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## 2 held in Chhattisgarh, 18.5 kg ornaments recovered

of gold and diamond ornaments in connection with a burglary of jewellery worth over Rs 20 crore from a store in New Delhi earlier this week, a senior official said on Friday. A joint team of anti-crime and cyber unit and civil line police station in Bilaspur district carried out the operation while it was probing a series of thefts in Bilaspur city, Superintendent of Police (SP) Santosh Singh told PTI. The arrested persons have been identified as Lokesh Srivas and Shiva Chandravanshi, he said. Srivas was allegedly involved in seven thefts in Bilaspur, he said. Acting on a tip-off about the presence of Srivas in Kawardha town in Kabirdham district of the state, the joint team of Bilaspur police conducted a raid there on Wednesday and arrested Chandravanshi along with

ornaments worth Rs 23 lakh, he said. By that time, Srivas had managed to escape, the SP said. The team then tracked down Srivas to a house in Smritinagar police station area of Durg district with the help of Durg police, he said. The police recovered Rs 18.5 kg of gold and diamond jewellery and Rs 12.5 lakh cash from his possession, Singh said. An investigation revealed that the jewellery worth crores of



### BRIEF



President Droupadi Murmu presents the National Service Scheme Awards for the year 2021-2022 to an awardee at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi, Friday.

### Prez's assent

**New Delhi:** President Droupadi Murmu has given her assent to the women's reservation bill which seeks to provide 33 per cent reservation to women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies. According to a law ministry notification issued on Friday, the president gave her assent on Thursday.

### Naxalite killed

**Balaghat:** A 25-year-old Naxalite carrying a reward of Rs 14 lakh was killed in an encounter with an elite combat unit of the Madhya Pradesh police in the state's Balaghat district on Friday morning, a senior official said. The Naxalite, identified as Kamlu, was an active member of the Naxali Dalam Tanda Dadekasa' unit of the banned outfit, he said.

### Gold seized

**Nagpur:** Gold worth Rs 2.10 crore concealed in a coffee maker by a passenger coming from Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates was seized on Friday by the Customs department at Nagpur international airport, an official said. Based on passenger profiling, one person who arrived on board Air Arabia flight G9-415 was intercepted by Nagpur Airport Customs and a check found 3,497 grams of gold worth Rs 2.10 crore hidden in a coffee maker, he said.

### Mephedrone

**Nagpur:** The police have arrested a 35-year-old woman who was allegedly part of a racket dealing in adulterated narcotic substances in Maharashtra's Nagpur city, an official said on Friday. Acting on a tip-off, the Jaripatka police conducted a raid in the Misal Layout area on Wednesday and nabbed Preeti Nilesh Gajbiye, an official said.

**Weather**  
High 31 Low 23

**MARKET**  
NIFTY 19,638.30  
SENSEX 65,828.41

**BULLION**  
GOLD 57,541  
SILVER 72,450

### Govt hikes interest rate to 6.7 pc on five-year recurring deposit

**New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI):** The government on Friday raised the interest rate on five-year recurring deposit scheme to 6.7 per cent from 6.5 per cent for the December quarter and retained the rates for all other small savings schemes. According to a finance ministry circular, the interest rate on savings deposit has been retained at 4 per cent and on the one-year term deposit at 6.9 per cent. The rates were the same during the September quarter. The interest rate on both the two-year and

### Retains rate on other small savings schemes

three-year term deposits is 7 per cent while on the five-year term deposit, the rate is 7.5 per cent. Senior citizens savings scheme will fetch an interest rate of 8.2 per cent. On the monthly income account scheme, the interest rate is 7.4 per cent while it is 7.7 per cent on the National Savings Certificate and 7.1 per cent on the Public Provident Fund (PPF) scheme. The interest rate on the Kisan Vikas Patra is 7.5 per cent and the investments will mature in 115 months. As per the circular, the interest rate on the popular girl child scheme Sukanya Samridhi Account has been retained at 8 per cent.

### Bengal job scam

## HC orders removal of ED officer



**Kolkata, Sep 29 (PTI):** The Calcutta High Court on Friday ordered the immediate removal of Enforcement Directorate (ED) assistant director Mithilesh Kumar Mishra from the central agency's team probing the alleged primary teacher recruitment scam in West Bengal. The court said it was dissatisfied with answers to its queries posed to the officer during his appearance before it in the previous hearing. "The director of the Enforcement Directorate is instructed to immediately assign the work entrusted to Mishra to some other competent officer," Justice Amrita Sinha directed. The court directed that Mishra be relieved from investigating the present case. The ED director was instructed to engage Mishra in some other case, "but the said officer will not be entrusted to investigate any case arising in the state of West Bengal," Justice Sinha ordered. Mishra had summoned Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee to appear before him on October 3 in connection with the investigation into the alleged scam.

### Congress workers shout slogans during a protest against the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Enforcement Directorate demanding a speedy investigation in various recruitment scams in the state, at Nizam Palace, in Kolkata, Friday.

from the central agency's team probing the alleged primary teacher recruitment scam in West Bengal. The court said it was dissatisfied with answers to its queries posed to the officer during his appearance before it in the previous hearing. "The director of the Enforcement Directorate is instructed to immediately assign the work entrusted to Mishra to some other competent officer," Justice Amrita Sinha directed. The court directed that Mishra be relieved from investigating the present case. The ED director was instructed to engage Mishra in some other case, "but the said officer will not be entrusted to investigate any case arising in the state of West Bengal," Justice Sinha ordered. Mishra had summoned Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee to appear before him on October 3 in connection with the investigation into the alleged scam.

## Tamil actor Vishal alleges corruption in CBFC's Mumbai office, I&B orders inquiry

**New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI):** The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on Friday ordered an immediate inquiry into Tamil actor Vishal's allegations that he had to pay Rs 6.5 lakh to the CBFC's Mumbai office for the screening and certification of the Hindi version of his film "Mark Antony". Vishal levelled the allegations of corruption against the Mumbai office of CBFC in a post on microblogging site X on Thursday. In a post on Friday, the ministry said the government had zero tolerance for corruption. "The issue of corruption in CBFC brought forth by actor @VishalKOfficial is extremely unfortunate. The government has zero tolerance for corruption and strictest action will be taken against anyone found involved. "A senior officer from the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has been deputed to Mumbai to conduct an inquiry today itself," the I&B ministry tweeted on Friday. The ministry also urged people to cooperate and share information about "any other instance of harassment by CBFC". Official sources said Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur has directed maximising use of technology to ensure transparency in slotting and implementation of faceless systems wherever possible. Vishal's sci-fi film "Mark Antony", directed by Adhik Ravichandran, was released in Hindi on Thursday. The movie also features S J Suryah, Ritu Varma, Sunil, Selvaraghavan and Abhinaya.

## Law Commission to govt 'Not advisable to tinker with existing age of consent under POCSO Act'

**New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI):** The Law Commission has advised the government not to tinker with the existing age of consent under the POCSO Act and suggested introducing guided judicial discretion in the matter of sentencing in cases involving tacit approval of children in the 16-18 age bracket. The current age of consent in India is 18 years. The Law Commission has submitted its report on the age of consent under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act to the Law Ministry in which it has suggested that amendments are needed in the legislation to remedy the situation in cases involving tacit approval, though not consent in law, on the part

of children aged between 16 and 18. The panel, headed by former chief justice of the Karnataka High Court Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, said it had considered all the views and suggestions given in connection with cases involving those between the age of 16 and 18. The panel said reducing the age of consent will have direct and negative bearing on the fight against child marriage and child trafficking and also advised courts to tread with caution even in cases where it is observed that adolescent love cannot be controlled and criminal intention may be missing. The law panel report said that after a careful review of existing child protection laws, various judgements and considering the mal-

adies of child abuse, child trafficking and child prostitution that plague our society, the commission is of the measured view that "it is not advisable to tinker with the existing age of consent under the POCSO Act". "However, having cautiously considered all the views and suggestions furnished in this regard, the commission said it considers it necessary that certain amendments need to be brought in the POCSO Act to remedy the situation in cases wherein there is tacit approval in fact though not consent in law on part of the child aged between 16 to 18 years," according to the report. Noting that such cases do not merit to be dealt with the same severity as the cases that were ideally imagined to fall under the POCSO Act, the commission deems it fit to introduce guided judicial discretion in the matter of sentencing in such cases. "This will ensure that the law is balanced, thus safeguarding the best interests of the child," it said. The law panel said comments were also sought from the Ministry of Women and Child Development on the matter. "However, despite reminders, no response was received," it said. During the consultations, the panel said, while there was a wide divergence of opinion on how to resolve the issue at hand, there was unanimity of thought when it came to the aspect of the POCSO Act working against the very children it ought to protect. "The blanket criminalisation of sexual activity amongst and with a child, though intended to safeguard children, is leading to incarceration of young boys and girls who engage in such activities as a consequence of sexual curiosity and need for exploration that may to some extent be normative for an adolescent," the report said. There is a social cost associated with the present situation, including the negative impact upon the health, both physical and mental, of the children as well as a burden upon the investigating agencies and courts which takes away focus from the cases that are genuine and require immediate consideration, the report said.

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# Devendra performs bhoomipujan for dome-shed at Gayatri Mandir



Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Sep 29:** Bhilai Nagar MLA Devendra Yadav performed bhoomipujan for construction of a dome-shed at the premises of Gayatri Mandir in Hudco Colony on Thursday. For the convenience of the devotees, the Mandir Committee had requested Devendra Yadav to approve funds for construction of a dome shed in front of the Yajna Shala.

MLA Devendra Yadav

responded immediately and on his recommendation, the project of Dome Shed was approved. After completing the tender process, BMC recently issued the work order after which the Gayatri Mandir organised the bhoomipujan and felicitation function.

MLA Devendra Yadav graced the function as chief guest while local Corporator and MIC member Shiju Anthony and Antyavasayi Corporation Vice President Neeta



Lodhi were present as special guests. Members of Gayatri Pariwar accorded a rousing welcome to Devendra Yadav on his arrival. At the outset, he offered prayers to Maa Gayatri and thereafter performed the rituals of bhoomipujan. Pt Pawan Kumar Dwivedi conducted the vedic rituals of bhoomipujan. Members of Gayatri Pariwar honoured Devendra Yadav and expressed gratitude towards him. Amidst chanting of ved mantras, the gather-

ing showered flower petals on Devendra Yadav and blessed him for a bright future ahead.

In his address, Devendra Yadav appreciated the works of All World Gayatri Pariwar for protection and promotion of Sanatan Dharma. He further said that destiny has decided a role for every person on this earth. Sanatan Dharma teaches a man to deliver the duties and play his role in a virtuous manner. Devendra spoke about the teachings

of Ramayana, Mahabharata and other ancient texts of Hindus. He further said that destiny has given him the opportunity to serve the people as a public representative and he is making the best possible efforts in this direction. He assured to support other infrastructural development works in the Gayatri Mandir premises.

Gayatri Mandir office bearer HL Sonkale conducted the programme while Dinesh Hiyania proposed the vote of thanks. Senior members Pt Pawan Kumar Dwivedi, Satya Divedi, Rekha Singh, Rukhmani Hiyania, Sejin Sahu, Rama Sharma, Guneshwari Sahu, Saroj Tahanguria, Saroj Singh, Vijaylaxmi, Gunvati Belchandan, Veer Singh, Lekhran Sahu, Anil Belchandan, Pranil Belchandan, Pragyawatar Sahu, Neelkamal Sonkale, Daman Sahu, Jainendra Hiyania and other members were present.

# Voting Awareness Walkathon organised at Kala Mandir



Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Sep 29:** A Voting Awareness Walkathon was jointly organised by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, Nagar Nigam Bhilai, District Administration and District Election Officer, Durg on September 26, 2023 at 7:30 hrs at Kalamandir, Civic Centre, Bhilai. The objective of the Walkathon was to create awareness among people for casting their vote for successfully conducting the forthcoming elections. "Walkathon" rally was flagged off by Chief Guest Prabir Kumar Sarkar, CGM I/c (Services) from Mahatma Gandhi Kala Mandir, which returned back moving through nearby areas. An oath under

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was also administered on this occasion by the Chief Guest Sarkar.

Jageshwar Kaushal (SDM, Bhilai), Nisha Soni, CGM (HRD & BE), Tarun Kanrar, CGM (CO & CCD), Soumya Tokdar, CGM (BFs), Munish Kumar Goyal, CGM (MWRM), AK Joshi, CGM (Utility), Rakesh Joshi, CGM (EMD), HK Pathak, CGM (OHP), Dr K Thakur, CMO (M&HS), Dinesh Kumar, GM (TSD), Suraj Kumar Soni, GM (Pers-Nw&Mines), NK Banthor, President-OA & Chairman-SEFI, H Shekhar, GM (ED P&A-Office), Amulya Priyadarshi, GM (HRD), KK Yadav, GM (TSD), Parvinder Singh, General Secretary (OA),

along with Amit Ghosh and Pushpa Purshottama, Asst Electoral Registration Officers, on behalf of District Education Department and Sweep Team Representatives.

Various other Senior Officials from Bhilai Steel Plant, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) authorities, Plant's Trainee members, employees of BSP-TSD, technical-non-technical staff, health workers and citizens of the steel city Bhilai.

All the citizens and voters, especially the Youth of steel city actively participate in the Walkathon and made it a success. Suraj Kumar Soni, GM (Pers-Nw&Mines) compered the programme.

# Maulana gets five years rigorous imprisonment for bad touch

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Sep 29:** A Fast Track Special Court in Durg sentenced a Maulana to five-year rigorous imprisonment for bad touch and passing lewd remarks to a minor girl.

Additional District and Sessions Judge (Fourth, FTSC - POCSO) Sangeeta Naveen Tiwari convicted 22-year-old Mohammad Mehraj son of Mohammad Mobarak, a resident of village Majar, District Gonda (Jharkhand).

He was presently staying in Ayyappa Nagar Yatimkhana, Supela,

Bhilai. The girl's parents had lodged a complaint at Supela Police Station on February 18, 2023.

Special Prosecutor Santosh Kasar informed that the victim is a student of Class Four in the school. The accused visited the victim's home to teach her Arabic. While giving Arabic lessons, he took advantage of loneliness and touched the girl inappropriately.

When the girl resisted, he did not stop and said that he loves her. When the victim's mother noticed changes in the child's behaviour, she asked her if she had any

problem. The girl narrated the entire incident after which the family lodged an FIR at Supela Police Station.

After trial, the Special Court found the accused guilty and awarded different jail terms for Section 10 and 12 of POCSO Act under which the accused was tried.

He was sentenced to rigorous imprisonment of five years and Rs 5000 fine under section 10 of POCSO Act as well as rigorous imprisonment of one year and Rs 1000 fine under section 12 of POCSO Act, informed Special Prosecutor Santosh Kasar.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Sep 29:** The Computer Science Department of Bhilai Institute of Technology is hosting 'OpinHacks', a 36-hour offline hackathon on the campus, from September 29, 2023 to October 1, 2023. This hackathon is a collaborative effort by Google Developers Student Clubs BIT-D in partnership with Major League Hacking (MLH), GitHub, Orkes, Quine, DeepFence, Postman and Spheron.

The community partners for the event are HackReboot BIT-D, OpInCo Community,



GDSC GHRCE, OrangeHacks, GDSC RCOEM, GDSC GEC Raipur, GDSC ABES and The Frontend Club.

'OpinHacks' is poised to be a standout event, offering mentorship sessions led by industry experts, networking opportunities, and an enticing prize pool. This event aims to provide students with a platform to not only showcase their

technical prowess and problem-solving abilities but also to underscore the institute's commitment to nurturing innovation and practical experience.

With a staggering response of over 700 registrations from colleges across the nation, only 200 of the most promising participants have been selected for the finals. The core objective of this com-

petition is to foster interdisciplinary collaboration, creating an inclusive environment that promotes learning and growth.

The event is set to take place under the guidance of esteemed educators and leaders Dr Sunita Soni Coordinator & HOD, CSE, Chaitali Choudhary, Organizer & Dr Pawan Patnaik Co-coordinator,

making it a significant milestone for both the institution and the participants.

The event is the outcome of efforts of our student team Vinayak, Manaswi, Sanskar, Tejas, Sanskriti, Poorva, Akshat, Aakash, Bhumika, Dhruv, Aditya, Shashwat, Shashank, Shruti, Ishu, Jayash, Ranjit, Ayush, Devansh, Manas, Prateek, Vaibhav and Yash. The support and well-wishes for this grand event have poured in from the highest echelons, IP Mishra, Trustee, Dr Arun Arora, Principal, BIT Durg, Dr Manisha Sharma, Vice Principal, BIT Durg.

# St Thomas College acknowledges the Remembrance Day of Sigmund Freud

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Sep 29:** St Thomas College, Department of Psychology, remembered Sigmund Freud on his death anniversary with a programme on his life and works. Freud developed the theory that humans have an unconscious mind where all unwanted impulses and desires are repressed and they are in perpetual mental conflict with conscious and sub-conscious mind.

In 1900, his major work "The Interpretation of Dreams" was published in which Freud analyzed dreams in terms of unconscious desires and experiences. Sigmund Freud developed the therapy called Psychotherapy, that is the most prevalent therapy for



analysis and cure of mental maladies. The students performed Psychodrama in this programme which was narrated by with portrayal of different characters by Muskan Khan, Nupoor Nagariya, Tapsi Ganguly, Anuj Uike, Harmendra Tandon, Aafreen Hussain and Saswat Dey as Friends, Ankushi Jain, Aarya, and Aishwary as levels of consciousness. The programme was organized under the aegis of Psychometrician, the departmental associa-

tion, President of the association Oorja Parwana, Vice President Aafreen Hussain, Secretary Anushka Thakur, Joint Secretary Mansi Sahu and members Ravi Deshmukh, Shekinah Nag and Muskan Khan were the organizers. Psychodrama was directed by Shubham Kumar and written by Shekinah Nag and Anushka Thakur. A descriptive video made by Oorja Parwana describing the works and important contributions of Dr Sigmund Freud were also

exhibited. Administrator of the college, Fr Dr Joshy Varghese appreciated the programme and Principal Dr MG Roymon encouraged the department to conduct such academic programme.

Dr Debjani Mukherjee, Head, of the department talked about the importance of Freud's contribution in the field of psychology. Dr Shiny Mendonce, Dr Sapna Sharma and Dr Sujata Koley also attended the Programme. Dr Sumita Singh assistant professor also spoke on the occasion. The programme was conducted by Dr Ankita Deshmukh assistant professor and Sanchana Sahu faculty department of Psychology conceptualised and coordinated the programme.

# Loot accused arrested within 24-hours

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Sep 29:** Jamul Police arrested the accused of a loot incident within 24-hours. Inspector Yakub Menon (SHO, Jamul) informed that they received a complaint from Shubham Puri Goswami (19) of village Nardha on September 26. Shubham and his friend Govind Dhimar were moving on a bike towards Power House to purchase groceries.

Between the liquor shop and Bogda Puliya in Jamul, three bike-borne youths intercepted them and attacked with a beer bottle. Shubham suffered head injury on head after which the accused looted Shubham's mobile phone and escaped.

Jamul Police swung into action after receiving the complaint. Four suspects



were taken into custody and during interrogation, they confessed to committing the crime. Police booked the accused Arjun Yadav (27) of Ghasidas Nagar Jamul; Rohit Pandey (23) of Ghasidas Nagar

Jamul; Prince Kumar Singh (25) of Ghasidas Nagar Jamul and Hidayat Siddhiqui (25) of Kailash Nagar Jamul under section 394 of IPC. The bike used in the crime and the looted mobile phone were seized

from them. ASI Kuleshwar Chandrakar, Constable Sagar Kannoja, Chetman Gurum, Gambhir Jaat, Arvind Yadav, Sanjay Mishra and S Dinesh played a vital role in arresting the accused.

# Mock drill for Disaster Management held at Bhilai Steel Plant's Propane Plant

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Sep 29:** A Mock Drill for Disaster Management was carried out in SAIL-Bhilai Steel Propane Plant, on September 26, 2023. The Mock Drill Exercise on "Gas Leak Disaster in BSP" at Propane Plant, which falls under the Extremely Hazardous Category (Major Accident Hazards-MAH), was jointly conducted by the cooperation of NDRF, CISF, Fire Brigade, Safety Engg Deptt, MMP-1 and Civil Defence, EMD etc. The objective of the Mock Drill was to ascertain the preparedness and response of different agencies during any emergency.

As part of the exercise, information regarding a sudden excessive leakage of Propane gas and serious injury to a worker due to the explosion was reported on September 26, 2023, around 11:00 hrs. The injured worker was rescued by the other personnel of the department and the



incident was communicated to the Fire Brigade for Fire Tender and MMP-1 for Ambulance. Team was engaged to communicate the nature of emergency to Plant Control, CISF, Fire Brigade, Safety Engg Deptt, MMP-1, Civil Defence, Work Manager, along with CGM (Utilities), CGM I/c (M&U), Executive Director (Works) and Director Incharge Office, simultaneously. The Fire Tender reached the

accident site within 5 minutes and the ambulance reached within 4 minutes. The injured worker was sent to the Main Medical Post for treatment and the fire was immediately brought under control. Meanwhile, the gas leak was immediately stopped and all 5 employees were safely evacuated from the work site. The situation normalized within 10 minutes and the work of the department was reinstated

thereby. During the Mock Drill Review Meeting, Rajesh Kumar Chandra, Departmental Safety Officer told that propane is a non-toxic gas, which although does not pose a risk of gas inhalation, but it is a highly explosive gas. Departmental Head Ramesh Prasad Ahirwar, GM (Propane Storage and Distribution Plant) said that the mock drill is a superconic tool, which is like a "Sharpen the Saw", a habit of 7-

Habits of highly effective people and keeps the person safe at all times. Remains alert and active towards. All the mandatory parameters of extremely dangerous category (MAH) are completed at our department on time. AK Joshi, CGM (Utilities) appreciated the Mock Drill Exercise and encouraged all the employees to work in future with the same spirit.

Along with various agencies, KR Chowdhra, Niles Bhangre, Khagpati Naik, Mohan Bisai, DP Singh, Santosh Oraon, Chhotalal, Sanjay Prasad, Pardeshi Ram Dewangan, Nandini Keshwar and Poshan Yadav from the department also contributed for making the Mock Drill Successful. It is noteworthy that protocols have been made in each department to deal with emergency disasters. Mock drills are organized from time to time to check the compliance to and the efficacy of these protocols.

# Police seizes DJ sound system for playing loud music

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Sep 29:** Supela Police seized a DJ Sound System along with the vehicle on charges of playing loud music around midnight. ASP Sanjay Dhruv informed that they received a complaint around 23.30 hrs on Thursday that loud music was being played by a DJ Sound System installed on a mini truck near Gada Chowk in Supela.

A team of Supela Police Station immediately reached the spot and seized the sound system laden vehicle. Action was taken against the sound system owner Rajkumar



Janghel (36) son of Amardas Janghel a resident of Mohgaon, district -

Khairagarh under Section 15 of the Kolahal Niyantaran Adhiniyam.



## Ch'garh is continuously moving towards universal health care: Singhdeo

**Deputy Chief Minister reviewed the work of the Health Department**  
**Instructions given to hospitals to speed up payment of claim amount**



of Health Services and reviewed the schemes run by the department. Additional Chief Secretary of Health Department, Renu Pillai, Secretary Siddharth Komal Pardeshi, Director of Health Services, Jaiprakash Maurya and Director of National Health Mission, Bhoskar Vilas Sandipan also attended the meeting. Deputy Chief Minister T.S. Singhdeo said in the meeting that Chhattisgarh is continuously moving towards universal health care. The health and wellness centres, 'Hamar Lab' and 'Hamar Clinic' are doing

good work. Through these, people are getting quality health services. Referring to schemes like Dr. Khubchand Baghel Health Assistance Scheme, Chief Minister Special Health Assistance Scheme, Chief Minister Haat Bazaar Clinic Scheme, he said that through these schemes people are getting free medical consultation, health checkup, treatment and medicines. The state government's share in the Ayushman scheme is approaching 80 percent. In the first six months of the current financial year (April to September), free treatment worth Rs 900 crore

has been provided to the people of the state. Deputy Chief Minister said in the meeting that people's trust in government hospitals have gone up and the number of patients is increasing. In the last five years, the state has made good achievements in maternal mortality rate and infant mortality rate. Praising the staff of the Health Department, he said that even amidst the difficult circumstances of the global pandemic Corona, the department has provided better health services to the people. T.S. Singhdeo during the review meeting of the Health Department on Friday, administered the oath to the departmental officers to donate organs. Health department officials also took an oath to inspire their family members, friends and relatives for this.

## Bhagat will receive PM Modi today

**Raipur, Sep 29:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a visit to Chhattisgarh on September 30. He will reach Raipur by special plane and leave for the program organised in Bilaspur. On behalf of the state government, Culture Minister Amarjeet Bhagat will receive him at Swami Vivekananda Airport.

As per the scheduled tour, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will leave from Delhi on September 30 and will reach Swami Vivekananda airport in Raipur at 1:30 pm. He will leave for Bilaspur to participate in the program.

Prime Minister Modi will reach Swami Vivekananda Airport at 4:50 pm by plane from Bilaspur and will leave for New Delhi. The Culture Minister Mr. Amarjeet Bhagat will attend him on the behalf of the Chhattisgarh Government.

## 'PITRA PAKSH'



**Youth performing rituals for the ancestors in the family on occasion of 'Pitra Paksha' starting from Friday.**

## Two accused nabbed with pistol, two live cartridges



**Raipur, Sep 29:** Two accused have been nabbed with a pistol and live cartridges in capital city on Friday. As per information in this regard, in a combined action by the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and Ganj Police, the checking of suspicious persons in two-wheelers, four-wheelers and others is being done near the railway station and nearby areas. During this while checking two persons near Gurudwara near the Railway station, the police found one pistol and two live cartridges. On asking about valid documents, they failed to produce any and therefore both were nabbed.

On inquiry the two accused informed that they illegally sell and purchase pistol and live cartridges and disclosed their names as Afzal Khatri and Sonu Mishra. Both were nabbed and their pistol and live cartridges were seized along with two mobile phones and cash of Rs 30000.

A case under section 25 of Arms Act was filed against the two and police is holding interrogation with the two about from where they purchase and to whom all they sell it. The accused Afzal Khatri earlier has been sentenced imprisonment under Arms Act in undivided MP.

## 600 jawans will be deployed in security arrangements

**District administration gears up for Ganesh tableaux in Raipur today**

**Route decided regarding Ganesh tableau, monitoring to be done by drone**

**Police personnel to be deployed in civil dress**

**More than 50 tableaux to be displayed in the city**



Kankali Para Chowk, Lakhnagar Chowk, Sundernagar, Raipura Underbridge in front of Purani Basti police station and reach Mahadev Ghat. A team of 600 policemen will be deployed since morning for security arrangements at the tableaux. Barricading will be done on the roads around the routes through in which the tableaux will pass. Police will also be deployed in civil dress to crack down on miscreants. Vehicles will be checked at various streets and chowks. According to police officials, the crowd pressure increases due to the display of tableaux in Jaistambh Chowk, Sharda Chowk, Kotwali Chowk and Lakhnagar Chowk. In

such a situation, miscreants are eager to commit criminal acts. Sensitive places will be monitored with drones. It is difficult to walk on the roads due to the tableaux that come out during Ganesh Visarjan.

In such a situation, the police administration face difficulty in patrolling. Keeping this in mind, separate police teams have been formed, which will patrol the connecting streets on bikes.

The police have completed preparations to deal with any untoward incident regarding Ganesh immersion. In the last three years, criminals who have been jailed under the Arms Act are being called to the police station daily and interrogated.

## World Heart Day celebrated by Ramakrishna Care Hospital



Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Sep 29:** Ramakrishna Care Hospital on the occasion of World Heart Day organized a one day programme on Friday, September 29th.

Patients who underwent angioplasty and bypass surgery participated in this event. The programs were also organized for the entertainment of all the patients in which questions were asked and gifts were given to all the patients and they were also given roses. In this program, Dr. Sandeep Dave of Ramakrishna Care, Dr. Javed Ali Khan, Dr. Shailesh Sharma, Dr. Vinod Ahuja, Dr. Pranay Anil Jain, Dr. Javed

Parvez and Dr. Kalpesh Aggarwal informed all about what precautions should the patients and their families take in case of illness, what should they eat, etc. Many important advices were also given by the expert doctors. All patients shared their experiences before and after angioplasty and bypass surgery. The patients also shared how they faced the disease? What kinds of problems did they face? and how they are living at present. They thanked Ramakrishna Care Hospital who gave them a second life. It is notable that Ramakrishna Care Hospital organises such programs from time to time.

## Election Commission keeping an eye on 12000 booths

**Including sensitive ones in Naxal affected areas**

**Live telecast will take place keeping transparency and security in mind**

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Sep 29:** This time the Central Election

Commission officials sitting in Delhi will be able to watch the live telecast of the assembly elections to be held in Chhattisgarh. This will be the first time in the state that 50 percent of the 24109 booths will have live telecast. Special attention will be kept on Naxal affected sensitive areas and booths with low turnout. For the purpose of security and

transparency, following the instructions of the Central Election Commission, the Election Office has started preparations for live telecast through CCTV cameras and internet at more and more booths. The office has also issued a tender for webcasting. In the last assembly elections, CCTV cameras were installed in only 20 to 30 percent of the booths.



The special thing is that the Telecom Ministry has established 400 mobile networks in Naxal affected areas. Officials of the Information Technology

Department of the state government had already started the exercise to improve internet service in tribal and Naxal affected areas. It is notable that preparations are being made to install CCTV cameras at 12,055 booths. Along with the Commission, police and administration officials will also be able to keep a constant eye on these booths. This time the

Election Office has decided to build a polling station in the Naxal affected area itself. Earlier, people of Naxal affected areas had to travel 20 to 25 km to vote to come to the polling station. This time, the Election Office has decided to increase the security arrangements and create a new booth by combining 30-40 nearby villages for maximum voting in tribal areas.

Through 400 mobile networks, a population of two lakh in Naxal affected areas will get 4G network coverage for the first time. These include many tribal areas of Bastar, Bijapur, Sukma, Narayanpur, Dantewada districts. The population in these districts will get to experience 4G for the first time. The experience of election office campaigns, voter awareness

and internet media will be new for them. Paramilitary force camps in Bastar and Naxal affected areas have also been covered with 4G network. These include CRPF, BSF and SSB. Along with the communication system, 4G network will be of great help to the polling parties engaged in election work in reaching the booths at the right time.

## Kerala & Andhra triumph in exciting T20 matches

**Ch'garh Senior Men's T20 Cup-2023**

**Raipur, Sep 29:** The Chhattisgarh Senior Men's T20 Cup-2023, organised by the Chhattisgarh State Cricket Sangh, kickstarted with a burst of cricketing excitement at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Cricket Stadium today. In the inaugural matches of the tournament, both Andhra Pradesh and Kerala emerged victorious, securing compelling wins over Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, respectively.



Tiwari, who contributed 33 runs, and Nazim Siddiqui, adding 28 runs to the scoreboard. Kerala's Vinop shone with the ball, claiming 3 crucial wickets while conceding just 13 runs.

In response, Kerala elegantly chased down the target, reaching 132 runs in just 16 overs while losing a mere three wickets. Ajnas M. played a pivotal role, remaining unbeaten with an impressive 48 runs. Anand Krishna made valuable contributions with 33 runs, and Sachin Baby added 32 runs, securing a resounding 7-wicket triumph for Kerala. For Jharkhand, Rahul Shukla claimed two



wickets while Vikas Kumar took 1 wicket.

**Andhra Pradesh vs. Ch'garh Red**

The second encounter of the day witnessed Chhattisgarh Red squaring off against Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh, having won the toss, chose to field. Chhattisgarh Red batted first and amassed 177 runs, losing 6 wickets in their allotted 20 overs. Shashank Chandrakar was the standout performer, crafting an impressive 62 runs, while Anuj Tiwari added a crucial 52 runs to the total. Andhra Pradesh's bowlers,

Harishankar Reddy and Manish, demonstrated their prowess, each claiming two wickets.

In reply, Andhra Pradesh showcased remarkable batting prowess, achieving the target of 178 runs for the loss of only two wickets in 18.1 overs. Ashwin stood out with an exceptional unbeaten century, amassing 111 runs from 64 balls. Shekh Rashid contributed a significant 50 runs to the winning cause. For Chhattisgarh Red, Sumit Ruikar and Mayank Yadav managed to capture one wicket each.



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## Special program to be conducted in Balrampur and Dantewada districts

**To boost the productivity of rice and wheat**

**United Nations to provide financial aid of Rs 31.404 cr**

**MoU signed between United Nations and Agriculture Department**

**Raipur, Sep 29:** A special program will be conducted in Balrampur and Dantewada districts of Chhattisgarh to encourage the production of wheat and rice here. For this program, financial aid of Rs 31.404 cr will be provided by the United Nations. This program will be conducted solely with the aid amount, and along with the production of rice and

wheat, digital agriculture will also be encouraged. This program will be operated for the duration of 5 years.

An MoU was signed today between the Agriculture Department of the State Government and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at Mantralaya (Mahanadi Bhawan) located in Nava Raipur. In the program organized under the chairmanship of Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Kamalpreet Singh, Director Agriculture Mrs. Chandan Sanjay Tripathi signed the MoU on behalf of the state government and United Nations representative Mr. Takayuki Hajiwara signed on behalf of the UN. In the program, Project Director of Food and Agriculture Organization Mr. Prashant Kumar Swain,

Joint Secretary Agriculture Mr. K.C. Paikra, Additional Director Agriculture Mr. C.B. Lodhekar, Mr. R. I. Dhurandhar, Joint Director Agriculture Mr. Kapildev Deepak, Mr. Amit Singh along with officers and employees were present.

Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Kamalpreet Singh informed the representative of the United Nations about the immense scope for export of non-basmati paddy from the state, the possibilities of coffee and tea production, the facilities of crop loans available at zero percent interest for the farmers of the state for agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry and fishery. He also informed about the additional input grant amount being provided to the farmers growing aromatic paddy and

other crops.

Agriculture Production Commissioner Mr Singh gave information about the state government's efforts to promote organic farming by distributing vermi compost prepared under Godhan NYAY Yojana and also through implementation of Millet Mission, under which the production and area of millet crops like Kodo-Kutki, Ragi is being expanded in the state. He also informed about various innovative measures being taken by the state government to promote small scale industries through Mahatma Gandhi Rural Industrial Park (RIPA), to strengthen the rural economy of the state. The projects of Food and Agriculture Organization were described as catalysts to the efforts and initiatives of the state government.

## POLLUTION IN PONDS



**Ponds in the capital city are getting polluted with throwing of puja materials and other waste and authorities not taking any action.**

## Women groups can now avail a maximum loan of up to Rs 6 lakh

**Through loan scheme**

**Relaxation in the eligibility conditions for taking a loan under the Saksham Yojana**

**Raipur, Sep 29:** Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, the state government has taken many decisions to empower women economically. Continuing this tradition, in the Aabhar Sammelan of Anganwadi workers, assistants, and Mitans, organized at the Science College grounds of Raipur on May 2, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel announced the decision to provide loans up to Rs 6 lakh to women's

groups and simplify the eligibility conditions for women to avail loans. The state government has issued an order in this regard.

Under the loan scheme of Chhattisgarh Mahila Kosh, women groups who have taken a loan for the first time and have paid the loan off completely will now be eligible for a maximum loan of Rs 6 lakh instead of Rs 4 lakh. Also, the loan of Rs 4 to 6 lakh will be repaid in 60 monthly installments after 6 months of receiving the loan from women self-help groups. The benefit of loan eligibility will be available only to beneficiaries who pay regular installments.

Additionally, the eligibility conditions under the Saksham Yojana were relaxed. The eligibility of

the female beneficiary to take a loan will be determined on the basis of her annual income instead of the annual income of the family. Now the woman whose annual income limit is up to Rs. 2 lakh will be eligible for a loan.

It is noteworthy that Mahila Kosh provides loans at a rate of only 3 percent annual interest to economically empower women through the loan scheme and the Saksham Yojana. With the aim of promoting the self-reliance of women, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel has increased the budget of Mahila Kosh by almost 10 times to Rs 25 crore in this financial year. Besides, an allocation of Rs 25 crore was also made for the new Kaushalya Samridhi Yojana.

## Chairman of the SHC greets on Eid Milad-un-Nabi



**Raipur, Sep 29:** Chhattisgarh State Haj Committee Chairman Mohammad Aslam Khan extended heartfelt greetings to all the residents of the state on the occasion of Eid Milad-un-Nabi and welcomed the procession of Eid-e-Milad at Naveen Market Nayapara.

On this occasion, Chairman of the Chhattisgarh State Haj Committee Mohammad Aslam, Deputy Chairman of the Raipur Development

Authority Shiv Singh Thakur, Former Chairman of the Waqf Board Salam Rizvi, Sayyad Haji Ziaul Rahman, Mohammad Riyaz, Abdul Qayyum Aslam, Mohammad Yusuf, Mohammad Jishan, Mohammad Taiyyab, Mohammad Asaraf, Mohammad Ilyas, Mohammad Tanveer Khan, and Mohammad Irfan Malik, and various prominent members of the Muslim community were present

## IIT Bhilai observes Hindi Pakhwada



**Raipur, Sep 29:** IIT Bhilai organised "Hindi Pakhwada" over the last fortnight. Hindi is the fourth most spoken language in the world and it has contributed unequivocally towards the promotion of Indian culture. The event is held each year at IIT Bhilai to honour Hindi as an official language of India.

The event began on September 14, 2023 with an oath taking ceremony in which all faculty and staff

members enthusiastically took a pledge to use the Hindi language for official work. An array of competitions including quiz, poetry and essay writing, poem recitations and speeches were conducted and engendered enthusiastic participation throughout the last fortnight. The winners of these competitions were awarded prizes and certificates. Prof. Rajiv Prakash, Director, IIT Bhilai, gave a concluding speech on the

final day of the event. Prof. Prakash talked about conducting various activities during Hindi Pakhwada to increase the involvement of people and bring out the interest of Hindi in their daily lives. There should be a larger participation beyond the scope of just celebrating a fortnight. Regular speaking Hindi, watching Hindi movies, reading Hindi Newspapers, and writing in Hindi are also necessary.

## State govt implemented the OTS 2023 Scheme under VAT

**Raipur, Sep 29:** The Goods and Services Tax (GST) department has introduced a one-time settlement scheme under the Value Added Tax (VAT) and Commercial Tax Act for the recovery of old outstanding amounts of VAT, Central Entry Tax, Turnover Tax, and Luxury Tax. More than 70,000 businesspersons with pending dues can benefit from this scheme in the state. Under the guidance of the Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. T.S. Singh Deo, the department officially notified this scheme on September 15. Under the one-time set-

tlement scheme, pending taxes, interest, and penalties will be collected. For this, business persons will need to apply in the prescribed format at the offices of the Commercial Tax Commissionerate. Applications can be submitted under this OTS scheme until January 31, 2024.

A special feature of this OTS scheme is that it has been extended to cases pending as of January 31, 2024, including cases related to tax determination, revision, first or second appeal, and appeals before the government, high court,

or supreme court. Business persons who participated in the Saral Samadhan Yojana for the recovery of outstanding dues in 2010 can also be included under this settlement act.

Under the provisions of the OTS scheme, in cases where the outstanding amount in a pending case exceeds Rs. 50 lakhs in a year, 40% of the tax amount will be waived, along with 90% of the interest amount and 100% of the penalty amount. In cases where the outstanding amount is less than Rs. 50 lakhs, 60% of the outstanding amount, 90% of the interest

amount, and 100% of the penalty amount will be waived.

For the convenience of business persons, the OTS scheme, rules, and application format have been uploaded on the website <https://comtax.cg.nic.in> by the Commercial Tax Department. Under the OTS scheme, online applications can also be submitted. Those applying online will need to submit a hard copy to the concerned officer at the respective Commercial Tax office. Business persons included under the OTS can apply for this free of charge.

## Grand Investiture Ceremony held

● **At DAV Public School, Bachel**

**Bachel, Sep 29:** DAV Public School Bachel, held the investiture ceremony on 29th September, 2023 in the school assembly hall.

The ceremony began with the welcoming of the Principal Dr.Chetna Sharma at the threshold of the assembly hall and escorted by the CCA member J Shailaja. Under the guidance of the Sports teacher- Niranjan Patra, the newly selected Student Council was brought forward near the dais. Thereafter, the student council were honoured with a Sash each by the Principal.



The school Head Boy is Aman Kashyap, Priya Masih, Ashutosh Singh Thakur (XII SCIENCE), and the School Head Girl is Sonal Mandavi (XII COMMERCE) and School Deputy Head Boy is Ankush Nayak (XI Commerce) and the School Deputy Head Girl - Tapasya Sharma (XI Commerce). The names of the House Captains, Vice Captains, Cultural Captains and Sports Captains are MD. Asif Sheikh, Kuldeep Mandal, Siya Sahu, Vamsi Krishna Reddy,

Principal who exhorted the newly elected leaders to be committed and dutiful and to play their role well. Dr. Chetna Sharma, in her speech reminded the school leaders that with position comes responsibility towards themselves and towards their school and peers and encouraged them to play their part well under the guidance of the Principal and teachers in all the school activities and to be role models. She also thanked her team members, all those who were directly or indirectly responsible for the grand success of the programme. Anchoring part was successfully done by the CCA Incharge- Mary Joseph.

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## 'Ubuntu Philosophy: I Am Because We Are'



Dr. Arvind Neral

Africa is rich in indigenous philosophies and cultural practices, Ubuntu is one of them. It's a way of life that has been used for many centuries to shape, guide and maintain positive human interactions, relationship and well-being. Ubuntu philosophy is grounded in humanistic values and prin-

ciples of solidarity, kindness, cooperation, respect and compassion. This when embraced correctly, can therefore promote and nurture communal living, co-existence and interdependence. The collective fingers theory (C.F.T) draws from the principles of the ubuntu philosophy. It says: A thumb although it is strong, cannot kill aphids on its own; it would require the collective cooperation of other fingers".

Ubuntu is a Nguni Bantu term meaning "Humanity". It is sometimes translated as "I am because we are" or "Humanity towards others" In Xhosa, this term is used, but is often meant in a more philosophical sense to mean "the belief in a universal bond of sharing that connects all

humanity". Ubuntu can best be described as an African philosophy that believes on "being self through others". It is a form of humanism which can be expressed - "I am because of who we all are".

It's interesting to share the story that how Ubuntu got its name. An anthropologist studying the habits and customs of an African tribe, found himself surrounded by children most days. So he decided to play a little game with them. He managed to get candy from the nearest town and put it all in a decorated basket at the foot of a tree. Then he called the children and suggested they play the game. When the anthropologist said "now", the children had to run to the tree and the first one to



get there could have all the candy to him/herself.

So the children all lined up waiting for the signal. When the anthropologist said "now", all of the children took each other by the hand and ran together towards the tree. They all arrived at the same time divided up the candy, sat down and began to happily munch away. The an-

thropologist went over to them and asked why they had all run together when any one of them could have had the candy all to themselves. The children responded: "Ubuntu. How could any one of us be happy if all the others were sad?" Ubuntu is a philosophy of African tribes that can be summed up as "I am what I am be-



cause of who we all are." This is the true spirit of human development and cause of human evolution. We are proud to say Ubuntu, I am what I am because of who we all are. This is not a story as such, but a feeling to be expressed. Deeper understanding of Ubuntu philosophy is essential in maintaining cultural in-

tegrity promoting co-existence, social cohesion and inclusivity among people from diverse ethnic and cultural background as in our country 'Bharat'. Bishop Desmond Tutu gave this explanation in 2008 - "One of the sayings in our country is Ubuntu- the essence of being human. Ubuntu speaks particularly about the fact

that you can't exist as a human being in isolation. It speaks about our interconnectedness. You can't be human all by yourself, and when you have this quality. Ubuntu means you are known for your generosity. We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world. When you do well, it spreads out; it is for the whole of humanity." Concept of Ubuntu believes that the purpose of life is not to be happy alone... It is to be useful, responsible, compassionate and happy with others as well.

**Author is Prof. & HOD, Pathology, Pt. J.N.M. Medical College Raipur (C.G.)**



GANESH VISARJAN



Devotees with idols of Lord Ganesha wait in queue for their turn for the idol immersion (Ganesh Visarjan) during the Ganesh Chaturthi festivities, at Versova Beach, in Mumbai, Friday.

AI passenger onboard suffers burns after crew accidentally spills coffee

New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI):

A passenger onboard an Air India flight from the national capital to San Francisco earlier this month suffered burns after a cabin crew member accidentally spilled coffee on her, and the airline has apologised for the incident.

The passenger took to social media to narrate her experience, saying "Air India delivered distressing experience that took a harrowing turn when flight attendant spilled hot water on my leg".

"I was travelling from New Delhi to SFO on Flight AI 173 with my 4-yr-old son and 83-yr-old mother-in-law. The flight lasted approximately 16 hrs, and it was nothing short of a nightmare," the passenger said in

a long thread posted on social media platform X on September 27.

The passenger claimed that she was in excruciating pain and that screamed and cried for help, and that after some time, a physician on the plane offered assistance. The physician diagnosed the "injury as a second-degree burn and attempted to provide care.

However the flight lacked essential medical supplies, and the treatment was far from ideal I endured severe pain for nearly two hours in flight with no pain medication or proper first aid kit available," the passenger said in the thread.

"We sincerely regret the unfortunate incident that occurred on our flight AI 173 operating Delhi-San Francisco on 20

September 2023. One of our cabin crew members accidentally spilled coffee on a guest during service," an Air India spokesperson said in a statement on Friday.

While the passenger has claimed that the crew spilled hot water, the airline said coffee was spilled. The airline said the crew immediately administered first aid to the guest and paged for a doctor on board, who attended to the affected guest.

"We have expressed our sincere apologies to the guest, whom our teams have

been in touch with to offer all further assistance, including medical care.

We have taken serious note of the incident, and will ensure to retrain the crew member on our standard procedures to avoid such an incident in the future," the spokesperson said.

According to the passenger, upon landing, the paramedic team evacuated her from the plane, and that the crew did not attend to the family members, leaving them alone and unaware of what was happening.

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD. GOLD AUCTION NOTICE. The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/10/2023 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

Court directs DRI to revise raid guidelines after detainee dies by suicide

New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI):

A Delhi metropolitan court, while taking cognisance of various offences against four Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) officers, including abduction and abetment of suicide, has directed the agency to revise the guidelines to be followed by its officers during a raid.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Shivani Chauhan was hearing a case where a suspect was allegedly driven to end his life by suicide due to illegal detention, and physical and mental abuse by four DRI officers.

According to the case

details, the central agency conducted a raid at the office, shop and residence of victim Gaurav Gupta on April 24, 2018. The raid continued till the next morning, and after the victim and his father were taken to DRI office, Gupta ended his life by jumping out of a window.

An FIR was initially registered for the offence of murder. After investigation, however, a cancellation report was filed, and the Investigating Officer (IO) concluded that it was a case of suicide.

The court, in an order passed on September 25, said it was "prima facie" a case of suicide but it had

to see whether the victim took his life of his own volition or something happened at the DRI office which drove him to take the extreme step.

It said the victim's father categorically stated that during the raid at his residence, a DRI officer pointed a revolver at the victim, and four members of the raiding team slapped and misbehaved with them.

At the DRI office, he could hear his son being beaten in the adjoining room, the court noted. It said the victim and his father were detained without following the due procedure.

INDIA bloc will take care to ensure no disputes among partners ahead of state polls: Pawar

Pune, Sep 29 (PTI):

The INDIA bloc will take precautions to ensure that there are no disputes among its alliance partners in states like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh where elections are due in a few months, NCP chief Sharad Pawar said on Friday.

He was speaking to reporters at Baramati in Maharashtra's Pune district. Pawar also spoke about issues like Maratha reservation and export duty on onions. More than two dozen opposition parties have formed the Indian National Developmental Alliance

(INDIA) to take on the BJP in next year's general elections.

Replying to a question about apparent friction in West Bengal as the Congress has staked claim to some seats, the veteran politician said there are no elections there in the immediate future.

"When elections near, the possibility of differences (among INDIA bloc partners) cannot be ruled out. However, we will sort the issues by sending neutral leaders from the alliance," he said.

Pawar stressed that elections are due in a few months in four to five states and that is more

important for them.

"INDIA bloc will see how all the alliance partners come on one page in states like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. After returning to Mumbai, I will hold discussions with Congress and other party leaders and we will take precautions to ensure that there are no disputes among the alliance partners (in these states)," he said.

This process will start in the next eight to ten days, the NCP chief said. Assembly elections are due in a few months in Chattisgarh, Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Telangana.

PM to lay foundation, inaugurate developmental projects worth over Rs 13,500 crore

New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Telangana on Sunday during which he will lay the foundation stone and dedicate to the nation multiple developmental projects worth more than Rs 13,500 crore, his office said.

At around 2:15 PM on Sunday, the prime minister will reach Mahabubnagar district, where he will dedicate to the nation and lay the foundation stone of multiple developmental projects worth more than Rs 13,500 crore, in important sectors such as road, rail, petroleum and natural gas and higher education.

During the programme, the prime minister will also flag off a train service through video conferencing, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said. In a

step that will provide impetus to the prime minister's vision of development of modern road infrastructure across the country, foundation stone and dedication to nation of multiple road projects will be done during the programme, it said.

Prime Minister Modi will lay the foundation stone of key road projects that are part of Nagpur-Vijayawada Economic Corridor, including the 108 km long four-lane access controlled greenfield highway from Warangal to Khammam section of NH-163G and 90 km-long four lane access controlled greenfield highway from Khammam to Vijayawada section of NH-163G.

These road projects will be developed at a total cost of about Rs 6,400 crore, the statement said. The projects will reduce travel

distance between Warangal and Khammam by about 14 km; and between Khammam and Vijayawada by about 27 km, it said. Prime Minister Modi will also dedicate to nation a road project — four laning of 59 km long Suryapet to Khammam section of NH-365BB.

Built at a cost of about Rs. 2,460 crore, the project is a part of Hyderabad Visakhapatnam Corridor and is developed under Bharatmala Pariyojana. It will also provide better connectivity to Khammam district and coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh, the statement said. The Prime Minister will also dedicate 37 km of Jaklair Krishna New Railway Line.

PUBLIC NOTICE: NOTICE is hereby given that my client Smt. Anisha Shrivastava W/o Shri Sant Kumar Shrivastava, R/o Bhalagan, Near Honda Showroom, Telsi & Dist. Raipur (C.G.) has purchased a piece and parcel of land bearing Khata No. 63425 area 472.5 sq.ft. situated at Bhatnagar, P.H.No. 10547/07, (Shyam Prasad Mukhad Ward No. 63), R.N.M. Raipur-1, Telsi & Dist. Raipur (C.G.), from Shri Rajkumar Mishra s/o Shri Jagdish Prasad Mishra, vide registered sale deed dated 08.02.2018. The said Rajkumar Mishra s/o Shri Jagdish Prasad Mishra had purchased the said property from Ramesh Sankar s/o Late Shri Chotu Sankar vide registered sale deed dated 24.08.2012, the said Ramesh Sankar s/o Late Shri Chotu Sankar had purchased the said property from Chaitanya s/o Hetal Sahu vide registered sale deed dated 26.05.1997. The said Rajkumar Mishra s/o Shri Jagdish Prasad Mishra had purchased the said property from Ramesh Sankar s/o Late Shri Chotu Sankar vide registered sale deed dated 24.08.2012, the said Ramesh Sankar s/o Late Shri Chotu Sankar had purchased the said property from Chaitanya s/o Hetal Sahu vide registered sale deed dated 26.05.1997. The said Rajkumar Mishra s/o Shri Jagdish Prasad Mishra had purchased the said property from Ramesh Sankar s/o Late Shri Chotu Sankar vide registered sale deed dated 24.08.2012, the said Ramesh Sankar s/o Late Shri Chotu Sankar had purchased the said property from Chaitanya s/o Hetal Sahu vide registered sale deed dated 26.05.1997. If the said lost registered sale deeds dated 24.08.2012 & 26.05.1997 is found by anybody, it is requested that the said deeds be handed over to my staff in my office. Any person having any right, life or interest or any claim, demand or objection of any nature whatsoever against or in respect of the said property or any part thereof is hereby requested to notify the same in writing to the undersigned with supporting documentary, evidence within 07 days from the date hereof, failing which no such claims, demands, objections etc. shall be entertained thereafter and the said property shall be considered as free from all encumbrances. Subhro Chakravorty Advocate For Ashwini Singh & Associates Nagar Nigam Panisar, Supela, Bhalail, Durg (C.G.), Ph. 0788-2272374

NAME CHANGE: It is information to the General public that, I SHIV KUMAR S/O DHAN SINGH SAHU resident of PLOT NO .88 INFRONT RAJWADA PALACE RAM NAGAR BORSI ROAD DHANORA DURG CHHATTISGARH 491001, Have Changed My old Name SHIV KUMAR S/O DHAN SINGH SAHU in Future I Should be recognized by My New name that is SHIV KUMAR SAHU S/O DHAN SINGH SAHU in all government and others Document. SHIV KUMAR SAHU PLOT NO -88 IN FRONT RAJWADA PALACE RAM NAGAR BORSI ROAD DHANORA DURG CHHATTISGARH 491001

Will Rahul speak on issue of women safety in Rajasthan: BJP

New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI):

The BJP on Friday sharpened its attack on the Congress on the issue of women's safety in poll-bound Rajasthan and demanded that former its party president Rahul Gandhi ask Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot to tender his resignation.

Addressing a press conference at the party headquarters here, BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla asked Gandhi to break his silence and raise questions on the functioning of his party's government under Gehlot. This came after a partially-charred body of a woman

was found on the side of a road in a village in Jaipur earlier in the morning and the police suspected it to be a case of murder.

"This is not just one incident... Rajasthan under Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot is leading the country in crime against women," Poonawalla claimed and cited several other cases of murder, rape and other crimes registered in the state in recent past.

He further claimed that law and order in Rajasthan has been "completely destroyed" in the four and a half years of Congress rule in the state. "Priyanka Gandhi gave a slogan 'ladki hoon, lad sakti' (girls can

fight) but women in Rajasthan today are asking 'ladki hoon to kya Rajasthan mein bach sakti hoon' (If girls are safe in Rajasthan)," he added.

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ensured that women enjoy their constitutional right, women's right to safety is not being ensured in Rajasthan, he charged.

"Congress leaders talk about women safety and empowerment, make big claims about them. Often their leaders and spokesperson indulge in vulture politics raising the issue of women safety in other states," Poonawalla said.

व्यायालय कलेक्टर, दुर्ग जिला-दुर्ग (छत्तीसगढ़) व्यक्तिगत उपस्थिति सुनान. रा.प्र.क्र. 203/अ-121/वर्ष 2022-23. प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, केन्द्रा बैंक. शाखा- नंदिनी रोड मिलाई, तह. व जिला-दुर्ग (छ.ग.) ..... वादी प्रेषितो. 1. मेसर्स हरि श्याम इंजीनियरिंग प्रो. ठीकाणम चंदेल पिता स्व. हरीचंद चंदेल निवासी- मन्डो 447, स्ट्रीट नं. 5/बी, शान्ति नगर सुपेला, मिलाई, तहसील व जिला- दुर्ग (छ.ग.) ..... अनावेदकगण उपरोक्त वादी द्वारा इस व्यायालय में वित्तीय अस्तित्थों का प्रतिभूतिकरण और पुनर्गणन और प्रतिभूतिकरण प्रवर्तन अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 14 के अन्तर्गत अनावेदकगण द्वारा आवेदक बैंक से लोन की सुरक्षा हेतु बैंक के पास में रखी गई बंधक संपत्ति- खण्डन 411/1 एवं 413/10 भाग, पण्डन 13, हथखोज, इंजीनियरिंग पार्क, डेवी औद्योगिक क्षेत्र हथखोज, मिलाई, तहसील व जिला दुर्ग, कुल क्षेत्रफल- 720 वर्गमीटर, प्लॉट नं. 80 में स्थित है। कारखाना भूमि भवन प्लॉट एवं मशीनरी अनावेदकगण के स्वामित्व की संपत्ति है, जो बकाया राशि की अदायगी नहीं करने के कारण रिक्त भौतिक अधिपत्य में प्राप्त करने हेतु परतुत आवेदन पत्र पर प्रकरण संस्थित कर प्राकृतिक न्याय सिद्धांत के अन्तर्गत अनावेदकों को इस व्यायालय द्वारा समक्ष सुनवाई का अवसर दिया जाना है। सुक्ति अनावेदकों को प्रकरण में समक्ष सुनवाई का युक्तिकृत अवसर प्रदान किया जाना है। अनावेदक इस समन के जरिये अनावेदक को आदेश दिया जाता है कि आप इस मामले की आगामी पेशी दिनांक 09/10/2023 को कलेक्टर, दुर्ग के व्यायालय में व्यक्तिगत रूप से अनिवार्यतः उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष प्रस्तुत करें। यदि आप निर्धारित सुनवाई दिधि को अनुपस्थित पाये गये तो मामले की सुनवाई आपकी गैरहजरिरी में की जाकर आपके विरुद्ध एकपक्षीय कार्यवाही की जावेगी। (कलेक्टर महोदय द्वारा आदेशित) जिला दण्डाधिकारी दुर्ग

Indian Overseas Bank. Branch- Bilaspur, Tagore Chowk, Bilaspur (C.G.) Branch- Rajnandgaon, Ganj Chowk, Rajnandgaon (C.G.) SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES [Under Proviso to Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules] E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditors, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Indian Overseas Bank Secured Creditors, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 30.10.2023, for recovery of outstanding dues specified below (along with further interest at contractual rates and rates, besides costs/charges incurred till the date of repayment in full) due to The Indian Overseas Bank, Branch- Bilaspur & Branch- Rajnandgaon Secured Creditors. E-AUCTION DATE: 30.10.2023, Time:- 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. S. No. Name of the Account & Branch Description of Immovable Properties Outstanding dues (as per Sale Notice) Reserve Price Rs. 1. Borrowers- M/s Bhatia Traders (Prop. Mr. Manish Bhatia S/o Harish Bhatia), Address: H. No.-C-37, Aika Avenue, Uslapur, Bilaspur, C.G. PIN- 495501, and Guarantors- Mrs. Rajdevi Bhatia W/o Late Jethanand Bhatia and Mr. Harish Bhatia S/o Late Jethanand Bhatia, Both of their Address: H. No-433/G, Ward No-40, Basantpur, Village- Nandai, Rajnandgaon, PIN-491441, C.G., Branch: Bilaspur. Rs. 22,40,000.00 + Interest & other Charges. Rs. 41,99,900/- 2. Borrower - Mr. Vicky Dass, S/o Jaidev Das Address: H.No. 381, Ward 29, Sanjaya Nagar, Lakholi, Rajnandgaon. Branch: Rajnandgaon. Rs. 8,98,000.00 + Interest & other Charges. Rs. 7,56,200/- For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the service providers link https://www.mstccomer.com/auction/home/babi and link provided in Indian Overseas Bank Secured Creditors website i.e. www.ioab.in (https://www.ioab.in/TenderDetails.aspx?TenderType=E\_Auction) This may also be treated as a Notice under Rule 6(2)/Rule 8(6)/Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrowers and guarantors of the said loan about holding of e-auction on the above mentioned date. Date: 30.09.2023, Place: Bilaspur & Rajnandgaon Authorised Officer, Indian Overseas Bank



## Lack of basic facilities in Javrahi

Balrampur, Sep 29:

Javrahi, a dependent village of Gram Panchayat Sindoor of Balrampur development block, is far away from basic facilities even after 76 years of independence. With a population of 400, in this village more than 75% are tribal people and 25% are other people.

The biggest and first problem for these people is the lack of roads and if a person's health seriously deteriorates, then his life is at stake.

The second biggest problem of this village is the lack of electricity and the villagers said that after years of demand for electricity, in 2007, the government tried to provide electricity through solar and many people were given one plate solar and one battery per unit of lighting three bulbs.

Students also have to face problems in charging mobiles etc, and for this, one has to travel a distance of 5 kilometers or have to charge the mobile from the battery backup or the battery of the tractor, due to which the villagers have to face a lot of problems. The third biggest problem of this village is that of



### What officers, reps say:

An application has been given to my office a few days ago by the villagers of village Javrahi. All the problems mentioned point by point is checked and will try to solve the problems as soon as possible.

**Collector Remijius Ekka**

Whatever arrangement is made in the village and panchayat related to the amount of one's own item, if there is lack of basic facilities then not I but the district administration and the present government can be taken to task because it is the job of the government to solve the problem.

**Sanjay Singh, Public Representative, District Member, Area No. 2**

pure drinking water and even today people are forced to drink water from

wells and ponds, which have a bad effect on the health of the villagers.

Also a pregnant woman was brought to the ambulance after travelling a dis-

tance of 5 kilometers on a cot, after which she was taken to the district hospital which was in the news and the higher officials had given assurance of making the said village facility-rich. Here, there is also a primary school where classes up to fifth class are held, for which two teachers have been hired by the government, in which both teachers are disabled.

## Signal and information board not installed in NH-930

Pedestrians worried due to potholes at many places

**Dalli-Rajhara, Sep 29:** The negligence of departmental officers in the work of National Highway 930 connecting Dallirajhara - Jhalmala to Chandrapur road is becoming deteriorated due to which the pedestrians who pass by on the National Highway are continuously suffering the consequences.

Negligence and irregularities are continuously being seen in the works of National Highway 930, which is running at a distance of just 2 kilometers from Dallirajhara, in which the route from Manpur Chowk has been diverted but the construction work of a new road on the route has been left incomplete. On the same route, it was seen that a diversion board was installed by the contractor of National Highway 930, but did not considered necessary to install information boards in rural areas, due to which the pedestrians are facing difficulties in understanding the traffic and the route. Works worth Rs 232 crore are



being carried out by the contractor arbitrarily while promoting corruption, on which the departmental officers have not yet formed an inquiry committee and investigated. The result of which is that sub-standard work has reached its final form and lakhs of rupees have been wasted by missing potholes and information boards.

### What officer says:

Departmental officers and contractors of National Highway 930 will be verbally asked to speed up the work and work in the right direction and make signal boards and potholes.

**Suresh Sahu SDM**

## General body meeting of NPC concludes



Kurud, Sep 29:

General Body meeting of Nagar Panchayat Council (NPC) concluded here as in the meeting, the issue of arbitrariness in the tender process was heated up. Not only the Leader of Opposition but also the Vice President, Councilors of the ruling party, set the record straight to the Chairman, CMO and Engineer. Along with this, Leader of Opposition Bhanu Chandrakar while ex-

plaining the rules of the special conference said that notice is given at least 3 days in advance.

Irregularities in the tender process, arbitrarily holding the meeting by bypassing all the rules and holding the general body meeting instead of talking about public interest and city interest, led to opposition leader Bhanu Chandrakar, MP representative Moolchand Sinha, MLA representative Krishna Sahu also boycotting the meeting.

### What rep says:

No irregularity of any kind can be done in online tender, all allegations are baseless. The opposition only knows how to make allegations and not to serve the public.

**Tapan Chandrakar**  
President Nagar Panchayat Kurud

After the boycott of the Vice President and Leader of Opposition etc., debates continued between the senior councilors and the President on many matters for a long time and finally CMO Deepak Khade cancelled the council meeting of this special conference till further time.

The entire Nagar Panchayat staff including Rajat Chandrakar, Manish Sahu, Suchita Aggarwal, Raghuvendra Soni Uttam Sahu, Roshan Jangade, Alderman Manoj Aggarwal, Basant Bais, Chumman Diwan, CMO Deepak Khade, Engineer Bhograj Sinha, Gend Lal Sahu, Yashwant Sahu were present in the meeting.

## People praised the distribution of printed material



### By the Public Relations Department in Krishak Sah Shramik Sammelan

**Balodabazar-Bhatapara, Sep 29:** The leader of the opposition in Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge, graced the Krishak Sah Shramik Sammelan organised in Sumabhatha village of Balodabazar-Bhatapara district on September 28. The Chief Minister, Bhupesh Baghel, presided over the program. The Public Relations Department has distributed various printed materials, published by the department, based on government schemes and programs at no cost.

These printed materials include 'Chhattisgarh Janman', 'Chhattisgarh Badh Raha Lagatar' (pocket book), 'Chhattisgarh Sarkar Bharose Ki Sarkar' (pocket book), 'Jo Kaha So Kiya', 'Fauladi Irada Nibhaya Wada' (info folder), 'Wade se Zyada' book, 'Jo Kaha So Kiya' (mobile pocket book), pamphlets of various schemes, and 3D lenticular based on Ram Van Gaman Path.

The people who attended the Krishak Sah Shramik Sammelan have praised the public welfare schemes implemented by the state government under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel in the last five years. Through this initiative, information about various schemes and programs implemented by the state government is easily available to the people, and they can take advantage of these schemes.

## Samvad 24\*7 WhatsApp chatbot launched

**Gariyaband, Sep 29:** District Collector Akash Chhikara has been doing commendable work for health, education and basic facilities in the district and recently the Collector launched 24x7 WhatsApp Chatbot Samvad 24\*7 during the time limit review meeting. Through this Chatbot, on sending a message by writing 'Hi' or 'Hello' on WhatsApp number 9343300800, the Chatbot automatically starts asking the user their name, address and questions.

After entering information like name etc. in the message, it gives an opportunity to enter information about demand, problem or suggestion related to any department. With the launch of chatbot, villagers living in remote areas will get the facility to get their problems and suggestions resolved without going to the office.

Also, you will not have to go to office again and again. The Collector appealed to the district residents to inform the district administration about their problems through Samvad chatbot on WhatsApp number 9343300800. Additional Collector Avinash Bhoi, District Panchayat CEO Rita Yadav and all the district officers were present.

## Construction of road improves transportation for 27 villages

From Sankra to Jhagrendih



**Mahasamund, Sep 29:** Transportation and commuting have significantly improved for the residents of 27 villages with the construction of Sankra village to Jhagrendih road, located along National Highway 53. The new road has not only reduced travel time to the Pithora development block headquarters but has also shortened the distance by nearly 17 kilometers, resulting in both time and cost savings. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana Executive Engineer Chandras Jangade stated that the state government approved the construction of a 15.48-kilometre road at a cost of Rs 9 crore 21 lakh 33 thousand, connecting National Highway 53 at Sankra to Jhagrendih in the Pithora development block. This road project was completed in 2021 and directly benefits nearly 30,000 villagers

residing in the 27 villages of the Pithora development block. These villages, including Bamhani, Kesarpuru, Theikodakar, Narsaiyapalam, Arangi, Jadamura, Baitari, Jabalpur, Patharla, Rajpur, Bikhapali, Rampur, Barnaidadar, Nayaktada, Devgarh Pirda Katal, Banjaradipa, Bijemal, Jhagrendih, Pardhiya Saraipali, Jhagrendih Tukda, Sankra, Bhatkunda, Bade Temari, Devsaral, and Pirda, have directly benefited from this road construction.

Expressing their satisfaction with this development, the villagers stated that previously, they had to travel to Pithora headquarters via Basna, which consumed more time and fuel. Thanks to the construction of the Sankra to Jhagrendih road, they now have a direct route to reach the Pithora headquarters.

## Raigarh district administration warns citizens against fake calls

- Targeting Awas Yojana beneficiaries
- Says, information about beneficiaries is available with the administration, no need to share personal information over calls

Raigarh, Sep 29:

Many beneficiaries and citizens in the Raigarh district have reported receiving fake calls from various numbers. These callers are informing people that they need to send the 'Awas Yojana' amount to them and are requesting information including bank details, Aadhar card, and mobile numbers. When individuals checked these numbers on True Caller, the app identified them as 'Awas Yojana Pradhan Mantri'.

In response to this, the district administration has issued an alert and urged people to be cau-

tious of such fraudulent calls. They are advising individuals not to provide any personal information in such cases. If you receive such a call, it is recommended to immediately report it to the nearest Janpad Panchayat or police station so that necessary action can be taken against those involved in this fraudulent activity.

The district administration has clarified that all beneficiaries whose houses have been approved and are awaiting the transfer of funds already have their information on record with the district administration. Once the government approves the amount, it will be transferred directly to their bank accounts. Therefore, there is no need for beneficiaries to provide additional information over the phone. Hence, all beneficiaries are urged to exercise caution.

## Village Amarkot is now on the way to getting rid of drinking water problem

- With the consistent efforts of State Govt and community participation
- As many as 357 households of the village are being supplied safe drinking water under Jal Jeevan Mission

Raipur, Sep 27:

Amarkot village of Mahasamund district was struggling with several problems concerning water supply, before the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission. People had to travel long distances to fetch drinking water. The water level in the hand pump was also low. Women and elderly were facing problems due to lack of water supply. With the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, an awareness program was conducted by voluntary organizations in village Amarkot, under which a



water and sanitation committee was formed and a 'Jal Vahini Samiti' was formed for ATK test. As a result, adequate supply of safe drinking water has been ensured in 357 households of the village.

Through Jal Jeevan Mission, not only clean water supply has been ensured, but people have also been made aware about water conservation and management.

Under Jal Jeevan Mission, tap connections were provided to every

house through tank construction and pipeline. Water is tested twice a year by the 'Jal Vahini' Committee. The committee has also been entrusted with the responsibility of cleanliness and maintenance around the water source and to create public awareness about water borne diseases.

Village Water and Sanitation Committee has been formed at the Gram Panchayat level. There are 16 members in this committee, and 50 percent of

these are women, 25 percent are Panchayat members and 25 percent are tribal and prominent people of the village.

Their roles and responsibilities include planning, supplies and operations, and maintenance as well as monitoring and surveillance work.

They file reports on technical and financial assistance, on behalf of the committee, and recommend measures for the improvement of resources and schemes.

## Approval of 94 posts for the upgrade of Chirmiri CHC's 100-bed hospital

**Raipur, Sep 29:** The Department of Health and Family Welfare of the State Government has approved the creation of 94 posts of various cadres for the upgradation of Chirmiri Community Health Center's 100-bed hospital in the newly formed district of Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur. After Deputy Chief Minister and Health Minister Mr. T.S. Singh Deo's approval, the department has issued the order for its administrative approval. For the upgradation of Chirmiri Community Health Center by the Health Department, the creation of one post of Hospital Superintendent, one post each of Medical Specialist, Surgical Specialist and Anesthesiologist, one post each of Post Graduate Medical Officer in the

Department of Pediatrics, Radiology, ENT, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedics, Medicine and Gynecology, eight posts of Medical Officer, one post of Dentist, one post of Medical Records Officer, 30 posts of Staff Nurse, two posts each of Nursing Sister, Audiometrician, Radiographer, Store Keeper, Pharmacist Grade-2, Cold Chain-cum-Vaccine Logistics Assistant, Assistant Grade-3 and Dresser Grade-2, four posts of Lab Technician, three posts of Lab Attendant, one post each of Accountant, Ophthalmic Assistant, Dental Assistant, ECG Technician, Driver, Dresser Grade-1, Servant, Washerman, Watchman, and Sweeper and five posts each of Ward Boy and Moidservant (Aaya) has been approved.



## At least 55 people killed in two suicide blasts in Pakistan

Karachi, Sep 29 (PTI):

Two powerful suicide blasts ripped through two mosques in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province on Friday, killing at least 55 people and injuring over 50 others gathered to celebrate Prophet Muhammad's birthday, authorities said. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Mastung's Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Nawaz Gashkori, who was on duty for the rally, was among the deceased. The explosion took place when people were gathering to mark Eid Miladun Nabi, the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad.

City Station House Officer (SHO) Mohammad Javed Lehri said the explosion was a "suicide blast" and that the bomber exploded himself next to DSP's car.

The bomb attack came a day after the Counter



Volunteers carry a blast victim on a stretcher at a hospital in Quetta after a suicide bombing in Mastung district. At least 55 people were killed and 50 more wounded in two blasts on September 29 by a suicide bomber targeting a procession marking the birthday of Islam's Prophet Mohammed in Pakistan's southwestern Balochistan province.

Terrorism Department (CTD) killed a key Islamic State (ISIS) commander in the Mastung district.

Lehri said that the wounded are being shifted to a medical facility while an emergency has been imposed in the hospitals.

At least 52 people were killed and over 50 injured in the blast in Mastung, District Health Officer Rashid Muhammad Saeed said.

Some of the injured were in critical condition. Officials expressed concern

that the number of casualties may increase.

Balochistan interim Information Minister Jan Achakzai said rescue teams have been dispatched to Mastung. He added the critically injured persons are being transferred to Quetta

and that an emergency has been imposed in all the hospitals.

"The enemy wants to destroy religious tolerance and peace in Balochistan..." Achakzai said. "The explosion is unbearable."

Caretaker Chief Minister Ali Mardan Domki has directed authorities to arrest those responsible for the blast.

"The perpetrators of the destruction do not deserve any leniency," he said. "Those who target peaceful processions will be dealt with firmly."

Chief Minister (CM) Domki urged the people to unite against terrorism, adding that Islam was a religion of peace and "those who commit such heinous acts cannot be called Muslims".

The caretaker CM also announced three days of mourning throughout the province over the tragic incident.

## Imran Khan and top party leadership involved in May 9 violence : Probe

Lahore, Sep 29 (PTI):

Pakistan's jailed former prime minister Imran Khan and several top leaders of his party were directly involved in orchestrating the unprecedented anti-government violence on May 9, a joint investigation team has informed an anti-terrorism court here.

A Joint Investigation Team (JIT) was constituted to probe the violence in Punjab province following the arrest of Khan, the chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party in connection with a corruption case on May 9.

The JIT headed by DIG Operations Imran Kishwar on Thursday submitted chargesheets against PTI leaders and hundreds of workers before an anti-terrorism court, reported the Dawn newspaper on Friday.

According to Lahore police, Khan, 70, and

over 900 other party leaders and activists named in the May 9 cases have been "declared guilty of serious offences", the report said.

In the chargesheets filed before the court, the prosecution alleged that the violent protests led by the suspects on May 9 were part of a planned conspiracy against the state.

It said over "400 pieces of video evidence, including speeches of the PTI chairman, proved that the attacks on military installations and premises in cantonment areas were pre-planned".

A large number of PTI activists had attacked military installations, police vehicles, and other public and private properties in Lahore, according to the cases registered with the police. The vandalism at the Lahore Corps Commander's House (Jinnah House), Askari Tower, and the Shadman police station were some

of the major incidents during the violence.

"We have declared them prime accused in 12 out of the total 14 cases registered under the anti-terrorism act and other charges at Lahore's various police stations [and] challans have been submitted in the ATC," the Dawn newspaper quoted DIG Kishwar as saying.

He said the JIT obtained "sufficient evidence" against the nominated persons, including Imran Khan, former Punjab governor Omar Sarfaraz Cheema, former provincial ministers Mian Mehmoodur Rashid, Dr Yasmin Rashid, and others.

The digital and photogrammetric evidence as well as voice messages of the suspects "confirmed the allegations" levelled against them in over a dozen cases lodged at different police stations in the provincial capital, the DIG said.

## Pakistan seeks \$11 bn aid from China, Saudi Arabia

To keep IMF bailout programme on track

Islamabad, Sep 29 (PTI):

Cash-strapped Pakistan is seeking around USD 11 billion from China and Saudi Arabia as part of efforts to fill external and domestic resource gaps so that the IMF bailout programme remains on track to ensure economic stability until an elected government is formed in the country, according to a media report on Friday.

It comes amid the caretaker government's push for expanding the tax net effectively to retail, agricultural and real estate sectors while continuing a crackdown on illegal currency movements.

The Dawn newspaper reported that this information was part of a detailed

policy statement issued by caretaker Finance Minister Shamshad Akhtar before the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue, presided over by Senator Saleem Mandviwalla in Islamabad on Thursday.

She said the government was currently working on an economic revival plan that would be presented to the caretaker prime minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar soon and shared with the Senate Standing Committee on Finance.

She said the caretaker government had a limited scope to undertake deep-rooted structural reforms but promised to deliver on reforms that were part of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme to ensure the disbursement of a USD 700 million loan instalment. Talks with the IMF would

begin by the end of October on this.

The IMF reached a staff-level agreement with Pakistan on a nine-month Stand-by Arrangement (SBA) of about USD 3 billion in June.

The finance minister said it was the government's priority to deliver on the IMF programme to ensure economic stability and continuity.

On the external financing gap, Akhtar said the country's financing needs were still higher, but with the joint efforts of all stakeholders, the government would be able to secure disbursements from the project pipeline and also revive some policy-based financing from multilaterals.

External flows would improve with the USD 700 million flows from the IMF. For net bilateral financing of USD 11 billion, China

and Saudi Arabia had been requested along with a request for a Saudi oil facility, she said.

"To meet the external financing requirements, we are working to secure concessional funding from multilaterals (the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank) of USD 6.3 billion," she said in her written statement, adding that the IMF had already approved USD 3 billion and bilateral assistance of around USD 10 billion was also expected.

At the same time, Akhtar warned that a "key risk to external stability comes from the rise in international commodity prices", as Brent crude oil prices jumped to USD 95 per barrel in September, an increase of 27 per cent from USD 74 per barrel in June.

## EAM Jaishankar, US Secretary Blinken discuss global developments

Washington, Sep 29 (PTI)

India and the US have emphasised the continued importance of bilateral cooperation in areas like defence, space and clean energy as External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met Secretary of State Antony Blinken and exchanged notes on global developments, amid a simmering diplomatic row between India and Canada over the killing of a Khalistani separatist.

Jaishankar is currently on a five-day official trip to Washington DC. Thursday's meeting at the State Department was the highest-level interaction between the two countries after the recent G-20 Summit in New Delhi when President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi met.

"Great to meet my friend US Secretary of State @SecBlinken at the State



Department today. A wide-ranging discussion, following up on PM @narendramodi's June visit. Also exchanged notes on global developments. Laid the groundwork of our 2+2 meeting very soon," he posted on X on Friday.

"Thank you to Indian External Affairs Minister @DrSJaishankar for hosting @POTUS earlier this month. We discussed India's successful G20 presidency, creation of the India-Middle East-Europe

Economic Corridor, and the upcoming #USIndia 2+2

Dialogue in New Delhi," Blinken posted on X. The two top diplomats "discussed a full range of issues, including key outcomes of India's G20 presidency, and the creation of India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor and its potential to generate transparent, sustainable, and high-standard infrastructure investments," State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a readout of the meeting.

## US quietly acknowledges Iran satellite successfully reached orbit

Dubai, Sep 29 (AP):

The United States has quietly acknowledged that Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard successfully put an imaging satellite into orbit this week in a launch that resembled others previously criticised by Washington as helping Tehran's ballistic missile programme.

The US military has not responded to repeated requests for comment from The Associated Press since Iran announced the launch of the Noor-3 satellite on Wednesday, the latest successful launch by the Revolutionary Guard after Iran's civilian space program faced a series of failed launches in recent years. Early Friday, however, data published by the website space-track.org listed a launch Wednesday

by Iran that put the Noor-3 satellite into orbit. Information for the website is supplied by the 18th Space Defense Squadron of the U.S. Space Force, the newest arm of the American military.

It put the satellite at over 450 kilometers (280 miles) above the Earth's surface, which corresponds to Iranian state media reports regarding the launch. It also identified the rocket carrying the satellite as a Qased, a three-stage rocket fuelled by both liquid and solid fuels first launched by the Guard in 2020 when it unveiled its up-to-then-secret space programme.

"Noor" means "light" in Farsi, while "Qased" means "messenger."

Authorities released a video of a rocket taking off from a mobile launcher

without saying where it occurred. Details in the video earlier analyzed by the AP corresponded with a Guard base near Shahroud, about 330 kilometers (205 miles) northeast of the capital, Tehran. The base is in Semnan province, which hosts the Imam Khomeini Spaceport

from which Iran's civilian space program operates.

The website space-track.org also listed the missile as having been launched from the Guard base at Shahroud. Speaking Thursday night to Iranian state television, Guard space commander Gen.

**Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission**  
Irrigation Colony, Shanti Nagar, Raipur - 492 001 (C.G.)  
Ph.0771-4073568, Fax: 4073553  
Website: www.cserc.gov.in, E-mail: cserc.sec.cg@nic.in

**NOTICE FOR INVITING OBJECTION/SUGGESTION AND PUBLIC HEARING**

M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Limited has filed a petition for adoption of tariff for procurement of 240MW of power, from 01.10.2023 for a period of 5 years, discovered through competitive bidding process on DEEP portal. This petition is registered as Petition No.78 of 2023.

Copy of petition is available on the Commission's website: www.cserc.gov.in. This notice is being published for inviting objections/suggestions from stakeholders. Objections/Suggestions may be submitted to Secretary, Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission, Raipur within 21 days of publication of this notice. Also, a hearing in this regard will be held on 28/11/2023 at 11:30 a.m. in the Commission's office.

S-38768/1 **SECRETARY**

**DIRECTORATE OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING**  
**GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH**

NIT No. 2836/M-235(V) dated 26/09/2023

DT&CP invites detailed proposals from eligible consultants ("Bidder") for providing Selection of Project Support Consultants for Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Government of Chhattisgarh, Nava Raipur Atal Nagar

Event Description	Scheduled Date
1.Pre-Proposal Conference	Date 11/10/2023 Time 12.00hrs
2.Proposal Due Date (PDD) and time	Date 13/11/2023 up to 15.00 Hrs.

For RFP document and further information please visit Website: www.tcp.cg.gov.in All other information in this regards will be published in the department's website only.

**(By the order of Commissioner)**  
**Additional Director**  
Directorate of Town and Country Planning,  
Government of Chhattisgarh

G-05774/1

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**  
**(TENDER CELL) RAIPUR ZONE RAIPUR**

**Notice for Expression of Interest (2nd call)**

S. No.	EOI No./Date	System No.	Name of Work
1	28/27-09-2023	148467	Empanelment of manufacturers for Supply of Field Test Kit, Refills & H2S vials for testing of water sample. Probable Number of Field Test Kit to be supplied to 19678 villages, at various block(s) of Chhattisgarh State Under Jal Jeevan Mission

**Important Events and Time Schedule - Date of calling NIT- 27-09-2023, Bid Start Date - 29-09-2023, Pre Bid meeting date- 04-10-2023, Bid Due Date- 15-10-2023, PHY Doc. Submission last Date- 16-10-2023, PQ Document Download Date- 16-10-2023**

नोट:- उपरोक्त रुचि को अभ्यर्थित को सामान्य शर्तों, पंजीकरण राशि, प्रतिभूति राशि एवं प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क तथा विस्तृत दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेबपोर्टल <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> में उक्त रुचि को अभ्यर्थित दिनांक 29.09.2023 से देखी जा सकती है।

कार्यालय अभियंता (निविदा प्रकाशक)  
कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता  
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी विभाग, राipur परिसर राipur (छ.ग.)

G-05792/1

**Mineral Resources Department,**  
**Government of Chhattisgarh**  
**Directorate of Geology & Mining**  
**Indravati Bhavan, Block-4, Second Floor,**  
**Nawa Raipur Atal Nagar, Raipur,**  
**Chhattisgarh - 492002, India**

26 September 2023

**Notice Inviting Tender**  
**Invitation of bids for grant of Mineral concession of mineral blocks**

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10B/11 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 (as amended from time to time) notified thereunder, Mineral Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh has identified following Mineral Blocks for electronic auction and hereby invites bids for the purpose of grant of Mining Lease/Composite License (as applicable):

Sl. No.	Name of the Block	Mineral	District	Area (Ha)	Type of Mineral Concession	Tender Price*
1	Barangi (Badangi) Limestone Block	Limestone	Bastar	128.400	Mining Lease	0.5 Lakh
2	Junaguda Limestone Block	Limestone	Bastar	112.257	Mining Lease	0.5 Lakh
3	Chhaparhanpur Limestone Block	Limestone	Bastar	99.592	Mining Lease	0.5 Lakh
4	Sivni-Ainar (A, B, C and D) Limestone Block	Limestone	Bastar	141.438	Mining Lease	0.5 Lakh
5	Khuntitoli Gold Block	Gold	Jashpur	2100	Composite License	0.5 Lakh
6	Burhabagicha Base Metals Block	Base Metals	Bairampur	500.000	Composite License	0.5 Lakh

\*Excluding GST

Accordingly, Financial bids are invited in digital format only and Technical bids are invited both in digital and physical format from Eligible bidders.

Terms and conditions, deadlines etc. for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. The Model Tender Document for the mineral blocks and mineral block summary are available free of cost in electronic form and can be downloaded from the website of MSTC Ltd. (<http://www.mstc.com/mrcr.com/auction/home/mid/index.jsp>) and websites of Mineral Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh ([www.chhattisgarhmines.gov.in](http://www.chhattisgarhmines.gov.in)) for the purpose of information only.

Those interested and eligible for bidding can participate in the bidding only after online purchase of the Tender Document on payment of the non-refundable tender fee as mentioned above (Goods and Service Tax (GST) shall be payable at 18% of tender fee) from the website of e-auction platform provider MSTC Ltd. Bidder shall be able to make payment of the Tender Document fee through RTGS/net banking (through the payment gateway of e-auction platform). After registration at MSTC website, interested & eligible bidders can purchase the Tender Document. On successful registration, eligible bidders will obtain Login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process.

Last date for online purchase of Tender Document is **Wednesday, 8 September 2023**, and last date for submission of the bid is **15:00 Hours IST on Friday, 10 October 2023**. Any further communications, amendments etc. shall be available on the above website of MSTC and the websites of Mineral Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.

**Director**  
**Geology & Mining, Chhattisgarh**

G-05755/1

**GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH,**  
**WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER**  
**MAHANADI CIRCLE, RAIPUR (CHHATTISGARH)**

**e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**  
**eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>**

**(First Call)**

System Tender No. 148415/ NIT No.: 12/SAC/23-24 Dated: 27.09.2023  
Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 18.10.2023 at 17.30 Hour

**Name of work: Remodelling, C.C. Lining and Reconstruction of Canal structures of Dhandhani Minor of Dy. No. 14 and Karda Minor, Sarkhor Minor of Sarkhor Minor of Paisar Minor of Dy. No.14 of Lawan Branch Canal.**

Probable Amount of Contract:- Rs. 186.85 Lakhs  
(As per S.O.R. Dated 01.08.2010 and amended upto dated 22.08.2022).

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from **Date 04.10.2023, at 17:31 Hours. (IST) onwards.**

**NOTE:-** All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under centralized contractor/supplier registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

**Executive Engineer**  
Water Management Division No. 2, Balodabazar  
for, Superintending Engineer, Mahanadi Circle, Raipur (C.G.)

G-05781/3

**GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH,**  
**WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**WATER RESOURCES DIVISION, PENDRA ROAD (C.G.)**

**e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**  
**eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>**

**(First Call)**

System Tender No. :148457/ NIT No. : 03/ SAC/ 2023-24 Dated : 26.09.2023  
Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 17.10.2023 at 17.30 Hour

**Name of work: RENOVATION OF CANAL EARTH WORK STRUCTURE WORK AND CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT CONCRETE CHANNEL BETWEEN RD 0 M. RD 3630M. TO MIAN CANAL AND BETWEEN RD 0 M. TO 640 M. OF MINOR CANAL AND CONSTRUCTION OF 2 No. VRB AND 22 Na CANAL, OUTLET 12No. CANAL INLET IN MAIN AND MINOR CANAL OF TARA/GAON TANK SCHEME.**

Probable Amount of Contract:- Rs. 188.01 Lakhs

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the gov. of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from dated **03.10.2023 at 17:31 hours (IST) onwards.**

**NOTE:-** 1. All eligible/interested contractors/ bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-Procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under centralized contractor/supplier registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.  
2. Probable Amount of Contract (P.A.C.) is as per S.O.R. 01.08.2010. (As Amendment 01.08.2014).

**Executive Engineer**  
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION, PENDRAROAD(C.G.)  
for, Chief Engineer, Hasdeo Basin, Water Resources Deptt, Bilaspur (C.G.)

G-05791/1

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,**  
**DURG CIRCLE DURG (C.G.)**

Durg, Dated: 20.09.2023

**e-Procurement Unemployed Tender Notice**  
**(First Call)**

Online tenders in form "Aa" percentage rate basis are invited from Unemployed Engineers on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh for the following work up to 10.10.2023 :-

NIT No.	Name of work	P.A.C. (Rs. in lacs.)
01/Durg (Raj.)/2023	Approach Road to Sub Health Centre Building at Kutulbod Bhatagaon Block Dongargaon Dist. Rajnandgaon (Length 255 Meter)	45.24

**Note-**

- Invited Tender for Unemployed Degree Engineer.
- General Conditions, detailed NIT, Tender documents & other information of the above construction work downloaded from the Eprocurement web portal or departmental website <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>.
- NIT No. & Name of the Work should be essentially mentioned on the envelope through the Registered Post/Speed Post in this office.

**Superintending Engineer**  
P.W.D., Durg Circle Durg (C.G.)  
Tel. 0788-2210876

G-05794/1





## CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 355

### Defence Manufacturing

#### India's Transformative Leap

The Indian Air Force (IAF) celebrated a historic milestone with the induction of its first C-295 medium tactical transport aircraft into Squadron No. 11, stationed at Vadodra Air Force Station. This development marks a significant upgrade to India's logistical capabilities and symbolizes a stride towards self-reliance in defence manufacturing. The decision to acquire the C-295 aircraft was prompted by the necessity to replace the ageing Avro-748 planes that have served for over six decades. India's 'Make in India' initiative, especially in the realm of defence manufacturing, takes center stage with this achievement. Notably, this represents the first instance of a private company manufacturing a military aircraft in India, signifying the nation's commitment to strengthening its domestic defence production capabilities. Private sector participation in defence manufacturing is a critical aspect, bringing diverse expertise and resources to enhance India's defence capabilities. Additionally, it promises substantial savings in foreign exchange and the acquisition of invaluable technical knowledge for future aircraft projects. It's essential to acknowledge that securing technology transfer agreements with foreign defence companies is a complex task, underscoring the diplomatic efforts involved. Prime Minister Modi's recent visit to the USA and the subsequent agreement highlight the importance of international collaborations in advancing India's defence prowess. The arrival of the first cargo plane and the scheduled delivery of the remaining aircraft mark pivotal moments for India's defence forces. The enhanced capabilities of this modern cargo plane will significantly bolster the operational efficiency of the Indian Army and Air Force, addressing a long-standing need for cargo plane replacement. This development also underscores India's growing stature on the world stage within the evolving geopolitical landscape. India's strengthening ties with the United States across international platforms, including the G20 and Quad, reflect growing trust and partnership between the two nations. These alliances contribute not only to India's defence but also to global security dynamics, promoting regional stability. The burgeoning defence and civil partnerships between India and the United States pave the way for potential future alliances on a global scale. This partnership holds the potential to attract substantial foreign investment into India, particularly in the defence sector. The swift commencement of production by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) exemplifies the ease of doing business in India, inspiring confidence in multinational corporations (MNCs) to invest significant resources in establishing large-scale manufacturing facilities. The deal's potential impact includes the creation of thousands of direct and indirect jobs, fostering economic growth and development. The Tata-Airbus consortium signifies a significant leap towards India's aspiration to become a hub for defence aerospace manufacturing. Notably, this collaboration is a remarkable milestone for Airbus, representing its first co-development project of this magnitude outside of Europe. It underscores Airbus's trust and commitment to transferring technology to TASL. The integration of domestically developed equipment into India-manufactured aircraft enhances self-reliance and self-sufficiency in defence production. With the C-295 aircraft's exceptional capabilities and versatility, there is a strong likelihood of additional orders from the Indian Navy and Coast Guard. This partnership exemplifies India's ascending prominence in the global defence industry, showcasing its ability to cultivate collaborations with leading international aerospace companies. It is a resounding testament to India's commitment to achieving self-sufficiency in defence manufacturing and contributing to global security and stability.

### Elderly Evolution

#### Preparing India for Its Ageing Population Shift

India's demographic landscape is in the midst of a profound transformation. The country's demographic dividend, which commenced in 2010 with the working-age population (20 to 59 years) constituting 51 percent of the total population, has been on a steady rise. However, this trend is on the brink of a significant shift, as the number of senior citizens (aged 60 and above) is set to surge in the coming decades. The 'India Ageing Report 2023,' a collaborative effort between the United Nations Population Fund and the International Institute for Population Sciences, paints a revealing picture of this demographic shift. According to its projections, by the year 2050, the senior citizens' population will double, reaching 20.8 percent, equivalent to a staggering 34.7 crore individuals. This marks a substantial increase from July 2022 when seniors accounted for 10.5 percent (14.9 crore) of the population. These findings align with the insights from the 'Youth in India 2022' report released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. It underscores that a decline in the fertility rate has led to a greater concentration of working-age individuals. The elderly population, which stood at 6.8 percent in 1991, grew to 9.2 percent by 2016 and is projected to reach 14.9 percent in 2036. In light of these reports, it becomes imperative for the government to formulate policies that address the imminent needs of the elderly population. Senior citizens require expanded and more comprehensive healthcare services, robust social security measures, and sustainable pension systems to ensure they can lead their twilight years with dignity. To maximize the potential of the current young workforce—soon to be tomorrow's senior citizens—there is a pressing need to create employment opportunities across both the manufacturing and services sectors. Furthermore, the UN report reveals that over 40 percent of the elderly population falls within the poorest wealth quintile. It is high time that Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions towards senior citizens' welfare schemes see a substantial increase. Despite an overall growth in CSR spending from Rs 89 million to Rs 551 million since 2014, the allocation for senior citizens has remained stagnant at a mere 0.3 percent of the total expenditure. As India charts its path toward the future, the well-being of its ageing population must take center stage. Preparing for this demographic shift today will not only secure the dignity and quality of life for tomorrow's senior citizens but also uphold the values of compassion, respect, and responsibility that are integral to our societal fabric. It's a collective responsibility—one that should inspire government, businesses, and civil society to work in harmony, ensuring that the golden years of our seniors truly shine.

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.

### PRAYERS FOR ANCESTRAL BLESSINGS

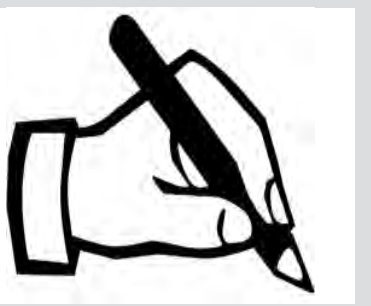


Devotees offer prayers for their ancestors on the eve of Shradha Paksha at the Ganga Ghat, in Varanasi, Friday, Sept. 29.

## Lessons From The Canada Issue



PROF. ANIL JAIN



India and Canada are at daggers drawn since the Prime Minister of Canada has made allegations against India related to the murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar. A lot is being said on Justin Trudeau and about what he has said in Canadian parliament over the issue while he was allegedly supporting a pro-Khalistan outfit and alleged members of the outfit. Primarily the news would not have created an uproar because such allegations are frequently imposed by the Big Bosses upon the countries whom they do not think of having any standing and their voice is seldom heard on international platforms but Modi government's crackdown on the Canadian government brought the issue to the core and attracted the attention of the world media as one of the former American diplomat has said that Indian government is full of confidence. A report

published in an American Newspaper that the information had been provided to Canada by the US Agencies added fuel to the fire to the controversy. It further worsened the conflict between the two. It is also immaturity on the part of Trudeau that he has put the country like Canada at such an appalling state that most of the countries are not in a position to say for or against. No doubt by bringing such allegations the Canadian government's reputation is at stake. It further intensified when not a single G 20 member came in support of Canada immediately but the country that came forward was the rogue nation Pakistan whose radical activities are well known. Pakistan is giving a character certificate to Canada who has no character at all. What would Canada get by supporting Khalistan and ISI after all? One more concern has been

brought to the fore because of this issue is that the so-called big nations get together to support their own selfish desires without paying proper consideration to the nuclear problems of the world. It is also to be understood that many countries have created their groups and organizations so that they could justify the cause of each other. That way they enjoy immunity. The organizations like Five Eyes Alliance and NATO are the groups to name only a few. They stand side by side for their own advantages and whenever they need one another. It can make us consider twice from a new angle about the role of NATO in the Russia Ukraine War. One more optimism which has arisen from the whole of this episode is that our neighboring countries Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have praised India's stand on the issue and condemned Canada. This is a good sign from a diplomatic point of view that our neighboring countries are joining hands and coming together. If the US supports Canada and all European countries support its neighbor then why not India be supported by its neighbors. Finally if the matter is investigated a little deeper then it may well be said that the issue is unnecessarily being highlighted whereas there is no issue at all. World media is assiduously collecting news and

holding debates and interviews on what the Australian prime minister's views on the issue, what American government has to say, what the British Prime Minister is thinking on it as they all belong to the Five Eyes Alliance which is made for sharing intelligence information among its member group. The group includes Canada too. It seems as if the world is divided into two halves and the ditch is getting wider every passing day. The media got busy and started marshalling data and calculating its economic impact and to what extent it would impact international trade that exists between the countries. Both the countries are lobbying their members to bring the world in their favour but the question is what any of the countries would get even after wasting its energy on the issue. Things are crystal clear that so long the Canadian government does not provide any substantial proof about the allegations they have put forward against India, no conclusion can be reached. It is not fair to blame someone and run away. At such a time both countries should wait and watch and resort to patience until the truth comes out. (The author is from the Department of English, Government PG College, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh. Views are personal)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Tennis Icon's Hall of Fame

Leander Paes, the tennis legend, and multiple Grand Slam champion, has achieved historic recognition as the first Asian male nominee for the International Tennis Hall of Fame (ITHF) in the player category. Paes, India's sole Olympic tennis medalist, spent 462 weeks in the ATP doubles top 10, clinching 55 tour doubles titles, and attaining the No. 1 ranking for 37 weeks. With eight Grand Slam wins in doubles, 10 in mixed doubles, and a career Slam in both, Paes is an Indian sports hero. His 30-year Davis Cup tenure, marked by 43 doubles tie victories, is exemplary. This Padma Vibhushan-worthy icon deserves hearty congratulations on this recognition. Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee, Faridabad

#### Bridging Divides

Bidhuri's alarming and aggressive rhetoric, ostensibly in defense of the Prime Minister, should normally be considered an affront to the office. Responding differently to the allegation, which centered on the Prime Minister diverting attention from ISRO's Moon mission, would have been wiser. As we await the official campaign announcement, there's a straightforward solution in Parliament. The BJP leadership, as a collective, can issue an apology, with senior figures like Prime Minister Danish Ali vowing to prevent such incidents and ensuring appropriate punishment for the offender. The question lingers: Is this path of reconciliation feasible, desirable, and beneficial for both BJP and its critics? Thus, a nation that breaks lunar boundaries can also mend societal rifts. Tauqueer Rahmani, Mumbai

#### Global Floodplain Crisis

Over 23 million people globally reside in heavily metal-polluted river floodplains, threatening their well-being, according to Prof. Hudson Edwards of the University of Exeter. Industrialization has exacerbated mining's historical pollution, particularly in densely populated floodplain areas. Examining 185,000 mining sites along river floodplains worldwide, the study revealed dangerous metal contamination levels, risking human health through food consumption. The United States and China have the highest risks, with 9.74 million and 3.17 million people respectively. India, with 3.3 million floodplain residents, lacks water quality facilities, necessitating urgent action. Governments must establish testing centers and mandate sewage treatment to safeguard these vulnerable communities. Arka Goswami, Bidhannagar, Durgapur

## How can the health of the Nation's Healthcare services improve?



Rajender Kumar Sharma

A fundamental economic principle is the interplay of demand and supply, according to which the need for supply becomes mandatory where there is demand. There are many sectors and goods in which demand is high but supply is low. Conversely, there are almost equivalent areas where demand is low and supply is high. In such a situation, for the judicious use of the country's revenue, the partial equilibrium should be made fully equivalent with a little investment, and the demand should be met. This will have two main benefits. Firstly, skilled people can be found with less investment, and the needy will be helped. This will help in providing facilities to the last citizen of the country.

The above analysis fits perfectly with the context of the country's health services and MBBS doctors. Of the 2,653 MBBS students who graduated from government-run medical colleges since 2020-21, 70%, or 1,856, did not join government health services, as revealed in a reply to a question in the legislative assembly of a state. The government's response to the question stated that these students received subsidized medical education and, in return, they signed a bond to serve for a year in government-run health facilities—primarily in rural or remote areas. Senior health department officials said the bond system ensures that government-run health facilities get an assured supply of health professionals. About five years ago, MBBS students had to sign a bond of Rs 1.5 lakh for three years of service. During the COVID-19 period, there was a drastic change in the system, and currently, students have to serve for a year in a government-run facility chosen by the health department or pay Rs 10 lakh as a bond amount. The data also indicates that of the 1,856 doctors who have not joined service in government-run facilities, 70%, or 1,310, are still yet to pay the bond amount, which amounts to Rs 65.4 crore, a significant sum. Not only one state is facing

the above situation, but other states are also facing this issue. It is the problem of the entire country that despite huge expenditure on medical education, the government does not seem to be achieving anything from these trained medical professionals to contribute to our health services' improvement. Experts said that at a time when the government is planning to increase healthcare infrastructure at the district level, the shortage of medical officers (MOs), who are generally MBBS pass-outs, is affecting the availability of human resources. Experts said this trend forces the population in many such areas to travel far to receive basic medical facilities, increasing the burden on hospitals in big cities. There can be many reasons for not joining government health services under bond after obtaining an MBBS degree, such as being posted in remote areas where transportation is unavailable or at CHC/PHC due to a lack of medicines and other facilities, fewer patients, newly appointed doctors considering it a waste of time and skills because they want to gain more experience, and in the absence of patients and infrastructure, it doesn't seem possible. Many newly-passed-out medical professionals also start preparing for NEET PG exams and decide not to take the appointment. If

you get PG admission, the bond period is waived off in many states. Whatever may be the reason mentioned above, it is a major hindrance in the government's efforts to provide health facilities to every person and is also a waste of revenue. A report released by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), an organization of developed countries, states that Austria has the best doctor ratio in the world, where there are 5.5 doctors for every thousand people. In Britain, this ratio is 3.2, and in America, this ratio is 2.6. China also has 2.4 doctors per thousand people, whereas India has only 0.9. One of the main reasons for inadequate doctors is the problem of brain drain. Indian doctors also rank first in providing health services in developed countries. Most of the doctors from India are turning to foreign countries. To provide health facilities to all, governments will have to work on long-term prospects with alternative projects. BDS (Bachelor of Dental Surgery) whose initial course and curriculum are equivalent to MBBS, and every year a large number of BDS students are being prepared, but in that proportion, there is no employment available for them in the country. In such a situation,

many BDS professionals change their profession and come into the teaching profession, which can only be considered a wastage of efficiency, skills, and resources. Can't the country facing a shortage of doctors be provided relief through low investment mediums like bridge courses for BDS doctors? In remote and rural areas where newly-passed-out MBBS doctors do not want to go, the BDS doctors trained through bridge courses will be keenly interested in providing services, and the biggest benefit of this will be in improving "oral health," which is considered to be the cause of about 60 percent of diseases. The Dental Council of India had initiated this direction, but the plan could not mature. Whatever may be the reason, BDS, BAMS, BHMS doctors can contribute significantly to remote rural areas suffering from a shortage of doctors. Such projects will also support improving the ratio of the number of doctors per thousand people in the country, which is still insufficient. An alternative action plan like a bridge course can contribute to enhancing the health services of the country. (The author is a Senior Educationist & Columnist in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Views are personal)



## BRIEF

### President elected



**New Delhi:** The All India Plastic Manufacturers' Association (AIPMA) has elected Manish Dedhia as its new president. He is Joint Managing Director of Mitsu Chem Plast Ltd, one of the leading players in the industry, according to a statement. AIPMA is an industry association that has been championing the interests of the plastics manufacturing sector in India since its inception in 1945.

### IPO papers

**New Delhi:** Capital Small Finance Bank has filed draft papers with markets regulator Sebi to mobilise funds through an Initial Public Offering (IPO). The bank's IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to Rs 450 crore and an Offer For Sale (OFS) of up to 24.12 lakh equity shares by existing investors, according to the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP). Those selling shares in the OFS include — Oman India Joint Investment Fund II, PI Ventures LLP, Amicus Capital Private Equity I LLP and Amicus Capital Partners India Fund I. Also, the company plans to mobilise Rs 90 crore in the pre-IPO placement round.

### Investment project



**Hyderabad:** Telangana IT and Industries Minister K T Rama Rao and other ministers participated in the ground-breaking ceremony of KiteX Group's second investment project in Ranga Reddy district here on Thursday. The company, which is the second largest manufacturer of infant wear in the world, will be setting up an integrated fibre-to-apparel manufacturing cluster with a capacity of seven lakh garments per day at an investment of Rs 1,200 crore, a release from minister Rama Rao's office said.

### New uniforms

**New Delhi:** Tata Group-owned Air India has partnered with fashion designer Manish Malhotra to design new uniforms for the airline's more than 10,000 flight crew, ground staff and security personnel. "This is a further step in the manifestation of Air India's new global brand identity as part of its ongoing modernisation programme. Air India expects to commence rolling out the new look for its uniformed employees by the end of 2023," the airline said in a release.

# Time to change size and scale of Indian industry: Shah

New Delhi, Sep 29:

Home Minister Amit Shah said on Friday that the time has come to change both the size and scale of the Indian industry and the need of the hour is companies should go multinational. Addressing the 118th annual session of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), he said the network of small industries along with big industries will have to be strengthened, and the chamber will have to come forward strongly to provide guidance and infrastructure in this.

The chamber will have to create an ecosystem so that youths, women and MSMEs can get maximum benefits from the policies of the government, he said. Shah said the PHDCCI has a decisive role in taking the country's industries to new heights in the Amrit

Kaal of the next 25 years, i.e., the period between the 75th anniversary of Independence and the centenary. He said the biggest achievement in these 75 years has been that India as a country has succeeded in deepening the roots of democracy, adding the country has shown the world that governance in terms of policy is a continuous process.

Shah said that according to the principle of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", India is leading the world in solving global problems across all sectors. Now the world is looking towards India in all areas including fight against terrorism, solar alliance, green energy etc. and many of our initiatives are guiding the world today, he said. Shah said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has worked with a vision to lay a strong foundation for India in all areas affecting the world

economy for the coming 25 years. "The time has come to change both the size and scale of the Indian industry, and the Chamber of Commerce should think in the direction of this initiative. Our companies will have to work towards becoming multinational, and now the need of the hour is for Indian companies to become multinational," he said.

Shah said India has secured its place in all the sectors like green hydrogen, semiconductors, electric vehicles, solar energy, defence, drones, space, mining and green fuel ethanol, which are going to impact the world economy for the next 25 years. Citing the pole position that India has attained in the production of pulses, milk, jute production, and railway engines, the Home Minister said we will have to increase investment in research and development.

## Centre's fiscal deficit at Aug-end touch 36 pc of full-year target: CGA

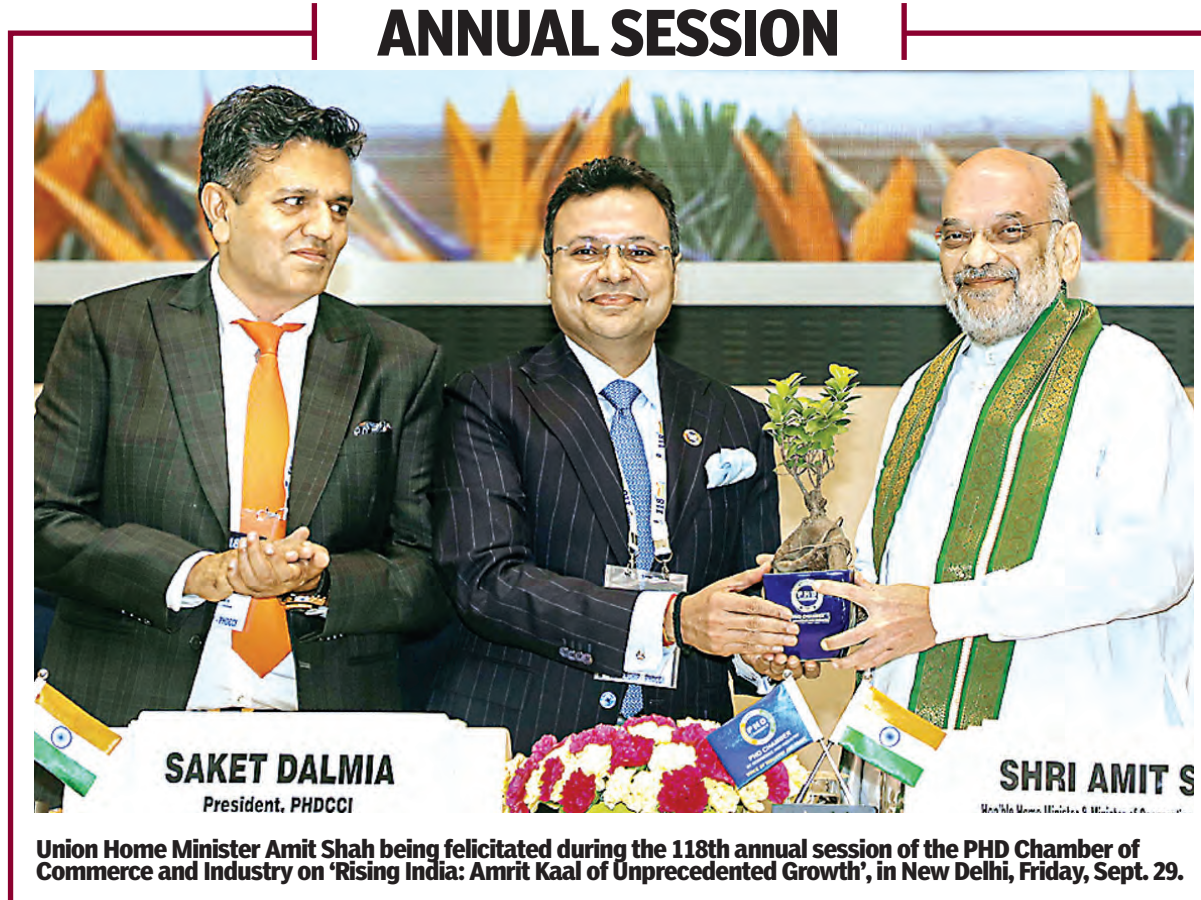
**New Delhi, Sep 29:** The Centre's fiscal deficit in the first five months of 2023-24 touched 36 per cent of the full-year target, government data showed on Friday. In absolute terms, the fiscal deficit — the gap between expenditure and revenue — was Rs 6.42 lakh crore as of August-end, according to the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). The deficit stood at 32.6 per cent of the Budget Estimates (BE) in the corresponding period of the financial year 2022-23. In the Union Budget, the government projected to bring down the fiscal deficit to 5.9 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) in the current 2023-24 financial year. The fiscal deficit was 6.4 per cent of the GDP in 2022-23 against the earlier estimate of 6.71 per cent.

Unveiling the revenue-expenditure data of the central government for the April-August period of 2023-24, CGA said the net tax revenue was Rs 8.03 lakh crore, or 34.5 per cent, of the BE for the current fiscal. The net tax revenue collection was 36.2 per cent at August-end 2022. The central government's total expenditure in the first five months stood at Rs 16.71 lakh crore, or 37.1 per cent, of the BE. The expenditure was 35.2 per cent of the BE a year ago. Of the total expenditure, Rs 12.97 lakh crore was on the revenue account and Rs 3.73 lakh crore towards the capital account. Fiscal deficit is the difference between the total expenditure and revenue of the government. It is an indication of the total borrowings that are needed by the government.

## India's aspirations to become developed economy won't be constrained by labour issues: NITI VC

New Delhi, Sep 29:

India's aspiration to become a developed economy by 2047 will not be constrained due to labour issues, NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Suman Bery said on Friday. Speaking at the launch of Global Innovation Index 2023, Bery said the role of innovation is to raise the productivity of labour and use capital more productively. India retained its 40th rank out of 132 economies in the GII 2023 rankings, according to a report by Geneva-based World Intellectual Property Organization. "India's aspirations for developed country status by 2047 is not going to be constrained by the availability of labour. We are in a sweet spot demographically. "What economists call



Union Home Minister Amit Shah being felicitated during the 118th annual session of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 'Rising India: Amrit Kaal of Unprecedented Growth', in New Delhi, Friday, Sept. 29.



total factor productivity... is to raise the productivity of labour, which can partly be done by changing sectors... and using labour and capital more productively," Bery said. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had expressed optimism that India will be a developed nation by 2047. A developed country is typically characterised by a relatively high level of economic growth, a general standard of living, higher per capita income as well as good performance

on the Human Development Index (HDI) that includes education, literacy and health. Speaking at the event, NITI Aayog CEO B V R Subrahmanyam said the policy think tank is organising workshops throughout the nation to push the innovation ecosystem. "Our performance is above expectations, making India an innovation achiever for the 13th consecutive year," NITI Aayog member V K Saraswat said. GII Co-Editor and the Head of the Economics and Statistics Division Sacha Wunsch-Vincent said India is among the seven fastest-rising nations in the last decade in the Global Innovation Index and has overperformed with respect to GDP with a persistent innovation in policy effort.

## After bumpy 3 quarters of 2023, online sellers see 15 pc rise in festive sales

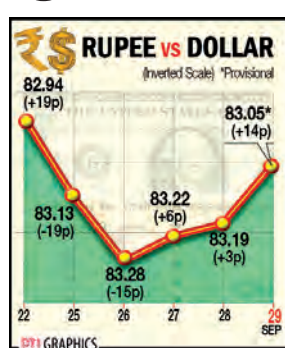
**New Delhi, Sept 29:** After a rocky first three quarters of 2023, online sellers expect to see at least a 15 per cent jump in festive sales year-on-year, according to a report by Redseer Strategy Consultants that underlined market readiness and bullish sentiments for a profitable festive season ahead. The latest report of Redseer which surveyed a few hundred sellers (primarily the smaller sellers) prior to the festive sales 2023, said anticipation for a festive sales boost among the sellers is "high across categories". "After a rocky first three quarters of the year CY23, online sellers expect at least a 15 per cent jump in festive sales year on year," Redseer said in a release. The findings revealed that despite modest sales growth on e-commerce platforms recently, anticipation for a festive sales boost amongst the sellers is high. Sellers expect a minimum 15 per cent online sales growth compared to last year's festive

event, with the median growth figure of 26 per cent sales increase expected. E-commerce platforms are tailoring solutions to meet the optimism of sellers and as a consequence of which, seller perceptions around support provided by eTailing platforms have seen an uptick. "Through our surveys, sellers have highlighted the strong support received from platforms in terms of data analytics, trends predictions, consumer visibility, among others," it said. Driven by seller bullishness, they are expected to ramp up their ad spendings on the online platforms meaningfully, thus creating the right sales impact for themselves and also benefiting the platforms. "The festive period is expected to enable sellers especially the smaller ones to come out of the challenging sales environment seen through this and sellers are optimistic of strong sales growth," Mrigank Gutgutia, Partner at Redseer Strategy Consultants said.

## Rupee rises 14 paise to 83.05 against US dollar

Mumbai, Sep 29:

The rupee appreciated 14 paise to settle at 83.05 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday, boosted by a firm trend in equity markets and a sharp correction in the greenback against major rivals overseas. However, selling pressure from foreign equity investors and rising crude oil prices in international markets weighed on the domestic unit, forex traders said. The rupee opened strong at 83.13 against the US dollar and moved in the range of 83.03 to 83.13 against the greenback. It finally settled at 83.05 (provisional), registering a gain of 14 paise from its previous close. On Thursday, the rupee settled 3 paise higher at 83.19.



Analysts said the rupee also strengthened due to a significant decline in India's current account deficit (CAD). However, rising interest rates and US bond yields prompted foreign investors to stay in selling mode. CAD almost halved to USD 9.2 billion, or 1.1 per cent, of GDP in the first quarter of the current fiscal from USD 17.9

billion (2.1 per cent of GDP) a year ago, the Reserve Bank of India said on Thursday. Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas, said: "Indian rupee strengthened on Friday on weak US dollar index and a decline in crude oil prices. Positive tone in domestic markets also strengthened the rupee. However, FII outflows capped sharp gains". The dollar declined on concerns over looming US government shutdown fears. Disappointing economic data from the US also weighed on the greenback, he added. "We expect the rupee to trade with a slight positive bias as US government shutdown worries may keep the dollar pressure.

## Sensex rises 320 pts, Nifty closes above 19,600

Mumbai, Sep 29:

Benchmark Sensex rose by 320 points while Nifty closed above the 19,600 mark on Friday after value-buying in metal, financial and energy stocks aided by positive trends in the US and European markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 320.09 points or 0.49 per cent to settle at 65,828.41. During the day, it jumped 643.33 points or 0.98 per cent to 66,151.65. The Nifty advanced 114.75 points or 0.59 per cent to end at 19,638.30. Among the Sensex firms, NTPC climbed over 3 per cent emerging as the biggest gainer. Tata Motors, Sun Pharma, Tata Steel, State Bank of India, UltraTech Cement, JSW Steel, Bajaj Finance, Reliance, ICICI Bank and IndusInd Bank



were the other major gainers. Power Grid, HCL Technologies, Tech Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys and Titan were among the laggard. "Markets made a recovery attempt after Thursday's fall and managed to close half a per cent higher. The

tone was positive for most of the session however dip in the final hour trimmed the gains." Ajit Mishra, SVP - Technical Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said. Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services said that while stocks witnessed a rebound on

Friday, the market is facing stiff resistance at higher levels due to insipid liquidity and a lack of triggers to overcome the bears. In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge climbed 1.31 per cent and smallcap index advanced 0.57 per cent. Among BSE sectoral indices, metal jumped 2.71 per cent, healthcare rallied 2.22 per cent, oil & gas (1.30 per cent), commodities (1.25 per cent) and power (1.02 per cent).

IT and teck were the laggards. On the weekly front, the BSE benchmark fell 180.74 points or 0.27 per cent, and the Nifty declined 35.95 points or 0.18 per cent. In Asian markets, Tokyo ended lower. Markets were closed in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Taiwan and Seoul.

## India in talks with more jurisdictions to make material impact on cross-border payments: RBI DG



**Kolkata, Sep 29:** Reserve Bank Deputy Governor T Rabi Sankar on Friday said the high cost of remittances for countries despite the available technology was "unconscionable", and India is in talks with more jurisdictions to make a material impact on cross-border payments. Sankar, during a virtual address at the BCC&I Indo-Pacific Economic Conclave, said according to World Bank research, global cross-border remittance in 2022 was

estimated to be USD 830 billion, and India was the top recipient. "As per the World Bank's remittance prices worldwide database, the global average cost of a retail size of remittance (retail size - USD 200) was 6.2 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2022. For some countries, this cost can be as high as 8 per cent. "Such a high cost in today's context, when data connectivity is so cheap, is simply unconscionable. I believe that given the available technology, the present situation is not sustainable," he said. The top RBI official said India has been making efforts to tackle the challenge of the high cost of remittances, and the newly introduced central bank digital currency (CBDC) offers a potential solution in this context.

## Skoda Auto celebrates key internationalisation milestone

Hanoi, Sep 29:

Skoda Auto has taken an important step in its internationalisation strategy with its entry into the Vietnamese market. A celebratory event took place with representatives of the Vietnamese and Czech governments alongside Skoda's local distribution and production partner, TC Group. Skoda Auto projects a rapid expansion of the dealer network to as many as 30 partners and an annual sales potential of over 40,000 units beyond 2030. The first models, starting with the Karoq and Kodiaq, will be imported from Europe. Local CKD production, planned to start next year, aims to leverage synergies due to the country's proximity to India. Skoda views Vietnam as a gateway to



the promising ASEAN region. Klaus Zellmer, Skoda Auto CEO, said, "We are excited to engage with Vietnam's dynamic economy and a new group of customers in this fast-growing market. This is also the next step in our accelerating internationalisation strategy,

strengthening our brand in the ASEAN region and intensifying the synergies between our two key markets of India and Europe. During the preparations, it has been clear that in TC Group we have an excellent partner for the production and sale of our attractive model portfolio. I look forward to

starting a successful future together." Martin Jahn, Skoda Auto Board Member for Sales and Marketing, said: "Today marks an important milestone in the history of Skoda Auto. By entering the Vietnamese market, we are further strengthening our position in the global automotive industry. We have a clear strategy, ambitious targets, and a strong local partner in TC Motor. Our medium-term plan is to engage around 30 local contractual partners, assemble around 30,000 cars from CKD kits, and realise a sales potential of more over 40,000 vehicles annually beyond 2030. This move solidifies Skoda's commitment to serving our Vietnamese customers and becoming an important presence in the local market."

## Vedanta to demerge five businesses into separate listed firms

**New Delhi, Sep 29:** Mining conglomerate Vedanta Ltd on Friday announced plans to demerge five of its key businesses, including aluminium, oil and gas, and steel, into separate listed entities with a view to create shareholder value. "The de-merger is planned to be a simple vertical split, for every 1 share of Vedanta Limited, the shareholders will additionally receive 1 share of each of the 5 newly listed companies," the firm said in a stock exchange filing. The Board of Vedanta Ltd approved "a pure-play, asset-owner business model" that will result in aluminium, oil and gas, power, steel and ferrous materials, and base metals being demerged and listed separately. Vedanta Ltd will continue to hold 65 per cent of Hindustan Zinc Ltd as well as the new businesses of stainless steel and semiconductor/display. The entire exercise is proposed to be completed in 12-15 months.



## Persistent robberies raise concerns in Bhakhara village

### Thieves remain fearless, leaving residents in distress

Central Chronicle News

**Anwari, Sep 29:** Bhakhara village has witnessed a troubling surge in thefts, prompting growing concerns among its residents. Local authorities are grappling to curb these incidents and bring the culprits to justice.

The terror of these brazen thieves continues to haunt the community, with Lalla Cycle Stores becoming their fourth target in a series of robberies just last night.

The repeated attacks have inflicted substantial financial losses on the shop owner, with losses running into thousands of rupees. Despite appeals to local representatives, rural leaders, and the administration, concrete actions remain elusive.

Adding to the woes, late-night gatherings of intoxi-



cated individuals persist at various intersections, further compounding security issues. Parmeshwar Jangde, a concerned local, has proposed a potential solution, suggesting the installation of CCTV cameras at crossroads by the Gram Panchayat and local administration. This preventative measure could deter

criminals and safeguard the community.

Urgent intervention is needed to protect homes and businesses from future incidents, highlighting the importance of regular patrols by village Kotwaro within the police precinct. Village safety must be prioritized through proactive measures and decisive actions.

## CT scan facility in Baikunthpur brings affordable healthcare to masses

### Govt steps in to provide high-quality diagnostic services

Central Chronicle News

**Koria, Sep 29:** The district of Koria, Chhattisgarh, has witnessed a significant healthcare milestone with the recent introduction of a CT scan facility at the Baikunthpur district hospital. This achievement is a result of the state government's ongoing commitment to enhancing healthcare infrastructure, especially in rural and tribal areas, ensuring accessible and affordable medical services for all.

The demand for CT scan services had long been echoing among local residents, who faced challenges in accessing crucial diagnostic tests. Responding to these concerns, the district admin-

istration took swift action to make this facility a reality. Notably, a backup power generator has been installed to ensure uninterrupted service, emphasizing the importance of reliable healthcare infrastructure.

South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) allocated a budget of 3 crores 59 lakhs in June 2021 for the installation of a 64-slice CT scan machine at the District Hospital, Baikunthpur. This decision was prompted by the absence of such a facility, which had led to difficulties in diagnosing critical illnesses in the region. SECL Bilaspur formed a procurement committee to oversee the installation, in collaboration with Chhattisgarh Medical Services Corporation Limited.

To guarantee the efficient operation of the CT scan machine, two radiog-



rappers were trained at Raipur's Medical College and D.K.S. Super Speciality Hospital. Results from the CT scans are reported through teleradiology, facilitated by a qualified radiologist.

Additionally, the machine comes with a three-year warranty and com-

prehensive maintenance for an additional three years to address any technical issues promptly.

Crucially, the CT scan machine's quality and safety adhere to guidelines set by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) under the Department of Atomic Energy, Radiological Safety

for the local population but also for patients from neighboring districts, including Surajpur and Korba. Previously, the absence of CT scan services led patients to opt for expensive private diagnostics or travel to other cities for essential tests.

Health authorities have cautioned against misleading information about the facility's quality, emphasizing that strict actions will be taken against rumors and misinformation. They encourage residents to utilize the district hospital's qualified professionals for their diagnostic needs, avoiding costly private alternatives.

The introduction of CT scan services in Baikunthpur marks a significant step towards equitable and affordable healthcare for all, thanks to the prompt and positive initiative of the district administration.

## District-level Kabaddi selection on Oct 2

### Stringent criteria set for aspiring players

Central Chronicle News

**Dongargaon, Sep 29:** Dongargaon Block is all set to host a district-level Kabaddi selection competition on October 2nd at Arjuni Stadium, commencing at 9:00 AM.

With a focus on fostering young talent, this event will feature multiple categories, catering to junior, sub-junior, senior, boys' group, and girls' group.

In the sub-junior category, contenders must be born after January 1, 2008, and weigh less than

55 kilograms, ensuring that participants are under 16 years of age as of December 31, 2023.

Junior boys and girls, on the other hand, should be under 20 years old as of January 1, 2004, with weight restrictions of 65 kilograms for boys and 60 kilograms for girls.

The senior category welcomes participants of all ages, though they must adhere to specific weight limits: 80 kilograms for boys and 70 kilograms for girls. To enroll, candidates must present their 10th-grade mark sheet, Aadhar card, and a recent passport-sized photograph.

## Devotees conduct grand aarti honouring Lord Ganesha

Central Chronicle News

**Birkoni, Sep 29:** The village of Birkoni came alive with vibrant celebrations as numerous Ganeshotsav pandals adorned with splendid decorations for the evening aarti, following age-old customs and traditions.

Devotees, clutching fragrant garlands, wholeheartedly joined in the grand aarti, seeking blessings from Lord Ganesha. After the aarti, delectable laddoos and modaks were distributed as prasad, filling the air with sweet aroma.

The temple precincts were bathed in a kaleido-



scope of colourful lights, fostering a joyful ambiance. The committee-organized evening aarti witnessed a remarkable turnout of devoted wor-

shippers. The event's seamless execution owed much to the unwavering dedication of numerous committee members.

## Daughters perform last rites for their father

Central Chronicle News

**Kurud, Sep 29:** A poignant display of love and courage unfolded in Kurud town on September 25, when 40-year-old Jageshwar breathed his last. With no sons to shoulder the responsibility, his 13-year-old daughter, Sandhya, and her 9-year-old sister, Lakshmi, performed the cremation rites with tearful eyes and trembling hands, setting a remarkable example of resilience.

Jageshwar Singh, the son of Sanjay Nagar Depot Road resident Kallu Singh Thakur in the Kurud Municipal



Council, succumbed to illness at the age of 40. He left behind his elderly parents, wife, and two innocent daughters, Sandhya Singh, 13, and Lakshmi Singh, 9. The family,

known for running a paan shop in Sandha Chowk, received the support and condolences of relatives and townspeople during the somber last rites ceremony.

## Devotees commemorate Ganesh festival with rituals

Central Chronicle News

**Birkoni, Sep 29:** The village of Birkoni was immersed in the festive spirit of Ganesh Mahotsav as various Ganesh festival committees organized an array of events, including havan (ritual fire ceremony), worship, and a lavish Bhandara. Devotees displayed unwavering dedication by performing puja and archana to Lord Ganesh idols in their homes.

Mahaprasad distribution ceremonies were held at several key locations, such as Subhash Chowk Navodaya Samiti, Saraswati Chowk, Bhata Para Sahu Chhatrawas, Amar Chowk, Bazaar



Chowk, Sahu Para, Khallari Para, Yadav Para, Gaura Gauri Chowk, and Bhata Para. Hundreds of devotees relished the sumptuous feast, reinforcing the sense of community.

The Siddhi Vinayak Ganesh Utsav Samiti conducted religious cere-

monies and bhajan-kirtan as part of the festival's festivities. The committee also organized a grand Bhandara in Uppadhay Nagar, where numerous devotees eagerly partook.

Ganesh idols, installed for nine consecutive days, were the focal points of havan and puja cere-

monies held at various locations, drawing enthusiastic participation from devotees. The meticulous rituals, accompanied by Vedic mantras chanted by priests, infused a spiritual atmosphere.

Throughout the day, devotees gathered at Ganesh pandals for prayer and worship, resonating with devotional songs like "Gajananand Ji Mere Ghar Mein Padharo" and more.

The grand culmination of the Ganesh festival will occur on Friday with the immersion of the idols. Committees will lead a grand procession, culminating in the immersion of the idols in the village's small pond.

## Vibrant Eid Milad-Un-Nabi celebration lights up Kurud

### Enthusiastic procession and heartfelt greetings mark the joyous occasion

Central Chronicle News

**Kurud, Sep 29:** The Muslim community in Kurud came together in spirited celebration to mark the birthday of Prophet Muhammad with a grand procession. This festive occasion saw political leaders and esteemed citizens warmly extending their greetings to their Muslim brethren.

At 10:00 am on Thursday morning, a grand procession for Eid Milad-Un-Nabi commenced from the Eidgah ground in Kurud. In the procession, group of youth echoed with re-



sounding calls of "Sarkar Ki Amad Marhaba", Aka Ki Aamad Marhaba" (Welcome to the arrival of the Ruler; Welcome to the arrival of the Master) and also presented Naat-e-Rasool.

The Jama Masjid was beautifully adorned by

Muslim youth groups for the festivities. The event began with the hoisting of the flag by Sadar Ayyub Khan, Haji Suleman, and Gaffar Halari. After that the tribute of 'Salato Salaam' was presented.

Notable figures like Neelam Chandrakar,

Nagar Panjayat President Tapan Chandrakar, BJP leader Shivpratap Thakur, Ravi Kant Chandrakar, Congress leader Ashish Sharma, Thaneswar Santoshi Tarak, Santosh Prajapati, and others graced the mosque with their presence to extend warm greetings. MLA Ajay Chandrakar conveyed his best wishes to the Muslim community via social media.

The police administration played a crucial role in ensuring smooth traffic flow and maintaining peace throughout the event, ensuring a joyous celebration for all.

## Hindi Fortnight concludes at SECL Headquarters Bilaspur

**Korba, Sep 29:** As per the instructions received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Official Language, Government of India, Hindi Fortnight was organized at SECL Headquarters from September 14 and it concluded on Sept 28 in the CMD Auditorium of SECL Headquarters Administrative Building under the chief hospitality of Chairman cum Managing Director Dr. Prem Sagar Mishra. Director Technical (Operations) S.K. Pal, Director (Finance) G. Srinivasan, Director (Personnel) Debashish Acharya, in the presence of various heads of departments, regional office personnel, officers and employees working at SECL Headquarters. At the beginning of the program, the chief guest and special guests garlanded the picture of Veenavadini Maa Saraswati and lit the lamp.

In his address, Chief Guest Chairman cum Managing Director Dr. Prem Sagar Mishra said that India is a multi-lingual nation but Hindi is the language which is a symbol of the unity of

India, it connects us all with each other. We should converse and do official work in Hindi as much as possible without any hesitation. In his address, he thanked the organizers and participants for participating in the Hindi competitions with relatively greater enthusiasm this year. Director Technical (Operations) S.K. Pal appealed and said that basically adopt Hindi in your work and encourage your officers, employees and colleagues to work in Hindi, which will increase the knowledge as well as increase the correspondence in Hindi. While congratulating the victorious participants of the competitions organized during Hindi Pakhwada, he extended his best wishes to all the other participants for the future.

Director (Finance) G. Srinivasan said that we should keep our inclination towards Hindi throughout the year, only then we will be the best in Hindi correspondence along with pro-



duction productivity in India and like other things. Director (Personnel) Debashish Acharya said that Hindi is a natural and simple language which should be used more and more in official work. He said that we come in 'A' region, hence we should do most of the work in Hindi.

At the end of the program, with the remarks of the Chief Guest and special guests, competitions organized during the fortnight - Hindi essay competition (separately for other speaking and Hindi speaking), picture based Hindi story writing competition (separately for other speaking and Hindi speaking),

Computer based Hindi typing competition (for other speaking and Hindi speaking together), Hindi letter and note writing for department heads/general managers/section heads/chief managers, Hindi grammar knowledge competition (separately for other speaking and Hindi speaking), Hindi self-composed poetry recitation competition (together for other speaking and Hindi speaking), Prizes were distributed to the participants

who got first, second, third and consolation prizes of Hindi Antakshari competition (for other speaking and Hindi speaking together).

Along with this, the departments which corresponded the most in Hindi during the period from January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023, were informed by Late. Awarded with Shankar Dayal Singh Smriti Official Language Shield in which "Class I - Technical Nature Departments" include "First - E&T Department", "Second - Mine Safety and Security Department", "Third - Production". Provided to the Department. In 'Category II - Departments of Non-Technical Nature', "First - Officer Establishment Department", "II - PF - Pension Department" and "III - Security Department" were provided whereas for regional offices. Delivered to "First-Korba Area", "Second-Johila Area", "Third-Hasdev Area". The responsibility of successfully announcing the program was performed by Deputy Manager (Official Language) Savita Nirmalkar.

## Anti-social elements set Scooty on fire



Central Chronicle News

**Korba, Sep 29:** An Activa vehicle was set on fire by anti-social elements in a deserted roadside lane near Kharmora Industrial Area under Civil Line police station area. When the masons saw it, the anti-social elements ran away

from there. The incident occurred around 12 mid-night of Thursday. Here an Activa vehicle was set on fire on the roadside adjacent to Kharmora colony, passers-by noticed it and reached the spot.

People tried to control the fire with sand and

water kept in the nearby pit, but within no time the vehicle was burnt to ashes. After the incident, this information was given to the police. The owner of the vehicle could not be identified due to lack of number plate. At present the police is busy investigating the matter.





# Indian shooters sizzle, record best-ever medals haul

Hangzhou, Sep 29 (PTI):

The young Indian shooting brigade sizzled at the Asian Games, steam-rolling the rivals to win two gold and three silver on Friday and record their best-ever medal haul in the continental showpiece.

The grand success of the shooters over the last six days has seen them amass 18 medals so far, including six gold and seven silver, surpassing the 14 they had won during the 2006 Doha Asian Games in an era dominated by the likes of the legendary Jaspal Rana.

Palak Gulia and Esha Singh made it a one-two in individual 10m air pistol, while the trio of Esha, Palak and Divya won the country a team silver in the event, before the triumvirate of Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, Swapnil Kusale and Akhil Sheoran added another team gold in 50m rifle 3 positions.

The baby-faced 22-year-old Aishwary added another individual silver in rifle 3 positions, fighting an early elimination before finishing second best to a Chinese marksman, who set an Asian Games



**Silver medalists Indian shooters Divya Thadigol Subbaraju, Esha Singh and Palak stand at podium after the women's 10m air pistol team event.**



**Gold medalist shooter India's Palak and silver medalist compatriot Esha Singh pose with their medals after the finals of women's 10m air pistol (individual) event.**



**(L-R) Indian shooters Swapnil Suresh Kusale, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar and Akhil Sheoran pose with their gold medal during the presentation ceremony of men's 50m rifle 3 positions team event.**

record. Two teenage dreamy-eyed shooters, Palak Gulia and Esha Singh, set ablaze the shooting range by powering in 10m air pistol event.

In one of the most trail-blazing efforts seen by the Indians, the young duo challenged each other for the top podium finish until 17-year-old Palak clinched the gold medal and Esha the sil-

ver. "There's no rivalry with anybody. My biggest competitor has always been me. I'm always fighting with myself," Palak said later. Palak had a score of 9.1 in her first shot in the finals but recovered remarkably well.

"My first shot was 9.1, a totally outer shot. I was a bit nervous after that, thinking obviously like what I hit. But I then said

it's not over, it's the first shot, you have 23 more shots to go.

"So, it's not over until you win. It's all right, it's just one shot and because of this you cannot let you impact the rest of the shots," said the 17-year-old from Jhajjar district in Haryana. The unprecedented success of Indian marksmen continued in the 50m rifle arena as well with the men's 3-po-

sitions team, comprising the young trio of Aishwary (591), Swapnil (591) and Sheoran (587), overcoming the Chinese challenge with a world record score of 1769 to grab the top podium finish.

Hosts China were a clear six points adrift with 1763 points, while South Korea were a distant third with 1748 points. The men's trio

smashed the world record by a whopping eight points. Aishwary and Swapnil shot superbly to make the individual finals as well. They were placed first and second after the qualification round, something never seen before in a sport dominated by the Chinese at the Asian level.

The finals though was a bit of an anti-climax, with both Swapnil and Aishwary missing the gold medal.

Aishwary signed off with a silver after China's Du Linshu created an Asian Games record score of 460.6 to deny the 22-year-old Indian the top podium spot.

Aishwary had a final score of 459.7, while home team marksman Tain Jiaming took the third place behind the Indian with a score of 448.3.

The biggest setback, though, was for marksman Swapnil, who was gunning for a sure-shot gold after leading for a major part of the finals, but a rank poor shot of 7.6 saw the 28-year-old take a mighty tumble from No.1 position to fifth in the standing position.

## Shot putter Kiran Baliyan wins India's first athletics medal



Hangzhou, Sep 29 (PTI):

Kiran Baliyan became the first Indian woman to win an Asian Games medal in shot put event in 72 years as she picked up a bronze on the opening day of competitions here on Friday.

The 24-year-old Baliyan hurled the iron ball to a distance of 17.36m in her third attempt for her best effort of the day to open India's medal account.

Baliyan thus became only the second Indian to win a medal in women's shot put in Asian Games after Barbara Webster, an Anglo-Indian from then Bombay, won a bronze in the inaugural edition in New Delhi in 1951.

Baliyan has a season's as well as personal best of 17.92m which she had produced while finishing second in the Indian

Grand Prix 5 in Chandigarh on September 10. "I did not know the history (first Indian woman shot putter to win an Asian Games medal after 1951). My focus was to produce my best performance. I could not do that and I am not happy with my performance. But I won a medal, so I am very happy," she said later. The other Indian in the fray, Manpreet Kaur finished fifth with a best throw of 16.25m.

In women's 400m race, Himanshi Malik ran an excruciatingly slow race for the second time in less than three weeks as she finished fifth in her heat and failed to qualify for the finals.

The 21-year-old Malik clocked 57.82 seconds in heat number three, even worse than the 57.59 second effort at the Indian Grand Prix 5 in Chandigarh on September 10.

The other Indian in the fray, Aishwarya Mishra qualified for the final round after finishing second in heat number one with a season's best time of 52.73 seconds.

In the men's 400m race, Muhammed Ajmal qualified for the finals after finishing second in his heat with a time of 45.76 seconds while Muhammed Anas Yahiya failed to make the grade after clocking 46.29 for a third-place finish in his heat.

## Indian women's team signs off with bronze in Squash



**India's Anahat Singh, Tanvi Khanna, Dipika Pallikal and Joshna Chinappa pose for photos after winning the bronze medal in the Squash Women's Team event at the 19th Asian Games, in Hangzhou, China, Friday, Sept. 29**

**Hangzhou, Sep 29 (PTI):** The Indian women's squash team signed off with a bronze medal after going down fighting to Hong Kong in the semifinals at the Asian Games here on Friday. The trio of veteran Joshna Chinappa, Anahat Singh and Tanvi

Khanna went down 1-2 to Hong Kong. Joshna was the only Indian who won her match as she defeated world number 24 Tze Lok Ho 3-2 (7-11, 11-7, 9-11, 11-6, 11-8) to level the tie after Tanvi went down meekly (3-0) to Sin Yuk Chan in the opener. "Sometimes it's just

about hanging in there and fighting through. There were moments where that's exactly what I did. I didn't think too much about having a plan or a strategy. I knew today no matter what happens I had to keep fighting through," Joshna said.

Playing against high-ranked and experienced opponent in Lee Ka Yi, the 15-year-old Anahat then tried her best but was undone by her inexperience. The teenager saved eight match points as she went from 10-2 to 10-10 in the third game but eventually lost the final (0-3) 8-11, 7-11, 10-12 and the tie.

India had finished with a silver in the previous edition. They had lost to Hong Kong in the final at the 2018 Jakarta Games.

"It was 1-1 (in matches) and my match was a really important match, and if we had won that we would have gone to the finals. I feel like it could have gone better and I could have won it.

## Ramkumar-Myneni pair takes silver in men's doubles

**Bopanna-Bhosale in mixed doubles final**



**Hangzhou, Sep 29 (PTI):** Ramkumar Ramanathan and Saketh Myneni settled for the men's doubles silver medal at the Asian Games after being edged by Chinese Taipei's Hsu Yu-Hsiou and Jason Jung but India's hopes of winning a gold from the tennis courts is still alive with the mixed team reaching the title clash, here on Friday. The Taipei team was unseeded but both Hsu (182) and Jung (231) were better-ranked singles players and it showed in their ground strokes and the way they went about their business in a 6-4 6-4 victory against the second-seeded Indians

in the title clash. Hsu was solid from the baseline with his strong serve, while Jung complimented him with his lightning fast hands at the net. It is Ramkumar's first Asian Games medal and third for Myneni, who had won a men's doubles silver with Sanam Singh and a gold with Sania Mirza in the mixed doubles in the 2014 Incheon edition. "It is my first Asian Games medal, I always wanted to win a medal for India.

It was one of my goals and that too coming with Saki (Saketh), very happy about it," Ramanathan said. "We tried our best every match, every single point and extremely happy that we could finish with a silver.

The duo of Rohan Bopanna and Rutuja Bhosale outplayed the Chinese Taipei combine of Chan Hao-ching and Yu-Hsiou Hsu 6-1 3-6 10-4 in the mixed double semifinal.

## Nikhath secures Olympic quota, assures Indian of medal

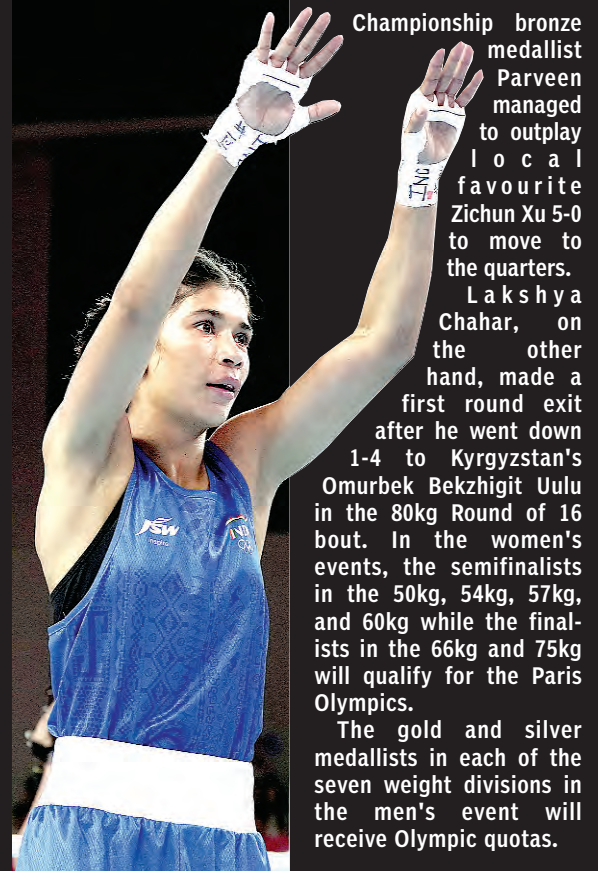
Hangzhou, Sep 29 (PTI):

Two-time world champion boxer Nikhat Zareen secured a Paris Olympics berth and assured herself of a medal as she cantered to the 50kg semifinals of the Asian Games here on Friday.

Fighting in her third bout of the tournament, Nikhat needed less than three minutes to notch a facile RSC (referee stops contest) win over Nassar Hanan of Jordan in the quarterfinal.

The reigning Commonwealth Games champion set the tone of the bout early on with a sharp jab. Nikhat continued to dominate with a flurry of accurate combination punches.

Such was her domination that the referee was forced to give the Jordanian pugilist three standing counts before calling off the contest. World



Championship bronze medalist Parveen managed to outplay local favourite Zichun Xu 5-0 to move to the quarters. Lakshya Chahar, on the other hand, made a first round exit after he went down 1-4 to Kyrgyzstan's Omurbek Bekzhigit Uulu in the 80kg Round of 16 bout. In the women's events, the semifinalists in the 50kg, 54kg, 57kg, and 60kg while the finalists in the 66kg and 75kg will qualify for the Paris Olympics. The gold and silver medallists in each of the seven weight divisions in the men's event will receive Olympic quotas.

## Indian men assure of medal, women's team bows out

Hangzhou, Sep 29 (PTI):

India thrashed lowly Nepal 3-0 in the quarterfinals to secure a historic medal after 37 years in the men's team badminton event at the Asian Games here on Friday. Taking the court first, Lakshya Sen defeated Prince Dahal 21-5 21-8 before Kidambi Srikanth beat Sunil Joshi 21-4 21-13 in the second match. In the third match, Mithun Manjunath edged past Bishnu Katuwal 21-2 21-17 to clinch the tie. The Indian men, who are assured of at least a bronze, will now face the winner of the match between Indonesia and Korea in semifinal for a spot in the gold medal clash. However, it was disappointment for the Indian women's team.

India to tame the Thai, who boast the likes of former world champion Ratchanok Intanon, world no. 12 Pornpawee Chochuwong and world no. 17 Supanida Katethong in their ranks.

However, India couldn't produce a fight with two-time Olympic medallist Sindhu being the only one to take a game off during her 21-14 15-21 14-21 loss against Chochuwong in the opening women's singles match.

After the opening reversal, the onus fell on World number 17 Treasa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand to bring India back in contention but the duo lost steam, losing 19-21 5-21 to J o n g k o l p h a n Kittitharakul and Rawinda Prajongjai, ranked 10th, in women's doubles. The left-handed Ashmita Chaliha was then humbled by Busanan Ongbamrunphan 9-21, 16-21 in the third match to shut the door on India's medal hopes.

Hangzhou, Sep 29 (PTI):

A dominant India defeated Malaysia 6-0 to register their second consecutive win in the women's hockey competition at the Asian Games here on Friday. The Indians continued from where they left against Singapore in their campaign opener and pumped in four goals in the first quarter of the Pool A match.

Monika (7th minute) opened the scoring for India before vice-captain Deep Grace Ekka (8th), Navneet Kaur (11th), Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke (15th), Sangita Kumari (24th) and Lalremsiami (50th) also found the back of the net.

Brimming with confidence after the 13-0 win over Singapore, the seventh ranked Indians maintained their momentum and completely dominated the play from the word go. As expected, India took

## Dominant India beat Malaysia 6-0 in women's hockey



the lead in the seventh minute through Monika's field strike before Deep Grace doubled the score a minute later, converting their first penalty corner.

In the 20th minute, Lalremsiami's tomahawk from top of the circle, after getting a loose ball from midfield, went just wide.

But a minute later, Navneet Kaur's brilliant stick work made it 3-0 in the favour of India. She got the ball inside the circle and converted after

Deep Grace failed to score with a reverse tomahawk.

India secured another penalty corner in the 15th minute and Vaishnavi found the net from the chance to hand her side a 4-0 lead.

India extended their lead in the 24th minute through Sangita. Neha got the ball into the D and passed it to Sangita, who found the back of the net with a reverse hit. India secured a penalty corner in the 27th minute but

Deepika's try was denied by a brilliant save by Malaysia goalkeeper AB Mashitah. Seconds before half time, Lalremsiami secured another penalty corner for India but it went in vain as the Savita Punia-led side led 5-0 at the break.

Malaysia started on Sharath, Sathiyann crash out much better note after the change of ends and looked more compact in defence, while trying for attacking runs in between.

## Manika Batra progresses to quarterfinals

Sharath, Sathiyann crash out

Hangzhou, Sep 29 (PTI):

Commonwealth Games gold medallist Manika Batra progressed to the women's singles quarterfinals but veterans A Sharath Kamal and G Sathiyann crashed out in the pre-quarterfinals of the table tennis competition in the Asian Games here on Friday.

In the men's singles, Sharath fought bravely against Chinese Taipei's Chih-Yuan Chuang but eventually the latter prevailed 11-7, 12-10, 9-11, 11-5, 10-12, 6-11, 11-8. Sharath had fought back from a two-game disadvantage to make it 3-3, but he could not hold his composure in the final game.

Earlier, G Sathiyann lost to China's Chiquin Wang 3-11, 3-11, 6-11, 3-11. India endured a mixed

day in the women's doubles event as well. Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee reached the quarterfinals with a 11-8, 11-7, 11-4 victory over Thailand's Jinnipa and Wanwisa. But Sreeja Akula and Diya Chitale were ousted by fifth seeded Japanese Miwa Harimoto and Miyuu Kihara 11-3, 11-5, 11-8.

However, Manika gave something to cheer for India in the morning session with a valiant win.

In a close contest, Manika defeated Suthasini Sawettabut of Thailand 4-2 (11-7, 6-11, 12-10, 11-13, 12-10, 11-6) and confirmed her place in the quarterfinals.

Manika, a bronze winner in mixed doubles at the Jakarta Asian Games, will face world No. 3 Yidi Wang of China on Saturday.



## 'Thrown out' by hospital staff, ailing girl dies at its doors

Mainpuri/Lucknow, Sep 29 (PTI)

A 17-year-old girl died right outside a hospital in Uttar Pradesh's Mainpuri, allegedly after the staff removed her from there after treating her for two days.

A disturbing video shows the seemingly lifeless girl collapsed over the seat of a motorcycle as a woman accompanying her cries - apparently on realising that the girl is now dead.

The authorities have suspended Radha Swami Hospital's licence and sealed the premises over the incident in Mainpuri's Ghiror town on Thursday. Her family said she was given "wrong treatment" at the private hospital.

The clip showed a man and a woman possibly



Radha Swami Hospital, where a 17-year-old girl died allegedly after the staff removed her from the hospital after treating her for two days, in Mainpuri.

staff members going back up the stairs of the hospital. They had apparently brought her outside up to her relatives' motorcycle.

"Tumne bahar nikal ke dal diya patient," a man is heard saying, accusing them of removing the girl from the hospital even before a vehicle was arranged for her.

The girl appears lifeless. Her back is arched backwards as she is seat-

ed on the motorcycle, supported by a man, possibly a relative. Moments later, a woman relative realises that the girl, now sprawled along both seats of the bike, is dead. No hospital staff is around.

UP Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak, who handles the state's health department, ordered action against the private hospital on Thursday. District's Chief

Medical Officer R C Gupta said according to the information with him, class 12 student Bharti was brought to the hospital on Tuesday afternoon when she complained of fever.

According to her family members, the girl was then admitted there. He condition deteriorated on Thursday.

"The family members have alleged that the girl was administered wrong treatment, after which her health deteriorated," CMO Gupta said.

Instead of making arrangements to shift her to another hospital, the staff brought the patient out and then "fled", the family complained.

"The girl died outside the hospital shortly after being removed from there," Gupta said.

## SC seeks names of eminent persons for setting up search panel on West Bengal varsities

New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI)

The Supreme Court has sought names of eminent personalities including scientists, technocrats, administrators, educationists and jurists for setting up a search committee for shortlisting and appointing vice-chancellors in 13 state-run universities of West Bengal.

Taking note of the running feud between the state government and the office of the West Bengal governor on the issue, the top court decided on September 15 that it will set up a search committee to pick vice-chancellors.

The court had asked the governor, the state government and the University Grants Commission (UGC) to suggest three to five names independently for its consideration. The court will then nominate some of those recommended by them to the search committee.

A bench of justices

Surya Kant and Dipankar

Datta took up the matter on September 27 and noted "the parties have agreed to submit a tabulated chart giving details of the Universities, the description of the subjects/disciplines which are being taught, the existing provisions for appointment of members in the Search Committee and/or the new provisions which are proposed in the Bill awaiting assent of the Governor."

"The counsel representing the intervenors etc. shall be at liberty to suggest the names of renowned scientists, technocrats, administrators, educationists, jurists or any other eminent personality for the purpose of nomination to the Search Committee," it said.

The bench asked the parties to complete the exercise of submitting details and the names by Wednesday and listed the state government's plea

for hearing on October 6.

The top court was hearing the appeal of the West Bengal government against the June 28 order of the Calcutta High Court which said there was no illegality in the orders issued by the governor appointing interim vice-chancellors in 11 state-run universities in his capacity as ex-officio chancellor of these institutions.

The Mamata Banerjee government and Governor C V Ananda Bose are locked in a bitter tussle over how the state's universities should run.

The bench had taken note of the fact that the state government's Bill on appointment of VCs was pending approval of the governor. It had said the court itself will form a search committee to choose vice-chancellors.

"The court has directed the office of the governor, the state government and the University Grants Commission to give three

to five names for consideration of the bench for the search committee by September 25," advocate Subhashish Bhowmick, who appeared for the office of the governor, had said.

Earlier, the high court had held the chancellor has the power to appoint vice-chancellors as laid down in relevant enactments.

Sanat Kumar Ghosh, a petitioner who moved the high court, and the West Bengal government claimed the orders appointing vice-chancellors to state-run universities were illegal as the higher education department was not consulted by governor Bose before making such appointments.

The petitioner had alleged that contrary to the proposal put forth by the higher education minister, the chancellor made a series of appointments of vice-chancellors without consulting him.

## Objectionable remarks being made against constitutional institutions for political reasons: Dhankhar

Nalanda, Sep 29 (PTI)

It is a matter of serious concern that objectionable remarks are being made against constitutional institutions just for certain political reasons, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Friday.

Addressing the students and faculty of Nalanda University at an open house session, he said any adverse comment about such institutions is against India's rich cultural heritage," he added.

Dhankhar said that a decade ago India was among the 'Fragile Five' economies in the world, but it is now among the "big five" economies.

"From 'Fragile Five' to the world's fifth largest economy, it is no small achievement," he said.

The vice president said Nalanda is known across the world for its unique brand of knowledge,

learning and education. "Its history and rich legacy make Nalanda stand out in the world. You have to carry that legacy to a higher level. There is the emergence of an ecosystem now in Bharat, which allows you to fully unleash your energy, exploit your talent and potential, and realise your aspirations and dreams," he told the students.

The vice-president along with his wife Sudesh Dhankhar also planned a sapling on the campus of the varsity. They were welcomed by state Rural Development Minister Sharvan Kumar, Nalanda MP Kaushalendra Kumar and vice-chancellor Abhay Kumar Singh on their arrival at the campus.

reasons. It is a matter of serious concern. Sanctity of the constitutional institutions must be respected," he said.

"I call upon everyone to be responsible when it comes to constitutional institutions. Any adverse comment about the constitutional institutions is against India's rich cultural heritage," he added.

Dhankhar said that a decade ago India was among the 'Fragile Five' economies in the world, but it is now among the "big five" economies.

"From 'Fragile Five' to the world's fifth largest economy, it is no small achievement," he said.

The vice president said Nalanda is known across the world for its unique brand of knowledge,

## HC grants temporary stay to MPCB's closure order against NCP MLA Rohit Pawar's firm

Mumbai, Sep 29 (PTI)

The Bombay High Court on Friday granted an interim stay till October 6 to an order issued by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) asking Rohit Pawar, an MLA of the Shradh Pawar-led NCP, to close a unit of his firm Baramati Agro Ltd. A division bench led by Justice Nitin Jamdar said it would hear a petition filed by Baramati Agro challenging the closure order on October 6, and the authorities should not act on the MPCB fiat until then. The petition, filed through advocate Akshay Shinde, alleged that the MPCB order was passed "owing to political influence and considering the present political situation to pressurize the di-

rector of the petitioner company that is Rohit Pawar."

Rohit Pawar, a grand-nephew of Sharad Pawar, is the CEO of Baramati Agro which is into animal and poultry feed manufacturing, sugar and ethanol manufacturing, co-generation of power, trading of agri-commodities, fruits and vegetables and dairy products.

Notably, another faction of the Nationalist Congress Party, led by Rohit's uncle Ajit Pawar, is now part of the Shiv Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra.

The petition claimed that the company had obtained necessary permissions from time to time to operate the unit, and it was also granted an environmental clearance in 2022.

## Mathura train accident

## Railways spells out dos and don'ts for EMU drivers before handover of trains

New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI)

Days after a train broke the dead-end buffer and entered one of the platforms in Mathura, the Agra Railway Division has issued strict instructions to drivers for safe handing over of trains at terminating stations.

"After the arrival of Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (MEMU) and Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) trains at the destination/terminating point, the loco pilot (driver) has to immediately apply power/train break and put the throttle and reverser on zero," one of the instructions, accessed by PTI, read. Cautioning them

not to leave the train unattended, it has directed the loco pilots to follow instructions to deactivate all operative systems like taking out both the keys crucial for train running, before he hands it over to another person called watcher or loco pilot (shunting).

It further states that if a loco pilot is giving a handover to the watcher, he must ensure that the watcher has placed four wooden wedges under wheels of the train.

The two-page instruction, written in Hindi, has directed all chief loco inspectors of the division to counsel all drivers about these handover process and submit a

report to the department concerned by October 29.

On September 26, an EMU train that arrived from the Shakur Basti station in Delhi jumped the track and climbed on to platform 2A at the Mathura Junction railway station. The train also disrupted the OHE line. However, there was no casualty. During a joint probe into the incident, the electric helper who took the handover of the EMU train alleged that the driver had left all the operating functions on and did not apply brakes because of which when he accidentally put his bag on the throttle, it went forward and the train started moving.

## Bidhuri remarks row

## Danish Ali calls for 'suitable punishment' to BJP MP



BSP MP Danish Ali addresses a press conference in New Delhi, Friday.

New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI)

Amid a row over Ramesh Bidhuri's derogatory remarks in the Lok Sabha against him, BSP MP Danish Ali on Friday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make a public statement condemning Bidhuri's

behaviour and ensure "suitable punishment" to the BJP MP.

In a letter to the prime minister, Ali also demanded that he be provided enhanced security in view of an "escalation of threats" against him.

The recent incident dur-

ing the special session of Parliament was not just an attack on him as an individual but an attack on the "very essence of democracy", Ali said.

Expressing grave concern as a Member of Parliament over the "recent shameful events" that occurred on the floor of the House, the BSP leader called on the prime minister, as the Leader of the House, to take note of the incident. "As you must be aware, the situation has significantly worsened since September 21, 2023, and it has cast a shadow over a parliamentary decorum and democratic functioning of our esteemed House of which I am privileged to be a member," Ali said in his letter which he released to the media.

"In your capacity as the Leader of the House and the Prime Minister of our great nation, I trust that you would find it deeply concerning that MP Ramesh Bidhuri resorted to using unparliamentary and abusive language," Ali said. Noting that the Modi was not present in the House, Ali claimed that Bidhuri used "inappropriate language" when referring to the prime minister during his address.

"I raised an objection to the use of such language in relation to the Prime Minister, even if it was in a quotation. It is evident from the House proceedings that none of the members from the ruling party objected to my stance against the use of unparliamentary language directed at you," Ali said.

## Goa govt to consider banning adoption of dogs from aggressive breeds

**Panaji, Sep 29 (PTI):** Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Friday said the state is contemplating imposing a ban on the adoption of dogs from certain aggressive breeds. Talking at an event held here to mark World Rabies Day, the chief minister said that dogs from certain breeds are aggressive and attack people. The state government is contemplating imposing a ban on the adoption of dogs from these breeds, he said. "Such aggressive dogs are adopted as pets and are not even vaccinated by their owners," Sawant said, appealing to people to vaccinate their pets. He further claimed that stray dogs cause at least one road accident per day.

## HC asks Centre, AAP govt to streamline process of availing facilities under health welfare schemes

New Delhi, Sep 29 (PTI)

The Delhi High Court has asked the Centre and the AAP government to streamline the process for availing medical facilities under various health welfare schemes, while taking note of the constraints faced by people from economically weaker sections wanting to enjoy such benefits. The high court constituted a seven-member committee headed by Delhi chief secretary to iron out the defects in the current system.

"The procedure required for availing free medical treatment must be streamlined, including various surgeries, as well as surgeries for implants/devices and to put in place a single-window mechanism with design-

nated nodal officers at each hospital in Delhi," a bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Sanjeev Narula said. The court noted the Delhi government has formulated Delhi Arogya Kosh and Delhi Arogya Nidhi schemes, and these initiatives are complemented by ancillary programmes aimed at providing medical services to the

residents of the city. Similarly, the central government has launched schemes like the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi and the Health Minister's Discretionary Grant.

"Nonetheless, we have been apprised of the constraints faced by individuals from economically weaker sections (EWS) when attempting to avail benefits of the scheme.

## PITRA PAKSHA



People perform 'pind daan' rituals for their ancestors on the first day of the Pitra Paksha, in Gaya, Friday.

## Karnataka bandh over Cauvery issue disrupts life



Police detain Kannada activist Vatal Nagaraj at a protest outside Town Hall during the 'Karnataka bandh' called over the Cauvery water issue, in Bengaluru, Friday.

Bengaluru, Sept 29 (PTI)

The Karnataka bandh called by 'Kannada Okkoota' to oppose the release of Cauvery river water to Tamil Nadu disrupted normal life in Bengaluru and other southern parts of the State on Friday.

Authorities had clamped

prohibitory orders under section 144 of Criminal Procedure Code in Bengaluru Urban, Mandya, Mysuru, Chamarajanagara, Ramanagara and Hassan districts, and declared holiday for schools and colleges there. 'Kannada Okkoota' is an umbrella organisation of Kannada

and farmers' outfits. A Bengaluru bandh was observed on Tuesday. As many as 44 flights to and from the Kempegowda International Airport here were cancelled owing to the Karnataka bandh.

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