technologies. Addressing the 20th INDO-US Economic Summit, Gadkari said that India should produce bio-aviation fuel. "India is the fastest growing major economy... We should make joint ventures with the USA to develop futuristic technologies," he said. Gadkari said the Indian workforce is very competitive and the majority of the countries are keen to deal with India.

Printer business

New Delhi: Japanese business solutions provider Fujifilm Business Innovation on Wednesday announced its foray into the office printer business in India to tap the high growth potential. India will be the 15th operation for the company in the Asia Pacific (APAC) region for the office printer business and is targeting government offices as one of the main customers. Fujifilm Business Innovation Asia Pacific Pte Ltd President Masatsugu Naito said. The global office printing market is around 3.3 million units a year, while that of APAC is about 0.5 million.

Green hydrogen



New Delhi: The availability of green hydrogen as a fuel will help reduce India's dependence on coal for steel making, Tata Steel CEO and MD TV Narendran said. Narendran made the remark at the National Management Convention session of All India Management Association (AIMA) here. "The way steel is made is changing and will continue to change further, as the industry is putting up new plants. Availability of hydrogen as a fuel and reductive is the key to reducing dependence on coal," he said, adding that scrap will replace ore as the main input.

Exempts IGST

New Delhi: The government has exempted payments made for goods imported through ocean freight from 5 per cent integrated GST with effect from October 1. The Finance Ministry has notified changes to the IGST Act with regard to payment of integrated GST on 'ocean freight' on imported goods with effect from October 1.

Onus with private sector to lead country: NITI Aayog VC

■ On sustainable growth path

New Delhi, Sep 27:



The government is facilitating holistic development but the onus lies on the private sector to lead the country on a sustainable growth trajectory, NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Suman Bery said on Wednesday. The private sector contributes 40 per cent of Research and Development (R&D) in the country, while its share in developed countries is 70 per cent, Bery said, while addressing an event organised by the

Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI). "If we are to transit from the middle income trap, the private sector needs to enhance its contribution to R&D through its own investments and under corporate social responsibility," the NITI Aayog VC said.

The onus is on the private sector to lead us on a sustainable growth trajectory, Bery said.

He said the relationship between the public and private sectors needs to be redefined in the Amrit Kaal, to lead the country to a path of sustainable growth. Bery further said that India's take-off moment has arrived, backed by the advantage of having the world's largest working population and resilient physical and digital institutions. "This is India's take-off moment... 1/5th of humanity will have rising living standards," he said. "India is on the move, there is no

doubt about it... India has the largest working age population in the world, (and) resilient physical and digital institutions," he said.

Bery also pointed at the need to address significant challenges, including managing urbanisation, making regulations consistent and continuous, and adapting to disruptive technologies. Noting that India has the advantage of having the largest arable land and the highest population of bovine animals, Bery said the issue of raising agricultural productivity and having opportunities for displaced labour is a big challenge.

Google to roll out earthquake alert service in India

New Delhi, Sep 27:

Internet major Google will roll out an earthquake alert service in India that works using sensors in Android smartphones to detect and estimate the intensity of earthquakes, the company said on Wednesday. Google has introduced "Android Earthquake Alerts System" in India in consultation with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the National Seismology Centre (NSC). "Today, in consultation with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the National Seismology Centre (NSC), we're introducing the Android Earthquake Alerts System in India. Through this launch, we strive to provide Android users automatic early warning alerts when there is an earthquake in

their area," Google said in a blog. The alert service will be available in Android 5 and later versions of the operating system. "The Android Earthquake Alerts System is rolling out to all Android 5+ users in India during the coming week," the blog said. The system takes the help of tiny accelerometers present in Android smartphones that can act as mini seismometers. "When a phone is plugged in and charging, it can detect the very beginnings of earthquake shaking. If many phones detect earthquake-like shaking around the same time, our server can use this information to estimate that an earthquake may be happening, as well as characteristics of the event - like its epicenter and magnitude. Then, our server can send alerts to nearby phones," the blog said.

Amul expects no price hike after timely monsoon: Jayen S Mehta

Ahmedabad, Sep 27:

Amul does not anticipate any price hike as the situation is "pretty" good this year after timely monsoon rains in Gujarat and flush milk procurement season is starting, GCMMF Managing Director Jayen S Mehta said on Wednesday.

The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) sells its dairy products under the popular Amul brand. "The situation is pretty good this year because of timely monsoon in Gujarat at least which means the pressure on producers for the feed and fodder cost is not high, and we are entering the flush season of



milk procurement, so we are not anticipating any hike," Mehta told PTI. He said this while replying to a question about whether there would be any kind of price rise in the coming months.

On the investment plans, he said that they are investing close to Rs 3,000 crore every year and that is going to be there for the next several years. "with increase in milk procurement and processing facil-

SMART CITIES CONCLAVE



President Droupadi Murmu with Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and others during the India Smart Cities Conclave 2023, in Indore, Wednesday, Sept. 27.

AMNS India's Hazira project to be commissioned by 2026: Laxmi Mittal

Ahmedabad, Sep 27:

ArcelorMittal executive chairman Lakshmi N Mittal on Wednesday expressed confidence that AMNS India's Hazira project, which is under expansion, will be commissioned by 2026. In October last year, ArcelorMittal's arm AMNS India had stated that it will invest Rs 60,000 crore to scale up capacity of its steel plant at Hazira to 15 million tonnes (MT).

"We have full confidence that with the cooperation of the Centre and Gujarat government, we will be able to commission the project by 2026, Mittal said here while speaking at the celebrations of 20 years of 'Vibrant Gujarat' summit.



Hazira expansion project is moving at a fast pace and over 20,000 people are involved in the project construction, he said.

"It is our target to double our production capacity in the first phase and then triple...we will also make advance products for technology," he said, adding it would help India reduce imports and become self-reliant. The company is also committed for sustainability, he said.

Jaipur Rugs unveils Rug Utsav

Jaipur, Sep 27:

Jaipur Rugs, the renowned leader in handmade rug manufacturing, is thrilled to announce the highly-anticipated 2023 edition of its annual Rug Utsav, commencing on September 27th. This year, Rug Utsav promises an extraordinary experience for customers, combining exclusive discounts on a wide array of rug categories, interactive sessions with talented weavers, and a heartfelt initiative to support education through the JR Meritorious Scholarship Program. Customers are invited to explore a world of exquisite craftsmanship with exclusive discounts on Dhurries, Hand Tufted, Handloom and Hand Knotted and Manchaha Collection: For the very first time, much-acclaimed select Manchaha collection from Jaipur Rugs will be available at special discounted prices, allowing customers to own pieces of artisanal excellence. Jaipur Rugs extends a



warm invitation to customers to engage in a unique journey by interacting with our skilled weavers. At various Jaipur Rugs stores, you can immerse yourself in the art of rug making and even try your hand at tufting under the expert guidance of rural craftsmen. Customers to be offered with discounts ranging from 10% to a generous 80% across diverse range of rug categories.

It is a rare moment for connoisseurs to own rugs made using the 2500 years old weaving traditions at

discounted prices and do good while doing that. These rugs are designed with attention to sustainability and design, making them the original Indian rug with a contemporary twist.

At Jaipur Rugs, we have always prioritized the pursuit of happiness and bringing light to the lives of our weavers. This year, we take our commitment further by contributing a portion of the Rug Utsav proceeds to the JR Meritorious Scholarship Program Says Mr. Yogesh Chaudhary, Director, Jaipur Rugs.

GST Council to meet on Oct 7

■ May review amendments in SGST law on online gaming

New Delhi, Sep 27:

The GST Council will meet on October 7 and is likely to review the progress made by the states in incorporating changes with regard to taxation of online gaming in SGST laws as approved by the council in its August meeting. The GST Council, chaired by the Union Finance Minister and comprising state counterparts, had last month cleared amendments to Central GST and Integrated GST laws to give clarity on the levy of 28 per cent tax on the full face value of bets in online gaming, casinos and horse race clubs. The amendments also make registration mandatory for offshore e-gaming companies operating in India. It also provides for blocking of access in case offshore platforms fail to comply with GST registration and tax payment norms.

Kirloskar Oil Engines launches range of CPCB IV+ compliant Gensets

Pune, Sep 27:

Kirloskar Oil Engines (KOEL), a leader in the power generation industry, is proud to announce the launch of its range of CPCB IV+ compliant gensets. With a focus on delivering high-performance, fuel-efficient, and environmentally responsible solutions, the new gensets meet the latest emission norms set by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). These gensets demonstrate Kirloskar's commitment to sustainable power generation and environmental stewardship. They are designed to cater to diverse power requirements across various sectors, ensuring businesses and communities have access to more reliable, cleaner and better power. Kirloskar gensets are engineered to operate efficiently on multiple fuel options, including diesel, natural gas, biogas etc. providing unmatched flex-



ibility to consumers. Hence by offering fuel agnostic gensets, Kirloskar aims to empower businesses and industries to choose the most suitable fuel source based on their needs, location, and availability. This initiative reinforces the brand's commitment towards resource optimization, contributing to a greener and more energy-diverse future.

Kirloskar Oil Engines takes immense pride in its "Made in India" identity, serving as a symbol of quality and innovation on

a global scale. With a heritage spanning decades, Kirloskar's power solutions have garnered trust and recognition from customers worldwide.

"During her address at the launch event, Gauri Kirloskar, Managing Director, emphasized, 'Kirloskar Oil Engines Limited has been a leader in the power generation industry since its inception. Our unwavering position as a market leader in Diesel Generating sets is a testament to our journey of success.

Nuvoco Vistas Corp felicitated with 'Best CSR Impact Award'

■ For Project TARA at 8th CSR Summit and Awards

New Delhi, Sep 27:

Nuvoco Vistas Corp. Ltd., the fifth-largest cement group in India and leading cement player in East India, in terms of capacity, has achieved yet another milestone in its commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR). The company is pleased to announce that it has been honored with the prestigious "Best CSR Impact Award" at the 8th Edition Corporate Social Responsibility Summit and Awards, hosted by UBS Forums on September 14, 2023, in New Delhi. The accolade was bestowed for Nuvoco's outstanding contribution to society through

Project TARA - Technology Aided Resources at Anganwadis, which was nominated in the Swasth Bharat - Best CSR Impact Category. This transformative initiative was designed with the goal of enhancing the quality of health and child development services offered by Anganwadis, which serve as pivotal community centers in rural India. Project TARA has had a profound impact on the communities it serves, with more than 1,200 women and 2,000 adolescent girls benefiting from its various interventions. The project's success can be attributed to its multi-faceted approach, which includes the provision of advanced technological resources, training and capacity building for Anganwadi workers, and community outreach programs.

Centre asks banks to depute doorstep executives

■ To help bedridden pensioners submit life certificates

New Delhi, Sep 27:

The Centre has asked all pension disbursing banks to depute doorstep executives to help bedridden and hospitalised pensioners submit their life certificates. An order issued by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) also asked all banks to create awareness about the convenience of obtaining the life certificate digitally by using the face authentication technology by super senior pensioners (those aged 80 and above). All pensioners have to give a life certificate (proof that

they are alive) annually to continue receiving pension. There are about 69.76 lakh central government pensioners. In view of the digital life certificate through face authentication technology, it is now possible for every citizen to submit a digital life certificate (DLC) either from home using an Android smartphone or at the bank branch, said the order dated September 25.

"It is suggested that all banks may utilise the various platforms for creating awareness of the convenience of obtaining a life certificate by using the face authentication technology," it said. Banks can facilitate the submission of life certificates by deputing doorstep banking executives, said the order. They

can widely publicise the methodology for submitting DLC by pasting information posters at branches and ATMs, it added. Banks may send SMS/emails/WhatsApp messages to the pensioner with a link to the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for face authentication to empower the super senior pensioner to submit their life certificate through face authentication technology using their Android phone, the order said. The DoPPW has also asked the banks to circulate the SOP on DLC through face authentication via email among their concerned officials to enable them to get familiar with the usage of this technology.

Officials in states continue to function like licence raj days, says Maruti Suzuki chairman

New Delhi, Sep 27:

Despite the central government ushering in reforms, the manufacturing sector is yet to see enhanced growth rates as officials in the states continue to function in a way they used to during the "licence and control days", Maruti Suzuki India Chairman RC Bhargava said.

Speaking at an event here, the veteran industry leader noted that the central government over the last nine years has been bringing in a series of reforms and improvements in the business environment. He noted that the country has seen massive improvement in the rank-



ings when it comes to the ease of doing business. Besides, the government has also abolished over 1,000 old acts while initiating a lot of reforms in taxation as well, Bhargava said. "All designed to make it easier to do business in India, and to be more competitive in manufacturing. Unfortunately, the results are not yet apparent," Bhargava said.

Khairagarh shutdown gains overwhelming support

Citizens, traders, and leaders unite against University administration

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Sep 27: In a remarkable display of unity and determination, the citizens of Khairagarh, alongside traders, public representatives, and intellectuals, rallied behind a widespread shutdown in protest of the Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya administration. This monumental show of solidarity led to the complete closure of businesses across the city for an entire day, shining a spotlight on the gravity of the situation.

Notably prominent BJP leaders, including the State Vice President, Vikrant Singh, stood shoulder to shoulder with the public, passionately voicing their opposition to the university administration's policies. This demonstration saw BJP leaders at the forefront,



leading spirited protests and raising slogans condemning various aspects, such as the continued operation of the off-campus study center in Raipur, the demand for the removal of the Vice Chancellor, and protests against the university's divisive decisions, among others.

Before the shutdown, a myriad of social organizations, including trader associations, legal professionals, and Arjivis Sangh, had already thrown their weight behind the cause. As a result, key commercial hubs within the city, including

Gol Bazar, Itwari Bazar, the bus stand, Vashy Marg, Masjid Chowk, Rajiv Chowk, Jay Sthamb Chowk, Amalipara, Sonesarar, Dharampura, Turakaripara, Dauchaura, Tempo Stand Chowk, Gaurav Path Marg, Civil Line, University Marg, Old Bus Stand, and Hospital Chowk, witnessed complete shutdowns, underscoring the unified support for the cause.

While essential and emergency services remained operational, the residents faced some inconveniences throughout the day, especially those

commuting from Khairagarh to distant destinations. Many pondered the reasons behind the Khairagarh shutdown. In particular, protesters at the new bus stand criticized the university administration's contentious decision to bifurcate the university, further fueling the momentum of the protest.

Notably, the university's off-campus study center, initiated with the support of the Chhattisgarh government, has been a focal point of dissent, with widespread protests, particularly on social media

platforms, casting the university administration in an unfavorable light. Public representatives and MLA Yashoda Verma have also engaged in online discussions, questioning the establishment and operation of the university's study center.

In response to citizens' protests, reports suggest that Congress representatives, including MLA Yashoda Verma, are actively working towards resolving the issue at the government level. During an earlier meeting, MLA Yashoda Verma informed citizens that she was unaware of the study center's operations in this manner. It is anticipated that a delegation will soon meet with the Higher Education Minister and the Chief Minister to present their perspectives and seek a resolution to the problem.

Zone level Jugaad TLM exhibition organized

Central Chronicle News

Kharora, Sep 27: Zone level Jugaad TLM exhibition was organized at Government Pre-Secondary School Mohrenga, in which 34 teachers from 27 schools of Mohrenga, Kharora and Pachari clusters participated. The program was started with the worship and garlanding of the photograph of Goddess Saraswati by Mohrenga's cluster in-charge principal Arvind Kerketta and Pachari cluster in-charge principal Prakash Gilhare.

In the exhibition, lecturer of Government Higher Secondary School Mohrenga, Harsha Chavda, Jyoti Shukla, Manjulata Verma and state level TLM participant teacher Narayan Prasad Dewangan played the role of judge. In this exhibition, Doman Lal Sahu, teacher of Government Primary School, Kharora, stood first from the pri-



mary school. Rekha Dewangan, teacher of Government Primary School, Keshala, got second position and Jyoti Verma, teacher of Government Primary School, Bharuwadih Arts, got third position.

Similarly, from pre-secondary school, Rajeshwari Verma, teacher of Government Pre-Secondary School, Mohrenga, got first position, Neetu Marco, teacher of Government Pre-Secondary School, Pachari, got second position and Heera Kosaria,

teacher of Government Pre-Secondary School, Navagaon, got third position.

All the awarded teachers were honored with insignia and citation. Coordinator of cluster center Kharora, Devendra Singh Thakur coordinator of cluster center Pachari, Kant Kumar Kanoje played an important role. The program was conducted and the vote of thanks was organized by Nemchand Dhiwar, coordinator of the cluster center Mohrenga.

Bhagwati Prasad Sinha honoured

With Chief Minister's Education Excellence Award

Central Chronicle News

Kairagarh, Sep 27: The Chhattisgarh government honoured the brilliance of educators as they bestowed the prestigious Chief Minister Education Pride Award upon outstanding teachers.

Bhagwati Prasad Sinha, the remarkable headmaster of Baehatola's government primary school in Kairagarh Development Block, received this year's accolade for his innovative contributions in education, junk to innovation, academic excellence,



school management, and community engagement.

During a ceremony attended by Durg MLA Arun Vora and Chhattisgarh Housing Board Chairman K.V. Rao, Jagdishwar Sinha, a teacher at Government Secondary School Khapri Sirdar, was also recognized for his exceptional work in special education

exams and discipline.

Commendation letters, mementos, and cash prizes were presented to these exceptional educators. Neelam Singh Rajput, Kairagarh's AVEO, Kishori Lal Amela, VRC Sujit Chauhan, CAC Samaylal Dhurve, and others in the same category were lauded for their contributions.

Ch'garh's 7th Regional Language convention held

Central Chronicle News

Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, Sep 27: The 7th regional convention of the Chhattisgarh Official Language Commission, organized under the aegis of the Chhattisgarh Culture Department and Official Language Commission, held at Hotel Babylon International in Raipur on September 23 and 24, was a jubilant celebration of Chhattisgarhi culture and literature.

District-level literary luminaries from Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, including coordinator Ashutosh Anand Dubey, Bhisma Tripathi, Rachana Shukla, Vandana Chatterjee and Surya Prakash Mahant, received certificates and kits in recognition of their contributions.

The convention, hosted with grandeur at Hotel Babylon International, featured eight sessions with extensive discussions on various aspects of the Chhattisgarhi language and literature. Distinguished guests, including Chhattisgarh's Urban Administration Minister Shiv Dahariya and Program Chairman Kunwar Nishad, Parliamentary Minister Chhattisgarh Government, graced the event.

The opening ceremony paid tribute to Mahatari Chhattisgarh through floral offerings and traditional lamp lighting, followed by performances of welcome songs showcasing the state's rich cultural heritage. Dr. Anil Bhatpahari, the commission's secretary, delivered a warm welcome



speech, setting the tone for the event.

Sessions included topics like the integration of Chhattisgarhi into the curriculum and innovations in

Chhattisgarhi prose literature, presided over by Dr. Keshari Lal Verma. The convention also featured captivating cultural performances, including a

Mati Mahtari Chhattisgarhi dance drama by the Doodh Mongra team and a Chhattisgarhi Kavi Sammelan.

Discussions highlighted the contributions of women literateurs and educationists since the formation of Chhattisgarh state, the significance of Chhattisgarh's folk literature, and the impact of the new generation on Chhattisgarhi literature. The convention concluded by honouring district coordinators of the Language Commission and commission employees for their commendable contributions. The event drew Chhattisgarhi poets, linguists, literary figures, folk artists, and dedicated individuals working to promote the Chhattisgarhi language from across the state.

NGEL ties up with Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port for Green Hydrogen Hub



Central Chronicle News

Korba, Sep 27: An MoU was signed today between NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of India's leading integrated power producer NTPC Limited, and Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ports,

Shipping & Waterways, for development of Green Hydrogen Hub at Kolkata.

The MoU was signed by Bimal Gopalachari, AGM (NGEL) and Amit Kumar Kar, CME (SMPK) in the presence of Mohit Bhargava, CEO (NGEL) and other senior officials of NTPC and SMPK.

NTPC is India's largest Power Utility having a

total installed capacity of 73+ GW. It's wholly owned subsidiary NGEL is taking up Renewable Energy capacity addition including projects of Green Hydrogen, Energy Storage. NTPC Group aims for 60 GW of RE capacity by the year 2032, with 3.2 GW of installed and over 20 GW in pipeline.

Vivid decoration in pandals for Ganesh Chaturthi

Central Chronicle News

Birkoni, Sep 27: The sounds of devotion are echoing in Ganesh pandals and temples and religious rituals are being performed in temples from morning till evening and also at some places bhajan kirtan is being recited and in this sequence of events children and organizers have decorated the pandals and idols in numerous ways. In the same sequence, Prasad is being distributed to the devotees

by offering laddus along with the Aarti of the Lord and decorative tableaux are being displayed in the



pandals. Various sweets and modaks are also being prepared adding to the spirit of festivity.

District's Literary icons shine

At State-Level language and literature gathering

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Sep 27: In a remarkable assembly, literary enthusiasts and writers from various districts gathered in Raipur for a statewide conference dedicated to the promotion of Chhattisgarhi language and literature.

Dr. Siyaram Sahu, District Coordinator from Chhuikhadan Gandai, led a delegation of seasoned and emerging authors, including Pita Var Singh Rajput, Mahadeep Janghel, Rajkumar Maskhare, Dharmendra Janghel, Kesari Gupta, Mukesh, Bodhan Chandel, Rikhiram Dhurve, Dilip Pudeti, and Paras Janghel.

Notably, the event fea-



tured prominent speakers such as Professor Dr. Rajan Yadav from Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya and esteemed literary figure P.C. Lal Yadav from Gandai, both of whom received accolades for their contributions.

The poets recited verses

in the Chhattisgarhi language, earning resounding applause during the gathering. This event marked a significant occasion for the district's literary figures to participate in language and literature programs, heralding the district's newfound cultural presence.

Bhoomipujan ceremony held



Central Chronicle News

Dhamtari, Sep 27: Central School Mujgahan in Dhamtari witnessed a significant milestone with a Bhoomipujan ceremony, marking the commencement of construction for a leveled playground and the installation of basket and board boards. The event, conducted under the patronage of the District Mineral Fund, saw the es-

teemed presence of Gram Panchayat Sarpanch Chandra Shekhar Sahu, Deputy Sarpanch Lakshmi Lal Sinha, Rikhiram Sahu, Doman Nag, Ishwar Sinha, and Principal P.L. Sahu, alongside other prominent figures. With a budget of Rs 9,98,000, this long-anticipated project has garnered enthusiasm and satisfaction from both the Gram Panchayat and the Central School Organization.

Differently-abled individuals rally against fake disability certificates

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Sep 27: Differently-abled citizens have taken a stand against the misuse of counterfeit disability certificates for job placements. They held a peaceful protest march, donning black armbands, to draw attention to the issue. The march spanned from Padav Chowk to Daupara Old Bus Stand, concluding at the Collectorate, where they presented a memorandum outlining their demands to the local administration.

This demonstration is part of a broader effort by differently-abled individuals, who plan to march from the Bilaspur Collector's Office on September 26th to the Chief Minister's Office and the



Governor's Residence in Raipur on September 27th via Telibandha. Their primary demand is for fake disability certificate holders to undergo physical examinations conducted by the State Medical Board, ultimately leading to the removal of impostors from positions they secured using fraudulent documents. Additionally, they call for examinations by the Medical Board and regional

Medical Boards for government employees with disabilities. Among their ten key requests are advertising backlog job openings for differently-abled candidates, a monthly pension of 5,000 rupees for differently-abled individuals, and the inclusion of differently-abled officials in all district Medical Boards. Yadav, representing the Differently-Abled Services Association, stressed that despite

numerous complaints and appeals made to various government departments and officials, no significant action has been taken against those wielding fake disability certificates. The organization had previously notified the government of their intent to organize this protest march should no action be taken within 20 days.

What official says

An eight-member committee at the district level had been formed to investigate the matter of fake disability certificates. Following the inquiry, strict action will be taken against those found guilty. The Chief Medical and Health Officer (CMHO) has also been instructed to conduct examinations in this regard.

-Deputy Collector Vijendra Singh Patle

Municipal employees stage one-day protest



Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Sep 27: Employees of the Khairagarh Municipal Corporation gathered in Raipur for a one-day protest, demanding job regularization among other issues. The placement employees have been tirelessly advocating for regularization, but their appeals have gone unanswered.

Led by Ankur Singh, the President of the Khairagarh Municipal Corporation, the demonstration was a concerted effort to draw attention to their long-standing demands. The protest saw a significant turnout, with employees like Lokesh Sahu, Devendra Yadav, Sanjay Yadav, Hemant Sahu, Balram Yadav, and numerous others from the corporation in attendance.



Sift Kaur Samra shoots gold, Ashi Chouksey bags bronze

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

Indian marksman Sift Kaur Samra produced some excellent shooting to claim the gold medal in the individual 50m rifle 3 position event while Ashi Chouksey settled for the bronze at the Asian Games here on Wednesday.

Samra shot a world and Games record score of 469.6 to claim the yellow mettle while Chouksey managed 451.9 to bag the third position in the eight-women final.

Host nation China's Qiongyue Zhang crashed what could have been an India one-two by winning the silver with a score of 462.3. Before her triumph in the final, Samra broke the Asian Games record in qualification with a total score of 594 (out of 600) along with China's Xia Siyu, who finished on top by virtue of higher inner 10 scores (closer to the centre of the target.)

Chouksey had a total of 590 and qualified in sixth position. Manini Kaushik, meanwhile, finished 18th



Gold medalist Indian shooter Sift Kaur Samra and bronze medalist compatriot Ashi Chouksey pose for photos during the presentation ceremony of the women's 50m rifle 3 positions event.

with a score of 580.

The trio claimed the silver medal in the women's

50m rifle 3 position event with a total score of 1764 in the qualification.

Naruka bags silver in men's skeet

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

India's Anant Jeet Singh Naruka claimed the silver medal in men's skeet event at the Asian Games here on Wednesday, adding to the team bronze he won alongside Angad Vir Singh Bajwa and Gurjoat Khangura.

Naruka performed well and looked on course to win the gold, having not missed a shot until the business end of the final.

Naruka finished with an impressive 58/60 but it was still not good enough for gold as Kuwait's Abdullah Alrashidi equalled the world record with a perfect 60/60 to finish on top of the podium. Nasser Al-Attia of Qatar bagged the bronze with 46. "It was a good competition. The gold winner is a very experienced shooter. He is a two-time Olympic bronze medal winner. But I was not thinking about him but focusing on my performance," said Naruka.

"I lost my rhythm a bit in the middle. Later, I recovered. This is also my first Asian Games medal," he added. He said the day's performance was his best.

"You need to imagine what your targets would be. I tried to break the targets in my head. I have to make a vision of how I



Indian shooter Anant Jeet Singh Naruka poses for photos after winning silver medal in the men's skeet individual event.

have to break them.

"But it all depends on the particular day. Everyone performing at the highest level would tell you, on the day if you are shooting well and your rhythm is going on, anyone can win. It is just about the rhythm and experience counts," he added.

Indian trio shoots gold in women's 25m pistol event



(R-L) Gold medalist Indian shooters Esha Singh, Rhythm Sangwan and Manu Bhaker pose for photos during the presentation ceremony of women's 25m pistol rapid team event.

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

The triumvirate of Manu Bhaker, Esha Singh and Rhythm Sangwan fired in tandem to shoot the gold medal in the women's 25m pistol team event as Indian shooters dominated proceedings at the Asian Games here on Wednesday.

Manu, Esha and Rhythm totalled 1759 to finish on top of the podium and help the country clinch its fourth gold medal in the ongoing sporting extravaganza. This was the second gold medal for India in shooting in these Games.

The sensational Manu also topped the qualification after finishing the last rapid-fire series with 98. The Chinese bagged the silver medal with 1756, while the shooters from South Korea settled for the third position with a total score of 1742.

They claimed the top prize minutes after another trio of Indian shooters dished out an excellent performance to win a silver medal in the women's 50m rifle 3 position event.

Ashi Chouksey, Manini Kaushik and Sift Kaur Samra combined to shoot a total of 1764 points in the qualification to finish

second on the podium.

Hosts China won the gold with an aggregate score of 1773, while South Korea bagged the bronze with a total score of 1756.

Samra and Chouksey qualified for the finals as well by finishing second and sixth respectively, while Kaushik bowed out in the individual event by finishing 18th.

Sift scored a total of 594 to create a joint new Asian record for qualifying. While Kaushik missed out on the final, Samra shot 100 in two series to finish with a total of 397 after kneeling and prone positions.

Nikhat sails into quarters; Shiva, Sanjeet bow out



Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

Two-time world champion Nikhat Zareen cruised to the 50kg quarterfinals but seasoned Indian pugilist Shiva Thapa and Sanjeet bowed out of the Asian Games boxing competition here on Wednesday.

Nikhat notched up an easy 5-0 win over South Korea's Chorong Bak in the second round of the women's event.

However, record six-time Asian Championship medallist Shiva couldn't

reach effectively. The Indian controlled the proceedings but Bak made her task difficult by moving around the ring. Nikhat landed a couple of left crosses to end the second round.

After taking the opening two rounds, Nikhat conserved energy like she did in her previous bout, evading attacks by Bak to move to the quarters.

Earlier, Shiva, who received a first round bye, was beaten by Kultaev's relentless attacks and pace in a draining pre-quarterfinal bout. It is a shocking defeat as Shiva was a strong medal contender. In the second Indian bout of the day, Sanjeet found it tough to respond to the 2022 super heavyweight Asian Champions' punches and was forced to go into a defensive mode. Trailing 0-5, Sanjeet lost his balance after being struck by Mullojonov's punch, which got him an eight count.

capitalise on a favourable draw as he was beaten comprehensively (5-0) by Kyrgyzstan's Askat Kultaev in the 63.5kg pre-quarterfinals. Sanjeet (92kg) was completely outpunched (5-0) by world championship bronze medallist Lazizbek Mullojonov.

After two back-to-back losses in the day, Nikhat gave the Indian camp something to cheer about with her dominant display. After sizing up her opponent, Nikhat released a series of punches, using her longer

Sangita hits hat-trick as India blank Singapore 13-0

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

Young striker Sangita Kumari slammed a hat-trick as a dominant Indian women's hockey team scored goals at will to thrash lowly Singapore 13-0 in its opening Pool A match at the Asian Games here on Wednesday.

While the Indians pumped in as many as eight goals in the first two quarters, the Singaporeans did show some resistance after the halfway break as they conceded just five goals.

Sangita (23rd, 47th, 56th) scored thrice, while Navneet Kaur found the net twice in the 14th minute.

Udita (6th), Sushila Chanu (8th), Deepika (11th), Deep Grace Ekka (17th), Neha (19th), Salima Tete (35th), Monika (52nd) and Vandana Katariya (56th) were the other goal scorers.

India will take on Malaysia in their next pool match on Friday.

"It was a good performance, we are happy with the result. The young girls complemented the seniors well. It made our job easy," skipper Savita said after the match. "We are taking match-by-match here. Our next focus is on Malaysia, we have ode day gap in



India's Deepika attempts to score a goal against Singapore through penalty corner during the women's hockey match.

which we will prepare and study Malaysia's game. We will just focus on our plans. "There is also Korea in our pool and they are a very good team but we will try to win and top the pool. Our mindset is right, everybody knows why they are here. Our target is to qualify (for Olympics) directly,"

she added. The gulf between India and Singapore was evident as the Savita Punia-led side mounted attack after attack to score eight goals in the opening two quarters. The Indians' relentless attacks resulted in a heap of penalty corners and they managed to convert five of them. India took the lead in

the sixth minute when Udita scored from a penalty corner with a slap shot. Two minutes later, they were awarded a penalty stroke and Sushila made no mistake. Penalty corners came thick and fast for the Indians and Deepika tripled the lead with a perfect flick. Navneet scored two quick goals a minute from the first quarter - first from a penalty corner and then a field goal seconds later. Navneet snatched the ball from a defender and then dodged past the Singapore goalkeeper - with fine stick work to push the ball in. Deep Grace then joined the party scoring with a slap shot from a penalty corner before Sangita scored a fine field goal after one-two with Lalremsiami. Neha then converted a penalty corner to go into the half-time with a healthy 8-0 lead.

The Indians continued in the same trend after the change of ends and kept up the pressure on Singapore's defence with continuous attacks. The Singaporeans showed some fight in defence in the last two quarters but still India managed to pump in five more goals to make a perfect start to their campaign.

India continues winning streak

Badminton World Junior Championships

New Delhi, Sep 27 (PTI):

Indian team continued its winning streak at the badminton World Junior Championships with an impressive 5-0 win over Brazil in Spokane, USA on Wednesday. In the opening match, the mixed doubles pair of Samarveer and Radhika Sharma triumphed over Joaquim Mendon a and Maria Clara Lopes Lima 21-14, 21-17 to give India a 1-0 lead. In the boys' singles match, Lokesh Reddy Kalagotia faced a formidable opponent in Renan Melo, who lost the first game 17-21 but fought back resiliently in the second game. Lokesh managed to get the upper hand and ultimately won the second game by 24-22 to wrap up the match. In the girls' singles section, Devika Sihag cruised to victory by defeating Maria Eduarda Oliveira 21-9, 21-6 in just 18 minutes. In the boys' doubles category, Divyam Arora and Mayank Rana emerged victorious against Joaquim Mendon a and Jo o Mendon a Taveira 21-19, 21-10.

Esha Singh wins silver medal in women's individual 25m pistol

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

Teenaged Indian shooter Esha Singh claimed a silver medal in the women's individual 25m pistol event at the Asian Games even as Manu Bhaker failed to secure a podium finish here on Wednesday.

The 18-year-old Esha shot 34 to settle for the second place, while China's Rui Liu won the gold medal with a games record score of 38. Jiin Yang ended with the bronze medal after shooting 29.

On her way to gold, Rui Liu broke the record held by India's Rahi Sarnobat (34).

Youth Olympics champion Manu, who topped the qualification with a total score of 590, had to be content with a fifth-place finish and shot 21 in the eight-women final at the Hangzhou Shooting Range Hall.

In the gold medal con-



test, Esha missed three out of her five shots, while the Chinese missed the target only once to emerge victorious.

This is India's 10th medal in shooting, bettering the 2018 edition of nine medals in total.

Meanwhile, there was an unusual long delay in the final because of a missing shot of the Korean shooter, leaving the judges to inspect the target and the back-up. Target to see if the shooter actually missed the target or failed to register.

Nepal batters break three world records in T20Is

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

Nepal batters smashed three world records en route to becoming the first team to amass a 300-plus total in T20Is, in the Asian Games here on Wednesday.

Kushal Malla, a 19-year-old left-handed batter, struck the fastest-ever T20I hundred in 34 balls, eclipsing David Miller and Rohit Sharma's joint previous record (35 balls). Barring at No 3, Malla smashed 12 sixes and eight fours to remain unbeaten on 137 and power Nepal to the highest-ever T20I score of 314 for 3 against Mongolia, who opted to field. Their No 5 batter Dipendra Singh Airee also rewrote the record books, blasting a nine-ball fifty that bettered Yuvraj Singh's 16-year-old record.

Yuvraj took 12 balls for his fifty en route to scoring 58 in the World T20 match against England on September 19, 2007. The previous record for the highest innings total in a T20I was held by Afghanistan, who had amassed 278 for 3 against Ireland on February 23, 2019.

India win team bronze in men's skeet

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

The Indian team of Angad Vir Singh Bajwa, Gurjoat Khangura and Anant Jeet Singh Naruka bagged the team bronze medal in the men's skeet event of the Asian Games here on Wednesday.

The trio shot a total of 355 to settle for the third position as India continued their dominance at the range.

Hosts China won the gold medal while Qatar claimed the silver.

The Indian women's team, however, crashed out of the shotgun skeet



India's men and women's skeet team poses for photos after shooters Anant Jeet Singh Naruka, Angad Vir Singh Bajwa and Gurjoat Singh Khangura won bronze medal in the men's skeet team event.

event by finishing in the Kazakhstan, China and fourth position behind Thailand.

Indian squash teams continue winning run

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

The Indian squash players continued their impressive run at the Asian Games, registering easy wins in the men's and women's team competitions here on Wednesday.

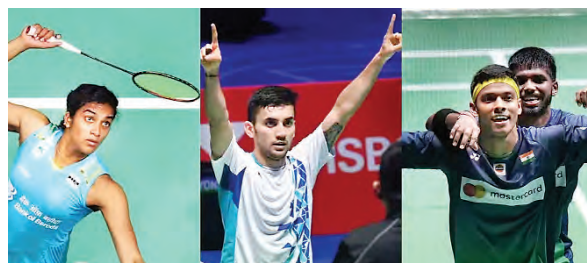
While the women's team thrashed Nepal, the men prevailed over Kuwait. Both teams won by identical 3-0 margins. In the first match, 15-year-old Anahat Singh eased past Krishna Thapa 11-7 11-1 11-2, before Joshua Chinappa beat Bipana Bhlon 11-4 11-2 11-2.

Indian shuttlers eye first-ever gold in Asian Games

Hangzhou, Sep 27 (PTI):

Given their unprecedented success in recent past, expectations are high from Indian shuttlers to chase down that elusive Asian Games badminton gold and return from Hangzhou with their best-ever haul.

The Indian badminton players will begin their campaign with the team championships here from Thursday. India have bagged just 10 badminton



medals in Asian Games history, including three individual singles medals, two men's team bronze, two women's team bronze and

one medal each in men's doubles and mixed doubles. Since the 1986 edition at Seoul, India have not won a medal in the men's team

event but have a great chance of breaking the jinx this time as they head into the tournament as Thomas Cup champions, an epic feat achieved in May 2022.

The core of the team remains the same with HS Prannoy, Lakshya Sen and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty in good form and the Indian team would hope the rub of the green also goes their way when it begins campaign on Thursday.

'JD-S allied with BJP to save the party'

Bengaluru, Sep 27 (PTI):

JD(S) patriarch H D Deve Gowda on Wednesday defended the decision of aligning with the BJP for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, stating that it was aimed at saving the party, and assured that he and his political outfit will stick to its secular credentials and never let minorities down.

The former prime minister also sought to clarify that the JD(S) was not power-hungry and does not practice opportunistic politics.

The JD(S) on Friday decided to ally with the BJP following a meeting of its leader and former Chief Minister H D



H D Deve Gowda

Kumaraswamy (Gowda's son) with Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national president J P Nadda in New Delhi.

"We (JDS) have never done politics by even slightly letting down our

secular credentials and there is no question of doing it in the future too. I'm saying this very frankly.

Before Kumaraswamy met BJP leaders, I had met the Union Home Minister

(Amit Shah), there is nothing to hide in it, and had spoken to him on the situation in Karnataka politics in detail," Gowda said.

Speaking to reporters here, he said there is nothing for anyone to fear, as in 50 years of political struggle, he had not let injustice happen to any community from this party.

"I want to make it categorically clear, including to the media — we are not power-hungry politicians. In the entire career of Deve Gowda, hardly one-and-half years as prime minister, 10 months as chief minister — after preliminary discussion with Shah, I myself asked (Kumaraswamy to go ahead)," he said.

'Corruption is killer of democracy, development'

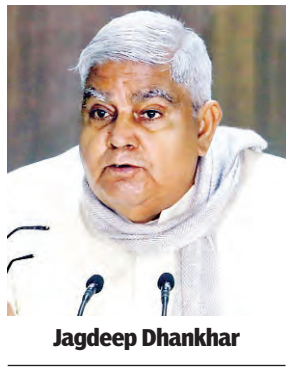
Jaipur, Sep 27 (PTI):

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Wednesday termed corruption the "killer of democracy and development" and said significant progress has been made over the last few years in clearing the corridors of influence of power brokers.

He also underlined the importance of education to accelerate India's development and improve people's lives.

Dhankhar was speaking at Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani.

Corruption is the "killer of democracy and development". But in recent years, significant progress has been made in making the corridors of influence free from power brokers, he said.



Jagdeep Dhankhar

The vice president called on citizens to actively counter any "anti-India rhetoric that tarnishes, defames and weakens our institutions".

Dhankhar described education as the most "effective and efficient" mechanism to improve people's lives and accelerate India's development.

He said society cannot progress unless justice is

ensured for the half of humanity and hailed the passing of the women's reservation bill in Parliament as a "historic development".

The legislation is a recognition of women's rights and an affirmation of their empowerment, he said.

On India successfully hosting the G20 Summit, Dhankhar said the role played by the country under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has put the Global South on the world stage.

He said the inclusion of the African Union as a member of the grouping deeply resonates with India's civilisational ethos and that the proposed India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) would prove to be a global "game changer".

Vedanta Aluminium renews pledge on sustainable environment stewardship

Bhubaneswar, Sep 27:

On the occasion of World Environment Health Day, Vedanta Aluminium, the largest aluminium producer in India, reaffirms its commitment to fostering sustainable ecosystems within the vicinity of its operations through comprehensive initiatives focused on environmental preservation, conservation and augmentation.

Through these, Vedanta Aluminium is on a mission to create an ecologically promising future for existing and coming generations.

Towards these efforts, the company has adopted a two-fold strategy of mitigating and offsetting its carbon footprint to consistently ensure sustainable operations. In terms of

mitigation, Vedanta is focused on enhancing its manufacturing excellence to ensure higher energy efficiencies, increasing the quantum of renewables in its energy mix, and transitioning to low-carbon energy sources such as biofuels.

To offset its carbon footprint, the company is also creating substantial carbon sinks through extensive afforestation efforts in the vicinity of its operations in Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

Strategic endeavours of the company towards this goal have earned it rank 2 in the S&P Dow Jones Sustainability Index world rankings for the aluminium industry in FY22, making it the second most sustainable aluminium producer in the world today.

SECURITY DRILL



Security personnel conduct a flag march in a sensitive area of Ranchi on the eve of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi, in Ranchi, Wednesday.

Brazilian Ambassador calls on Maha Guv

Mumbai, Sep 27:

The newly appointed ambassador of Brazil in India Kenneth H. da Nobrega called on Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais at Raj Bhavan Mumbai on Wed (27 Sept).

The Ambassador told the Governor that Brazil is keen to enhance trade and economic partnership with India and foster cooperation in the field of agriculture. Welcoming the Ambassador to Maharashtra, the Governor said Brazil is the agricultural powerhouse and a major exporter of agricultural products. He said India and Brazil can together feed the entire world. In this connection the Governor sought increased cooperation between agricultural univer-



sities in Maharashtra and Brazil. He said Maharashtra has 4 agricultural universities and one university of veterinary and animal sciences. He said student - exchange, faculty exchange and sharing of semesters

and expertise will help students on both sides.

Head of Trade in the Brazilian Embassy in India Wagner Silva e Antunes and Agricultural Attache Angelo de Queiroz Mauricio were present.

SCENIC BEAUTY



Tourists take 'Shikara' ride at the famous Dal Lake, on World Tourism Day, in Srinagar, Wednesday.

WORLD TOURISM DAY

Solo travel picks up pace, travellers pitch for solitude and me-time

New Delhi, Sep 27 (PTI):

Vacations aren't always about friends, family, spouse or current love interest. They don't need to be about bonding with anyone either. In fact, solo travel can be double the fun, says a growing band of travellers venturing out, sometimes into the unknown, to holiday and just get some me-time while they're at it.

It's about doing what you want when you want, an increasing trend riding on disposable incomes and the need for independence. So, make -- or change -- your itiner-

ary on the go, be touristy one day or simply chill the next, eat at Michelin-star restaurants or snack on street food. You are your own tour guide and 'your wish is your command'. The idea of enjoying your company while discovering a new place was so appealing that Delhi lawyer Priya Singh happily ditched her girl gang for a solo bachelorette trip to Japan shortly before she was to get married. "I didn't want to go somewhere with my girl friends, get drunk and play some stupid games. I wanted to experience something else, I

wanted to do something I had never done before. That's how my first ever solo trip happened," Singh told PTI on World Tourism Day on Wednesday.

"It's an experience like no other... visit different cities, do pub crawls, meet new people, all by yourself. I wish I had taken more solo trips before my marriage," Singh, who later went on a solo trip to UK, added.

Seeking solitude, reconnecting with oneself or simply stepping out of one's comfort zone... the trigger factors for going on a solo trip are as var-

ied as the list of destinations to pick from. For Delhi-based Nabha Tasnim, who has been going on solo backpacking trips since she was 17, the trips are a "personal development course".

"This form of travelling is very empowering. It gave me a lot of self-confidence about doing things on my own, approaching a new person.

It is like a personal development course in itself. It is a different addiction of sorts. I, in fact, find planning trips with friends and family very difficult now," said the 27-year-old.

'ISRO excels as no individual penalised for failures'

New Delhi, Sep 27 (PTI):

Failures are a very natural part of the space sector but no individual is penalised for it at ISRO which encourages scientists to take novel approaches in decision-making, the space agency's chairman S Somanath said on Wednesday.

Speaking at the 50th anniversary of the All India Management Association (AIMA), Somanath, who played a key role in the soft-landing of a spacecraft on the moon, noted that even he had faced failures several times, but never got criticised for it by his seniors. "We make sure that no single individual is penalised for failures because no decision is made by a single individual. All these decisions are taken by collective wisdom," he said in an interactive session here.



ISRO Chairman S. Somanath addresses at a session on 'Commanding New Heights: India's Space Odyssey' during the 50th National Management Convention of All India Management Association (AIMA), in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Somanath said in the space sector, there is a clear understanding that one person cannot understand everything which leads to collective decision-making. "So, collective decision means that you own the responsibility of failures as well. Management owns the re-

sponsibility, it is not fixed on an individual. This is the first," he said. "So, people are courageous enough to take a novel approach or decisions. Otherwise, everybody will move away from taking any risks," the space agency chief said.

He said at ISRO, the management was very

clear that failures are a natural part of a process when work is being done and the approach has always been to identify the reasons for the setback and make the necessary corrections. "You have to give confidence to the people who have the courage to propose new things and support them. Once you do that, you can do wonders in any organisation," he said. On identifying talent for the space programme, Somanath said he found that the commitment levels to excel in life of persons coming from a humble background were very high when compared with city dwellers. "If you get a person from a tier-3 institution and put him in the task, the growth rate of the person in terms of his ability, knowledge is substantially higher than I could see from a city dweller," he said.

Pro-Khalistan elements in Canada sponsoring visas of Sikh youth

New Delhi, Sept 27 (PTI): Pro-Khalistan elements based in Canada have been luring gullible Sikh youth to the North American country by sponsoring their visa with the sole objective of using them to carry out their agenda on Canadian soil, sources said on Wednesday.

The sources said Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, whose killing has led to a row between India and Canada, and other individuals like Moninder Singh Bual, Parminder Pangli, Bhagat Singh Brar have been using the lured Sikh youth to carry out their pro-Khalistan agenda from Canadian soil. However, they faced shortage of foot soldiers due to lack of support in the diaspora. This "demand and supply matrix" was

exploited by pro-Khalistan extremists in Canada who came out with a novel idea of sponsoring gullible Sikh youth from Punjab for medium-skilled jobs like plumber, truck drivers or religious work like 'Sewadars' and 'Pathis' and 'Ragis' in gurdwaras controlled by them. These pro-Khalistan extremists sponsor visas of such Punjabi youth and visits to Canada in lieu of exploiting them for doing pro-Khalistan activities in Canada like participating in anti-India protests and programmes and conducting radical-religious congregations, sources said.

After that, they identify and spot Indian youth and students in Canada who are finding it difficult to sustain themselves and need support in terms of sundry jobs and shelter. Illegal

immigrants in Canada and students, who have complete their studies in Canada but have not been able to find suitable jobs, are the most susceptible.

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