

BRIEF



PM Modi receives a badge from Secretary, Kendriya Sainik Board Commodore HP Singh on the occasion of Armed Forces Flag Day, in New Delhi, Thursday.

Mishap

Srinagar: A cab taking a group of persons from Srinagar to Kargil fell from a mountain highway in the Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday, killing five persons, officials said. The accident took place in the Sonamarg area where the passenger cab skidded off the mountainous Zojila Pass road on the Srinagar-Leh highway due to slippery road conditions caused by recent snowfall, the officials said.

UGC guidelines

New Delhi: The University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved guidelines for introducing short-term industry-relevant certificate courses with up to 30 credits in the higher educational institutes to bridge the skill gap and boost productivity of students at the workplace, officials said on Thursday. The 'guidelines for the introduction of short-term skill development courses in higher educational institutes (HEIs)' were approved during a meeting held by the UGC on Thursday.

CBI arrest

New Delhi: The CBI has arrested an official of Military Engineer Services (MES) for allegedly taking a bribe of Rs 1.10 lakh to clear pending bills, officials said Thursday. Assistant Garrison Engineer (Contract) Narender Kumar Rai, who was posted in the Office of Garrison Engineer, MES in Rajasthan's Kota, was booked on a complaint that he had allegedly demanded 1.60 lakh for passing the pending bills and extension of earlier tenders.

Dismiss

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed an application seeking enforcement of the 2020 guidelines issued by it on state-imposed internet shut-downs. A bench of Justices BR Gavai, Dipankar Datta and Aravind Kumar said the petitioner had other remedies available for enforcement of the guidelines.

Bail denied

Pune: A Pune court on Thursday denied bail to DRDO scientist Pradeep Kurulkar, who was arrested in May this year for allegedly leaking confidential information to a Pakistani intelligence operative. District and Sessions Judge V R Kachare denied bail stating there was a prima facie case against the accused and the offence was a serious one. He also said some data needs to be recovered.

Weather
High 21 Low 19

MARKET
NIFTY 20,901.15
SENSEX 69,251.69

BULLION
GOLD 62,430
SILVER 74,444

BJP to name central observers today for picking new CMs

New Delhi, Dec 07 (PTI):

The BJP is likely to name central observers for electing the leaders of its legislative parties in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan on Friday amid indications that new chief ministers may be named over the weekend.

A senior party leader said the observers for all the three states are expected to be named on Friday. They will then travel to the respective states to oversee the meetings of newly elected MLAs where the future chief ministers will be named. The observers are likely to oversee meetings of the newly elected MLAs in the three states, where they will pick their leaders. Many within the BJP see

the massive mandate it has got in the three states as a strong statement of wider popular support for its policies and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

He said no decision has been taken yet on the choices of the chief minister and the party will keep in mind social, regional, governance and organisational interests in picking the three CMs. Leaders from three states have been meeting the top party brass, including Home Minister Amit Shah and party president JP Nadda, but sources played down their significance, saying such meetings are routine.

"So many state leaders have been meeting our national leadership. There

can be only three chief ministers. One should not be reading too much into it," a source said, noting that many of the probables include MPs who have resigned from Parliament and are meeting national leaders as courtesies.

Union minister Narendra Singh Tomar, a seasoned BJP leader from Madhya Pradesh, and Baba Balaknath, who is from Rajasthan, met Shah on Thursday. Both quit Lok Sabha after becoming members of assemblies of their states.

Former Rajasthan chief minister Vasundhara Raje, whose meeting with many newly-elected MLAs has raised a few eyebrows, is also in the national capital. She may also meet senior

party leaders, sources said.

Tomar and Union minister Prahlad Singh Patel, who comes from politically significant Other Backward Classes, are seen as possible chief ministerial choices in Madhya Pradesh along with the incumbent Shivraj Singh Chouhan. Patel and Tomar are among 12 BJP MPs who have been elected to three state assemblies and have quit their parliamentary memberships.

Chhattisgarh BJP president Arun Sao, an OBC, Union minister Gomati Sai and Lata Usendi, both of whom come from Scheduled Tribes, are seen as serious contenders for the top seat in the state due to their social background, image and relatively young profile.

ISRO lines up an LVM3, 6 PSLV, 3 GSLV launches in 2024

New Delhi, Dec 07 (PTI)

ISRO has lined up six missions of PSLV, three GSLV launches and one commercial mission of Launch Vehicle Mark-3 in 2024, the government informed the Rajya Sabha on Thursday. In a written reply to a question, Minister of State in the PMO Jitendra Singh said the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will also launch a technology demonstration satellite on the third development flight of its newest launch vehicle SSLV.

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RECORD HOLDER

'Indian envoy met ex-Navy men on death row in Qatar'

New Delhi, Dec 07 (PTI)

The Indian ambassador to Qatar met on December 3 eight former Indian Navy personnel who were handed death sentence by a Qatari court in October; the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday. MEA spokesper-

son Arindam Bagchi said two hearings on the appeal against the death sentence have already taken place.

"We are closely following the matter and extending all legal and consular assistance...Our ambassador got consular access to meet all eight of them in prison on December 3," Bagchi said at

a media briefing. The Indian nationals were given consular access earlier as well. The Navy veterans were on October 26 given death sentence by Qatar's Court of First Instance. India described the ruling as "deeply" shocking and vowed to explore all legal options in the case.

Govt bans use of sugarcane juice/sugar syrup

New Delhi, Dec 07 (PTI)

For ethanol making
The Centre on Thursday banned the use of 'sugarcane juice and sugar syrup' for ethanol production in the 2023-24 supply year that started this month, in order to maintain adequate sugar availability for domestic consumption and to keep prices under check.

However, the government has allowed use of 'B-molasses' for ethanol production in 2023-24, a move which sugar industry bodies welcomed.

In a letter issued to all sugar mills and distillers, the Food Ministry directed them "not to use sugarcane juice /sugar syrup" for ethanol production during the 2023-24 ethanol supply year (December-

November). The directive was issued as per clause 4 and 5 of the Sugar (Control) Order 1966.

"Supply of ethanol from existing offers received by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) from B-Heavy molasses will continue," Food ministry said in the letter.

The decision by the ministry comes in the backdrop of estimated fall in sugar production in 2023-24 marketing year (October-September).

Welcoming the move, the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCFSF) Managing Director Pakash P Naiknavare said, "There is huge stock of ethanol made from B-molasses lying in the country apart from contracted quantities. The letter resolves the industry's concern."

However, there are some

ambiguity in the letter that states supply of ethanol from "existing offers" received by OMCs from B-Heavy molasses will continue. "Will it be withdrawn after the existing tender is over? There is no clarity," he told PTI.

Also, some units have been built for making ethanol from sugarcane juice and sugar syrup alone. These units will become sick if they remain unoperational, he added.

All India Sugar Trade Association (AISTA) Chairman Praful Vithalani said, "As per the order, B-molasses production shall continue against existing offer but it is not clear if it will continue for next B-molasses tender." He also said the OMCs may not come with new tender for B-molasses ethanol till sugar situation is clear.

Call me Modi, not Modi ji, PM tells BJP lawmakers

New Delhi, Dec 07 (PTI)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday cited poll data for assembly elections over the decades to assert that the BJP has become people's most preferred choice for governance as its record of retaining power is better than the Congress and other parties.

Speaking at the BJP Parliamentary Party meeting, he said not any leader but "team spirit" should be credited for the party's big win in the recent assembly polls, noting that besides winning in three states, the party's strength has also grown in Telangana and Mizoram, sources said. The prime minister also asked party leaders to use the language preferred by the masses in their interaction with them. While giving an example, he said they should use



PM Modi greets the gathering after his felicitation during the BJP Parliamentary Party.

"Modi ki guarantee" instead of "Modi ji ki guarantee". Quoting Modi, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi told reporters that the Congress faced assembly polls 40 times while in power in those states and could win only seven of them, having a dismal success rate of 18 per cent.

The corresponding figures for the BJP are 22 out

of 39 times, a success rate of 56 per cent, Modi noted.

Regional parties have fared better than the Congress but not the BJP as they won 18 of 36 times when in power, notching up a success rate of 50 per cent. It shows that the BJP is the most preferred party for running the government, he said.

In the case of a party in power in a state for two

terms facing assembly elections, the Congress' success rate is only 14 per cent compared to the BJP's 59 per cent, he added.

The prime minister reiterated that the four biggest "castes" for him are the poor, youth, women and farmers, and party leaders should work for their development. He asked MPs to participate in "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra", a government exercise aimed at saturation coverage of various welfare schemes.

Prime Minister Modi later wrote on X, "Earlier today, attended the BJP Parliamentary Party meeting. Our party karyakartas are buoyed by the party's performance in the recent Assembly elections and are looking forward to working even harder in the times to come, spreading the message of development among people of all walks of life".

TV actor Bhupinder Singh arrested for shooting dead neighbour

Bijnor (UP), Dec 07 (PTI)

Film and TV serial actor Bhupinder Singh and his three aides have been arrested for allegedly firing at his neighbours, leading to the death of one and injuries to two others, police said on Thursday. Three policemen have been suspended over alleged negligence in the matter, they said. The incident took place in Kuakheda village of the Badhapur area here on Sunday when the actor had an altercation with his neighbour Gurdeep, a farmer, over the felling of a tree on his farm, ASP Dharam Singh Marchal said.



As the argument escalated, Singh pulled out his licensed revolver and allegedly shot Gurdeep, his sons Govind and Amrik, Marchal said.

Govind (23) died on the spot, while the two others were seriously injured and admitted to the district hospital, he added.

MAGH MELA PREPARATIONS



Administrative officers with Sadhus perform ritual during 'Ganga Pujan' ahead of the Magh Mela 2024, at Sangam, in Prayagraj, Thursday.

PRESSURE TACTICS

Raje's son behind locking up MLA in resort, alleged father of BJP MLA

Jaipur, Dec 07 (PTI)

Amid suspense over whom the BJP will pick for the chief minister's post in Rajasthan, a visit by five BJP MLAs to a resort on the outskirts of the city created a buzz.

The father of MLA Lalit Meena claimed the newly elected legislator from Kishanganj had been confined there by the other four. After his father informed the party office, Meena was brought there on Wednesday morning. It was not immediately

clear whether the other four stayed back at the resort on Sikar Road.

Meena, however, refused to elaborate on the incident, which is seen as an attempt at 'badabandi' - holding up elected leaders in resorts as a show of strength. The Kishanganj MLA's father Hemraj Meena claimed his son was called by another legislator, Kanwar Lal Meena, to the resort for a meeting and was not allowed to leave. Lalit Meena then informed his father about the situation.

Medico held after fiance kills self over dowry demand

Thiruvananthapuram, Dec 07 (PTI):

A government post graduate doctor was arrested here on Thursday for allegedly abetting the suicide of his woman colleague after backing out from their marriage proposal due to dowry.

The Medical college police here picked up R E Ruwais from his home in Karunagappally early today and later recorded his arrest following a detailed interrogation.

In the wake of the developments, he was suspended by the medical college principal, state health minister Veena George's office said. This is a "seri-

'Her wedding cancelled over BMW, gold demand'

According to local media reports, Dr Shahana's family comprised her mother and two siblings. Her father, who worked in the Gulf, died two years back. She was in a relationship with Dr EA Ruwais and the two decided to marry. Dr Shahana's family has alleged that Dr Ruwais' family demanded 150 gold sovereigns, 15 acres of land and a BMW car in dowry. When Dr Shahana's family said they cannot meet the demand, her boyfriend's family called off the wedding, Mathrubhumi reported. This left the young doctor very upset, and she died by suicide, local residents have alleged. A suicide note found at her apartment read, "Everyone wants money only", it is learnt.

ous issue" that cannot be accepted at any cost, the minister said in a statement today.

A post graduate student in the ortho department of the Government Medical College here, Ruwais was apprehended two days

after Dr Shahana, his college mate and friend was found dead in an apartment in the state capital.

The 26-year-old medico was found unconscious in her apartment and later declared brought dead at the hospital on Tuesday.

Revanth Reddy sworn in as T'gana CM

Sonia, Kharge, Rahul, Priyanka attend the event

Hyderabad, Dec 07 (PTI)

Congress legislature party leader A Revanth Reddy was on Thursday sworn in as Chief Minister of Telangana at a glittering ceremony here which was attended by top Congress leaders, including Sonia Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge.

Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan administered the oath of office and secrecy to Revanth Reddy and the ministers at L B Stadium here. Besides Revanth Reddy, Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka (Deputy Chief



Newly sworn-in Telangana CM A Revanth Reddy with Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and party leaders Sonia Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and others during his oath taking ceremony, in Hyderabad, Thursday.

Minister), N Uttam Kumar Reddy, Komatireddy Venkata Reddy, C Damodar Rajanarasimha, D Sridhar Babu, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Ponnam Prabhakar, Konda Surekha, D Anasuya

(popularly known as Seethakka), Tummala Nageswara Rao and Jupally Krishna Rao took oath as ministers. Senior Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra,

Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah, his deputy D K Shivakumar, and Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu also attended the ceremony. After taking oath as chief minister, Revanth Reddy signed two files.

They include one pertaining to implementation of six poll 'guarantees' of Congress and another providing a job to a disabled woman as per a promise made to her by Revanth Reddy in the past.

Revanth Reddy, along with his wife, took the blessings of Sonia Gandhi during the event. Sonia Gandhi hugged Seethakka and Surekha who went to her after taking oath as ministers.

Illegal eateries near liquor shops demolished



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 07: The illegal eateries (chakhna centres) being operated near the liquor shops are being demolished by the district administration and police. These chakhna centres were allegedly run under political patronage.

These shops make a good profit by selling snacks, disposable glasses, water pouches, etc to the boozers. After the change of rule in the state, the administration is bulldozing all these illegal chakhna centres.

Under the direction of

District Collector and SSP, the team led by Bhilai Municipal Corporation Commissioner and Additional Superintendent of Police (City) and CSPs of Durg, Bhilai and Chhawani carried out the drive against the chakhna centres. The enforcement squad of Bhilai Municipal Corporation and Police team bulldozed the illegal chakhna centres even during the rains.

The team of Municipal Corporation and Police visited the liquor shops at Potiya Chowk, Mahmara Road, Naya Para Road and

other places and bulldozed all these chakhnacenters. Illegal chakhnacenters operating near liquor shops in the city were also demolished. The drive commenced at 18:00 hrs. The chakhna centres at Umda in Bhilai 3, Nehru Nagar in Bhilai, Country Liquor shop in Junwani and other places were bulldozed.

The cops stated that these illegal ChakhnaCenters operating near public places in the city were spoiling the atmosphere as these centres allowed the gathering of anti-social elements for the entire day till late

night. With the removal of all these chakhnacenters from the city, boozing in the open and hooliganism will be curbed. Action will be taken against illegal chakhnacenters in all places other than the Municipal Corporation area.

On Thursday, the joint team targeted the chakhna-center built near the liquor shop located in Jawahar Nagar, Kurud and Khursipar. The shops were demolished and banned water pouches and other materials were destroyed. Many illegal chakhna cen-

tres were being run in tents made of bamboo sticks and kiosks of tin sheds.

Strict action is being taken against the people who operate these illegal chakhna centres. During the demolition drive, banned water pouches, disposable glasses and non-standard food items were also seized in large quantities from the shops.

On the last two days, the BMC team demolished the chakhnacenters located around the liquor shop of Nehru Nagar Battalion, Junwani, Gada Chowk Supela, Civic Centre,

Jawahar Nagar, Kurud, Khursipar, Nandani Road and Maurya Talkies.

Additional Commissioner Ashok Dwivedi, Assistant Revenue Officer Balkrishna Naidu, JP Tiwari, Zone Health Officer Anil Mishra, Revenue Department officials Sunil Nemade, Rajesh Gupta, Mangal Jangde, Kanhaiya Yadav, Gaukaran, Khem Lal, Chaitu along with the demolition squad members Vishnu Soni, Man Singh, Amar Yadav, Raja, Anjani Singh, RK Tiwari, Rohit Yadav and Virendra Banjare were present.

Chhattisgarhi film Guiya releases today



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 07: Chhattisgarhi film Guiya of N Mahi Film Production is releasing on December 08. This movie is directed by Manish Manikpuri. It will be screened at Chandra Talkies, PVR Surya Mall, Mukta A-2 Cinema Bhilai 3, Apsara Talkies of Durg and K Sera Sera Multiplex Durg. Producer Mohit Sahu said that the melodious songs will directly reach the hearts of the listeners. Chhattisgarhi music lovers are going crazy and are making reels on the songs. The movie has become a hot topic of discussion due to its music and the actor Amlesh Nagesh. YouTube star

Amlesh Nagesh and Bollywood actress Hema Shukla are in the lead roles. Amlesh Nagesh will be seen performing action scenes for the first time. Famous Chhoollywood villain Pushpendra Singh, Kranti Dixit as well as actors like Dr Ajay Sahay, Bollywood actor Purnan Kiri, Divya Nigade, Sangeeta Nishad, Neeraj Uke are the part of this movie. Rajat Singh Rajput has done amazing work on camera; lyricists are Naval Das Manikpuri and Omi Stylo; Naval Das Manikpuri has given music and Gaurang Trivedi has done the editing part. Neeraj Verma has taken care of the recording while Tarun Soni is the distributor.

DIYA organises youth awareness camp

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 07: The Chhattisgarhi unit of Divya Bharat Yuva Sangh (DIYA), the youth wing of All World Gayatri Pariwar, organised a one-day district level Youth Awareness Camp in Nuapada, Odisha. The event commenced with lamp lighting and Pragma Geet. In the first part of the camp, Engineer Yugal Kishor, while explaining the purpose and nature of Yuva Jagrati Abhiyan, described Divine Workshop as the best medium to bring Vichar Kranti Abhiyan to the youth in schools and colleges.

He called for making oneself an expert in any one subject and conveying Gurudev's thoughts to the youth. In the second part of the camp, DIYA CG State Coordinator Dr PL Sao explained what should be



the image of the ideal youth of Yuva Jagrati Abhiyan. He inspired the youth to set an example by developing a strong personality through Sadhna, Swadhya, Sanyam and Sewa.

In the third part of the camp, Dr Yogendra Kumar explained the responsibility of the youth in the Youth Awakening Campaign and explained in detail the seven

movements given by Gurudev. He explained the ways of taking spiritual practice, education, self-study, self-reliance, environment, women's awareness and de-addiction movement to the youth in an emotional, scientific and experimental manner.

Saurabh Kant Sahu conducted the program. Shailesh Agrawal, Vyas Narayan Ahir and other members of Gayatri Pariwar extended support in making the camp successful. More than 200 youth participated in the camp. At the end of the camp, everyone was made to fill the pledge forms for freedom from addiction. The youth gave their names for active participation in different movements.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 07: Police arrested a 20-year-old youth on charges of abducting and raping a minor girl. The victim was rescued from Banaras (Uttar Pradesh). Under the Operation Muskaan, Supela Police has so far rescued / recovered a total of 24 kidnapped children.

It needs to be mentioned here that on December 04, 2023, a resident of Supela area reached the police station and lodged a report that his minor daughter, aged 13 years, had been kidnapped by an unknown accused. Based on the complaint, an FIR on charges of kidnapping was lodged and investigations were launched.

On the instructions of

Senior Superintendent of Police (Durg) Ram Gopal Garg and under the guidance of Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Abhishek Jha and City Superintendent of Police Vishwa Deepak Tripathi, the District Police is conducting "Operation Muskaan" for rescuing and searching the missing / kidnapped juveniles.

Police collected information about the suspects and discovered that a youth has kidnapped the girl and taken her to Banaras (Uttar Pradesh). After confirming the information, a team of Supela Police Station moved to Banaras (Uttar Pradesh).

The team of Supela Police travelled continuously for 48 hours and res-



cued the girl safely from Banaras (Uttar Pradesh). The accused was also arrested from Banaras (Uttar Pradesh). During interrogation, the victim girl disclosed that the accused Shivam Chauhan alias

Bitthu had lured her to flee with him on the promise of marriage. He forcibly raped her after abduction.

On the basis of the victim's statement, Sections of IPC and POCSO Act were added in the case. The ac-

cus also confessed to his crime. The accused Shivam Chauhan alias Bitthu (20) son of Vinod Chauhan a resident of Laxmi Nagar, Supela, was arrested under sections 363, 366, 376 IPC and 4, 6 POCSO Act.

He was produced before the court and has been sent to the jail on judicial remand. The accused is a habitual criminal and many cases have been registered against him in the past also. SHO Supela Inspector Durgesh Kumar Sharma, ASI Neel Kusum Bhadauria, Khushboo Verma, Head Constable Santosh Raj, Constable Vikas Tiwari, Vivek Singh and Deepti Chandrakar played a vital role in arresting the accused and rescuing the victim.

Pharmacy Week celebrated at Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy Kumhari

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 07: Like every year, National Pharmacy Week is being celebrated this time too at Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy. The theme this time has been "Join Pharmacists to ensure patient safety". The program was run from December 05 to 07.

During the week different activities were organized on different days like selfie stand competition, nutritious food festival, expert scientific sessions and health awareness camps. Pharmacy students participated enthusiastically in the programmes.



In the selfie stand competition, Jharna & Group (B Pharm) 1st Sem stood first, runner up was (B.Pharm.) 3rd Sem and third position was held by Badal & Group (B. Pharm.) 7th Sem. The program started with the worship of Goddess Saraswati, the goddess of

knowledge, and the pharmacy oath was also taken.

On the occasion of 62nd National Pharmacy Week celebrations, keynote speaker was Anish Voditelwar, Manager (Sales & Marketing), Pradhan

Mantri Bharatiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) & Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), who shared important information related to pharmacy and his experience about Jan Aushadhi among the students.

This program was conducted under the leadership of Kumhari Campus Director Dr Preeti Gurnani and Pharmacy Principal Dr Alankar Srivastava and Pharmacy Kumhari staff Aanchal Verma, Aastha Verma, Preeti Chandrakar, Rohini Armo, Hemkanti, Vineeta and Lilima Baghel made important contributions in it.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 07: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Jawahar Lal Nehru Hospital & Research Centre, organised a one-day CPR Awareness & Training Program on December 06, 2023, under the guidance of Dr Ravindranath M CMO I/c (M&HS). Dr Pramod Binayake, Dr Vineeta Dwivedi, and Dr Kaushalendra Thakur, Chief Medical Officers of BSP's Medical and Health Services Department were also present on this occasion.

As a part of the National Board of Examinations' (NBE) nationwide comprehensive CPR Awareness Program,



to equip people with the life-saving skills needed to respond to cardiac emergencies, a mass training session was held at the Hospital Conference Hall, wherein over a hundred participants received hands-on instruction on CPR techniques.

The participants includ-

ed Attendant Staff, Security staff, Ambulance drivers, Nursing Staff, para-medical staff, DNB Residents, and Medical officers. During the presentation relayed by NBE, various aspects of CPR were explained by experts from Sri Gangaram Hospital, New Delhi.

Following the presentation, experts from JLN&RC including, Dr Tanuja Anand, Dr Jayita Sarkar, and Dr Amit Agrawal demonstrated the process of CPR and provided hands-on training to the participants on mannequins under their supervision. The participants were taught to recognize the signs of heart attack, the technique of chest compressions, providing rescue breaths, and the procedure of operating the automated external defibrillators (AED).

This nationwide initiative by NBE, in collaboration with leading healthcare institutions, underscores NBE's commitment to promoting public health and safety across India.

Bhajan & Ghazal Maestro Padmashri Anup Jalota to perform on Dec 09

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 07: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant Management is organizing a Musical Evening- "Padmashri Anup Jalota Night" under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav on December 09, 2023, at 19:30 hrs, at Crystal Garden, Bhilai Club. All preliminary preparations for this event are underway.

Jalota will be accompanied by his fellow musicians Nitasha Agrawal on vocals,

Devendra Kumar Bharti on Tabla, Himanshu Tiwari on Guitar, and Mahesh Rao on Violin.

In this evening dedicated to music, locals and budding artists will get an opportunity to witness the enthralling renditions by internationally acclaimed Bhajan and Ghazal Maestro and Padmashri recipient Anup Jalota and party. Entry to this musical concert is completely free of cost for the music connoisseurs of city.

Valedictory Ceremony of two-day 'Learning from Each Other' Workshop held

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 07: Bhilai Steel Plant's Sinter Plant Department in association with the Human Resource Development Department jointly organised a two-day LEO (Learning from Each Other) Workshop on Reduction of Sinter Return Fines- Issues & Opportunities, at Bhilai Niwas from December 05 to 06, 2023. The valedictory ceremony of the LEO Workshop was organized on December 06 at MP Hall of Bhilai Niwas. Pawan Kumar, ED (P&A) was the Chief Guest on this occasion.

Tapas Dasgupta, CGMI/c (Iron), Nisha Soni, CGM (HRD&BE), Anup Kumar Dutta, CGM (SPs), AK Ghose, CGM (SP-ISP), and



BK Behera, CGM (SP-BSL), were also present on this occasion, along with other Senior Officials, and SPs personnel.

An extensive brainstorming session followed by syndicate discussion was carried out by six teams comprising expert executives (Delegates) from various units of SAIL including BSL, DSP, ISP, RSP, RDCIS, and Mines along with other Private Steel Plants including JSW, RINL, Tata Steel, NECO, TSK, TSM, and sev-

eral others. Crucial topics covering various practices in mines, Sinter Plants, Blast Furnaces, and Ore Beneficiation Plants were discussed to achieve the agenda of the workshop and innovative outcomes were taken out to further improve the Sinter Plants to be more sustainable and efficient. The delegates were also facilitated by the dignitary guests on this occasion. Addressing the delegates,

Pawan Kumar, ED (P&A), said that the knowledge and experience gained at this two-day workshop shall certainly enrich you all and help all the participating organizations to achieve a significant reduction in sinter return fines, producing better sinter, thereby contributing together to a better future of the Indian Steel Industry. I hope you all shall carry a pleasant memory from Bhilai Steel Plant, Bhilai City, and Chhattisgarh, said Kumar.

OBITUARY

Urmila Gupta

Bhilai: Urmila Gupta, wife of Late Shiv Prasad Gupta left for heavenly abode at the age of 80 years. Funeral procession will be taken out from her residence situated at Hardware Line, Supela on December 08 around 13:00 hrs and last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at Ramnagar Muktidham. She was the mother of Subhash Gupta, Akhilesh Gupta and Pawan Gupta.

RMC initiates action against illegal encroachments

Including the removal of approximately 60 stalls

Raipur, Nov 07:

A vigorous campaign was conducted in various routes of all 10 zones of Raipur Municipal Corporation to remove illegal encroachments, as per the directives of Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, and Mr. Mayank Chaturvedi, the Commissioner of Raipur Municipal Corporation. Teams from the Zonal Town and Planning Sections of various zone, in the presence of traffic police and police administration force, carried out operations in Zone 1 near Hotel Paradise, Zone 2 on Railway Station Road, Fafadih Road, Mekahara Chowk, Devendra Nagar Chowk to Mandi Gate,



Zone 3 area near Avanti Bai Chowk, Baloda bazar Road, under Shankar Nagar Expressway, Zone 4 at Kali Badi Chowk, Zone 5 area at Amapara Chowk R.D. Tiwari School, Zone 6 area from Santoshi Nagar Chowk to Boriyakala Road, Zone 7 at Karma Chowk Ramnagar, near Railway Crossing Chandni

Chowk, Saraswati Nagar Road, Zone 8 area at Ashok Nagar, Bharat Mata Chowk, Gogaon Road, near Kabeer Nagar Adarsh Chowk, Zone 9 area near Palm Bellagio, Zone 10 area including Amlidih, Lalpur Road, and various roads were freed from illegal encroachments through the campaign.

Approximately 60 stalls, along with various illegal encroachments, were seized and removed from the roads with fines. Teams from the Zonal Town and Planning Department's flying squad, and teams of all 10 zones have warned shopkeepers to operate within their specified limits and explained to them to keep their goods in check while conducting business. Continuous campaigns have been launched to remove illegal encroachments and seize stalls. Shopkeepers have been warned to operate within their specified limits and to remove illegal encroachments to free the roads from encroachments.

PCC questions action to evict street vendors with use of bulldozers

Raipur, Dec 07: The action of the district administration to remove encroachments with eviction of street vendors at different parts of the city just after BJP victory in assembly elections in the state has sparked off reaction from Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC). PCC Communication chief Sushil Anand Shukla asked as to what kind of message administration wants to send with its action of bulldozers. According to him such action should not be taken without any government order. 'What message do you want to send by using bulldozers on street vendors?' he asked. If someone does wrong then action should be taken as per the law, he said. He said that officers should not cross limit. He said that the street vendors were being deprived of their livelihood in this action.

Next hearing into coal levy scam now on Jan 6

None of the nine accused including MLA Devendra Yadav appeared in the Court

Raipur, Dec 07:

Nine persons accused in the coal scam including Congress MLA Devendra Yadav did not appear in the Court. It was for the third time that the Court issued notice to nine persons including Devendra Yadav to appear in the Court, but none of them acknowledge it. The hearing into the coal scam was done in the court of Special Judge Ajay Singh Rajput. Court raised objections against ED's advocate for absence of the accused and their not coming to the Court from the jail. After the objections the Jailer was called to the Court and questioned. It was some-

how after the lunch, the Court arranged for online presence of the nine accused through video-conferencing. The next date of hearing in the court was fixed to Jan 6.

The hearing into the bail petition of IAS officer Ranu Sahu has got postponed. As per information in this regard, since the number of her hearing could not come for the day, therefore the hearing got postponed and now it will be held on Dec 14.

The hearing into the bail petition of Ranu Sahu was due in the Court of Justice NK Vyas.

It is notable here that ED has taken Ranu Sahu into arrest this year in July on charges of being involved in the coal levy scam and she is undergoing imprisonment. In this entire case the state government has suspended her.

Girl cheated of 7 lakh in the name of job

Raipur, Dec 07: An unemployed girl in Raipur has been cheated of Rs 7 lakh in the name of government job. Unidentified fraudster lured the girl to a job as lady supervisor in a government department. When she did not get job after paying money she lodged FIR with DD Nagar Police Station Raipur.

According to the information received, a girl, resident of Golchowk DD Nagar of the capital complained of fraud of Rs 7 lakh in DD Nagar police station. According to the complaint of the girl, one Vikas Thakur, resident of Ambikapur, committed a fraud of Rs 7 lakh from her by offering her job as female supervisors in women and child development department. According to complaint he used to commit fraud by claiming as relative of former CGPSC Chairman Taman Sonwani. He was committing fraud by sending his chats with Taman Sonwani.

Central Observers to hold BJP Legislative Party meet today

Union Minister Renuka Singh calls on Party Chief JP Nadda in New Delhi

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Dec 07: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) high command appointed Observers would be attending the BJP's Legislative Party meet on Friday at Raipur to interact with them over the nomination of Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

Meanwhile, the Union Minister for Tribal Welfare Renuka Singh on Thursday called on Party President JP Nadda in New Delhi. Both the leader during the courtesy visit, held talks on the existing political scenario in Chhattisgarh after the

party registered overwhelming victory defeating Congress with a huge margin.

It is notable that Renuka Singh is also among front runners for the key post of Chief Minister apart from the other senior tribal leaders like Vishnu Deo Sai as well as Party President Arun Sao. However, the top leadership has already given inductions to come up with surprise face of CM in Chhattisgarh.

BJP Observers would reach Raipur on Friday to hold meeting of Legislative Party during which the Election in-charge OP Mathur, Co in-charge Nitin Nabin and other senior leaders would also be present. Meeting is likely to come up with the name of next Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

PG student of AIIMS-R shines in 'ISACON-2023'



Raipur, Dec 07: A PG student of All India Institute of Medical Sciences shines in the 70th Annual National Conference of the Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists 'ISACON-2023' held in Gurugram with three prizes.

Under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) N.K. Agarwal, Head of the Department Dr. Chandini K, a postgraduate student in Anaesthesiology at AIIMS Raipur, achieved remarkable

success by securing three awards. Her accomplishments included winning the first prize for the best poster, presented under the ISA Ludhiana Poster National Award, as well as the third prize for paper presentation in the Dr. T.N. Jha Memorial and Dr. K.P. Chansoriya Award categories. Additionally, she secured the second prize in the ISA Goldcon Quiz National Award.


Special campaign against defaulter institutions by EPFO

Raipur, Dec 07:

A special recovery campaign is being run by the Employees' Provident Fund Organization, Regional Office, Raipur in connection with the recovery of outstanding provident fund contributions, compensation and interest from defaulter institutions. This campaign will be expedited from the month of December. This campaign will continue till March 31, 2024. The main objective of the campaign is to ensure 100 percent recovery of the dues.

Regional Provident Fund Commissioner-I, Abhishek Kumar said that to recover the outstanding amount, action was taken against the defaulter institutions under the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, confiscation of bank accounts, confiscation of movable and immovable property, auction of seized property, arrest and imprisonment of the defaulter. Along with registering an FIR under Section 406/409 of the Indian Penal Code, prosecution

action will also be taken against the defaulting employers/institutions under Section 14 of the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952. Regional Provident Fund Commissioner-I. According to Recovery Officer, Jai Shankar Rai, the office has set a target of 100% recovery of current demand and arrears demand balances. Special teams of officers and employees have been formed with the aim of achieving the target of recovery from defaulters by March 2024. These teams will ensure recovery of dues from defaulter institutions under the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. It is noteworthy that the Ministry of Labor and Employment has given instructions to all the offices to take action against such defaulting companies and institutions. It has been informed by the Labour Ministry that interest at the rate of 5 percent will be recovered from those who have defaulted for two months. Apart from this, interest will be recovered at different times against companies defaulting for a longer period.



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Embrace the Ideals of Dr. Ambedkar: Prof. Chakrawal

Prog in CU on Dr. BR Ambedkar's Mahaparinirvan Diwas

Bilaspur, Dec 07:

On December 6 a program was organized in Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (a Central University) to commemorate the Mahaparinirvan Diwas of Bharat Ratna, Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar. The Chief Guest for the program was eminent orthopedic specialist and social worker, Dr. Vinod Tiwari. The program was presided over by the Honorable Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal.

In his presidential address, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal, the Honorable Vice-Chancellor of the University, emphasized the need for everyone to internalize the ideals, principles, and life values of Bharat Ratna, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar. He urged the audience to strive for the creation of a society free from discrimi-



nation and to realize Dr. Ambedkar's dream of building a harmonious society. Professor Chakrawal highlighted Dr. Ambedkar's lifelong dedication to social harmony, equality, justice, and the upliftment of the marginalized. He said that Dr. Ambedkar tried to establish equality in the society following the aphorism 'Mankhe mankhe ek saman' given by Baba Ghasidas.

The chief guest of the program, Dr. Vinod Tiwari, a distinguished or-

thopedic specialist and social worker, described Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar as a great human being. He emphasized that Dr. Ambedkar sacrificed his own physical comforts to dedicate his life to the welfare of the nation, contributing significantly to the construction of an egalitarian society.

Announcement of Natraj Kala manch at GGVNKM

Vice-Chancellor Professor Chakrawal announced the establishment of Natraj

Kalamanch at Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (a Central University). He stated that the open theatre site of the Rajat Jayanti Sabhagar will provide students with a platform to showcase their talents in music, performing arts, and acting according to their interests. Through this, students will be provided a platform for expression so that they can showcase their talents.

Prior to this, the dignitaries paid homage before the grand statue of Dr.

B.R. Ambedkar located in the university campus. Following this, flowers were offered before the oil paintings of Goddess Saraswati, Saint Guru Ghasidas Ji, and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar in the Rajat Jayanti Sabhagar. The guests were welcomed with saplings. Tarang Band presented Saraswati Vandana and a song on the Mahanirvana Day. The program coordinator, Prof. Shailendra Kumar, Dean Student Welfare, delivered the welcome address.

The program concluded with the felicitation of the chief guests with shawls, shripal, and mementos. At the end of the event, thanks were extended by the Registrar, Professor Manish Shrivastava, and the proceedings were conducted by Dr. Garima Tiwari, Assistant Professor, Department of Forestry. The program saw the presence of Deans of various Schools, heads of the departments, teachers, officers, and students.

Elected MLAs from Agarwal community were felicitated

By Akhil Bharatiya Agrawal Sammelan

Raipur, Dec 07:



National Senior Vice President of Akhil Bharatiya Agrawal Sammelan, Ishwar Prasad Agarwal, National Vice President, Hanuman Prasad Agarwal and National Secretary Parmanand Jain said that the elected MLAs from Agarwal community in Chhattisgarh were felicitated.

In the current assembly elections, four MLAs have been elected from the Agarwal community which is a matter of pride for the society. Brijmohan Agarwal has won from Raipur South with the highest number of votes. He has reached the assembly for the eighth consecutive time and has also been a former MLA from Chhattisgarh. Having been a senior minister in the government many times, he has successfully handled various responsibilities. Amar Agarwal has been elected from Bilaspur, who has also been a senior minister in

the Chhattisgarh government in the past. Along with this, Rajesh Agarwal has been elected from Ambikapur and Sampat Agarwal has been elected from Basna Assembly. All MLAs were felicitated by Akhil Bharatiya Agrawal Sammelan. Brijmohan Agarwal, former senior minister and eight consecutive times MLA of Raipur South and Sampat Agarwal, MLA Basna, were congratulated by all the officials of the Agarwal Sammelan by giving bouquet, flower garland, shawl, 'shrefal' and sweets.

On this occasion, National Senior Vice

President of the Akhil Bharatiya Agrawal Sammelan, Ishwar Prasad Agarwal said that the society is proud of the elected MLAs and there is joy in the Agarwal community of Chhattisgarh.

On this occasion, Ishwar Prasad Agarwal, Hanuman Prasad Agarwal, Sitaram Agarwal, Vijay Agarwal, Parmanand Jain, Krishna Kumar Agarwal, Satpal Jain, Ramesh Chandra Agarwal, Muralidhar Agarwal, Kailash Murarka, Vishambhar Agarwal, Premchand Agarwal, Manoj Agarwal, Mahesh and Raja Mittal from Agarwal community were present.

Kalinga University signs MoU for Centre of Excellence

For Electric Vehicles (EV's)

Raipur, Dec 07:

Kalinga University entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Godawari Electric Motors Pvt. Ltd. (GEMPL) on 07th December 2023 to work more extensively for the growth of the students.

Kalinga University is a reputed educational institution in Central India. For providing innovation and quality education, the university has been granted B+ recognition by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). It is the only University in

Chhattisgarh, which is included in the NIRF Ranking in the year 2022 and 2023 in the band of top 101-150 Universities.

The students are trained through high-quality multidisciplinary research-focused education and skill development programs to inculcate innovation in the students as per the global benchmarks to develop a sense of responsible citizens with the development of leadership power.

Whereas, GEMPL, is a young and innovative company with a vision and mission to provide the best quality products and best-in-class service and spare facilities. Vehicles coming from Godawari Motors are all

non-polluting vehicles, which in turn help a better society. All the products Manufactured by Godawari Electric Motors are designed from scratch keeping in mind, the consumer aspirations and needs focusing on safety comfort and performance. The product's life spans from e-cycle to e-auto covering the complete largest EV range in India. All these vehicles are fitted with lithium-ion batteries which guarantee the best mileage, safety and warranty.

The MoU was signed by Hyder Ali Khan, Director and CEO-GEMPL and Dr. Sandeep Gandhi, Registrar, Kalinga University in the presence of Vinod Pillai,

Director - Godawari Group, Dr. R. Shridhar, Vice Chancellor and Dr. Byju John, Director General from Kalinga University. The basic concept and objective of this collaboration are to facilitate Kalinga University students by setting up a Centre of Excellence (COE) for Electric Vehicle (EV) on the campus of the university, providing training to the trainers nominated by Kalinga University, and to establish COE's in other educational institutes and universities.

This association is also a step forward towards helping India Change to Electric and aligned towards the goal of a clean and green environment.

Newly elected MLA Vikram Mandavi given huge welcome

By people in Bhopalpatnam city

Bijapur, Dec 07:



Vikram Mandavi, the newly elected MLA from Assembly 89 Bijapur, on his first arrival in Bhopalpatnam and Madded Nagar was enthusiastically welcomed by the Congress workers and villagers of Bhopalpatnam and Madded at different places in the city.

Newly elected MLA Vikram Mandavi said on this victory that the people of Bijapur district and especially the people of Bhopalpatnam block have once again trusted me and given their bless-

ings, for this I will be grateful to everyone, and will continue to work with the enthusiasm as before.

On his maiden arrival in the city after the victory, a large number of Congress workers took out a rally in the city to welcome their beloved leader Vikram Mandavi with garlands, musical

instruments and fireworks. On the first arrival in Bhopalpatnam city, District Congress Committee District President Lalu Rathore, District Panchayat President Shankar Kudiam, District Panchayat member Basant Rao Tati, MP representative Venugopal Rao, Agricultural

Produce Market President Kameshwar Gautam, District Panchayat member Mrs. Sarita Chapa, District Vice President Mitcha Muttiah, city Municipality Vice President Purushottam Sallur, Chapa Surendra, Sunil Udde, Suresh Sodi, Youth Congress District President Kamesh Morla, Manoj Kashoji, Nagar Panchayat President Rinki Koram, Nagar Panchayat Vice President Santosh Bore, Block President Ramesh Pambhoi, Block President Talandi Stari, Salik Nagvanshi, and a large number of Congress leaders, workers and villagers were present.

Mandavi visits paddy fields along with farmers

Many acres of farmers' crops were ruined due to unseasonal rains

To take stock of damage crop

Bijapur, Dec 07:

Unseasonal rains spoiled the hard work of the farmers throughout the year. Due to bad weather for two days, the crops harvested in the fields were completely ruined.

Regional MLA Vikram Shah Mandavi reached the farmers' fields and took stock of the damaged crops. After seeing the damaged crops, the MLA talked to the officials on phone and asked them to provide compensation to the farmers for the losses. Intermittent rains are still



a cause of trouble for farmers. Due to unseasonal rains, there has been huge damage to the fields and due to this; the farmers of the district are worried. The harsh weather

has ruined the hard work of the farmers.

Gollaguda farmers Apparao Lambadi, Nagurao Gurla, Anil Kumar Ade, Satyam Gurla, Lambadi Rajirao,

Lambadi Shankar, Ambala Batkayya, Sushil Gurla, Lambadi Azad, Gurla Shankar, Goutul Shankar, Ade Shankar, Dinesh Sonla, Lalita Gurla, Bapurao Sonla,

Labadi. Shankar and other farmers have suffered huge losses in many acres of paddy.

Farmers have said that earlier the farmers are facing the brunt of unseasonal rains and now excessive rains. Due to excessive rain, the entire paddy crop has been damaged due to which the farmers are suffering huge financial losses.

MLA Vikram Shah Mandavi heard to the problems of the farmers and demanded that the government should buy the paddy of the farmers in the paddy market and give appropriate compensation to the farmers for the crop loss.

IIM Raipur's student receives esteemed Charpak Exchange Scholarship

Raipur, Dec 07:

Indian Institute of Management Raipur (IIM Raipur) proudly announces that Anurag Sista Venkata Satya Sai, a second-year MBA student, has been awarded the esteemed France Excellence Charpak Exchange Scholarship by the French Embassy, India. IIM Raipur has an excellent student exchange program and is a beacon of global engagement. This not only broadens the students' intellectual horizons but also forges connections on a global stage, encapsulating the institute's dedication to fostering a culture of international collaboration and excellence. The Charpak Exchange Scholarship offers a range of



benefits to support the student's educational journey. It provides a monthly living allowance of 860 euros, social security coverage, accommodation, and administrative assistance. This prestigious scholarship is designed for Indian students across all disciplines at the bachelor's or master's levels, participating in a semester exchange pro-

gram between their Indian institution and a French host institution.

Expressing his gratitude for the Charpak Scholarship, Anurag Sista Venkata Satya Sai emphasized its profound impact on his academic pursuits. He stated, "This scholarship has made it possible for me to pursue my exchange term without any financial burden. The recognition from the Embassy of France in India is not only an honor but also a tremendous motivation for me to continue working hard in my academic endeavors."

IIM Raipur community is extremely proud to have Anurag SVSS as one of the fifteen students from India to be awarded the scholarship by the Embassy of France.

SECL to use 'Miyawaki' plantation method to boost green cover

Pilot project to be implemented in SECL's Gevra Area

Korba, Dec 07: In a bid to boost forest cover in the coal belt region of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, Coal India subsidiary, SECL will undertake plantation using the Miyawaki method for the first time in its operational areas. The company will use the popular Japanese technique in SECL's Gevra Area, to develop Miyawaki forest in two hectares on a pilot project basis. The project will be implemented in partnership with Chhattisgarh Rajya Van Vikas Nigam (CGRVNV) at an estimated cost of

about Rs 4 cr.

The plantation using the Miyawaki technique will be carried out over a period of 2 years in which about 20,000 saplings will be planted. The plantation will include big plants such as Banyan, Pipal, Shisham, Mango, Sal etc, medium plants such as Indian Bael, Karanj, Amla, Ashoka etc, and small plants such as Kaner, Gudhal, Bougainvillea, Ber, Anjeer, Nimbu etc.

Miyawaki plantation method - the popular Japanese technique to develop quick-growing forests

The Miyawaki method of plantation was pioneered in the 70s by Japanese botanist and ex-



Green cover will benefit local communities and wildlife

The pilot project of Miyawaki plantation in SECL will help in increasing the green cover in and around the Gevra mine, the largest coal mine of the country, in a shorter span of time. The indigenous species of fruit bearing, avenue and ornamental trees would help the local communities and wildlife. The forest developed under the project would also play a key role in absorbing the dust particles and regulating surface temperature.

pert in plant ecology Mr. Akira Miyawaki. This technique of plantation involves planting native

SECL to invest 169 crores on plantation in CG and MP over the next 4 years

Besides being one of the leading coal producing companies in India, SECL is equally committed to boosting green cover and preserving the natural ecosystems in an around its mines and mitigate the impact coal mining. Since its inception SECL has planted more than 3 crores saplings and in FY 2023-24 the company has brought 475 hectares of land under green cover and planted 10.77 lakh saplings, which is the highest among all Coal India subsidiaries. The company had recently signed an MoU with Chhattisgarh Rajya Van Vikas Nigam (CGRVNV) and Madhya Pradesh Rajya Van Vikas Nigam (MPRVNV) for carrying out plantation for a period of five years from 2023-24 to 2027-28 with its subsequent maintenance of 4 years for each consecutive year of plantation at an estimated cost of Rs 169 crores.

trees, shrubs and ground-cover plants within every square metre. This method is ideal for small parcels of land and creates dense canopy layer of tall trees.

The species chosen for Miyawaki plantation is

typically of plants which do not require a lot of maintenance and can survive harsh weather and water-scarce conditions and grow rapidly in existing conditions yielding thick pockets of green cover.

BJP workers burst fire-crackers to celebrate victory



Nandini-Ahiwara: After the world's largest political party Bharatiya Janata Party formed the government with full majority in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and the victory of BJP candidate Doman Lal Korsewada in Ahiwara assembly constituency, workers burst fire-crackers in the areas of the region and distributed sweets. In the same sequence, BJP Yuva Morcha workers from Devarhail, Birebhat, Banbarad, Potia reached the residence of BJYM State Working Committee member Dau Anand Tamrakar

(Advocate) and congratulated BJP on the victory and celebrated the formation of BJP government by distributing sweets. On this occasion, district member BJYM Rahul Chandel, Mandal Vice President Sahil Khan, journalist Raunak Tamrakar and Dev Manikpuri, Afroz Khan, Pratap Markam, Girish Dewangan, Kushal Manikpuri, Hrithik, Lekhran Nishad, Rahul Dhruve, Manik Vishwakarma, Khemu Nishad, Purendra Yadav, Manish Dewangan, Naresh Nishad, Sheetal Das Manikpuri etc. were present.

Supporters pray for ensuring Rohit Sahu ministerial berth



Rajim, Dec 07:

The demand to make the newly elected MLA of Rajim assembly constituency Rohit Sahu a minister is now gaining momentum. His supporters, well-wishers of the area as well as the villagers have taken the shelter of God and requested the BJP central leadership to make Rohit Sahu a minister. In the same sequence, his supporters and BJP Yuva Morcha workers performed Jalabhishek in the Baba Garibnath temple located in Rajim and prayed to Lord Bholenath to make Rohit Sahu a minister. Prominent in the worship were Sheetal Sinha, Mohnish Singh Thakur, Shakti Thakur, Yash Kahar, Sagar Singh Rajput, Amankahar, Subhash Kahar, Jinendra Vaishnav,

Satyamkahar, Dushyantsahu, and Yash Kumar Sahu. Similarly, in village Jenjra, women and elders prayed in the Shiva temple and prayed for Rohit Sahu to be made a minister. Everyone said in one voice that after the separation of the state, BJP MLAs have been elected in this area thrice, and BJP government has been formed in the state four times. But unfortunately, not even once has Rajim's MLA got a place in the cabinet, therefore we all urge the BJP leadership to increase the dignity of Rajim by giving place to Rohit Sahu in the cabinet, and boost the morale of the people and workers here. On this occasion, former Sarpanch of Jenjra, Smt. Nileshwari Sahu, Dilip Sahu, Sukalu Tarak were present.

Paddy procurement for Kharif crops put on hold



Kurud, Dec 07:

Paddy procurement for Kharif crop, which started from November 1, was put on hold due to the havoc of Cyclone Michaung. Due to deteriorating weather, Delhi-like cold and intermittent heavy and slow rains, dozens of cooperative societies and paddy procurement centers of Kurud have been closed for the last two days and paddy procurement has come to a halt, due to which, on the one hand, farmers are seen to be deeply worried about the

loss of their crops and on the other hand, about the possibility of being able to sell their crops or not. Due to light showers in Kurud area on Tuesday morning, paddy procurement remained closed in all the 9 societies of the area, but due to bad weather, paddy was not purchased in the society even on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Tuesday, a token was issued for the purchase of 1607 quintals of paddy from 42 farmers in the Large Agricultural Credit Committee of Kurud on 5th December.



On December 6, a token was issued to purchase 1649 quintals of paddy from 43 farmers, but due to the impact of Cyclone Michong, paddy purchase is closed. Paddy is purchased under the open sky. Due to rain, paddy was not purchased in Kurud, Bagaud, Kuhkuha, Charra, Gadadih, Katalbod, Mandraud, Sivanikala, Bhathagaon Society under District Cooperative Central Bank Maryadit Raipur branch Kurud, and to protect from rain, the sacks of paddy purchased in the society

have been kept safe by covering them with tarpaulin. Circular Agricultural Credit Cooperative Society Kurud Manager TR Banskar said that till now 16884.40 quintals of paddy have been purchased, out of which 11820 quintals of paddy has been lifted and 5060 quintals have been covered with tarpaulin. And it has been secured that the paddy procurement which was disrupted for two days due to weather will be started again with double the speed as soon as the season opens.

SECL Director (Finance) honoured by ICAI-WIRC



Korba, Dec 07:

SECL Director (Finance) Srinivasan was honoured by Arindam Goswami, Vice Chairman and Chairman Professional Development Committee, ICAI WIRC on Dec 05 at SECL Headquarters Bilaspur. Srinivasan, Director (Finance), SECL and Chairman, CERL and CEWRL were felicitated. Director (Finance) G Srinivasan also held meeting with Goswami on this occasion. Srinivasan assured that in the coming days, SECL will try to support in every way the activities of WIRC, ICAI and other institutes for the development of Cost Accountant profession and all other efforts. In the meeting with Mr.

Srinivasan, the activities of the institute were explained by Mr. Goswami. He said that the institute is trying to connect industry and institute through various programs and seminars. On this occasion, Sanjay Srivastava, General Manager (Finance) and President, Bilaspur Chapter; Y Manoj Manager (Finance) and Secretary, Bilaspur Chapter; Vaibhav Aggarwal, Deputy Manager (Finance) and Treasurer, Bilaspur Chapter; Mrs. Princi Bandhekar Manager (Finance) from SECL Finance Department, Abhishek Anand Manager (Finance) along with Mriganka Maiti, Kuljeet Kaur from ICAI and many senior members of Bilaspur Chapter were present.

Paddy procurement continues amid rain precautions

Over 13,000 quintals of paddy bought in district

Manendragarh, Dec 07:

District Collector and Magistrate Narendra Kumar Dugga's strategic leadership has ensured the smooth progress of paddy procurement across the Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur district. A total of 13,121.60 quintals of coarse variety paddy have been successfully purchased at 24 procurement centers within 12 committees throughout the district. The commencement of paddy procurement in the district on November 21 marked the beginning of a seamless process. Kelhari



emerged as a focal point for maximum paddy procurement, demonstrating the effectiveness of the operations. To maintain transparency and efficiency, dedicated nodal officers and trusted individuals have been appointed at each procurement center. The use of biometric devices streamlines the paddy purchasing process, ensuring accuracy

and accountability. With an eye on the unpredictable weather conditions, Collector Dugga has issued a crucial directive to safeguard the procured paddy from rain-related damage at all procurement centers. This precautionary measure aims to prevent any potential losses. In recognition of the challenges posed by unexpect-

ed rain, farmers who cannot deliver their paddy on the scheduled date due to adverse weather conditions will have the option to reschedule their token for the following day. To fortify the rain protection efforts, an ample supply of tarpaulins and cap covers has been strategically arranged at all procurement centers. These provisions will help shield the paddy and minimize the risk of damage. To maintain high standards, Food Officer instructions mandate the procurement of paddy with prescribed moisture levels, meeting established quality criteria. This ensures that the procured paddy maintains its value and quality.

Changing weather tests farmers' resilience

Kharora: The fluctuating weather patterns brought about by Cyclone Michaung have presented challenges for farmers in Chhattisgarh. The prospect of light rain due to scattered clouds has disrupted the threshing of paddy, creating difficulties for farmers. Additionally, the unpredictable weather has taken a toll on vegetable cultivation. Tuesday afternoon witnessed yet another weather change, as light drizzles graced Kharora, located adjacent to the capital city, Raipur. The day began with cloudy skies, which eventually gave way to rain and cold winds. Farmers found themselves struggling to protect their paddy crops from the unexpected rainfall. Moreover, vegetable growers are counting their losses due to unseasonal rains.

Continuous efforts are necessary to achieve the goals set: Dayaram

Organized under Children's Day in Vivekananda English Medium School

Jagdarpur, Dec 07:

Collector Vijay Dayaram, while addressing the Science, Mathematics and Commerce Exhibition and Food Festival program organized under Children's Day at Vivekananda English Medium School, said that continuous efforts are necessary for the children to achieve the goals set for their future. The school children displayed positive energy and dedication towards the Science, Mathematics and Commerce exhibition which showcased their dedication. Recalling his school days, he congratulated the students and all the teachers of the school for the good exhibition. In the program, the Collector observed various models of the children and also took cognizance of their useful-



ness in daily life. Also tasted and appreciated the dishes displayed by the children in the food festival. In the programme, the school principal Manisha Khatri, while giving information about the activities of the school, informed about the good performance of the school children of the institution in cultural and sports activities in the country and the state. On this occasion, the Collector honored school student and classic dancer Sujoy. School staff and students were present in the program.

Rural construction gains momentum post election

Kawardha, Dec 07:

Following the conclusion of the Chhattisgarh Assembly General Election-2023, construction projects in rural areas have surged with remarkable momentum. The dedicated field staff of various departments are actively overseeing and expediting a wide range of projects, spanning from the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) to the development of essential rural infrastructure. Construction efforts are in full swing, including housing construction under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, the creation of segregation sheds under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, and various projects under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA). Under the visionary leadership of Chief Executive Officer Sandeep Kumar Agarwal,



the District Panchayat is spearheading these transformative initiatives, fostering rural development, and empowering communities through robust construction efforts. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin, numerous beneficiaries in the district

have been granted approval for housing construction. The release of the first installment for construction has already taken place, with eligible recipients receiving the second and third installments as their houses take shape. Field staff members are ac-

tively motivating housing beneficiaries, offering essential technical guidance to ensure swift progress. The construction of segregation sheds, an integral part of the Swachh Bharat Mission, is being diligently executed by Gram Panchayats. This initiative reinforces the commitment to promoting cleanliness and hygiene at the grassroots level. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) is set to kickstart various projects, offering employment opportunities to villagers. District Panchayats have received directives to expedite the approval process for construction projects, aligning with the demands of the local communities. This strategic approach aims to not only enhance infrastructure but also provide valuable employment opportunities to the villagers.

NOTA option sees reduced usage in Mungeli Assembly

Mungeli, Dec 07:

In the recent vote counting for both assembly constituencies in the district, it was observed that 19 candidates received fewer votes than the "None of the Above" (NOTA) option. This data reveals that 2066 voters expressed their dissatisfaction with the candidates. Interestingly, despite the victory of the BJP candidate, the use of NOTA was lower this time compared to previous elections. The trend of declining NOTA usage in Mungeli Assembly has been noticeable over the years. In the 2013 Assembly elections, a significant 5025 voters opted for NOTA. This number decreased to 4293 in



total of 2066 votes were cast for NOTA in both assembly constituencies in the district. In Mungeli Assembly, where 3150 voters opted for NOTA in the previous election, the number decreased to only 1252. In Lormi Assembly, 1143 voters chose NOTA last time, which reduced to 814 this time. In a striking turn of events, several candidates received fewer votes than NOTA. Specifically, nine candidates in Lormi Assembly and ten candidates in Mungeli Assembly garnered fewer votes than the "None of the Above" option, highlighting the growing importance of voter sentiment in electoral outcomes.

Himgir station welcomes new train stoppage by SECR

Bilaspur, Dec 07:

In a move designed to enhance passenger convenience and accessibility, the South East Central Railway Bilaspur Division has introduced a new stoppage for train services, benefiting travellers between Itwari, Tatanagar, and Bilaspur. The train number 18109/18110 Tatanagar-Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari-Tatanagar Express and train number 18113/18114 Bilaspur-Tatanagar-Bilaspur Express will now include a halt at Himgir Railway Station. Starting from December 5, passengers in the region will benefit from direct rail



transport to major cities including Tatanagar, Bilaspur, Raipur, and Itwari. This development addresses the long-standing demand of passengers for improved transportation options. The inauguration of this facility was celebrated today with an official flag-off ceremony,

graced by Honourable MLA Sundargarh Kusum Tete and various public representatives. Divisional Commercial Manager K.R. Gopikrishnan, along with railway officers and employees, also attended the event, bringing a sense of joy and excitement among the local community.

Post-election euphoria takes over Mungeli

Local expectations soar for the development of Mungeli district

Mungeli, Dec 07:

The results of the assembly elections have been declared, and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is set to form the government. With the elections behind them, government officials and employees are heaving sighs of relief, although traces of election fatigue still linger within government offices. In the wake of the election results, the public discourse has intensified, igniting spirited discussions across the region.



While party members engage in debates over their victories and losses, the broader public is also abuzz with discussions about the election outcomes. Chaupals, the traditional village meeting places, have become hubs of activity, adorned with decorations that reflect

the anticipation surrounding the results. People are engaging in light-hearted banter and expressing their amazement at some candidates' victories, while others admit they had anticipated a BJP win all along. There's a shared hope among the public that the

previously underdeveloped Mungeli district will experience rapid progress, especially with the advantage of a double-engine government and the presence of influential local MLAs within the ruling party. Discussions about the election results continue to dominate conversations in public spaces such as chaupals, city squares, and paan stalls. Residents gather in shops, hotels, kiosks, and sports grounds to dissect the election results. Speculations about who will become the Chief Minister from the district and the allocation of various departments and positions are hot topics. The buzz of election discussions persists from

morning till late at night, with many messages going viral on social media platforms. Some express their happiness, while others vent their frustrations through these channels. The people eagerly await the morning newspaper to get the latest updates on election news. Even in rural areas, villagers engage in conversations about the new government's formation and its potential policies, with particular attention to the promises made in the election manifesto, such as farmer loan waivers and plans to increase the support price of paddy. The anticipation and hope for a brighter future for Mungeli District are palpable throughout the region.

Rishi Sunak's leadership in turmoil over Rwanda deportation policy

London, Dec 07 (PTI):

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's leadership of the governing Conservative Party is facing turmoil on Thursday after a bruising Cabinet resignation and open attacks by backbenchers over his government's controversial policy to deport illegal migrants to Rwanda.

The 43-year-old British Indian prime minister is caught in the middle of two strands within his party, one on the extreme right voiced by sacked home secretary Suella Braverman calling for an extreme agenda to override legal challenges and the other more centrist view of the UK not being seen to breach its human rights obligations. The clash came to a head on Wednesday night when



Robert Jenrick, someone seen as a Sunak ally, resigned as his Immigration Minister, declaring that his boss's new Safety of Rwanda Bill designed to override a Supreme Court block "does not go far enough". "I cannot continue in my position when I have such strong disagreements with the direction of the government's policy on immigration," wrote Jenrick in his resignation

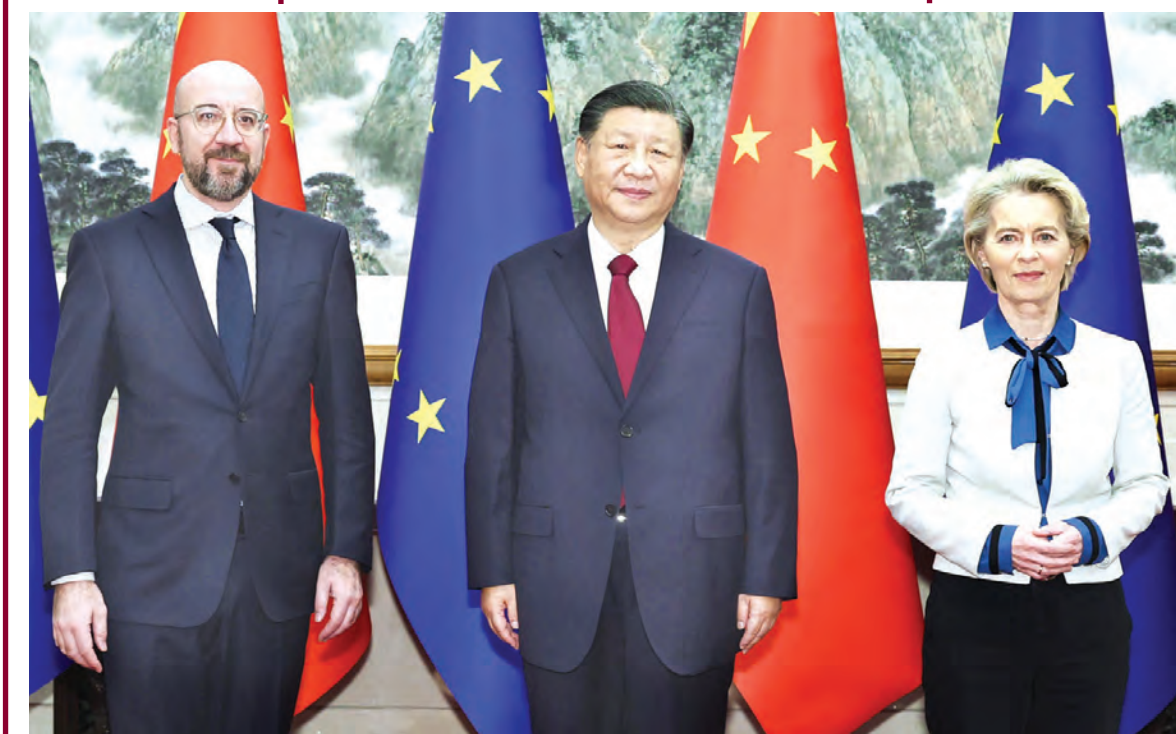
letter to Sunak. Describing the small boat crossings across the English Channel by illegal migrants as doing "untold damage" to the country, Jenrick insisted that the government needed to get much tougher against "highly contested interpretations of international law". "I have therefore consistently advocated for a clear piece of legislation that severely limits the op-

portunities for domestic and foreign courts to block or undermine the effectiveness of the policy. A bill of the kind you are proposing is a triumph of hope over experience," he added.

In his reply letter, Sunak countered by saying that the new bill would be "the toughest piece of illegal migration legislation ever put forward by a UK government" and that his former Cabinet ally's opposition to it was "based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the situation".

"If we were to oust the courts entirely, we would collapse the entire scheme. The Rwandan government has been clear that they would not accept the UK basing this scheme on legislation that could be considered in breach of our international law obligations."

GLOBAL DIPLOMATIC MEETING



Chinese President Xi Jinping, center, stands for a group photograph with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, right, and European Council President Charles Michel prior to their meeting at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing, Thursday, Dec. 7. The leaders of China and the European Union were holding wide-ranging talks Thursday that included their disputes over trade and a deep divide on the war in Ukraine.

Cash-strapped Pakistan secures USD 658 ADB package

Islamabad, Dec 07 (PTI):

Cash-strapped Pakistan has secured a USD 658 million financing package, including an expensive USD 300 million loan at market rates, from the Asian Development Bank, days after Finance Minister Shamsud Akhtar declared the country's public debt as "unsustainable".

The ADB approved a financing package for Pakistan under three different loans. Among other components, these include USD 300 million for improving domestic resource mobilisation; USD 275 million for rehabilitating schools damaged by the devastating August 2022 floods; and USD 80 million for enhancing agricultural productivity to improve food security, according to an announcement by the ADB on Wednesday. The announcement by the Manila-based lending agency came as the World Bank's Debt

Management and Sustainability Mission met with Finance Minister AKhtar to review the debt management of the country, reported the Express Tribune newspaper.

Last week, Dr Akhtar announced that Pakistan's debt burden has become "unsustainable" -- a notion to which World Bank's Vice President for South Asia Martin Raiser did not agree. In an interview, Raiser described the country's debt as "sustainable."

The ADB is already paying the salaries of half of the staff of Pakistan's Debt Management Office, which should ideally be paid by Pakistan's finance ministry.

Despite pronouncing the debt unsustainable, Pakistan has contracted one of the expensive loans by the multilateral lenders, which mostly give financing at concessional rates.

Turkish, Greek leaders signal markedly improved ties between the two NATO allies

Athens (Greece), Dec 07 (AP):

After several years of strained relations that raised tensions to alarming levels, longtime regional rivals Greece and Turkey made a significant step on Thursday in mending ties during a visit to Athens by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Ahead of his one-day visit, Erdogan had promised a "win-win" approach that could lay the foundation for broader cooperation, with hopes of also resetting his country's ties with Western allies.

"It is natural for there to be problems between two countries, even more so among brothers," Erdogan said after meeting with Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis. "The issue is the will to resolve those problems and differ-



ences of opinion."

With both leaders showing a marked departure from the testy, sometimes outright belligerent rhetoric of the last few years, Erdogan said of the Aegean Sea through which the two NATO members' border runs: "We want to convert the Aegean into a sea of peace

and cooperation. We wish to be an example to the world with the joint steps we will take as Turkey and Greece."

"I say it openly," Erdogan said, according to a translation of his comments. "There is no problem between us so great that it cannot be resolved, provided we move with

good faith and we focus on the big picture." The longstanding disputes between Greece and Turkey have led the two countries to the brink of war three times in the last 50 years. Centring on maritime boundaries and exploration rights for resources in the Aegean Sea and eastern Mediterranean, the latest flare-up occurred in 2020, when navy ships from the two countries shadowed each other in the eastern Mediterranean.

As relations deteriorated, Erdogan said as recently as last year that he no longer had any interest in meeting with Mitsotakis. But Thursday's visit will be the third time this year that Erdogan and Mitsotakis have met, signalling a significant push to improve ties.

Gates Foundation takes on poverty in the US with \$100 mn commitment

Grand Island, Dec 07 (AP):

In recent years, city leaders in Grand Island, Nebraska, observed that many workers and students were walking or biking long distances to their jobs or schools. So when city administrator, Laura McAloon, learned of an opportunity to study the development of a bus system to meet those transportation needs, she jumped at it. The opportunity was funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, in collaboration with the international city / County Management Association, a network of local government administrators. And it sent McAloon to Washington along with other local leaders to learn about strategies and policies to lift people in their community out of poverty. The Gates Foundation announced Thursday that it will donate USD 100 million to expand its work on economic mobility a large that the country's largest foundation says is a change in how it operates, putting more power in the hands of grantees and looking to accelerate the speed at which its gifts have impact. The commitment is part of the USD 460 million the foundation said in 2022 it would donate over four years to this part of its portfolio.

Ryan Rippel, the founding director for the Gates Foundation's economic opportunity and mobility strategy, said the grants

represent an important and deliberate change in how it works, with large grants going to organizations that will have a great deal of autonomy in directing their own work and the work of sub-grantees. The strategy, he said, is a result of feedback they heard from speaking with others in the field and the people they hope to help.

"I went to a conference in Washington and was very proudly talking about a data investment that we had made that we think could actually help governments make very different decisions about allocating resources," he said. "And a woman stood up in the back of the room and she shouted, 'I just need a tank of gas.' And that really stuck with me. And it stuck with our team as a profound lesson that these are very concrete, daily needs." The portfolio is a small portion of the foundation's overall budget, which was USD 7 billion last year, but it's grown significantly. Rippel said that is because they've learned so much about the strategies, interventions and organizations that can lift people out of poverty. The continued expansion of their work, he said, depends on whether they meet their goal of improving economic mobility for 50 million people in the U.S. who earn 200 per cent of the poverty level or less, which is USD 29,160 in annual income for an individual.

COLOMBO SECURITY CONCLAVE



National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval being welcomed on his arrival for the 6th NSA-level Meeting of the Colombo Security Conclave, in Mauritius.

Indian mission in London marks B R Ambedkar's Parinirvan Diwas

London, Dec 07 (PTI):

The High Commission of India in London marked the 67th death anniversary of Dr B R Ambedkar, observed by the Buddhist community as Parinirvan Diwas, with floral tributes and reflections upon Babasaheb's message of equality for all. Acting High Commissioner of India to the UK Sujit Ghosh led the ceremony at Ambedkar Hall in India House on Wednesday evening and shared insights into the far-reaching socio-economic contributions of the "Father of the Indian Constitution", which continue to resonate today. "Dr Ambedkar's contributions extend far beyond the drafting of the Indian Constitution. His emphasis on education as a tool for empowerment and change has proved to be transformative; he recognised that education could serve as a powerful equaliser, breaking down barriers of caste and fostering a sense of self-worth among the marginalised," said Ghosh in his



Floral tributes paid at BR Ambedkar's memorial on the occasion of his death anniversary, at Ambedkar Hall in the High Commission of India, in London, UK.

address. "His legacy also resonates strongly in the economic sphere. He believed in the necessity of equitable distribution of resources and opportunities, advocating for policies that would uplift the underprivileged and marginalised sections of society," he noted. Representatives from the Federation of Ambedkarite and Buddhist Organisations (FABO) UK, set up to propagate B R Ambedkar's legacy and Buddhist ideals, organised prayers and Bhim Stuti presentations for the solemn occasion. Its representatives delved into different aspects of the life of the celebrated economist, political leader and Dalit rights activist.

ports of some sort of substance sprayed on the premises. Officers evacuated the building and there were no reports of any serious injuries, it said. No arrests have been made yet, the police said. "It is unknown at this time if any other incidents are connected but our investigators are aware of those incidents that took place in York Region and Toronto," the statement said. Toronto police said officers similarly got a call on Tuesday night about someone setting off a "stink bomb" in a theatre at Scarborough Town Centre.

Police in Canada evacuate Hindi moviegoers at three theatres

After unknown substance sprayed into air

Toronto, Dec 07 (PTI):

Several moviegoers in three different Greater Toronto Area regions in Canada were evacuated and some were treated for exposure to an unknown substance sprayed by masked men in theatres playing Hindi movies earlier this week, according to police and media reports.

One such incident happened around 9:20 p.m. on Tuesday at a cinema complex in Vaughan, York Regional Police said in a

statement on Wednesday. Numerous movie-goers started coughing after two men in masks and hoods sprayed an "unknown, aerosol-based, irritating substance into the air" in a theatre, the police said.

Around 200 people were inside when a Hindi film was playing at the time, according to police.

Several people were treated for exposure to the substance and the theatre had to be evacuated, the police said. No serious injuries were reported. The suspects however fled before the police arrived, investigators said. Police said the first suspect was a Black man

with a light skin tone while the second man was described as brown with a light skin tone.

York police said they were liaising with both Peel and Toronto police about similar incidents that happened this week, CBC News reported.

"Coincidentally, they took place all within less than three hours on the same evening," a York police officer said on Wednesday.

"So we are certainly looking into the possibility that these incidents are linked." Peel police confirmed in a statement that officers were called to a theatre in Brampton on Tuesday following re-

Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications

Inviting applications for the post of
Chairperson, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, New Delhi

Government of India, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, invites applications from Indian Nationals for the post of Chairperson in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

TRAI is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. It is mandated to regulate the telecommunication services, adjudicate disputes, dispose of appeals and to protect the interests of service providers and consumers of the telecom sector, to promote and ensure orderly growth of the telecom sector.

The detailed eligibility conditions and other terms and conditions of appointment may be seen on the web-sites www.dot.gov.in or <http://www.trai.gov.in> or <http://www.dopt.gov.in>. Those who have applied against earlier advertisement issued on 22.06.2023 need not apply afresh. The last date of submission of the applications is 22.12.2023 by 5.30 PM.

CBC 062011/0011/2324

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH E-BIDDING

E-tenders are invited against NIT No. 10-10/Pur/TR-2023_53 dated 07.12.2023 for hiring 01 ton pick-up/utility vehicle for following work.

RFx no - 8100034950

Awarding contract for Hiring of Light Commercial Vehicle (Pickup) or Equivalent (1.70-2.20 Ton Capacity) for City Construction Dn., CSPDCL, Raipur. All running expenditure of vehicle will be borne by contractor. The contract work will be as per guidelines of CSPDCL. The pick-up 1.70 to 2.20 ton vehicle is not older than 03 years having total run not exceeding 100000 km. will be hired for a period of 03 years. Normally the period of contract will be Three year on the monthly rate basis. The CSPDCL reserves the right to extend the term of contract period for further 01 years at the same rate, terms & condition on mutual understanding between CSPDCL & contractor. GST will be paid Extra on production of actual documentary evidence Tentative Contract value will be Rs. 1576800/- approx excluding GST.

Details of Tender, Technical Specifications, Terms and Conditions etc are available on our website www.cseb.gov.in, www.cspdc.in and e-biddinghttp://ebsr.cspdc.co.in. Last date and time of submission of bid is on 28.12.2023 up to 01:30 P.M. and due date of opening is on 28.12.2023 at 02:00 P.M. The Tender document can also be downloaded from CSPDCL's official website mentioned above. The cost of required Tender fee of Rs. 2000/- including GST may be deposited in this office through MICR Demand Draft drawn in favour of "The Sr.A.O.-I, C.S.P.D.C.L., Raipur" should be received in this office on or before 28.12.2023 up to 01:30 P.M. which is not refundable. An amount of (Rs. 16000/-) 1% of the Tender value towards EMD has to be deposited by the Contractor in this office through MICR Demand Draft drawn in favour of "The Sr.A.O.-I, C.S.P.D.C.L., Raipur".

S-39053/1
Superintending Engineer
City Circle-I, CSPDCL: Raipur
"Save energy for benefit of self and Nation"

BRIEF

High-ticket loans



New Delhi: Fintech firm One97 Communications, which operates in the name of the Paytm brand, will focus on high-ticket loans and go slow on loans that are less than Rs 50,000, a senior company official said on Wednesday. Paytm President and Chief Operating Officer Bhavesh Gupta said the company's merchant loan portfolio is performing better now compared to consumer loans. "We are seeing better performance on the merchant side than the consumer side. We will try to do a lot more there. Our focus now on the calibration of business is on high ticket, slowing down to less than Rs 50,000," Gupta said during an analyst call. He said postpaid loans will gradually start reducing in the overall lending business.

Fintech event



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the second edition of the flagship financial technology event Infinity Forum 2.0 on Saturday, the finance ministry said on Wednesday. The event will be hosted by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and GIFT City, under the aegis of Government of India, the ministry said. The forum is hosted by IFSCA as a global thought leadership platform on financial services, where progressive ideas, pressing problems, innovative technologies from across the world get discovered, discussed and developed into solutions and opportunities.

Price hike

New Delhi: Automaker Hyundai Motor India Ltd on Thursday said it will hike the prices of its vehicles from next month citing rising input cost, adverse exchange rate and increase in commodity prices. The company, which sells a range of vehicles starting from Grand i10 Nios to electric SUV IONIQ5, priced between Rs 5.84 lakh to Rs 45.95 lakh, however, did not specify the quantum of the proposed price increase to be effective from January 1, 2024. The price increase is owing to rising input cost, adverse exchange rate and increase in commodity prices, amongst other reasons, Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL), said in a statement.

All sectors contributes significantly to high GDP growth: FM Sitharaman

New Delhi, Dec 07:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said India continues to maintain the momentum of the fastest-growing major economy, with all sectors contributing significantly in economic activities. Replying to a short-duration discussion on the state of the economy in the Rajya Sabha, the minister also highlighted the various achievements of the Modi government since May 2014.

"The second quarter growth was very high, it is the highest in the world. We continuously maintain that momentum of being the fastest-growing economy," Sitharaman said. She further said that in just



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks in the Rajya Sabha during the Winter session of Parliament, in New Delhi, Thursday, Dec. 7.

the last eight years, India has become the fifth largest economy from the 10th in 2014. "The activi-

ties are all across the economy. It's not as if one sector is doing well...All sectors are growing and growing significantly for us to notice it," she said. She emphasised that the manufacturing sector is also contributing significantly to the economy on the back of measures taken by the government, including the Make-In-India programme and production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme.

India is the second most sought-after manufacturing destination in world, she added. The finance minister further informed the House that direct tax collection grew by 21.82 pc this year till November 9 and monthly GST collections have stabilised at Rs 1.6 lakh crore in a sign of

economic growth. Dismissing assertions on the employment front, Sitharaman said the unemployment rate has declined to 10 per cent from 17.8 per cent in 2017-18. She further said 13.5 crore people have come out of 'multi-dimensional' poverty in the last five years. Several Opposition members also raised concern over the rising prices in the country.

To this, the minister replied that the government has taken "quite a few" measures to check inflation. The retail inflation based on the consumer price index (CPI) had touched a high of 7.8 per cent in April 2022. However, now it has been close to the Reserve Bank's target of 4 per cent.

India a labour-rich country: Niti VC

With enough institutional maturity; can register 8 pc growth

New Delhi, Dec 07:

India has the potential to grow at 8 per cent as the country is labour-rich with enough institutional maturity of a functioning democracy, Niti Aayog vice chairman Suman Bery said on Thursday. Bery also cautioned that North India has not been doing well traditionally compared to South India, and this can create tensions in a federal polity. "So, 8 per cent growth or something approximating that means continuous change that needs to be politically managed," he said while addressing the Global Economic Policy Forum 2023, organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the fi-



nance ministry. According to Bery, the modernisation journey of India is unusual and unique. "And if I wanted to bet on India for the next 25 years, I would point to first, the fact that we are not labour constrained in a world which is increasingly labour constrained. But much more importantly...we have the institutional maturity of a functioning democracy with established rules of the game for the transfer of power we have just seen magnificently in the state elections," he added. Bery noted that economic

growth in a country like India is a prerequisite for equity. "So, growth is not an end in itself, but it is a means to an end to raise living standards and secure India's strategic and institutional economy," he said. Bery pointed out that India is the fastest-growing major economy but still the lowest per capita income country in the G20. "Growth needs to be both inclusive as well as pro-people, and women-led growth will be critical for attaining positive outcomes.

"The challenge is to use the mature institutional democratic structure of India to realise its potential in the Amrit Kaal," the Niti Aayog vice chairman said. He emphasised that growth must be prioritised to achieve domestic and international objectives of higher living standards and securing India's strategic and institutional economy.

No 'spectacular announcement' likely in February 1 budget, says finance minister

New Delhi, Dec 07:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said the budget to be presented on February 1, 2024 would not have any "spectacular announcement" as it would be a vote on account in run up to the general elections. "It is a matter of truth that February 1, 2024 budget that will be announced will just be a vote on account because we will be in an election mode. So the budget that the government presents will just be to meet the expenditure of the government till a new government comes to play," she said. Speaking at the CII Global Economic Policy Forum, Sitharaman said the country would be

preparing for the Lok Sabha elections which are due in the summer of 2024. Hence the February 1 budget, following the British tradition, is called vote on account. "No spectacular announcements come in that time (in vote on account). So you will have to wait till after new government comes in and presents next full Budget in July 2024," Sitharaman said. On February 1, 2024, Sitharaman will present an interim budget for 2024-25 fiscal, beginning April 1, 2024, in the Lok Sabha. The interim budget which is also known as a vote on account will allow the incumbent government to undertake expenditures till a new government is formed after general elections.

India needs high economic growth to invest in energy transition: CEA

New Delhi, Dec 07:

India requires high economic growth to invest in energy transition, Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran said, observing that the country needs time to move away from coal to renewable energy. Addressing an event here, India is well ahead of other G20 countries in meeting the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) target. "(India) needs high economic growth to invest in energy transition... We basically need the time to move away from coal towards other fossil fuels, and later on towards other renewable energy," he said. NDCs are national action



plans adopted by various countries to limit the earth's average temperature rise to well below two degrees Celsius and preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to the pre-industrial (1985-1900) levels. "You will have to use coal for quite some time," he said.

Nageswaran noted that the fear of carbon emissions is driving the West, particularly, Europe towards the impossible trinity of net zero, fiscal prudence and economic competitiveness.

"Now, talking about keeping the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius below pre-industrial levels...is to impose a huge amount of cost and burden on countries recovering from COVID, struggling with lower growth, higher debt etc," he opined. Noting that nobody is denying there is global warming, the CEA said it is important to recognise the trade-offs, it is important to recognise prioritisation over different horizons.

Ducati to hike prices of select models from January



New Delhi, Dec 07:

Italian superbike maker Ducati on Thursday said it will hike prices of select models from January 1, 2024. The updated prices will come into effect across selected models and variants of the bikes and will be applicable on all official company dealerships in the country, the company said in a statement. "Due to an increase in operational

and other costs related to production, this price correction will be introduced across the product range while maintaining the brand's luxury positioning in the premium motorcycle segment," Ducati India MD Bipul Chandra said. Ducati sells models like Multistrada V4 S Grand Tour, DesertX Rally, Multistrada V4 RS and the Hypermotard 696 Mono in India.

CII GLOBAL ECONOMIC POLICY FORUM

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, CII President R Dinesh, Director General Chandrajit Banerjee and Harvard University Prof Ricardo Hausmann at the CII Global Economic Policy Forum 2023, in New Delhi, Thursday, Dec. 7.

RBI unlikely to cut rates before June: Deutsche Bank

Mumbai, Dec 07:

The Reserve Bank-led Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is unlikely to tweak repo rates till June next year, according to a foreign brokerage report. The bi-monthly MPC meeting started on Wednesday and the decision on rates will be announced on Friday. According to the report by Deutsche Bank, the interest rate cycle appears to have peaked and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is unlikely to go for further hikes, unless absolutely necessary. The rate is likely to be cut in June, it said. The RBI hiked the repo rate last on February 23, when it was raised to 6.5 per cent. With the RBI continuing to maintain tight liquidity, short-term rates are hovering around 6.85-6.9 per cent, which is 35-40 bps higher than the repo rate.

Stock markets snap seven-day winning run; Sensex falls 132 points



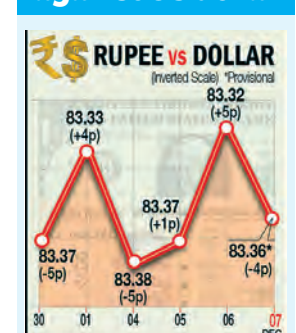
Mumbai, Dec 07:

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty snapped their seven-day winning streak on Thursday due to profit taking by investors after recent sharp gains triggered by negative cues from Asian markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 132.04 points, or 0.19 per cent, to close at 69,521.69. The gauge hit the lowest intra-day level of 69,320.53.

Broader index Nifty also declined 36.55 points, or 0.17 per cent, to settle at 20,901.15. Analysts said crude oil prices in international markets failed to boost sentiment amid selling pressure from foreign institutional investors even as traders stayed on the sidelines ahead of RBI's monetary policy decision.

The Reserve Bank of India is expected to maintain the status quo on the interest rate in its bi-monthly monetary policy decision to be announced on Friday. Major laggards among Sensex constituents included Bharti Airtel, Hindustan Unilever, Tata Steel and ITC. Power Grid, UltraTech Cement, NTPC and Titan emerged as winners.

Rupee falls 4 paise to close at 83.36 against US dollar



Mumbai, Dec 07:

The rupee depreciated 4 paise to close at 83.36 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, tracking elevated American currency in the overseas market and a muted trend in domestic equities. Forex traders said the rupee traded in a narrow range as the support from easing crude oil prices was negated by strong dollar demand from importers. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.36 and touched a low of 83.37 against the greenback. It finally settled at 83.36 (provisional) against the dollar, down by 4 paise from its previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee appreciated by 5 paise and settled at 83.32 against the greenback. "Indian rupee traded on a flat note on Thursday. A positive US Dollar and weak domestic markets weighed on the rupee. However, weak crude oil prices and FII inflows supported the rupee at lower levels," said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. The rupee is expected to trade with a slight negative bias on positive tone in the US Dollar and risk aversion in global markets, Choudhary added.

Adani Group to invest \$ 75 bn on energy transition initiatives by 2030: Chairman Gautam Adani

New Delhi, Dec 07:

Adani Group has plans to invest USD 75 billion in energy transition initiatives by 2030, its chairman Gautam Adani said on Wednesday. The investments will boost the group's vision to have 45 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity by 2030, Adani said in a statement. "We are committed to large-scale renewables, developing an indigenous fully integrated manufacturing ecosystem and green hydrogen solutions. At the Adani portfolio level, a total investment of USD 75 billion by 2030 on our energy transition initiatives will further our vision to have 45 GW renewable energy capacity by 2030 and strengthen the pivotal role played by AGEL in India's glide path to decarbonisation," the group chairman said. The



investments will be executed through Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL). AGEL has emerged as the second-largest global solar PV developer in the US-based Mercom Capital Group's latest annual global report. "The company's outstanding performance and contribution to the renewable energy landscape have earned it the prestigious second rank among the world's foremost solar PV developers," the statement said.

Don't be afraid to fail, big failures bring big success, says Union minister Pradhan

Gandhinagar, Dec 07:

For India to become a developed nation, it will have to repose faith in youngsters, handhold and mentor them and celebrate their failures, Union Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneur Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Wednesday. He said there is no shortcut to the goal of India becoming a developed nation. "If we are to become a developed country, there is no shortcut. We have to repose faith in our youngsters, we have to handhold them, mentor them, celebrate their failures. Then only we can create an ecosystem. I am happy that with Prime Minister Modi's vision, Gujarat is at the forefront of this model," Pradhan said. He was addressing a



roundtable discussion of unicorns and venture funds ahead of "Start-up Conclave-2023" organised as part of a pre-Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit event here in Gandhinagar. "Today, India is the number fifth economy of the world. What is the roadmap ahead for all of us in the 'Amrit Kaal'?" We have to make India a developed country. We have no alternative to this. How to achieve that? We have to repose faith in our young-

sters, on our new business models," he further said.

The primary feature of the start-up ecosystem is to place trust in all stakeholders, stated the minister.

"Failure is a must. When somebody fails, he has two options - he will cease to create, or he may come out with a bigger idea. Big failures bring big success... You have to fail. Only by failing will you be able to do something big," he maintained.

Pradhan said today educational campuses have become an epicentre of the start-up ecosystem. The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) places emphasis on creating skilled manpower.

Prime Minister Modi's emphasis on the need for wealth creators and job creators is the fundamental of the ecosystem, and NEP 2020 is putting emphasis on

this area, the Union minister said. "It is a nice coincidence that India is an aspirational society, a young country, and there is a bounce in the market. The purchasing capacity of average India is increasing day by day. People are coming out of below poverty level...Spending behaviour of the country is changing. Here there is a big scope with the kind of digital public infrastructure that we have," he said.

Representatives at the event deliberated on various aspects of the start-up ecosystem covering topics such as investment landscape, innovation and research, government support, market access and funding, among others, with an aim to come out with an agreement on actionable steps, responsibilities, and follow-up mechanisms.

Rain disrupts normal life

Central Chronicle News

Rajim, Dec 07: Cyclone Michaung has changed the daily routine of the people as it has been raining for the last three-four days, due to which the weather has become completely cold.

Meanwhile, due to cold, people resorted to warm clothes, even this did not reduce the cold, therefore may have lit bonfires and the demand for inflammable items like wood, pieces of paper, sacks, para etc. has increased.

In view of the biting cold, the city residents are demanding from the Nagar Panchayat to provide wood for lighting bonfires in the intersections.

Also due to falling water the road is filled with mud and school going children are driving very carefully and it is important to mention that Chaubebandha road has become very dilapidated these days due to running of sand loading highway, therefore, pedestrians are walking carefully. Bikes, cycles and other vehicles were also covered with mud and here, due to falling water, the harvester machine is not able to go to the fields.

Due to rain, farmers have stopped paddy har-



vesting and threshing work and there is no arrival of paddy in the procurement centres. Farmers Doomansingh Thakur, Baburam Pal, Om

Prakash Sahu, Santosh Sonkar, Jhumuk Sahu told that the harvester machine was about to arrive in the paddy field, when it started raining and now

the machine owners are saying that our machine will get stuck as soon as it goes to the field. Raipur Road, Mahasamund Marg, Devbhog Gariaband National Highway, Rajivlochan Temple Road in the city are flooded at some places, due to which people are facing problems.

Farmer Jagmohan Patel said that he has got a token dated 8th for selling paddy, and the paddy is still in the field and has not been harvested. On Wednesday, the temperature in Rajim ranged from 19 degrees Celsius to 21 Celsius and if the rains continue like this, farmers may have to suffer huge losses.

Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar death anniversary celebrated

Central Chronicle News

Anwari, Dec 07: On the death anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, Bhim Sena of village Anwari remembered him by paying homage and highlighted the contribution of Ambedkar in nation building. Bhimrao Ambedkar was popularly known as Baba Saheb Ambedkar and he breathed his last on 6 December 1956, since then that day is celebrated as Mahaparinirvan Day.

The chief guest of the program was Satnami Samaj Bhakhara Block President Tejeshwar Kurre who in his address said that Dr. Ambedkar,



one of the main architects of the Indian Constitution, dedicated his life for social justice, and gave a unique gift to the country in the form of the Constitution, which is the cornerstone of our democracy.

In the program special guests were Sarpanch Puneshwar Sahu,

Bhuneshwar Sahu, Lekhram Sahu, Hitendra Mandal, Mulchand Chandel, Convenor Lomesh Kumar, Tikeswar Kurre, Shiva Kurre, Krishna, Parmeshwar, Nageshwar, Uddit, Sagar, Mahendra, Vikas, Kundan and many others.

Crop insurance promotes protection for farmers

Bima Rath flags off campaign for crop insurance awareness

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, Dec 07: In a dedicated effort to safeguard the interests of farmers, Crop Insurance Week is being observed from December 6 to 12 in the Rabi year 2023-24 under the Prime Minister Crop Insurance Scheme.

As part of this initiative, the district witnessed the flagging off of the "Bima Rath," a mobile vehicle designed to promote crop insurance among farmers cultivating Rabi crops. District Panchayat member Ramkumar Bhatt inaugurated this significant campaign.

The Bima Rath initiative aims to maximize awareness about crop in-



surance among farmers cultivating Rabi crops in the district. These mobile units will work closely with field staff from the Agriculture Department to engage with farmers at the village level, providing valuable information and assistance.

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Rakesh Sharma, highlighted that in the Rabi year 2023-24, four key crops - wheat,

gram, mustard, and linseed - have been identified for crop insurance coverage in the district.

Farmers will contribute a premium amount of 1.5 percent of the total insured amount to secure their crops. Premium rates vary, with rates of Rs 570 per hectare for gram, Rs 630 for irrigated wheat, Rs 345 for non-irrigated wheat, Rs 240 for linseed, and Rs 345 per

hectare for rye-mustard.

Farmers who have insured their crops, especially arhar and harvested paddy from Kharif 2023, can now take advantage of crop insurance protection. In response to unseasonal rains, farmers are encouraged to report crop damage within 72 hours to the toll-free number of the respective insurance company at 1800-209-5959.

National Award to BRCC Rajesh Pandey

Central Chronicle News

Kurud, Dec 07: Development Block Resource Coordinator of Kurud District Dhamtari Development Block from Chhattisgarh, Rajesh Kumar Pandey has been selected by the National Educational and Planning Administration, New Delhi for the National Award for Innovation in Education.

National Conference on Innovations and Good Practices in Educational Administration and Award Presentation Ceremony as the outstanding educational innovative administrator of the district and block at the national level for innovation in educational administration on 4-5



December 2023 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, 15, Janpath, Held in New Delhi, where selected officers from all the states of India presented their innovations in the conference, in which the innovation selected from Chhattisgarh was not only appreciated by all the judges, but the judges themselves gave additional time to Development

Block Resource Coordinator Rajesh Pandey for the presentation of Chhattisgarh.

Keeping the presentation of BRCC Rajesh Pandey, the youngest youth officer selected for the National Award, in the category of improving the functioning of government schools, feedback was taken by the entire educational and planning

administration team on the work being done in Kurud development block.

During the Covid period, online classes were successfully conducted as a block nodal in which the district stood first by adding the maximum number of children to online classes.

In the development block, with the help of public representatives, special parent contact campaign to include children in the mainstream of education, educational dialogue with teachers, regular monitoring, important schemes of Chhattisgarh government, Sughrar, Padhwaiya, non-residential education training, FLN, Kindergarten, active PLC was actively done.

Constables promoted to rank of head constable

Central Chronicle News

Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, Dec 07: A total of 23 constables have been promoted to the rank of head constables here in the region, namely Constable Ramkrishna Mishra, Rajendra Kumar Bhardwaj, Pawan Rathore, Sanshudhan Baraith, Jagdish Narayan Shambhu Namdev, Santosh Kumar Banjare, Chandra Pratap Singh, Manharan Singh Maravi, Ajay Rajput, Parmeshwar Singh, Motiram Paikra, Ravi Tripathi, Chaupal Kashyap, Madan Singh Armon, Santosh Kumar Tiwari, Sushant Kumar Verma, Ramdik Lal Jaiswal, Mohanlal Rajak Ashish Mishra, Vinod Pratap Singh

Parihar, Ranjit Singh Kanwar, Devnarayan Rathore and Satish Yadav.

It may be noted that this year, departmental promotion examination of qualified constables was conducted for the vacant posts of head constables in the district, out of which the merit list of 23 constables was released by Inspector General of Police Bilaspur Range on 08/06/2023.

In compliance with the order, the constables promoted after the departmental promotion course on 5/12/2023 have been made head constables. In this sequence, on 05/12/2023, Superintendent of Police Yogesh Patel and Additional Superintendent of Police Mrs. Manisha Thakur Raote, Deputy

Superintendent of Police Meera Aggarwal put the ribbon of the head constable in the Police Control Room GPM and congratulated them.

Superintendent of Police Shri Patel while addressing all the promoted head constables said that all of you will discharge your responsibilities in a better manner and will maintain the image of the police department.

On this occasion, Superintendent of Police Mr. Yogesh Patel, Additional Superintendent of Police Mrs. Manisha Thakur Raote, Deputy Superintendent of Police Mrs. Meera Aggarwal, Reserve Inspector Mr. Bhupendra Kurre, promoted head constables and office staffs were present.

Bilaspur, Dec 07: Alok Kumar, the General Manager of South East Central Railway (SECR), conducted a comprehensive inspection of rail development and safety measures in the Anuppur-Jhalwara railway section on December 6.

The examination encompassed track safety, signal interlocking points, and level crossing gates, with a focus on enhancing rail infrastructure. During the inspection, Alok Kumar closely examined safety measures and assessed the progress of the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme at Anuppur, Shahdol, and Umaria railway stations.

Safety and Progress

SECR GM ensures rail safety and development

Conducts thorough inspection for safety and development standards

Central Chronicle News



Assessment: The inspection began at Anuppur station, where safety parameters were meticulously reviewed. A women's barrack for the Railway Protection Force, responsible for passenger security, was also inspected.

Community Engagement: Alok Kumar

engaged with local public representatives to gather insights into their concerns. Discussions with media representatives covered various topics, including passenger amenities, security measures, safety protocols, and ongoing construction projects. The inspection extended

to the manned level crossing BK-69 (Udhiya Road Gate) between Chada-Singhpur stations, where various safety features and gate operation procedures were meticulously examined. The General Manager interacted with the DTM-04 gang team working in the section to gather insights on safety precautions, equipment availability, and track maintenance.

Infrastructure Evaluation: The inspection extended to Shahdol Station, covering critical areas such as the Circulating Area, Booking Office, Electrical Sub Station, RPF Barrack, Accident Relief Equipment, Wagon and Carriage Office, Crew Lobby, Running Room, and

Health Unit.

Bridge and Track Assessment: Railway Bridge No. 132 and a speed trial between Birsinghpur-Karkeli stations were scrutinized. At Umaria station, the entire area, including the relay room, point, yard, track, and railway colony, underwent meticulous inspection.

Quality and Future Focus: Alok Kumar emphasized the importance of completing ongoing construction projects related to passenger facilities and operations promptly, with a keen eye on future requirements. The priority is to ensure high-quality passenger facilities and redevelopment while upholding stringent railway safety and security standards.

Collector honours election workers for maintaining fairness

● Not being negative is more important than being positive: Collector

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Dec 07: Collector and District Election Officer, Saurabh Kumar, extended his heartfelt gratitude to the unsung heroes behind the scenes of the Assembly Elections 2023. He recognized the diligent efforts of master trainers, micro observers, officers, and employees who worked tirelessly to ensure the integrity of the elections in the district.

During the post-election event held at the District Panchayat Assembly Hall, Collector Saurabh Kumar commended the dedication and commitment displayed by all involved.

He expressed his satisfaction with the flawless



execution of the election process, noting that no complaints or allegations had arisen, thus preserving the trust of the people. I believe that not being negative is more important than being positive.

Collector also encouraged those who may have made mistakes to learn from them and enhance their performance. He emphasized the importance of conducting elections with utmost seriousness, as any negligence could impact one's career.

Stressing fairness and transparency, he urged

swift action against any work-related lapses to set an example for others. Highlighting the effectiveness of the election team, Kumar praised their timely completion of assigned tasks.

Returning officers shared their experiences, indicating that continuous review and guidance from senior officers streamlined the election process, resulting in peaceful voting and vote counting in the district.

Collector acknowledged the vital role played by the media in disseminating information about

election-related activities to the public. He expressed his gratitude for maintaining a positive atmosphere through various media channels, both print and electronic.

In recognition of their invaluable contributions, Kumar personally honoured several election office employees, including Ramniwas Sahu, RK Shrivastava, Sheetal Agarwal, Deendayal Bhardwaj, and Pitamber Patel. They were presented with certificates and heartfelt handshakes as a token of appreciation for their outstanding work.

● Children delighted with competitions and thoughtful gifts

Central Chronicle News

Manendragarh, Dec 07: The Government Pre-Secondary School in Jhagrakhand witnessed a grand program organized by The All India Association Manendragarh Samarpan Club, bringing smiles and motivation to the young minds. The event, graced by esteemed guests and filled with exciting activities, left a lasting impact on the students.

The festivities commenced with the worship of Chhattisgarh Mahatari, followed by a warm welcome to all attendees and musical entertainment. Head teacher, Veerangana Srivastava, extended her heartfelt greetings to the gathering. Club President Preeti



Jaiswal, Vice District President Anita Farmania, and honourable Indira Sengar Madam delivered inspiring speeches, encouraging the children to set ambitious goals and focus on their studies.

To engage the young participants, the club organized a variety of competitions, including painting, essay writing, spoon races, and even pot breaking. The highlight of the day was a captivating women's tug-of-war competition.

Vice District President Anita Farmania distributed warm sweaters to the primary and secondary school students, ensuring they stay cozy during the winter season. Prizes for the competitions were presented by Pratibha, spreading joy among the children. Additionally, the club provided sanitary pads to support the girls' hygiene needs.

The women of the club were honoured with mementos as a token of appreciation for their generous contributions to the school and the community. The event was attended by Club Area Secretary Pammii Arora, Club Treasurer Preeti Agarwal, Rajni Agarwal, Pratibha Agarwal, Leena Shah, as well as dedicated school teachers Ramanuj Tiwari, Shubham, Kaveri Singh, Vandana Singh, and Anupama Singh, along with all members of the school family.

'Chh'garh records highest rate of accidental deaths'

Raipur, Dec 07:

Chhattisgarh recorded the highest rate of accidental deaths at 56.4 and was placed third in rate of suicides among states in the country in 2022, according to the latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data.

As per the NCRB's annual report, among the 28 states, the highest rate of accidental deaths was reported from Chhattisgarh (56.4) followed by Haryana (53.5) and Maharashtra (53.0) against the national average of 31.2. However, two Union Territories -- Ladakh and Puducherry - reported rate of accidental deaths at 78.7 and 65.7, respectively, and were

ahead of Chhattisgarh. There are eight UTs in the country.

Nineteen out of 36 states/UTs have reported higher rates of 'accidental deaths' as compared to all-India average of 31.2 deaths per one lakh of population, said the report.

Accidental deaths have been grouped into two broad categories - 'Deaths due to Forces of Nature', including lightning, heat/sun stroke, flood, landslide etc, and 'Deaths due to Other Causes', including traffic accidents, killed by animals, consumption of spurious liquor and factory mishaps, among others.

Chhattisgarh reported 16,893 accidental deaths

in 2022, including 248 due to 'forces of nature' and 16,645 due to 'other causes', according to the data published by NCRB, which functions under the Union home ministry.

In 2021, the state had recorded 19,265 accidental deaths, including 244 due to 'forces of nature' and 19,021 due to 'other causes', which declined by 12.3 per cent in 2022.

Among the total 4,15,306 accidental deaths due to 'other causes' in the country in 2022, as many as 507 incidents of consumption of illicit/spurious liquor caused 617 deaths, it said.

States where various such deaths were reported included Bihar (134 deaths) followed by

Karnataka (98), Punjab (90), Chhattisgarh (60), Jharkhand (55) and Uttar Pradesh (50 deaths), said the report.

Similarly, rate of suicides in Chhattisgarh was 28.2, the third highest after Sikkim (43.1) and Kerala (28.5), among 28 states in 2022. All-India rate of suicides (ie the number of suicides per one lakh population) was 12.4 last year, the report said. Andaman & Nicobar Islands (42.8) and Puducherry (29.7) are among UTs which are ahead of Chhattisgarh in rate of suicides.

Chhattisgarh reported 8,446 suicides in 2022 which was 7.9 per cent more than the number recorded in 2021 at 7,828.

PM's 'arithmetic of success' has shattered 'mathematics of opposition': Naqvi

New Delhi, Dec 07 (PTI):

Taking a swipe at the INDIA bloc, senior BJP leader Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi on Thursday claimed there was an ongoing tussle among the alliance partners and said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'arithmetic of success' has shattered the 'mathematics of the opposition'.

Addressing people during the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in Rampur's Koyla village, Naqvi said the opposition should realise that a "swarm of stopgap" will not be able to conquer the "mountain of mass mandate". There is an "ongoing tussle" among the partners of the Indian National Inclusive Developmental Alliance (INDIA) bloc and Prime Minister Modi's "arithmetic of success" has shattered the "mathematics of

the opposition".

A non-Congress central government is successfully completing two consecutive terms ensuring good governance and inclusive empowerment and is moving towards the third term under the "dynamic and decisive" leadership of Prime Minister Modi, Naqvi was quoted as saying by a statement from his office. Taking a swipe at the Congress, he said the success of the Modi government has sent the "democratically defeated dynasty" into depression.

Naqvi said history is witness to the Congress' deception and it is selling "dhole ka samaan (betrayal) in its 'mohabbat Ki dukaan (shop for spreading love)".

He said Prime Minister Modi's guarantee of good governance, inclusive empowerment and social security has lived up to the expectations of the people.

'Need to bring some changes in education system'

New Delhi, Dec 07 (PTI):

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday said there is a need to make some changes to the education system in management institutions for inclusive development of the country.

The President, who presented the 'Lakshmiptat Singhania-IIM Lucknow National Leadership Awards' here, also called for linking artificial intelligence (AI) to management education and said one who knows and uses it properly should not have any fear of losing his or her job.

"We have to bring some changes in the education system of our management institutions for more effective and inclusive development of the country," Murmu said.

She urged managers, educationists and organisational heads to connect Indian management studies with Indian companies, consumers and socie-



President Droupadi Murmu presents the Lakshmiptat Singhania-IIM Lucknow National Leadership Awards, in New Delhi, Thursday.

ty. Instead of case studies and articles about businesses based abroad, the President said, case studies about Indian and multinational companies based in the country should be written and taught.

"Our management institutes should also focus their research on research



Devotees ride boats as migratory Siberian gulls fly around at Sangam, in Prayagraj, Thursday.

only being appreciated but there is also talk of conducting leadership studies on it.

"This is a very good and lively topic, especially for leadership and teamwork in a crisis," she said. Speaking about AI, Murmu said many people are worried about job loss due to this technological innovation.

"One who knows AI and uses it properly should not have any fear of losing his job due to AI," she said.

She called for linking all dimensions of AI to management education.

The President said the blind race to increase production and productivity has harmed humanity. "Climate change and ecological disturbances are the result of the same. Today, the whole world is struggling with this challenge. The concept of profit maximisation may be a part of western culture but this concept has not been given priority in Indian culture," she said.

Osmania University emerge victorious in 'NTPC Electron Quiz 2023'



Noida, Dec 07:

The eagerly awaited NTPC Electron Quiz 2023 culminated in a spectacular finale held today at the Power Management Institute (PMI), NTPC in Noida. The finale brought together the brightest minds from six prestigious management and engineering institutions: Osmania University, IIM Bodh Gaya, IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Indore, FMS Delhi and IIM Kolkata.

Saneya Rafeeqe and Saniya Mahreen from Osmania University emerged victorious at the intense competition and were awarded prize money of Rs 50,000. The second prize of Rs. 30,000 went to Piyush Kedia and Arnab Mondal from IIM Kolkata, while Sushant Adlakhar and Shashank Tyagu from Faculty of Management Studies (FMS) Delhi University, se-

cured the third prize of Rs 20,000. In addition, three consolation prizes of Rs 8,000 were awarded.

Dillip Kumar Patel, Director (HR), NTPC graced the occasion in the presence of Sital Kumar, Executive Director (UPL & HR), Ms Rachna Singh Bhal, Head (PMI), Gautam Bose, Quiz Master and CEO (Greycells) and senior officials of NTPC, students from various institutes.

The journey to the grand finale involved 17 qualifying teams from premier engineering and management institutes, selected from the semi-final held a day earlier at PMI, Noida.

These competitions serve as a testament to NTPC's dedication to fostering excellence and empowering the leaders of tomorrow. Launched in 2004, the NTPC Electron Quiz has evolved into an annual quizzing carnival.

BJP MPs MEET



PM Modi addresses during the BJP Parliamentary Party meeting, at the Parliament House in New Delhi, Thursday. Telangana cabinet minister K.T. Rama Rao addresses the gathering during a road show ahead of Telangana Assembly elections, in Kamareddy district, Saturday.

Ahom dynasty's burial mounds submitted as India's nomination

For UNESCO tag

New Delhi, Dec 07 (PTI): The mound-burial system of the Ahom dynasty in Assam has been submitted as India's nomination for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List for the year 2023-24, the Centre informed the Parliament on Thursday.

The unique burial mounds, represented by pyramid-like structures known as 'moidams', were used by the Tai-Ahom dynasty which ruled for around 600 years in Assam.

Union Minister for Culture and Tourism G Kishan Reddy shared information about the nomination in response to a query in the Rajya Sabha.

He was asked whether the government has finalised India's nomination for consideration as World Heritage site for the year 2023-24 and the rationale behind the selection of sites for nominations.

In his written reply to the question, Reddy said, "The nomination dossier of 'Group of Moidams-The Mound Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty' has been submitted as India's nomination for the year 2023-24."

"Selection of sites or properties for World Heritage nomination depends upon its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), Authenticity and Integrity. These sites must fulfil one of the criteria of OUV as mentioned in the UNESCO Operational Guidelines, 2023," the minister added.

'Moidams' are vaulted chambers (chow-chali), often double storied, that have an arched passage for entry. Atop the hemispherical mounds, layers of bricks and

earth are laid. The base of the mound is reinforced by a polygonal toe-wall and an arched gateway on the west, according to the UNESCO website.

"Eventually, the mound would be covered by a layer of vegetation, reminiscent of a group of hillocks, transforming the area into an undulating landscape," the description of 'moidams' added.

Excavation shows that each vaulted chamber has a centrally raised platform where the body was laid. Several objects used by the deceased during his life, like royal insignia, objects made in wood or ivory or iron, gold pendants, ceramic ware, weapons, clothes to the extent of human beings (only from the Luk-kha-khun clan) were buried with their king, according to the website.

The Tai-Ahom clan, upon their migration from China, established their capital in different parts of the Brahmaputra River Valley between 12th and 18th CE, it added.

Chennai heroes battle floodwaters to deliver aid

Chennai, Dec 07 (PTI):

Volunteers waded through knee-deep water in Mudichur and distributed food packets and water bottles, even as several parts of Chennai continued to struggle with scanty supplies of milk and curd for the third day on Thursday following floods triggered by cyclone Michaung.

Dedicated volunteers walked through high-water in the residential areas of Pattalam, Pattinapakkam, and Varadarajapuram in Kancheepuram, and distributed food and rescued the marooned through boats.



A volunteer feeds a dog amid floods after heavy rainfall in the aftermath of Cyclone Michaung, in Chennai, Thursday.

"We were the first to reach Mudichur on December 4 night when the cyclone Michaung's ferocity inundated the city and suburbs. Our res-

cue boat hit six electric posts in pitch darkness. Later we navigated to the houses of five marooned families and rescued them," Lt Col N

Thiagarajan said. It was altogether a different story at another flooded house in Perambur. The Indian army veteran said he got a SOS to rescue a pregnant woman nearing her due date. "We brought her safely by a boat and she was later taken to a hospital, he told PTI.

After leading the Army rescue team during the December 2015 floods in Chennai, Lt Col Thiagarajan made up his mind to dedicate his life to saving people during distress. Post-retirement in 2017 he founded the Mastermind Foundation and plunged into voluntary service.