





## BJP Central leadership intensifies exercise to select Chh'garh CM



● **Dr Raman, Renuka Singh, Ramvichar and Vishnu Deo emerge front runner for the post**

**Raipur, Dec 05:** Amidst speculations over the probable face for the post of Chief Minister in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Government in Chhattisgarh, the State BJP President Arun Sao on Tuesday left for New Delhi to attend meeting with the central leadership.

Minister Dr Raman Singh, the names of Union Minister for Tribal Welfare Renuka Singh, former Minister Ramvichar Netam, former Union Minister Vishnu Deo Sai and State BJP President Arun Sao have emerged as front runner for the post of Chief Minister. However, the central leadership may come up with surprise face apart from the above mentioned names as earlier indicated.

Party leaders said that the Central Leadership as well as BJP's Parliamentary Board would give final approval

for not only Chhattisgarh but also Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

With the Lok Sabha elections round the corner, the BJP is considering social-equations before taking a decision in Chhattisgarh. While Dr Raman Singh has experience to govern the state, the Union Minister Renuka Singh has emerged as front runner on social equations whereas the State BJP President Arun Sao's candidature is strong on existing social equations with OBC dominating the political affairs in Chhattisgarh.

## RELIEF FROM COLD



With mercury falling and bringing chill in the air, the denizens in city are enjoying warmth in front of a small fire.

## City witnesses light to medium showers whole day

● **Effect of Cyclonic Storm Michong in Ch'garh; rainfall at many places tomorrow**

**Raipur, Dec 05:** Overcast weather prevailed throughout Monday in the capital Raipur and several other parts of state witnessed light to medium showers in intervals since Tuesday morning. The change in weather is being attributed to Cyclonic Storm 'MICHONG' formed in the Bay of Bengal. The IMD has predicted rain in several districts of the state for the next two days.

According to IMD, the Cyclonic Storm "MICHONG" (pronounced as MIGJAM) over West-Central & adjoining Southwest Bay of Bengal off south Andhra Pradesh and adjoining north Tamil Nadu coasts moved northwards with a speed of 8 kmph during past 06 hours and intensified into a Severe Cyclonic Storm. It is likely to intensify gradual-



ly and move nearly northwards almost parallel and close to south Andhra Pradesh coast and cross South Andhra Pradesh coast between Nellore and Machilipatnam, close to Bapatla during forenoon of 5th December as a Severe Cyclonic Storm with a maximum sustained wind speed of 90-100 kmph gusting to 110 kmph.

The IMD has forecast rain-falls at few places on Tuesday and fairly widespread rains at several places on Wednesday. The IMD also warned of thunderstorm accompanied with lightning and gusty winds (speed reaching 30-40 kmph) at isolated places of Chhattisgarh during the next two days under effect of the cyclonic storm.

## Bulldozers roll out with BJP's victory

● **Corporation's action on illegally Chowpatty**

**Raipur, Dec 05:** Bulldozer started rolling out in the city just after BJP's victory in assembly election in the state. The Raipur Municipal Corporation (RMC) team along with the police administration took action on unauthorized Chowpatty being run near Salem School in Motibagh, Raipur. However, local shopkeepers have opposed this action of the corporation. Shopkeepers say that the Municipal Corporation team arrived without any information to take action. A large number of police forces were deployed at the site.



It has been learnt that shopkeepers set up shops far ahead on the road in the name of Chowpatty creating obstacles in traffic. The action has been taken following demonstration by girl students. On Monday, the students of Salem Girls School in front of Motibagh along with their teachers demonstrated on the road in front of the school with placards in their hands in protest against illegal 'Chowpatty'. Displaying placards the protesters demanded immediate action to remove illegal chowpatty.

According to the students there were more than 50

## Encroachments removed from areas near NIT, Salem School, etc



**Raipur:** As per the instructions of Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, anti-encroachment drive was conducted in various areas of Municipal Corporation Raipur and action was taken against illegal encroachers. Action was also taken to remove illegal 'Chakna' centers.

Anti-encroachment drive

was conducted by the Flying Squad of Municipal Corporation Headquarters and the team of Municipal Corporation's Town Planning Department amid deployment of Police Force. Strict action was taken to remove and confiscate about 35 carts doing illegal business near Salem School.

fast food shops of omelette, chicken and meat in Chowpatty, which were being run till late night.

Hundreds of youths gather at the Chowpatty every day and talk loudly and use abusive words besides jumping over the school wall and consuming liquor. Empty liquor bottles were left behind in the school premises. According to students gathering of people at Chowpatty vitiated atmosphere which affected their studies during the time after 3 pm. Due to the presence of meat and mutton shops, everyone was troubled by the smoke and

smell emanating all the time.

## Mayor Dhebar should step down on moral ground: RMC opposition leader

Central Chronicle

News

**Raipur, Dec 05:** After its victory in Chhattisgarh assembly election, BJP is preparing to bring a no-confidence motion against Raipur Mayor Ajaz Dhebar. BJP corporators in Raipur Municipal Corporation held a meeting to discuss the strategy for no-confidence motion against Mayor Ajaz Dhebar.

Leader of Opposition Meenal Choubey said that Dhebar should leave the post of Mayor on moral ground. Congress is not in majority hence no-confidence motion is being brought, she said.

In Raipur Municipal Corporation with 70 seats, 31 corporators belong to BJP whereas Congress has 39 corporators. The party recently expelled corporator Ajit Kukreja for contesting assembly elections as independent.

The victory of Bharatiya Janata Party candidates with majority in all four assembly constituencies of Raipur city and in almost 70 wards of the city proves that the people of the city are unhappy with



the functioning of the present Mayor Ajaz Dhebar; said Mrityunjay Dubey, spokesman BJP corporators team in RMC. Therefore, on moral grounds the Mayor should resign, he said. Even in the wards of ruling party corporators, Bharatiya Janata Party candidates have won with majority, he said. It is clear from this that the corporators of the ruling party could not win even in their wards due to the working style of the Mayor, Dubey said.

The team of BJP corporators blamed the Mayor Ajaz Dhebar for failure to provide drinking water and roads in the city in the last four years. The Mayor failed in providing housing to the poor; the BJP corpo-

rators said, adding that electricity system has also been ruined. Smart poles worth lakhs have been dumped, they said. Raising question over poor sanitation system they said that dust gathered on dustbins bought worth crores. Menace of stray dogs has increased, they said. They also said that meat and mutton shops had been opened in residential areas without permission.

There is no trace of development work in 70 wards of Raipur city; rather only announcements have been made and Bhoomi Pujan has been performed, they said, adding that Municipal Corporation has not yet received the funds from the Congress government of the state. According to them dur-

ing the last 4 years, Congress mayors have not been able to get funds for development work from their own government. Overall, the Raipur Municipal Corporation Mayor has failed to solve the problems of the people in every area, they said. The meeting was attended by Manoj Verma, Deputy Leader of Opposition, Mrityunjay Dubey, Surya Kant Rathod, Dr Pramod Sahu, Seema Santosh Sahu, Kamini Purushottam Dewangan, Sarita Verma, Narad Kaushal, Sushila Dhiwar, Vishwadini Pandey, Dr. Seema Kandoi, Rohit Sahu, Bhola Sahu, Vinod Agrawal, Godavari Gajju Sahu, Ravi Dhuvra, Savitri Jaimohan Sahu, Amar Bansal and Tesu Nandkishore Sahu.

## Raheja Group to launch premium plotting project 'Raheja Nirvana-2'



**Raipur, Dec 05:** The premium plotting project 'Raheja Nirvana-2' of Raheja Group, a leading and trusted real estate sector leader, will be launched on December 8th, 9th and 10th December at the project site Kachna. In the three-day spot booking fair, visitors will get an assured gift on every booking. Plots of four different sizes are being provided in this 23-acre well-equipped project. The project is away from the hustle and bustle of the

city. The environment-friendly project is located in a peaceful environment covered with greenery.

Directors of Raheja Group, Mr. Deepak Raheja and Mr. Sanjay Raheja said that we had launched Raheja Nirvana in 2021 and it has been successfully completed in 2023. After completing all the development amenities the project was completed before time with better facilities. On the demand of the people, we are launching Raheja Nirvana-2 in Kachna. This is also a premium plotting project in which plots will be available in sizes of 1000, 1200, 1500 and 2000. This project of total 23 acres is being liked a lot considering its facilities, layout and

location. Its connectivity is very close to main market, educational institutions, hospitals. Raheja Nirvana-2 is a premium plotting project located in Kachna, Raipur, which has all the luxury facilities that a premium project should have. On the occasion of launch of Raheja Nirvana-2, an assured gift will be provided on every booking. Raheja Nirvana-2 will have all the amenities of a premium project like club house, library, café, swimming pool, Jacuzzi, gym, lawn tennis, squash court, garden, children's play area, indoor-outdoor games, temple etc. They said that Raheja Nirvana-2 is a RERA, Town and Country approved project.

## Raipur administration revised closing time of shops



**Raipur, Dec 05:** Raipur district administration has revised the closing time for shops and markets, concluding business operations by 11 pm. Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Bhure chaired a meeting on city law and order and instructed the officials to take appropriate action against the illegal encroachments. SSP Prashant Agarwal issued directives to the concerned officials to maintain law and order in the city.

Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Bhure has mandated strategic measures to streamline traffic in Raipur City. He instructed the officials to remove stalls, temporary shops, and carts lining the roadsides to alleviate commuter hassles and curb traffic conges-

tion caused by crowds. Dr. Bhure also instructed the officials to remove illicit paan stalls, temporary shops, and kiosks near roads and schools. In a bid to maintain law and order, the police officials have been instructed to crack down on anti-social elements and enforce strict action against law violators, particularly against the illegal bar-snacks (chakna) centres and late-night gatherings at clubs, bars, and parties organised in other places beyond the revised closing time. Dr. Bhure instructed the concerned officials to establish anti-encroachment squads in both municipal corporations, tasked with identifying and dismantling illegal encroachments.

Furthermore, he directed ADMs to conduct night patrols alongside police officers, ensuring swift action against

those disrupting law and order in the city. The officials from the Raipur district administration, the police depart-

ment, Raipur Municipal Corporation, and Birgaon Municipal Corporation were present.

## Chh'garh defeats Jharkhand by 96 runs in Vijay Hazare trophy match

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Dec 05:** Chhattisgarh on Tuesday defeated the heavy-weight Jharkhand by 96 runs in the Vijay Hazare Trophy One Day cricket match being organised under the aegis of BCCI.

Batting first, the Chhattisgarh team



managed to score 274 runs for 8 wickets in the 50 overs. In reply, the Jharkhand team could score just 178 runs and lost the match by 96 runs. Shashank Singh scored maximum 79 runs for Chhattisgarh whereas Harpreet Singh Bhatia (68 runs) and Shashank Chandrakar (45 runs) made valuable contri-

butions to ensure team managed to score 274 runs. However, the Jharkhand team lost early wickets and were bundled out for just 178 runs. Mayank Yadav claimed 5 wickets for Chhattisgarh whereas Sourabh Majumdar and Ajay Mandal also claimed 2 wickets each to ensure victory by 96 runs.



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## Modi's guarantee major factor for BJP's victory in Ch'garh

**Raipur, Dec 05:** Modi's Guarantee 2023 is being considered as the biggest reason for BJP's victory in Chhattisgarh Assembly Elections 2023. In the manifesto, BJP made special promises on employment, inflation and several other issues. The public expressed confidence. According to political observers, infighting and factionalism within Congress led to its defeat in election. The announcement of Mahtari Vandan Yojana to give Rs 12000 annually to married women influenced women the most. BJP had also got 60 lakh women to fill its forms. Apart from this, the announcement of scheme of giving gas cylinders to poor women for Rs 500 also proved effective for BJP. Twenty guarantees including procurement of 21 quintals per acre paddy, paddy price of Rs 3,100 per quintal, lump sum payment and two years' outstanding bonus to farmers are said to have influenced a large section of people.

The achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's nine-year tenure were also conveyed to the public.

Moreover, religious conversion in tribal areas and Hindutva remained major issues. BJP kept attacking Congress government on issues like Hindutva, religious conversion, love-jihad. Apart from this, BJP aggressively raised the communal violence in Biranpur and the saffron flag controversy in Kawardha. The issue of Hindutva was raised loudly and it also affected the percentage of votes.

BJP continuously raised issues of corruption against Bhupesh government. Cases ranging from liquor scam to coal scam, Mahadev App online betting scam, cow dung scam and PSC scam were raised. There was anger among the people due to the liquor scam and there was deep anger among the youth due to the PSC scam. Apart from this, BJP kept cornering

Congress for its failure to fulfil promise on regularization of temporary workers and prohibition of liquor. BJP has benefited from this.

The central leadership of the BJP strengthened the organization more actively than the Congress. Union Home Minister Amit Shah himself was on the forefront. For the first time, BJP had announced candidates for the tough 21 seats three months before the elections. Most of these seats were won. The candidates got full opportunity to work. BJP fielded new faces on 47 seats, which is 52 percent of the total 90 seats in the Assembly, out of which 37 candidates are below 50 years of age whereas Congress fielded 32 new faces, which is about 34 percent of the total seats.

BJP vigorously raised the local issues of the assembly constituency. Under the leadership of BJP state president Arun Sao, BJP raised voice for the deprived under vari-

ous schemes including Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Tap Water Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Samman Nidhi Yojana.

### Reasons for Congress's defeat

According to sources factionalism and infighting were seen in Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress. There was a difference between Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and Deputy Chief Minister TS Sindoo. In addition to with denial of tickets to 22 of its sitting MLAs rebels spoiled the equation on 12 seats for Congress. At the same time, expulsion, suspension and other actions were taken against about 50 leaders who indulged in anti party activities on more than 25 seats.

Congress had promised liquor ban in the last elections, for this women had supported Congress, but this time women were angry because there was no prohibition. After BJP's Mahtari Vandan

Yojana, Congress had announced Griha Lakshmi Yojana and announced to give Rs 15,000 annually. This announcement of Congress was not a priority for women earlier.

The way BJP raised the issue of scams in cow dung, coal, liquor, online betting, PSC, Congress was unable to respond with the same aggressiveness. Only the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel kept fighting in this. The expected support from the rest of the central leadership was not received. Apart from Bhupesh, Congress did not have any big strategist.

One of the biggest reasons for the defeat of Congress was the party's over confidence. Organizations like Congress Seva Dal, Mahila Congress, Sarvodaya, Youth Congress could not work in coordination for the party. Three months before the elections, the party made MP Deepak Baij Pradesh Congress President.

## CBSE Regional Science Exhibition inaugurated



**Raipur, Dec 05:** CBSE Regional Level Science Exhibition was inaugurated at NH Goel World School auditorium. The event saw participation of 90 students from grade 6 to 12 of various schools across the state. The exhibits spanned all three branches of science - Physics, chemistry, biology. The programme began with the lighting of the lamp followed by a small cultural programme performed by the students of the school. The director administration SK Tomar and the principal of the

school Dr. Awinash Pandey welcomed the judges with bouquet of flowers as a token of respect.

In his inauguration speech Principal Dr. Awinash Pandey appreciated the students for their hard work and enthusiasm while the science coordinator and the mentor of the event MN Singh showing his gratitude towards the authorities, the teachers and the participants in his speech.

Ninety participants took part in this historic event along with their forty five exhibits. The students also gave beautiful

and detailed information of their models with great zeal and enthusiasm to all the guests and the panel of judges. They were even questioned about the scientific concepts and the theories behind their projects. Various sustainable topics and ideas were picked up and demonstrated visually with the help of charts, ppt's etc

Through this exhibition, the students were encouraged to develop a scientific fervor and an attitude of research mindedness so that they develop the qualities of analytical and critical thinking.

## Campus Drive of ASP OL Media Pvt Ltd at Kalinga University



**Raipur, Dec 05:** Kalinga University is a prestigious educational institution in Central India. The university has been awarded B+ accreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) for providing innovation and quality education. It is the only university in Chhattisgarh to be included in the band of top 101-150 universities in the NIRF rankings in the year 2022 and 2023. Students are trained through high quality multidisciplinary research-centric education and skill development programs to develop innovation among students as per global standards to develop spirit of responsible citizens along with development of leadership power.

On 1 December 2023, the on-campus placement drive was organised by the Department of Training and Placement (CCRC), Kalinga University. 11 students of Kalinga University were selected for various posts - CEO, Operation Manager and HR Manager of Pune based multinational ASP OL Media Pvt Ltd. The selection process was conducted in three stages - written examination, group discussion and interview. Kalinga University coordinates between campus placement companies and students.

Kalinga University on this outstanding achievement of students congratulated Kada Srinivas, Prithvi Narayan, Niriksha Tandasa, G. Harshita, Saurav Kamal, Rohan Acharya, Aditya Kumar, Komal Tawari, Renuka Jodh, Antara Das, Ankita Parida and their families and extended best wishes for their bright future.

## Awareness program held on the occasion Int'nal Day of Persons with Disabilities

**Raipur, Dec 05:** Shri Rawatpura Sarkar University, (Dept of Special Education) organized awareness program on 5 December 2023 at Govt. Middle School Boriyakala, Raipur on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Program began with the brief introduction of disability in which its causes and intervention along with reservation for persons with disabilities shared by the faculties of Special Education Department Ms. Vidya Bharti and Ms. Purnima Sahu.

The Pro-Chancellor of the University, Mr. Harsh Gautam told that "we have to keep in our mind that no one should leave behind" all should be included without discrimination. Today's time



awareness of disability is much more needed because without awareness, society can't be able to accept those who have special needs in our society and our university will always keep moving forward to achieve SDGs goal by including to all.

In his verdicts, the Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof. S.K Singh by specially focusing on the 2023 theme "United in action to rescue and achieve the sustainable and development

goals (SDGs) for, with and by persons with disability" he asserted that by changing the perspective of society through awareness among the society and we should frame and emphasize inclusive effective learning environments for all a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development for all. Dr. Saurabh K Sharma, the Registrar of varsity expressed his view by promoting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth full and

productive employment can be the way of Rethinking disability inclusion for the SDGs.

Assistant Prof. of Special Education Department, Trapti Saraswat explained that Disability is referred in multiple parts of the SDGs, specifically in the parts related to education, growth and employment, inequality, accessibility of human settlements, as well explained to young generation that how it is possible to get succeed in all these goals just putting efforts for persons with disabilities.

At the end, vote of thanks given to the principal of school for the coordination to implement the awareness program with all the faculties of the department of special education of the University.

## Hemwati strikes silver in Judo competition

### At 3rd Khelo India Sub Junior Women Judo League, West Zone

**Raipur, Dec 05:** Hemwati, a talented judo player hailing from the remote district of Kondagaon in Chhattisgarh, has secured a remarkable silver medal in the 3rd Khelo India Sub Junior Women Judo League, West Zone, held at Sanskar Dham Sports Academy in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

Despite her humble background, Hemwati, a student at Kondagaon Government School, has been diligently honing her judo skills under the guidance of her dedicated coach, Uday Singh Yadav, for the past three years. Her dedication and hard work paid off as she clinched the silver medal in the highly competitive West Zone Women's Judo League. This isn't Hemwati's first taste of success. She has previously won a bronze medal at the national judo competition and



several gold medals at the state level. Her relentless pursuit of excellence led her to the final of the 40kg weight category at the 3rd Khelo India Judo League in Gujarat, where she faced a formidable opponent from Gujarat and secured the silver medal on points. Chhattisgarh State Judo Association President Arun Dwivedi, General Secretary SR Soni, Treasurer Satish Singh, along with various judo associations and trainers, have extended their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the accomplished judoka Hemwati.

## Mandate is acceptable, defeat will be reviewed: Baij

Central Chronicle News

**Jagdalpur, Dec 05:** Similarly, State Congress President Deepak Baij said on the defeat of Congress in the state that the people's mandate is accepted. He said that the party will return with double strength after reviewing the reasons for the defeat. Wherever there is a shortcoming in our work, it will be discussed and every effort will be made to remove it.

He said that the work of the Congress government in the last five years has been very good. And our announcement was also better but it will be reviewed where it was lacking. On the question of defeat of senior ministers, Deepak Baij said that all the ministers did good work and were ready to serve the public. His role



was important in every decision of the government. There is a need to think about why the public rejected him. He said that in elections someone wins and someone loses, this is the rule.

In the last election we won a landslide victory and this time the mandate was not in our favor, this happens in elections. Our job is to keep working for the public and we will continue to do so.

## My victory is the tireless hard work of the workers: Baghel

**Jagdalpur, Dec 05:** Lakheshwar Baghel won from Bastar Assembly for the third consecutive time. There was an atmosphere of enthusiasm among the Congress workers on his victory. As soon as Lakheshwar's supporters reached the MLA's residence, hundreds of people gathered. Lakheshwar Baghel



along with party workers reached village Girola. Lakheshwar's was given a grand welcome in village Girola.

Lakheshwar Baghel went straight to Hinglajin temple and offered prayers and prayed for the prosperity of the area.

Expressing his gratitude to the workers, he said, "My victory is your victory. This victory has been achieved only because of your hard work." He also thanked the people of the area and said that he will always maintain the trust that the people of the area have given him by giving him a third chance.

## Dark pattern notification for e-commerce will bring reforms in e-commerce business

### Need for rolling out of e-commerce policy and rules, CAIT urges Piyush Goyal

**Raipur, Dec 04:** CAIT National Senior Vice President Amar Parwani, chairman Mangal Maloo, Amar Gidwani, State President Jitendra Doshi, States Working President Vikram Singh Deo, Parmanand Jain, Vashu Makhija, State General Secretary Suriender Singh, State Working General Secretary Bharat Jain, and State Treasure Ajay Agrawal informed that the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has welcomed the notification by the Union Consumer Affairs Ministry banning the use of "dark patterns" on e-commerce platforms, saying it will curb the trend of e-commerce companies duping customers. This is being considered a major step of the govern-

ment in the continuous struggle being carried out by CAIT for the last four years against the arbitrary attitude of e-commerce companies.

CAIT while continuously complaining that the e-commerce companies were not only harassing the traders through their misleading business model but were also causing great harm to the interests of the customers. It is very important to take necessary steps to stop this trade practices of the companies.

CAIT National Senior Vice President Mr. Amar Parwani and State President, Jitendra Doshi thanked Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal for this step and urged that now e-commerce policy and rules should also be implemented immediately so that e-commerce trade can flourish in India in a very systematic manner and the responsibilities of the e-commerce portal are fixed.

Mr. Parwani and Mr. Doshi said that dark pattern is called that through which attempts are made to cheat customers or manipulate their choices. In this regard, on November 30, the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCA) issued a notification titled "Prevention of Dark Pattern". A Gazette notification was issued which is applicable to all platforms, advertisers and sellers offering goods or providing services in India. According to the notification, resorting to dark patterns, misleading advertisements or engaging in unfair trade practices, would be a violation of consumer rights. It said the penalty would be imposed as per the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act.

Mr. Parwani and Mr. Doshi said that in the emerging digital business, dark patterns are increasingly being used by e-commerce platforms to mislead consumers by

manipulating their purchasing choices and behaviour. They said that the notified guidelines will make it clear to all stakeholders buyers, sellers, markets and regulators as to what actions will be considered as unfair trade practices and strict action can be taken against their violation. According to notification, any practice or deceptive design pattern using the user interface or user experience interaction on the platform that is designed to mislead or deceive users into doing something or that impairs the consumer's autonomy, freedom to decide or their Influencing choice is dark pattern. An example of dark patterns is basket sneaking which involves charging an additional amount for products, services, which is more than the customer's purchase amount, while checking out from a platform, levied without the customer's consent.

## 18 year old boy missing for five days

### His mental condition is also not reported normal

**Korba, Dec 05:** An 18-year-old Vijay Bharti, who left home from SECL Colony Ramnagar under Manikpur outpost of Korba district at 10 am on Thursday, Nov 30, 2023, has not returned home till date. His mental condition is also not good.



colored slippers as per his daily routine. Whose missing report has also been lodged in Manikpur post. Anyone who finds the missing youth should contact 7000580473, 8109232397.

## OBITUARY

**Budhkumari**  
**Raipur:** Budhkumari of Manohar Jeevan Kalyan Vriddha Niwas, breathed her last here on Tuesday. The final rites will be held on Dec 6 at Marwari crematorium at 11:00 am.

## Newly elected BJP MLA Kiran Dev thanks people

**Jagdalpur, Dec 05:** Bharatiya Janata Party's newly elected Jagdalpur Assembly MLA Kiran Dev has expressed gratitude towards all the public voters and party workers of the assembly constituency. While expressing his gratitude, MLA Kiran Dev said that due to the blessings of the people of the area and the hard work of the workers, BJP has achieved victory in the assembly elections. And



in Chhattisgarh, BJP government has been formed with full majority. This victory is the victory of the

people. And with this basic mantra, Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas, there will be tireless continuous work with determination to serve the respectable public and development of the region. He has expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the citizens of Jagdalpur Assembly voters, young women, elderly farmers and all the party workers.



# Machines worth 40 lakh gathering dust !

**■ Five lakh people affected as technicians overburdened**

By Basant Sachdev

**Dhamtari, Dec 05:** In today's time, blood test is the most priority test for any ailment and the government also sent hi-tech machines to the district hospital, but reportedly lack of lab technicians, high level training of lab technicians, lack of chemicals and kits, ironically the machines are not used. Machines like CBC-1, CBC Part-5, Electrolyte Analyser, Fully Automatic Biochemistry, Hormones Analyser, etc. are available and of these, CBC Hormones Analyser, Electrolysis Analyser, are state-of-the-art machines and the price of all these machines is more than Rs 40 lakh.

Also in the District Hospital due to lack of adequate staff and neglect of the health department, many machines are gathering dust in the store room. Machines worth lakhs of rupees have been installed in the lab of the



district hospital for testing blood sugar and hormones but due to lack of training and man power; these machines are proving to be show-pieces. The target is to have 130 types of blood tests, but due to lack of chemicals and resources, 80 types of tests are being conducted daily. For Vitamin-C, Vitamin-D, Vitamin-B-12 and Thyroid testing, patients have to spend Rs 700 to Rs 3,000 in private labs and this has increased the financial burden on them. About five lakh patients from Dhamtari, Charama, Kanke, Gariaband, Balod, Antagarh, Narayanpur Odisha are dependent in the district hospital. This is the reason why the OPD of the hospital is continu-

ously increasing. HB test is free in the district hospital, whereas the fee for this test is Rs 300 to Rs 600, similarly, a fee of Rs 300 is fixed for thyroid test in the district hospital, but the same test costs Rs 1700 to Rs 2700 in private labs. This investigation is not being done in the district hospital and under Biochemistry, only blood sugar, HB-1C, RFT, blood urea are being tested in the lab. **200 patients arriving, only 80 are being investigated** The Central Chronicle team inspected the lab located at the district hospital on Wednesday at 12 noon. Patients were standing in queues at the main gate to get blood, urine and other types of tests done.

Bhavna Sahu, Surekha Nirmalkar were sitting dejected, they told that they were complaining of swelling in the body since few months, but eh hospital didn't do the test and the Rs 1900 in a private lab. Similarly, due to lack of chemicals and trained technicians, CBC (Complete Blood Count), Thirteen Four, and TSF tests are not being done. It is reported that 200 patients come to the lab of the district hospital every day for testing out of these, hardly 80 patients are being examined. **Only 8 technicians for investigation** Every day 200 patients come to the lab of the district hospital for various types of blood tests and 120

types of tests are being done here but there are only 8 lab technicians. Of these, 2 are on duty in the blood bank and technicians are also put on duty in corona testing, TB testing and blood camps and blood testing work is being badly affected. There are 20 lab technicians in the neighboring districts of Kanker and Balod and despite immense patient pressure in Dhamtari, the number of lab technicians are very less. **Direct talks with Dr. Aditya Sinha, Hamar path lab** How many types of tests are available in the lab of the district hospital and how many are being done? Answer: The district

hospital has facilities for 120 types of tests every day. Currently getting 80 **Hormone analyzer machine has been installed in the district hospital lab since last one year, why thyroid test is not being done?** Answer: These are state-of-the-art machines and Lab technicians need training to operate these. The kit is also awaited. **When machines are available, why have lab technicians not received training yet?** Answer - Training is given by CGMAC. A letter has been sent for this. **Patients are wandering for thyroid test. Why is alternative facility not being provided?** Answer - We have hormones analyzer machine available for thyroid testing. Testing facility will start available by the first week of December. **What is the other requirement from the government for running the lab?** Answer: A separate building is required for lab operations. Also, there is a need for at least four more lab technicians. If this facility is available then the work will be better.

# World Disability Day observed in SMVS



Rajim, Dec 05:

Every year on occasion of World Disability Year, 'Shanti Maitri Vikas Sansthan' (SMVS) observes it at 'Anurag Manovikas Kendra' Rajim and in this the entire staff of Anurag Manovikas Kendra and all the 'divyang' students of the Kendra took part. The children were first applied with 'gulaal' and then sweets were offered. They took part in various sports and cultural programme. The President of the institution Manoj Kumar Sahu informed

that even today any form of disability in a person is seen differently and it needs to be improved. The institution in order to promote the rights and development of 'divyang' persons in the society and for their development, observed World Disability Day on Dec 3. On this occasion the staff of Anurag Manovikas Kendra Tikeswari Sahu, Jhanna Sahu, Saraswati Nishad, Damini Nagrachi, Neelam Sahu, Bhagwati Nishad, Kajal Sahu, Rukhmani Patel and Malick Ram Patel were present.

# Two day scout guide camp organized

**■ In Kendriya Vidyalaya**  
Khairagarh, Dec 05:

A two-day scout-guide camp was organized at Kendriya Vidyalaya Khairagarh in which chief guest SR Malla and special guest head teacher Sanjulika James were present. After welcoming the guests, the camp was inaugurated by garlanding the portrait of the founders of Scout Guides, Baden Powell and Lady Baden Powell and lighting the lamp. In the beginning, the children of the Scout Guides offered prayer, flag singing and salute to the flag. During this, Scout Master GP Giriya administered the pledge to all the children and Scout Guide



Camp Director Mohini Sahu informed the students about Scout Guide training and gave detailed information about the history of Scouts, its rules and pledges. On the first day of the camp, the Scout Guides are given the motto, rules and pledge, uniforms, the students of the first step are given information about their care, discipline, rope work and on the second day of the

camp, the students of the first step are given information about pioneering, cooking food in the open camp, primary information was given about medical aid, BP Six etc. The second day of the camp was marked by flag hoisting, flag songs and prayers. Scout Master Lokesh Kumar gave concise information about Road Safety Rules, Compass and Map

Guessing, Efficiency Medal, Message Broadcasting Communication (Application of Computer Mobile). After the training, an examination was organised, in which the Principal-in-charge praised the Scout Guides who participated enthusiastically during the camp and in his address he said that a Scout can change the environment around him. If he wishes, he can awaken a good personality in his companions; and the Scout was inspired to be mentally, socially and morally strong. Camp coordinator Radhe Shyam taught the students of each scout, the guide to follow the pledge rules so that people can trust the scouts.

# Will the new govt. organize Kumbh Mela!

Rajim, Dec 05:

This time in the assembly elections, BJP is forming the government with full majority, but like last time in Rajim Assembly, this time also MLAs have been elected from the ruling party. The Congress government has been talking about organizing Maghi Punni Mela at Naveen Mela Ground for the last 5 years, and in this way the entire 5 years have passed and the public has expressed their displeasure on this matter. Anyway, the names of Rajim and Chhattisgarh in the name of Kumbh had earned fame in the country and abroad, but as soon as the Congress government came to power in 2018, the name was



changed to Punni Mela; due to this the event remained limited to the entire state. Many people have opined their view point on this subject, and Deepak Shriwas, Jitendra Sahu, Krishna Kumar Sahu, Bhajan Dewangan, Manas etc. say that devotees will get the benefit of Kumbh bath along with sages, and saints, while others like Akash Singh Rajput, Rajesh Sahu,

Narayan Kansari, Dharmendra Sahu, Tiku Chandrakar said that if PM Modi is there then it is possible and the grandeur of the fair will increase 100%. Rikesh Sahu, Kailash Sahu, Mukund Meshram, Ashwani Sonkar say that undoubtedly the grandeur and vastness of Kumbh will be seen again. It is noteworthy that in the new fair ground, only the

work of land leveling and sub-station work of the electricity department along with the construction of ghat has started, but a lot of work has to be done here. Hundreds of works like construction of roads, rest houses, parking, huts for saints are to be done, of which there is no trace. It may be noted that after BJP leader Arun Sao's speech in Parivartan Yatra during the election campaign, former minister Brijmohan Aggarwal had told the general public that if Kumbh is to be organized again in Rajim, then vote for BJP. The public has done its work and now the discussion is prime, on as to when the new government will complete it.

# Ajay Tiwari reveals key factors behind Shailesh's defeat

Balodabazar/Tilda Neora, Dec 05:

Former Congress councillor and alderman, Ajay Tiwari, in a candid statement, pointed out several significant factors that have played a crucial role in the electoral setbacks experienced by the Congress party. Among these contributing factors, Tiwari highlighted instances of internal strife within the party, mishandling campaign funds and a notable absence of experienced leadership. These



issues, he believes, have collectively hampered the party's electoral prospects. For the first time in the annals of Tilda Neora's political history, the Congress party faced a

stunning defeat. Tiwari pointed out that assigning critical roles to 'Jaichand' and 'Vibhishan' with no prior election experience, and sidelining senior leaders and public representatives as significant factors behind the disappointing outcome in the Tilda Block Municipality. Tiwari emphasized that this defeat was not merely a reflection on Congress candidate Shailesh Nitin Trivedi but a collective setback for the people of Balodabazar.

# World AIDS Awareness Day celebrated

Kasdol, Dec 05:

In Daulat Ram Sharma Government Post Graduate College, Kasdol, under the aegis of National Service Scheme, World AIDS Control Awareness Day program was celebrated on 01 December, in which Rangoli competition, painting competition was organized in the college for AIDS control awareness, in which all the volunteers and students of the college took part. A one-day AIDS control



program was organized in the college by the entire doctor staff team of Community Health Center Kasdol present in the college, in which all the doctors gave neces-

sary guidelines to all the students for AIDS control and prevention. On the occasion of the day, all the students were made aware about the prevention of AIDS in the country in the

society and detailed information was provided, in which Dr. Manoj Mishra (Block Program Officer) of the Health Department of Community Health Center Kasdol, Dr. Dhaneshwar Patel ( HIV AIDS Consultant) Dr. Supreet, Dr. Hiralal Sahu, Dr. Ramgopal Sahu, Dr. Rajesh Dewangan, Dr. Lokesh Chandravanshi and the entire team of doctors, including college principal Dr. Khurshid Khan, senior professor HL Patel, National Service Scheme Program Officer

V. Tandon, Hemant Patel, Seema Shriwas, Manoj Verma, all the students of the college were present in which along with senior National Service Scheme seniors Suraj Yadav, Abhishek Navrange, Pritam Jaiswal, Chandan Jaiswal, General Secretary Raman Miri, Secretary Meenakshi Bairagi, Deputy General Secretary Hritish Sen, Deputy General Secretary Phuleshwari Banjare, Rukhmani Pankaj, Aditya Pank etc were present.

# Collector and SP express gratitude

**■ On completion of counting process**  
Manendvgarh, Dec 05:

After the assembly elections were completed peacefully along with the counting of votes in the district, Collector and District Election Officer Narendra Dugga and Superintendent of Police Siddharth Tiwari met all the officers and employees involved in the election work in the district, including common citizens, security forces, media personnel, politicians and expressed gratitude to the parties and residents of the district.



The Collector, while praising the commendable contribution of the administrative and police officers, district officers and employees associated with the counting of votes for the assembly elections, said that due to the true

ercising the right to vote, they gave full sacrifice in the great sacrifice of democracy. The District Election Officer also expressed his gratitude to the representatives of all print and electronic media, who played a constructive role in making people aware about voting through news of SVVEEP activities.

# Prof Neeta Singh Gaharwar given addl. charge

**■ As Registrar IKS**  
V along with Dean Dance Faculty

Khairagarh, Dec 05:

Vice Chancellor Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya (IKSV) Khairagarh Mamta Chandrakar has been given additional charge to Prof. (Dr.) Neeta Singh Gaharwar as the Registrar of IKS along with the present position of Dean of Dance faculty held by her till further orders. Prof. Neeta Singh Gaharwar assumed the charge in a simple programme in the University here on Friday. Prof. Neeta in the history of IKS has joined as the Registrar of



the University for the first time. On this occasion in-charge Registrar IKS Prof. Kashinath Tiwari, Asst. Registrar Rajesh Gupta, Asst. Registrar Vijay Singh, and other officers and employees of the University and her friends extended greetings to Neeta Rajendra Singh Gaharwar and wished her all the best in her future endeavours.

# Graduation students RRSSM went on education tour

**■ To Bastar region**  
Khairagarh, Dec 05:

The students of MSc, M.Com, MA and other graduate levels from Rani Rashmidevi Singh Shashakiya Mahavidyalaya (RRSSM) Khairagarh went on an education tour to Bastar region. During this the students visited the natural beauty in Bastar, Jagdalpur, Teerathgarh, Chitrakot falls, Dantewada and other parts of the region. It was as per direction of Student's Union in-charge Lal JK Vaishnav, students of RRSSM were taken on educational tour from Dec 1-3. Apart from the College studies to graduation students of RRSSM, the importance of educational tours was underlined and held necessary for development of their individual personality and therefore this region was selected. Set aside this finding the questions related to state and its geographical locations in the competitive exams and with majority of GK questions surrounding the state's Bastar and Dantewada region, that this study tour was planned. It is by personally visiting these sites that the



students develop some interest in acquiring knowledge and it helps them in preparing for exams as well. So it is pertinent for the students to have on the spot physical touch of all these places, so that it remains live in their memory and easy to recall. The student's team on educational tour comprised of head of team Vasu Singh Rajput, Sachin Sahu, Jayant Verma, Dev Sarthi, Sai Sirsath, Hitesh Verma, Pankaj Jahu, Pintu Sahu, Muskan Shrivastava, Puja Verma, Sharda, Muskan Verma, Nikki, Nitu, Apporva and others students were present in large number.











# India women aim for better returns against England in T20I series

Mumbai, Dec 05 (PTI):

India will look to draw confidence from recent performances and improve their disappointing bilateral record against England when the two teams face-off in a three-match women's T20I series, starting here on Wednesday.

The Harmanpreet Kaur-led India have had a successful year in the shortest format so far, winning the gold medal in the Asian Games, an away series against Bangladesh by 2-1 and also making it to the final of the triangular series in South Africa, with West Indies as the third side.

On the other hand, world No. 2 England will look to overcome the disappointment of losing to Sri Lanka 1-2 at home.

World No. 4 India have a poor record at home in T20Is as well as against England in general and the hosts will hope to come up with something special.

At home, in nine matches against England, India have only two wins to show with their most recent victory coming more than five years ago in March 2018 when they won by eight wickets at the Brabourne Stadium.

In fact, it is India's overall record against England which is also concerning given they only



India's captain Harmanpreet Kaur and teammate Smriti Mandhana during a practice session ahead of the 1st T20I cricket match between India and England, at Wankhede Stadium, in Mumbai, Tuesday, Dec. 5.

have seven wins to show from 27 matches.

Additionally, India women's last win at home in T20Is came more than two years ago in March 2021 when they defeated South Africa in Lucknow by nine wickets.

Since then, India have lost four and tied one game while playing at home. The series also presents

India an opportunity to improve their disappointing overall home record as they only have 19 wins from 50 T20Is at home with 30 losses and one tied game.

Both India and England were the semifinalists of the last T20 World Cup held in South Africa earlier this year.

With the next showpiece event

**Time: 7:00pm IST.**

slated for September-October 2024, this series presents an opportunity to fine-tune their preparations for the edition in Bangladesh.

For England, the veteran Nat Sciver-Brunt's all-round exploits in the WPL and her form in international circuit make her the most dangerous player.

Besides scoring 332 runs at a strike rate of 140.08 and 10 wickets in WPL in Mumbai's winning campaign, Sciver-Brunt has also amassed 271 runs in only eight T20Is at an average of 45.16.

While Danny Wyatt has most runs (278 in 11 matches), Sophie Ecclestone (16 wickets) and Sarah Glenn (13) have been England's best bowlers in T20Is this year.

The series between the senior women's sides was preceded by a three-match contest between their respective A' teams, wherein Issy Wong's all-round brilliance handed the visitors a 2-1 win.

On spin-friendly and slow surfaces, batters from both the teams struggled largely which indicates this could be a series dominated by spinners and both India and England have plenty in their ranks.

# Junior Hockey WC: Arajeet scores hat-trick in India's 4-2 win over Korea



Kuala Lumpur, Dec 05 (PTI):

Arajeet Singh Hundal struck a hat-trick as India dished out a dominant display to beat Korea 4-2 in their opening pool match of the FIH junior men's hockey World Cup here on Tuesday.

Hundal scored in the 11th, 16th and 41st minutes while Amandeep found the target for India in the 30th minute in the Pool C match. Dohyun Lim (38th) and Minkwon Kim (45th) were the goal scorers for Korea. India, who had lost

to France in the bronze-medal match in the last edition in 2021 in Bhubaneswar, made a strong start with Hundal scoring in the first quarter off a penalty corner.

The Indians continued their domination by pumping in two goals in the second quarter through Hundal and Amandeep -- both field goals -- as they were 3-0 up at the half time.

Korea pulled one back through Dohyun Lim midway in the third quarter but India replied soon after with

Hundal completing his hat-trick with another field goal.

With a 4-1 lead in the match, the Indians appeared to have slowed down a bit. The Koreans pressed for goals and they were able to reduce the margin with Minkwon finding the target.

India next play against Spain in their second pool match. Canada is the other country in the four-team Pool C. India have won the tournament twice (2001 and 2016) and finished runners-up once (1997).

# Bangladesh looking to secure first test series win over New Zealand

Mirpur, Dec 05 (AP):

Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha wants his players to guard against complacency as it tries to secure a first series win against New Zealand in the second and final test.

Bangladesh won the first test in Sylhet by 150 runs to close in on a landmark series victory. The only top-level teams that Bangladesh has ever beaten in a two-match test series are Zimbabwe and West Indies.

"I can't see complacency in the team. If I see any action of complacency, I will have one to one chat," Hathurusingha said ahead of Wednesday's opening

day. "We had a good chat inside the dressing room yesterday. Strong and experienced leaders like Mushy (Mushfiqur Rahim) and Mominul (Haque) spoke very emotionally. They spoke in Bengali. I can see there's no tall poppies in the dressing room."

The Sylhet test victory was only Bangladesh's second against New Zealand in 18 meetings, and it came courtesy of captain Najmul Hossain Shanto's second-innings century. In doing so, Shanto became the first Bangladeshi cricketer to hit a century on his debut as captain.

"Captaincy and leadership are two things,"

Hathurusingha said. "(Shanto's) captaincy was excellent. He was tactically on the mark. He was step ahead of the game most of the time. Very impressive field placings as well. Sometimes unorthodox, but very effective."

"(His) leadership was excellent. He led from the front with his performance. He was commanding respect, and demanding the standard. I think he has a long future ahead." Left-arm spinner Taijul Islam, who took 10-184 in the first test, will be a Bangladesh's most crucial weapon in Mirpur, which traditionally has a slow wicket with unven bounce.

Young pugilists Payal, Nisha and Akansha won a gold medal each after dominating performances as India ended their impressive campaign at the IBA Junior World Boxing Championships in Yerevan, Armenia with 17 medals on Tuesday.

The Indian contingent secured three gold, nine silver and five bronze medals from the championships. The Indian women's team finished joint second in the event. Payal handed India its first gold when she out-classed local favourite Petrosyan Heghine of Armenia by unanimous decision in the girls 48kg final. Later, Asian youth champi-



Payal (48kg), Nisha (52kg) and Akansha (70kg)

ons Nisha and Akansha lived up to the expectations as they extended their

dream runs to clinch gold medals in style. Nisha (52kg) and Akansha (70kg)

thrashed Abdullaeva Farinof of Tajikistan and Taimazova Elizaveta of

Russia respectively with identical 5-0 margins.

Three other Indian women in action on the final day, Vini (57kg), Shrushti (63kg) and Megha (80kg) signed off with silver medals after suffering defeats in their respective final bouts.

In the men's section, Sahil (75kg) and Hemant (80+kg) added silver medals to the Indian tally after going down 0-5 in their respective finals.

Jatin (54kg) also put up a strong fight against Tulebek Nurassyl of Kazakhstan before losing 1-4 in a thrilling match.

Overall, 12 Indians had entered the finals, which was more than any other country in this edition.

# India tour is going to be valuable as T20 World Cup: Heather Knight

Mumbai, Dec 05 (PTI):

The T20 series in India gain significance as it will show how the young visiting players excel in conditions which will be similar to what the team will experience in Bangladesh during next year's T20 World Cup, said England women's skipper Heather Knight.

India and England are set to face off in a three-match T20 series, starting here on Wednesday.

"I learned a lot about my game playing in Indian conditions, it really tests you as a cricketer, your skill level and how you do with the noise and the heat," Knight told reporters ahead of



England's training session here on Tuesday.

"It is a really good place to accelerate development, to see how our young players cope with it. We have got a T20 World Cup in Bangladesh later on in the year (2024) so this tour is going to be valuable in terms of having similar conditions." The T20 World Cup is scheduled to be hosted by Bangladesh between September and October in 2024.

A lot of members of the England's T20I squad arrived in India two days before the start of the series which will be played at the Wankhede Stadium on Dec 6, 9 and 10.

Ebenyo, Yehualaw star attraction in Kolkata 25K run on Dec 17 Kolkata, Dec 05 (PTI):

World championships 10,000m silver medallist Daniel Simiyu Ebenyo of Kenya and Ethiopian 10K world record holder Yalemzerf Yehualaw will be the star attractions in the men's and women's sections respectively in the Tata Steel Kolkata 25K run on December 17.

Ebenyo won a silver medal in 10,000m in Budapest world championships in August and then finished second in half marathon in Riga at the inaugural World Road Running Championships, before easily winning the Delhi Half Marathon in October.

# Ashwini-Tanisha climb four spots to world No. 28

New Delhi, Dec 05 (PTI):

Indian women's doubles pair, Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto, jumped four places to reach world number 28 in the latest BWF rankings.

Ashwini, 36, and her 20-year-old partner Tanisha, who started playing together only in January this year, finished runners-up at the Syed Modi International Super 300 tournament in Lucknow on Sunday.

The duo earlier won the Nates International Masters Super 100.

Priyanshu Rajawat, who had reached the semi-fi-



nals in men's singles, also gained a place to break into the top-30.

All other Indian singles players stayed static with HS Prannoy (8) remaining the top ranked shuttler from the country, followed by PV Sindhu (12),

Lakshya Sen (17) and Kidambi Srikanth (24).

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty occupied the world number 2 spot, while Treasa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand stayed at 19th position.

# I didn't remove Kohli from captaincy: Ganguly

Kolkata, Dec 05:

Sourav Ganguly says he did not remove Virat Kohli from the team captaincy. Kohli's decision to step down from T20I captaincy post the 2021 World Cup was followed by his surprising relinquishment of ODI and Test captaincy within a short span.

In contrast to Kohli's assertion that he wished to continue ODI and Test captaincy, Ganguly, who was the BCCI president at the time, clarified that Kohli was urged to continue leading in T20Is to avoid having two different captains in white-ball cricket. "I didn't remove Virat from captaincy," Ganguly clarified on Dadagiri Unlimited Season 10. "He wasn't inter-



ested in leading in T20Is. After he made that decision, I told him if you're not interested in leading in T20Is, it's better if you step down from entire white-ball cricket. Let there be a white-ball captain and a red-ball captain. I pushed Rohit Sharma a bit to take up the captaincy role because he wasn't interested in leading in all three formats of the game," Ganguly revealed.

London, Dec 05 (AP):

Novak Djokovic earned the year-end No. 1 spot in the ATP rankings for the eighth time on Monday, adding to a record he already held.

Djokovic won three of the four Grand Slam tournaments the Australian Open in January, French Open in June and U.S. Open in September to raise his career total to a men's-record 24 and was the runner-up at the other, Wimbledon. He went 56-7 this season while leading the tour with seven titles, including at the ATP Finals last month.

The 36-year-old from Serbia regained the top ranking from Carlos Alcaraz, who edged him in a five-set final at the All England Club in July.

Alcaraz finished 2023 at No. 2 after the two men

# Novak Djokovic finishes at No. 1 in the ATP rankings



swapped No. 1 back-and-forth repeatedly this year.

Iga Swiatek claimed the WTA's year-end No. 1 ranking for the second consecutive year by win-

ning the WTA Finals last month. Swiatek, who won her fourth career major championship at the French Open, overtook Aryna Sabalenka, the

Australian Open champion and runner-up to Coco Gauff at the U.S. Open. Gauff finished at No. 3, followed by Elena Rybakina at No. 4 and Jessica Pegula at No. 5.

Djokovic eclipsed his own mark for the oldest player to top the ATP at the end of a season; he was 34 in 2021.

His eight year-end No. 1s put him two ahead of previous record-holder Pete Sampras, who did it six times. Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal each finished at No. 1 five times, as did Jimmy Connors.

Daniil Medvedev closed 2023 at No. 3, followed by Jannik Sinner at a career-best No. 4, Andrey Rublev at No. 5, Stefanos Tsitsipas at No. 6, Alexander Zverev at No. 7, Holger Rune at No. 8, Hubert Hurkacz at No. 9 and Taylor Fritz at No. 10.

# WFI election date to be announced after December 8

New Delhi, Dec 05 (PTI):

The notification to hold the stalled Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) elections could be issued on or after December 8, the date set for inclusion of any changes in the electoral college published earlier this year.

The Supreme Court recently set aside the stay imposed by the Punjab and Haryana High Court, paving the way for the process to elect the new WFI governing body.

An IOA-constituted ad-hoc panel, led by Wushu Association of India chief Bhupendra Singh Bajwa, is currently managing the day-to-day activities of the WFI after the sports ministry suspended the federation headed by Brij Bhushan Sharan

Singh over allegations of sexual harassment levelled by top Indian grapplers.

Several wrestlers, including Olympic medallists Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik, sat in protest at the Jantar Mantar here for more than two months to protest alleged sexual harassment of female grapplers by Brij Bhushan. The election process, which was set in motion in July, has been delayed because of court cases. This has further led to the suspension of the WFI by the international federation, United World Wrestling, for failing to conduct fresh polls in the time stipulated by them. Indian wrestlers continue to participate in international competitions under the UWW flag because of the suspension of the national body.

# Some things are best left unsaid: Justice Kaul

On non-listing of pleas on judges' appointment  
New Delhi, Dec 05 (PTI)



Some things are best left unsaid, Supreme Court judge Sanjay Kishan Kaul said on Tuesday when some lawyers alleged sudden deletion from the cause list of the pleas related to alleged delay by the Centre in acting on the collegium's recommendations on elevation and transfer of high court judges.

The apex court is seized of two petitions, including the one alleging procrastination by the Centre in clearing the names recommended by the collegium. A bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Sudhanshu Dhulia had heard the matter on November 20 and posted it for further hearing on

mentioned (the issue) in the morning. I just said one thing, I have not deleted that matter."

When Bhusan said the court should seek an explanation about it from the registry.

Justice Kaul told him, "I am sure the chief justice is aware of it."

Bhusan said it was very unusual that the matter got deleted even though there was a judicial order to list it today.

"Some things are best left sometimes unsaid," Justice Kaul told Bhusan, who said the matter was being dealt with by Justice Kaul-led bench for a long time.

"I therefore clarify it is not that I have deleted the matter or I am not willing to take up the matter, both," Justice Kaul said.

While hearing the matter on November 20, the apex court had flagged the issue of the Centre "pick-

ing and choosing" high court judges recommended for transfer by the collegium, saying it does not send out a good signal.

The appointment of judges through the collegium system, where judges appoint judges of constitutional courts, has often become a hot button issue between the Supreme Court and the Centre, with the mechanism drawing criticism from different quarters.

The top court is hearing petitions, including the one filed by the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru, seeking contempt action against the Union Ministry of Law and Justice for allegedly not adhering to the timeline set by the court in a 2021 judgment for clearing the names recommended by the SC collegium for elevation and transfer of high court judges.

# 'Cyber-related crimes rose by over 50% in K'taka'

In 2022  
Bengaluru, Dec 05 (PTI)

Cases of cyber crime have jumped more than 50 per cent in Karnataka with the state police registering 12,556 FIRs in 2022 as compared to 8,136 the previous year, making it the state with second highest number of such incidents, the latest report released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) showed.

An analysis of the NCRB data shows that among the 28 states, Telangana logged the highest number of cyber crimes with 15,297 cases followed by Karnataka (12,556) and Uttar Pradesh (10,117) last year.

The rate of cyber crime cases in Karnataka stood at 18.6 per lakh population while chargesheeting in such cases was at 21.1, according to the NCRB data.

**NCRB DATA**

Out of the total number of FIRs related to cyber crimes in the state, the maximum offences were registered under the Information Technology (IT) Act, the data showed.

The analysis of the NCRB data showed that offences registered under the IT Act alone accounted for 12,549 FIRs and a majority of them were related to computer offences followed by cheating by personation by using computer resources. The figure also includes crimes related to acts of publishing or transmitting material containing sexually explicit acts in electronic form.

Motive in 11,025 cases of cyber crime were fraud followed by 379 cases with an intention of extortion, 338 cases with an intention of sexual exploitation, the data showed.

# Vedanta Aluminium organizes masterclass to boost innovation

Within global extrusion industry  
New Delhi, Dec 05:

Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest aluminium producer, has hosted its third technical masterclass, focusing on enhancing innovation and efficiency within the extrusion industry. The session, titled 'The Metallurgy of Extrusion', drew nearly 200 participants globally, including registrations from the USA, UK, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Italy, Spain, Mexico, Qatar, UAE, Greece, Portugal, Belgium, and India. Mr. Jonathan Pangborn, a globally acclaimed extrusion expert and Technical Advisor on Billet Extrusion for Vedanta Aluminium, led the masterclass. This is the latest in the company's bouquet of offerings for customers, including new product development, market

development, technical knowledge sharing, and much more.

Vedanta Aluminium is India's leading producer and exporter of top-quality billets, offering a wide range of choices, including the 1xxx, 3xxx, and 6xxx alloy series, to the global extrusion industry, tailored to their needs. With a production capacity of 580 kt per annum, the company's billets are manufactured using world-class technology from Wagstaff, Inc. (US) and Hertzich Engineering GmbH (Austria). Previously, the company launched a special range of High Speed Billets that can improve extrusion speeds by at least 25% with zero compromises in the strength of the extruded profile. Attesting to their high quality and sustainable provenance, Vedanta Aluminium's products are the first in the country to be verified as environmentally sustainable by the Environment Product Declaration (EPD) International and also certified for quality by the Bureau of Indian Standards. Additionally, its aluminium smelter and captive power plant in Jharsuguda has been certified against the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) Performance Standard.

Extrusion is a vital manufacturing process for shaping aluminium into various forms with uniform cross-sections and a crucial step in aluminium's journey towards powering several important applications in today's world. The masterclass serves as an informational cornerstone for Vedanta Aluminium's customers, providing insights into the intricate process of extrusion. By delving into alloy chemistry, temperature control design, process enhancements, and more, the session equipped participants with crucial knowledge about extrusion.

# VARSITY CONVOCATION



President Droupadi Murmu poses for a group photo during the first convocation of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, in New Delhi, Tuesday.

# Maha Guv, CM launch various initiatives of School Education Department

Mumbai, Dec 05:

Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais on Tuesday launched various initiatives and incentive schemes of the School Education Department at Raj Bhavan Mumbai. Schemes such as 'Chief Minister My School, A Beautiful School', 'Goshthincha Shanivar', 'Enjoyable Reading', 'Cleanliness Monitor' etc. were launched on the occasion. Initiatives like Adopt Schools, Mahavachan Utsav, 'My School My Yard', were also launched.

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, School Education Minister Deepak Kesarkar, Minister of Rural Development Girish Mahajan, Minister of Skill Development Mangal Prabhat Lodha, Principal Secretary School Education Ranjit Singh Deol, Commissioner Suraj Mandhare and others were present. These school initiatives were

started to upgrade the infrastructure facilities in the schools of the state, to create a competitive environment for education in the schools, to increase the participation of the students in the decision-making process, to encourage the schools to carry out activities on the topics of health, skill development, and financial literacy, etc.

# IISER Bhopal researchers complete genome sequencing of Jamun tree

New Delhi, Dec 05 (PTI)

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal have completed the first-ever genome sequencing of the Jamun tree, according to officials.

To understand the genomic and evolutionary basis of the tree's medicinal values, the research team sequenced the S.cumini genome. The research has been published in the journal 'Frontiers in Plant Science'.

"The aim of this research was to gain new functional and evolutionary insights from the Jamun genome, which could be responsible for the wide range of pharmacological properties of this species conferred by the bioactive compounds that

act as nutraceutical agents in modern medicine," said Vineet K Sharma, Department of Biological Sciences, IISER, Bhopal.

"Jamun's therapeutic properties are widely celebrated in India. Specifically, the fruit seed extracts of Jamun have well-known anti-diabetic properties. It is also highly recommended in Ayurveda to treat a variety of health ailments such as stomach discomfort, arthritis, cardiac problems, flatulence, asthma, diarrhoea, and stomach spasms. The black plum can be eaten fresh or made into juice. This is the first time that the plant has been examined and decoded so closely," he added.

Sharma explained that the Jamun genome has a higher number of coding

genes resulting from gene duplication events compared to the other two sequenced species from this genus, which points towards a neopolyploidy event in the Jamun species.

"This duplication of genes can allow Jamun to acquire novel functions. To fully explain the anti-diabetic properties of this plant, we discovered the presence of glucosides, another class of metabolites that prevent the conversion of starch into sugar, and explain how the plant possesses anti-diabetic value," he said.

"Previous clinical assessments have shown that Jamun has a low glycaemic index and alleviates diabetic symptoms such as excessive urination," he added.

# 'Sonia won't make me PM'

Pranab told daughter Sharmistha after 2004 drama  
New Delhi, Dec 05 (PTI)

"No, she will not make me the PM," was Pranab Mukherjee's cryptic response in a reference to Sonia Gandhi when he was asked by his daughter Sharmistha Mukherjee about his chances of becoming the prime minister in 2004.

Sharmistha recalls her father's reply after Sonia Gandhi's decision to withdraw from the prime ministerial race in her upcoming book 'In Pranab, My Father: A Daughter Remembers'.

In the book, the former Congress spokesperson who quit politics in 2021 provides a glimpse into the illustrious life of her fa-



Former president Pranab Mukherjee and his daughter Sharmistha Mukherjee.

ther, where she also says that he did not have any rancour against Sonia Gandhi for not making him the prime minister, and definitely not against the man chosen - Manmohan Singh.

Through her father's diary entries, personal stories narrated to her and her own research, Sharmistha uncovers new,

hitherto unknown facets of his political life - his unfulfilled ambition of becoming India's prime minister arising out of his inability to emerge as the 'number one person' to earn Sonia Gandhi's trust, the personality cult around the Nehru-Gandhi family and Rahul Gandhi's lack of charisma and political understanding among other things, according to the book's publishers Rupa Publications.

Mukherjee served as India's finance minister and subsequently became minister for External Affairs, Defence, Finance and Commerce. He was India's 13th president (2012 to 2017). He died on August 31, 2020 at the age of 84. As the president of the single largest party Congress to win the Lok Sabha elections in 2004, Sonia Gandhi was tipped to be the prime minister and had the full support of the coalition partners.

# Karni Sena chief shot dead at Jaipur home

One assailant killed in exchange of fire  
Jaipur, Dec 05 (PTI)



In this screenshot taken from a CCTV footage, Shri Rashtriya Rajput Karni Sena's president Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi being shot dead in the living room of his house, in Jaipur, Tuesday.

Right-wing group Shri Rashtriya Rajput Karni Sena's president Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi was shot dead in the living room of his house here on Tuesday by three armed men, one of whom was also killed in retaliatory firing, police said.

One of Gogamedi's security guards sustained bullet injuries in the exchange of fire with the

assailants, who had gone to his house in the Shyam Nagar area on the pretext of meeting him, they said.

The incident was caught on CCTV.

Gogamedi formed Shri Rashtriya Rajput Karni Sena after he was expelled from Sri Rajput Karni Sena in 2015 over differences with its founder Lokendra Singh Kalvi.

Both these outfits had protested against

Deepika Padukone starrer "Padmaavat" in 2018 over alleged distortion of historical facts about the Rajput community.

Jaipur Police Commissioner Biju George Joseph told reporters, "Three men went to Gogamedi's house and told his security guards that they wanted to meet him. The guards took them inside and the men talked to Gogamedi for 10 minutes before opening fire at him."

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