



BRIEF



Sand artist Manas Sahoo creates a sand sculpture on the eve of World AIDS Day, in Puri, Thursday.

Rule out

Karjat: Praful Patel, working president of the Ajit Pawar-led NCP, on Thursday said it was a misconception that the two rival factions of the party would soon come together. Speaking at a news conference at the Nationalist Congress Party's two-day conclave here, he also claimed that the majority of public representatives, functionaries and workers of the party supported Ajit Pawar's decision to join hands with the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance.

Seize

Mumbai: The Mumbai police have seized assets worth Rs 3 crore allegedly amassed by four men, who were among 12 persons arrested in a drugs haul case about three months ago, an official said on Thursday. According to the crime branch, the seized assets, including a farmhouse in Malegaon, 50 tolas of gold and plots of land in different parts of Maharashtra, were purchased with money generated through the illegal sale of drugs.

Mishap

Salem: Three persons were killed and one injured in a head-on collision involving a pick-up van and a parcel truck at Vazhapadi in the district on Thursday, police said. All three men travelling in the pick-up van coming to Vazhapadi from Chennai died on the spot, a senior police official said.

ED raids

Srinagar: The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday searched six places related to the Jammu and Kashmir Bank in connection with a Rs 250 crore money laundering case, officials said.

Light showers

Chennai: Northern coastal Tamil Nadu witnessed light showers on Thursday while several parts of the city and nearby areas were inundated leading to traffic slowdown and inconvenience to people. Following heavy to very heavy rainfall, ranging from 10 cm to 19 cm in the city and its suburbs on November 29, many residential neighbourhoods, arterial roads and key intersections came under sheets of water.

Extension

New Delhi: Lok Sabha Secretary General Utpal Kumar Singh was on Thursday granted a further extension in tenure for one year, an official order said. Singh, a 1986-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Uttarakhand cadre, took over as the Lok Sabha Secretary General on December 1, 2020.

Weather
High 31 Low 20

MARKET
NIFTY 20,133.15
SENSEX 66,988.44

BULLION
GOLD 62,461
SILVER 76,200

Edge for Congress in Chh'garh, T'gana



New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI):

Most exit polls on Thursday predicted an edge to the Congress in Chhattisgarh and Telangana while forecasting that it was advantage BJP in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Pollsters also indicated that in Mizoram, Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) was locked in a close race with the Mizo National Front (MNF) with the Congress and the BJP lagging behind.

The Congress has an edge over the BJP in its bid to retain power in Chhattisgarh, multiple exit polls indicated Thursday evening. If the Congress and Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel do go on and win this election, it will be a big boost for the ruling party ahead of next year's Lok Sabha polls.

Advantage BJP in MP, Rajasthan

The BJP's Shivraj Singh Chouhan is looking for a fifth term as chief minister but anti-incumbency may ensure the Congress's return in the state. The Congress campaign is being led by Kamal Nath. Three exit polls for Madhya Pradesh have borne out what experts had predicted ahead of the Assembly elections on November 17 - the state is too close to call. The BJP's Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who has been the chief minister of the state since 2005, barring a brief period between 2018 and 2020, is looking for a fifth term, but his party has not declared him as the candidate for the top job this time around. In Madhya Pradesh, while Jan Ki Baat exit poll predicted that the BJP would get 100-123 seats and the Congress 102-125, Republic TV-Matrize forecast 118-130 seats for the BJP and 97-107 for the Congress. TV9 Bharatvarsh Polstrat said the BJP would get 106-116 and the

Congress would get 111-121. Today's Chanakya, however, predicted a massive victory for the BJP in Madhya Pradesh, forecasting that the BJP would get 151 (plus minus 12 seats) and the Congress 74 (plus minus 12 seats). Jist-TIF-NAI said the Congress was enjoying 2018-like edge in Madhya Pradesh, predicting 107-124 seats for the party as against the BJP's 102-119. The BJP is set to defeat the Congress and return to power in Rajasthan - a state that has voted out the ruling party in every election for the past three decades, according to exit polls data released Thursday. Rajasthan voted in a single phase on November 25. Results will be announced on Sunday. The Congress' Ashok Gehlot, it seems, faces a daunting task in his bid to become a four-time Chief Minister, with five of six exit polls so far giving the BJP a comfortable, if not a clear, victory.

Hung Assembly in Mizoram

Exit polls show no clear winner in the Mizoram assembly election. Initial exit polls by Jan Ki Baat show the Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) may win at least anywhere between 15 and 25 seats in the 40-member assembly, followed by Chief Minister Zoramthanga's Mizo National Front (MNF) with 10 to 14 seats. India TV-CNX exit polls, however, show MNF winning 14-18 seats, ZPM 12-16, and Congress 8-10. ABP News-C Voter gives the MNF 15-21 seats and the ZPM 12-18 seats; the

Congress trails with 2-8 seats. Times Now-ETG exit polls show the MNF winning 14-18 seats, ZPM winning 10-14 seats, and the Congress 9-13 seats. Republic TV-Matrize exit polls gave the MNF 17-22 seats, ZPM 7-12 seats and the Congress 7-10 seats. All the exit polls for Mizoram gave the BJP a maximum of two seats. These numbers indicate either a neck and neck fight or no clear winner, raising the possibility of alliance formation. The exit polls hence indicate a likely hung assembly.

5 die after consuming ayurvedic syrup

Nadiad (Guj), Nov 30 (PTI):

At least five persons have died due to the suspected consumption of an ayurvedic syrup containing methyl alcohol in Gujarat's Kheda district, police said on Thursday.

The deaths took place on November 28 and 29, said Kheda Superintendent of Police Rajesh Gadhiya.

Methyl alcohol is a poisonous substance. Police are probing at what stage it was added to the syrup.

The deceased were suspected to have consumed 'Kalmeghasav - Asava Arishta', an ayurvedic syrup which was sold over the counter to nearly 50

persons by a grocery shop in Bilodara village near Nadiad, the police official said.

According to officials, such medicinal syrups are sometimes misused by alcohol addicts. Notably, prohibition is in force in Gujarat.

"While five persons lost their lives after consuming the syrup in the last two days, two are undergoing treatment. We have detained the shop owner and two others for questioning," SP Gadhiya said.

Police started a probe on Wednesday afternoon after learning that five deaths had taken place at Bilodara and Bagdu villages, he said.

DEFENCE ACQUISITION PROJECTS

India's mega fighter jet deal to cost Rs 2.23 lakh crore

New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI):

India on Thursday accorded an initial approval to defence acquisition projects worth Rs 2.23 lakh crore that included procurement of 97 Tejas light combat aircraft and 156 Prachand combat helicopters, in a major move to significantly enhance the combat capabilities of the armed forces.

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, cleared the projects, at a time India is locked in a



bitter military standoff with China at a number of friction points in eastern Ladakh for over three years.

The defence ministry said 98 per cent of the total procurement worth Rs 2.23 lakh crore will be sourced from the domestic industries and that the move will give a substantial

boost to the Indian defence industry in achieving the goal of 'Aatmanirbharta' (self-reliance) in defence industry.

The DAC also approved a proposal of the Indian Air Force to upgrade its Su-30 fighter fleet by state-run aerospace major Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL).

The DAC further accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) or initial approval for procurement of two types of anti-tank munitions namely area denial munition (ADM) type-2 and type-3.

'Four biggest 'castes' for me are poor, youth, women, farmers'



PM Modi launches Pradhan Mantri Mahila Kisan Drone Kendra, via video conferencing, Thursday.

Their rise will make India developed

New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Thursday that his work in the last 10 years has led to people having immense confidence in his government as he faulted past dispensations for acting like 'mai baap' of citizens, with vote bank considerations guiding their development initiatives.

In his address to beneficiaries of different schemes as part of the government's Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra for saturation coverage of welfare schemes, he said four biggest "castes" for him are the poor, youth, women, farmers, and their rise will make India developed.

The yatra, under which government 'raths' (chariots) are travelling to all

corners, has generated huge enthusiasm among people with some describing the vehicles as "Modi ki guarantee wali gaadi" (vehicles carrying Modi's guarantees), the prime minister said, asserting that the masses know that he will fulfil all his promises.

For this he needs their blessings, he said, underscoring that the programme will identify everyone left out of welfare schemes aimed for them and that he will ensure their saturation coverage in the coming years.

A voice is emerging from people across the country that Modi's guarantee begins from where people's expectations from others end, he said.

In his remarks after interacting with the beneficiaries, Modi said Bharat is neither going to stop nor tire as the people have resolved to make the country developed.

IND VS AUS 4TH T20



India's Suryakumar Yadav, Arshdeep Singh, Tilak Varma and Axar Patel during a practice session ahead of their fourth T20 match against Australia at Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Cricket Stadium, in Raipur, Thursday, Nov. 30.

MP Govt to shut dept for gas tragedy survivors, claim outfits

Bhopal, Nov 30 (PTI):

Ahead of the 39th anniversary of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy, five outfits working for the welfare of survivors on Thursday claimed the Madhya Pradesh government was planning to shut its department of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation, a charge denied by a minister.

Several thousand people were killed after toxic gas leaked from a now-defunct Union Carbide factory in the intervening night of December 2 and 3 in 1984.

There is no proposal to shut the department, Vishvas Sarang, minister for BGTRR told PTI. Rachna Dhingra of the Bhopal



Group for Information and Action, one of the outfits working for the welfare of survivors, said, "We recently come across an official document marked confidential that lays out a plan to close down Department of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief

& Rehabilitation (BGTRR) set up for the welfare of survivors."

"The plan is scheduled to be discussed at the state cabinet's next meeting. It proposes handing over five hospitals and nine dispensaries run by the BGTRR to the

Departments of Health & Family Welfare and Medical Education," she told reporters.

Nawab Khan, president of Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Purush Sangharsh Morcha, said, "In the last few months the High Court has reprimanded the Department of BGTRR for grave laxity in following the recommendations of the Supreme Court appointed Monitoring Committee for improvements of health care of survivors."

Instead of improving computerized registration of patients, treatment protocols and quality of care, officials are attempting such a move to escape judicial sanctions, Khan claimed.

ASI gets 10 more days to submit Gyanvapi report

Varanasi, Nov 30 (PTI):

The Varanasi district court on Thursday gave 10 more days to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to complete and submit a scientific survey report of the Gyanvapi complex. Taking up the plea of the ASI seeking three additional weeks to submit the report, District Judge A K Vishvesh said he hoped that the ASI would complete the task on time and would not ask for more time, according to counsel for the Hindu side Madan Mohan Yadav. The court fixed December 11 as the next date of hearing in

the matter, Yadav said. The court was hearing the ASI plea moved on Tuesday seeking three more weeks for submitting the survey report of the Gyanvapi mosque complex, saying it needed more time for the assimilation of information generated by different experts. The ASI started the survey in the barricaded area of the Gyanvapi premises, excluding its sealed section, on August 4, following court orders to determine whether the 17th-century mosque was constructed over a pre-existing structure of a Hindu temple.

Telangana Elections 2023

63% cast vote, minor clashes in some districts

Hyderabad, Nov 23:

Polling to elect 119 members of the Telangana Legislative Assembly began at 7 am on Thursday and the votes will be counted on December 3. According to officials, voting took place at 35,655 polling stations in the state. A total of 106 constituencies voted until 5 pm, while the process concluded at 4 pm in 13 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected seats. The fate of as many as 2,290 contestants, including Chief Minister K Chandrasekhkar Rao, his minister-son KT Rama Rao, state Congress president A Revanth Reddy and BJP Lok Sabha members Bandi



Voters wait in queues at a polling station to cast their votes for Telangana Assembly elections, in Kukatpally Assembly constituency, Thursday.

Sanjay Kumar and D Arvind, is to be decided.

The BRS has fielded candidates in all 119 seats. As per the seat-sharing agreement, BJP and actor Pawan Kalyan-headed Jana Sena are contesting

in 111 and 8 seats respectively. The Congress has given one seat to its ally CPI and is fighting on 118 other seats. Asaduddin Owaisi-led AIMIM has put up candidates in nine segments in the city.

'If Kejriwal is arrested': AAP's referendum from Dec 01

New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI):

The AAP will run a signature campaign from December 1 to 20 to get people's feedback on whether Arvind Kejriwal should resign as Delhi chief minister if he is arrested under a "conspiracy by the BJP", the party's city convener Gopal Rai said Thursday.

Addressing a press conference along with party MP Raghav Chadha, Rai alleged the BJP has hatched a conspiracy to get Kejriwal arrested under the "fake" liquor scam case with the hope of finishing the Aam Aadmi Party.

Under the 'Mai Bhi Kejriwal' campaign from



Friday, AAP volunteers will carry pamphlets to get the signatures of the people at all the 2,600 polling stations across the city, asking for their opinion on whether Kejriwal should step down as Delhi chief minister if he is arrested, he said.

Rai said Kejriwal had met with AAP MLAs and councillors seeking their opinion on the issue and there was consensus that he should not resign and run the government from jail.

BMC eviction drive continues for the second day along the service lane

7775 postal ballot papers received till Nov 30

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 30: A total of 7775 postal ballot papers have been received till 30 November 2023 under the Assembly Elections-2023.

According to the information received from Additional Collector Gokul Raote (Authorized Nodal Officer, Postal Ballot), 1093 postal ballots have been received from Assembly Constituency No 62 Patan; 1411 postal ballots in 63 Durg Rural, 2260 postal ballots in Assembly Constituency No 64 Durg city; 950 postal ballots in Assembly

Constituency No 65 Bhilai Nagar, 1129 postal ballots in Assembly Constituency No 66 Vaishali Nagar and 932 postal ballot papers have been received in Assembly Constituency No 67 Ahiwara.

These include 6846 postal ballot papers received by the special carrier from the convenience center for the voters deployed on election duty, 469 postal ballot papers received by post and 460 postal ballot papers received by the specially constituted polling team for Divyang, 80 Plus and Covid Positive.

Second randomization of counting team on Dec 2

Bhilai, Nov 30: The second randomization for formation of the counting team under the Assembly Elections 2023 will be done on December 02 from 11:00 am in the NIC room of the District Collector, Durg. The District Election Officer has asked the Chief Executive Officer, District Panchayat Durg and the Nodal Officer to form the counting team to remain present and complete the work of second randomization.



Signboards, banners and posts of the shops installed on the road were confiscated. The car show room operating in Sanjay Nagar had encircled the entire service road and put up a gate which was broken up with the use of JCB to make it equal to



the service road. The glow sign boards of Travel Agency, Pathology Lab and Medical Stores near Kamala Medical, which were buried in the ground, were also removed with a JCB. On the second day of the campaign, action was taken at 20 places and a fine amount of Rs 34,500 was collected.

There has been a good response to the campaign being run by the corporation among the common citizens. The operation to vacate the service road will continue in the next coming days.

should remove their encroachment on their own, otherwise the corporation will initiate eviction proceedings along with fine and confiscation of material. The team that took election included Additional Commissioner Ashok Dwivedi, Commissioner Zone 1 Khirodra Bhoi, Assistant Revenue Officer Dheeraj Sahu, Balkrishna Naidu, Malkhan Singh Shori, VK Samuel, Kamlesh Dwivedi, Omprakash Chandrakar, Iman Singh, Virendra Verma, Dhanraj Nagpure, Niranjana Asati, Nandkumar Sinha, Hariom Gupta, and also from police department ASI NK Bhadoria, head constable Rakesh Rai from Supela police station and traffic police personnel were present.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 30: On the second day of the eviction campaign being run on the service road by Bhilai Municipal Corporation, 5 junk vehicles, 6 handcarts and 3 glow sign boards, banner posters were removed and the road was cleared for vehicular traffic. Action was taken at 20 places and a penalty Rs 34,500 was collected.

On the instructions of Commissioner Rohit Vyas, on the second day of the eviction campaign being run by the Corporation on the service road adjacent to GE Road, the road was made free from obstructions by removing the handcart and junk vehicle which were obstructing the traffic on the service road in the north direction.

100 gram panchayats declared TB free

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 30: Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena chaired a review meeting of the Health Department in the Collectorate. He gave instructions to the health department officials to further improve the health services. Under maternal mortality, there have been 19 deaths in the district in 2022-23 and 14 deaths in 2023-24 (from April to October). These patients were suffering from different diseases.

Health officers of all the development blocks along with Chief Medical Officer Dr JP Meshram were present in the meeting. The Collector took information about the National TB Eradication Programme. Under this, a target was set to test 33330 patients on the basis of symptoms of TB in or suspicion of having TB. Against this



target, 21474 patients were examined. A target was set to test a total of 4500 patients in Dhamdha, Patan and Durg development blocks, out of which a total of 3607 patients were tested from January to October. Out of the total 304 gram panchayats in the district in Durg, Patan and Dhamdha development blocks, 100 gram panchayats have been made TB free. During the review meeting, the Collector took information about leprosy in the district. The health official said that leprosy affects

Admin initiates to put 15500 roadside vendors in order

● Civic Bodies to register pull carts of roadside vendors

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 30: Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena reviewed the works related to the urban bodies the other day. During the review, he took information about all the urban bodies and gave necessary instructions.

Keeping in view the market and transportation facilities, the Collector asked to organize the roadside vendors and pull carts. He said that often traffic jams occur due to the roadside vendors and their pull carts.



Considering the situation, the Collector gave instructions to the Municipal Corporation Commissioners to organize the roadside carts. The Collector instructed the Civic Body officers to mark spots and shift 15500 pull carts in these spots. He said that if it is not possible to keep the carts

side. He said that many scrap cars are kept on the roadside and near workshops, which disrupt smooth traffic flow. He asked the Municipal Corporation Commissioners to identify a suitable place for such vehicles.

The Collector instructed the Municipal Corporation Commissioners to make arrangements for fogging to prevent diseases caused by mosquitoes.

The Commissioners replied that 108 places have been selected in Durg, 58 in Bhilai, 54 in Charoda, 12 in Kumhari, 16 in Jamul, 23 in Dhamdha, 15 in Amleshwar, 12 in Ahiwara

and 7 in Utai. He asked to make proper arrangements to drive away mosquitoes in waterlogged places.

The Collector asked the Municipal Corporation Commissioners to identify the homeless beggars. The Municipal Corporation Commissioner said that till now 123 homeless beggars have been identified.

The Collector said that those begging on the streets should be accommodated in relief centres. Besides, instructions were given to keep the children involved in begging at the child shelter. Along with this, the Collector has ordered to shift the stray cattle to nearby Gauthans.

Prohibitory Orders issued for vote counting

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 30: Model code of conduct is effective in the entire district from 09 October, the date of announcement of Assembly General Election program by the Election Commission of India. Voting has been completed in the district on 17th November.

On December 3, the counting of votes for the Assembly Elections 2023 will be done from 8:00 am in the building of Shri Shankararya Engineering College, Junwani, Bhilai. The counting of votes for all the six assembly constituencies is to be conducted in the ground floor and first floor of the building.

To ensure strict compliance with the guidelines of the Election Commission of India and to maintain peace and order, Collector and District Magistrate Pushpendra Kumar Meena exercised the powers conferred under Section 144 (1) and (2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 and issued prohibitory orders.

According to the order of the District Magistrate, any person within the district cannot possess or carry lethal weapons like gun, pistol, rifle, revolver, sword, axe, spear, stick, knife, razor, axe, lance, Gupti, Trishul, Khorkhari, other types of

weapons and explosive material in any public place, common road, public meetings and other places.

No political party or individual will take out armed procession or distribute objectionable posters. Bulk SMS and making phone calls will be prohibited. This order will not apply to those government officers and employees who are required to carry sticks or weapons to perform their work.

This order will also not apply to those government employees who have been appointed as police officers to maintain law and order during elections and voting. This order will also not apply to those persons who, due to physical weak-

ness, old age and lameness, are required to have a stick as support.

The said illegal act will be prohibited up to a radius of 300 meters around the counting center Shri Shankararya Engineering College, Junwani Bhilai till the end of counting on the counting day. On the counting day, carrying and using mobile phones will be prohibited within a radius of 300 meters of the counting centre.

Action will be taken against the group and person violating this order under Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code. This order will remain effective from 6 am on December 3, 2023 till the end of counting of votes.

65 employees accorded a warm farewell



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 30: Sixty-five employees of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, including three Executives, and sixty-two personnel posted in various departments and mining towns of Bhilai Steel Plant retired after their long service on 30th November 2023.

The farewell ceremony for the Executives was organized at DIC

Conference Hall, Ispat Bhawan. Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP), along with Nisha Soni, Acting ED (P&A) handed over the superannuation order and service certificate to the superannuating officers.

Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) bid farewell to the departing steel fraternity and wished them a healthy and happy life. Dasgupta

also appreciated the retiring employees for their commendable contributions to their respective fields. The retiring executives also shared their service experience at SAIL and plans for the future, after superannuation.

The Farewell Ceremony for the Non-executives was organised at MP Hall of Bhilai Niwas, on 30th November 2023. Nisha

Soni, Acting ED (P&A), along with Sandeep Mathur, CGM (Personnel) and Suraj Kumar Soni, GM (Pers-NW & Mines) handed over the superannuation orders and service certificates to the superannuating personnel.

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

Stringent action taken against unauthorized vendors



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 30: Bhilai Steel Plant's Town Services Department, in association with the Enforcement Department, along with the Traffic Police and Police Department, has taken stringent action against unauthorized roadside shops and vendors along the major roads of Bhilai Township, including the Forest Avenue, Central Avenue,



and Six Trees Avenue roads.

Several unauthorized hawkers and vendors running Roadside Carts, Gumthis, Khomchias, Kulfis Vendors, Coconut Vendors, etc, without obtaining any certificate or valid documents from the BSP-TSD and local administration were removed for the fourth time in a row on Thursday.

Under the BSP's ongoing special drive against illegal street vendors, a

joint team of BSP and Police Officials evicted illegal vendors from the vending zone to prevent road accidents, and all the unauthorized vendors were released after a formal warning to abstain from setting up such shops in the future.

It is also noteworthy that as many as 09 stray cattle were also caught by the BSP-TSD from Shri Ravishankar Shukla Marg (Central Avenue) and were handed over to

Kosa Nala Gauthan, to prevent road accidents.

People stopping by these unauthorized carts lead to overcrowding on Central Avenue, thereby affecting the traffic and increasing the risk of road accidents. The BSP Administration has also made an appeal to all the citizens of Steel City-Bhilai, street vendors, and businessmen to cooperate and not create any unnecessary crowds on the roads and roadsides.

HYU: About 1000 applications received for PhD entrance examination

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 30: About one thousand online applications have been received till the last date for the PhD entrance examination in 19 subjects, which is to be held on December 17 in Hemchand Yadav University, Durg.

Giving this information, the Dean of Student Welfare of the University, Dr Prashant Srivastava said that Hindi, English, Commerce, Education, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Botany, Zoology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, History, Political Science, Sociology, Geography, Economics, Home Science, Geology and Psychology sub-

jects are included.

Dr Srivastava said that out of the applications received, more than two hundred applications are from applicants who have passed the national level UGC, CSIR, NET/SET examination. It is not mandatory for such candidates to appear in the PhD entrance examination.

Such applicants will fall in the exempted category from the entrance examination. Their admission will be done in the research centers for PhD where interviews will be conducted by the University after issuing the notification regarding PhD by the University. It will be mandatory

for all other applicants to appear in the entrance examination to be held on December 17, 2023 from 11:00 hrs to 13:00 hrs on the basis of the admit card related to PhD Entrance Examination 2023 issued by the University.

Dr Srivastava said that as per UGC rules, there will be a question paper based on objective questions of total 100 marks in each subject, in which the candidate will have to solve 50 questions of 02 marks each.

Out of these 50 questions, 25 questions will be from the student's related subject and 25 questions will be based on research methodology. The marks obtained by the student will be

converted out of 70 marks and the applicants called for interview on the basis of merit will be allotted 30 marks for interview. Merit selection list will be prepared in each subject by combining both written and interview examinations.

Research scholars will be given admission for PhD in order of merit on the basis of vacancies available with recognized research directors in the university. It is noteworthy that at present about 60 professors have applied to the university to become new research directors. This will be considered in the RDC meeting to be held in the university between December 06-21, 2023.

SECURITY CHECK



The security agency are conducting security check in the stadium for tomorrow T20 match to be played at Shaheed Veernarayan Singh Int'l Cricket Stadium in Parsada, Raipur.

'Cong will retain power in Chgarh, high command to decide CM'

Raipur, Nov 30:

Chhattisgarh deputy Chief Minister T S Singh Deo on Thursday said he takes exit polls results with a pinch of salt and the Congress will retain power in the state.

The party high command's choice for the chief minister's post would be acceptable to all, he told PTI in Delhi.

A few exit polls on Thursday predicted a close race between the ruling Congress and opposition Bharatiya Janata Party in Chhattisgarh.

"As far as projections are concerned, I always take them with a pinch of salt. They are attempts by various news channels and agencies to guess what may have happened in elections. We should wait for the 3rd (of December)," Singh Deo told PTI. "In Madhya Pradesh, a Congress government should be coming (to power). In Rajasthan, we are very much there. Because it has been a traditional in-and-out format (in Rajasthan), five years one party, next five years another party, so that is the only hesitation (while predicting the party's victory)," he said.

The Congress was very likely to form government in Telangana, he said, adding, "In Chhattisgarh, we are forming the government." "Rajasthan



Cong gaining clear-cut majority: CM

Raipur: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel commenting about the Exit Poll figures said that there is no equality in the figures coming in the Exit Poll, but in two days all figures will be in front of all. 'Let the Exit Poll continue and we will be forming the government in the state and that too with large majority', he added. On asking about shifting of MLAs to Delhi and Operation Lotus, CM Baghel said that there is no need to shift the MLAs at all and they would not be able to do so. We are gaining clear-cut majority and we are confident on our hard work and Operation Lotus would be able to survive, he added.



candidate and it is the high command which should take the call. Whoever they designate to take the responsibility, we will work together."

Singh Deo was in contention for the CM's post in 2018 though it was Bhupesh Baghel who ultimately got the top post.

Asked how the results would impact next year's Lok Sabha polls, he said a good performance by the

Exit polls: Close contest being seen in Ch'garh

Raipur: Polling is over for assembly elections in five states and results are awaited on 3rd December. But before counting of votes the process of exit poll has started. Tough competition is being seen in Chhattisgarh. According to exit polls, the ruling Congress has crossed majority figure in the state whereas BJP has also come very close to majority while chasing Congress. This means that compared to 2018, this time a close contest is being seen in the state. According to exit polls, number of seats for Congress seems to be decreasing whereas BJP is looking towards the lead. According to Today's Chanakya survey, Congress is expected to get 57 (+8) seats in Chhattisgarh whereas BJP is expected to get 33 (+8) seats. Other parties are expected to get 0-3 seats. According to C Voter, Congress is getting 41 to 53 seats in Chhattisgarh. According to India Today, Congress is capturing 40-50 seats. According to the matrix, Congress is expected to get 44-52 seats. Talking about BJP, according to C-Voter, the party is getting 36-48 seats, according to India Today, 36-46 seats and according to Matriage, BJP is getting 34-42 seats.

seems to be the toughest. In Telangana, because the BRS has been there (in power) for two terms continuously the Congress was not given much of a chance sometime back. But whatever I am seeing on channels...voters com-

ing out of the booths are openly saying we have voted for Congress," Singh Deo said.

The Congress is strong in Telangana's rural areas and if the same trend prevailed in Hyderabad, the party will certainly win

BJP will win, claims Raman Singh

Raipur: While exit polls are predicting a close fight between the ruling Congress and the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party in Chhattisgarh, both Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and former CM Raman Singh on Thursday predicted thumping wins for their parties. Assembly polls were held in two phases in the state on November 7 and 17, while results will be declared on December 3. Meanwhile, senior BJP leader and former CM Raman Singh said his party will get 52-55 seats and form government with a clear majority. "Exit polls are showing that BJP is reaching 48 seats from 15 (seats won by party in 2018), which is a result of the party's efforts in electioneering. But I believe BJP will get 52 to 55 seats. It will be clear after counting of votes on December 3," Singh said. The BJP has been heading in a good direction due to its manifesto and the support of women and the youth, he claimed.



the state, he claimed.

Asked who would be the chief minister if the Congress retained power in Chhattisgarh, Singh Deo said, "Whoever the high command decides. Nobody wants to place himself as chief minister-

Congress will create "an atmosphere" for the Opposition's INDIA grouping. "We are wanting a change and needing a change. The country needs these fascist people in power to be removed," he added.

SC extends hearing into Soumya Chourasia bail petition till Dec 5

Raipur, Nov 30:

The Supreme Court has extended the hearing on the bail petition by Soumya Chourasia till Dec 5. On behalf of the ED, facts against the bail petition were to be given in the Supreme Court, but the ED's advocate could not be present and it was on the health ground that he remained absent. In this bail petition the hearing was done by Justice Bela M Trivedi and Justice Aniruddh Bose bench in the Supreme Court. Now the Supreme Court

has extended the hearing into the bail petition of Soumya Chourasia till Dec 5. It is notable here that Soumya Chourasia was taken into arrest last year on Dec 2, 2022 and since then she is in Central Jail. The High Court has made strong comments against bail petition of Soumya Chourasia and she is considered to be one of the most powerful and effective female officer during CM Bhupesh Baghel's term in the office.

The defense counsel of Soumya Chourasia in the Court said case against

her is just not appropriate. Along with this when the High Court has rejected her bail petition, prior to it the Bengaluru's Court of Karnataka has lifted the schedule offence, but this important fact was not taken into consideration. The defence counsel has given its statement in favour of bail petition to Soumya Chourasia and now the ED's advocate has to give their stand.

It is notable Soumya Chourasia has been taken into arrest in case of Rs 500 cr and above coal scam.

Chaos during students' ticket distribution



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Nov 30: While the Chhattisgarh State Cricket Sangh (CSCS) on Thursday extended ticket sale for the students for the T-20 Cricket Match between India and Australia at Naya Raipur-based Cricket Stadium, it backfired on them as the students were kept waiting for hours to get their tickets. While the CSCS officials had announced to begin the sale of ticket for the students from 11 o'clock in the morning, the students were kept waiting till 4 o'clock in the noon which dampened the spirits of students.

Students opened expressed their unhappiness over the arrangements. Students also complaints that instead of announced 6 counters, only 3 were opened which again resulted in chaos near the Indoor Stadium, the venue for the student's tickets.

Meanwhile, the other enthusiast cricket lovers would get another opportunity to watch the match as the ticket counters would be established at Naya Raipur-based International Stadium on Friday also before the match begins. Administration has started making all essential arrangements for it.

Two inter-state poachers caught with tiger skin

Gariaband, Nov 30: The Forest Department team has arrested 2 inter-state poachers with tiger skin in Maharashtra-Chhattisgarh border. Further action is being taken against them. According to the information, both had come to Etapalli, Maharashtra to deal in skins. In the meantime the Forest Department team got information about them from an informer. Acting on the tip off the Forest Department team reached the spot and arrested them. The Forest Department fears that the skin recovered may be that of a tiger from Maharashtra. Earlier last day also, the forest department had taken action against three persons with the skin of a leopard.

BJP demands adequate arrangements for counting of votes



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Nov 30:

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday reiterated demand for adequate arrangement for counting of votes on December 3 for Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly polls. A delegation under the leadership of Raipur Lok Sabha member Sunil Soni called on Chief Election Officer (IAS Officer) Reena Babasaheb Kangale and submitted a memorandum requesting to make essential arrangements as well as to ensure fair counting

Delegation submits memo to CEO

of votes on December 3. BJP leaders said that the Plastic Writing Pens would be required for them to making entries during the counting of votes on Decemeb3 at counting centres and urged the CEO to allow the counting agents to take Plastic Pens with them inside the counting centres. They also requested to allow them to take plain paper with them to make their various entries like EVM machine's serial

number before the counting begins. They also requested to allow them to take Calculators with them to calculate the votes inside the centres. BJP leader also diverted the attention of administration towards proper functioning of CCTVs near and inside the counting centres.

BJP candidate from Raipur North Purander Mishra, candidate from Raipur Rural Motilal Sahu, Election Committee convenor Dr Vijay Shanker Mishra and spokesperson Nalinesh Thokne were also present during the meeting.

BJP will not touch double digits in Ch'garh: Shukla

Raipur, Nov 30: With exit poll results on assembly elections coming out on Thursday evening, Pradesh Congress Committee communication head Sushil Anand Shukla said that the election results of Chhattisgarh will be in favor of Congress. This time Congress will form the government in the state with three-fourth majority, he said, adding that more than 75 Congress MLAs will win the elections whereas BJP will not even be able to reach double digits in the elections. Shukla further said that public voted in favor of Congress after seeing the 5 years of work of the Congress government and the face of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. The Congress government has won the trust of the people of the state in five years, he said and added that after forming the government with 68 seats in 2018, Congress won 5 by-elections, urban body and panchayat elections. Congress never lost any election in 5 years, he said, adding that this time also Congress will keep the record intact. Shukla also said that BJP con-

tested elections in Chhattisgarh under the leadership of ED. Keeping in mind the constitutional norms, the ED adopted various tactics during the elections to hinder the political activities of the Congress, he alleged. In order to tarnish the image of the Chief Minister, false allegations were made by issuing a press note based on the fake statement of a person, he said. On the basis of that, BJP leaders including Prime Minister put the false story of ED in front of the public, but the public rejected the conspiracies of the BJP, he added.

He further said that, during the entire election, the entire BJP was looking dwarf in front of the stature of Bhupesh Baghel. The Prime Minister himself was forced to attend 7 meetings and more than a dozen Union Ministers including Amit Shah and half a dozen Chief Ministers had camped in Chhattisgarh at the behest of Adani, said Shukla, adding that all the BJP leaders were engaged in false propaganda against Bhupesh Baghel.

Cannabis worth Rs 2.5 crore seized

Mahasamund, Nov 30: The police have recovered cannabis worth about Rs 2.5 crore from a parked truck in Chhattisgarh's Mahasamund district, an official said on Thursday.

Acting on a tip-off, the local police and the Narcotics Control Bureau of Madhya Pradesh were on the lookout for a consignment of ganja being sent to New Delhi from Odisha via National Highway 53, he said. On Wednesday night, the police found a truck with registration number CG-04 JC-2783 parked near an eatery under the Pithora police station limits. There was nobody on the truck, he said.

The police found 18 bags of cannabis, weighing 517 kg and worth Rs 2.58 crore, hidden under 295 sacks of broken rice, the official said.

The contraband and the truck have been seized, he said, adding that efforts are on to nab those involved in the crime. The Mahasamund police have arrested 166 persons and seized 6,554 kg of cannabis in the district so far this year, the official said.

GIAN program conducted by IIT Bhilai



Raipur, Nov 30:

Professor Jagadese J. Vittal, a distinguished scientist from National University of Singapore in Academia, conducted a GIAN course on crystal engineering hosted by IIT Bhilai from November 13th to 17th, 2023, sponsored by MHRD. The course was coordinated by Dr. Raghavender Medishetty from the Department of Chemistry, IIT Bhilai. As an Emeritus Professor from the National University of Singapore that holds the

8th rank globally, Professor JJ. Vittal brought extensive expertise to the sessions and the participants got to know valuable insights into crystal engineering—a field crucial for designing functional materials, enhancing their understanding of crystal engineering's principles, pharmaceutical materials and applications. The collaborative effort between Professor JJ Vittal and IIT Bhilai signifies a commitment to advancing education and research in this cutting-edge field.

Troubled by debt, youth commits suicide

Jashpur, Nov 30:

Troubled by debt, a 30-year-old youth committed suicide by consuming poison in Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh. The police have sent the body to the PM besides initiating investigation into the matter. This incident took place in Ghughri village of Bagicha police station area.

In fact, the deceased Amir Ram's father Phoolchand was in his house. Suddenly he started vomiting and foam started coming out of his mouth. The deceased's father Phoolchand was the first to see it and called the ambulance and asked for help. As soon as the ambulance arrived, the young man was brought to Bagicha Hospital in critical condition, where the young man died after about an hour of treatment.

Deceased's father Phoolchand told that his son had obtained a loan of about Rs 1 lakh sixty thousand from a private bank, due to which he was very worried. He was burdened with a loan of Rs 30,000, Rs 50,000 and Rs 80,000 from different groups, for the recovery of which the group members were harassing him daily. Last two days also, pressure was put on him by the group to recover the loan. Since then he was being mentally tortured.

The father of deceased Amir Ram told that Amir was married and had two children. They earned their living by working with bamboo. Many times he has also helped Amir to repay his loan. This time he was not able to help him because the loan amount was high. He does not even own any big land property.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

Five Weightlifters from Raipur into Khelo India event

Raipur, Nov 30: Five players from Raipur District have been selected in the Chhattisgarh team for the Ashmita Khelo India Weightlifting Women' League Zonal tournament to be held at Kolkata from December 2 to 6. Providing the above information in a statement issued here, the Secretary of Raipur District Weightlifting Association Rustam Sarang said that Vidhi Sahu and Charanjeet Kaur have been selected in the 45 kg category whereas Pranjali Tiwari in 49 Kg category. Similarly, Megha Pal and Lukeshwari Sahu have been selected in the 59 Kg category championship. Association office-bearers have extended best wishes to the players on selection.



Kavya Kushwaha: A Karate Prodigy's Stellar Journey



Raipur, Nov 30: In a dazzling display of skill and determination, Kavya Kushwaha, a Class

8 student from Twinkle Public School, emerged as a Karate champion, securing gold in the

National Karate Championship in Noida. Her stellar performance not only brought immense pride to our school but also contributed to Chhattisgarh's victory, standing out among 40 participants. Kavya's journey, marked by triumphs in district and state competitions, culminated in the resounding gold at the national stage. Aged 13, Kavya's unwavering dedication and unmatched skill showcase her as a true karate prodigy, inspiring her peers and exemplifying excellence in martial arts.

Admission in five new SAGEMS schools in city ends

Raipur, Nov 30:

The wait for admission in five new Swami Atmanand Govt English Medium Schools (SAGEMS) is over. Orders have been issued to give admission to students till Nov 30. The admission process in schools will start from Wednesday. Admission is to be done in all classes from 1st to 12th in the five new Atmanand schools opened in the city. In classes where additional applications for seats have been received, students will be given admission through lottery. Many schools have not received even a single application for classes 9th to 12th.

According to experts, due to the opening of new schools in the middle of the academic session, the parents of the students of these classes have not shown interest.



Applications were invited by the Education Department from October 4 to 14 for admission in five new schools.

In the midst of the academic session, 26 new Swami Atmanand English medium schools are being opened in the state including Raipur. Applications for admission to all these schools were invited in October. The admission process was halted due to

the assembly elections. Now instructions have been given to complete the process.

For admission to class 1 in the newly started Swami Atmanand English Medium Schools, more applications have been received than seats in all the five schools. 800 forms have been received for Sapre School Budhapara. Of these, there are about 100 applications for 50

seats in the first class. 300 forms have been received for 50 seats in Kashiram Sharma Government School, more than 50 candidates applied for the first 30 seats in Trimurti Nagar school, about 150 applications have been received for 50 seats in Raipura School. The new schools have approximately 720 seats in different classes.

Applications have not been received in most of the schools for admission from class 9th to class 10th. Since it is 10th-12th board, parents do not want to disturb their children in between the academic session. For this reason also applications were not received. Board exams are proposed in March. Almost 80 percent of the courses in schools have also been completed. Changing school will also affect studies.

HNLU students shine in inter-college competitions

Raipur, Nov 30:

Hidayatullah National Law University is proud to announce that the students of HNLU have been winning accolades in inter college competitions held by various Universities.

We are delighted to mention the names of Mr. Prabhu Gupta, Mr. Mayank Kaushik and Ms. Kanishka Pareek. All the three are students of the third year at HNLU.

Prabhu Gupta won the first prize at the Nani A. Palkhivala Memorial Essay Writing Competition organized by the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences ("NUJS") and Nani A. Palkhivala Memorial Trust along with Tata Group. The paper was adjudged by a panel comprising of Justice (Retd.) MR Shah, Prof. (Dr) Upendra Baxi, Prof. Saptarshi Mandal, Prof. Rohit De, Prof.



Mayant Kaushik



Kanishka Pareek

Siddharth Chauhan and Prof. Shameek Sen. He was invited to the Nani A. Palkhivala Memorial Conclave hosted at the NUJS Campus. The Conclave was attended by Justice Dipankar Datta, Judge Supreme Court of

India, Mr. S.N. Mookherjee (Senior Advocate and Former AG-State of WB), Mr. Jamshed P. Cama (Senior Advocate-Bombay HC), Mr. Sidharth Sharma (GC-Tata Group), Mrs. Swati Kapadia (CEO-Nani A. Palkhivala Memorial

Trust) and other senior members of the fraternity and was felicitated by the same by a trophy, certificate, and cash prize of INR 75,000.

Mayank Kaushik and Kanishka Pareek were declared winners of the 1st National Intellectual Property Law Essay Writing Competition for their exceptional contribution organized by Centre of Intellectual Property Law (CIPL), School of Law, Bennett University, Noida. They were commended for their exceptional grasp of intellectual property law and the quality of their essay stood out among a pool of more than a hundred entries.

The esteemed panel of judges, renowned experts in the field, meticulously evaluated each submission based on criteria encompassing originality, depth of analysis, and clarity of presentation.

IIM Raipur hosts ICRE'23

Raipur, Nov 30:

Indian Institute of Management Raipur is proud to host the International Conference on Regenerative Ecosystem 2023 (ICRE'23) on December 1st and 2nd, 2023, at its picturesque campus in Naya Raipur. The inaugural ceremony will feature Padma Shri Jadav Payeng, Environmental Activist and Forestry Worker, commonly known as the "Forest Man of India". Additionally, Dr. Kannan Govindhan, Director of UoA's Centre for Sustainable Operations and Resilient Supply Chain at ISER and ABS, will be delivering the Keynote Address. This significant event will be convened by

Prof. Rajeev A. Asst. Professor - Operations & Qty Tech and Prof. J Daniel Inbaraj, Asst. Professor - Marketing. ICRE'23 is dedicated to exploring the critical role of regenerative ecosystems in combating the adverse impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, and habitat destruction. The conference will delve into three predominant frameworks: Circular Economy, Social & Solidarity Economy, and Ecological Economics.

The conference invites research papers that span multi-disciplinary themes such as relationships, institutions, primary, secondary, and tertiary production, organization, governance, and ecology. These themes will be examined within

the specific contexts of various ecosystems, including Natural, Indigenous, Rural, Urban, and Industrial Ecosystems. Contributions can include cases, stories, or demonstrations showcasing regenerative capacities in these diverse settings.

ICRE'23 aims to facilitate dialogue and collaboration among experts and stakeholders to tackle environmental challenges and explore innovative solutions for ecosystem restoration and regeneration. The event promises to serve as a pivotal platform for knowledge exchange, featuring cutting-edge research and fostering partnerships to propel the world toward a sustainable and regenerative future.

Emotional farewell given to Kranti Kumar Mahobe



Raipur, Nov 30:

Kranti Kumar Mahobe, the retired Chief Engineer Civil AU & PC (Ash Utilization and Pollution Control) from Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company, was given a heartfelt farewell at the company's headquarters, Vidut Seva Bhavan. The event was attended by prominent figures including the Managing Director, S.K. Katiyar, and Director K.S. Ramakrishna, who honoured Mahobe with a certificate and symbol.

Mahobe's 39 years of dedicated service were acknowledged as

pivotal in the state's power development. The Managing Directors praised his invaluable contributions to the Electricity Board and Power Company, extending warm wishes for a bright future and long life.

Janmejay Mahobe, Mahobe's brother and the Collector of Kawardha, graced the occasion with his presence. During his speech, the retired Chief Engineer attributed his success to the spirit of teamwork and expressed heartfelt gratitude to his fellow officers and employees for their unwavering support throughout his service journey.

The farewell event was attended by Executive Directors Ashok Kumar Verma, RK Shukla, RA Pathak, MS Kanwar, CL Netam, Sandeep Modi, and other senior officers. The program was efficiently conducted by Manager (Public Relations) Govind Patel.

15.92 lakh people to be examined

Raipur, Nov 30:

Malaria-free Chhattisgarh campaign is being conducted from November 28 in all the seven districts of the state's more malaria-sensitive Bastar division. In the ninth phase of Malaria-free Chhattisgarh campaign, 15.92 lakh people will be tested for malaria in all these districts. This campaign will run till December 19. During this period, along with testing and treatment of malaria, public awareness activities will also be conducted to prevent it. Also, people will be encouraged to use mosquito nets daily. By conducting door-to-door mosquito larvae

- In malaria-free Ch'garh campaign
- Campaign to run in seven districts of Bastar division

survey in the identified villages, mosquito breeding sources will be destroyed and people will be advised about proper maintenance of water and protection from mosquitoes. People will also be informed about measures to maintain cleanliness around the house and prevent mosquitoes from breeding.

State Program Officer Dr. Jitendra Kumar said that the 9th phase of

Malaria-free Chhattisgarh campaign is being conducted from November 28 to December 19 to control malaria in the state. During this period, a target has been set to test malaria of 15.92 lakh people in 2297 villages of 30 development blocks of Bastar division. For this, 1654 survey teams have been formed. During the campaign, teams will be active for testing and treatment of malaria in 125 primary health centers and 598 sub-health centers. During the campaign, the Health Department team and Mitans will go door-to-door to check for malaria.

Students showcased innovative models

● In the Kabad-se-Jugaad programme

Kondagaon, Nov 30:

In Baderajpur block hq's a 'Sankul-level' 'Kabad-se-Jugaad' programme was organized and in this children created various types of items from waste materials and displayed them in the programme and won the hearts of the people. During this time, the students demonstrated by making many types of models based on science and some students demonstrated the way of innovation from junk!

During the programme Chief Guest Block Education Officer (BEO) Kanwal Singh Poya, special guest Sankul Principal Sankul Kendra Vishrampuri and former Principal of Kodapara Secondary School Ramo Dehari also told about the



importance of 'Kabad-se-Jugaad'. After the introduction of the programme, the guests inspected the TLM from 'Kabad-se-Jugaad' brought by students from various institutions in which K.Gandhi

Vidyalaya Vishrampuri got the first place and HSS School Halbapara got the second position. In The same way in Primary category, Primary School Vishrampuri got the first place and Primary School

Birapara came second. The four institutions securing first and second place were awarded with shields. Manoj Kumar Sahu and Jindesh Kumar Nag, Dular Singh Nagesh, Mahendra Kumar Jurri, BM Nevar,

TL Yadav, Chunuram Sahu, Lambodar Thakur, Mahesh Markam, sankul Coordinator of Sankul Center Vishrampuri played an important role in making the 'Kabad-se-Jugaad' programme successful. Faganu Ram Markam, Sukhit Ram Naranje, Samaru Ram Netam, Phool Singh Markam, Jagat Ram Shorye, Arjun Nag, Daya Ram Gawde, Harish Chandra Tagore, Dinesh Kumar Netam, Usha Netam, Yamini Sahu, Mehru Nnisa, Pratima Kunjam, Sushma Thakur, Babita Patra, Poonam Daro, Om Nishad Vinita Netam, Sandhya Bharadwaj, Madhuri Nag, Narmada Sahu, Gunja Sahu, Ramshila Patel, Lakshmi Devagan and Anulshata Shorie and all the head masters, and teachers contributed significantly in making this programme a grand success.

Lata Usendi demands increase in security of ballot papers

● Submits memorandum to the DEO Kondagaon

Kondagaon, Nov 30: BJP candidate of Vidhan Sabha No 83 Lata Usendi and BJP office bearers submitted a memorandum to the Collector and Chief District Election Officer to increase the security of the ballot papers for counting and to place the boxes of the ballot paper in the Strong Room.

Lata Usendi said that in the legislative elections 2023, arrangements were made to vote through ballot paper for government employees appointed in election duty and essential services. Apart from this, special arrangements were made for voting through ballot paper for voters above 80 years of age and with disabilities. These ballot boxes for voting through ballot paper have been stored in the treasury of each district headquarter.



Complaints are being received from all over Chhattisgarh that there is a high volume of unauthorized persons in the treasury due to which there is a strong possibility of tampering of these ballot papers.

In addition to this, unauthorized interference in the ballot papers may also be done by some officers-employees, in this case the security of these ballot papers is ensured through CCTV. There is a need to increase security by installing cameras and these

ballot papers should be stored in strong room instead of treasury immediately and increase the number of security personnel for ballot papers and CCTV. A memorandum was handed over to keep ballot papers secure with cameras in the strong room instead of the Treasury. During this BJP office bearers including BJP district president Dipesh Arora, Manoj Jain, Raunak Dewan, Pratosh Tripathi, Vicky Ravani, Sonamani Poyam Dilavar Kapadia were present from the BJP delegation.

IIIT-Naya Raipur organizes blood donation camp

Raipur, Nov 29:

The NSS unit of IIIT-NR, in collaboration with SAC IIITNR, hosted a blood donation camp on November 25, 2023, in the institute. This event was conducted under the supervision of a proficient medical team from AIIMS Raipur. The blood donation camp commenced with the inaugural program, in which Dr. Lakhinder Murmu, Program Officer, NSS IIIT-NR, extended a warm welcome to the team of doctors and medical staff from AIIMS Raipur, expressing gratitude not only to them but also to the generous blood donors and dedicated NSS volunteers who played a crucial role in



organizing the camp. During the inaugural address, Dr. Manoj Kumar Majumdar, President of SAC IIIT-NR, emphasized the significance of blood donation as a novel contribution to humanity. He said "Once a blood donor, always a lifesaver," motivating

students, faculty, and staff members to actively participate in the camp and register in large numbers to donate blood.

Throughout the blood donation camp, a total of 34 donors generously contributed. Certificates

of appreciation and refreshments were distributed to express gratitude to each donor. The medical team from AIIMS expressed their overwhelming appreciation for the donors' and for the support and hospitality provided by NSS volunteers and the institute's management.

Additionally, the team from AIIMS presented the institute certificate as a token of gratitude, which was received by Dr. Pradeep Kumar Sinha, Director, IIIT-NR. The medical team commended the kindness, generosity, and awareness of all the donors and reiterated their commitment to supporting the institute in various social initiatives.

Farewell given to 12 railway employees

● In Raipur Division

Raipur, Nov 30:

12 dedicated members of the railway family bid adieu to their long and illustrious careers at the South East Central Railway, Raipur Division. This heartwarming retirement ceremony celebrated the dedicated service of these individuals who worked across various departments, including 6 in the normal retirement and 6 in the other than normal retirement category.

The event, graced by Assistant Divisional Personnel Officer Nikita Agarwal, Assistant Divisional Finance Manager Niranjana



Guniram Badge, retired employees and their families, Welfare Inspectors, and Settlement Section staff, was a fitting tribute to their years of commitment. Among the 12 retirees, 3 hailed from the Mechanical Department, 2 from the Electricity Department, 3 from the Engineering Department,

1 from the Commerce Department, 2 from the Operations Department, and 1 from the Security Department.

The retirees were honoured during a heartfelt gathering at the community hall, where they were presented with full retirement payment certificates by the Assistant

Divisional Finance Manager. A total sum of Rs. 3,92,73,547/- was distributed to the General Retired Employees through e-payment.

Pension payment orders, retired employee's identity cards, pass cards, and service medals were also bestowed upon them on this memorable day.

Expressing their warm regards, the Assistant Divisional Personnel Officer and the Assistant Divisional Finance Manager commended the retired employees for their dedicated service. They wished them a joyful retirement life, emphasized the importance of their well-being, and provided valuable advice on prudent financial investments.

MATTER OF CONCERN

India on US alleging official's role in murder plot

New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI):

India on Thursday described as a "matter of concern" the US charging an Indian national with conspiring to kill a Sikh separatist on American soil, and asserted that a high-level probe committee will investigate all aspects of the case.

On Wednesday, US federal prosecutors charged Indian national Nikhil

Gupta of working with an Indian government employee in the foiled plot to kill Pannun. US prosecutors informed a Manhattan court on Wednesday that authorities in the Czech Republic arrested and detained Gupta, and he is currently awaiting extradition to the US.

"We have said and let me reiterate that this is also contrary to government policy," he said at a media

briefing. Bagchi said the "nexus between organised crime, trafficking, gunrunning and extremists at an international level is a serious issue for the law enforcement agencies and organisations to consider and it is precisely for that reason a high-level inquiry committee has been constituted and we will obviously be guided by its results."

The MEA spokesperson said the US side shared some "inputs" pertaining to nexus between organised criminals, gun runners and terrorists and that India takes such inputs seriously since they impinge on "our national security interests as well" and that relevant

departments were examining the issue. "During the course of discussions with the US on bilateral security cooperation, the US side shared some inputs pertaining to nexus between organised criminals, gun-runners, terrorists and other extremists," he said.

"We take such inputs very seriously and a high level inquiry committee has been constituted to look into all the relevant aspects of the matter," he said, in identical remarks that he made on Wednesday. Bagchi said India will take necessary follow-up action based on the findings of the enquiry committee.

Marengo CIMS Hospital conducts first bloodless heart transplant

In Asia and India

Ahmedabad, Nov 30:

Marengo CIMS Hospital Ahmedabad is positioned today as an advanced center for heart transplants with a clinical excellence team well recognized globally. The team of doctors performs double-digit numbers annually to gain the reputation they have today.

The team of doctors is led by Dr Dhiren Shah, Director - Heart Transplant Program. Heart transplantation has emerged as a well-established treatment for advanced heart failure over the past four to five decades. The last decade has witnessed a remark-

able global surge in the number of heart transplant procedures, seeing an increase of more than 300% worldwide and surpassing a 400% increase in the United States alone.

The Western world, particularly North America, experienced a significant uptick in heart transplant numbers, particularly since the 1980s, with annual procedures ranging from 3000 to 4000. However, the growth has plateaued, primarily due to limitations in the availability of organs for donation.

Despite the heart transplant procedure having started in 1994 in India, the high-end surgery did not become a preferred option for patients with end-stage heart failure until 2010. In fact, it was only by 2019



Dr Dhiren Shah

that India performed 1000 heart transplants, after almost 25 years after the Transplantation of Human Organs Act was passed by the Government of India.

India is now in an enviable position to offer affordable and accessible

quality healthcare to patients globally and we are fast emerging as a preferred destination for medical treatment solutions. Dr Dhiren Shah, Director - Heart Transplant Program says, "There are several compelling reasons for heart transplantation to become a preferred option for patients with end-stage heart failure.

A heart transplant is often the only life-saving intervention for patients who have exhausted other medical treatments and interventions.

This surgical procedure significantly improves the quality of life for patients by restoring normal heart function and allowing them to engage in activities they were previously unable to perform."

Jury still out' on why Pak broke ceasefire at IB: BSF DG

Hazaribag (Jharkhand), Nov 30 (PTI):

The jury is still out as to why Pakistan recently broke the long agreed-upon ceasefire along the International Border with no "convincing" explanation offered by their officers during flag meetings, BSF chief Nitin Agrawal said on Thursday.

Agrawal was speaking to reporters during the annual press meet at the Border Security Force camp in the Meru area of Hazaribag in Jharkhand on the eve of the 59th Raising Day of the force.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is expected to take the salute of the ceremonial parade here on Friday.

"We have no clue we are analysing every aspect. During flag meetings, they

(Pak Rangers) have been giving XYZ reasons for this (ceasefire violation) but they are not at all convincing.

"They (Pak Rangers) themselves felt that they are not sounding convincing. They just mentioned something for the sake of it," the BSF Director General (DG) said.

Pak Rangers in October initiated a cross-border shelling the first major ceasefire violation since 2021 in the Jammu sector that left a BSF jawan and a woman injured.

There have been at least six overall violations since the two sides signed a ceasefire agreement on February 25, 2021.

The BSF DG said the force mounted "effective" retaliatory fire during these ceasefire violations

and "there were reports of heavy casualties there."

"I can assure the country that the BSF will effectively guard the borders," he said. The force, about 2.65 lakh in strength, was raised on December 1, 1965, and is primarily tasked to guard over 6,000 km-long Indian fronts with Pakistan and Bangladesh.

E-AUCTION NOTICE (Damaged Drill Machine)

E-Auction forms are invited from interested buyers for disposal, strictly on "As is Where Is" basis, on 'Per Kg basis', for salvage "Damaged Drill Machine Approx. 25 MT" belonging to M/s. Nu Vista Limited (survey handled by: Mack IS&LA). Salvage of the above materials can be inspected at Limestone Mines, Village- Risda, Suhela Road, PO. & Dist. Baloda Bazar, Chhattisgarh-493332 between 01/12/23 to 09/12/23. E-Auction to be held on 11/12/23. For E-Auction forms, Contact Ms. Khushi at Mob: 9990857386 of

Salvor Settlers Private Limited (Auctioneers)

Address: 203, 2nd Floor, Usha Kiran Building, Azadpur Commercial Complex, Delhi-110033 or download from website: www.salvorsettlers.com. Last date for submission of E-auction form is 11/12/2023 before 12.30 P.M.



Brides during a mass marriage ceremony in Moradabad, Thursday.

SC quashes Kerala gov't decision to reappoint Ravindran as Kannur varsity VC

New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI): In a major setback to the Kerala government, the Supreme Court on Thursday quashed its decision to reappoint Gopinath Ravindran as vice chancellor of Kannur University after his retirement and criticised its "unwarranted intervention" in the matter. A bench, headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, found fault with the order of the Chancellor and Governor Arif Mohammad Khan reappointing Ravindran to the post. It set aside the judgements of the single and division bench of the Kerala High Court upholding the reappointment. The governor is the ex-officio chancellor of universities in a state and as chancellor acts independently of the council of ministers in taking decisions on all university matters.

AFFIDAVIT

I, SMT. RUPA DEVI SING W/O PRAMOD SINGH resident of :- Plot No. 39, Shree Rupal Niwas Maitri Vihar Ullas Nagar Supela Bhilai Dist- Durg (C.G.) the deponent do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as under:- I have changed my old name RUPA KUMARI D/O Late Birendra Singh, So in future I shall be recognized by my new name SMT. RUPA DEVI SINGH W/O PRAMOD SINGH in all government and other documents. All the above information is true. DEPONENT

NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I, KARTIKEY KUMAR DEWANGAN S/O ASHOK KUMAR DEWANGAN resident of Old Dhantari Road, behind shilta mandir, KD Dental Clinic, Pragati Vihar Colony, Santoshi Nagar, Raipur (C.G.) have changed my old name KARTIKEY KUMAR DEWANGAN S/O ASHOK KUMAR DEWANGAN so in future, I should be recognized by my new name that is KARTIKEY DEWANGAN S/O ASHOK KUMAR DEWANGAN in all government and other documents. KARTIKEY DEWANGAN Pragati Vihar Colony, Santoshi Nagar, Raipur (C.G.)

NAME CHANGE

I, the affiant, Bednath, aged 38 years, father, resident of Gabhru, resident of village Santra, tehsil Patan, district Durg (Chhattisgarh), present the following sworn statement that:- 1. That my name and address are as above. 2. That, my daughter was earlier named Samaira. 3. That now I have changed my daughter's name to Swastika and have obtained the birth certificate in the name of Swastika. 4. That my daughter's name should be known and called as Swastika (SWASTIKA) in future and I submit this affidavit to the competent authority to get my daughter's name registered as Swastika (SWASTIKA) in all records. Swearer Bednath resident-village orange Tehsil Patan District Durg (Chhattisgarh)

MOTILAL OSWAL HOME LOANS

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 ("the Act") AND THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 ("the Rules")

The undersigned being the authorized officer of Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited (MOHFL) under the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) of the Act read with the Rule 3, issued Demand Notice(s) under Section 13(2) of the Act, calling upon the following borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice(s) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The undersigned reasonably believes that borrower(s) is/are avoiding the service of the demand notice(s), therefore the service of notice is being effected by affixation and publication as per Rules. The contents of demand notice(s) are extracted herein below:

Table with columns: Sr. No., Loan Agreement No./Name of the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Co-Applicant Name/Guarantor Name, Date of Demand Notice and Outstanding, Description of the Immovable Property

The borrower(s) are hereby advised to comply with the demand notice(s) and to pay the demand amount mentioned therein and hereinafter within 60 days from the date of this publication together with applicable interest, additional interest, bounce charges, cost and expenses till the date of realization of payment. The borrower(s) may note that MOHFL is a secured creditor and the loan facility availed by the Borrower(s) is a secured debt against the immovable property/properties being the secured asset(s) mortgaged by the borrower(s). In the event borrower(s) are failed to discharge their liabilities in full within the stipulated time, MOHFL shall be entitled to exercise all the rights under Section 13(4) of the Act to take possession of the secured asset(s) including but not limited to transfer the same by way of sale or by invoking any other remedy available under the Act and the Rules thereunder and realize payment. MOHFL is also empowered to ATTACH AND/OR SEAL the secured asset(s) before enforcing the right to sale or transfer. Subsequent to the Sale of the secured asset(s), MOHFL also has a right to initiate separate legal proceedings to recover the balance dues, in case the value of the mortgaged properties is insufficient to cover the dues payable to the MOHFL. This remedy is in addition and independent of all the other remedies available to MOHFL under any other law. The attention of the borrower(s) is invited to Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets and further to Section 13(13) of the Act, whereby the borrower(s) are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the secured asset(s) or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured asset(s), without prior written consent of MOHFL and non-compliance with the above is an offence punishable under Section 29 of the said Act. The copy of the demand notice is available with the undersigned and the borrower(s) may, if they so desire, can collect the same from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

Place : Chhattisgarh Date : 01.12.2023 Sd/- Authorized Officer, (Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited)

AFFIDAVIT

I, AMAR SETHIYA S/O LATE KANHAIYALAL SETHIYA resident of :- Vardhman Heights, Ganjpara, GE ROAD, Durg (C.G.) the deponent do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as under:- I have changed my old name AMAR SETHIYA S/O LATE KANHAIYALAL JI SETHIYA. So in future I shall be recognized by my new name AMAR CHAND SETHIYA S/O LATE KANHAIYALAL SETHIYA in all government and other documents. All the above information is true. DEPONENT

TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

DEMAND NOTICE Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("Act") read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("Rules").

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Tata Capital Housing Finance Limited (TCHFL) under the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Rules already issued detailed Demand Notice dated below under Section 13(2) of the Act, calling upon the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s) (all singly or together referred to "Obligors"/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amount mentioned in the respective Demand Notice, within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice, as per details given below. Copies of the said Notices are served by Registered Post A.D. and are available with the undersigned, and the said Obligor(s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

Table with columns: Loan Account No., Name of Obligor(s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s), Total Outstanding Dues (Rs.), Date of Demand Notice & Date of NPA

Description of The Secured Assets/Immovable Properties/Mortgaged Properties: All That Place and Parcel of The Immovable Property Being A Self-contained Flat At EWS, Sec- 16/GF, Bl- 20/003, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Pin- 492001.

"with further interest, additional interest at the rate as more particularly stated in respective Demand Notices dated mentioned above, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and/or realization, if the said Obligor(s) shall fail to make payment to TCHFL as aforesaid, then TCHFL shall proceed against the above Secured Asset(s)/Immovable Property(ies) under Section 13(4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Obligor(s)/ Legal Heir(s)/ Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences. The said Obligor(s)/ Legal Heir(s)/ Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset(s)/Immovable Property(ies), whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of TCHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act. Sd/- Date : 01-12-2023 Authorised Officer, Tata Capital Housing Finance Limited

Place : Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Bank of Maharashtra

Branch: Byron Bazaar, Raipur, C.G. 0771-4265624, 4265623 e-mail: bom981@mahabank.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE AH40/SARFAESI/Jubilee Enterprises/13(2)/2023-24 Date-30/11/2023

Notice is hereby given that the following (Borrowers) and (Guarantors) have defaulted in repayment of principal and interest of the loan facilities obtained by them from the Bank of Maharashtra and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses. Further borrower & guarantor are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Table with columns: Name of the Borrowers / Guarantors & Address, Nature of Facility & A/c Number, Present outstanding (as on 23/11/2023)

Borrower: M/s Jubilee Enterprises, Through its Partners- Mr. Shekh Mujibur Rahman S/o Late Shri Raushan Ali, Mr. Sk Nasiruddin Ahmed S/o Shri Sekh Mujibur Rahman, Office Address : At Subhan Arcade, 1st Floor, Opp. Sirat Maidan Bajinathpara, Raipur (C.G.) Residential Address : Mursida Manjil, Gali No.4 Krishna Nagar, Santoshi Nagar, Opp. Wardhman School, Raipur (C.G.) Guarantors- 1) Mr. Shekh Mujibur Rahman S/o Late Shri Raushan Ali, 2) Mr. Sk Nasiruddin Ahmed S/o Shri Sekh Mujibur Rahman & 3) Smt. Murshida Begam (Deceased) W/o Shri Sekh Mujibur Rahman, through their legal heirs: 1) Shri Mujibur Rahman (Husband) 2) Shri Nasiruddin Ahmed (Son) 3) Ms. Sabina Yasmin (Daughter) 4) Ms. Sabana Parveen (Daughter) 5) Ms. Majeda Sultana (Daughter), 6) Shri Maniruddin Ahmed (Son) All of their Add.: Mursida Manjil, Gali No.4, Krishna Nagar, Santoshi Nagar, Opp. Wardhman School, Raipur (C.G.)

Security details: Primary security:- Hypothecation of stocks and book debts up to 90 days. Collateral Security:- Property 1) EM of Flat No. A-609, Block -A, 6th Floor, "Green View" Khairpur, Raigarh, Tah & Dist- Raigarh (C.G.) Area of 760.00 Sq.ft. in the name of Shri Sekh Mujibur Rahman. Boundaries of the property: North: Flat No. A816, South : Flat No. A 610, East : Open Sky, West : Lobby, Property 2) Additional EM of Flat No. 305,3rd Floor, "Krishna Vihar Pride" Jagatpur, Ward No-04, Raigarh, Tah. & Dist- Raigarh (C.G.) Area of 1342.00 Sq.ft. in the name of Shri Sekh Mujibur Rahman, Boundaries of the property: North: Flat No.304, South : Open Sky, East : Open Sky, West : Stairs and Corridor. Property 3) Additional EM of Residential House (G+1) on Plot Kh No-533/1 (Part), P.H. No-114, Mauza- Tikarapara, Krishna Nagar, Tah. & Dist- Raipur(C.G.) Area of 1560 Sq. Ft. in the name of Smt. Murshida Begam. Boundaries of the property: North: Land of others, South : Road, East: Land of Seller, West : Land of Uttam Panhar

Hence, this Paper Publication. The above Borrower(s) and/or their Guarantor(s) (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002. This notice is also being published in vernacular language. The English version shall be final in case any question of interpretation arises. Date: 30.11.2023, Place: Raipur Chief Manager / Authorized Officer Bank of Maharashtra

IDBI BANK Branch- Pachpedi Naka, Raipur (C.G.)

APPENDIX IV [RULE 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the authorised officer of IDBI Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 22.09.2023 calling upon the Borrowers- Shri K Ishwar Rao and Smt. K Padma Rao to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 15,83,642.78/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Six Hundred Forty Two and Seventy Eight Paise Only) together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate upon the footing of compound interest from July 10, 2023 within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below, in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the 28th day of November of the year 2023. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of IDBI Bank Limited for an amount of Rs. 15,83,642.78/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Six Hundred Forty Two and Seventy Eight Paise Only) and interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Plot Khasra No. 204/2, Khata No.-3563, PH No.-108/39, R.N.M-Raipur-1, Ward No-05, Banjar, Mata Rajpur, Mouja- Bhanpur, Tahsil & Dist-Raipur within the Registration Sub-District Raipur and District-Raipur, Chhattisgarh. Bounded: North : Land of Rajendra, South : House of Bhairvi Venkat Rao, East: Road, West : Land of Rajendra together with all buildings and structures thereon and all plant and machinery attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth.

Date : 01.12.2023, Place : Raipur Authorised Officer, IDBI Bank Ltd.

Educational institutions targeted for tobacco-free status

■ **Strict enforcement of COTPA Act in focus**

Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, Nov 30:

In a significant move to promote a healthier environment, the District Level Coordination Committee convened under the National Tobacco Control Programme at the Collectorate's Arpa Hall. The meeting emphasized the effective enforcement of the COTPA Act (Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Act) of 2003. Collector Priyanka Rishi Mahobia has set a phased plan to declare all educational institutions in the district as tobacco-free and has initiated awareness campaigns through banners, posters, pamphlets, and more to educate the public about the hazards of tobacco consumption and ways to prevent it.

The district aims to gradually transform all its



educational institutions into tobacco-free zones. To achieve this goal, Collector Mahobia plans to counsel schoolchildren on the dangers of tobacco use, train teachers in tobacco control measures, and organize various awareness activities such as essay, debate, and speech competitions in schools. Additionally, anti-addiction competitions will be conducted as part of this public awareness campaign. The Collector also urged action against

shops displaying tobacco product advertisements, involving Sub Divisional Revenue Officer, District Education Officer, Tehsildar, and Chief Municipality Officer.

The meeting highlighted the need for effective implementation of the COTPA Act to create a smoke-free district. Technical assistance from "Bilobarg-Ek Pahale Da Yuniyan Sanstha" at the state and district levels is being sought to achieve this. Sanjay Namdev,

Divisional Coordinator of the organization, elucidated various provisions of the COTPA Act, emphasizing the complete ban on smoking and tobacco consumption in public places and government offices in the district, with violators facing a Rs 200 fine. The sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions is also prohibited, with a similar financial penalty for violations. Strict punitive actions will be taken against those promoting and ad-

vertising tobacco products within the district. Mandatory display of information boards under the COTPA Act 2003 was emphasized for public places, sales centers, and educational institutions.

The meeting also discussed the need for coordination among various departments, including labor, child protection, food, railway, municipality, gram panchayat, and police, to effectively control tobacco use in the district. Present at the meeting were Additional Collector Namrata Anand Dongre, District Nodal Officer of the National Tobacco Control Program Dr. Paras Jain, DPM Vibha Toppo, Sub-Divisional Officer (Revenue) Marwahi and Pendra Road, all district CEOs, Tehsildars, District Education Officer, Chief Municipality Officer, Block Education Officer, and other stakeholders committed to creating a tobacco-free district.

Students gain practical banking insights at Co-operative Bank



■ **Educational field trip enhances Banking knowledge**

Kharora, Nov 30:

A group of students from Government Higher Secondary School Kosrangi embarked on an enlightening educational journey as part of the vocational education course offered by Samagra Shiksha Chhattisgarh. The students, studying banking subjects, visited the Co-operative Bank Kosrangi, where they received firsthand insights into the banking system.

Bank Chief Tarun Kumar Verma and Janardan Nishad guided the young learners through various aspects of banking, providing comprehensive information on account opening procedures, deposit and withdrawal slips, Kisan Credit Cards, required documentation, eligibility criteria, and the process of granting loans to farmers.

The visit also shed light on the array of services offered by banks to customers, including debit cards, credit cards, and ATM cards. The branch manager ex-

pressed the value of such vocational education experiences for students, highlighting the importance of practical knowledge in elevating their skill sets.

Suresh Sahu, the business teacher accompanying the students, emphasized the primary goal of these bank visits to cultivate the students' skill potential. By equipping them with technical knowledge in the banking sector from an early stage, these educational excursions aim to open doors to future employment opportunities, empowering the students to excel in their chosen field.

Constitution Day celebrated by Kaushal and Peepla Foundation



Aarang, Nov 30:

Constitution Day was celebrated by Kaushal and Peepla Foundation in Srijan Sonkar Higher Secondary School. In the program after lighting the lamp, Chakradhari Sonkar in his address gave

insights into the details and glory of the Indian Constitution.

DP Nayak in his address said that we should abide by our duties more than our rights, whereas Mahendra Patel said that the Constitution is the true identity of our

democracy. Anoopnath Yogi of Kaushal Manch gave light on Article 395 and list 22 of the constitution. Largely present were teachers students who took a keen interest in knowing the constitution the preamble and the making of democracy.

Nawaz Sharif appointed Raipur North VC Vice President

Raipur, Nov 30:

On the recommendation of Chhattisgarh in-charge of Youth Congress Ms. Palak Verma and Pradesh Youth Congress President Akash Sharma, Nawaz Sharif has been appointed to the post of Executive President of Raipur North Assembly Youth Congress. Earlier, Nawaz Sharif was holding the post of Vice President of Raipur North Youth Congress. The news of appointment of Youth Congress worker Nawaz Sharif to this post spread a wave of joy among the Youth Congress workers. A large number of Youth Congress workers welcomed Nawaz with flower garlands amid bursting of fire crackers in Pandari.

Three day outdoor study camp concludes

■ **In Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya**

Kondagaon, Nov 30:

Ministry of Education, School Education and Literacy Department, Government of India organized a three-day outdoor study camp at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) Kondagaon under the guidance of Principal Sanjay Singh in which art teacher Narayani Kumari Durg Navodaya alumna Shivcharan Madanar and his school children were trained in the finer points of 'silambam gatka' game and wall painting to create beauti-



ful paintings on the walls of the school.

Meanwhile, Mirza Sattar Baig, Deputy Engineer of Electricity Department, presented 'Gatka Khel Kit' to the children of Navodaya on the occasion of Guru Nanak Jayanti. School teachers RK Kashyap, Sachin Kumar, Ankit Solanki, Sameer Devangan, AK Mishra along with the children, Rupesh Kumar, Bhupendra Kumar, Teacher Anupriya Swaraj, Krishnaveni Bhavna Mehlatat, Akanksha Garg, Preeti Chauhan, Vidhu Tripathi Shakar, Santosh, Laxman, Ramshila, Revathi, have also contributed enthusiastically in this workshop.

Counting of votes will start on Dec 3 at 8 am with oath of secrecy

■ **There will be a rehearsal for counting of votes on Dec 2**
■ **Security arrangements in three layers**

Bemetara, Nov 30:

Information was given here today about the preparations for the counting of votes in all the three assembly constituencies of the district on the coming 3rd December, under the direction of the Collectorate, about the preparations for the assembly candidates, election agents and counting agents. Later, they were made to inspect the



ETPBS/Postal Ballot which should be kept under strict security in the treasury strong room.

Collector and District Election Officer PS Elam Giving information said that after the end of assembly general election-2023, preparations for counting of votes are being done in a systematic manner. Every single thing has to go through close, intensive inspection and testing. There is no scope for mistake, hence complete preparations are being carried out

with utmost care. The preparations going on at the counting site are being inspected daily with district and police administration officials.

Giving information, he said that before the counting of votes, a complete rehearsal of counting will be done on December 2. The counting of all three assembly constituencies will be done in separate chambers. Additional Superintendent of Police Mr. Pankaj Patel gave information about the prepara-

tions of the police administration and the routes of movement and vehicle parking of the candidates and their agents.

He invited the candidates, election agents and counting agents and said that they should also come and see the arrangements to see who will come from where. So that their agents can also have information about the route. He informed that the appointed counting agents will not be able to go to any other assembly or table other than the one for which they have been appointed. As per the instructions of the Election Commission, there will be arrangements for meetings of nationally recognized parties, state recognized parties, other

recognized parties and independent candidates. He appealed for cooperation from all parties.

After the end of voting, EVMS have been kept safe in the strong room made in the agricultural produce market as per the prescribed procedure. Now, amid three-tier security, the counting of votes will begin on December 03 at 8 am with an oath to maintain secrecy. First of all the counting of ETPBS, postal ballot will start. The process of counting votes using machines (EVMS) will begin half an hour after the counting begins. Strong rooms will be opened on December 3 at 7 am. During this time, videography of the entire process will also be done.

Yadav Samaj celebrate Govardhan Puja

Kondagaon, Nov 30:

On Nov 27, the Yadav Samaj in Kondagaon district organized Giri Govardhan Puja at the Yadav Samaj Bhawan located in village Chikhalputti. On the occasion of Govardhan Puja, Yadav community worshipped Govardhan Pahar made of dung, which they consider as a small Diwali. On this occasion, explaining the importance of Govardhan Puja and how to do it with heart, Youth Cell President Girish Yadav said that this Puja is connected with the hearts of the people of Yadav society and it is celebrated with great pomp every year. Jahan worshiped the favorite deities of the Yadav community for hap-



piness, prosperity and safety of the earth. During this, the traditional Raut Nacha of the Yadav Samaj was also performed, which was organized from the main road to the Yadav Samaj Bhawan and Kalash Yatra was also taken out. Along with this Yadav society made four Havan Kunds and performed yagna and fed khichdi to the cows. This puja is a special tradition of the Yadav society which is celebrated by the Yaduvanshi

with great pomp, in which all the functionaries, workers and members of the society are present in large numbers. This program was for two days in which on the first day Govardhan Puja was performed according to the law and on the second day Govardhan Parbat was immersed amidst band instruments. During this time all the functionaries, workers and women, men and children of the society were present in large numbers.

SMM SECL organizes two-day Anand Mela

Korba, Nov 30:

The two-day Anand Mela organized by Shradha Mahila Mandal (SMM) at the playground of SECL Vasant Vihar was concluded today after two days of festivities. On the second day of the Mela today, under the campaign of women empowerment through self-employment, e-rickshaws and hand carts were provided to 20 beneficiaries including economically challenged women. The said e-rickshaw and hand cart were given away by Shradha Mahila Mandal, SECL President and first lady of SECL family, Poonam Mishra. Among the beneficiaries, e-rickshaws were provided to 10 women and hand carts were provided to 4 women and 6 men. These e-rickshaws and hand carts given to beneficiaries coming from economically

weaker sections, especially women, will provide a means of self-employment through which they will be able to become self-reliant and support their families.

The women looked very happy after getting the e-rickshaw and hand cart and it will greatly help us in earning a means of livelihood. A huge crowd of people was seen in the two-day Anand Mela organized by Shradha Mahila Mandal. On this occasion, Shradha Mahila Mandal (SMM) President Poonam Mishra for providing the e-rickshaw and hand cart and it will greatly help us in earning a means of livelihood. A huge crowd of people was seen in the two-day Anand Mela organized by Shradha Mahila Mandal SECL Bilaspur at Anand Mela presented the image of a Mini India at the Mela. The stall of Shradha Mahila Mandal SECL headquarters became the center of attraction in which a



huge crowd of people gathered to take selfies at the Chennai Express selfie point. Also, a gem-like structure depicting Chhattisgarhi village region has been made in the stall. Similarly, a structure like bullock cart has also been built, which was liked a lot by the people. At the same time, a huge crowd of people gathered in the stalls of women committees of various operational areas of SECL. In the fair, Gevra area set up a stall on the

theme of Haryana state in which people enjoyed various dishes of Haryana state. Similarly, stalls were set up by Dipka region on the theme of West Bengal and Kusmunda region on the theme of Bihar state in which people enjoyed the local cuisine of these states. Bhatgaon region created a stall on the theme of Goa state in which a cruise was displayed which attracted the attention of the people. Crowd of people was also seen at the stall set up by Raigarh region on the theme of Jharkhand state. Apart from the headquarters and regional women's committees, more than 80 stalls have been set up in the fair by various entrepreneurs, especially women entrepreneurs. Products related to local art, culture, handicrafts etc. of Chhattisgarh were displayed in these stalls, which were pur-

chased by the people visiting the fair. SECL employee along with his family and people of nearby city enjoyed a lot in this joy fair organized by Shradha Mahila Mandal. In Anand Mela, people tasted various dishes and bought various clothes and other goods from different regions. Among the dishes, people tasted Chhattisgarhi, Rajasthani, Uttar Pradesh, Punjabi, Gujarati, Bengali etc. dishes. Along with this, people purchased the items of their need from the stalls set up by small entrepreneurs. On this occasion, various regional women's committees were awarded for the welfare work done by them. On this occasion, Shradha Mahila Mandal Vice President Ritanjali Pal, and members Raji Srinivasan, Sangeeta Kapri, Sujata Khamari were present.

Challenges in monitoring election expenditures

Mungeli, Nov 30:

As elections roll around, the Election Commission diligently strives to ensure a fair and impartial process. However, beneath the watchful gaze of the Election Commission, some candidates resort to tactics that raise eyebrows. While the Election Commission may have limited visibility into the campaign expenses incurred by candidates, the stark reality is that many candidates invest substantial sums, often in the millions of rupees, to compete in elections. From wooing voters to indulging in various forms of outreach, it's an open secret that election campaigns involve signif-

icant expenditures. However, why does the Election Commission struggle to maintain strict oversight over these expenditures? Candidates sometimes strive to win elections by seemingly pouring crores of rupees into their campaigns. For instance, during the previous assembly elections in Chhattisgarh, 32 candidates vied for seats in the district, with 15 contesting in Mungeli and 17 in Lormi. While information about expenditure in the Mungeli Assembly election is not readily available from the District administration, officials often grapple with time constraints due to continuous election-related activities.

Indian national agreed to assassination plot: US federal prosecutors

After assurances criminal case against him in Gujarat will be dismissed

New York, Nov 30 (PTI):

An Indian national, charged in connection with a plan to assassinate a Sikh separatist on American soil, agreed to the plot after being assured that a criminal case against him in Gujarat would be dismissed, federal prosecutors here have alleged.

Nikhil Gupta, 52, has been charged with murder-for-hire in connection with his participation in a foiled plot to assassinate a US citizen in New York City, according to a superseding indictment unsealed Wednesday in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York. While the indictment does not name the US citizen who was the

target of the assassination plot, The Financial Times, citing unnamed sources, last week reported that US authorities thwarted a plot to assassinate banned Sikhs for Justice's Gurbatwant Singh Pannun, and issued a warning to the Indian government over concerns it was involved in the plot.

In the indictment, prosecutors outline how Gupta agreed to the plot after being assured that a criminal case against him in Gujarat would be dismissed. "Beginning in or about early May 2023, in a series of telephonic and electronic communications between CC-1 and Gupta over encrypted applications, CC-1 asked Gupta to arrange the murder of the Victim in ex-

change for CC-1's assistance in securing the dismissal of a criminal case against Gupta in India. Gupta agreed to orchestrate the assassination. In addition to their electronic communications, Gupta also met CC-1 in person in New Delhi in furtherance of the plot," the indictment said. Prosecutors have said that CC-1 is an "Indian government employee" who directed the plot from India to assassinate on US soil "an attorney and political activist who is a US citizen of Indian-origin residing in New York City," described as "the victim" in the indictment. "On or about May 6, 2023, at the outset of their conversation over a particular encrypted messaging application, CC-1

wrote Gupta: "This is (CC-1)... Save my name as (CC-1 Alias)." Gupta saved the telephone number on Gupta's phone under an alias for CC-1. A few minutes later, CC-1 messaged Gupta that CC-1 had a "target in New York" and another target in "California", the indictment said.

The indictment added that around "May 12, 2023, CC-1 notified Gupta that his criminal case "has already been taken care of," and that "nobody from Gujrat police is calling."

On or about May 23, 2023, CC-1 again assured Gupta that CC-1 had "spoke[n] with the boss about your Gujarat (case)," that it was "all clear," and "nobody will ever bother you again."

FREED THAI HOSTAGES



Thai hostages who were freed from Hamas arrive at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Samut Prakarn Province, Thailand, Thursday, Nov. 30. Twenty-three Thai hostages kidnapped by Hamas in its Oct. 7, 2023 attack on southern Israel have been freed so far, and Thailand's foreign ministry says nine remain in captivity in Gaza. There were about 30,000 Thai overseas workers in Israel, mostly in the agricultural sector, but more than 8,000 have returned home since the attack.

Three killed in shooting attack in Jerusalem

Jerusalem, Nov 30 (PTI): At least three Israelis were killed and six others injured when Palestinian gunmen opened fire at a bus stop here, breaking an uneasy peace in the city since the outbreak of the current round of violence in the region.

"At around 7:40 am (local time) two Palestinian gunmen got out of a vehicle on Weizman Street at the main entrance to the capital and opened fire at people at a bus stop", the police here said.

Three persons were killed and six wounded, two of them seriously, in a terror shooting attack at the entrance to the city, police and medics said.

Two off-duty soldiers and an armed civilian in the area are said to have returned fire, killing the two terrorists.

Russian missile strikes in eastern Ukraine



In this photo provided by the Ihor Moroz, Head of the Donetsk Regional Military Administration, rescuers work at the scene of a building damaged by shelling, in Novohrodivka, Ukraine, Thursday, Nov. 30

Kyiv, Nov 30 (AP):

Russian missiles tore through apartment buildings in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk region, local officials said Thursday, killing at least one person and burying families under rubble as the Kremlin's forces continued to pound the fiercely contested area with long-range weapons. Russian military units si-

Tear through buildings and bury families in rubble

a 62-year-old man from the wreckage of a destroyed multi-story building in Novohrodivka. Four more people may be under the rubble, including a child, authorities said.

In Pokrovsk, the strikes destroyed a multi-story building, nine houses, a police office and cars. Emergency crews helped rescue a man with a 6-month-old baby, covered in blood, in his hands, officials said. The head of the city administration, Serhiy Dobriak, said it was fourth time Pokrovsk came under attack in the past month. "They are striking the city center, the houses," he said. "They are just destroying the civilian population." He urged people to evacuate because "the intensity of strikes is increasing."

multaneously launched six S-300 missiles during the night, according to Ukrainian Internal Affairs Minister Ihor Klymenko. The missiles struck three Donetsk cities Pokrovsk, Novohrodivka and Myrnohrad, he said. The cities lie 25-40 kilometers (15-25 miles) from the front line. Emergency workers pulled the body of

UN leaders hail India as champion of South-South cooperation

Highlight 'exemplary leadership' in addressing global challenges

United Nations, Nov 30 (PTI):

Top UN leaders and envoys have lauded India's "exemplary leadership" in addressing global challenges and for being a champion of South-South cooperation, as they highlighted the country's G20 Presidency and termed the "enduring" partnership between India and the United Nations as a "guidelight" within the Global South.

India assumed the year-long G20 Presidency in December last year and is all set to hand over the baton to Brazil. The

Permanent Mission of India to the UN and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UN-OSSC) organised a special event at the world body's headquarters here Wednesday to commemorate six years of collaborative partnership of the India-UN Development Partnership Fund.

"India has long been a champion of South-South cooperation and the global pursuit of the SDGs, bringing to life its philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' - the world as one interconnected

family," UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed said in her remarks at the event. Mohammed underscored that the India UN Development Partnership Fund stands as a "testament" to the "extraordinary accomplishments" that nations can achieve when they unite, surpassing borders and differences to create a sustainable, equitable and just world.

Mohammed said that the sixth anniversary of the Partnership Fund "compels us to contemplate the tremendous ob-

stacles we face in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the vital role that South-South cooperation can play in overcoming these challenges."

Since its launch in 2017, the Fund has supported 76 projects in 54 countries. President of the UN General Assembly Dennis Francis described this as "no small feat", especially in the current age of shrunken fiscal spaces compounded by the impacts of the pandemic and other global shocks in recent years.

UN weather agency says 2023 is the hottest year on record

Dubai, Nov 30 (AP):

The U.N. weather agency said Thursday that 2023 is all but certain to be the hottest year on record, and a warning of worrying trends that suggest increasing floods, forest fires, glacier melt, and heat waves in the future. The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) also warned that the average temperature for the year is up some 1.4 degrees Celsius (2.5 degrees Fahrenheit) from pre-industrial times a mere one-tenth of a degree under a target limit for the end of the century as laid out by the Paris climate accord in 2015. The WMO secretary-general said the onset earlier this year of El Nino, the weather phenomenon marked by heating in the Pacific Ocean, could tip the average temperature next year over the 1.5-degree (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) target cap set

in Paris. "It's practically sure that during the coming four years we will hit this 1.5, at least on temporary basis," Petteri Taalas said in an interview. "And in the next decade we are more or less going to be there on a permanent basis." WMO issued the findings for Thursday's start of the U.N.'s annual climate conference, this year being held in the oil-rich United Arab Emirates city of Dubai. The U.N. agency said the benchmark of key Paris accord goal will be whether the 1.5-degree increase is sustained over a 30-year span not just a single year but others say the world needs more clarity on that. "Clarity on breaching the Paris agreement guard rails will be crucial," said Richard Betts of Britain's Met Office, the lead author of a new paper on the issue with University of Exeter published in the journal Nature.

ESAF
ESAF SMALL FINANCE BANK

REGD. OFFICE: ESAF Bhavan, Mannuthy, Thrissur - 680 651, Kerala.

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold ornaments pledged with ESAF Small Finance Bank and not redeemed by borrowers, despite repeated reminders and notices, of our branches, are listed below. This will be auctioned as per the details given below:

DATE OF AUCTION : 12-12-2023 TIME : 2 PM TO 5 PM

AUCTION VENUE : THROUGH E-AUCTION

AUCTION ADDRESS : <https://egold.auctiontiger.net> | Contact Number: 6351896640

To register as bidder for the e-Auction with terms and conditions, and full details of e-Auction please visit the above site

BRANCHES & LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBERS

Akaltara : 63220000785727, 790397, 838569, 75220001188076, 1190302
Bagbahara : 63220000798842, 833208, 860386, 861264, 75220001201213, 1202522, 1252796 **Bald:** 75220001163963, 1360762 **Bhilai:** 63220000778944, 778741, 857632 **Bilaspur:** 75220001203530, 1218362 **Champa:** 63220000784689, 838789, 75220001131204, 1235169, 1286982, 1351810, 1360432 **Chandigarh:** 63220000184069 **Dhamtari:** 63220000792563, 803775 **Donargarh:** 63220000865447, 75220001128101, 1264903, 1306176, 1312214 **Durg:** 63220000787843 **Katghora:** 63220000766213, 768470, 793202, 846753, 853060, 860496, 171003, 75220001315929 **Kawardha:** 75220001234721 **Korba:** 63220000766123, 782412, 787203, 791575, 837021 **Mahasamund:** 63220000762151, 766603, 786735, 804393, 819585, 822439, 825793, 857442, 135393, 142179, 153738, 163149, 196426, 75220001179953, 1254242 **Mungeli:** 75220001332606 **Pakhanjore:** 63220000761122, 763509, 768900, 784839, 790767, 794150, 794390, 807958, 824965, 839827, 858601 **Pithora:** 63220000771053, 772682, 772992, 789760, 793062, 795068, 805022, 807148, 846453, 75220001129869, 1158633, 1217723, 1293648 **Raigarh:** 63220000794700, 802497, 810552, 817659, 828338, 850995, 857432, 860566, 1140067 **Raipur:** 7522000140507, 1156827 **Rajnandgaon:** 63220000815852, 857752, 130882, 142899, 162961, 170285, 7522000164292, 1164322, 1286482 **Sarangarh:** 63230000194030

Customers who are interested to release the ornaments by paying the total due amount may do so, at the respective branches, on or two days before the date of the auction.

Bidders who wish to participate in the auction shall produce their KYC documents. GST No. is mandatory for registered firms/companies. Bidders shall deposit a sum of Rs.50,000 as EMD before participating in the auction.

Thrissur Date: 01-12-2023

Sd/-
Authorized Signatory

टेकलगूडियाम में सुरक्षाबलों पर नक्सली हमला प्रकरण एन.आई.ए. केस में वांछित
WANTED BY NIA CASE IN NAXAL ATTACK ON SECURITY FORCES TEKALGUDIYAM CASE

<p>रघु रेड्डी उर्फ विकास उर्फ कुनकट्टी वेन्कटेश उर्फ सायलु उर्फ श्रीवन्नना उर्फ कुवती वेन्कटेश, उम- लगभग 62 वर्ष, RaghuReddy@Vikash@Kunkatti Venkatesh@Salyu@Shrivanna @ Kuwati Venkatesh, Age- About 62 Years</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 10 लाख REWARD 10 LAKHS</p> <p>बाम - कुटीमल मद्रुद मंडल, जिला वारंगल, तेलंगाना Kootigal, Maddur Mandal, District Warangal, Telangana.</p> <p>राज उर्फ अन्ने सतोश उर्फ श्रीधर, उम- 43 वर्ष, पिता- श्री मोरु इल्लैया Sagar@Anne Santosh@Shridhar, Age- 43 Years</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 7 लाख REWARD 7 LAKHS</p> <p>निवासी बाम- अन्कुशपुर कटरम मण्डल टेकुमाला जिला जैशंका भुपालपल्ली तेलंगाना R/o Vill- Ankushpur, Kataram Mandal, Tekumalla District, Jayashanka Bhupalpalli, Telangana.</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 7 लाख REWARD 7 LAKHS</p> <p>निवासी बाम- डोडी तुमनार, थाना- गंगारु, पेरुकोरमा, जिला- बीजापुर (छ.ग.) R/o Vill - Dodi Tummar/Peddakorma, PS- Gangalur, Distt.-Bijapur (C.G.)</p> <p>राहुल तेलम उर्फ राहुल रैयाम, उम- 48 वर्ष, पिता - श्री मंदरा तैलम Rahul Telam@Rahul Reyam, Age-48 Years, S/o Shri Mandra Tailam</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 5 लाख REWARD 5 LAKHS</p> <p>निवासी बाम- निर्मलका उर्फ कोडी मंजुला, उम- 48 वर्ष, पति- रघु रेड्डी उर्फ विकास Nirmala@Nirmalaka@Kodi Manjula, Age - 48 Years, Wife of Raghu Reddy@Vikas</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 5 लाख REWARD 5 LAKHS</p> <p>बाम- बुधरापेटा/मणकनहानपुर/कुडिगल, मद्रुद मण्डल जिला वारंगल तेलंगाना, R/o Vill- Budhraopeta/Manakhanapur/Kooligal, Maddur Mandal, District Warangal Telangana.</p> <p>मदना उर्फ जन्म दादा उर्फ मद्रक मदन, उम- 55 वर्ष, पिता- बुधरा उर्फ लिलैया Madanna@Jaggu Dada@Madkam Madan, Age-55 Years S/o Budhra@Ligaliyaya</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 5 लाख REWARD 5 LAKHS</p> <p>निवासी बाम मोन्डीगुडा थाना मोलापल्ली जिला- सुक्मा (छ.ग.) R/o Vill- Gondiguda PS- Golapalli, Distt.-Sukma (C.G.)</p> <p>राजे उर्फ राजका, उम- 45 वर्ष, पति- हिडमा Raje@Rajakka, Age-45 Years, W/o Hidma</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 2 लाख REWARD 2 LAKHS</p> <p>निवासी बाम- बीरायपुर/पुवती थाना तैरम जिला बीजापुर/थाना मोलापल्ली जिला सुक्मा छ.ग. R/o Vill- Beerapuram/Puwati PS- Tarrem District Bijapur/PS Golapalli District Sukma (CG)</p> <p>पवन हेमला उम- 48 वर्ष, पिता- सुक्क हेमला Pawam Hemla Age-48 Years, S/o Sukku Hemla</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 1 लाख REWARD 1 LAKH</p> <p>निवासी बाम गोमनापारा सावनर थाना गंगारु जिला- बीजापुर (छ.ग.) R/o Vill- Gondapara Sawnar PS- Gangalur, Distt.- Bijapur (C.G.)</p> <p>सीतु मद्रकम, पिता- सन्नु मद्रकम Situ Madkam, S/o Sannu Madkam</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 1 लाख REWARD 1 LAKH</p> <p>निवासी बाम कोयरा, थाना मिरुतुर, जिला- बीजापुर (छ.ग.) R/o Vill- Komra, PS- Mirtur, Distt.- Bijapur (C.G.)</p> <p>जोगा मादवी, पिता- सोमदु मादवी Joga Madvi, S/o Somdu Madvi</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 1 लाख REWARD 1 LAKH</p> <p>निवासी बाम- मुरियापारा, लिंगापूर, उस्तर, जिला- बीजापुर (छ.ग.) R/o Vill- Muriyapara, Lingapur, Usur Distt.- Bijapur (C.G.)</p> <p>जोगी हेमला, पिता- बुधरम Joga Hemla, D/o Budhram</p> <p>ईनाम राशि 1 लाख REWARD 1 LAKH</p> <p>निवासी बाम- राउतपारा ताडकल, थाना- मिरुतुर, जिला- बीजापुर (छ.ग.) R/o Vill- Rautpara, Tadkal, PS-Mirtur, Distt.- Bijapur (C.G.)</p>

उपरोक्त माओवादियों के संबंध में किसी भी प्रकार की सूचना देने या गिरफ्तार करने में सहयोग करने वाले को उपरोक्त नकद राशि का इनाम दिया जायेगा। सूचना देने वाले का नाम एवं पहचान गुप्त रखा जायेगा।
 (ANY INFORMATION LEADING TO ARREST SHALL BE REWARDED AS ABOVE MENTIONED CASH REWARD. IDENTITY OF INFORMANT WILL BE KEPT SECRET.)

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 ई-मेल / Email : assistance.nia@gov.in, info.raipur.nia@gov.in
 दूरभाष / Telephone :- 011-24368838 दिल्ली / Delhi एवं / And 0771-2972535 रायपुर / Raipur
 पत्राचार का पता- पुलिस अधीक्षक, राष्ट्रीय अन्वेषण अभिकरण, प्लॉट नं. 11/ए, सेक्टर-24, झान्जि अटल नगर, नवारायपुर (छ.ग.) 492018
 Postal Add. : SP, NIA, Plot No. 11/A, Sector-24, Jhanjh, Atal Nagar Nava Raipur (C.G.) 49201825

CBC - 19133/11/0011/2324

Indian, Australian missions in UK co-host first Indo-Pacific Conference

London, Nov 30 (PTI): Leading strategic and policy experts from India, Australia and the UK came together here Thursday to explore practical ideas to strengthen Indo-Pacific resilience, address threats to regional security and enhance strategic stability as part of an inaugural Indo-Pacific Conference.

The day-long event, co-hosted by the High Commissions of India and Australia in partnership with the Council of Geostategy and King's College London, is designed to help drive greater cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, amid China flexing muscles in the strategic region.

यूनियन बैंक
Union Bank of India

Regional Office, Bilaspur, 1st Floor, Opposite Gumber Petrol Pump, Vyapar Vihar Road, Bilaspur. (C.G) 495004

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties

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 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India (secured creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 15.12.2023 between 10.00 am to 5.00 pm for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower (s) & Guarantor (s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

S. No.	Name of the Borrower / Guarantor	Total dues (in Rs.)	Reserve Price EMD/Bid increase amount (in Rs)	Short description of the properties
01	1. Mr. Rajesh Singh Kshatri (Borrower in A/c. of ATLE Scheme) Add. Kaser Para Mahadev Ghat, Champa. C.G. Pin- 495671, 2. M/s. Shri Hasdev Fly Ash Bricks, Prop- Rajesh Singh Kshatri, Add- Kaser Para Mahadev Ghat, Champa. C.G. Pin.- 495671 (Borrower), 3. Shri. Jagdish Singh Kshatri S/o. Lt. Padum Singh, Add. Kaser Para Mahadev Ghat, Champa. C.G. Pin.- 495671.	₹ 13,07,773.36 (as on 30.11.2018 with further interest, cost & expenses)	₹ 40,68,000.00 ₹ 4,06,800.00 ₹ 10,000.	Land & Building belonging to Shri. Jagdish Singh Kshatri (owner of property) situated at Part of Khasra no. 215/2, Plot No. 44, Situated at Mouza Purana. P.H. no. 113, Raipur Dist- Raipur Total: 1500 Sq. R Land. Boundaries: East- House of Swarnlata Tiwari, West- Road, North- Property of Roopchand Gehi Plot no. 45, South- Plot of Shri Anup Verma Plot no. 43.

For Registration and Login and Bidding Rules visit
<https://www.msccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>, www.unionbankofindia.co.in for further detailed any enquiry please contact: Shri Gaurav Mishra, Mob.: 87250 29779.

Date: 30.11.2023. Place: Bilaspur (CG) Authorised Officer, Union Bank of India



CENTRAL Chronicle

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Fighting Digital Fraud

The recent gathering convened by the Centre to deliberate on financial cybersecurity and the escalating digital payment fraud dilemma provided a stark reminder of the gravity of the situation. In this arena, where the digital landscape is increasingly becoming a battleground, some disconcerting statistics came to light. It was disclosed that a staggering 70 lakh mobile phone connections have been implicated in cybercrime and financial fraud, leading to their disconnection. Additionally, a sum of Rs 900 crore, pilfered from 3.5 lakh victims, has been successfully recovered. As we navigate these treacherous waters, two fundamental strategies emerge: enhancing user awareness about cyber fraud and fostering improved multi-agency coordination. In the realm of cybersecurity, threats continually evolve, relentlessly probing for vulnerabilities within our digital infrastructure. For banks and financial institutions, the imperative is clear: bolstering systems to preempt, identify, and counter these threats must take precedence. Of particular concern are mule accounts, often acquired by fraudsters from their original users for the illicit transfer of funds. Banks have also been directed to intensify surveillance of dormant accounts that suddenly spring to life with a flurry of money transfers. A crucial proposal on the table is the appointment of nodal officers dedicated to catering to the needs of law enforcement agencies. Furthermore, states have been cautioned to prioritize data protection in the wake of recent Aadhaar-enabled payment system fraud incidents. Stringent know-your-customer (KYC) norms for financial services have been suggested as a way forward. It is worth noting that a remarkable 87 percent of Indians have embraced financial technology, surpassing the global average of 64 percent. Yet, the path to constructing a robust cybersecurity infrastructure is not without its challenges. It demands substantial investments and unwavering commitment. In this endeavor, the Centre must continue to serve as a facilitator, driving both the public and private sectors to fortify their defenses, enhance their detection capabilities, and refine their response mechanisms. One cannot overstate the importance of user awareness in this age of digital transactions. As technology permeates every facet of our lives, the onus is on each individual to safeguard their financial well-being. Being vigilant and cautious when engaging in digital payments, recognizing common cyber fraud tactics, and promptly reporting any suspicious activity are all crucial components of this defense. Yet, the burden should not rest solely on the shoulders of users. Financial institutions, the custodians of our monetary security, must also rise to the occasion. They must demonstrate a proactive commitment to preventing fraud, swiftly detecting any anomalies, and taking decisive action. Tackling mule accounts and closely monitoring dormant accounts are not merely recommendations; they are imperatives in the fight against digital payment fraud. The proposed appointment of nodal officers is a commendable step. These officers can bridge the gap between law enforcement agencies and financial institutions, facilitating swift responses to cybercrime. Additionally, stringent KYC norms are a necessity, as they serve as a vital deterrent to potential fraudsters. The government's role as a facilitator is essential in urging both sectors to collaborate, invest, and innovate. A robust cybersecurity infrastructure is not a luxury but a necessity, and it demands sustained commitment.

Rat-Hole Miners

Unsung Heroes of Tunnel Rescue

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee

In the annals of human resilience and ingenuity, stories often emerge that reaffirm the indomitable spirit that resides within us. The recent rescue operation at the Silkyara Bend-Barkot tunnel in Uttarakhand is one such tale, where outwitted coal miners, practitioners of the now-banned rat-hole mining technique, emerged as unsung heroes. Their extraordinary efforts, alongside the relentless determination of the trapped workers and the failings of imported machinery, spotlight the irreplaceable essence of human endeavour. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) deemed rat-hole mining "unscientific" and perilous for labourers, leading to its ban in 2014. Despite the prohibition, reports of this illegal coal mining practice continue to surface, especially in regions like Meghalaya, where it thrives behind closed doors. Yet, what transpired in the depths of Uttarakhand's treacherous terrain showcases the remarkable capabilities of those who toil in these underground passages. US-imported machines, designed to bore through the most formidable of obstacles, were employed for over a fortnight in a painstaking attempt to create a path through the debris-choked tunnel. Progress was slow, fraught with excruciating challenges, and hope wavered. However, it was the hands of rat-hole miners, armed with rudimentary equipment and sheer determination, that eventually broke through the last barrier of rubble. In this triumph of human effort over mechanization, we are reminded of Elbert Hubbard's astute observation: "One machine can do the work of fifty ordinary men. No machine can do the work of one extraordinary man." The relentless pursuit of excellence, unwavering persistence, and tireless effort showcased by these miners are testaments to the extraordinary potential that resides within each of us. The successful rescue of 41 trapped workers, emerging through an escape passage created with steel Hume pipes, measuring 57 meters long, was met with jubilation across the nation. India's 1.45 billion citizens celebrated this remarkable feat as the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) played a pivotal role in bringing the workers to safety. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, recognizing the valour and resilience displayed, announced a reward of Rs 1 lakh for each rescue worker. As we extend our heartfelt wishes for the speedy recovery of these survivors, we must acknowledge that only they truly comprehend the magnitude of the trauma they endured beneath layers of debris. Their courage serves as a beacon of hope and resilience in the face of adversity. This rescue operation also serves as a stark reminder to our authorities and policymakers. It underscores the critical importance of meticulous scrutiny and comprehensive feasibility studies before embarking on infrastructure projects in fragile environments like the Himalayas. Unfortunately, we seem to have not learned from past tragedies in places like Joshimath and Shimla. When we fail to respect the natural world and heed its warnings, it invariably retaliates. The heroics of the rat-hole miners in Uttarakhand highlight the human spirit's capacity to overcome adversity and the imperative need for prudent, nature-sensitive planning in all our endeavors. Their story must inspire us to honor the fragile balance between human development and nature's sanctity, reminding us that when we neglect the earth's wisdom, it ultimately strikes back.

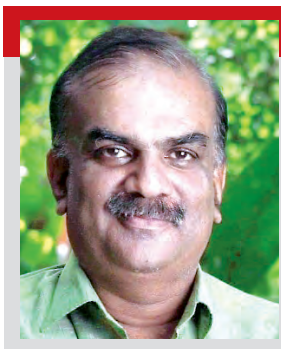
Central Chronicle invites articles, write-ups, and comments on a wide range of issues for our editorial page. Submissions should be between 800-900 words in length. In addition, we welcome letters to the editor for this page. While letters may be edited for clarity, we aim to preserve the integrity of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

AMBEDKAR MEMORIAL



A memorial to B.R. Ambedkar being constructed at Dadar, in Mumbai, Thursday, Nov. 30.

India's ascent to the world of Football: A long-awaited dream



DR. VASISHT



India is a sleeping giant for football: Sepp Blatter, Former President FIFA

Indian Football is a gold mine waiting to be explored: Arsene Wenger, Fifa's Chief of Global Football Development

These two statements by FIFA administrators clearly show Fifa's desire to put India, a country of 142 million people, on the map of world football. In other words, Fifa desperately wants India to participate in World Cup Football or to play in the World Cup (the greatest sporting extravaganza on the planet) in the near future. But first, a simple question: Is Indian football ready to compete in the World Cup? Can we participate in the FIFA World Cup in the near future?

Football, like the other modern British sport, was introduced as a component of colonial modernity in India during colonial rule. The game's early supporters in India were British army and police officers. Even in the late nineteenth century, British centers in India became the primary centers of this beautiful game. Like other places in the world, in India also, the game became popular among the unprivileged and proletariat. In India, the game thrived in areas such as Bengal, Punjab, and Kerala. All of these areas later became major centers of the Indian trade union, socialist, and communist movements.

The victory of Mohan Bagan's

barefoot football team in the IFA shield final over a British football team, East Yorkshire Regiment (2-1), was a watershed moment in Indian football history. The victory at Mohan Bagan was regarded as an Indian victory over the British and was widely celebrated, even in remote villages of Bengal. The celebration, along with the movement against Bengal's partition, actually boosted the spirit of nationalism among the Bengalis. The people were then inspired to overthrow British rule. (Eguro, the Immortal Eleven, is a Bengali film directed by Arun Roy that revisits Mohan Bagan's historic 1911 IFA Shield victory). The celebration is credited with convincing the British government to relocate their capital from Calcutta to Delhi in 1911.

FIFA World Cup and Olympic Football are the two most important football tournaments in the world. India has never competed in a FIFA World Cup. After all of the other teams in their qualifying group withdrew, India was able to qualify for the 1950 World Cup, which was to be held in Brazil. However, India withdrew from the tournament shortly before it began. Officially, this was due to travel expenses, but Fifa offered to cover the team's travel expenses. Since then, the true reason for India's withdrawal has been widely speculated. India did compete in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics and finished fourth, losing the bronze medal match to Bulgaria 3-0. Neville D'Souza's hat-trick against Australia in the quarter-finals is another highlight of the

tournament.

India was once regarded as having one of the best football teams in Asia, with a golden era in the 1950s and early 1960s. India won the gold medal in football at the Asian Games twice, in 1951 in Delhi and again in 1962 in Jakarta. India's last major success in Asian games football came in 1970 when they won a bronze medal in Bangkok. After the 1970s, Indian football gradually lost its former glory. Since 1990, India's football success has been primarily limited to SAFF games, with victories over minnows such as Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Nepal, and Bangladesh. After a 25-year absence, India qualified to compete in football at the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games. However, they were defeated (0-2) by Saudi Arabia in the pre-quarterfinals.

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) governs Indian football, which is overseen by FIFA. Indian football has had some success in international football over the last two decades, and they are improving day by day. Football tournaments such as the ISL and I-League provided Indian footballers with valuable exposure as well as financial stability. However, the Indian football team remains far behind Asian standards. The recent world cup qualifying match between India and Qatar at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar (21-11-2023), which India lost (0-3), clearly exposed the Indian football team's weaknesses.

The 2026 Fifa World Cup will be the largest ever, staged in Canada, Mexico, and the United States, with a brand new format involving 16 more nations. For the first time, 48 teams will compete in the next World Cup. As a result, Asia has been assigned eight direct slots and another possible slot that will be determined by an inter-confederation playoff. The number of Asian teams in the World Cup has grown from four to eight. Fifa did this to ensure the participation of the world's two most populous countries, China and

India. China previously competed in the Korea-Japan World Cup in 2002 but had disastrous results, losing all three matches against Brazil (0-4), Turkey (0-3), and Costa Rica (0-2).

The first round of India's World Cup qualifying matches is currently underway. India defeated Kuwait (1-0) but lost to Qatar. India still has four matches remaining, two against Afghanistan and one each against Qatar and Kuwait. India can advance to the second round if they win three of their four matches. The second stage will feature 18 teams divided into three groups. The top two teams from each of the three groups will qualify for the 2026 World Cup. The top five spots are very likely to be shared by Asian football's giants, South Korea, Japan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar.

For the remaining three slots, at least 12 strong teams are competing, including Uzbekistan, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Indonesia, Vietnam, Bahrain, Malaysia, Oman, Kyrgyzstan, China, and Thailand. Among these countries, all teams expect Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand to rank higher than India. In short, India's entry into the 2026 World Cup will be difficult.

Football is without a doubt the most popular sport in the world. With the participation of both China and India, the FIFA World Cup will become more global. The participation of China and India in the World Cup means increased viewership and revenue for football and Fifa. Although India did not qualify for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, one of the world cup's sponsors was an Indian company, BYJU'S. The year 2030 will be the centenary of Fifa World Cup, and it will be held in six countries (Spain, Portugal, Morocco, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay). Let us hope that India will participate in the 2030 World Cup. For the world's largest democratic nation, it will be a dream come true.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Magnificent Maxwell

Glenn Maxwell's performance in the India vs. Australia 3rd T20 match was nothing short of extraordinary. His phenomenal century single-handedly led Australia to a stunning victory, showcasing his mastery of cricket. Maxwell's remarkable innings displayed technical prowess, resilience, and determination, all under pressure. His ability to turn the game in Australia's favor deserves utmost appreciation. This display of brilliance entertained fans, highlighting sportsmanship and dedication. Maxwell's contribution made this match unforgettable, adding to cricket's rich history. We must celebrate such performances that inspire both aspiring cricketers and fans, elevating the spirit of the game.

Maimul Safui, Howrah

Nature's Explotion

24 people died due to lightning during heavy rains in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. A lightning strike is considered a natural disaster, but the increase in natural disasters in the past few years is alarming. The main cause of climate change is the exploitation of nature. Nature is able to satisfy all our needs, but no one can satisfy our greed. Nature warns us again and again with its messages. We have to stop exploiting nature, otherwise we will have to be prepared to face more crises in the future.

N Mateeni, Mumbai

Nightmare ends

A herculean task carried out for seventeen days to rescue 41 of our brothers from the Uttar Kashi Tunnel, accomplished successfully. And this was possible because of these people who joined hands and relentlessly worked on this rescue mission. This land will remain indebted to all of them for bringing its sons safely back to her. It was simply an extraordinary, unexplainable, and unbelievable moment. Congratulations to all the teams that worked 24/7 to rescue the workers. It is also an example for all to keep their cool, patience, and faith in God in all adverse situations.

Jahangir Ali, Mumbai

Food prices in battle against inflation

Core inflation figures, which do not take into consideration food and fuel prices, are still better at 4.28 per cent. Fuel prices have not seen any hike in the last few months. What has raised the red flag is food inflation which at 6.61 per cent is much higher than the general inflation rate. Food inflation is accounted for mainly by cereals, pulses and vegetables whose prices have been volatile in the last few months. Continuing food inflation will hit the poorer sections badly and is likely to give a spurt to general inflation. The fight against inflation should therefore be fought more on the food inflation front than at a general level.

Tauqueer Rahmani, Mumbai

World AIDS Day: Uniting Globally for Health and Community Leadership



Dr Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

December 1st, a date etched in history, signifies the 35th annual observance of World AIDS Day. This globally recognized initiative, endorsed by the World Health Organization, stands as a testament to our commitment to public health awareness. It not only honors the lives lost to HIV/AIDS but also underscores the collective ongoing efforts to combat this preventable disease. While we have made remarkable progress since its inception in 1988, there is much more to be done to achieve our goal of ending AIDS by 2030.

In the years since its establish-

ment, AIDS has claimed the lives of a staggering 40 million individuals worldwide, with an additional 39 million currently living with HIV. While advanced therapies have significantly reduced the death toll, persistent misinformation continues to fuel social exclusion and discrimination against those living with HIV/AIDS. It is crucial that we use World AIDS Day to dispel these myths and foster a sense of empathy and solidarity.

One of the key objectives of World AIDS Day is to raise awareness, particularly in underserved rural areas where HIV infection is still a daunting challenge. While HIV remains incurable, it is controllable through quality education and accessible healthcare. Advances in HIV prevention, diagnosis, management, and care, including for opportunistic infections, have transformed HIV from a once-unmanageable chronic health condition into a manageable one, allowing people with HIV to lead long and healthy lives.

As we take a moment to reflect on our accomplishments, it is equally important to acknowledge the persistent challenges on our path

towards achieving the 2030 goal of ending AIDS. The theme for World AIDS Day 2023, 'Let Communities Lead,' recognizes the vital role that communities play in shaping awareness, support, and advocacy. It is a call to action, a rallying cry for global leaders to reflect, raise awareness, address challenges, and unite in our collective effort to defeat AIDS by 2030.

On World AIDS Day 2023, communities across the world are taking center stage, spearheading the effort to conquer AIDS. This elevates the day beyond a mere celebration of achievements; it becomes a resounding call for action, urging greater support for community leadership. Collaboration and timely detection are imperative for improved health outcomes, and increased awareness empowers individuals to prevent transmission.

World AIDS Day remains an event of global significance, symbolizing unity in the fight against the spread of HIV, guaranteeing universal access to treatment, and offering assistance to those in need. It is more than just a day of celebration; it is a day that advocates for action, emphasizing the critical role of commu-

nities in leadership positions. The 35th commemoration allows us to reflect on our journey so far and instills hope for a healthier future.

While we have made incredible strides in the battle against HIV/AIDS, we must remain vigilant and committed. Discrimination against individuals living with HIV/AIDS persists in many parts of the world, hindering our progress. The misinformation that surrounds the virus continues to perpetuate stigma, leading to social exclusion and the denial of basic human rights to those affected. It is our moral obligation to challenge these prejudices and create a more inclusive and compassionate society.

Community leadership is at the heart of our fight against AIDS. Communities have the knowledge, experience, and dedication needed to address the unique challenges posed by the virus. By empowering communities to take the lead, we can ensure that resources are allocated effectively, and interventions are tailored to the specific needs of each community. This approach not only strengthens the overall response to HIV/AIDS but also fosters a sense of ownership and accounta-

bility among those affected.

In the journey ahead, we must prioritize access to testing and treatment for all, regardless of their socio-economic status, race, gender, or sexual orientation. We must continue to invest in research to develop new prevention and treatment options and ensure that they are accessible to those who need them most. The fight against HIV/AIDS is not just a medical battle; it is a fight for social justice and equality.

As we commemorate the 35th World AIDS Day, let us rededicate ourselves to the cause. Let us pledge to eliminate discrimination, dispel misinformation, and support community leadership. Let us work together to ensure that every person living with HIV/AIDS has access to the care and support they need to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. Let us unite globally for health and community leadership, and let us do everything in our power to end AIDS by 2030. The journey is long, but our resolve is strong, and together, we can achieve a world free from the burden of HIV/AIDS.

(Writer is Professor & Principal (Rtd) and newspaper columnist.)

BRIEF

Fund mobilisation



New Delhi: There is a need to reform land markets to improve fund mobilisation of urban local bodies, Bibek Debroy chairman of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister said. "Reform of land market does not mean only property taxes but of course we need to know who owns what piece of land and in many parts land records are in sham," he said while giving keynote address in a workshop organised by G20 Infrastructure Working Group here.

Global bidders



New Delhi: Coal and Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi invited prospective bidders from across the globe to participate in the country's first-ever such auctions of critical mineral blocks. Joshi was speaking at the launch of the first tranche of the auction of critical minerals. "I will also take this opportunity to invite prospective bidders from across the globe to participate in India's first-ever such auctions of critical mineral blocks," he said.

Expand market

New Delhi: MODIFI, a global fintech platform, on Thursday announced an expansion strategy to enhance its presence in the Indian market with focus on the SME trade sector. MODIFI is projecting an increase in its Indian operations, targeting aggressive growth in business within the country by 2024, the company said in a statement. This expansion builds on an already impressive 1,000x business growth since the company's launch in India in 2019, it said.

India's GDP grows 7.6 pc in Sep quarter

Remains fastest-growing major economy

New Delhi, Nov 30:

India's economy grew 7.6 per cent in the September quarter of this fiscal and remained the fastest-growing large economy, mainly due to better performance by manufacturing, mining and services sectors, the government data showed on Thursday. The gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by 6.2 per cent in the July-September quarter of 2022-23. India remained the fastest-growing major economy, as China posted a 4.9 per cent growth in July-September 2023.

According to the National Statistical Office (NSO) data, the agriculture sector GVA (Gross Value Added) growth decelerated

to 1.2 per cent in the September 2023 quarter from 2.5 per cent a year ago. The expansion in financial, real estate and professional services' GVA was 6 per cent, down from 7.1 per cent in the year-ago quarter. The GVA in the manufacturing sector showed a growth of 13.9 per cent in the second quarter of the current fiscal compared to a contraction of 3.8 per cent in the year-ago period. As per the data, the output (GVA) in the 'mining and quarrying' accelerated to 10 per cent in the second quarter against a contraction of 0.1 per cent a year ago. Electricity, gas, water supply and other utility services' grew by 10.1 per cent from 6.1 per cent.

The construction sector recorded a growth of 13.3 per cent year-on-year in the second quarter compared to 5.7 per cent. The growth in gross domestic product

(GDP) during the April-June quarter of 2023-24 remained unchanged at 7.8 per cent. "Real GDP or GDP at Constant (2011-12) Prices in Q2 2023-24 is estimated to attain a level of Rs 41.74 lakh crore, as against Rs 38.78 lakh crore in Q2 2022-23, showing a growth of 7.6 per cent as compared to 6.2 per cent in Q2 2022-23," the NSO said in a statement. Nominal GDP or GDP at current prices in Q2 2023-24 is estimated at Rs 71.66 lakh crore against Rs 65.67 lakh crore in Q2 2022-23, showing a growth of 9.1 per cent as compared to 17.2 per cent in Q2 2022-23, it added.

It further said the GDP at constant (2011-12) prices in April-September 2023-24 (H1 2023-24) is estimated at Rs 82.11 lakh crore against Rs 76.22 lakh crore during the corresponding period of the previous year, showing

a growth of 7.7 per cent in H1 2023-24 compared to 9.5 per cent in H1 2022-23, it said. GDP at current prices in H1 2023-24 is estimated at Rs 142.33 lakh crore compared to Rs 131.09 lakh crore during the corresponding period of the previous year, showing a growth of 8.6 per cent in H1 2023-24 against 22.2 per cent in H1 2022-23. Meanwhile, the output of eight key infrastructure sectors jumped 12.1 per cent in October 2023 against 0.7 per cent expansion in the year-ago period on account of a sharp uptick in production of coal, steel, cement and electricity, according to the official data. The government's fiscal deficit at the end of October touched 45 per cent of the full-year budget estimate, according to data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) on Thursday.

Petrol, diesel price revision only when oil price stabilises below USD 80

New Delhi, Nov 30:

State-owned fuel marketing companies are likely to revert to daily revision in prices of petrol and diesel only when international oil prices stabilise below USD 80 per barrel on a sustained basis, industry officials said. Three state-owned fuel retailers - Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) - which control roughly 90 per cent of the market, have kept petrol and diesel prices on freeze for a record 20th month in a row. This is despite the raw material (crude oil) cost surging last year, leading to heavy losses in the first half of 2022-23 fiscal year before easing rates propelled

them to profitability. "There is considerable volatility in the international oil market and prices fluctuate wildly," an official said. "Oil companies can cut prices by Re 1 per litre and everyone will applaud. But when international oil prices go up, will they be allowed to raise rates remains in doubt." India is the world's third largest oil consuming and importing nation. It imports more than 85 per cent of its oil needs and hence domestic pricing is linked to international rates. The basket of crude oil that India buys has averaged USD 83.42 per barrel in November, down from USD 90.08 of October and USD 93.54 of September. While at current prices, oil companies are making some money on petrol, diesel - the most

consumed fuel accounting for almost 40 per cent of all petroleum products consumed in the country - but it has been in a "touch-and-go" scenario in recent weeks, another official said. "On some days there is profit on diesel but on other days there is loss. There is no consistent trend."

Three retailers had been recouping losses they incurred for holding rates when crude oil prices shot through the roof last year. In May, international oil prices and retail pump rates had come at par, but the subsequent surge widened the gap between cost and price realised.

"For oil companies to revert to daily market based price revision, oil prices will have to come below USD 80 on a sustained basis," an official said.

Bol hikes Fixed Deposit Rates for various tenor

Mumbai, Nov 30:



Bank of India, one of the leading public sector banks in India, has increased rates of its fixed deposits for its customers & general public (for Rs 2 Crs & above to less than Rs.10 crs) in maturity of "46 days to up to 1 Year" with effect from 1st Dec, 2023. Bank has increased its fixed deposit rates for shorter period i.e. "46 days to 90 days" tenure to 5.25%, for "91 days to 179 days" tenure to 6.00%, for "180 days to 210 days" tenure to 6.25%, for "211 days to less than 1 Year" tenure to 6.50% and for "1 Year" tenure to 7.25% p.a. The present rate of interest offered by the Bank is competitive, offering a

very attractive return for investment from HNIs, Small & Mid Corporates, NRIs & Professionally Self Employed etc. With effect from 1st Nov, 23, bank had already increased rate of all deposits for amount of "Less than Rs. 2 crs" for 2 Year tenure. Here, Bank is offering its highest rate of interest up to 7.90% for super senior citizen, 7.75% for senior citizen and 7.25% for others for 2 Year Term. The revised interest rates are applicable for domestic, NRO and NRE Rupee Term deposits.

Nandan Nilekani, Nikhil Kamath on Forbes Asia Heroes of Philanthropy List

New Delhi, Nov 30:



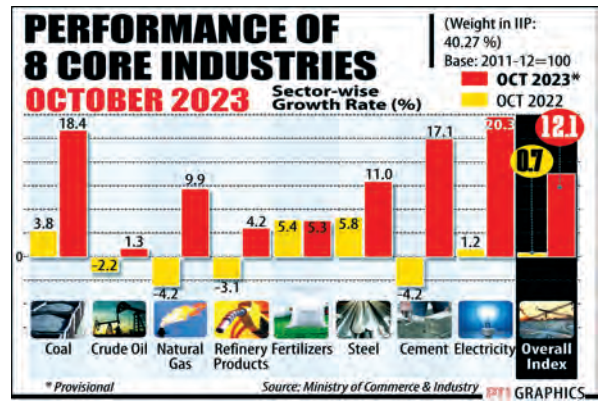
Nandan Nilekani, co-founder of Infosys, K P Singh, chairman emeritus at DLF, and Nikhil Kamath, co-founder of Zerodha, have been named on the 17th edition of Forbes Asia's Heroes of Philanthropy list released on Thursday. The unranked list "highlights business leaders who are donating from their fortunes and giving personal time and attention to their select causes", Forbes said in a press release. The annual list, which spotlights 15 philanthropists, does not include corporate philanthropy except for privately-held companies where the individual is a majority owner. Nandan Nilekani, co-founder and

chairman of tech giant Infosys, have made it to the list for donating Rs 3.2 billion (USD 38 million) to his alma mater IIT Bombay in June, Forbes said, adding that the gift will be made over a period of five years. This was to mark his 50-year association with the technology institute, where he studied electrical engineering as an undergraduate. Since 1999, Nilekani has given Rs 4 billion in total to the institute. In the past year, he donated an additional Rs 1.6 billion to education-

al causes. Singh, who stepped down as chairman of DLF in 2020, in August divested his remaining direct stake in the real estate firm to fund philanthropic causes, Forbes said citing the company. He garnered Rs 7.3 billion from the disposal of his 0.59 per cent shareholding in the Delhi-based property developer.

The 92-year-old Singh, who has an estimated fortune of USD 14 billion, splits his time between London and Dubai. After previously setting up the K.P. Singh Foundation Trust and the K.P. Singh Charitable Foundation Trust, Singh launched the KP Singh Foundation in 2020. Kamath, who made it into the Forbes' philanthropy list, joined the Giving Pledge initiative in June.

Key infra sectors growth up at 12.1 pc in October



New Delhi, Nov 30:

The output of eight key infrastructure sectors rose by 12.1 per cent in October 2023 against 0.7 per cent expansion in the year-ago period, according to the official data released on Thursday. All the sectors except for fertiliser recorded healthy production growth in the month under review. The

core sector (coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertiliser, steel, cement and electricity) growth in September was 9.2 per cent. Coal, steel, cement and electricity production recorded double-digit growth. The output growth of eight sectors was at 8.6 per cent in April-October 2023-24 against 8.4 per cent in the year-ago period.

Municipalities can look at escrow account structure for attracting funds for urban infra: Sebi chief

New Delhi, Nov 30:



Markets regulator Sebi's chief Madhabi Puri Buch said municipal authorities can look at having specific escrow accounts to garner funds for various urban infrastructure projects. At an event in the national capital, she said there are a good number of investors who are waiting to invest in urban infrastructure projects. She said that one thing that can help in garnering funds is credit ratings. Generally, an entity with a higher credit rating will be able to raise funds more easily compared to those having less credit worthiness. "Now, the question is to get credit rating. The beautiful part (of) what we have learnt over the last few years' issuances that we have had is (the) structure of creating

escrow accounts and therefore, ring fencing certain cash flows. It has really created a fantastic structure in which investors have a lot of faith," the Sebi Chairperson said.

Such an escrow account structure will give investors an understanding of "what is outside the ring fence" and they don't need to worry about every single aspect of a municipal corporation.

Unemployment rate dips to 6.6 pc in Sep quarter: Govt survey

New Delhi, Nov 30:

The unemployment rate for people aged 15 years and above in urban areas declined to 6.6 per cent in the September quarter from 7.2 per cent a year ago, as per the National Sample Survey Survey (NSSO). Joblessness, or unemployment rate, is defined as the percentage of unemployed people in the labour force. Joblessness was high in the July-September period, mainly due to the staggering impact of Covid-related restrictions in the country. The unemployment rate in the March quarter of the previous fiscal was 6.8 per cent, while it was 6.6 per cent in April-June. The rate was 7.2 per cent in the third quarter of the previous fiscal. The unemploy-

ment rate for people aged 15 years and above in July-September 2022 was 7.2 per cent in urban areas, in the 20th Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) showed. It also showed that the unemployment rate among females (aged 15 years and above) in urban areas declined to 8.6 per cent in July-September from 9.4 per cent in the same quarter a year ago. It was 9.1 per cent in April-June, 9.2 per cent in January-March and 9.6 per cent in October-December 2022.

Among males, the unemployment rate in urban areas dipped to six per cent in July-September compared to 6.6 per cent in the year-ago period. It was 5.9 per cent in April-June 2023, 6 per cent in January-March 2023 and 6.5 per

cent in October-December 2022. Labour force participation rate in Current Weekly Status (CWS) in urban areas for people aged 15 years and above increased to 49.3 per cent in the July-September quarter of 2023, from 47.9 per cent in the same period a year ago.

It was 48.8 per cent in April-June 2023, 48.5 per cent in January-March 2023 and 48.2 per cent in October-December 2022. Labour force refers to the part of the population, which supplies or offers to supply labour for pursuing economic activities for the production of goods and services and, therefore, includes both employed and unemployed persons. The NSSO launched PLFS in April 2017.

Stock markets edge up in volatile trade on derivatives expiry, rise for 3rd day

Mumbai, Nov 30:



Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty eked out gains on Thursday to extend the winning run for a third straight day in a highly volatile trade amid the scheduled monthly derivatives expiry and muted trend in the US markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex closed 86.53 points or 0.13 per cent higher at 66,988.44, registering its third day of gains. Stock markets witnessed heavy volatility due to the monthly expiry of derivatives contracts and oscillated between gains and losses during the day. Sensex hit a high of 67,069.89 and a low of 66,610.35 in day trade.

Despite heavy volatility, the combined market valuation of all listed companies on the leading stock exchange BSE continued to remain above the USD 4-trillion mark for the second day in a row. The market valuation of all listed companies on the BSE reached the USD 4-trillion milestone for the first time ever on Wednesday.

PGI's Platinum Love Bands introduce an exclusive collection tailored for winter weddings

Mumbai, Nov 30:



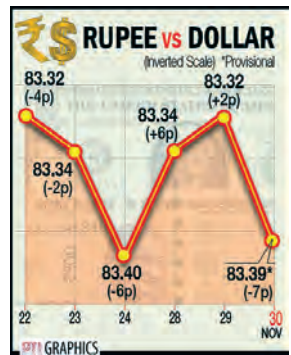
Amidst the winter wonder and holiday magic, PGI's Platinum Love Bands introduce an exclusive collection tailored for winter weddings, encapsulating the essence of those defining moments in a relationship. As the year winds down, couples can commemorate shared laughter, being each other's greatest supporters, and overcoming challenges together with these exquisite platinum bands. In the season of festivities and winter romance, these milestones become anchors, evoking the strength and resilience that define a rare bond. Celebrate a love so rare with a metal equally precious - platinum.

Born of the stars, platinum, arrived on earth through a meteorite crash over 2 billion years ago. This precious metal is only found in a select few locations around the world and is 30 times rarer than gold, adding to allure of the metal, especially during this magical time of the year. Its unparalleled strength ensures it doesn't change form or lose its natural white sheen, akin to the resilience and strength of the love shared by these couples. These couples hold on to each other not only during the good times, but tighten their hold when things get

tough. Similar to an innate quality of platinum, as it securely holds together diamonds and other precious stones and lets them shine with all their true brilliance against its natural white. Platinum Love Bands, cast in 95% pure and rare platinum, are the ultimate symbol of love. They mark a love that is built on modern values like respecting each other's individuality, rejoicing in each other's victories, and committing to equally sharing responsibilities, transcending traditional roles and gender expectations. Whether it is celebrating a special moment of commitment, an anniversary or even finally taking the next step in a relationship by saying 'I Do', every milestone in a couple's relationship journey deserves to be valued and cherished.

Rupee falls 7 paise to settle at 83.39 against US dollar

Mumbai, Nov 30:



The rupee on Thursday snapped a two-day rising streak to settle 6 paise lower at 83.39 (provisional) against the US dollar amid strengthening American currency overseas and rising crude oil prices. Forex analysts said the rupee remained under pressure as crude prices were close to USD 84 per barrel ahead of the announcement of the annual production target by oil producer grouping OPEC+.

Investors were also awaiting domestic GDP data to be released later in the day, while the recovery in the dollar attributed to rising expectations that the US Federal Reserve will not raise interest rate, they added. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 83.31 against the dollar and traded between the peak of 83.29 and the

lowest level of 83.41 intraday. It finally settled at 83.39 (provisional) against the greenback, registering a loss of 7 paise over its previous close. The rupee rose 2 paise to close at 83.32 against the US dollar on Wednesday, following a gain of 6 paise on Tuesday. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.42 per cent higher at 103.20.

Skoda Auto India launches Elegance Editions in all-new Deep Black colour for the Kushaq and Slavia

Mumbai, Nov 30:



Soon after introducing a slew of new and segment-first features in the Kushaq and Slavia, Skoda Auto India has announced a new, exclusive version of both these cars. Christened the Elegance Edition, both cars will be produced in a limited amount and will be available exclusively with the 1.5 TSI engine. Speaking on the new product action, PetrSolc, Brand Director, Skoda Auto India, said, "The Elegance Edition of the Kushaq and Slavia will be launched as a limited offering. There has been a strong demand for a classic black colour on the Kushaq and Slavia. All our product actions are based on the evolving customer trends, in line with our customer-

centric approach. The aesthetics, body colour and cosmetic aspects of the new, Elegance editions will appeal to customers with a keen design sense, while continuing to offer immense value and pride of ownership."

The Elegance Edition offers a classic, all-new and stunning Deep Black paint in both the cars while retaining the rich chrome elements all around. Further enhancing the aesthetics in both the cars is a Chrome Lower Door Garnish and a calligraphic 'Elegance' inscription on the B-pillars.

The Slavia further has a chrome trunk garnish and a Scuff plate with 'Slavia' inscribed in it. The Kushaq gets a 17-inch (43.18 cm) VEGA Dual Tone alloy design that accentuates style and its rough terrain stance, while the Slavia's classic sedan lines are enhanced by the 16-inch (40.64 cm) Ving Alloy Wheels. Opening the doors will reveal the prominent brand logo projection from the Skoda genuine accessories puddle lamp that adds an element of class and utility when stepping in and out of the cars.

Collector & SP inspected preparations before counting of votes

- Three-tier security for transparent vote counting process
- Media Center set up for transparent reporting

Central Chronicle News

Manendragarh, Nov 30: In anticipation of the forthcoming vote counting process, Collector and District Election Officer Narendra Kumar Dugga and Superintendent of Police Siddharth Tiwari held a crucial meeting with political parties at the Collectorate Hall today.

The gathering provided candidates and their agents from both assembly constituencies in the district with insights into the meticulous planning and arrangements by the administration for a smooth vote counting operation.

On December 3, 2023, the Chhattisgarh State Warehousing Corporation



Storage in Chainpur will host the counting of votes for both assembly elections in the district. To ensure utmost security and transparency, officials and political party representatives involved in the counting process will have exclusive access through a designated gate.

Barricades will be erected up to a 100-meter radius from the counting site, creating a secure perimeter. The counting venue will feature 14 tables for each as-

sembly's vote counting, along with 2 tables each for postal ballots and the Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETBPS).

Observers appointed by the Election Commission of India will oversee the entire counting process for both assembly elections. Following the meeting, the Collector and Superintendent of Police conducted an extensive inspection of the Chhattisgarh State

Warehousing Corporation storage facility in Chainpur, the designated counting area, and the media center.

A media center, located 100 meters from the counting site, will offer seating arrangements for journalists. Access to the media center will be regulated, allowing groups of four media personnel at a time.

The concerned department received instructions to make necessary provisions for this arrangement. Detailed information re-

garding the vote counting procedures and transparent processes was shared, emphasizing the importance of transparency.

Furthermore, discussions centered on security measures for Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and strong rooms. A three-tier security arrangement will be established both inside and outside the counting center.

The area within a 100-meter radius of the counting center will be designated for pedestrians only, and vehicular access will be restricted. Stringent security checks, including the use of Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMD), will be conducted at the outer perimeter.

Additionally, attendees will be prohibited from carrying items such as mobile phones, electronic devices, smartwatches, pens, tobacco, and other materials into the counting venue, enhancing the overall security of the process.

KCPS Kurud Pre-Primary kids enjoy educational adventure

Innocent kids brighten up Gangrel Reservoir Adventure Park

Central Chronicle News

Kurud, Nov 30: The little kids of the pre-primary department at Kaliram Chandrakar Public School (KCPS), Kurud, embarked on an enriching educational adventure at the picturesque Gangrel Reservoir Adventure Park. Guided by their teachers, these little explorers immersed themselves in the natural beauty of the park, creating unforgettable memories of laughter and joy.

The children delighted in the park's scenic valleys and a variety of amusements, including Mickey Mouse rides, swings, jumping, sliding, ring jumping, and boating. Their sweet smiles illuminated every moment of this excursion, showcasing their boundless enthusiasm.

Students from Nursery, LKG, UKG, 1st, and 2nd grades, along with their dedicated teachers, also visited Gangrel Dam.



They observed nature's wonders up close and gained valuable insights about this stunning locale.

Principal K. Manjita Thakur shared, "As part of the school's educational tour for the pre-primary department, we visited Gangrel Dam and the picturesque Adventure Park during the third phase of this session.

Our aim is to foster a deep connection between children and nature while providing them with informative and entertaining experiences. Gangrel Dam, known as the longest dam in

Chhattisgarh, never fails to amaze spectators when it overflows with water.

To promote tourism in the district, we explored various recreational activities at Gangrel Dam, making it a mini Goa for visitors. Today, we had the privilege of witnessing the beauty of nature through the innocent eyes of our children."

This adventure was made possible with the participation of senior teachers and school staff, reinforcing the school's commitment to providing holistic education and unforgettable experiences for its students.

Highway 130-A closure disrupts traffic movement

Central Chronicle News

Pandariya, Nov 30: National Highway 130 A, a vital artery connecting Mungeli to Kawardha, faced a temporary closure until Wednesday afternoon, causing inconveniences for commuters. The closure resulted from unorganized construction work along the highway, impacting travellers heading to and from Pandariya, Mungeli, Kawardha, and Bilaspur.

The closure of the highway on Tuesday and its subsequent transformation into a muddy quagmire on Wednesday morning, following rainfall, posed challenges for commuters. Slippery condi-

tions rendered small vehicles immobile, forcing buses and trucks to alter their routes. As a result, trucks and buses became

and from Pandariya had to navigate alternate routes, adding extra miles to their journeys. Many resorted to detours via Kunda,

quality and organization of the construction have arisen, as the use of sub-par materials and a lack of cohesive planning have led to repeated disruptions.

The current construction method involves excavating the entire road, despite the possibility of constructing one side at a time to maintain traffic flow. Additionally, the use of soil instead of more suitable materials has resulted in muddy conditions during rainfall, contributing to traffic blockages. Questions regarding the durability and quality of the road construction have surfaced, highlighting the need for improved construction practices to ensure a smoother travel experience for all.

stranded, leading to a complete halt in traffic until around 2 pm, spanning from Baghamuda to Sheetalkunda on the Mungeli road and from Pandarai on the Kawardha road. Passengers travelling to

Padhi, or other routes, extending their travel by approximately 30 kilometers. National Highway 130 A has been under construction since the previous year, causing ongoing frustrations for travellers. Concerns regarding the



Collector ensures transparent paddy procurement

- In Pendra and Deorikala

Central Chronicle News

Gaurela Pendra Marwahi, Nov 30: In a bid to ensure fair and transparent paddy procurement, Collector Priyanka Rishi Mahobia conducted a comprehensive inspection at the Pendra and Deorikala procurement centers today. Her visit centered around discussions with local farmers, verification of tokens, assessment of paddy quality and moisture levels, as well as the availability of essential gunny bags.

During her visit, Mahobia engaged in meaningful conversations with farmers who had come to sell their paddy. She meticulously reviewed their farmer slips



and gathered crucial information on paddy production and token distribution. Ensuring the highest quality standards, she employed moisture measuring devices to assess the moisture content and overall quality of the paddy.

She also inquired about the number of farmers currently engaged at the Pendra Paddy Procurement Centre, the procurement targets, and

the quantity of paddy procured so far. Addressing the essential logistics, Collector Mahobia actively checked the availability of gunny bags and provided directives to the committee manager for the smooth maintenance and timely lifting of the procured paddy.

In her dedication to ensuring the utmost transparency, Collector Mahobia instructed the Patwari and Tehsildar to

verify the land holdings of farmers whose tokens had been issued at the Deorikala Paddy Procurement Center. She emphasized the importance of procuring only the amount of paddy produced after receiving the verification report, reinforcing a commitment to accountability.

Furthermore, Collector Mahobia paid close attention to the stencil work on the gunny bags and requested that the name and registration number of the society be clearly mentioned.

Present during this thorough inspection were Tehsildar Sonu Agarwal, Naib Tehsildar Girish Nimbalkar, and Food Officer Shweta Agarwal, all of whom joined in ensuring a transparent and farmer-friendly procurement process.

Vehicles checked at check-posts

- To stop illegal transportation of paddy

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, Nov 30: On the instructions of Collector Janmejay Mahobe, paddy is being purchased smoothly in Kabirdham district for the Kharif production year 2023-24 and like previous years, monitoring is being done in all the 12 inter-state borders of the district this year too to stop illegal transportation of paddy.

As per the instructions of the Collector, the concerned Revenue Sub-Divisional Officers have put on duty employees at all these check posts of the district for 24 hours checking and monitoring



of goods carrying vehicles. Under Kabirdham district, check post Barial Khara, Pandaria, Bhelwatola, Barendra, Seoni Khurd-1 Khuntatola, Seoni Khurd-2 Kosatola, Tarma, Barbaspur, Jhalmala, Chilfi, Chamari-Bitli border and Taregaon forest including Polmi, Kukdur, inter-district Mugenli roads continuous surveillance is being main-

tained. It is noteworthy that in Kabirdham district, paddy procurement is being conducted smoothly through 108 paddy production centers under 90 service cooperative societies. Paddy has been purchased worth Rs 162 crore 52 lakh 40 thousand 155.60 has been transferred to the accounts of the farmers. Along with this, 23440.00 quintals of paddy has been issued to the miller.

Kabirdham district being the last border area of the state, keeping in mind the possibility of illegal transportation of paddy from other state and other districts and getting it consumed in the production centres, illegal transportation of paddy has been stopped through checkposts on 12 border areas of the district.

Record paddy procurement in Mungeli district

Efficient measures to safeguard paddy amidst unseasonal rains

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Nov 30: Mungeli district has witnessed the procurement of over 5,24,000 quintals of paddy, with 61,938 quintals already lifted. Collector Rahul Dev's diligent oversight of the Deori, Kanteli, and Manoharpur paddy procurement centers has played a pivotal role in this success.

In light of unseasonal rains, Collector Dev has taken proactive measures to enhance the drainage systems and implement cap covers to protect the paddy from water damage.

Collector Dev emphasized the government's pri-

ority to ensure efficient paddy procurement operations and the absence of any negligence in the process. He directed the committee in-charge to strictly adhere to the government-prescribed procedures for paddy purchases.

His thorough inquiries covered the availability of gunny bags at the procurement centers, the quantity and quality of paddy procured, total offtake, farmer registrations, provision of drinking water for farmers, and meeting arrangements.

The Collector also engaged with farmers who came to sell their paddy, ensuring their needs and con-



cerns were addressed. District Food Officer, ARCS, and CCB nodal officers received instructions to continuously monitor and safeguard the paddy procure-

ment centers, facilitating purchases in alignment with farmers' convenience.

Additionally, the branch manager of the District Cooperative Central Bank

affirmed that payments to farmers were being made promptly and without any issues. Collector further emphasized the need to expedite the lifting of paddy from the procurement centers, underscoring his commitment to efficient procurement practices.

Notable officials present during this endeavour included Superintendent of Police Chandramohan Singh, Food Officer Devendra Bagga, Nodal Officer Santosh Singh, ARCS Hitesh Shriwas, and related officers, all dedicated to ensuring the success of the paddy procurement campaign in Mungeli district.

SP Ankita Sharma takes action against traffic violations

Major district locations inspected for traffic system enhancement

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Nov 30: Superintendent of Police Ankita Sharma and her team conducted a comprehensive traffic inspection across key points in the district headquarters of Khairagarh. This initiative aimed to enhance the traffic system, focusing on crucial areas such as the Bus Stand, Ambedkar Chowk, Jaistambh Chowk, Dauchaura, and Itwari Bazaar; among others.

During the inspection, strict action was taken under the Motor Vehicle Act against drivers who had parked their buses, cars, and autos in no-parking zones. Notably, SP Ankita Sharma issued directives to bank



managers to address haphazard motorcycle parking near Punjab National Bank and District Cooperative Central Bank near Ambedkar Chowk. Addressing the ongoing inconvenience faced by commuters at Dauchora Tempo Stand Chowk, the SP instructed the Khairagarh station in-charge to take immediate measures against buses and auto drivers who had haphazardly parked in

no-parking areas. In addition to these on-ground actions, SP Ankita Sharma has directed all police station in-charges to prioritize traffic system improvement. This directive emphasizes the well-being of common citizens, as well as the safe movement of school and college students in major squares, intersections, and markets throughout the district, including the district

headquarters. During the inspection, SP Ankita Sharma also emphasized the need to take action against drivers operating under the influence of alcohol and those engaged in high-speed driving, as well as vehicles with modified silencers and pressure horns. The instructions were given with utmost seriousness to ensure traffic safety.

Present during the inspection were police personnel, including SDOP Gandai Prashant Khande, DSP Pradeep Yerewar, Pratibha Lahere, Dev Raju, TI Gandai Shiv Shankar Gendale, TI Chhuikhadan Jitendra Banjare, TI Thekadih Alok Sahu, and sub-inspector Sakti Singh, along with other dedicated officers and staff.

Intensive training given to employees on vote counting

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Nov 30: Intensive training in vote counting is being given by the district administration to the officers and employees engaged in vote counting. In this series, today in the presence of Collector and District Election Officer Avnish Sharan, training was given to the officers and employees engaged in vote counting work in the Manthan meeting room of the district office.

The Collector said that the work of counting votes is very important and he instructed the officials to carry out the counting of votes with complete alert-



ness and vigilance. It is noteworthy that under the assembly elections, the counting of votes will be done on December 3 in the Government Engineering College campus located in Koni. In the training, Master Trainer MT Alam told that the counting of Postal Ballot and ETPB will be done first and postal ballots will be counted in 17 ta-

bles and employees will have to give information about each stage of counting of votes in various forms prescribed by the Election Commission. The counting of votes will be done in 14 tables' assembly wise and in each table; four employees have been assigned the duty of counting supervisor, counting assistant, micro observer and

one clerk. Counting of votes will be done in the presence of the Observer and Returning Officer. In the training, information related to calculation of results from the control unit was given in detail.

After completion of counting from EVMs, the slips will be counted from 5 VVPAT machines in each assembly constituency and VHPAT machines will be selected on random basis. The details of vote counting work were explained in the training. Returning Officer, Assistant Returning Officer and other officers and employees associated with the vote counting process were present in the training.

Maxwelled India, new-look Australia brace for another run fest

Raipur, Nov 30 (PTI):

India's young bowling unit, which has been under the pump, will look to better its death overs performance while utilising Glenn Maxwell's absence to its advantage in the fourth T20 International against Australia here on Friday.

In the third match, India's second-string bowlers faltered in defending a formidable target of 223 runs, conceding over 40 runs in the final two overs. This setback has prompted discussions of potential changes in the Indian lineup. Deepak Chahar's return to the T20 squad, with his ability to move the new ball and death overs expertise, could be considered. Additionally, the return of Mukesh Kumar, a specialist in death overs, after a one-match break strengthens India's bowling options.

Concerns arise from the limited variety and innovation in the bowling of Prasad Krishna and Avesh Khan, who tend to bowl at a consistent length. Their deliveries in the late 130s to early 140s,



India's Ishan Kishan plays football with teammates during a practice session at Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Cricket Stadium, in Raipur, Thursday.

pitched back of the length, often become easy targets for opposition batters. Moreover, the inability to execute variations like conventional or wide yorkers has proven to be their undoing. In the batting lineup, the return of

Shreyas Iyer narrows down the options for benching players, with Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Ishan Kishan, skipper Suryakumar Yadav, and finisher Rinku Singh seemingly securing their spots. India aims to

capitalize on the absence of Glenn Maxwell, who played a pivotal role in Australia's comeback win in the series. Maxwell, along with other influential players like Steve Smith and Adam Zampa, has left for home after a

successful World Cup campaign, leaving Australia with a relatively inexperienced batting lineup.

Despite Maxwell's absence, India's bowlers face challenges from Travis Head, coming off a match-winning century in the

Match starts at 7pm IST.

World Cup final, and the experienced Matthew Wade, leading the side in the ongoing series.

Dew could once again be a factor in the evening match, with the toss-winning captain likely to opt for batting second. The Australian squad has been reinforced with additional players available for the penultimate match of the series, highlighting the tight scheduling following their World Cup triumph.

India's batting has been consistent, with players like Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ishan Kishan, Rinku Singh, Tilak Varma, and the skipper delivering when needed. Ruturaj Gaikwad, fresh off a blazing 123 off 57 balls, adds to the team's confidence.

The likes of Jason Behrendorff, Kane Richardson and Tanveer Sangha could find the going tough one more time.

So far, the unfriendly conditions meant the series has been a nightmare for the bowlers with five 200-plus totals in six innings, and the trend is expected to continue in the remainder of the rubber.

First motorsports F4 Ch'ship and Season 2 of Indian Racing League



Bengaluru, Nov 30:

ExxonMobil is elevating India's fast-growing motorsports sector by powering the Indian Racing Festival this year, which features the first-ever F4 Indian Championship in the country and the second season of the Indian Racing League (IRL), being held at Chennai's Madras International Circuit (MIC) and the new Formula Racing Circuit (FCR).

This year will also mark another first in India and South Asia – an exciting calendar of night races at the FCR, located around the Island Grounds in the heart of the city.

This is part of ExxonMobil's second consecutive year of partnership with Racing Promotions Pvt Ltd (RPPL), underpinned by its commitment to elevate the popularity and reach of motorsports in the country and make it more affordable for all passionate racers. The partnership with IRL was celebrated at the IRL Pre-Season Test at MIC, Chennai. At the event, drivers showcased Mobil 1TM products, in addition to Mobil 1TM branding displayed prominently across the venue. ExxonMobil is lending confidence to the racers with Mobil 1TM, which has an exceptional track-record in providing outstanding engine performance – which is central to racing.

India start with 12-0 thrashing of Canada in FIH Women's Junior World Cup

Santiago (Chile), Nov 30 (PTI):

The Indian team made a resounding start to its FIH Women's Junior Hockey World Cup campaign by securing a commanding 12-0 victory over Canada here.

Annu (4th, 6th, 39th minute), Dipi Monika Toppo (21st), Mumtaz Khan (26th, 41st, 54th, 60th), Deepika Soreng (34th, 50th, 54th), and Neelam (45th) were the goal scorers for India on Wednesday.

India began the match with an attacking approach, and swiftly secured an early advantage as Annu scored two early goals through penalty corners.

Despite taking a two-goal lead, India persisted with their aggressive style, maintaining pressure on



Canada. However, they were unable to find more goals in the opening quarter as it ended 2-0 in their favour. The momentum from the first quarter was carried into the second by India, who continued their dominance. They maintained possession, consistently penetrating the cir-

cle, resulting in Dipi Monika Toppo and Mumtaz Khan netting a field goal each, further extending India's lead. In the meantime, Canada won a penalty corner but they were unable to make the most of it. As the second quarter concluded, the Indian team enjoyed a commanding 4-0

lead. Despite having a healthy lead, the Indian team showed no signs of slowing down in the third quarter and continued to dominate the proceedings with Deepika Soreng converting a penalty corner, following which Annu completed her hat-trick, while Mumtaz Khan scored her second goal of the match.

Also, Neelam smashed home her shot from a penalty corner to make it 8-0 for India by the end of the penultimate quarter.

The Indian team's hunger for goals continued in the fourth quarter, resulting in strikes from Deepika Soreng and Mumtaz Khan as they completed their hat-tricks. India will next lock horns with Germany on Friday.

Shanto's ton helps Bangladesh take 205-run lead

Sylhet, Nov 30 (AP):

Najmul Hossain Shanto became the first Bangladeshi cricket to hit a century on his debut as captain as the hosts tightened its grip on the first Test against New Zealand here on Thursday.

Shanto's 104 helped Bangladesh extend its lead to 205 runs by reaching 212-3 at stumps on Day 3. Mushfiqur Rahim was batting on 43, after adding 96 runs with Shanto for the fourth wicket.

The captain helped his team regain the upper hand on a spin-friendly track after Bangladesh lost two openers in quick succession to leave them on 26-2.

Left-arm spinner Ajaz Patel got the better of Zakir Hasan (17) for the second time in the match,



with a delivery that spun sharply to rap him in front of leg-stump.

Mahmudul Hasan, who top-scored for Bangladesh with 86 in the first innings, was run out in unluckiest manner as a drive from Shanto touched bowler Tim Southee's palm on the followthrough to hit his stump.

The two wickets in two overs brought the Black Caps back into the game but Shanto and Mominul Haque added 90 runs for the third wicket to give Bangladesh the edge.

Mominul survived a leg-before shout as New Zealand reviewed in vain but appeared to be confident against his favorite opponent, against which he has averaged a whopping 55.61. He was run out on 40 after hitting four boundaries from 68 balls.

Uganda qualify for T20 World Cup, join Namibia



Windhoek, Nov 30 (PTI):

Uganda qualified for next year's T20 World Cup, set to be held in the West Indies and the USA, with a nine-wicket win over Rwanda here on Thursday.

It will be joining Namibia as the second side to enter the main tournament from the on-going Africa Qualifier.

In the regional final of the Africa Qualifier, Uganda ensured a top-two finish with the victory over Rwanda, their fifth in six matches.

Batting first, Rwanda were all out for 65 in 18.5 overs. In reply, Uganda completed the formality in 8.1 overs while losing just one wicket.

Uganda will become the fifth African nation to play in the T20 World Cup. On the other hand, Africa

Qualifier favourite Zimbabwe failed to secure a berth. Zimbabwe are currently placed third in the regional final with six points, having won three of their five games.

After the results of the Africa Qualifier, the slots for the 20 participating teams have been filled.

The main tournament is set to take place between June 4-30 next year.

The top two sides from each group make it to the Super 8 stage, followed by the semi-finals and the final. The qualified teams for the 2024 T20 World Cup: USA, West Indies, Australia, England, India, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ireland, Scotland, Papua New Guinea, Canada, Nepal, Oman, Namibia and Uganda.

Syed Modi International Priyanshu lone Indian in men singles quarters

Lucknow, Nov 30 (PTI):

Priyanshu Rajawat was the lone Indian shuttler to qualify for the quarterfinals in men's singles, while Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand made the cut in women's doubles at the Syed Modi International badminton tournament here on Thursday.

Priyanshu, who won the Orleans Masters this year, emerged victorious after compatriot Sathish Kumar Karunakaran retired while lagging 18-21 6-11 in the second round match.

The world no. 31 Indian will now clash against Indonesian qualifier Alwi



Farhan. Commonwealth Games bronze medallists Treesa and Gayatri, seeded fourth, defeated compatriots Dhanya Nandakumar and Ridhi Kaur Toor 21-9 21-5 and are set to face another Indian pair next. As many as 10 Indians had participated in the men's singles

draw which has world no. 12 Japanese Kenta Nishimoto and world no. 14 Chou Tien Chen of Chinese Taipei as the top two world-ranked players. While HS Prannoy and Lakshya Sen had withdrawn at the last-minute, the rest of the shuttlers, apart from Priyanshu, cut a sorry figure after failing to cross the second round of the Super 300 tournament. World no. 40 Kiran George, who won the Denmark Masters this year, fought hard before losing 16-21 21-18 20-22 to world no. 36 Chia Hao Lee of Taiwan.

Things were more gloomy in women's singles as none of the Indian play-

ers could cross the second round, though as many as 11 of them participated in the tournament. The draw has Japan's world no. 17 Aya Otori as the top ranked player. While the left-handed Ashmita Chaliha, who had won Maldives International this season, was outclassed by third seed Otori 21-7 21-13, 16-year-old Unnati Hooda, the 2022 Odisha Open and 2023 Abu Dhabi Masters winner, was humbled 9-21 13-21 by former world champion Nozomi Okuhara of Japan and qualifier Janani Ananthakumar lost 15-21 12-21 to Malaysia's Wong Ling Ching.

Harmanpreet to lead India in 5-Nations hockey tournament in Valencia

New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI):

Ace drag-flicker Harmanpreet Singh will lead a 24-member Indian hockey squad in the 5-Nations Tournament, scheduled to be held in Valencia, Spain from December 15 to 22.

The squad is a mix of youth and experience, with Sumit and Amit Rohidas being named vice-captains for the tour.

The tournament, which will serve as a preparatory event ahead of the 2023-24 Hockey Pro League sea-



son, will see India play against Spain, Germany, France and Belgium. The goalkeeping department will see the return of Suraj Karkera to the squad, with stalwart PR Sreejesh and Krishan B Pathak expected to do bulk of the work under the bar.

Suryakumar to lead India for T20Is against SA

New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI):

Suryakumar Yadav, who is captaining the Indian team in the ongoing five-match T20I series against Australia, will continue in the role in the shortest format during the three-match series against South Africa beginning on December 10 in Durban, while KL Rahul will be the skipper for the three-match ODI series against the Proteas.

The BCCI selection committee, which met here on Thursday, also decided to make pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah as Rohit Sharma's deputy in the two-Test series beginning on December 26 in Centurion. Rahul will keep wickets in the Test series. Both Rohit and Virat Kohli requested the Indian cricket board for a break from the white-ball leg of the tour: B Sai Sudharshan and Rinku

■ Kohli and Rohit rested



Rohit and Virat were crying in dressing room after heartbreaking loss in WC final: Ashwin

Chennai, Nov 30 (PTI):

Skipper Rohit Sharma and star batter Virat Kohli were in tears in the dressing room following India's heartbreaking loss to Australia in the recent ODI World Cup final in Ahmedabad, veteran off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin said.

Australia beat India by six wickets on November 19 in the final to win a record sixth ODI World Cup title.

After the loss, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Indian dressing



room and tried to cheer up Rohit and Kohli.

But Ashwin said the dressing room witnessed some heartbreaking scenes.

India's T20I squad

Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Tilak Varma, Suryakumar Yadav (C), Rinku Singh, Shreyas Iyer, Ishan Kishan (wk), Jitesh Sharma (wk), Ravindra Jadeja (VC), Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Kuldeep Yadav, Arshdeep Singh, Mohd. Siraj, Mukesh Kumar, Deepak Chahar.

Singh have received maiden call-ups in the Indian ODI squad.

The selection committee meeting was held in the presence of head coach Rahul Dravid.

The three-match T20I series will begin on December 10, which will be followed by three ODIs starting December 17 in Johannesburg.

'RAAS' FEST



Devotees during the immersion procession of idols of Lord Krishna during the 'Raas' festival, at Santipur in Nadia district, Thursday.

ASSEMBLY POLLS IN 5 STATES

EC cracked the whip; seizures over Rs 1760 cr made

New Delhi, Nov 30 (PTI):

The Election Commission cracked its whip on several occasions to ensure a level playing field for all parties in the five states where assembly polls are being held even as authorities seized freebies, drugs, cash and liquor worth over Rs 1766 crore aimed at alluring voters.

Acting on complaints and inputs by the local poll machinery, the EC issued show cause notices and advisories to top politicians to adhere to the provisions of the model code.

It withdrew permission given to the Telangana

government for disbursements of financial aid to farmers for rabi crops under the Rythu Bandhu Scheme after a state minister violated the provisions of the model code by making a public announcement about it.

The poll panel had given its nod to the state government to disburse the rabi installment during the model code of conduct period on certain grounds.

It had also asked the government not to carry out the proposed Viskit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, its mega outreach programme on schemes and initiatives, in these five states till December 5.

The government had made it clear that the yatra will not cover polling states till the model code of conduct was in force. Based on complaints from rival parties, the EC issued notices to former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, his sister and party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and BRS chief and Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao. He was later issued an advisory and asked to follow the model code in letter and spirit. Recently, the Election Commission also sought an explanation

from the Congress government in Karnataka over advertisements publicising its achievements in newspapers in poll-bound Telangana.

In a letter to the Karnataka chief secretary, the commission said the state government did not obtain prior approval from it for publishing the advertisements, an action violative of the poll code.

It also said the publication of any such advertisement by the government of Karnataka in Telangana should stop with immediate effect till necessary approvals are taken by the state government from the commission.

'Cong will win Raj polls, BJP to lose in all 5 states'

Jaipur, Nov 30 (PTI):

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Thursday said he was confident of a Congress win in Rajasthan assembly polls, and added that the BJP would not form the government in any of the five states where elections are being held. Five state went to polls in November. While polling in Telangana will end Thursday evening, it was held earlier in the month in Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Results of the elections will be declared on December 3. "Congress government will be formed (in Rajasthan). In all five states, I feel that BJP is not going to form



Ashok Gehlot

the government. Exit polls may say something, surveys might suggest something, but based on the feedback of people in the cities and villages, I feel that our government should come," Gehlot told reporters in New Delhi. He said the Congress government in Rajasthan is the

only government in the country, which has no anti-incumbency factor against it. "People are saying that the chief minister has not left any stone unturned in doing development works." Gehlot slammed the "frightening language" used by BJP leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, during the election campaign. "It was the language of vengeance and creating tension," he said. "No one liked the language they spoke. They were attacking me because they could not topple my government like they did in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. They failed.

Prez reviews NDA passing out parade

Pune, Nov 30 (PTI): President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday reviewed the passing out parade of 145th course of the National Defence Academy (NDA) at Khadakwasla in Pune and expressed happiness over the participation of the first batch of women cadets in the marching contingent. Terming it as a historic day, Murmu extended good wishes to the women cadets, while noting that today daughters have to struggle to select a career of their choice. She said the NDA is a "cradle of leadership" and asked the cadets to move forward by learning and adopting new technologies to face challenges of the future. "Our



President Droupadi Murmu at the 'Passing out Parade' of the 145th course of the National Defence Academy (NDA) at Khadakwasla, in Pune, Thursday.

forces are fully capable and ready to face any external or internal situation that tries to damage the spirit of unity and integrity of the country," she

added. Around 15 women cadets participated in the passing out parade along with their male counterparts. Last year, the first batch of 19 women cadets joined the NDA, Khadakwasla, a premier tri-services institution that has given the country the finest military officers, and they are currently in the second year of the military-cum-academic training, a defence official earlier said. The second and third year cadets take part in the passing out parade, the official said. President Murmu, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, on Thursday congratulated all the cadets who completed their course.

■ **Lauds participation of 1st batch of women cadets**

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