

BRIEF



A member of a Naga tribe performs during the second day of Hornbill Festival, in Kohima, Nagaland, Saturday.

Dismiss

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Police on Saturday dismissed an inspector after his arrest by the vigilance department following the seizure of Rs 37.27 lakh in cash from his possession. The cash amount was seized from premises belonging to Boipariguda police station inspector-in-charge Sushanta Satpathy in raids conducted by the vigilance department recently.

Busted

Mumbai: Forty-five persons were arrested in the early hours of Saturday for allegedly taking part in a gambling session after a raid was conducted at an upmarket residential complex in Khar, a Mumbai Crime Branch official said. He said residents of Om Palace building located on Ambedkar Road in the western suburb had complained to the Crime Branch about gambling activities, which was causing problems to those staying in the complex.

Review

Srinagar: Senior police and army officers Saturday reviewed the prevailing security situation in south Kashmir at separate meetings. The security review meetings took place in Awantipora area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district. Inspector General of Police, Kashmir.

Mild quake

Leh: Two earthquakes of mild intensity struck the Union Territory of Ladakh within a span of eight hours on Saturday, officials said. However, there were no reports of any damage, they added.

20 years' RI

Mahrajganj: A private school teacher was sentenced to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment by a court here for raping a 15-year-old student in this district four years ago, an official said on Saturday. "Additional Sessions and Special Judge Vinay Kumar Singh on Saturday convicted Brijendra Prajapati (25) and also imposed a fine of Rs 16,000 on him," Special Public Prosecutor Vinod Singh said.

IED found

Jammu: Security forces on Saturday recovered a powerful improvised explosive device (IED) in a forest area in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. The IED, weighing five kg, was found during an ongoing search operation in the Topa Hilltop area of Darhal Saturday evening, the officials said.

Weather
High 31 Low 19

CHH'GH ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

'All preparations complete for today's counting'

Raipur, Dec 02:

Counting of votes of the Chhattisgarh Assembly elections, which most pollsters have predicted will be a tough fight between the ruling Congress and the opposition BJP, will be held on Sunday.

Polls were held in two phases on November 7 and 17 for the 90-member Assembly. Voter turnout stood at 76.31 per cent, which was slightly lower than the 76.88 per cent recorded in the 2018 Assembly polls.

Tight security arrangements have been made in all counting centres in the state's 33 districts, including the ones affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE), officials said.

"Counting for 90 seats would start at 8 am in 33 district headquarters for which all preparations have been completed. A three-layer security mechanism is in place at each counting centre," Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer Reena Baba Saheb Kangale said at a press conference.

"The counting of postal ballots will begin at 8 am. Half an hour after the postal ballots are counted, the process of counting votes from the EVMs will begin. A total of 90 returning officers, 416 assistant returning officers, 4596 counting personnel and 1698 micro-observers have been appointed for carrying out the counting process smoothly," she informed.

In every counting hall, there will be 14 tables arranged in rows of seven, except for Pandaria, Kawardha, Sarangarh, Bilaiagarh, Kasdol and Bharatpur-Sonhat Assembly seats where 21 tables will be arranged. While Kawardha and Kasdol constituencies will see 20 rounds of counting, the lowest, at 12, will be held in Manendragarh and Bhilai Nagar constituencies.



Security personnel outside a strong room where Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) are kept, a day before the Chhattisgarh Assembly election results, in Jagdalpur, Saturday.

Vital statistics...

The counting of postal ballots will begin at 8 am. Half an hour after the postal ballots are counted, the process of counting votes from the EVMs will begin. A total of 90 returning officers, 416 assistant returning officers, 4596 counting personnel and 1698 micro-observers have been appointed for carrying out the counting process smoothly. In every counting hall, there will be 14 tables arranged in rows of seven, except for Pandaria, Kawardha, Sarangarh, Bilaiagarh, Kasdol and Bharatpur-Sonhat Assembly seats where 21 tables will be arranged.

While Kawardha and Kasdol constituencies will see 20 rounds of counting, the lowest, at 12, will be held in Manendragarh and Bhilai Nagar constituencies, the CEO said.

A total of 1,181 candidates are in the fray, including Chief Minister

tables will be arranged, she said.

From the BJP, apart from Raman Singh, the other prominent candidates are state unit chief and MP Arun Sao (Lormi constituency), opposition leader Narayan Chandel (Janjgir-Champa), Union minister Renuka Singh

Bhupesh Baghel, Deputy Chief Minister TS Singh Deo (both from Congress) and former CM Raman Singh of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Patan seat, represented by Baghel, is witnessing a triangular contest with BJP fielding the chief minister's distant nephew and Lok Sabha MP Vijay Baghel.

Amit Jogi, Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (J) state president and son of former CM late Ajit Jogi, is also in the fray from Patan.

In Ambikapur constituency, the BJP has fielded a fresh face, Rajesh Agrawal, against Deputy CM TS Singh Deo. Agrawal had joined the BJP after quitting the Congress ahead of Assembly polls in 2018.

Nine ministers, including Tamrhdwaj Sahu (Durg Rural constituency), Ravindra Choubey (Saja) and Kawasi Lakhma (Konta), state Assembly Speaker Charan Das Mahant (Sakti) and state unit chief and MP Deepak Baij (Chitrakot), are among the other prominent Congress candidates.

From the BJP, apart from Raman Singh, the other prominent candidates are state unit chief and MP Arun Sao (Lormi constituency), opposition leader Narayan Chandel (Janjgir-Champa), Union minister Renuka Singh

NIA raids multiple locations

New Delhi, Dec 02 (PTI): The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday seized fake notes, currency printing paper and digital gadgets in raids in four states to bust fake Indian currency note rackets, an official said.

The raids were conducted as part of the NIA's probe into a case registered on November 24 that relates to a larger conspiracy hatched by suspected individuals for trafficking Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) from across the border and promoting their circulation in India, a spokesperson of the agency said.

Teams of the NIA searched the premises of accused Rahul Tanaji Patil alias "Javed" in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra, Vivek Thakur alias "Aditya Singh" in Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh and Mahendar in Ballari district of Karnataka.

Premises of suspects Shiva Patil alias "Bhimrav" in Yavatmal district of Maharashtra and Shashi Bhushan in Rohtas district of Bihar were also raided, the official said.

The searches led to the seizure of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) of face value of Rs 6,600 (in denomination of Rs 500, Rs 200 and Rs 100), along with currency printing paper, from Thakur house, the spokesperson said.

Thakur along with Patil and others used to procure fake currency and printing accessories from bordering countries.

Narayana Health
We are there to **Take Care**
Most Electrocardiogram screenings in 24 hours
Hospitals | Health City | Clinics | Labs | Pharma | One Health
RECORD HOLDER

Two CRPF personnel injured as bomb explodes

While being defused



Injured jawan lying on the ground.

Dantewada, Dec 02: Two Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel were injured after an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted by Naxalites exploded in Dantewada district on Saturday, officials said.

The incident occurred in the morning when the security personnel were neutralising the explosive concealed in a Maoist banner found near a bridge on the Indravati river under Barsoor police station limits, a CRPF official said.

Acting on a tip-off about the movement of Naxalites on Barsoor-Palli route as part of their

About the mishap

The incident occurred in the morning when the security personnel were neutralising the explosive concealed in a Maoist banner found near a bridge on the Indravati river under Barsoor police station limits. On spotting a Maoist banner and an IED concealed in it near Saatdhaar bridge, the security personnel started defusing it.

"People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA) Week" starting from December 2, a team of CRPF's 195th battalion was dispatched there, he said.

JOY OF SUCCESS



Agniveer Vayu trainees during their Passing Out Parade at Airmen Training School, in Belagavi district, Saturday.

Poll results in 4 states to affect dynamics in oppn INDIA grouping

New Delhi, Dec 02 (PTI):

The election results on Sunday in four states are being keenly watched by parties of the INDIA grouping, with the Congress' performance likely to affect the dynamics in the opposition alliance which will now step up preparations to take on the BJP in next year's general elections.

While some parties including the TMC, AAP and SP were keen on having early seat-sharing talks, the Congress delayed the deliberations pending the outcome of assembly polls. Sources said this was a deliberate effort on the part of the grand old party, which wanted more bargaining power in seat-sharing, as it was expecting a good outcome in these polls. With results out on

Sunday, hectic political activities will begin soon with the focus on holding further talks with regional players to iron out differences, hold seat-sharing talks and unitedly move forward to defeat the BJP in 2024, they said.

Leaders of opposition parties have already urged Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge to move forward in bringing everyone together to strengthen the INDIA bloc to defeat the BJP while putting aside differences.

The decision of the Congress top leadership to not hold immediate talks as desired by some regional players in the last INDIA bloc meeting in Mumbai in August was taken after the matter was discussed within the party.

Noida woman 'digitally arrested', duped of Rs 11 lakh

New Delhi, Dec 02 (PTI):

The Uttar Pradesh Police has launched an investigation after a Noida resident found herself at the receiving end of a new cyber fraud trend, wherein she was duped of more than Rs 11 lakh and held under "digital arrest" for a day, officials said on Saturday.

This is the first case in the new trend of "digital arrest fraud" lodged at the Cyber Crime police station in Noida. The thugs posed as police officials who mentioned the names of an IPS officer in the CBI and the founder of a grounded airline, associating the 50-year-old victim in a fictitious money-laundering case. A similar case was recently reported in Haryana's Faridabad where cyber thugs, posing

as police personnel, got a woman "digitally arrested" for more than a week after convincing her that her personal IDs were used for illegal activities. The thugs then asked her to stay online via Skype and not share this information with anyone even as they kept a watch on her throughout the period.

In her complaint, the Noida-based woman has claimed that she was contacted over an IVR (interactive voice response) call on November 13 and told that a mobile phone SIM card was purchased using her Aadhaar card in Mumbai and used for illegal advertising and harassment of women. "Then my call was transferred to a person (who identified himself as a Mumbai Police officer)

who did the initial interrogation over the call and then on Skype VC. Then he informed that I have another allegation of money laundering related to (the founder of an airline) for which an FIR has been registered against me and an arrest warrant issued by the Supreme Court for which he sent documents on Skype," the woman has said. "After the interrogation, he said I am innocent and not guilty, so he is transferring the interrogation (to an IPS officer posted with the CBI, Mumbai) for further investigation of this case. Then he gave the Skype ID and asked me to request the CBI officer to do the priority investigation on VC to remove my arrest warrant," she has said in her complaint.

NEW SCAM

New Delhi, Dec 02 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday reacted to a viral selfie his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni took with him on the sidelines of the COP28 meet in Dubai, saying "meeting friends is always a delight".

Meloni had on Friday posted the selfie on X with the remarks, "Good friends at COP28" followed by hashtag 'Melodi', a mix of the two leaders' surnames.

The warm picture of the two leaders smilingly into the camera has gone viral since.

Modi addressed the opening session of the World Climate Action Summit, the ceremonial opening of the high-level segment for heads of state and government,

Meloni says 'Melodi'; Always a delight, replies Modi



PM Modi with Prime Minister of Italy Giorgia Meloni at the COP28 UAE, in Dubai.

and attended the Presidency's session on Transforming Climate Finance, another high-level event on Green Credits Programme, and a Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) event in Dubai. He met a slew of world leaders including Meloni,

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, British Foreign Secretary David Cameron, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Turkey President R T Erdogan, Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson and Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu.

Tunnel worker reveals how they spent 17 days inside

'Games like chor-sipahi kept us going inside the tunnel'



Sukhran Bediya, one of the workers rescued from Uttarakhand's Silkyara tunnel, with his family upon his return to his home, in Ranchi district, Saturday.

Khirabada, Dec 02 (PTI): Suddenly they heard a thud. By the time they could understand what had happened panic struck, recalled Sukhran who returned home in Khirabada, a nondescript village on the outskirts of Ranchi, in the early hours of Saturday. Sukhran, all of 22, reached his village at 1 am to a rousing welcome after staying trapped in the Silkyara tunnel for 17 days. Relishing

"murga bhaat" or chicken rice, his favourite meal, Sukhran told PTI, "Childhood games like 'raja-rani' and 'chor-sipahi' kept us alive and kicking after initial days of gloom, despair and hopelessness." "We were engaged in gantry and concrete work inside the tunnel when we heard a thud, and the realisation of what had happened gave us chills down the spine," he said.

Counting today: Result of Bhilai Nagar expected first

Nutan wins gold in power-lifting

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 02: Two students of Swami Atmanand Government English Medium Model College, Dhanora brought laurels to the college by winning medals in the inter-college power-lifting tournament. Nutan (BSc First year) and Sunny (BCA First year), students of Swami Atmanand Government English Medium Model College Dhanora, under the guidance of college's sports in-charge Sandeep Kumar and instructor Chandrashekhar participated in the inter-college power lifting competition organized by Hemchand Yadav University at Government Digvijay College, Rajnandgaon. Nutan grabbed first place and gold medal in 69 kg female category while Sunny got third place in 74 kg male category.



College Principal Vikas Panchakshari, professors and staff congratulated

both the students and also wished for their bright future.

Tight security arrangements at the counting venue

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 02: The results of Bhilai Nagar assembly constituency are likely to be declared first as the counting of votes will be completed in just 12 rounds. Next will be the Durg (city) constituency where the counting will be done in 16 rounds followed by Durg (rural) where the counting of votes will be done in 17 rounds.

Counting of votes for Patan and Vaishali Nagar constituencies will be conducted in 18-18 rounds. The results of Ahiwara are likely to come at the last as the counting of votes for this constituency will be conducted in 19 rounds. The counting of



votes received in Control Units of EVMs will be done on 14 tables for each assembly constituency.

Under the Assembly Elections 2023, the process of counting of votes will start from 08 am on 03 December at Shri Shankaracharya Engineering College, Junwani. Elaborate arrangements have been made under the direction of District Election Officer and Collector

Pushpendra Kumar Meena to conduct the counting of votes in a peaceful and transparent manner. Tight security arrangements have been made for entry at the counting venue.

A day before the counting of votes, the officers and employees involved in the election work reached the assembly-wise designated counting rooms and rehearsed the counting of votes received from elec-



tronic voting machines and the votes obtained from postal ballots.

They also conducted a rehearsal of completing table-wise prescribed forms and making security arrangements. Senior officers gave instructions related to vote counting work in the designated counting rooms.

The returning officers also gave necessary instructions to the assistant counting officers and em-

ployees. Employees carrying EVMs were instructed to proceed carefully from the strong room to the counting room one by one.

It is prohibited to carry mobile phones, I-pads, laptops, smart watches, cameras, other electronic devices, beedi, cigarettes, gutka into the counting hall. Appropriate necessary arrangements including TV, Wi-Fi have been made in the media centre.

Affected Power Supply in Township owing to preventive maintenance

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 02: The Town Electrical Engineering Dept (TEED) under SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Town Services Department chalks out an annual preventive maintenance plan each year to minimize breakdowns and enhance the reliability of the system to ensure uninterrupted power supply in the township.

As per the Annual Maintenance Plan for 2023-24, there will be a planned shutdown for

preventive maintenance of the HT system during the period from December 2023 to March 2024, to carry out several maintenance jobs and take corrective action.

As per the maintenance schedule, power supply will be affected in the following areas of the township every day from 10:00 hrs to 13:30 hrs from December 04-09, 2023.

The power supply shall be affected in some parts of Sector-07, along with 32 Bungalows on December 04, 2023, at

Risali Sector on December 05, 2023. On December 06, 2023, the power supply will be affected in some parts of Sector-07, along with Sectors 08, 09, and Hospital Sector areas, whereas on December 07 power supply will be affected in Sector-05 and Indira Place.

On December 08 at Maroda Sector, and in Sector-10 area on December 09, 2023. Electrical Engineering Department has appealed to residents to cooperate.

TYEP: 30 tribal youth depart for Nangloi

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 02: Under the 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme, the third batch of 15 tribal boys and 15 girls from the extremely remote and Naxal affected areas of District Kanker, Chhattisgarh was sent from Durg Railway Station to Nangloi (West Delhi) on Saturday.

Two male security officers and one female security officer of the Border Security Force are accompanying them. This group will meet tribal youth from different states of India in West Delhi and get acquainted with the culture of other states.

Under this program, appropriate information will be provided to the tribal young men and women



about their bright future and rights. There will be an interaction between the participating young men and women from other states to enable them to understand each other.

They will be introduced to food, lifestyle, cultural activities and costumes of other states. In this program, local folk programs

of all the states will be staged. Besides, they will tour the famous, scenic and culturally important places of Delhi.

The 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Program (TYEP) is being organized under the joint aegis of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, New Delhi (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports,

Government of India) and Ministry of Home Affairs.

The duration of each Tribal Youth Exchange Program is 07 days. Border Security Force deployed in the naxal infested areas of Kanker is organising four tours this year 130 selected youth of the age group of 18 to 22 years from Kanker are participating in the

tours.

Major activities of this Tribal Youth Exchange Program include interaction sessions with constitutional officers and eminent persons, panel discussions, lecture sessions, activities under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, speech competition, career guidance, learning about ongoing sports events, etc. Apart from this, the participants will visit Delhi's industries and camps of security forces.

Satish S Khandare, IPS, Inspector General, Border Security Force Frontier Headquarters (Special Operations), Chhattisgarh and Ajay Agarwal, Deputy Inspector General (Intelligence) congratulated the selected youth before their departure to Nangloi (West Delhi).

Illegal encroachers evicted by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 02: The Enforcement Section under SAIL- Bhilai Steel Plant's Town Services Department, took stringent action against illegal roadside encroachers in the Khursipar area in Bhilai on December 01, 2023. Anti-encroachment action has also been taken against illegal encroachers in Utai Road and Shivpara, Maroda, in the past few days.

A major action was taken against the illegal encroachers near the Government School on MPR Road, Khursipar Zone-2. An illegal construction built on a 10 x 10 square feet area on BSP



land was demolished. BSP's Enforcement Section had also demolished an illegal construction on 10 x 30 square feet of land along the Utai Road in the recent past, along with eviction of illegal encroachments on approximately 30 x 50 and 20 x 30 square feet of land at two places in Shivpara, Maroda.

Besides acts of encroachments and illegal construction, on several patches of BSP's land, anti-social elements were also carrying out fraudulent Sale and Purchase of such lands.

The Enforcement Section of SAIL- Bhilai Steel Plant's Town Services Department has appealed to the citizens

neither to get misled by such anti-social elements and fraudulent brokers nor to do any transaction with such individuals. Any such unlawful acts should be reported to BSP's Enforcement Section and the Police Department, without delay. Stringent legal action shall be taken by the concerned departments of

Bhilai Steel Plant, against such anti-social elements, brokers, and land mafia.

It is pertinent to mention that SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant never lets out any of its residences on rent, and no person is authorized to rent BSP's residences. The Enforcement Department continues to take strict legal action against illegal encroachers.

World AIDS Day observed at St Thomas College Bhilai



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 02: The P.G. Department of Microbiology and Biotechnology organized an awareness rally to commemorate World AIDS Day on December 01, 2023. This year's theme for World AIDS Day is "World AIDS Day 35: Remember and Commit". This day is mainly celebrated to bring people together and raise awareness about HIV and AIDS

and to demonstrate solidarity to the affected people. The staff and students of PG Department of Microbiology & Biotechnology in collaboration with NCC Unit of the college conducted the rally to create awareness amongst its students and the local people in Ruabandha sector about the causes, social stigma associated with the disease and also to encourage progress in AIDS prevention. Principal In-

charge Dr James Mathew, flagged off the rally from the college campus to BSP Middle school, Ruabandha sector. The students from both PG and UG enthusiastically participated in the activity and raised slogans related to AIDS awareness. All science students and teachers participated in the rally along with NCC cadets creating awareness against the spread of HIV and AIDS.

SSV celebrates annual sports meet of junior wing

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 02: Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sector - X, Bhilai celebrated its 35th Annual Sports Day on the bright and beautiful morning of Saturday at the lush, green environs of the school campus. The air was filled with great zeal, excitement and frolicsome spirit.

The program started with lighting of the lamp and garlanding the portrait of Goddess Saraswati, His Holiness Sri Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Swamigal and Jagat Guru Sri Jayendra Saraswati of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam which was followed by Saraswati Vandana.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was Deniyal Nayak, Branch Manager State Bank of India. The

program was also graced by V Ramachandran, President SSES, S Swaminathan, Secretary SSES, TR Venkatraman (Treasurer), Bipin Deshmukh, Principal SSV, Shobha Nair and S Usha Head Mistress, school staff, the members of PTA, parents and print and visual media.

Principal Bipin Deshmukh welcomed the gathering and tabled the annual sports report. The Sports Meet was formally declared 'Open' by the chief guest followed by the flag hoisting, bursting of crackers, release of pigeons and balloons. Students of Nursery to V enraptured the gathering with the various presentations. Motivational song was presented by the students. The special attraction on this occasion was Drill/PT



Class III: Kavita, Sanchita Saxena, Neelam, Shanti, Shikha, Roshini, Prembala, Rajani Nair, Shrithi, Pooja, Anjana, Megha, Tarnnum and Rajani. Mass Drill Aerobic with Music & Prop Class III-V (Girls): Sorojini, Vanaja, Inderjeet, Neelam, Amina, Nandita, Prema, Rupa, Priyanka, Shaili, Vijayashree, Rita, Rekha, Mahuwa, Vandana, Shubhangi, Shanu, Joshi

Mary, Varsha, Harshita and Rashmi Deshmukh. Pyramid Show with Music III-V (Boy): Snigdha, Savita Anil & Rashmi Deshmukh which was performed by the students and guided by the teachers.

The track events of the day were Nursery - Pick the Balls 1st Chetanya Margiya, 2nd Omaansh Sinha, 3rd Sushant Choudhary. KG - I Biscuit Race: 1st Ananya



Kshatriya, 2nd Rishita Prasad, 3rd Advika Verma. KG-II Book Balancing: 1st Dhairya Shivankar, 2nd K Harshvardhan, 3rd Purvansh Jain. Class - I [Girls] - 50m Race - 1st Advika Verma, 2nd Bristhi Uike, 3rd Shubhali Jain. Class II - [Boys]- 1st Arnab Sahu, 2nd Moahammad Anas Khan, 3rd Siddhant Sinha. Class - III- 100m Race [Girls]: Jeevisha Jain 1st, Priya Baghel 2nd,

Trisha Sahu 3rd. Class - IV- 100m Race [Boys]: OjasMandavi 1st, Chandra Kumar Yadav 2nd, Styam Raj 3rd. Class - V- 100m Race [Girls]: Prachi Sahu 1st, Anjali Sharma 2nd, Vaibhavi Shukla 3rd. Book Balancing Race Mother's-Sanjali Prashad 1st, Khushboo 2nd, G Dhanlaxmi 3rd. 100m Race Father's: Anoop KumarSoni 1st, Deepak Chandak 2nd, Mukesh

Tripathi 3rd. Spoon and Marble Race for Teacher's-Rashmi Deshmukh 1st, Mohuwa Sha 2nd.

1st position secured by Agni House, 2nd position secured by Prithavi House, 3rd position grabbed by Vayu House and 4th position for discipline won by Neer House. The highlight of this special occasion was the prize distribution ceremony: 4 State Level Awardees and 6 National Level Awardees were awarded with trophies. The program moved towards the end by the retreat of the flag and putting off the flame. A vote of thanks was proposed by Usha Suresh.

Chief Guest Deniyal Nayak in his address expressed his pleasure of being present on the momentous occasion of the 35th sports day of the

school. He said that Sri Sankara Vidyalaya was a name to be reckoned with in the cause of imparting quality education. He was impressed by the discipline of the students. A token of appreciation and gratitude was given to the Chief Guest.

V Ramachandran, President (SSES), S Swaminathan, Secretary (SSES), TR Venkatraman (Treasurer) congratulated the participants and appreciated the program and said it was one of the best experience of sports day and appreciated their sincere efforts under the guidance of Principal Bipin Deshmukh. The program was ably compered by Neelam, Joshi Mary, Anjana, Ponmani & Roshni. The programme culminated with the National Anthem.

BJP buoyed ahead of counting of votes

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Dec 02: Ahead of the counting of votes for the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly polls on December 3, the former

CM and BJP leader Raman Singh says, "Exit polls are clearly stating how Congress is moving towards its downfall. They were talking about 68 seats and their graph is coming down to 40-42 seats...There is a downfall in the voting pattern and

popularity of Congress...BJP is winning at least 50-52 seats which means that BJP will form the government in Chhattisgarh as specified by exit polls"

Similarly, the Chhattisgarh BJP President Arun Sao says, "...Exit polls have given a shock to Congress...From the start, we were saying that the BJP is going to form a government in Chhattisgarh...The exit poll has strengthened our claim...Tomorrow there is

going to be an end to the misgovernance of Congress in Chhattisgarh..."

Meanwhile, the State BJP President Arun Sao while interacting with the party workers came down heavily on the Congress on the possible outcome of the result. He said that while Congress had been claiming to win 75 seats out of the 90 Legislative seats, the desperation to keep their MLAs intact shows fear of defeat ahead of counting of votes.

Baghel demands ban on platforms linked with online betting

● **Writes to PM**

Raipur, Dec 02: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has demanded the centre to ban platforms related to illegal business of online betting. In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi he demanded that platforms, web, APK, Telegram, Instagram, URLs related to illegal business of online betting should be identified and all of them should be completely banned. The operators of online betting apps have been running illegal business abroad and only central level action is possible on this, Baghel said in his letter. He said that Chhattisgarh government and police administration had been continuously taking action

against this illegal business since the beginning. Many crimes have also been registered in this regard and success has been achieved in arresting the accused involved and confiscating their assets, he said.

The issue of Mahadev app being used for online betting remained in the headlines during the assembly elections. Meanwhile, the Central Government has banned 22 apps including Mahadev App. The Chief Minister himself is on the radar of ED in the Mahadev App case. However, the Chief Minister has been saying that it is the responsibility of the Central Government to stop this. The Chief Minister has again brought the matter to light by writing a letter to the Prime Minister.

Vice President Dhankhar to visit Chhattisgarh today

Will meet students of Hidayatullah University



Raipur, Dec 03: Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar will visit Chhattisgarh on December 3, 2023. Vice President Dhankhar will meet the students of Hidayatullah University in Raipur. During his stay in Chhattisgarh, the Vice President will visit Raj Bhavan. He will also meet the Governor there.

SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS



Preparations for security arrangements at counting venue.

Liquor shops near counting venue to remain closed today

Raipur, Dec 02: In view of the counting of votes for assembly elections on 3rd December the Collector and District Magistrate Dr. Sarveshwar Bhure has directed to keep all the excise centers near counting venue closed throughout the day. With this a dry day has been declared. According to the order, the liquor centers in the adjoining Raipur Municipal Corporation wards of the counting venue, Engineering College, Sejbahar will remain closed throughout the day. According to order composite liquor shops in Santoshi Nagar and Bhathagaon (Chagorabhatha), foreign liquor shops in Santoshi Nagar and Bhathagaon and Dumratarai, country liquor shops in Dumratarai and Royal Bar, F.L.3 Hotel bars will remain completely closed.

Postal ballots to be accepted till one minute before start of counting

● **A total of 3309 postal ballots were received in all three assemblies of the district**

Raipur, Dec 02: Postal ballots received from service voters up to one minute before the start of counting for the assembly elections on December 3 will also be included in the counting. Counting of votes will begin at 8 am on December 3 at Adarsh College, Dharampura.

14 tables each will be set up for counting of votes in the three assembly constituencies of Bastar district, Bastar, Jagdalpur and Chitrakot. The counting of votes in Bastar will be completed in 16 cycles, hence its result will come first. After this, the final result of Chitrakote seat will be released after 17 rounds of counting and lastly after 18 rounds of counting of votes,

the final result of Jagdalpur seat will be released. Collector and District Election Officer, Vijay Dayaram gave this information in a press conference at the Collectorate. He said that till 4 pm on Friday evening, a total of 3309 postal ballots had been received in the three assemblies of the district. This includes postal ballot papers received by special conductors from the convenience center of officers and employees posted on election duty, postal ballot papers received by post, postal ballot papers received in PVC of ETPB absentee category voters received from service voters, disabled persons above 80 years of age through special constituted voting. Postal bal-

lot papers collected lastly from door-to-door visits of elderly voters and disabled persons are included.

The Collector informed that ETPBs issued to service voters are being received every day, whose number till December 1 was total 98. In which there are 33 ETPB postal ballot papers in Bastar Assembly, 42 in Jagdalpur Assembly and 23 in Chitrakote Assembly. Postal ballots of service voters and jawans will be accepted up to one minute before the start of counting. The Collector said that there will be tight security arrangements not only at the counting site but also in the surrounding areas. He said that necessary guidelines have also

been given by holding a meeting of representatives of political parties. If any person acts against the rules in the counting place or premises or violates law and order, punitive action will be taken.

The Collector said that the total number of postal ballots also includes 3153 postal ballots received at the convenience centers of officers and employees posted on election duty, which were received from the convenience centers established in the district till a day before the voting day, November 7. Under this, there are 810 postal ballot papers in Bastar Assembly, 1614 in Jagdalpur Assembly and 729 in Chitrakote Assembly. The total number of postal ballots received from door to door from senior voters above 80 years of age and persons with disabilities is 58. Under this, there are eight postal votes in Bastar Assembly, 26 in Jagdalpur and 24 in Chitrakot Assembly.

Four science projects qualified for INSEF

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Dec 02: NH Goel World School in collaboration with INSEF organized a Science Fair on Saturday which aims to provide a platform and exposure to the students inclined towards science and engineering. Around 45 exhibits falling under different categories like Electricity, Engineering, Environment, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Behavioral Sciences, Engineering and Computer Engineering registered their entries in the fair. Present on the occasion was the Director of Science Society of India Dr Narayana Iyer. The society has to its credit a remarkable track of promoting innovation and research among students. The Director Administration SK Tomar welcomed Dr Iyer with a bouquet. Dr Avinash Pandey, the Principal show-



ered his blessings on all the participants and applauded their hard work. A panel of six judges was formed to assess and evaluate the projects. The Science Coordinator of the host school MN Singh expressed his profound gratitude to each and everyone involved in making the fair a success. The projects which qualified for INSEF National Fair 2023-24 include a novel study of miraculous proper-

ty of Musa Indica, Driving license scanner embedded with anti theft feature, a Novel Multi-Omics data integration framework for Biological Age prediction and correlation with chemotherapy dosage for personalized therapeutics in enhancing Human Longevity and AURA: Revolutionizing Emergency Response through Advanced AI and Technological Innovations.

Let's join hands to fight against

DENGUE

- Dengue is caused by Aedes mosquito. This mosquito bites during day time
- Majority of Dengue cases are fully recovered and can be managed at home
- In case of fever, take Paracetamol and plenty of oral fluids

Prevention is better than cure



Cover all water tanks and containers with tight lids



Don't allow water to stagnate in unused containers, tyres, coconut shells etc.



Use mosquito repellent creams, coils etc.

Empty, scrub & dry desert coolers every week before refill



Wear full sleeved clothes



Sleep under bednet during day time



Symptoms: Consult doctor in case you have symptoms like high fever, severe headache, backache, pain behind the eye, muscle & joint pain, skin rashes and bleeding from gums etc. Dengue blood test is available at selected government Health Facilities free of cost

People rejected Modi's guarantee: Congress

● All exit polls show that the people of the state once again expressed confidence in Congress



Raipur, Dec 02: Public rejected Modi's guarantee. Chairman of Congress Communication Department Sushil Anand Shukla said that all the exit polls are showing Congress forming the government again in the state, this is a proof that the people of the state were not deceived by BJP, they rejected Modi's guarantee and expressed confidence in Congress. People have faith in Congress because in the last five years, Congress has made plans for the benefit of the people and implemented them effectively.

government in the state, 40 lakh people came above the poverty line.

In 2018, the unemployment rate of the state which was 22 percent came down to half percent. This was a big achievement of Congress.

Congress communication chief, Sushil Anand Shukla said that Congress had kept the promise, hence this time also the public expressed confidence in the promise of Congress manifesto - paddy price of Rs 3200, promises of loan waiver of farmers, free education from KG to PG, domestic gas.

The public expressed strong faith in promises like subsidy of Rs 500 on cylinders and Rs 1500 per year to women.

He added that by copying Congress, BJP also made its manifesto and named it Modi's Guarantee, but the public did not even trust Modi's guarantee as they found Modi's Guarantee to be an election slogan of BJP. The public knows that BJP makes big promises to get votes and then forgets that Modi had promised to reduce inflation in 100 days in his election and give Rs 15 lakh in everyone's account, every year there was a promise of employment to two crore youth and farmers. Modi also promised to double the income.

Even after ruling the government for ten years, Modi did not fulfill his promise. BJP was trying to use the same slogan in Chhattisgarh also but people did not fall for its trick.

Raipur District Scouts and Guides conduct meeting



● Meeting highlights plans for advance camp and rally

Raipur, Dec 02: The Bharat Scouts and Guides District Association Raipur District, under the leadership of Dr. Suresh Shukla, Chief Commissioner, and G. Swami, District President, conducted a crucial meeting, guided by Himanshu Bharatiya, District Commissioner, and District Education Officer Raipur. The meeting delved into discussions about the upcoming advance camp, the district rally's agenda, and a special celebration of District Commissioner Himanshu Bharatiya's birthday.

Notable figures in attendance included Vice President Ajay Tiwari,

Gayatri Singh, Bhavna Agarwal, District Commissioner Guide, G Sai Krishna, District Headquarters Commissioner, Mrityunjay Shukla District Secretary, Leena Verma District Co-Secretary, Shahina Parveen District Training Commissioner Guide, Balak Das Raut District Organization Commissioner, Damini Nag District Organization Commissioner Guide, Dilip Patel State Coordinator and other dedicated members like Ram Pal Tiwari, Mukesh Borkar Development Block Secretary Dharsiwa, Manisha Waikar, Aparna Tiwari, Annapurna Pandey, Nisha Bais, Kumud Dewangan, Rimjhim Vani, Asha Jadhav, Varsha Sharma, Naman Sahu Rover, Kaushal Jange Rover, among others.

BJP govt will be formed with a clear majority: Chandel



Raipur, Dec 02: After exit poll, BJP's leader of opposition Narayan Chandel has given a statement saying that BJP will form the government in the state with full majority.

Chandel said in his statement that Bharatiya Janata Party received the blessings of the people of Chhattisgarh.

People of the state want departure of Bhupesh government, he said, adding that BJP will get public support. Lotus will bloom in Chhattisgarh, he added.

IIT Bhilai hosted 100 Vigyan Jyoti Scholars from two JNVs

Raipur, Dec 02: IIT Bhilai hosted 100 Vigyan Jyoti Scholars from Jawhar Navaodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), Borai, Durg and Jawhar Navaodaya Vidyalaya, Dongargarh. The students arrived in the morning at IIT Bhilai with the school representatives to visit the campus. This event is conducted under the DST Funded Vigyan Jyoti program.

This program is designed to motivate and increase the participation of girl students in the field of STEM. Prof. Rajiv Prakash, Director IIT Bhilai addressed the program with a motivational speech, in which he mentioned that students should focus on their studies and in particular think practically to solve the basic problems people of Chhattisgarh are facing such as Health, Water, and energy.

He interacted with all the students and teachers from the two schools and told them that a combination of "Vigyan" and "understanding of basic



values" can lead us to success and can help to create a better future. He further mentioned that there are many ways to be successful, to achieve good goals, and if one way does not work then students should be ready with plan B. After his motivational speech, the Vigyan Jyoti scholars interacted with a B.Tech 2nd year student Shivangi Gaur and asked several questions related to IIT-JEE, and life of a student in IIT Bhilai.

After the interactions, the Vigyan Jyoti scholars visited the Central Instrumentation Facility of IIT Bhilai, Electronics

engineering, Mechatronics, and Computer Science and Engineering Labs. In these labs, the students came to know about sophisticated scientific instruments such as NMR, TEM, and Lithography. The program was coordinated by the Vigyan Jyoti Program Nodal officer Dr Md Mehboob Alam (Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, IIT Bhilai). He mentioned that such programs are very important and successful in motivating the students towards STEM fields. The students took their lunch at IIT Bhilai Mess block.

After onion, now garlic prices soar, sold at Rs 250 per kg in retail

● Garlic was being sold for 60 to 80 rupees per kg in the month of May 2023



Raipur, Dec 02: Garlic has also started following the path of onion. Garlic, which was being sold for Rs 60 to 80 per kg in the month of May this year, currently costs Rs 250 to Rs 270 per kg. In the wholesale market itself, garlic is being sold at Rs 180 to Rs 220 per kg. This means that the prices of garlic have increased more than three times.

Shastry Bazaar, Golbazar, Santoshi Nagar, Tikrapara, tomato was sold at Rs 40 per kg, cabbage at Rs 70 per kg, brinjal at Rs 35 per kg, bottle gourd at Rs 20 per kg, lady's finger at Rs 40 per kg and potato was sold at Rs 25 per kg. Along with this, due to abundant arrival of carrots and peas, it's prices have also declined and carrots and peas are being sold at Rs 35 to 40 per kg.

T Srinivas Reddy, President of the Wholesale Vegetable Traders Association, said that the arrival of vegetables is satisfactory. However, due to decrease in the arrival of onion and garlic, there is a huge increase in their prices. If arrivals improve, their prices will also improve.

Traders said that the demand for garlic has also increased significantly during the winter season. On the other hand, onion is still making consumers cry. Onion is still being

sold at Rs 60 per kg in retail market. It is known that garlic is mainly imported from Rajasthan and due to less production this year, the prices of garlic are increasing. There is abundant supply of vegetables in the market.

only increased significantly during the winter season. On the other hand, onion is still making consumers cry. Onion is still being

CAPS branch inaugurated by Union Bank of India

Raipur, Dec 02: Union Bank of India, one of the leading banks of the country, inaugurated its CAPS (Collection And Payment Service) branch on December 01, Friday at its office located in Raipur Modhapara. It is noteworthy that this is the first CAPS branch of Union Bank in Chhattisgarh. Under this branch, services will be provided in both the states of Chhattisgarh and Orissa. Collection services offered by this branch include Upcountry Cheque Collection (UNI Collect Plus), Local Cheque/Cash Collection Service (UNI Collect), Virtual Account Mode - NEFT/ RTGS/ IMPS (UNI e Collect), Mandate Based Collection Direct Debit (UNI Direct Debit),



Mandate Based Collection NACH (UNI e NACH), e-Mandate as Sponsor Bank (UNI MMS), Sweep Facility ABB (UNI SWEEP) and Unified Fee Collection Services UFCS (UNIFI Fee Collection). Similarly, payment services include Bulk Payment Transfer/ NEFT/ RTGS/ IMPS (UNI Credit), Correspondent Bank and

Bulk DD Withdrawal Arrangements (UNI DD), Bulk Cheque Writing Services (UNI Cheque) and Bulk Payment NACH (UNI NACH) services. It is noteworthy that this branch has been started keeping in mind the present need of services provided to customers and institutions. On this occasion, Chief General Manager, Large

Corporate, Central Office of Union Bank, Mr. P.K. Semal, Zonal Head, Area General Manager of, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, B. P. Das, Circle Head of Raipur region Mr. Anuj Kumar Singh, sub-region head Mr. Saurabh Chafekar and Mr. Pushkar Kumar Sinha and branch head Mr. Kamal Joshi were mainly present.

A historic milestone: Digvijay College gets a patent from UK

Raipur, Dec 02: Government Digvijay autonomous PG College registered its first patent with the herculean efforts of Dr. Suresh Kumar Patel and his team. Dr Patel's team has worked day in and day out to get this patent on the design of, "Device for electricity generation from waste water". This patent has been granted to the innovative research work done by Dr. Patel Dr Patel et al. which is highly inspiring.



This innovative design in which electricity will be generated from waste water will also purify the wastewater and so that it can be reused. Dr. Suresh Kumar Patel is a senior assistant professor in the Department of physics of

the college and is working continuously in excellence in the field of science. This achievement of his, has made the city and the region proud. His work is paving a way for the researchers of the younger generations to follow his footsteps and do great in the field of research and technology.

Principal Dr. K.L.

Tandekar has stated that Dr Patel and his whole team has worked very hard to get this patent and this will inspire the coming generations of students and scholars to work towards getting registered more patents by doing innovative work. The President of the Janbhagidari committee, Mr Raees Ahmed Shakeel has also congratulated Dr. Patel and his whole team and has expressed his delight at this success. The head of the department Dr. Priti Bala Taunk says that the work done by Dr Patel and his team will surely motivate the students by satiating their curiosity and working towards innovation. The IQAC coordinator Dr

Anita Shah stated that this is one of the biggest achievements of the college in its 66 glorious years and the whole College family is proud of Dr Patel and his team.

The coordinator of the research committee of the college Dr D.P. Kurre beautifully describes this as a matter of joy and states that this achievement of Dr Patel will change the academic environment of the college.

Indeed, this is great feat that the college has achieved because of the dedicated and diligent Dr. Suresh Kumar Patel and his team and the whole college, the city and the entire region celebrates this with immense joy and gratitude.

● In view of upcoming state executive meeting

Raipur, Dec 02: National Senior Vice President of Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), the country's largest trade organization, Amar Parwani, Chairman Mangal Malu, Amar Gidwani, State President Jitendra Doshi, Working President Vikram Singhdeo, Parmanand Jain, Vasu Makhija, General Secretary Surinder Singh, Working General Secretary Bharat Jain and Treasurer Ajay Aggarwal said that today a meeting of CAIT state and youth office bearers meeting was held under the chairmanship of CAIT National Senior Vice President Amar Parwani.

National Senior Vice President of



Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) Mr. Amar Parwani and State President Mr. Jitendra Doshi informed that a meeting of the State Executive of CAIT and Diwali Milan ceremony will be organised on December 19th. After preparing the outline of the programme, work was allotted to all the officials. CAIT and global company Meta-owned WhatsApp, Instagram and Facebook aim to digitally train local

merchants with hyper-local digital training to unlock growth opportunities for businesses to drive digitalization efforts. To provide digital and skill training. Cyber crime workshop is to be organized. A camp will be organised to create Gumashtha for small traders. A workshop will be organized on MSME and Prime Minister Mudra Loan Camp will also be organised. State level GST workshop will also be organised in which Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Finance Minister, will be invited. In the coming time, it was agreed on the reorganization of all the district units of the state and formation of committees for various departments. CAIT and youth team officials were mainly present in the meeting: Amar Parwani, Jitendra Doshi, Vikram Singhdeo, Parmanand Jain, Ajay Aggarwal, Avneet Singh, Vijay Patel, Kailash Khemani, Sunil Dhuppad, Mahendra Kumar Bagrodia, Suraj Upadhyay, Preetpal Singh Bagga, Mahesh Jethani, Mohan Varlyani, Nagendra Kumar Tiwari, Vikrant Rathore, Parvinder Singh, Ameet Gupta, Manish Kumar Soni, Gurudeep Singh Anand and Amit Prajapati were present.

Violation of quite zone is punishable

● Area within 100 mts radius of hospital, court, educational institutions and religious institutions declared as silent zone

religious institutions of the district. The area falling under the perimeter has been declared a quiet zone.

Under the order issued, the limit of ambient noise scale has been set differently according to different areas. Under which for industrial area or zone 75 dB(A) LEQ during day time and 70 dB(A) LEQ at night time, for commercial area or zone 65 dB(A) LEQ during day time and 55 dB(A) LEQ at night time. a) LEQ: 55 dB(A) LEQ during day time and 45 dB(A) LEQ during night time and 50 dB(A) LEQ during day time and 40 dB(A) LEQ at night time for peace zone (A) The LEQ has

been determined. Along with this, there will be a complete ban from 10 pm to 6 am.

According to the order, firecrackers should not be burst at least 100 meters away from peace zones like hospitals, courts, educational institutions and religious institutions etc.

Similarly, the use of pressure horn or musical horn or any other type of sound amplifier will be completely prohibited within a distance of 100 meters from them. Violation of the said order will be punishable under Section 15 of the Act. This order has been made effective immediately.

Khalsha Warriors win inaugural match of All India Sikh Cricket league



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Dec 02: Khalsha Warriors Nanded won the inaugural match of the All

India Sikh Premier League Cricket tournament being organized under the aegis of Shahid Bhai Tharu Singh Study

Circle at WRS Colony Ground here by defeating the Vijit Khalsha team from Nagpur.

In the second match, the host Study Circle team defeated Challengers XI Telangana to consolidate the position in the tournament. Earlier, Raipur North MLA Kuldeep Juneja, Minorities Commission Chairman Mahendra Chhabra and SGPC Chhattisgarh President Gurmit Singh Saini inaugurated the tournament by taking introduction from the players. They extended greetings to the Organizers for hosting the event in which 12 teams are participating.

Jayesh wins silver medal in National Pickleball championship



Raipur, Dec 02: Jayesh Ashfaliya won the silver medal in the 50 plus category in the 3rd National Pickleball championship being organized at Ahmadabad on Saturday. He also entered into the quarter final in the 50 plus category in doubles event

with Rupendra Chouhan as his team member by winning all the matches. Apart from them, the pair of Lukesh Netam and Ajay Tandi also entered into knock-out round of the championship in the Open Men' category.

VOTE COUNTING ARRANGEMENTS



Policemen review arrangements for counting of votes for the Telanagna Assembly election, in Hyderabad, Saturday.

'Apna Dal (S) is in favour of caste census'

Rampur (UP), Dec 02 (PTI):

Union Minister and Apna Dal (Sonela) chief Anupriya Patel on Saturday said that her party is in favour of a caste census and their allies are aware of it.



Anupriya Patel

state through an adjournment notice during the zero hour and alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had been talking about holding it from time to time but shied away when the regular census was going to be conducted in 2021.

Replying on behalf of the government, Deputy Chief Minister and Leader of the House Keshav Prasad Maurya had said, "The SP members have raised the issue

of a caste-wise census. All of them are senior people and know that this census will be conducted through the Central government and our senior most leaders have said they are not against caste census."

"The SP talks about doing a caste census, but it is not in favour of doing so. Therefore, the notice of the SP members deserves to be rejected," he added. Responding to a question regarding seat-sharing for the 2024 Lok

Sabha polls, the Apna Dal (S) chief said that her party is in the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

"I have come here in connection with an organisational programme. At present we have two MPs in Uttar Pradesh, we have not had any discussion with the BJP regarding seat sharing yet, when it happens we will definitely tell the media," said Patel.

"We are an important component of the NDA and we have fought four elections together (2014, 2017, 2019, 2022) and will fight the elections in an alliance in future also," she added. When asked whether the Apna Dal (S) is making efforts to woo the Muslim voters, Patel said that her party "has been doing politics of social justice". "We have been working for the backward and weaker sections," she added.

Political Strategist, Atul Malikram foresees Bhupesh Baghel's return to leadership in Chh'garh

1. What are the main issues that, according to you, have been crucial for voters in this election?

Bhupesh Baghel has attempted to connect with the people of Chhattisgarh based on the sentiment of belonging, and voters have responded to that in these elections.

2. Have you observed any stance or role of anti-incumbency in the Chhattisgarh elections?

No, there doesn't seem to be any visible discontent or anti-incumbency within the Chhattisgarh Congress. While some opposition to local legislators has been observed, there hasn't been a widespread anti-government sentiment. The tickets of few MLAs have been contested, but Singhdev and Baghel have managed the state's situation well.

3. Have Bhupesh Baghel's policies and plans been effective in winning back voters?

Evidently, the Baghel government has been successful in this regard. The initiatives, whether for farmers, women, or economically supporting agricultural labor families, have been effectively implemented, contributing to the government's success.

4. How do you assess the Congress's tenure under CM Baghel's leadership? For the people of Chhattisgarh, this could be an exemplary government, and they seem confident in giving it another term.

5. Is the BJP successful in sufficiently countering the current government?

Perhaps not. Any issue raised by the opposition,



Atul Malikram Political Strategist

regardless of claims of corruption, doesn't seem to have a significant impact on voters. The Baghel government's efforts to uplift various sections of society, from farmers to maternal identity and tribal recognition, have resonated well with the public.

6. OBC (Other Backward Classes) and tribal voters are crucial in this election; which way do you think they might lean?

The OBCs and tribals have benefited from government schemes, and there is no substantial reason for them to turn away from the Baghel government.

7. Strengths and weaknesses of BJP-Congress and their candidates in your view? The biggest weakness for the BJP is its inability

to surpass the positive image of the Congress. For the Congress, this remains its significant strength.

8. In your opinion, which side is winning the social media battle?

The BJP appears more familiar with its strategies on social media and seems to outperform the Congress, but this has a limited impact on 2-5% of voters.

9. What potential factors could shift the election in any direction?

If there's a master strategist working behind the scenes, it's hard to predict.

10. What is your prediction regarding the election results?

Congress will likely succeed in forming the government with a clear majority.

'Threatened by central agency middleman'

Chennai, Dec 02 (PTI): Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker M Appavu on Saturday claimed that he was threatened allegedly by a person professing proximity to a central investigating agency for three months.

Declining to go into the details on the issue, the Speaker said while reacting to the arrest of an official of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in Madurai on Friday by the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption on a charge of bribery.

The arrest only indicated the way "things have been going on" in the central investigative agencies, he said.

THE POWER OF A LITTLE LIE

Perhaps it takes more courage to perceive an alienation destroys a true bonding gradually,

the affection starts fading in an invisible way, the patience starts disappearing like a sunset, the only recourse will left is to resort to shriek. But the depth is...

Only Truth can find the pain behind the tears. Faith will never be lieved,

Waiting will never be waited, A attachment will never be loved,

Passion will never be passionate. The whole universe gets tired of favouring,

the nature starts losing courage to hold up. That's the power of never perceiving, That's the power of a little lie.

- Dr Deepika lahari

Distractions...



searches show that employees of IT industry switch their tabs every 3 minutes while working and in this way the original project is ignored to be completed. A popped up message of a friend while doing the office work diverts the attention of the person and his work is further delayed. Technology shouldn't be blamed because it is the fault of a person if he is being distracted. Distractions are of many types depending on the people. They change the behavioural pattern of an individual and makes him habitual of doing an unnecessary task for the sake of entertainment. Thus, it becomes very important for an individual to increase his/her focus over the task they are doing and stay away from all those enduring distractions that come while doing a work. This can be done by prioritising your important tasks and ignoring all the other stuff while doing them. Therefore, let us all make sure that distractions don't come into our way to chase our goals in life and we do all the work punctually.

- Shashank Shrivastava Class - 11 'A' RIS, Raipur C.G.

SC agrees to examine if woman can be charged with rape

New Delhi, Dec 02 (PTI):

Women are usually the victims of rape but can a woman be booked in a rape case? The Supreme Court has agreed to examine this question after a woman petitioned it for anticipatory bail in a rape case also involving her son. The apex court has asked the Punjab government to respond to the plea filed by a 61-year-old woman who has been implicated in the case filed by her daughter-in-law.

While agreeing to examine the issue, a bench of Justices Hrishikesh Roy and Sanjay Karol granted the woman protection from arrest and directed her to cooperate with the investigation.

"Issue notice, returnable in four weeks. In the meantime, the petitioner is protected from arrest. But she is expected to cooperate with the investigation of the crime," the bench said.

At the outset, advocate Rishi Malhotra, who appeared for the woman, argued that all other penal

sections in the FIR are bailable barring the charge under Section 376(2)(n) IPC (repeated rape). Conviction under the section entails imprisonment of not less than 10 years and may extend to sentence for life.

Referring to an apex court judgement, Malhotra submitted a woman cannot be charged with rape. According to the case, the complainant was initially in a long-distance relationship with the US-based elder son of the woman, a widow, but they had never met in person. The FIR states that the complainant started living with the widow after entering into wedlock with her son at a virtual marriage ceremony.

Later, the younger son of the widow visited them from Portugal. The widow has claimed that after the arrival of her younger son the complainant and her family pressured her to end the informal marriage with

her elder son. When the younger son was about to leave for Portugal, the complainant insisted that he take her along but he left alone.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is for General Public Notice that Shri Kalyan Karanjia S/o Shri R C Karanjia is owner of Property Divided Real Estate No. 451/11 (Previously 4514, 4501 part, situated at Tampara, P.H. No. 78, Old Rajapur, 1st Ward, Durg, C.G. Telephone No. 922122) and 2402 sq ft which he had purchased from the Owner Shri P. J. Jaisankar S/o Shri M. K. Gupta by Registered Sale Deed registered at the office of Sub-Registrar, Raipur vide Book No. A-1, Gram No. 10059 as Serial No. 7061 (K) on Page 26 to 46 on 21-02-2017. Prior to this Shri P. J. Jaisankar S/o Shri M. K. Gupta had purchased above said Property from Previous Owner Smt. Savita Gupta W/o Late Shri K. K. Gupta by Registered Sale Deed registered at the office of Sub-Registrar, Raipur vide Book No. A-1, Gram No. 10059 as Serial No. 4408/2002 on 02-12-2002.

The above said Two Part Property Original Title Deeds (11,06,190 & 04,10,186) has been lost by Shri Kalyan Karanjia S/o Shri R C Karanjia on date 26-11-2023 somewhere in his House A, outside of Raipur.

This Shri Kalyan Karanjia has executed a Sale Agreement to Dr. Baran Jaisankar & Dr. Priyanka Jaisankar. The Dr. Baran Jaisankar & Dr. Priyanka Jaisankar are taking the above mentioned Property to be sold to the General Public Person Individual, Banks, Financial Institutions, Societies, Boards, Corporations, Authorities that he haven't assigned above said Property Original Sale Deed anywhere & not recorded in any office. He is well informed that if said Property Original Sale Deed is held hostage etc. by any person, professional, institution or body, then he himself will be responsible for consequences in future for any such transaction in any of his legal heirs or his legal representatives will not be held responsible.

The Shri Kalyan Karanjia has executed a Sale Agreement to Dr. Baran Jaisankar & Dr. Priyanka Jaisankar. The Dr. Baran Jaisankar & Dr. Priyanka Jaisankar are taking the above mentioned Property to be sold to the General Public Person Individual, Banks, Financial Institutions, Societies, Boards, Corporations, Authorities that he haven't assigned above said Property Original Sale Deed anywhere & not recorded in any office. He is well informed that if said Property Original Sale Deed is held hostage etc. by any person, professional, institution or body, then he himself will be responsible for consequences in future for any such transaction in any of his legal heirs or his legal representatives will not be held responsible.

Raipur C.G. Nitin Kedia Date: 02-12-2023 Advocate Shop No. GFS 62, Bhat Mata Karma Parisar RDA Building, New Rajendra Nagar, Raipur, (C.G.) Cell No. 9993239853, 9425515881

AFFIDAVIT

I owe pledge that-

- 1) My son Siddhant Verma at present studying in class 5th at Patanjali Gurukulam, haridwar, Uttarakhand, was a student of class 1 at Sacred Heart school Baiodabazar C.G. in the year 2019-20. 2) For admission at the Gurukulam, Siddhant Verma was issued Transfer certificate from sacred heart school which was received by me on 26-02-2020. 3) To the best of my Knowledge the original TC was submitted by me at Gurukulam haridwar while admission of Siddhant in Class 2. 4) At present the Gurukulam is asking original TC on the plea that the same is not available with them and without the TC his enrollment is impossible. 5) Duplicate Transfer certificate is requested from Sacred heart school Baiodabazar.

For the purpose this pledge is solemnises by Me faithfully. Date: 30/11/2023

Oath Taker Kaushal Chandra Barda, Lawan 9977870999

Indian Bank POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Properties) [Under Rule-8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002] Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 15.09.2023 Calling upon the Borrower: M/s Vishal Structural Fabricators with our Kasardih Durg Branch to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 1,04,05,922.00 (Rupees One Crore Four Laks Five Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Two only) in Cash Credit account & Rs. 7,48,194.00 (Rupees Seven Lakhs Four Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety Four only) in GECLS Term Loan with in 60 days from the date of 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/her under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this 30th 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 the Indian Bank for an amount of Rs. 1,11,54,116.00 (Rupees One Crore Eleven Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand One Hundred Sixty only) and interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to the provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

punjab national bank Circle SASTRA Raipur, Plot No. 46, Sector-24, Naya Raipur, Pin: 492018, Ph: 0771-2210417/19

DEMAND NOTICE A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower's (Borrower) and (Co-borrower) have defaulted in repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were 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 address, but they have been returned unopened and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Table with 4 columns: Name & Address of the Borrower and Branch Name, Date of Demand Notice, Amount Outstanding (As on the date of notice), Details of Properties / Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced. Rows include borrowers like SHRI BALMUKUNDA CHAUDHRI, M/S AJAY STORES, SHRIANANDRAO, and SHRI NAND KISHOR KHOLAPURE.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. 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 this notice under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

Manjhi to stage dharna against Nitish

Patna, Dec 02 (PTI): Former Bihar chief minister Jitan Ram Manjhi on Saturday announced that he will stage a "dharna" at Jantar Mantar in Delhi next week to protest his recent humiliation at the hands of incumbent Nitish Kumar. Manjhi, who heads Hindustani Awam Morcha and nurses a grouse over the dressing down received

from Kumar inside the assembly recently, said the dharna will also be marked by a "havan", a ritual in which offerings are made into a consecrated fire. "Our dharna will take place at Jantar Mantar on December 5 when we will also perform a havan with chants of Nitish Kumar swaha", said Manjhi, who is with the BJP-led NDA.

One-day review meeting of principals of SAGES schools held

Bilaspur, Dec 02:

A one-day review meeting of the principals of 34 Swami Atmanand Excellent English and Hindi medium schools running in the district was organized here in the District Education Office. In the meeting, Divisional Joint Director Education R.P. Aditya, District Education Officer T.R. Sahu, SEJS Nodal Dr. Anil Tiwari, while giving detailed information to the principals present for the successful operation of Swami Atmanand Excellent School and providing quality education, especially inspired them to achieve the expected educational achievements as per the intention of the government.

Many suggestions were given to the principals for school management and instructions were given to discharge their work re-



sponsibilities properly. It was asked to conduct classroom teaching as per the school academic calendar and in the absence of subject teachers, to complete the curriculum by making arrangements for alternative teachers at the school level. Also in the meeting, principals were asked to regularly inspect the daily routine of teachers and record remarks in it. The teacher whose daily routine is excellent was instructed by the

Principal to display it on the school display board during the weekend. So that other teachers can be encouraged to do good work. By giving work responsibilities to all the teachers according to the class, emphasis was laid on making special efforts to create an excellent educational environment in the school by keeping the campus clean and communicating with the students. Principals were specially cautioned to ensure that

the practical work of science subjects studied in higher secondary schools is in accordance with the academic calendar.

All the teachers of the school were specially encouraged to make proper arrangements for continuous classroom teaching and evaluation as per the academic calendar and to make joint efforts for continuous educational improvement.

After completing the admission process without delay in 03 new Sages schools approved in the district, Tifra, Jairamnagar and Beltara respectively, instructions were given for regular class teaching in the school.

In the meeting, all the principals and clerks of Swami Atmanand Excellent School of the district along with APC of Samagra Shiksha Office were present.

Korea, Dec 02:

Collector and District Election Officer Vinay Kumar Langeh took an important meeting with all the political representatives of Baikunthpur Assembly Election regarding the counting of votes, under the Assembly Elections 2023. The Collector while giving necessary information on the counting day, told the representatives of political parties and candidates that government Adarsh Ramanuja Higher Secondary School has been made the counting venue and EVM strong rooms will be opened on December 3 at 6 am and postal ballot will also be brought from the district treasury to the counting centre with security arrangements immediately after the opening of the EVM strong room. The District Election



Officer also shared the numerical information of postal ballots and ETPBS received till date with all the public representatives. According to the information received, till now 824 voters deployed on election duty have used postal ballot. ETPBS voters are 26, AVSC voters are 86, AVPD voters are 53. Thus far, 1020 voters have voted through postal ballot. It was also told that in the counting hall, 3 tables will be installed for postal

ballot counting, 14 tables for EVM counting and finally one table will be installed for counting random 5 V.V.PAT machines. District Panchayat CEO Dr. Ashutosh Chaturvedi told the public representatives that as per the instructions of the Commission, no electronic gadget including mobile phones, pens will be allowed in the counting hall. While giving information in this regard, all the representatives were told

that keeping in mind the security and confidentiality matters, electronic devices, gadgets will not be allowed nor will any vehicle be allowed inside the counting premises.

RO Mrs. Ankita Som informed the delegates that it is mandatory to have the identity card issued by the Election Commission in the counting room. No one will be allowed to enter the counting hall without identity card.

17(C) Part 2 will be photocopied and supplied to the counting agent. A d d i t i o n a l Superintendent of Police, Mrs. Monica Thakur said that carrying tobacco, gutkha, liquor and other weapons at the counting site will be completely banned.

Deputy District Election Officer Nandini Sahu and related nodal officers were present in the meeting.

1.55 lakh MT paddy procured from 129 paddy procurement centers

In the district; DO of 63,700 MT released

Bemetara, Dec 02: So far 1 lakh 55 thousand metric tonnes (MT) of paddy has been purchased at support price in the last one month of paddy procurement which started from November 1 for the Kharif marketing year 2023-24 in Bemetara district. Paddy is being procured by 102 cooperative societies in 129 paddy procurement centers of the district. Collector Padum Singh Elma is continuously inspecting the paddy procurement centers and taking information about paddy purchase and lifting and is also giving necessary guidelines so that farmers do not face any problem in selling paddy. Paddy is being lifted rapidly from the paddy procure-



ment centers of Bemetara district. The officers in charge are continuously inspecting the paddy procurement arrangements in the paddy procurement centres. It is known that from last November 1, paddy procurement started at the support price for the Kharif marketing year 2023-24 in the paddy procurement centers of entire Chhattisgarh including Bemetara district. Initially, 106 paddy pur-

chases of the district were started. On the first day, tokens of 448 registered farmers were cut. On the first day, 18501 quintals of paddy was purchased from 409 farmers. District Food Officer Nitish Trivedi said that till now the process of contracting with 40 millers for lifting and custom milling of procured paddy has been completed and 384 millers contracted with the procurement centers of the district for lif-

ing of paddy directly from the paddy procurement centres. The lifting of paddy has been started by the millers against the issued DO. He said that till now the total procurement as on November 30 has been 154960.36 MT. DO issued is 63713.80 MT, lifting in DO is 31426.96 MT, remaining lifting in DO is 32287 MT, remaining stock in centers is 123533.40 MT. He said that till now Rs 338.63 crore has been pur-

chased, out of which 31683 farmers have been benefited. Payment confirmed to 27538 farmers, amount Rs 292.90 crore. The Food Officer said that gunny bags are available in all the centers in the committees for the next 7 days and the number of centers having stock more than the buffer limit is 49.

In the Kharif season 2023-24, 158529 farmers in the district have registered in cooperative societies for selling paddy. Last year, 1 lakh 53 thousand farmers had registered in cooperative societies for selling paddy. Whose area was 1 lakh 83 thousand 242 hectares. Which has increased to 1 lakh 85 thousand 928 hectares this year. This year the estimated target of paddy procurement is 802842 metric tons. Last year the estimated target was 679187 MT.

32 children hospitalised after lizard found in mid-day meal



Mandir-Hasaud, Dec 02:

Thirty-two children were hospitalised after lizard was found in mid-day meal on November 30, in the government secondary school of village Brahmin Kadi, located 20 kilometers away from the capital Raipur. A lizard was found in the vegetable, information about which was informed by a student to the cook and

teachers, whereupon the cook prohibited all the children from eating the food. After some time, the children who had already eaten their food started vomiting and complained of stomach burning.

Taking this seriously, school in-charge DG Joshi immediately took him to Chandkhuri Health Centre for first aid. While the health centre is being run on the trust of RMO,

the news of the incident was given to the Block Medical Officer by Ashok Banjare the Sarpanch, after which Block Medical Officer Dr. Rai arrived, and took the responsibility of treatment. Dr. Rai said that all children except 3 are normal and they will be kept under doctor's observation for 6 hours, where if any kind of danger is felt, they will be referred to Raipur.

Take effective steps towards elephant-human conflict: Kumar



Korba, Dec 02:

District Collector Saurabh Kumar here held a meeting with officials of Forest Department and Electricity and CREDA Department and directed to take effective steps to reduce elephant-human conflict in the forest areas of the district and to ensure that there is no loss of life due to wild elephants. The

Collector instructed the team engaged in driving away elephants from residential areas to remain alert and to maintain the prescribed height while repairing electrical wires that cause harm to wild animals. While holding a meeting of the committee formed to reduce elephant-human conflict and gave instructions to the Electricity Department to

take action against illegal hooking in the district.

He gave instructions to cover exposed electrical wires in forest areas, timely distribution of compensation for damage to crops caused by elephants, quick preparation and submission of post-mortem reports on incidents of loss of life, procurement and transportation of paddy in paddy procurement cen-

tres, provision of forests for hunting of wild animals. Instructions were given regarding taking action against poachers going into forests and making people aware not to venture into unnecessary forests and encouraging replacement of crops which attract elephants with other crops.

Information was also given by Divisional Forest Officer Kumar Nishant regarding the action being taken to stop elephant-human conflict. Korba DFO Arvind PM, Katghora DFO Kumar Nishant, Electricity Department CP Gadheval, BL Sidar, BB Netam, NL Patel etc. were present in the meeting.

Post office in dilapidated building

Thieves break open door

Dongargaon, Dec 02:

Thieves broke not the lock but the door of the only post office located in the heart of the city and this door of the post office, which operates in a building that is in ruins since years, has a total of four locks, three of which are locked from outside and one from inside.

Seeing the dilapidated condition of this door with four locks, one feels pity for the entire system including the post office officials.

This post office, operating in an old building, has been attacked many times by thieves, but this time no major loss has been re-



ported. As per the daily routine, in the morning Devcharan Raote Multi Tasking Staff, Gayatri Bai Sweeper and Rajendra Yadav Gramin Dak Sevak had reached the office, where after seeing the condition of the door, they

understood the whole matter and immediately informed the police station, from where two police officers reached the spot. After reaching, took stock of the entire post office. Though there is no news of any major loss in

the theft that took place in the post office on the night of 29th November, but looking at the dilapidated condition of this post office which has a business of lakhs per day, one feels pity for the entire system. While the government is providing funds to build well-equipped and safe houses for the poorest of the poor, the post office operating in the Tehsil headquarters has an old fan, no proper arrangement for meeting of employees and customers, and a dilapidated roof from where water leaks during rainy days.

Meanwhile cases of thefts are on a rise in the region, with even a bank in Dongargaon has been burglarized by breaking the wall.

RTO suspended licenses of 108 drivers



Jagdalpur, Dec 02: The vehicles are being investigated by the traffic police in Bastar district. RTO has suspended the licenses of 108 drivers who are causing accidents and driving against the rules. According to the information received from the RTO office, there will be a facility to give notice if there is a license from Bastar district, but there is difficulty in giving notice on licenses from other

districts and states. After three months, after payment of fresh challan, these drivers will be able to get their licenses back from the police stations. At present, police and traffic police are sending orders to RTO to suspend the licenses of such drivers. Regional Transport Officer Rishabh Naidu said that the licenses of the drivers who violate the rules will be suspended by the police and traffic.

BJP gave training to agents appointed in vote counting

Jagdalpur, Dec 02:

The agents appointed by the Bharatiya Janata Party from the three assembly constituencies of the district, Jagdalpur, Chitrakot and Bastar for the counting of votes for the assembly elections to be held on Dec 3, held a training meeting at the BJP district office on Thursday and were given detailed information regarding the counting of votes.

At the time of counting of votes, all the agents have been asked to sit carefully till the end in the designated tables and lodge immediate objection if any kind of irregularity or omission is noticed.

BJP State General Secretary Kedar Kashyap, Sharad Awasthi, BJP



District President Roop Singh Mandavi and Anil Sharma gave detailed information to the workers appointed as agents for counting of votes.

They were also explained the things to be kept in mind during vote counting. Sharad Awasthi said that the work of counting votes is very important. Every vote is valuable. All the appointed agents will be sitting in the tables with utmost

alertness and will remain there till the counting of 17-18 votes is completed. Congratulating and extending best wishes to all the workers, Kedar Kashyap said that the five years of hard work of all the workers is going to yield positive results.

The agents deployed by the party in the counting of votes should immediately object if they notice any mistake in the counting of votes. It was told in

the meeting that postal ballots would be counted first. After that, EVM votes will be counted sequentially according to the rounds. All the agents have been asked to reach the counting venue one hour before.

The meeting was conducted by Vedprakash Padey and vote of thanks was conducted by Rajashray Singh. In the training meeting, all three BJP candidates Kirandeve, Maniram Kashyap, Vinayak Goyal, Srinivas Rao Maddi, Baiduram Kashyap, Shivnarayan Padey, Vidya Sharan Tiwari, Yogendra Padey, Rajneesh Panigrahi, Narsingh Rao, Suresh Gupta, Satish Sethia, Paris Besra and other officials were present. Workers were present.

Two accused arrested with banned drugs



Jagdalpur, Dec 02: A big market for banned drugs has developed in the Kotwali police station area of the district. The detection of banned drugs continues here day by day. In this connection, the Kotwali police got information that in Asana, a person carrying a large quantity of banned narcotic pills in a motorcycle and in Hatguda and is looking for a customer to sell them. On reaching the place

informed by the informer, they surrounded and arrested accused Divesh Pandey, R/o Palli Chakwa, with 1800 pieces of banned drug in his possession and Ghasiram Nag, resident of Kuharpara, with 1125 pieces of banned drug in his possession. After registering separate crimes under Section 21 NDPS Act in the police station, the accused were produced before the court on Friday.

Himalayas need help, COP28 talks must respond: UN chief Guterres



World leaders attend an event in support of tripling global nuclear capacity by 2050 at the COP28 U.N. Climate Summit, Saturday, Dec. 2 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Dubai, Dec 02 (PTI):

Warning of a potential catastrophe in the Himalayas where the glaciers are melting at an alarming rate, UN chief Antonio Guterres on Saturday said the ongoing annual climate talks here must respond to the needs of the developing nations, especially the vulnerable mountain countries that need urgent help.

Almost 240 million people depend on the glaciers and 10 major rivers, such as Indus, Ganga, and Brahmaputra, originating

in the Himalayas. Another billion people living downstream of these rivers across eight countries, including India, are also dependent on the glacier-fed rivers.

Addressing a meeting with mountain countries at this year's Conference of Parties (COP28), UN Secretary-General Guterres emphasised that nearly a third of Nepal's ice had vanished in just over 30 years, and it was directly linked to greenhouse gas pollution that heats up the planet.

Guterres, who visited

Nepal, including the Everest region, in October last week, called for developed countries to clarify the delivery of USD 100 billion and produce a plan to double adaptation finance to USD 40 billion a year by 2025.

"But those sums are dwarfed by the scale of what's needed," he said and advocated for reform in International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to better cater to the needs of developing countries like Nepal. "So, we need the

outcome of this COP to call for reform of the IFIs so that they reflect today's world and are far more responsive to the needs of developing countries and for reform of the business models of the MDBs so that they can leverage far more private finance at reasonable cost to the developing countries," he told the gathering.

He said unless there is a change in course, "a catastrophe can be unleashed."

"The glaciers could disappear altogether. That means massively reduced flows for major Himalayan rivers such as the Indus, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra. Deltas decimated by saltwater," Guterres said.

The Secretary-General highlighted the alarming pace at which the glaciers were disappearing, causing devastating impacts on local communities. "The mountains are crying out for help and COP28 must respond."

Guterres attended the high-level roundtable with Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', and other heads of state and delegations.

Israel intensifies its assault on southern Gaza

● Causing renewed concern about civilian deaths

Khan Younis (Gaza Strip), Dec 02 (AP): Israel pounded targets in the southern Gaza Strip on Saturday, intensifying a renewed offensive that followed a weeklong truce with Hamas and giving rise to renewed concerns about civilian casualties.

At least 178 Palestinians have been killed since the fighting resumed Friday morning, even as the United States urged ally Israel to do everything possible to protect civilians.

"This is going to be very important going forward," Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Friday after meetings with Arab foreign ministers in Dubai, wrapping up his third Middle East tour since the war started. "It's something we're going to be looking at very closely."

Israel's attacks Saturday



Palestinians mourn their relatives killed in the Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip, in the hospital in Khan Younis, Saturday, Dec. 2.

were focused on the Khan Younis area in southern Gaza, where the military dropped leaflets the day before warning residents to leave.

As of late Friday, however, there had been no reports of large numbers of people leaving, according to the United Nations.

"There is no place to go," lamented Emad Hajar, who fled with his wife and three children from the northern town of Beit

Lahia a month ago to seek refuge in Khan Younis.

"They expelled us from the north, and now they are pushing us to leave the south."

Some 2 million people - almost Gaza's entire population - are crammed into the territory's south, where Israel urged people to relocate at the war's start and has since vowed to extend its ground assault.

Major terror bid foiled in Pakistan's Punjab province

● 14 TTP, ISI terrorists arrested

Lahore, Dec 02 (PTI):

Counter-terrorism police in Pakistan on Saturday claimed to have foiled a major terror plot to target key installations in the Punjab province by arresting 14 suspected terrorists from different banned terror groups, including the ISI and TTP.

The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Punjab said it conducted 147 intelligence-based operations in different districts of the province in which 14 alleged terrorists were arrested with weapons, explosives and other prohibited materials.

"The Punjab province has foiled a major terror plot by arresting 14 suspected terrorists linked with the banned outfits during operations in different areas of Punjab," a

LAVA ERUPTS FROM MOUNT ETNA



Lava erupts from Southeast crater on Mount Etna seen from Nicolosi near Catania, late evening Friday.

France and Philippines eye security pact to allow joint military combat exercises

Manila, Dec 02 (AP):

France and the Philippines are considering a defence pact that would allow them to send military forces to each other's territory for joint exercises, the Philippine defence chief said Saturday after holding talks with his French counterpart.

Gilberto Teodoro Jr said in a joint press conference with French Minister for the Armed Forces Sebastien Lecornu that they were seeking authorization from their heads of state to begin negotiations.

"We intend to take concrete steps into levelling up and making more comprehensive our defence cooperation, principally by working to get authorisation from our respective heads of state and relevant agencies to begin negotiations for a status of visiting forces agreement," Teodoro said.

"The first goal is to create interoperability or a strategic closeness between both armed forces, see how both navies work together, how air forces work together," Lecornu said through an interpreter.

The Philippines has such an agreement which provides a legal framework for visits of foreign troops only with the United States, its longtime treaty ally, and with Australia.

Negotiations between the Philippines and Japan are also underway for a reciprocal access agreement that would allow Japanese and Philippine troop deployments to one another for military exercises and other security activities.

The Philippine and French defence chiefs agreed to deepen defense cooperation, including by boosting intelligence and information exchanges to

address security threats, Teodoro said.

They agreed to sustain Philippine and French ship visits and underscored the importance of upholding international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, he said.

That language has often been used by the US and the Philippines, along with their allies, in their criticism of China for its increasingly aggressive actions in the disputed South China Sea.

France has deployed its navy ships to the South China Sea to promote freedom of navigation and push back against Chinese expansionism. China claims virtually the entire waterway and has constructed island bases protected by a missile system in the past decade, alarming smaller claimant states, including the Philippines, Vietnam and Malaysia.

Somalia president hails lifting of arms embargo

● As govt vows to wipe out al-Shabab militants

Mogadishu (Somalia), Dec 02 (AP): Somalia's President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud welcomed Saturday the UN Security Council vote to lift an arms embargo imposed on the Horn of Africa nation more than 30 years ago.

The 15-member council unanimously voted Friday night in favour of the British-drafted resolution to lift the weapons ban. However, France was the only member to abstain when voting on another resolution to reimpose an arms embargo on al-Qaeda-linked al-Shabaab militants, saying the resolution lacked references to the territorial disputes between Djibouti and Eritrea.

In a statement sent to the Associated Press, Information Minister Daud Aweys said the embargo lift will help modernise the country's armed forces.

"Somalia has been grappling with significant security challenges, including the presence of extremist groups such as al-Shabab.

The Somali government needs access to modern arms and equipment to effectively combat these threats and maintain security within its borders," the statement read. The Somali president, in a televised statement soon after the adoption of the resolution, said the embargo lift "means that we are now free to purchase any weapons needed," adding that "friendly nations and allies" can now "provide us with the necessary weapons without any limitations or restrictions".

Somalia was placed under the embargo in 1992 to stop the sale of weapons to warlords who toppled former dictator Mohamed Siad Barre. The ouster led to decades of civil war and instability in the country as the warlords fought against each other.

Last month, Mohamud pledged to wipe out the Islamist group, al-Shabaab, by Dec 2024. The militant group has lost swaths of territory since the government backed by local militias, African Union troops and Western powers, launched an extensive offensive against it in May.

India not just observing the future unfolding, but actively shaping it: Amb Kamboj

United Nations, Dec 02 (PTI):

India, home to the world's largest youth population, is actively shaping the future and its young minds are leveraging technology as a powerful tool to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She said that projects by the country's youth, ranging from sustainable agriculture to healthcare innovation are "shining examples" of how technology can be a force for good, transforming challenges into opportunities.

The summit was organised by the UN Department of Global Communications (DGC) associated NGO, 1M1B with the support of the Civil Society Unit, DGC. 1M1B (One Million for One Billion) is a United Nations-accredited non-profit organisation established in 2014.

The organisation is dedicated to digital skilling, change-making and entrepreneurship and has undertaken efforts to train young people throughout India in skills such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Green Skills, Entrepreneurship, Digital Citizenship, Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), and

other emerging technologies. Over 500,000 students have participated in 1M1B's programmes so far.

About 50 Indian teenagers represented India at the 7th 1M1B Activate Impact Summit held at the UN headquarters. The students hailed from Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Ahmedabad, and Delhi and presented social, economic, and environmental projects to a gathering of industry experts, corporations, non-profits, academia, civil society, UN representatives, Indian officials, and delegates from multiple countries.

Kamboj said that the projects and initiatives demonstrated by the young students at the summit present a "blueprint" for how youth-led initiatives can be scaled and replicated across the globe.

Calling on the young leaders to continue to "inspire, innovate and lead", Kamboj said their work goes beyond national boundaries and contributes to a global narrative of hope, resilience, and innovation.

South Korea launches its first spy satellite

Vandenberg Space Force Base (US), Dec 02 (AP): South Korea launched its first military spy satellite into space Friday, a little over a week after North Korea claimed to put its own spy satellite into orbit for the first time as tensions rise between the rivals.

Launched from California's Vandenberg Space Force Base using SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket, it was the first of five spy satellites South Korea plans to send into space by 2025 under a contract with SpaceX. The event had been scheduled for earlier in the week but was pushed back because of weather conditions.

South Korea had no military reconnaissance satellites of its own in space and has partially resorted to the United States' spy satellites to monitor moves by North Korea.

South Korea's Defense Ministry described the launch as successful, saying the satellite had a communication with an overseas ground station.

A ministry statement said the launch allowed the South Korean military to acquire an independent spaced-based surveillance system. It said the satellite would also help bolster the military's preemptive mis-



South Korea launches its first military spy satellite from Vandenberg Space Force Base, Calif., using SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket, it was the first of five spy satellites South Korea plans to send into space by 2025 under a contract with SpaceX.

sile strike capability, a key part of its so-called three-axis system that includes missile defense and massive retaliatory capabilities.

After two launch failures earlier this year, North Korea said it successfully placed its Mallyongong-1 spy satellite into orbit last week. South Korea confirmed that the satellite entered orbit, but officials said they need more time to verify whether it is working properly.

North Korea said Tuesday that leader Kim Jong Un reviewed imagery taken by the Mallyongong-1 satellite of the White House and the Pentagon in Washington,

and U.S. aircraft carriers at a navy base and a shipyard in Virginia. North Korea earlier said the satellite also transmitted photos of U.S. military facilities in Guam and Hawaii and key sites in South Korea.

State Bank of India
Regional Business Office R-4 City Centre Mall, 1st floor Near New Bus Stand Kanker C.G., 494334

Notice for Town Hall Meeting
On date 05.12.2023, from 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm, a town hall meeting has been organized by State Bank of India for respected customers at Gutrati Samaj Bhawan, behind Kothari Petrol Pump, Kanker. Respectfully invited.

Regional Manager



CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 49 No. 62

Waters of Discord

Tensions at Nagarjuna Sagar Dam

The clash between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh over the Nagarjuna Sagar Dam serves as a stark reminder of the importance of water resource management and interstate cooperation. In the dead of night, just hours before Telangana's crucial elections, Andhra Pradesh took control of the dam and initiated the release of Krishna water, setting off a heated confrontation. Andhra Pradesh's rationale for this action was framed under the guise of providing drinking water. However, the move raised immediate concerns and tensions, as it unfolded without adequate prior consultation or adherence to established protocols. Subsequently, the situation escalated, leading to interventions from the Central government. Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla's proposal to revert to the water release status as of November 28 was accepted by both states, providing a temporary respite from the crisis. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has been assigned to oversee the dam's operations, ensuring that water distribution complies with the agreed-upon terms. This incident underscores the inherent complexity of water disputes in India, where the equitable distribution of this precious resource often sparks inter-state conflicts. In this case, the Nagarjuna Sagar Dam serves as a lifeline for millions, supplying water for drinking, irrigation, and industrial use across both states. The importance of water as a finite and shared resource cannot be overstated. It transcends political boundaries and should be managed with utmost care and responsibility. The actions taken by Andhra Pradesh, while legally within their rights, have had far-reaching consequences, disrupting not only the political landscape but also the daily lives of millions of people. The need for proactive and cooperative water management strategies is paramount. Interstate agreements and treaties exist for precisely this purpose, offering a framework to resolve disputes and ensure the equitable distribution of water resources. In this context, it is essential that both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh adhere to these established norms and engage in constructive dialogue to address their water-related concerns. The timing of this incident raises serious questions about the ethical considerations involved. Conducting such actions on the eve of an important election not only diverted the focus of authorities but also posed a significant threat to the essential drinking water supply of Hyderabad and its surrounding areas. It is imperative that political agendas do not take precedence over the well-being of citizens. It is crucial to recognize that water scarcity is a looming global challenge. Climate change, population growth, and increasing industrial demands are placing immense pressure on our water resources. Therefore, prudent and responsible management is not just a matter of regional significance but a global imperative. It is incumbent upon both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to uphold the spirit of interstate cooperation, ensuring that the needs of their citizens are met without compromising the stability and integrity of their region.

Embrace Election Results

Pledge to Foster State Development

Dr Man Mohan Prakash



In the vibrant tapestry of Indian democracy, we are privileged to witness the opportunity for a change in government every five years. This democratic framework cherishes the presence of a robust opposition alongside an absolute majority government, fostering a healthy balance that propels the nation forward. When the ruling party and the opposition collaborate harmoniously, progress becomes a shared endeavour. It's imperative that a government's achievements are applauded, and its shortcomings are scrutinized. A potent opposition serves as a check against autocratic rule, guiding governance decisions towards the collective welfare of society and the nation, although exceptions persist. Ultimately, the form and execution of development policies hinge significantly on the ruling government's ideologies and the individuals responsible for implementing them. As soon as the election results are declared on December 3, new governments will assume office. Whether the incoming administration is from the opposition or a re-elected incumbent, the primary objective remains constant: serving the public, advancing state development, strengthening law and order, promoting societal welfare, fostering economic growth, uplifting the marginalized, providing employment opportunities, ensuring affordable essential commodities, delivering quality education and healthcare, and safeguarding the environment and sanitation. Throughout the election campaigns, we witnessed a cacophony of political rhetoric, marked by acrimonious exchanges among parties, often descending into the use of uncouth language. Reports of harassment of government employees, officials, and voters have also emerged from certain regions, though the veracity of these claims remains uncertain. It is my fervent belief that whichever government assumes power should redirect its focus from dismantling the previous administration's initiatives to enhancing and extending their own policies. Rather than expending energy in retribution, they must promptly tackle the prevailing challenges and labor for the state's welfare. Efforts should be concentrated on the formulation and execution of novel schemes that prioritize public welfare and developmental goals. If preceding government programs have yielded favorable results and garnered public approval, discontinuing or altering them should be averted. Governments should prioritize establishing an equitable legal framework that extends equal opportunities to all citizens. If they can empower the public to purchase Revadi instead of providing it for free, nothing could be more commendable. Commit to offering good health, quality environment, education, and employment to all, especially small-scale farmers and those living below the poverty line. The government's primary mission should be to diligently and honestly serve all segments of society, ensuring progress and providing a corruption-free administration. I firmly believe that these principles will not only secure the nation's and the state's well-being but will also enable ruling parties to forge stronger bonds with the public they serve. As we accept the election results with grace, let us also acknowledge the collective responsibility to uphold the democratic spirit that fuels our nation's progress. Democracy thrives when citizens actively engage in the political process, holding their elected representatives accountable and participating in the growth and development of their communities. The path ahead may be challenging, but it is illuminated by the promise of a brighter future. Let us, as citizens, rally behind our elected leaders, urging them to set aside partisan divisions and unite for the common good. In doing so, we can collectively contribute to the growth and prosperity of our great nation, ensuring that every citizen reaps the benefits of our democratic system.

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 emailto:editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com.

TIPITAKA CHANTING CEREMONY



Artists during a holy procession of the 18th International Tipitaka Chanting ceremony at Bodh Gaya, in Gaya district, Saturday.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Innovating for Disability Inclusion

World Disabled Day, observed on December 3rd annually since 1976 by the United Nations, shines a light on the challenges faced by physically challenged individuals in our society. In India, 65% of disabled individuals reside in urban areas, with the remaining 35% in rural regions, and 45% are literate. With a staggering 21 million disabled citizens in our country, it's imperative for our generation to foster a more inclusive environment. The United Nations' focus on changing attitudes and creating job opportunities for the disabled is paramount. Madrid, Spain, sets an inspiring example by providing wheelchairs throughout the city, exemplifying spontaneous assistance. The UN champions innovative approaches to disability inclusion, addressing employment, reducing inequality, and highlighting sports as a model of equity, employment, and innovation. On this World Disabled Day, let's commit to embracing inclusivity and fostering opportunities for all.

Rathin Kumar Chanda, West Bengal

Lessons in Human Dignity and Potential

The Silkyara tunnel incident offers three critical lessons. First, it highlights the importance of thorough pre-excavation investigations to protect both workers and nature. Such reckless practices must cease. Second, the brave rescue by rat-hole miners demonstrates human skill triumphing over machines. Our workers need more respect and government support. Schools should teach students the value of labor through stories like this, where skill, endurance, patience, and perseverance achieve the impossible. Third, these heroic miners underscore the waste of India's vast human resources. Thousands of such workers, along with manual scavengers, ragpickers, and gig workers, could contribute significantly if given opportunities. This reflects India's 132nd ranking on the Human Development Index, a reminder to harness our untapped potential. It's time to recognize and invest in our nation's human capital.

Sujit De, Kolkata

Manipur to have lasting peace

It is a historic milestone that the United National Liberation Front (UNLF), a banned organisation, has agreed to renounce violence and decided to join the democratic mainstream of the country, after it signed a peace agreement in Delhi. It would surely serve as catalyst in establishing lasting peace in Manipur and that is what the country and people of Manipur have been fervently expecting an end to bloody and mindless clashes between the two ethnic communities in the state. It is not out of place in this context that the Congress and other INDI entities did their best to vitiate the situation, even stalling the proceedings of Parliament to score their brownie point on the Manipur issue, to tag the BJP in the process and paint it as villain.

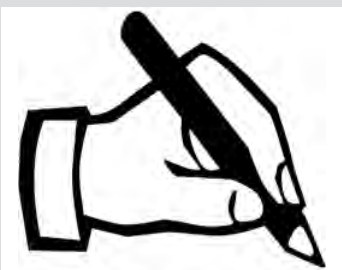
Jahangir Ali, Mumbai

(The author is a technocrat & educationist)

Dr. Rajendra Prasad: Gems of Modern India



ER. PRABHAT KISHORE



Dr. Rajendra Prasad was a symbol of nationalism due to his efficiency, devotion to service, intellectual brilliance, truthfulness, sincerity, and gentleness by entering public life as Gandhiji's associate in Champaran. This pioneering leader of the Indian freedom struggle, with his service and support of Sardar Patel, held the highest office of the President of Congress, President of the Constituent Assembly and then the first President of the Republic of India for twelve years. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was born on the 3rd December 1884 in Jiradei village of Siwan district in Bihar. Rajendra Babu started his public life in the year 1905 with the Bang-Bhang movement. He became a member of the All India Congress Committee in 1911. After the establishment of Patna High Court in 1916, he shifted to Patna and started practicing law. In Patna, there was less opportunity for advocacy and more opportunity to participate in public work.

In the Lucknow Congress of 1916, a delegation of farmers from Champaran met Gandhiji and narrated the atrocities of the Foreigners. Gandhiji reached Motihari and personally saw the plight of indigo peasants by the British. He called Rajendra Prasad and some other lawyers from Patna to Champaran and asked them to pen the sad story of the farmers. In Champaran, the work of emancipating the farmers from slavery was going on, while in Gujarat, under the leadership of Vallabhbhai Patel, the farmers of Kheda were performing satyagraha. Rajendra Babu went to Kheda to meet Patel and gave moral support to the movement.

For the promotion of the national movement, he started the publication of "Desh" in Hindi and "Searchlight" in English, which gave a big boost to the national freedom movement. On January 15, 1934, in the devastating earthquake of Bihar, lakhs of houses collapsed, wells were filled with sand and there was panic all around. An NGO named 'Bihar Central Relief Committee' was formed under the chairmanship of Rajendra Babu and efforts were made to control the situation with the money received in the relief fund. Demolition was converted into construction and Rajendra Babu was given the title of 'Deshratna' by the countrymen.

In 1934, for the first time, Rajendra Babu was elected as the Congress President. Under his presidency, the Golden Jubilee year was celebrated in the Bombay session in October 1934 to commemorate the 50 years of the Congress. He established the "Deshi Rajya Praja Mandal" in the native states. When Subhash Chandra Bose was elected president for the second time in the Tripura Congress session, he was facing fierce opposition from Gandhiji. Subhash Babu called a meeting of the All India Congress Committee in Kolkata on 28 April 1939, in which he resigned when

his leadership was not disclosed and Rajendra Babu was asked to take over the post of Congress President for the second time.

In the "Quit India" movement of 1942, all the top leaders were arrested. Rajendra Babu was arrested in a sick condition and kept in Bankipur Jail of Patna. On 15 June 1945, he along with other leaders, was released from the prison. After talks with various political and social leaders in India by the three-member mission, two plans were published by the British Government. The first plan published on 16 May 1946 was related to the formation of the Constituent Assembly and the second plan published on 16 June 1946 was related to the formation of an Interim government at the Centre. After accepting the plan on 16 June 1946, a twelve-member cabinet under the leadership of the Congress President Jawaharlal Nehru was sworn in on 2nd September 1946 and Rajendra Babu was inducted as the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

After becoming the Prime Minister of the Interim Government, Nehru had to leave the post of Congress President. As per Patel's wish, Acharya J.V. Kripalani became the President of Meerut Congress. Acharya Kripalani resigned from the post of Congress President on 17 November 1947 due to differences of opinion between the government and the Congress organization. Then Gandhiji wanted socialist Jayaprakash as president and Nehru wanted Acharya Narendra Dev, but eventually Patel's choice Rajendra Prasad was made Congress president. After some time he resigned from the post of Agriculture and Food Minister.

According to the long-term plan announced on 16 May 1946 and accepted by the Congress, the Constituent Assembly of India sat (in the Central Hall of the Lok Sabha) on 9 December 1946. Nehruji wanted N. Gopalaswami Iyengar to be made its permanent chairman, but ultimately Patel's choice Rajendra Babu was elected permanent chairman. Dr.

Conquering Fear: The Path to Achieving Greatness



Priyanka Saurabh

"The destination will be found even if you wander, only those who never leave their home are misguided."

In the 13th century AD, more than a dozen shipcaptains were busy in maritime trade and exploration through short routes. But the fear of long journeys, fear uncertainty of weather, fear of the sea, and ultimately fear of the unknown stopped them from going on long sea voyages. A man of bravery and courage accepted this challenge of the sea and started the long and impossible journey. He took the risk of going against all odds and discovering new worlds. This resulted in the discovery of a new sea route and the beginning of European trade with the Indian subcontinent. Taking risks not only resulted in surplus business in a short time, but in the long run his name got engraved on the pages of history as the first person

to visit the Indian subcontinent and his name is Vasco da Gama. Fear is a natural human emotion that often acts as a barrier to risk-taking. It is a powerful influence that can paralyze individuals, preventing them from achieving their true potential. There has been research into how living with fear can prevent us from taking risks, depriving us of opportunities for growth and success. However, it is important to recognize that without getting out of our comfort zone, we will never be able to achieve the best results in life. By examining the positive aspects of risk-taking, we can understand the importance of overcoming fear and embracing opportunities for personal and professional growth. The Biggest Speed Breaker in Risk-Taking Ability: Fear Fear can manifest in various forms, such as fear of failure, rejection, or the unknown. It affects individuals differently and can impact their decision-making abilities.

We have a great example from the Third Battle of Panipat where the enemy's fear was more powerful than ourselves. This made the Marathas mentally ill and their decisions fragmented, and this led to the biggest defeat of the Marathas. People often become comfortable with their current circumstances, preferring to stay within the confines of their comfort zone rather than taking risks. Fear of failure holds individuals back, as they fear potential consequences such as embarrassment, disappointment, or financial loss. In the documentary 14 Peaks, we see a man who fears nothing, who can easily take risks and go beyond the imagination. That one young man with a strong mentality conquered 14 peaks. Also, this fear becomes an obstacle,

which prevents them from exploring new possibilities. Instead of achieving new things, people get busy with easy things. People move into more secure jobs instead of inventing new things or creating their startups. Additionally, fear can also lead to a lack of self-confidence and self-belief. Individuals who are constantly living with fear doubt their abilities and find themselves unprepared for the challenges that come with taking risks. In the Sydney Boxing Day Test, Sachin Tendulkar was out in the first innings not because of his lack of ability but because of his fear of the ball outside the off stump. In the next innings, he prepared mentally to take the risk of not playing any of the balls outside the off stump and this resulted in a historic double century.

Fear leads individuals to focus on the negative aspects of any situation, leading to a risk-averse mindset. They may be inclined to stick to the status quo rather than venture into uncharted territory. This dislike for taking risks can limit one's potential and hinder progress in both personal and professional spheres. Take Risks and Get Meaningful Results Although living with fear may seem safe and comfortable, it ultimately prevents individuals from getting the best out of life. Mahatma Gandhi took the risk of starting a completely new kind of Satyagraha. Many people criticized him but his unique idea not only made him one of the greatest leaders but also helped the country achieve independence. Taking risks is essential for personal growth, innovation, and success. Risk-taking challenges individuals to step out of their comfort zone, encouraging them to explore new opportunities and exper-

iences. The example of Madame Curie is appropriate here. He took the risk of using radioactivity. No one believed him but his positive approach led to successful results on radioactive elements and he received two Nobel Prizes for his exemplary work. Furthermore, risk-taking provides a platform to foster personal growth, resilience, and adaptability. Hungarian athlete Karoly Takacs is the best example of this. After losing an arm in World War II, he showed courage and took the risk of participating in the Olympics again. His continuous hard work and positive attitude towards victory won him the gold medal in the Olympics. Additionally, by engaging in risk-taking can individuals discover their true passion and potential. It pushes individuals to test their limits, enabling them to learn from failures and adopt lessons that would not have been possible otherwise.

Is fear always bad? Thinking on the contrary, the answer is - no. The dimension of fear is both relative and subjective. In childhood, we show children the fear of punishment. This makes them more disciplined. Therefore some fears are necessary in life. Fear of law makes law and order effective, fear of society makes people responsible and accountable and fear of failure motivates people to work hard. Going Beyond the Imagination Whatever you want is on the other side of fear. While the benefits of taking risks are obvious, it's important to acknowledge that overcoming fear is easier said than done. Fear is deeply ingrained in human psychology and its complete eradication is not possible. However, individuals can adopt strategies to reduce fear and develop a risk-taking mindset. Fear often arises

from a negative view of possible outcomes. By reframing our mindset and focusing on the positive aspects of risk-taking, we can reduce fear and strengthen confidence. Here the role of the education system and family comes to the fore. The education system needs to amend itself and teach students to learn from failures take risks, explore options, and go beyond the curriculum. Instead of viewing setbacks as failures, they can be viewed as steps toward success and learning opportunities. The next important thing is about developing flexibility. Resilient individuals can overcome setbacks, setbacks, and rejection by using setbacks as fuel for growth and improvement. We have a great example from SpaceX.

We need ethics in daily life to guide us toward benefiting others. That is why in Indian society we pray. Living with fear can undoubtedly prevent individuals from taking risks. Fear of failure, rejection, and the unknown often act as a barrier, preventing individuals from reaching their full potential. However, it is essential to recognize the importance of taking risks in personal and professional growth. By stepping out of our comfort zone, embracing opportunities, and challenging our limitations, we can achieve personal growth, contribute to innovation, and achieve success. Overcoming fear requires changing your perspective, building resilience, adopting a growth mindset, setting realistic goals, and getting support. By doing this, we can develop a risk-taking mindset, which can enable us to reach the best results we can in life.

(Writer is a Research Scholar in Political Science, Poetess, Independent journalist and columnist.)

BRIEF

Kobe port



Ahmedabad: Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel on Thursday called on Governor of Japan's Hyogo Prefecture, Motohiko Saito, and later visited the Kobe port in the region during his ongoing tour of the Asian country. A high-level delegation led by Patel is on a Japan visit since Sunday (November 26) to promote the 10th edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, to be held in January at Mahatma Mandir Convention Centre in Gandhinagar. During the meeting with Governor Saito, Patel recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi had visited Hyogo in 2007 and again in 2012 when he was the Gujarat CM, said an official release in Gandhinagar.

Completes merger

New Delhi: Tata Steel said it has completed the merger of S & T Mining Company Ltd with itself. The scheme of amalgamation of S & T Mining Company Ltd ('S&T Mining') into and with Tata Steel Ltd was approved and sanctioned by National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) Kolkata vide order dated November 10, 2023, according to a filing. "...scheme of amalgamation has become operative and effective from today i.e., December 1, 2023. In terms of the scheme of amalgamation, S&T Mining stands dissolved without being wound up, effective December 1, 2023," it said.

Title transfer



New Delhi: Air India has completed the title transfer of its fourth A350 aircraft, and it is scheduled to arrive in February 2024. The Tata Group-owned carrier expects the first A350-900 aircraft to arrive in India this month. "On the aircraft front, we completed the title transfer of our fourth A350 aircraft last week, which is scheduled to arrive in February 2024 after livery changes and modifications. "We also took delivery of another two A320neos that will commence service in December," Air India CEO and MD Campbell Wilson said in his weekly message to the staff on Friday.

Tea production

Kolkata: Tea production in the country increased by 12.06 per cent to 182.84 million kg in October this year as compared to 163.15 million kg in the corresponding month last year. According to Tea Board data, production of the crop in West Bengal rose to 54.98 million kg in October, as against 49.75 million kg in the same period in 2022.

Govt bans 'dark patterns' on e-commerce platforms; notifies guidelines

New Delhi, Dec 02: In order to protect consumers' interest, the government has banned use of "dark patterns" on e-commerce platforms which intend to deceive customers or manipulate their choices. A gazette notification in this regard as "Guidelines for prevention and regulation of dark patterns" was issued on November 30 by the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) which is applicable to all platforms offering goods and services in India, and even advertisers and sellers. Resorting to dark patterns will amount to misleading advertisement or unfair trade practice or violation of consumer rights. The penalty will be imposed as per the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, it added. "In the emerging digital commerce, dark patterns are increasingly being used by the platforms to mislead the consumers by manipulating their buying choices and behaviour," Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh



told PTI. The notified guidelines will ensure clarity in the minds of all stakeholders - buyers, sellers, marketplaces and regulators - as to what is not acceptable as unfair trading practices, the latter being liable under the Consumer Protection Act, he added. According to the notification, dark patterns have been defined as any practice or deceptive design pattern using user interface or user experience interactions on any platform that is designed to mislead or trick users to do something they originally did not

intend or want to do, by subverting or impairing the consumer autonomy, decision making or choice. For instance, 'basket sneaking' is a dark pattern that includes additional items such as products, services, payments to charity or donation at the time of check-out from a platform, without the consent of the user, such that the total amount payable by the user is more than the amount payable for the product or service chosen by the user. Another dark pattern called "forced action" means forcing a user into taking an action that would require the user to buy any additional goods or subscribe or sign up for an unrelated service or share personal information in order to buy or subscribe to the product or service originally intended by the user. Likewise, CCPA has specified 13 dark patterns to provide only as a guidance for the industry. Initially, CCPA had identified 10 dark patterns but after the public consultation another three were included.

Credit metrics of India Inc likely to improve to 4.5-5 times in Q3 FY24: Icr

New Delhi, Dec 02: India Inc's credit metrics are likely to show slight sequential improvement in the third quarter of the current fiscal, with interest coverage increasing to 4.5-5 times, rating agency Icr said on Friday. This would benefit from improved earnings of corporate India on the back of continuing, albeit moderating, tailwinds from commodity prices and seasonally strong demand during the recently concluded festive season, it said in a release. Icr's analysis of the second quarter of 2023-24 performance of 601 listed companies (excluding financial sector entities) revealed improved operating profit margins (OPM), increasing by 398 bps and 64 bps on a year-on-year and sequential basis, respectively, it said. This was primarily aided by softening in commodity prices. However, while the input costs softened in recent months, they remain elevated compared to the historic levels, and accordingly, India Inc's OPM is yet to revive to its historic highs, the agency said.

India will grow at nearly 7pc in 2023-24: Sanyal

Kolkata, Dec 02:



Sanjeev Sanyal, member of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, release a report during a special session of Calcutta Chamber of Commerce on 'How build an Indian Narrative', in Kolkata.

India's economy will grow at close to 7 per cent during the ongoing fiscal, Sanjeev Sanyal, a member of EAC to PM, said on Friday. Addressing a programme at the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, he said there is a need to counter global narratives built on "absurd and irrelevant" data points, and India's second-largest rating agency CareEdge will soon start publishing sovereign ratings.

He said that backed by manufacturing, the economy grew by 7.6 per cent in the July-September quarter, well above expectations.

"We will be growing at somewhat close to 7 per cent for the year, and that would easily make us the world's fastest-growing," he said. Sanyal, a member of the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) to the Prime Minister, said that for too long, India's growth

has been defined by others. "It's time we start taking control of our own narrative and defining ourselves on our own terms," he said.

"We need to create our own indices and do our own sovereign ratings. CareEdge will begin pub-

lishing these readings (sovereign ratings) in the next few months, followed by indices on democracy, freedom, sustainability and corporate governance within the next year," he added.

He, however, said that India cannot ignore the existing global indices as they currently hold a 20 per cent weightage on investment and cost of capital. Sanyal also reaffirmed the government's commitment to increasing the share of manufacturing in the GDP mix. He highlighted several ongoing initiatives, including Production-Linked Incentives (PLI), aimed at achieving this goal.

"We are putting a very big effort into getting manufacturing going in India. A lot of effort has been put in, for example protecting Indian companies from Chinese dumping, which happens all the time. "It's not perfect, but we are providing some protection.

GST collections jump 15 pc to Rs 1.68 lakh cr in Nov

New Delhi, Dec 02:



GST collections jumped 15 per cent to nearly Rs 1.68 lakh crore in November on increased domestic activity and festive season buying, the finance ministry said on Friday. Goods and Services Tax (GST) mop up was over Rs 1.45 lakh crore in November 2023.

"The gross GST revenue collected in the month of November 2023 is Rs 1,67,929 crore, out of which CGST is Rs 30,420 crore, SGST is Rs 38,226 crore, IGST is Rs 87,009 crore (including Rs 39,198 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is Rs 12,274 crore (including Rs 1,036 crore collected on import of goods)," the ministry said in a statement. The

November 2023 collections are, however, lower than Rs 1.72 lakh crore mopped up in October - the second-highest collection ever since the GST rollout. Revenues for November 2023 are 15 per cent higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year and the highest for any month year-on-year during 2023-24, up to November 2023, the ministry said. The gross GST collection till November in

the current fiscal is Rs 13,32,440 crore, averaging Rs 1.66 lakh crore per month. The collection is 11.9 per cent higher than the gross GST collection in the same period last year (Rs 11,90,920 crore, averaging Rs 1.49 lakh crore per month). It is the sixth time that the gross GST collection has crossed the Rs 1.60 lakh crore mark in the current fiscal. EY Tax Partner Saurabh Agarwal said the higher GST revenues are

primarily due to increased domestic activity, the festive season last month and increased tax administration. "The numbers can be said to be an indicator of a stable Indian economy as we see a 20 per cent increase in domestic transactions compared to the same month last year," he said. Increased GST collections in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, Ladakh, etc indicate a rise in consumption in these parts of the country, Agarwal added.

During the month, revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) are 20 per cent higher than revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

Confident of growth in export numbers this year despite global uncertainties: Goyal

New Delhi, Dec 02:



Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said there will be growth in the country's exports despite global uncertainties. He, however, indicated that the growth may slow down.

India has been able to increase exports of goods and services by almost 55 per cent - from USD 500 billion in 2021 to USD 776 billion last year, he said. "Current year, with two conflicts going on around the world, recession setting in the developed economies, we may see that the growth may slow down, but nevertheless, we are confident of growth in the export num-

bers even in the current year," Goyal said at a function. A conflict between Israel and Hamas is continuing in the Middle East, while the Ukraine-Russia war is still going on. Besides, inflation in developed countries is impacting global demand for goods. India's merchandise exports rose 6.21 per

cent to USD 33.57 billion in October this year, even as the trade deficit widened to a record high of USD 31.46 billion during the month.

Cumulatively, exports during the April-October period this fiscal contracted by 7 per cent to USD 244.89 billion, while imports fell 8.95 per cent to USD 391.96 billion. The minister also urged the corporate world to invest in India without the fear of missing out.

He added that the government is focused on ease of doing business and reduction of compliance burden, decriminalising several laws, and removing some of the redundant laws from the statute book.

HMSI recalls H'ness CB350, CB350RS to replace faulty parts

New Delhi, Dec 02:

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India (HMSI) on Friday said it is recalling a certain number of H'ness CB350 and CB350RS units to inspect and replace faulty parts. It has been identified that due to an improper process being followed to manufacture the rubber parts of rear stop light switch there are chances of crack development on the rubber, the two-wheeler maker said in a statement. This might cause water entry and corrosion inside the switch, leading the light to malfunction, it added. Units



manufactured between October 2020 to January 2023 are affected, HMSI stated without divulging the number of affected units. The recall is also due to an inappropriate moulding procedure of sensor housing. "It was

observed that a gap might occur in sensor body sealing which may cause water entry inside the bank angle sensor. This leads to chances of possible sensor malfunction and vehicle stalling in the worst situation. Units manufactured between October 2020 to December 2021 are affected," HMSI said. As a precautionary measure, the replacement of the affected parts will be carried out at BigWing dealerships across India starting from the second week of December 2023, it noted. The replacement will be done free of cost irrespective of the warranty status of the vehicle, it added.

Wynk Rewind is now live with India's favourite music of 2023

Gurugram, Dec 02:

Wynk Music, India's number 1 music streaming app by downloads and daily active users, today, unveiled its Wynk Rewind 2023 - announcing the top artists, albums and songs to have ruled the Indian music scene this year. Wynk Rewind 2023 collates the top artists, albums, songs and playlists played on Wynk music over the course of a particular year. Powered by an Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithm it draws out the music consumption patterns of users and offers Wynk users a personalised user experience on the app, delivering trends that offer a detailed view into listening patterns across total min-

utes streamed, favourite songs and artists, all of which can be shared across social media platforms. This year's Rewind carries special features such as the musical zodiac, a receive activity badge based on fan consumption that helps fans get to know who they are superfans of. Additionally, it will also present Wynk listeners with a special playlist featuring all their top songs along with a special message video featuring their favourite artist. Abhishek Biswal, Head - Digital Products & Services, Airtel said, "At Wynk, we are always trying to find engaging ways to enhance the experience on our platform. In line with this, Wynk Rewind is an incredible

initiative and offers deep customer insights into music preferences and consumption trends, which helps us immensely in elevating the experience on our app and delivering greater value to our customers. We promise to continue to build on our endeavours to offer the most personalised music experience to our customers." Wynk Studio - India's largest music distribution ecosystem for independent artists - now has over 1300 artists. 55% of these artists come from non-metro cities including cities in the Northeast, highlighting how the platform has functioned as an enabler to offer these artists a creative outlet while solving monetisation and discovery issues for them.

Chronicle MATRIMONIAL

ब्राम्हण

वर चाहिये

श्री गोड़ ब्राह्मण/ 31 वर्ष/ 5'4", योग्यता बीएससी नर्सिंग, गर्मेंट हास्पिटल (मेडिकल कॉलेज) पदस्थ नर्सिंग ऑफिसर, राजनांदगांव (छत्तीसगढ़), सफेद दाग, संपर्क करें:- मो.-8085203913, 9303604267, 9109544315. (253233)

वधु चाहिये

बंगाली वधु चाहिये- इंजिनियरिंग, एम.बी.ए. एकलौता लडका हेतु सुन्दर सुशील प्रेजुएंट लड़की चाहिए 31/5'4" हाइट रंग सावला पैतृक पंथि बंगाल वर्तमान बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) - 7529977997. (55289)

सामान्य

वधु चाहिये

सोनु 13.08.1975 बीकॉम रियल-इस्टेट इन्कम 60 लाख रायपुर अमित अग्रवाल 01.6.1991 बीकॉम छड सीमेंट टेकेदारी कटघोरा, इन्कम 40 लाख हिंदू मैरिज ब्यूरो कन्याओं के विवाह हेतु बायोडाटा नि:शुल्क, छ.ग., मध्यप्रदेश महाराष्ट्र उडिसा मारवाड़ी लड़को हेतु विवाह कम खर्च समृद्ध परिवार में संपर्क- 9039321951. (55285)

वधु चाहिये

ब्राम्हण 51 वर्ष, सावला, 5'6", स्नातकोत्तर, निजी व्यवसाय, 40,000, अकेला, विधुर नि:संतान. जाति बंधन नहीं, विधवा/ तालाकशुदा मान्य, स्वनिर्णायक मान्य, तुरंत विवाह, विवरण, फोटो सहित क्लॉसअप करें. सम्पर्क-जबलपुर निवासी-9403124401.

अग्रवाल

वर चाहिये

ममता अग्रवाल-15-7-1997 सीए रायपुर, संगीता अग्रवाल 24-6-1994 एमबीबीएस, एमएस रायपुर. ज्योति अग्रवाल 18-7-1990 एमबीए बैंगलोर 17 लाख पैकेज, मारवाड़ी वर चाहिए, फोटो बाँवोडाटा भेजिए. वाट्सएप-9039321951. (253142)

पंजाबी

वधु चाहिये

Punjabi Khatri Boy 26yrs. Height 6 feet Slim fair colour, B.Tech (IT) Software Engineer in United Health Group, Hyderabad. Contact: 8349060808. (Nb5764)

नवभारत मैट्रीमोनियल

जोड़ीयां स्वर्ग में बनाई जाती है... अब इनको हुंदा और भी आसान नवभारत मैट्रीमोनियल के साथ...

	One Sunday	Two Sunday	Three Sunday	Four Sunday
All C.G. + Odisha	1100	1800	2400	3000
All C.G. + Odisha + MP + MH	1320	2200	2800	3500

Contact : Raipur : 91311-98609, 94242-39395
Bhilai : 0788-2294181, 98934-00617

World AIDS Day held at IGNTU

Central Chronicle News

Amarkantak, Dec 02: The Department of Social Work at Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU) orchestrated an awareness campaign on the occasion of World AIDS Day across various locations surrounded by the university. Dr. Krishnamani Bhagabati, Assistant Professor of the Department of Social Work, directed the event.

The primary objective was to sensitize the community, particularly school children, and communities on the subject. MSW students from both semester I and III were organized into groups to conduct the event at Maa Sharda Kanya Vidyapeeth, Podki High School, and the IGNTU campus.



educating students about HIV/AIDS, its modes of transmission, and preventive measures. The initiative garnered positive responses from both school-aged children and the youth in the community.

The Department of Social Work has a long-

standing commitment to community extension programs, addressing public health concerns like alcohol addiction, menstrual hygiene, and the adverse effects of technology.

These programs are facilitated through the UDGM Group, the

Nukkad Natak team, established by Dr. Krishnamani Bhagabati. Prof. Ranju Hasini Sahoo, the HoD Social Work, lauded the leadership and dedication of the Department of Social Work.

She extended congratulations to the team. Vikas

Chandel and Praveen Kumar, PhD Scholars, coordinated the event at different sites and the monitored by Dr. Ramesh B, Assistant Professor.

The MSW students employed various communication methods, including posters, audio-visual presentations, group and personal interactions, to raise awareness. A feedback and question-answer session enriched the engagement. Approximately 400 student participants benefited from this informative event.

Prof. Prakash Mani Tripathi, the Vice Chancellor, expressed appreciation for the Department's efforts in enlightening local tribal communities about diverse health issues and emphasizing the importance of education.

Over 4,000 postal ballots received for assembly elections

Postal ballots to be counted before EVMs on voting day

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Dec 02: In an encouraging development for the upcoming Assembly Elections 2023, a total of 4,031 postal ballots have been received from dedicated voters on election duty and vulnerable citizens in the district.

Nodal Officer and Additional Collector Dinesh Kumar Nag reported a substantial turnout, with Korba leading the way with 1,309 postal ballots, followed closely by Pali-Tanakhar and Rampur, each contributing 900 ballots. In addition to these numbers, 227 postal ballots were cast by

disabled individuals, those above 80 years of age, and COVID-affected voters across the district. The breakdown includes 138 in Korba, 43 in Pali-Tanakhar, 26 in Katghora, and 20 in Rampur.

Furthermore, the district recorded 163 postal ballots under the Electronic Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBS) as of December 01, with contributions from Rampur (32), Korba (56), Katghora (28), and Pali-Tanakhar (47).

On the day of counting, priority will be given to the postal ballots and ETPBS ballots received, ensuring that they are tallied before the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs).

This process is crucial to maintaining transparency and upholding the democratic spirit of the elections. Candidates and political parties will also receive information about the number of ETPBS ballots to be counted.

The Additional Collector emphasized that ETPBS ballots will be accepted and counted before the commencement of vote counting. In total, the district has received an impressive 4,421 postal ballot papers and ETPBS submissions, setting the stage for a fair and efficient electoral process.

World AIDS Day 2023: Empowering communities for change

- Korba district takes a stand against AIDS stigma
- Awareness Chariot rolls out, students champion AIDS education

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Dec 01: In a dedicated effort to raise awareness and eliminate stigma, World AIDS Day was celebrated in Korba district under the inspiring leadership of Collector Saurabh Kumar and the guidance of Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. S.N. Kesari. The theme for this year, 'Let Communities Lead,' underscores the importance of empowering communities affected by HIV/AIDS to take the lead in the fight against the disease.



The day began with the ceremonial flag-off of an AIDS awareness chariot, symbolizing the district's commitment to combating the virus. The event witnessed active participation from government officials, employees, students of Nursing College, and a significant turnout of local residents.

Across the district, a series of awareness campaigns were organized, spanning medical colleges, community health centers, primary health centers, urban, and rural health centers. Nursing College students contributed to the cause with a signature campaign promoting AIDS awareness, a vibrant AIDS awareness rally, and creative rangoli displays.

To recognize the outstanding efforts of the students, prizes and certificates were awarded to those securing the first, second, and third positions in the competition.

The event focused on the theme "Naitikata Svayan Hee Apana Puraskaar Hai", encouraging discussions about the current status and challenges of the Hindi language.

Distinguished judges, Saket Ranjan, Chief Public Relations Officer of South Eastern

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Dec 02: The Regional Hindi Competition-2023, held at the South East Central Railway's Head Office in Bilaspur on December 1, witnessed enthusiastic participation from various divisions and departments.

The event focused on the theme "Naitikata Svayan Hee Apana Puraskaar Hai", encouraging discussions about the current status and challenges of the Hindi language.

Distinguished judges, Saket Ranjan, Chief Public Relations Officer of South Eastern



Railway, Bilaspur; and Dr. Bhavani Shankar Nath, Deputy Inspector General cum Assistant Chief Security Commissioner of Railway Protection Force, commended the participants for their articulate and concise expressions on the broad and philosophical topics assigned.

Saket Ranjan emphasized the need for collective efforts to elevate the status of our mother tongue, while Dr. Bhavani Shankar Nath praised the participants for their exceptional presentations.

The competition united employees from Head Office, Bilaspur Division, Raipur Division, Wagon Repair Shop Raipur, Nagpur Division, and Motibagh Factory, fostering a sense of linguistic and ethical appreciation.

The event was expertly organized by Lokesh Kumar Sharma, Senior Official Language Officer, and Senior Content Manager-I (Headquarters), with P.L. Jatwar, Senior Translator from the Department of Official Language, delivering a vote of thanks.

Successful health and blood donation camps held in Usur

Central Chronicle News

Bijapur, Dec 02: A free health camp and blood donation drive were organized in the development block of Usur, thanks to the direction of Collector Rajendra Kumar Katara, who also serves as the President of the Indian Red Cross Society Bijapur. The event, which was organized by the District Panchayat Usur, drew enthusiastic participation from both men and women.



CEO of District Panchayat Usur, Prabhakar Chandrakar, reported that a total of 142 individuals took advantage of the health checkup services offered at the camp, including 95 men and 47 women. In a remarkable

act of selflessness, 50 people, including four women, stepped forward to donate blood during the event.

Collector Rajendra Kumar Katara, during a weekly deadline meeting, had urged CEOs, District Panchayats, and Chief Medical Officers of Urban Bodies to organize blood donation camps at their respective levels in case of emergencies.

He emphasized the importance of ensuring an adequate blood supply at the district hospital. As a result of this initiative, successful camps were organized in both Bijapur and Usur district panchayats.

Central Chronicle News

Rajim, Dec 02: The widening of National Highway No. 130 C from Abhanpur to Panduka Pond is underway, but the sluggish pace of construction has raised concerns among residents. After a year, progress is minimal, and pedestrians are fearful of traversing the construction zone.

Some sections require walking on gravel, while others are marked by bridges and culverts under construction, demanding cautious navigation. Dust clouds generated by vehicular traffic add to the woes, impacting the health of those passing through. Small stones, soil fragments, and debris carried by the wind pose risks to passersby.

Farmers struggle with high roads and dust

National Highway No. 130 C connects Abhanpur near Raipur to Gariaband district headquarters and extends further to Devbhog and Bhawanipatna in Orissa. It has been approved in four phases under NHDP, with the first phase covering a 40-kilometer stretch from Abhanpur to Pod (Panduka), funded at Rs 14.400 crore.

The road's elevation, ranging from 5 to 8 feet above ground, presents challenges for farmers, making it difficult to transport produce. Dust accumulation on harvested crops has reduced their quality and market value, affecting farmers' livelihoods.

School and college children from around fifty villages use this road daily to access education in Rajim city. Their safety remains a concern, as fast-moving vehicles pose risks to bicycling students. Vegetable farmers transporting their goods to city markets also face difficulties. Despite the rainy season having passed two months ago, slow progress by the contractor has frustrated locals.



The road widening has come at the expense of adequate replacement. The absence of tree planting negatively impacts the

environment and local residents who miss the shade, oxygen, and greenery provided by these trees.

Mahasamund Lok Sabha MP Chunnail Sahu and District Panchayat member Chandrashekhar Sahu have voiced their concerns over the project's pace and its impact on the community. Former President of District Panchayat Lokesh Pandey and Baronda Sarpanch Danendra Sen also emphasize the need for faster progress and addressing the issues faced by residents and commuters. Efforts to improve the road, such as laying murum, remain incomplete, further affecting pedestrians' safety and well-being.

Unseasonal rain threatens crops, farmers seek relief

- Vegetable growers also facing challenges amidst adverse weather

Central Chronicle News

Pandariya, Dec 02: The region, including Pandariya, has been under cloudy skies for the past 4-5 days, leaving farmers anxious as unseasonal rains persist. These consistent weather patterns are causing increased insect infestations in crops, posing a threat to crops like paddy, Arpa, Arhahr, and vegetables.



threshing, due to the un-timely rains.

Farmer Ram Singh expressed his concern about the unseasonal rains impeding their work and potentially leading to increased insect attacks and disease risks in certain crops like Arhar. The impact on vegetables has been noticeable, with Tulsi

Patel noting the rise in insect infestations. If the weather continues to deteriorate, further losses are anticipated.

What official says
"There is no possibility of damage to the paddy due to light rain, heavy rain could result in sprouting and blackening of the paddy stored outdoors.

Continuous cloud cover is expected to exacerbate insect infestations in crops like Arhar and other vegetables, ultimately affecting production. Farmers are being advised to use pesticides to mitigate these challenges." Tarun Dubey, Senior Agriculture Development Officer in-charge in Pandariya

Deshbandhu School celebrates spectacular cultural extravaganza

Students triumph in Unity-In-Diversity dance competition

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Dec 02: In a dazzling display of talent and cultural harmony, Deshbandhu Higher Secondary School's students from classes 1 to 12 stole the spotlight on Saturday with a vibrant group dance program. The event featured a kaleidoscope of folk dances from various Indian states, showcasing the country's rich diversity. The young performers left the audience spellbound as they exhibited their remarkable artistic prowess.

Divided into four categories, four spirited groups vied for top honours in this enthralling competition. The results reflected the dedication and enthusiasm of these budding artists. In Category A, the Satpura and Vindhychal teams secured



the first position, while Maikal and Sihawa claimed the second spot. Moving to Category B, Satpura triumphed once again, with Sihawa taking second place.

Vindhychal emerged victorious in Category C, closely followed by Satpura in second place. Category D saw a tie at the first position between Satpura and Sihawa, while Maikal secured the second spot. In Category E, Sihawa secured the first position, with Satpura securing the second position. This grand specta-

cle followed a day of equally impressive performances on December 1, featuring a Fancy Dress competition for Nursery to Class IV students and a melodious song competition for students from Class IV to XII, categorized into A, B, C, and D groups.

The event's chief guest, Sharad Shukla, and the capable in-charge, Charu Lata Dev, added prestige to the occasion. The distinguished jury panel, consisting of Neha Patnaik, Garima Sidar, Ranjan Banerjee, and Ekant Singh Rajput, had the challenging task of evaluating the exceptional performances. The success of this event was made possible through the exceptional guidance of the Principal Shishir Das and the unwavering cooperation of all the dedicated teachers.

India eye next-level T20I show from Shreyas, Chahar

Bengaluru, Dec 02 (PTI):

The ever-milling modern-day sport does not allow extended celebrations and India, in the immediate aftermath of their T20I series triumph, will have to hit game-mode and treat the fifth match against Australia here Sunday as a workshop to fit two key pieces in their grooves ahead of an exacting assignment.

Shreyas Iyer and Deepak Chahar will have significant roles to play in the T20Is against South Africa, beginning on December 10.

In that context, the Indian think-tank will be eager to see them firing in their last competitive outing before facing the Proteas at Durban.

Iyer might have been in grand touch during the recent 50-over World Cup, but the Raipur T20I on Friday was the Mumbaikar's first international match in the short-format in over a year after playing against New Zealand at Napier last November. The rust was visible while making a 7-ball eight without a single boundary. So, Iyer will be



looking to rack in some runs and he will be longing for an outing at the Chinnaswamy Stadium, where he cracked a hundred against Netherlands not so long ago in the one-day showpiece.

In fact, Chahar, who is regaining his range after a long injury lay-off, too finds himself in a similar scenario as Iyer.

The fourth T20I against the Aussies was his first outing for India in this ver-

his liking, but Chahar has several variations up his sleeve to counter the docility of the track here.

The management might also want to have a look at off-spinning all-rounder Washington Sundar ahead of the SA sojourn. Sundar has been quite unfortunate to have countered injuries at several crucial junctures in his career.

But the 24-year-old Tamil Nadu player has managed a return to India colours during the T20I against New Zealand at Ahmedabad on February 1 earlier this year, though he did not bat or bowl in that match.

Since then, Sundar played five more T20Is -- two against Ireland at Malahide and three matches at the Hangzhou Asian Games -- underlining his improved fitness levels.

On the other hand, the Aussies have nothing to lose now as Matthew Wade and company would like to return home with a victory, an apt epilogue to their country's highly fruitful stint in Indian shores over the last two months.

Match starts at 7 PM IST.

Sylhet, Dec 02 (AP):

Left-arm spinner Taijul Islam took his second 10-wicket haul in tests as Bangladesh secured a 150-run victory in the series-opening match against New Zealand on Saturday.

Taijul followed his 4-109 with 6-75 in the second innings to wrap up New Zealand's innings for 181 in the first session of the final day, with the tourists chasing a target of 332 runs.

Offspinner Nayeem Hasan complemented him with 2-40, while pacer Shoriful Islam (1-13) and offspinner Mehidy Hasan (1-44) contributed a wicket apiece.

"We are just thinking about the process, not the result," Bangladesh captain Najmul Hossain Shanto said. "We have so many test matches coming up. This win will give us a confidence to do well."

"As I said earlier, we want to make winning a habit at home. Hopefully we will be able to continue the performance."

Daryl Mitchell battled to top-score for the visitors with a patient 58 from 120 balls.



New Zealand cricketer Ajaz Patel, center, and Bangladeshi cricketer Hasan Murad shake hands at the end of the fifth day of the first test cricket match at Sylhet, Bangladesh, Saturday.

Resuming at 113-7, Mitchell's presence gave New Zealand a slim hope of an unlikely victory and he struck Taijul for a boundary from the third ball of the day before punching the same bowler for a single through cover to raise his ninth half-century off 99 balls.

Unlike many of his compatriots Mitchell looked confident against the host's spinners, but a mistimed sweep shot against offspinner Nayeem Hasan eventually brought about his dismissal and effectively ended New Zealand's hopes of saving the game. Skipper Tim Southee

scored an attacking 34 off 24 balls, with one four and two sixes, before Taijul dismissed him to complete his 12th five-for.

Taijul then wrapped up the match when Ish Sodhi, who made a laborious 22 off 91, popped a simple catch to Zakir Hasan at silly mid-off.

Confident Indian junior men's hockey team hopeful of success in World Cup

Bengaluru, Dec 02 (PTI):

Indian junior hockey team's recent success in continental events will play a morale-boosting role when it begins its campaign in the men's Junior World Cup, beginning in Kuala Lumpur on December 5, asserted vice-captain Arajjeet Singh Hundal here on Saturday.

The Indian team left for the Junior World Cup on Saturday and will play its opening game against Korea on December 5.

"The team has grown significantly since the last World Cup (in Bhubaneswar). We won the Sultan of Johor Cup 2022 and the Junior Asia Cup and recently finished third in the Sultan of Johor Cup as well," said Hundal in a Hockey India

release on Saturday. "So, we know that we are capable of winning the Junior World Cup, it's just a matter of performing to the best of our abilities when the time comes."

India are placed in Pool C alongside Spain, Korea and Canada, while defending champions Argentina are in Pool A along with Chile, Australia and hosts Malaysia.

Germany, France, South Africa and Egypt are slotted in Pool B, while the Netherlands, New Zealand, Belgium and Pakistan will battle it out in Pool D. India had finished fourth in the previous edition of the tournament held in Bhubaneswar in 2021, losing to France in the 3rd/4th place match.

Vaishali becomes GM, joins Praggnanandhaa to form world's first brother-sister Grandmasters duo

Chennai, Dec 02 (PTI):

Indian chess ace R Vaishali joined younger sibling R Praggnanandhaa to become the world's first-ever brother-sister Grandmasters duo and only the third woman from the country to earn the GM title, at the IV El Llobregat Open in Spain.

Vaishali achieved the feat after crossing 2500 ELO rating points on Friday. She is the country's 84th GM.

The 22-year old Chennai-based Vaishali crossed the 2500 mark at the tournament in Spain where she defeated



Turkish FM Tamer Tarik Selbes in the second round.

She obtained her third GM norm at the Qatar

Masters tournament in October and needed to increase her ELO rating.

They also became the first-ever brother-sister

duo to make the Candidates, the qualifying event for the World Championship match. The Candidates will be held in Toronto in April.

Her younger brother Praggnanandhaa had got the GM title in 2018, when he was just 12.

Koneru Humpy and D Harika are the two other women GMs from India.

Humpy was the world's youngest female player ever, when she became a GM in 2002, at the age of 15.

Chess legend Viswanathan Anand congratulated Vaishali on social networking platform 'X'.

Ramkumar to face Pichler in final

Kalaburagi, Dec 02 (PTI):

India's Ramkumar Ramanathan, seeded fifth, brushed aside Japan's Ryotaro Taguchi to reach the final of the ITF Kalaburagi Open here on Saturday.

Ramanathan did not break a sweat while winning the semifinal match 6-2 6-1. In the final he will face David Pichler of Austria on Sunday.

The Austrian, seeded seventh here, ousted second seeded Japanese Matsuda Ryuki 6-2 6-4.

Ramanathan, eyeing his second ITF M25K title, took just 65 minutes to register his win over Taguchi at the Chandrashekhar

Patil Stadium. Ramkumar, who won the ITF Mumbai Open last week, served and returned with aplomb.

In the first set, the first five games went with the serve. The Japanese was the first to yield as he lost his serve in the sixth game, giving the Indian a 4-2 lead.

The 29-year-old Ramanathan won the seventh game with a booming serve to take a 5-2 lead and then broke his rival again in the eighth game to clinch the set 6-2.

Ramanathan, the Indian Davis Cup team member and the Asian Games silver medalist, went even better in the second set.

I was upset but it's not in anyone's hand: Axar

Raipur, Dec 02 (PTI):

India spinner Axar Patel has admitted that he was upset after missing out on the ODI World Cup at home due to an injury and it took him about a week to get over the disappointment and focus on recovery.

The 29-year-old was part of the Indian team in the run-up to the World Cup but a left quadriceps injury during the Asia Cup forced him out, with Ravichandran Ashwin replacing him in the 15-member squad. "Obviously, you are bound



to be (disappointed). The World Cup was in India, but that injury happened. For the first few days, I was thinking about it, not

being able to play due to injury," Axar told reporters during the post-match press conference. "But, the team was doing

well, so after 5-10 days, I was back to training and was doing my rehab. But, yes, when you are out due to injury and those 5-10 days you are not able to do anything, you do feel a bit bad. After that, I returned to routine life. "I was upset, but it happened due to an injury; it's not in anyone's hands. It's part and parcel of the game."

Axar made an impressive return to international cricket, claiming five wickets in the series so far with his three-wicket haul setting up the 20-run win for India in the fourth T20I here on Friday night.

IPL has given me confidence to remain calm under pressure: Rinku Singh

Raipur, Dec 02 (PTI):

India batter Rinku Singh credited his calm approach during pressure situations in the ongoing T20I series against Australia to playing in the Indian Premier League, while adding that doing a lot of weight training helps him play the big shots with ease.

Rinku blazed away to a 29-ball 46, while Jitesh Sharma, playing his first match in the series, smashed 35 in 19 balls as the hosts made a challenging 174 for nine before restricting Australia to 154/7 to help India take an unassailable 3-1 lead in the five-match rubber. "Well I have been playing for a long



time. I have been playing in the IPL for 5-6 years now. So, that has given me the confidence. I back myself, try to keep myself calm," said Rinku in a chat

with Jitesh on BCCL.tv following the 20-run win here on Friday. Jitesh conceded he was under a lot of pressure when he came in to bat and marvelled at Rinku's composure.

"It didn't look like that this was your (Rinku) first series. I was under a lot of pressure when I can in to bat, you were so calm, picking and choosing the ball to hit," Jitesh told Rinku.

Wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh, who came in place of Ishan Kishan on Friday, also thanked Rinku for helping him keep calm.

"You kept telling me to take it easy and not to take pressure," Jitesh told Rinku.

12 Indian boxers storm into finals

New Delhi, Dec 02 (PTI):

Indian boxers on Friday continued their fine form at the IBA Junior World Boxing Championships as 12 of them entered the finals after stunning displays in the last four rounds in Yerevan, Armenia.

Amisha (54kg) and Payal (48kg) started the day on a winning note for India against Trigos Bucur Rocio of Romania and Bibolsynkyzy Sila of Kazakhstan, both winning the bout by an unanimous 5-0 verdict.

Prachi Tokas (+80kg) put up a dominant show over Osipova Mariia of Russia, forcing the referee to stop the contest in the first round itself.

Megha (80kg), on the other hand, showed a similar display of strength and power to also clinch a referee stop the contest (RSC) win in round three against Tseng An Chi of Chinese Taipei.

Vini (57kg), Akansha (70kg) and Shrushti (63kg) outperformed their opponents to grab identical 5-0 unanimous decision victories to enter the finals.

Vini was up against Kantzari Ouriana of Greece while Akansha and Shrushti faced McDonagh Mary of Ireland and K Alina of Kazakhstan respectively. Nisha (52kg) struggled after the initial dominance in round one but soon fought back to grab an impressive 4-1 win over Russia's Sikstus Diana. The boys put on a solid display as four out of five boxers in action got the win.

165 players to go under hammer in WPL auction on Dec 9

Mumbai, Dec 02 (PTI): As many as 165 players will go under the hammer during the player auction for the second edition of the Women's Premier League scheduled to be held here on December 9.

The second edition of the WPL could take place in February-March next year. "Out of 165 players, 104 are Indians and 61 are overseas cricketers of which 15 are from associate nations. The total capped players are 56, uncapped players are 109," BCCI said in a release on Saturday. "A maximum of 30 slots are available with the five teams, with 9 spots for overseas players." West

Indian all-rounder Deandra Dottin, who was initially bought for Rs 60 lakh by Gujarat Giants before being controversially excluded on medical grounds, and Australian fast bowler Kim Garth chose to be in the top bracket with the highest reserve price of Rs 50 lakh.

Interestingly, it was the 27-year-old Garth who had replaced Dottin in the Gujarat Giants squad, who later released the Aussie in the off season.

Aussie all-rounders Annabel Sutherland and Georgia Wareham, English wicket-keeper Amy Jones and veteran South African pacer

Shabnim Ismail are the only four players to be slotted with a base price of Rs 40 lakh.

The five franchises -- Delhi Capitals, Mumbai Indians, Gujarat Giants, UP Warriorz and Royal Challengers Bangalore -- have 30 slots available with nine reserved for overseas players. A total of 60 players, including 21 foreigners, were retained by the five teams.

The Giants will have the biggest salary cap available to fill in 10 slots, while Delhi Capitals, who finished second best, will enter the auction with a purse of Rs 2.25 crore to fill up to three vacancies.

Something to be happy about after World Cup loss: Gaikwad

Raipur, Dec 02 (PTI):

Dashing opener Rituraj Gaikwad said India's "fearless and aggressive" approach helped them secure the five-match T20I series against Australia and hoped the triumph would give fans something to cheer about after India's heartbreaking loss in the ODI World Cup final. India on Friday defeated Australia by 20 runs in the fourth T20I to take an unassailable 3-1 lead in the five-match series.

"I think this is something to be happy for everyone after the disappointing loss in the final of the World Cup," Gaikwad, who scored 28-ball 32 to help India post



174 for nine, told Jiocinema. "I think it was important for all of us to express ourselves and enjoy the game. I think everyone pretty much took responsibility at every stage. So, we are really happy with the result, but there's still one match to go." Asked what was

the discussion after the World Cup disappointment, Gaikwad, who was the vice-captain for the first three T20Is, said: "The discussion was more or less to just be fearless and aggressive and back your instincts at every stage. There were 2-3 members from the World

Cup squad who were with us. "There was positive energy in the team because we were coming from domestic tournaments, and everyone had done pretty well there. Everyone came in with a lot of confidence."

Gaikwad said he has learnt the ropes of T20 cricket under the legendary Mahendra Singh Dhoni during his stint with the Chennai Super Kings in the Indian Premier League.

"I learnt a lot about this format playing for CSK. Mahi bhai (MS Dhoni) is always keen on reading situations and understanding the game," said the 26-year-old, who has been with CSK since the 2019 IPL season.

Tough test for BJP, Cong

● Stage set for poll results in 4 states

New Delhi, Dec 02 (PTI)

Counting of votes will be held on Sunday in assembly polls in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Telangana in what is seen as a semi-final contest ahead of the general elections in less than six months.

The Congress, which is in power in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, and the BJP, which is ruling Madhya Pradesh, are locked in a straight fight in these three states, while K Chandrashekhara Rao-led Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) is hoping for a hat-trick in Telangana.

Pollsters have been divided on the outcome, with quite a few exit polls putting the BJP ahead in Madhya Pradesh and giving

it an edge in Rajasthan while predicting that Congress has an advantage in Telangana and Chhattisgarh.

Starting with postal ballots, counting will commence at 8 am amid tight security for 230 seats in Madhya Pradesh, 90 seats in Chhattisgarh, 119 seats in Telangana and 199 seats in Rajasthan as polling on one seat in the desert states was put off due to the death of a candidate.

A three-tier security arrangement has been put in place and only people holding valid passes will be allowed to enter the counting centres, election officials said.

After wrestling Karnataka from the BJP in May, the Congress is eyeing Madhya Pradesh and Telangana and is hoping to retain power in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. An impressive performance in these

polls will boost the party's standing in the opposition INDIA alliance which has been formed to take on the BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

The BJP is seeking to replicate the winning streak of Gujarat, where it has been ruling since 1998, in Madhya Pradesh with four-time Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan hoping to form government again. The party is also keen to win back Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh as it seeks to regain its hold in the Hindi heartland states ahead of the Lok Sabha polls.

"The face of the Congress has been exposed. Only the results are to come tomorrow. The good governance that the public wanted will be found under the BJP government," Union minister Anurag Thakur said in Jaipur, adding that the

people want the "double-engine" government of the BJP.

With several pollsters predicting a close fight, there were reports claiming that parties have decided to herd their winning candidates swiftly to prevent any poaching.

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, however, dismissed reports that he has been asked to bring winning Congress candidates from the states to resorts and hotels in Karnataka.

"No MLAs will be going anywhere. Nobody has given me a responsibility or called me... I am confident that we will win all the states," Shivakumar, who had made similar arrangements to bring 44 Gujarat legislators during the August 2017 Rajya Sabha elections, told reporters in Bengaluru.

VARSITY CONVOCATION



President Droupadi Murmu presents a degree to Dr. Ramchandra Tupkary during the 111th convocation of Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University (RTMNU), in Nagpur, Saturday.

Lot at stake for regional satraps ahead of counting of votes

● For assembly polls

New Delhi, Dec 02 (PTI)

When counting of votes for four assembly polls are over on Sunday, their results will not only have a major impact on the country's political landscape but may also mark a defining turn in the fortunes of several regional satraps, especially in the BJP, around whom politics in their states have revolved for decades.

Stakes are especially high for BJP leader and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan who is banking on his government's welfare schemes to stave off the challenge from the Congress and also those within his party looking to displace him as its leader in the state.

With the BJP not naming him as its chief ministerial face and making several regional bigwigs, including Union ministers, fight the polls to send out a message of collective leadership, he has run an in-

tense campaign marked by attempts to make emotional connect with voters as their avuncular 'mama' to restore his primacy in the state's politics.

The BJP's performance will decide if the party's longest-serving chief minister will bounce back strongly or will have to contend with an uncertain future.

He has been at the helm since 2005 except for a brief period after the 2018 polls when Kamal Nath led a Congress government for about 15 months.

In Rajasthan, adverse poll results are likely to have more than immediate bearings on the fortunes of both Congress leader and Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his predecessor Vasundhara Raje of the BJP.

Like Chouhan, Gehlot too is banking on his government's welfare measures to break the western state's nearly three-decade practice of the ruling party being voted out in every election.

A loss may make the Congress to look beyond

the OBC leader, a three-time chief minister, who has not enjoyed the best of equations with his party leadership, while Raje's future too will depend on the BJP's performance.

Political experts believe that the BJP leadership may be looking for other chief ministerial options in the state if the party scores a big win but any other result may limit its choices and brighten her prospects.

How many BJP satraps, including Union ministers Narendra Singh Tomar, Fagga Singh Kulaste and Prahlad Singh Patel and 18 other MPs, fare in the seats they are contesting besides the areas of their influence is bound to affect their political future, more so as the Lok Sabha polls are around the corner.

Seven BJP MPs each are contesting in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan while four are in Chhattisgarh and three in Telangana.

A lot is also at stake for Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia as well, as the results will be a re-

lection on his political standing, especially in the Chambal-Gwalior region, after joining the BJP as the party looks to turn the tables on the Congress in an area where it had suffered serious reverses in the 2018 polls.

Scindia was then in the Congress. In Chhattisgarh, political watchers will be looking at the fate of Raman Singh, chief minister between 2003-18, after the results are out.

Singh (71) has had to contend with a lower profile after losing power five years back as the BJP looked at promoting a new line of leadership in the state. But frequent praise of his government's performance by the party's top brass, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on the stump has boosted the buzz around him.

Votes cast in the Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Telangana assembly polls will be counted on Sunday. The counting of votes for the Mizoram assembly polls is scheduled for Monday.

NTPC records remarkable growth

● In coal despatch and production

New Delhi, Dec 02:

NTPC Ltd., India's leading integrated power utility, has reported a substantial growth of 90% in coal despatch from its captive mines till Nov-end in FY 2023-24, as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. The company achieved an impressive coal despatch of 23.12 MMT till 30th Nov in FY24, as compared to 12.17 MMT in FY23.

In addition, the Company has also achieved a production of 22.08 MMT till 30th Nov in FY24, marking a significant 80% increase over the previous year for the same period. This outstanding performance reflects

NTPC's relentless commitment to enhancing coal production from its captive mines and ensuring efficient supply to meet the nation's energy needs.

Till date, NTPC has produced over 91 MMT of coal from its four operational captive coal mines i.e Pakri Barwadhi & Chhatti-Bariatu Coal Mines in Jharkhand, Dulanga Coal Mine in Odisha and Talaipalli Coal Mine in Chhattisgarh. To achieve sustained growth in coal production, NTPC has implemented a range of strategies and technologies. These include the adoption of rigorous safety measures, improved mine planning, equipment automation, workforce training, and the implementation of continuous monitoring and analysis systems.

Citing SC ruling, TMC urges Gov to meet CM

● For resolving impasse over pending bills

Kolkata, Dec 02 (PTI)

The Trinamool Congress on Saturday said West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose should hold a meeting with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to resolve the impasse over bills pending with Raj Bhavan, as directed by the Supreme Court in a similar case. The apex court on Friday asked Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi to hold a meeting with Chief Minister M K Stalin in an effort to end the impasse over pending bills. Ravi and Stalin have

been locked in a war of attrition over numerous issues. The governor of West Bengal also had several run-ins with the Mamata Banerjee government over various issues.

Bose is acting in a partisan manner, creating uncertainties at various places including universities, the ruling party of West Bengal alleged. Defending Bose, the opposition BJP said the situation in Tamil Nadu cannot be equated with West Bengal and the governor had to exercise caution by resisting attempts by the ruling dispensation to use its majority in legislature to change established norms to suit its interests.

'Our stand of not going with BJP was clear'

Pune, Dec 02 (PTI)

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) president Sharad Pawar on Saturday said his party's stand of not joining hands with the BJP was always very clear, and even if any suggestion to the contrary came up, he did not approve of the idea.

The veteran politician's statements at a news conference here came a day after his nephew and rebel NCP leader Ajit Pawar targeted him. "If anyone did suggest



Sharad Pawar

that we should support the BJP contrary to the stand we had taken, (even) then many in the party including me did not agree with that (suggestion). Our stand not to go with the BJP was very

clear," Sharad Pawar said. In a jibe at Ajit, the NCP chief further said that if anyone who had taken the oath of office in the wee hours of morning was claiming that it was the party's policy, that person "should not be taken seriously".

On Ajit Pawar declaring that his faction will contest the Baramati Lok Sabha seat — currently represented by Supriya Sule — Sharad Pawar said in democracy any person is free to contest from anywhere. The Ajit Pawar faction,

which joined the government of the BJP and Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena in Maharashtra in July this year, has claimed in the past that Pawar senior too was in favour of forming alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party at one point.

In 2019, Ajit Pawar had taken an early morning oath of office as deputy chief minister along with Devendra Fadnis who was sworn in as chief minister amid a deadlock over alliance formation after the assembly elections.

Jaipur, Dec 02 (PTI)

On the eve of the counting of votes in Rajasthan, both BJP and Congress have started reaching out to independent candidates, including rebels, and smaller parties.

Nearly 40 rebels from both parties have contested elections after being denied tickets and have put up a tough fight. With several exit polls predicting a tight race between the BJP and the Congress, MLAs from this group could play a crucial role.

Sources in the two parties said preparations have been made at different levels to ensure that independent and rebel candidates who win elections are brought to their fold in case of a split verdict. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot met Governor Kalraj Mishra on Thursday soon after exit poll predictions were released.

On Friday, former chief minister

Vasundhara Raje also met the governor. While most pollsters predicted an edge for the BJP, three exit polls in their upper limit forecast a Congress win in the desert state.

"The party leaders are in touch with the independents and rebels," a Congress source said while expressing confidence that the party will form the government.

Similarly, sources in the BJP also said that the leaders were approaching the party rebels who contested elections as independents.

Apart from the rebels, the parties are exploring the possibilities of post-

poll alliances with smaller parties, if required.

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), Bharat Adivasi Party (BAP), Bhartiya Tribal Party (BTP), Rashtriya Loktantrik Party (RLP), CPI (M) are

among the parties contesting elections in the state.

While BJP has not formed any pre-poll alliance, Congress left one seat (Bharatpur) for its partner Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD).

RAKHE TANDURUST, RAKHE FIT

Baidyanath
NAGPUR
ASLI AYURVED

CHYAWAN-FIT SUGARFREE*

Nutritious and Healthy Chyawanprash

● ट्रॉमा एवं बर्न मैनेजमेंट
● जलने के बाद हुए सिकुड़न तथा कसाव की सर्जरी
● कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी
● कटे हॉट व तालु की सर्जरी
● हाथों की सर्जरी
● माइक्रोवेस्कुलर सर्जरी

● इंपल्स कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी द्वारा गालों में स्थायी डिंपल्स

24 Hours Helpline
9926386660
कोटा-गुदियारी रोड़, होटल पिकाडली के पीछे, रायपुर

844 844 4935
www.baidyanath.co