



SC upholds scrapping Art 370



The five-judge bench comprising CJI DY Chandrachud and Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai and Surya Kant during pronouncement of verdict on a batch of petitions challenging the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution, in New Delhi, Monday.

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

The Supreme Court on Monday unanimously upheld the Centre's decision to abrogate provisions of Article 370 bestowing special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, and directed restoration of statehood "at the earliest" as well as elections to the assembly by September 30 next year.

Ending a decades long debate, a five-judge Constitution bench, headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, delivered three concurring judgments upholding abrogation of the Constitutional schemes that provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir when it was annexed to the Union of India in 1947.

Writing the judgement for himself and Justices B R Gavai and Surya Kant, the CJI said Article 370 was a temporary provision and the president was empowered to revoke it in the absence of the

A death sentence: Mehbooba

People's Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti on Monday said the Supreme Court's decision to uphold Article 370 abrogation is "nothing less than a death sentence", adding that it marked the defeat of the idea of India with which the Muslim-majority state had acceded in 1947. "Today an unconstitutional and illegal act that took place in the Parliament was declared legal.

Constituent Assembly of the erstwhile state.

The Supreme Court verdict is a "resounding declaration of hope, progress, unity for our sisters and brothers in J&K, Ladakh", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said.

Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Sanjiv Khanna penned separate and concurring verdicts on the issue. The apex court also upheld the validity of the

SC verdict on Article 370 'historic': PM, Shah

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah Monday hailed the Supreme Court's verdict upholding the government's decision to abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution as "historic" and said this gives a stamp of approval to the move as being "completely constitutional". Taking to "X", the two top leaders instrumental in abrogating the provisions of Article 370 in 2019 said the top court's decision is not just a legal judgment, but a "beacon of hope" and testament to the collective resolve to build a stronger and more united India, besides bringing peace and normalcy to Jammu and Kashmir.

will be restored, except for the carving out of the Union Territory of Ladakh. "In view of the statement we do not find it necessary to determine whether the reorganisation of the State of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir is permissible under Article 3.

"However, we uphold the validity of the decision to carve out the Union Territory of Ladakh in view of Article 3(a) read with Explanation I which permits forming a Union Territory by separation of a territory from any State," he said.

Directs restoration of J&K statehood, polls by Sep 2024

SC ruling victory of India: Sai

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister-designate Vishnu Deo Sai on Monday welcomed the Supreme Court ruling on Article 370 and termed it as the victory of India. In a post on his 'X' handle Sai wrote in Hindi, "The Supreme Court's decision on abrogation of Article 370 is historic. It is the victory of India. It is a resounding declaration of hope, progress and unity for our sisters and brothers in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh".

Chhattisgarh's chief minister-designate and BJP leader Vishnu Deo Sai will take oath along with his cabinet colleagues on December 13 at a ceremony in Raipur in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other dignitaries, it was announced on Monday. Besides Sai (59), who will be the BJP's first tribal CM, his council of ministers will also be sworn-in at the ceremony, an official release said. As per constitutional norms, Chhattisgarh, which has a 90-member assembly, can have a maximum of 13 ministers, including the CM. The swearing-in ceremony will be held at Science College Ground in the state capital at 2 pm, the release issued by the state public relations department said.

Swearing-in of new CM on Dec 13; PM to attend

Raipur, Dec 11: Chhattisgarh's chief minister-designate and BJP leader Vishnu Deo Sai will take oath along with his cabinet colleagues on December 13 at a ceremony in Raipur in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other dignitaries, it was announced on Monday.

Besides Sai (59), who will be the BJP's first tribal CM, his council of ministers will also be

Mahua Moitra moves SC

New Delhi: Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Mahua Moitra moved the Supreme Court on Monday challenging her expulsion from the Lok Sabha, after the House adopted the report of its ethics committee that held her guilty of accepting gifts and illegal gratification from a businessman to further his interest. On December 8, after a heated debate in the Lok Sabha over the panel report during which Moitra was not allowed to speak, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi moved a motion to expel the TMC MP from the House for "unethical conduct", which was adopted by a voice vote.

SHAMEFUL ACT

Belagavi (K'taka), Dec 11 (PTI): A woman was allegedly assaulted, paraded naked and tied to an electric pole in a village in this district, after her son eloped with a girl who was to get engaged with someone else, police said on Monday.

On getting to know about the girl's act, her family members attacked his house in new

Vantamuri village, damaging it. They are then said to have dragged his mother away, paraded her naked and tied her to an electricity pole, they said. The police, who rushed to the spot and set her free, have arrested seven persons in connection with the incident, and are investigating the matter. Additional forces have been deployed to avoid any untoward incident.

Mohan Yadav is MP CM

Bhopal, Dec 11 (PTI): Springing a surprise, the BJP on Monday picked Mohan Yadav, a leader of Other Backward Classes (OBC) and a three-time MLA, as the next chief minister of Madhya Pradesh, state party president VD Sharma said.

The BJP legislature party elected Yadav (58), a minister in the outgoing government, as its leader, paving the way for him to take over as the next CM of Madhya Pradesh. Outgoing Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan pro-



posed the name of Yadav, the BJP MLA from Ujjain South, for the top post at a meeting of the newly-elected legislators held in the evening in Bhopal in the presence of party's central observers, Sharma said.

Yadav, who was not seen as among contenders for the CM post, is considered to be close to the Rashtriya Swamsevaka Sangh (RSS) and is a three-time MLA and a prominent leader of OBCs, who account for more than 48 per cent of the state's population.

K'taka woman paraded naked, tied to electric pole after son elopes with girl

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On getting to know about the girl's act, her family members attacked his house in new

Vantamuri village, damaging it. They are then said to have dragged his mother away, paraded her naked and tied her to an electricity pole, they said.

"On getting the information at 4 am, our Police Sub Inspector visited the village, followed by other senior officials, and seven people have been arrested," he said, adding that a case has been registered in Kakati police station.

Commenting on the incident, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said, "strict action will be taken against those who have committed the offence."

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Police conducts surprise checks at liquor bars



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 11: Durg Police conducted surprise checks at the liquor bars of the district late evening on Sunday. The bar operators were shocked when 17 police teams simultaneously raided the bars of the city.

The cops inspected the

bars after checking the license and stock. Strict instructions were given to operate within a time limit and not to allow hookah.

On the instructions of Senior Superintendent of Police (Durg) Ram Gopal Garg and supervision of ASP (City) Abhishek Jha, all the gazetted officers and police station / chow-

ki in-charges launched a surprise checking drive at 21:00 hrs on Sunday.

The SHOs of the police station and chowkis formed a total of 17 teams and conducted simultaneous raids at all the bars of the district.

During this drive, more than 100 police personnel including gazetted offi-

cers and 17 police station in-charges were deployed. They simultaneously raided different bars across the district.

Raids were conducted at Hotel Mark, Steel Club, Punjab Bar, Hotel Lotus, Shivnath Cafeteria, Hotel Sagar, Hotel Samrat, Royal Court, Chilli Pepper, Hotel Indralok,

Hotel Amit International, Golden Bar, Madhuban Bar, Blue Heaven.

Bar, Jaltarang Bar, Meghdoot Bar, Hotel Kingsfort and others. Cops checked the license and stock of the bar and gave instructions to keep in mind the time limit and not to allow or serve hookah.

Collector Jandarshan resumes after election

Bhilai, Dec 11: On Monday, the Collector Jandarshan resumed after the assembly elections. On the instructions of Collector Pushendra Kumar Meena, Additional Collector Gokul Raote listened to the problems of the people and directed the concerned departments to take necessary initiative and immediate action. A total of 27 applications were received in Jandarshan.

Ward No 1 Junwani resident submitted an application regarding the fear of short circuit and untoward incident due to the presence of a big tree near the electric pole situated in Shankaracharya Medical College and Bajrangpara.

The Additional Collector asked the concerned department to take action. Vegetable Vendors Union of Indira Market applied for parking, action



against illegal encroachment, drain repair and getting rid of stray animals.

Similarly, a resident of Housing Board Bhilai said that the number of stray pigs is increasing in the LIG ward. Complaint about this was also made on the toll free number. The pig owners were directed to remove the pigs.

There is a fear of harm to children due to the in-

creasing number of stray pigs. On this complaint, the Additional Collector asked the Commissioner Municipal Corporation Bhilai to take action.

Bhilai retail traders submitted an application for providing gumti and providing lease under Rajiv Gandhi Ashray Yojana. The Additional Collector asked the concerned department to take necessary action.

BMC takes action against illegal meat shops

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 11: Under its anti-encroachment drive, Bhilai Municipal Corporation took action against illegally operated chicken-mutton and fish shops.

The BMC team took action against illegally operated chicken-mutton and fish shops at various places including Baba Balaknath Temple, Kalibari Nala, Om Shanti Om Chowk, Bhagwa Chowk, Surya Mall Junwani Chowk, Junwani Nala, Junwani Petrol Pump and Khursipar.

The anti-encroachment drive was carried out on Monday against the road-



side vendors, pull carts and kiosks located near Traffic Squares, which create traffic congestions on the GE Road and other major roads.

At the Kasai Mohalla near Sheelta Complex Power House area, the illegal construction done by putting tin shed over the drain was demolished

with JCB in the presence of Revenue Officer and Zone Commissioner and the advertisement gate installed for a long time on GE Road was removed.

The BMC team removed the vehicle parked for sale on the service road from Saksharta Chowk. An e-vehicle seller had installed a temporary umbrella for the display of electric vehicles.

The team confiscated the umbrella and imposed a fine. The officials of the Traders Association gave their consent to remove the temporary shed installed in front of the old employment office in the Power House Vegetable Market.

Seminar on coping with exam stress organised at SAGES Jamul

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 11: St Thomas College Kailash Nagar hosted a seminar on 'Examination Stress and Its Coping Strategies' for students from Swami Atmanand Government English Medium School, Jamul, on December 9, 2023.

Dr Prateek Sharma, Assistant Professor of Commerce at St Thomas College, served as the plenary speaker, addressing the importance of coping with stress and offering strategies for effective preparation.



The event, chaired by Fr Dr Joshi Varghese, the college administrator, and Dr Mariam Jacob, the college principal, began with a heartfelt college prayer led by students. The Principal delivered the welcome speech, setting the tone for an insightful discussion

on managing exam stress.

Dr Prateek Sharma emphasized the significance of maintaining physical health for mental well-being, suggesting activities like yoga and meditation. He advocated understanding-based learning over memorization to alle-

viated stress and recommended following a structured timetable.

The seminar, conducted through a PowerPoint presentation, concluded with Dr Sharma extending best wishes to students facing upcoming exams and encouraging them to manage stress effectively.

Varidhi Pandey, Assistant Professor of Commerce, presented the seminar, while the vote of thanks was delivered by Divya Soni, Assistant Professor in the computer science department. The event concluded with the national anthem.

DSCET partners in organising International Conference at Pondicherry

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 11: Dev Sanskriti College of Education and Technology (DSCET), Khapri, Durg organized an International Conference on Multidisciplinary Research for Local to Global Innovation on November 25 in Pondicherry India.

Theme of this International Conference was Future Innovation & Sustainable Development for Asian Countries. DSCET co-partnered with Shri Aurobindo Yoga

Knowledge Foundation to organise this conference. Rene Junssen from the Netherlands and Kathy from Australia were the resource persons.

More than 100 scholars presented their research papers in the conference through online and offline mode. A total of 8 teachers from DSCET presented their research papers.

Out of them, five teachers from the college participated by being physically present in the conference. DSCET Director Jyoti Sharma also attended the conference and gave a brief in-

roduction of her college.

She discussed the objective and importance of the conference and expressed her gratitude for the successful contribution made by all the teachers of the college.

There was in-depth discussion in the conference on how students and teachers should work for the sustainable development of innovation in the current circumstances. The conference was beneficial for all. DSCET expressed its gratitude to Sri Aurobindo Society for organizing the conference successfully.

Annual prize distribution ceremony organised in SSS-7

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 11: The annual prize distribution ceremony of BSP Senior Secondary School Sector-7 was organised in the school auditorium. Chief guest of the ceremony was Pawan Kumar, ED (P&A) BSP and the entire programme was held under the guidance of Ruby Burman Roy, Principal of Senior Secondary School, Sector-07.

Other guests present were Jitendra Yadav Sapkal (TSD&CSR), Shikha Dubey, GM (Education), Rajendra Prasad, DGM (Education), Principal of SSS-X Sumita Sarkar along with parents in large number. PTA President, senior lecturer also gave enthusiastic participation.

The chief guest first inspected the displays of various competitions organised such as rangoli, salad and flower arrangement etc. later, in his address he praised the school for being a leader in academic as well as cocurricular ac-



tivities. He said that students should give importance to discipline in their life by following social and moral values. Students were also asked to adopt yoga education in their daily life. He also urged the parents of the students to try to make their children good citizens of the country.

After this, the Principal of the school, Ruby Burman Roy presented the annual report and gave details of the school's achievements of this session. Deputy Chairman of Parent Teacher Committee, Mohd Afsar Ali gave welcome address. In the

prize distribution ceremony, students who secured first, second and third positions in various competitions were awarded. Students who performed excellently at inter-school and school level were rewarded. The best performing players at international, national and state level were also rewarded.

D Suyash was awarded for his best performance at international level in stand ball competition. Along with this, 20 students who performed excellently at the national level and 16 students at the state level were awarded.



Namrata Mohe (94 percent) and Anurag Meshram (91 percent), students of class 12th and 10th respectively, who performed excellently in CBSE board, were honoured.

Apart from this, for the session 2023-24, 5 teachers of the school, Lakshmi Narayan, Neena Sehgal, Alva Baidya, Govardhan Sahu and Swarnjali Mishra were awarded the DIC Award for special cooperation. All the members of the Parent Teacher Committee were honoured for their active contribution and cooperation throughout the year.

Colourful cultural programs were presented by the students of the school. The captivating Kathak dance and Marathi, Gujarati and Sambalpur folk dance presented by the students enthralled all the spectators. Yoga skills were taught by the Yoga Group.

The program was conducted by senior lecturer Namita Deshpande and Dr Sheetal Chandra Sharma. Vote of thanks was given by Anita Ashok, senior lecturer of the school. All the teachers and students had a special contribution in making the program successful.

DAV IPS hosts DAV Cluster Level Sports tournament



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 11: DAV Ispat Public School Sector 2 hosted the 2 day DAV Cluster Level Sports tournament 2023 in its premises. The inauguration took place on December 03, 2023. The function was graced by dignified guests including Chief Guest Tapas Dasgupta, Chairman LMCD VAV IPS Sec-2, Guest of Honour Prashant Kumar, DRO DAV Institutions, CG Zone A. Among the other esteemed guests were Dr BP Sahu, Assistant Regional Officer, CG Zone D, Rajkumar Sharma, Principal DAV Monnet Raipur, Ravi Bhaskaran, Principal DAV ACC JAMUL, Pradeep Dwivedi,

Parents & Representative LMC.

The inauguration ceremony began with the traditional custom of applying Tilak to all the guests followed by a floral welcome, the Rajgeet by the school's Choir group and DAV Anthem. The Cluster Sports Level had a total gathering of 17 schools with around 800 participants from 10 different districts. This gathering brings about a special bonding of students with sports and helps them to imbibe virtues which are presently needed for character building and nation building.

The official start was given to the day by hoisting of the Sports Flag, then lighting of the torch, thereafter, an oath being



taken by all the sports participants present in the ground. The Oath was read out by the Sports Captain of the school Aadarsh Kumar. The official Declaration of the Sports Meet Open was made by the Chief Guest of the day Tapas Dasgupta. The Chief Guest in his address to the gathering briefed the gathering about the benefits of sports and the advantages that we get from them.

The Sports Meet was categorised in three levels; under 24, under 17 and under 19. A total of 25 events were included few of which were football, cricket, kabaddi, badminton, chess, athletics conducted on the inaugural day. The other sports events to be held on

the second day were shot put, boxing, basketball. The second day was graced by the presence of Prashant Kumar, Deputy Regional Officer DAV Institutions CG ZONE A, Dr BP Sahu, Assistant Regional Officer, CG Zone D, Rajkumar Sharma, Principal Monnet DAV Public School Raipur, Ravi Bhaskaran, Principal DAV ACC Jamul, P Jaiswal, Principal DAV Janta.

The Track and Field events along with High Jump, Long Jump, Discus and many more other events were conducted. The Valedictory Ceremony commenced with the Rajgeet, DAV Anthem followed by the Felicitation of the School

Championship Winners and Runners Up with the School Championship Trophy.

The following were the schools that bagged the championship trophy: Under 14 Category: Winners Championship Trophy to Monnet DAV PS Raipur and Runners Up Trophy to DAV MMPS Janta; Under 17 Category: Winners Championship Trophy to DAV IPS Nandini and Runners Up Trophy to DAV PS Bilaspur; Under 19 Category: Winners Championship Trophy to DAV PS Rajnara and Runners Up Trophy to DAV PS Bilaspur.

The DRO Prashant Kumar in his address to the gathering started the importance and the significance of such sports meet where students learn a lot and also discover their hidden strength. This was followed by the Lowering of the Flag, Putting Out of the Torch and the official declaration of the Sports Meet Closed by DRO. The day came to its conclusion with the Shanti Path and the National Anthem.

Bichpuriya thanks top leadership for selecting Vishnu Deo Sai as CM



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Dec 11: Bharatiya Janata Party District President Brajesh Bichpuriya has expressed gratitude towards the Bharatiya Janata Party top leadership including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, National President JP Nadda, Home Minister Amit Shah, Chhattisgarh in-charge Om Prakash Mathur, Co-in-charge Mansukh Mandaviya, Regional Organization Secretary Ajay Jamwal, In-charge Nitin Nabeen, Organization General Secretary Pawan Sai, State President Arun Sao and former Chief Minister Dr Raman Singh for selecting the popular tribal leader Vishnu Deo Sai as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

The party has given a very big gift to all the BJP workers and people of Chhattisgarh as well as to the tribal community. Bichpuriya said that the senior popular leader Vishnu Deo Sai was elected MLA twice and MP four times. He fulfilled the responsibility of State President thrice. He has a clean image and has fulfilled the responsibility of Steel Minister in the Centre. It is a matter of great joy that the party selected him as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh. On the behalf of BJP District-Bhilai, Bichpuriya extended greetings to Vishnu Deo Sai and hoped that Chhattisgarh will move forward with full speed and will create new dimensions of development under the leadership of the new chief minister. BJP Bhilai President Brajesh Bichpuriya shared a memorable photograph with Chief Minister Designate Vishnu Deo Sai when he visited Bhilai as MoS for Steel and attended the program of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh. Sai had honoured Bichpuriya for being the most senior BMS worker at this programme.

OBITUARY

Kanti Jain



Bhilai: Kanti Jain, wife of Late Surendra Kumar Jain, left for heavenly abode at the age of 88 years on Monday. Funeral procession will be taken out from her residence located at 48/7, Nehru Nagar (West) on December 11 around 11:00 hrs and last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at Ramnagar Muktidham. She was the mother of Sanjay Jain and CA Anil Jain.

PM launches Viksit Bharat @2047 Ideas

New ideas of youth have to be included in nation building: Gov

Workshop on voice of youth held at Raj Bhavan



Raipur, Dec 11: Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Viksit Bharat @2047 Ideas initiative in New Delhi today. The virtual telecast of this program was organized at Raj Bhavan. A workshop on voice of youth was also organized to connect the youth with the 'Viksit Bharat' Vision-2047. In the workshop, topics like Viksit Bharat (developed India), empowered Indian, prosperous and sustainable economy, good governance and security, and India in the world etc. will be discussed.

In his virtual address, Modi called for making this vision a mass movement to create a new India

and a new world. Addressing the eminent personalities of the education world, Prime Minister Modi highlighted the role of educational institutions in building personality. According to him building personality leads to nation building. Today every youth should take a pledge that whatever they do, they will do it for building a developed India, Modi said. He said that universities played an important role in spreading new consciousness for independence. Today universities have to consider that India should move forward rapidly to become developed, said the Prime Minister.

er they do, they will do it for building a developed India, Modi said. He said that universities played an important role in spreading new consciousness for independence. Today universities have to consider that India should move forward rapidly to become developed, said the Prime Minister.

Addressing the scholars present in the workshop, Governor Harichandan stressed the need for working work in mission mode to make India developed by 2047. It is important to invite the youth to contribute to this mission and involve their innovative ideas in nation building, he said, adding that academicians of the university should think about this. It is 'Amrit Kaal' for the country, he said. Over the years, there has been massive expansion in social and economic infrastructure through comprehensive education and universities, IITs, IIMs, medical and nursing colleges, skill development and many other schemes and policies, he said.

The Governor said that with a population of 144 crore, India is one of the youngest countries with an average age of 29 years. This is approximately 20 percent of the total youth population of

the world, he said, adding that this is a huge opportunity, which is likely to last until 2047 and with its utilization it is possible to take India forward as a developed and strong India.

Scholars from various universities delivered lectures on the 2047 vision of a developed India. Dr. Sarita Agrawal, Dean of AIIMS Raipur; Dr. Rajesh Ingle, Dean of IIIT Naya Raipur; Dr. Amit Dubey, scientist of Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology; Dr. Sameer Vajpayee of NIT Raipur; Shashank Jakhodia, Dr. Ravindra Kumar Singh, Dr. Vivek Kumar Tripathi of Indira Gandhi Agricultural University attended the programme. Secretary to the Governor Amrit Kumar Khalkho, Deputy Secretary Deepak Agrawal, Vice Chancellors, Deans, Faculty Members and Professors of all the universities of the state were present in the programme.

DRI Raipur, intercepted 3 passengers

Carrying gold in paste form worth Rs 1.06 cr



seized under relevant provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, by DRI. Further investigation is in progress. It is observed that recently, smugglers have been using domestic leg of international flights to escape the chance of being caught.

Raipur, Dec 11: DRI Bhopal officers intercepted one of the passengers traveling from Indigo Flight 6E 6971 from Goa to Bhopal scheduled to land at 12.15 pm at Raja Bhoj Airport, Bhopal on December 7, 2023. The said flight was the domestic leg of the International Flight from Abu Dhabi to Goa. The smuggled gold was concealed in International Flight from UAE to Goa. Personal Search of the intercepted passenger, a middle-aged man, resulted in recovery of gold in paste form weighing at 1091 grams, which was fastened around his body. The recovered gold paste yielded 791.40 grams gold of 99.98% purity valued at Rs 49.42 lakh.

In another case, acting on specific intelligence, officers of DRI Raipur, intercepted 3 passengers who had arrived at Raipur airport from Lucknow via Indigo flight on December 10, 2023. Search of these intercepted passengers

resulted in the recovery of 1894.22 grams of gold in paste form in packets which were concealed in their clothes. The gold paste yielded 1725.52 grams of gold of 99.99% purity, valued at Rs.1,06,58,537. In their voluntary statements, the intercepted Pax admitted to be carrying gold in paste form and further informed that this gold was brought and concealed in the flight on its international run from Sharjah to Lucknow and then during the domestic leg of the same flight from Lucknow to Raipur this concealed gold was then retrieved by these passengers. The said Passenger were arrested at Raipur on December 11, 2023 under relevant provisions of the Customs Act, 1962. The smuggled gold from both the cases has been

Chhattisgarh cadre IPS JS Meena is new DIG-CBI

Raipur, Dec 11: Jitendra Singh Meena, a senior Indian Police Service officer of Chhattisgarh cadre, has been appointed as Deputy Inspector General (DIG) in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Jitendra Singh Meena is a 2007 batch IPS officer. Central Government has issued an order in this regard. According to the order issued, his appointment has been for a period of five years. It is notable that Jitendra Singh Meena is currently posted as Senior Superintendent of Police in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh. Earlier, Chhattisgarh cadre IPS Amit Kumar has held the responsibilities of SP, DIG and Joint Director (Policy) in CBI.

SC's decision on Article 370 is India's victory: Sai

Newly appointed CM of Ch'garh congratulates Modi-Shah



Raipur, Dec 11: Chhattisgarh's newly appointed Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai described the Supreme Court's decision to abrogate Article 370 as historic and said that the Supreme Court upholding the decision taken by the Parliament of India on August 5, 2019 is a victory for India. This is a wonderful declaration of hope, progress and unity for our brother and sisters in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. He said that this is not just a legal decision. This is a testament to our collective resolve to build a united India. Congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for this victory.

Chhattisgarh's newly appointed CM Vishnu Deo Sai said that we have been saying since 1950 that two flags, two constitutions and two heads will not work in one country. There will be only one flag, one constitution and one head in one country. We had promised the people of the country that by removing Article 370, the entire people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh will be united with India and this part of India will be completely developed. CM designate Vishnu Deo Sai said that BJP's

Modi government abolished Article 370 to give real independence to Jammu and Kashmir. We accomplished what we said. And, today the Supreme Court of the country has upheld the decision taken by the Parliament of India under the guidance of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah and has confirmed that the BJP's Modi government has done justice to Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, for which the people there were yearning since independence. Now there is a new Jammu and Kashmir in the country and the credit for its creation goes to our ancestors along with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who sacrificed for Kashmir and inspired the BJP to fight for the real independence of Kashmir.

Every Time You PAY TAX, You Take INDIA AHEAD.

Youth files fabricated loot incident of Rs 14 lakh

Action taken after acceptance by him through interrogation by police

Raipur, Dec 11: A youth along with his friend filed a fabricated story about the looting incident of Rs 14 lakh and this was brought into open when the Saraswati Nagar police held talks with the youth and he could not make the story true and came out clear-cut truth. The police has taken the youth under arrest.

It is notable here that one Saket Tiwari was given Rs 14 lakh by his father and asked him to deposit it into his sister's account. But Saket instead of

depositing the amount, kept the cash hidden inside the mattress of his bed and then fabricated the story about looting before his father. He said that he was carrying the cash amount in a bag and it was looted by some unknown person.

When his father filed this report in Saraswati Nagar Police thana, then the police called Saket and strictly interrogated him about the incident, but he could not keep the false report on hold for long and broke down and accepted his crime. He brought back the cash of Rs 14 lakh kept hidden in his bed and gave it to the police. The police has taken action against Saket Tiwari in this case.

Cong party to take disciplinary action: Shukla

Raipur, Dec 11: The statements being made by some officials and workers in the party against senior leaders and each other cannot be accepted. Congress communication chief Sushil Anand Shukla said that all the workers remained within the ambit of discipline. Do not give any kind of statement in the media. Public statements made against any party official or worker come under the ambit of indiscipline. The party leadership mentioned in strong words that any kind of indiscipline will not be tolerated. Everyone should remain patient and express their views on the party forum. Action will be taken against those who make public statements and make counter-allegations.

Archery has importance in Mahabharata and Ramayana: Munda

Raipur, Dec 11: National President of Indian Archery Association and Union Minister Arjun Munda reached the Science College grounds in Raipur. On this occasion, he was welcomed by Chhattisgarh Archery Association with band music and fireworks. Archery Association President, Kailash Murarka welcomed him with flower garland. On this occasion, Director of Sports and Welfare, Shweta Singh also welcomed. On the occasion, coaches, players and officials of the Archery Association were present. The people of Agarwal community congratulated the Union Minister by giving him a memento. On



this occasion, Indian Archery Association President Arjun Munda said that the importance of archery and about its diversity is also there in Mahabharata and Ramayana.

Indian archers are bringing medals at international level. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is making continuous efforts to promote sports. He

has been inviting international level medal winning players to enhance their respect. Murarka told that after his address, the Union Minister met each of the players and got introduced. On this occasion, Sunil Sharma, Vicky Sharma, all the staff of sports and youth welfare were present as officials of the association and in-charge of SAI was present.

Taxpayers liable to pay Advance Tax

- Any assessee, including salaried employee, whose tax liability for the financial year as reduced by tax deducted/collected at source is ₹ 10,000/- or more.

Mode of Payment

- e-Payment is mandatory for all corporates and also those assesseees whose accounts are required to be audited u/s 44 AB of the Income-tax Act, 1961.
- e-Payment is convenient for other taxpayers also as it ensures correct credit.

SCHEDULE

Due Date	Amount
On or before 15th December, 2023	75% of the Advance Tax payable

Pay your 3rd instalment of advance tax by

15th December, 2023



For e-Brochures scan QR code



Income Tax Department
Central Board of Direct Taxes
For more information, please visit: www.incometax.gov.in



For more information scan QR code

GREETINGS TO CM



Raipur: The Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain and DGP Ashok Juneja paid courtesy call on CM designate Vishnu Deo Sai and extended greetings to him.

Role of youth and teachers is important in building a developed nation: Prof. Chakrawal

Bilaspur, Dec 11: Launching the 'Developed India @2047: Voice of Youth' portal under the Developed India Campaign at 10.30 am on December 11, 2023 at Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (a Central University), the illustrious Prime Minister, Narendra Modi said that this portal has been presented among the youth to make the country a leading developed nation of the world by 2047.

Expressing his views on the address of the Prime Minister, Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal highlighted the pivotal role of teachers and students in achieving the goal of making a developed India by 2047. It is possible to achieve this goal easily by inspiring the youth's energy in a positive direction and in-



stilling a sense of duty in them.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakrawal, while talking about Young India, said that by 2047, the country will have the highest youth population who will work with full dedication and ability to achieve the goals of a developed India. Professor Chakrawal said that the Prime Minister emphasized that these goals can be achieved only through education, therefore, through youth dialogues and group discussions in educational campuses, all the youth should

send their ideas for a developed India through this portal. Referring to the Prime Minister's address, Vice-Chancellor Professor Chakrawal said that the educational campuses of India will be the cradle of developed India, hence the role of teachers is very important in achieving this resolution.

Arrangements made at five places in the university:

The arrangements for the audience at the launch of Bharat Abhiyan Portal @2047 developed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi

were made at various locations within the university, including the Rajat Jayanti Auditorium, E-Class Room in the New IT Building, Central Library, the Smart Class Room in the Biotechnology Department as well as in the conference hall located in the administrative building of the university.

After the above address, discussions and group discussions were organized at various places in the university on the topic of building a developed India. A large number of teachers and students participated and expressed their views in the discussions and group discussions. On this occasion, a large number of students along with Deans of various Schools, Heads of Departments, teachers, officers, and employees were present to listen to the Prime Minister's address.

CM-designate Sai offers prayers at Ram temple

Raipur, Dec 11: Chhattisgarh Chief Minister-designate Vishnu Deo Sai on Monday visited the Ram Mandir in Raipur and prayed for the development and prosperity of the state.

Sai, the prominent tribal face of the Bharatiya Janata Party in the state, was on Sunday elected as the legislative party leader during the meeting of 54 newly-elected BJP MLAs here.

On Sunday evening, Chhattisgarh Governor Biswambhanu Harichandan invited 59-year-old Sai to form government and handed him a letter pertaining to his appointment as the chief minister after the BJP submitted a letter formally staking a claim.

On Monday, Sai visited the Ram Mandir on the VIP Road in state capital Raipur and offered prayers.

"He wished for the all-



round development of the state and happiness and prosperity of the people," a statement issued by the state public relations department said.

"I wish that Chhattisgarh would reach a key position in terms of inclusive growth of all sections of the society and development in the country," Sai said. According to officials, the swearing-in ceremony of the new CM is likely to take place on December 13 at the Science College ground here.

In the recently-concluded polls, the BJP won 54 out of the total 90 assembly seats in the state. The Congress, which won 68 seats in 2018, was reduced to 35 seats this time. The Gondwana Gantantra Party managed to win one seat.

One arrested in case of fraud in the name of awarding contracts

Raipur, Dec 11: The director of a company that allegedly defrauded crores of rupees in the name of awarding contracts under Bharat Amrit Yojana has been arrested.

The company's director Kavish Gupta was arrested from Delhi and brought to Raipur by the police. According to information available KK Spun Private Ltd did not pay Rs 1 crore 24 lakh to Ansh Infrastructure Developers for works. Two other directors Himanshu Gupta and Vinod Kumar Mittal are still at large. Fraud offence was registered in Vidhan Sabha Police Station.

CECB conducts Public Hearing for NTPC Sipat Stage-III



Raipur, Dec 11: Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board (CECB) organised public hearing for NTPC Sipat stage-III (1 x 800MW Ultra Super Critical Technology Project) at Sipat village on December 11, 2023. People from project affected villages, locals representative, stakeholders and officials gathered in large numbers wherein RA Kuruvanshi, Additional collector, Bilaspur and Mrs Rashmi Shrivastava Regional Officer (CECB) presided over the hearing. In his opening remark, Pankaj Sharma, DGM

(EMG) welcomed the dignitaries and public besides highlighting the unique features of the Stage-III. Based on Ultra Super Critical Technology, the Stage-III unit consumes less coal compared to conventional unit and thus making it environment friendly. Set up with an approximate Project Cost of Rs. 7000 crore, the Stage-III does not require any additional land. Also no additional water allocation is needed. The project is coming up with existing land and allocated water. Sharing their opinion and concern, public ex-

pressed NTPC Sipats ongoing activities for the welfare of the nearby villagers. They further requested the management to increase the welfare budget for overall development of the needy people in the surrounding villages.

With coming up of the Stage-III, the total capacity of NTPC Sipat Power Station will increase to 3780 MW. Presently, the station is generating 2980 MW through Five Units setup earlier under Stage-I & II. With increased capacity, NTPC-Sipat is not only committed for development of the country but the state also.

NTPC is committed to upholding the highest standards of business excellence and social responsibility. The successful culmination of the public hearing reaffirms the company's commitment to power India's growth responsibly.

Yog Guru Dr Hansa Yogendra in capital on Dec 16



Raipur, Dec 11: The director of Yoga Institute, Yoga Guru and writer Dr Hansa Yogendra (76) will be arriving in Raipur from Mumbai on December 16. Dr Yogendra after reaching Raipur at 9 am will visit The Yog Institute Shankar Nagar here and between 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm will address her followers. Raipur head Manjit Sthapak said, their institute is working for the promotion of yoga and to build a healthy society. He added, it is a matter of happiness that Dr Yogendra is coming to Raipur and her followers are waiting to listen her.

MemoRia '23 - IIM Raipur's annual alumni homecoming held



Raipur, Dec 11: Indian Institute of Management Raipur (IIM Raipur) hosted its much-anticipated Annual Alumni Homecoming, MemoRia '23, on 9th and 10th December '23, which brought together esteemed alumni from across the country to celebrate the spirit of reunion and progress. The event commenced with the presence of key dignitaries, including Prof. Ram Kumar Kakani, Director of IIM Raipur, Prof. Archana Parashar, Chairperson of the Alumni Association,

Prof. Satyasiba Das, Dean External Affairs, Prof. Rashmi Shukla, Chairperson of Placement, and Col. Harindra Tripathi (Retd.), CAO, among others. The inauguration ceremony marked the presence of the alumni and their families, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie.

An Annual General Body meeting was conducted, where the leadership of IIM Raipur and the representatives of the various city chapters of the Alumni Association deliberated on the upcoming events and the required



amendments, charting a course for their future endeavors. The first day concluded with a campus tour, a delightful gala dinner where students from the current batch showcased cultural performances, and a vibrant DJ Night that fostered connections and nostalgia.

Continuing the momentum, the second day started with a spirited Plantation Drive within the campus, symbolizing the commitment to sustainability shared by the alumni community.

The enthusiastic participation of alumni and their families echoed the spirit of giving back to the institution. The day continued with an engaging Student Alumni Interaction session, where distinguished

alumni from diverse domains shared insights with the first-year students (PGP 23-25). A special session dedicated to personal financing was conducted by one of the alumni, Mr. Piyush Rakhecha, Founder of Royal Eastern Financial Services. It empowered students with essential financial knowledge for their professional journey ahead. This session was designed to enhance Personal Finance Awareness through a unique and interactive approach - "The Volatility Game." IIM Raipur community was delighted to host its alumni, creating indelible memories and reinforcing the bonds between its students and alumni.

Prabhtej Bhatia in BCCI's esteemed Committee member for Women's Premier League

Raipur, Dec 11: Former President of Chhattisgarh State Cricket Sangh (CSCS) and Sports Administrator Prabhtej Bhatia has been inducted into the distinguished committee who will play a pivotal role in steering the Women's Premier League (WPL) towards new heights.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced the committee which brings a wealth of experience, passion for women's sports, and a shared commitment to promoting excellence in women's cricket. It stated that apart from Prabhtej Bhatia from Chhattisgarh, Madhumati Lele is the another inclusion in the WPL Committee whereas the BCCI President Roger Binny would be the Chairperson whereas Secretary Jay Shah would be the Convenor of the committee. Arun Dhumal, IPL Chairperson, Rajeev Shukla, BCCI vice-president, Ashish Shelar, BCCI Treasurer and Devajit



Saikia, BCCI Jt. Secretary are the ex-officio members of the committee.

The committee hails from diverse backgrounds and the BCCI believes their collective expertise and passion for fostering women's cricket make them an invaluable asset to the Women's Premier League.

The committee members are enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to the growth and success of the Women's Premier League. They look forward to collaborating with stakeholders, players, and fans to create a vibrant and competitive environment that showcases the immense talent within women's cricket.

Rana appeals to parents not to create pressure on students



Raipur, Dec 11: Navras was the theme of Abhivyakti 2023 in NH Goel World School, Ginni devi Block Raipur. The Grand gala of festivities was inaugurated by Rajesh Singh Rana IAS Director SCERT. With an intent to showcase the inherent talent of all the students and to embody the spirit of inclusivity, students of grade Sr KG to 9 participated enthusiastically in every segment of Abhivyakti 2023. From being an emcee to actors, dancers, exhibitors, volunteers, artists, etc. students exhibited the excellence in their training, mentoring and nurturing. A brilliant and vivid display of exhibition with working and

non-working models on various subjects based on the science and technology and Arts were presented by students.

Students were awarded for their achievements in various curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Best Sports Person Boys Ansh Puri Goswami, Best Sports Person Girls Neelam Sahu, Best Winning house - Viswas house.

In his message to the guests, parents, teachers and students the Chief Guest Rajesh Singh Rana appealed to the parents not to create pressure on students but to allow them to do what they love. He also applauded the teachers for their efforts in creating the lives of the students.

The Occasion was graced by Managing Director Rajendra Goel, Director Administration SK Tomar, Principal Mr. Dr Avinash Pandey, Vice Principal Preeti Sharma and Headmistress Milli Gupta.

IIT Bhilai observing Yuva Sangam Phase-III



Bhilai, Dec 11: The vibrant youths from the sunny state of Goa have arrived in the heart of Chhattisgarh. It is a fusion of cultures, as Goa meets Chhattisgarh under the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Yuva Sangam Phase-III'.

The students of Goa visited the IIT Bhilai campus, and they were given a glimpse of the smart campus and labs.

The IIT Bhilai campus has been awarded a GRHA 5-star rating for excellent performance



of the buildings holistically over their entire life cycle, thereby providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a 'green building'. The campus is integrated with state-of-the-art IoT and AI-based building management

systems, facilitating a net-zero campus. Yesterday evening, there was a special program in which the chief guest was Padma Shri Phoolbasan Bai Yadav. She visited along with two members of her group. She gave a mes-

merizing talk on her life, starting from her early life struggles to creating a non-governmental organization, Maa Bamleshwari Janhit Karya Samiti, known for her efforts towards the development of economically and socially backward women in Chhattisgarh. A song by the chief guest on the importance of hard work and perseverance was sung. The youths were highly motivated by the interaction. Today, the youths of Goa had an interaction with the Honourable Governor of Chhattisgarh, Shri Biswabhanu Harichandan, in the Raj Bhavan.

AM/NS to hold free eye-check from Dec 14

In different blocks Hq's of Dantewada district

Kirandul, Dec 11: ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Ltd. (AM/NS) is making all efforts for social upliftment and under CSR activities, through 'Bal Jyoti Karyakram' (free of cost eye examination) is being organised free of cost in the government schools in block hq's in Dantewada district. After the eye testing, the ArcelorMittal

Nippon Steel India Limited, Kirandul will be provided specs and medicines free of cost to the beneficiaries.

The dates for holding eye check-up camp in different blocks is as follows: 1. Dantewada - Pota Cabin Mendoli on Dec 15; Dantewada - Pota Cabin Godare on Dec 23; 2. Geedam - Girl's HS School Geedam - on Dec 19; Geedam - SAGHMS School Badetummar on Dec 20 and at Kuakonda - DAV Kirandul on Dec 21;

Kuakonda - SAGES-Hindi Medium - Palnar on Dec 22; at Katekalyan - SAGES-Hindi Medium School - Katekalyan on Dec 14 and at Katekalyan - Pota Cabin - Danikarka on Dec 16.

PR Department of ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel Company informed that the company is making such efforts on regular basis. Be it in the field of Health, Education and awareness, and Sports, the Company is taking lot of initiatives under CSR activities and it is bringing positive results.

PKF launches Ayodhya chapter 'Implement mobile video conferencing in all high courts at the earliest'

With the unveiling of Anant Vijay's book

Ayodhya, Dec 11:

Prabha Khaitan Foundation (PKF) expanded its cultural and literary footprint by launching its new Ayodhya chapter with the unveiling of journalist-author Anant Vijay's latest Hindi book - "Over the Top: OTT ka Mayajaal" at the iconic Raj Sadan - the Royal Palace of Ayodhya.



Mithlesh Nandini Sharan, Gaurav Dayal, Commissioner of Ayodhya and others. The event was followed by a session with conversationalist Manoj Rajan Tripathi engaging author Anant Vijay in a lively discussion in which the author shared stories, anecdotes and insights from his

book. Prabha Khaitan Foundation recently added New York, Bhutan and some of the major cities in the seven sister states of north-east India to expand its cultural and literary footprint to over 55 cities in India and abroad with Ayodhya - City of Lord Rama - being the latest addition. Earlier, in

July 2023, PKF had organized a three-day cultural festival, Ramayana Kala Utsav, in Ayodhya.

Blessed by the presence of Sarayu river and the sacred literary heritage of poet-saint Tulsidas' Ramcharitmanas, it was a proud and momentous occasion for Prabha Khaitan Foundation to flag off its literary journey in Ayodhya in a royal way.

Deepa Mishra, Ehsaas Woman of Lucknow, delivered the introductory speech introducing Prabha Khaitan Foundation and its multi-faceted cultural and literary initiatives. She invited notable Indian poet, music and cinema scholar, Yatindra Mishra, from the Royal Family of Ayodhya to deliver the welcome speech.

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

Noting that the facility of mobile video conference to help litigants in remote areas has been implemented in only two of the 25 high courts, a parliamentary committee on Monday has recommended that it be put in place in the remaining states at the earliest.

In its earlier report, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Law and Personnel had said that it is of the opinion that the judiciary should also consider such innovative solutions as launching mobile video conferencing facilities for the benefit of advocates and people living in remote areas. In its reply, the Department of Justice in the Union Law Ministry said that the concept of mobile video conferencing has been taken up with all the high courts. "It was also requested that Telangana High Court mobile video conferencing facilities may be looked upon as a model case," the department told the panel. According to the details shared by the department with the committee, Telangana and Himachal Pradesh high courts have implemented the recommendation. The work was "in progress" in the Calcutta,

Gauhati, Manipur, Rajasthan and Sikkim high courts, the department said. The proposal was still "under consideration" of the high court or committee of the high courts of Allahabad, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. "The Committee observes that till now only two states have implemented this recommendation and set up mobile video conferencing facility. For the rest of the states, either the work of implementa-

tion is in progress or the proposal is under submission. "The Committee, therefore, recommends that the facility of mobile video conferencing in all other high courts may be expedited so that litigants from remote and interior areas have access to fast and speedy justice," the panel noted in its 134th report on action taken on 103rd report on 'functioning of the virtual courts and court proceedings through video conferencing'.

tion is in progress or the proposal is under submission.

"The Committee, therefore, recommends that the facility of mobile video conferencing in all other high courts may be expedited so that litigants from remote and interior areas have access to fast and speedy justice," the panel noted in its 134th report on action taken on 103rd report on 'functioning of the virtual courts and court proceedings through video conferencing'.

PDP suspends political activities for one week

Srinagar, Dec 11 (PTI):

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Monday said it has suspended all its political activities for a week in the wake of the Supreme Court upholding the abrogation of Article 370. "The decision has been taken in order to stand in solidarity with the people of Jammu & Kashmir in the wake of the Supreme Court of India's Judgment of the issue of Article 370," PDP chief spokesperson Syed Suhail Bukhari said in a statement issued here. Bukhari said party president Mehbooba Mufti was scheduled to address various workers conventions as part of her ongoing public outreach programme over the next few days. "Many other political activities were also scheduled by the party. But in order to stand in solidarity with our people at this crucial juncture in the wake of the Supreme Court of India's Verdict on the issue of Article 370, we have decided to cancel all our political activities for next one week," he added. While upholding the government's decision on Article 370, a five-judge bench of the Supreme Court also directed that statehood to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir be restored at the earliest and said steps should be taken to conduct elections to the Assembly in the Union Territory by September 30 next year.

DELHI EXCISE SCAM

Court extends judicial custody of Manish Sisodia till Jan 10

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

A court here on Monday extended till January 10, 2024 the judicial custody of AAP leader Manish Sisodia in a money laundering case related to the alleged Delhi excise policy scam. Special Judge M K Nagpal also sought responses from Sisodia and other accused on an application filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) seeking permission to file additional documents in the case.

The judge directed the accused persons to file their replies to the application by December 10. The court also directed the ED to provide hard copies of the 540 pages of additional documents to the accused persons before the next hearing on January 10. During the proceedings, the court also adjourned the hearing on an application moved by the ED seeking day-to-day hearing in the matter.

The judge noted that the case is currently at the stage of scrutiny of docu-

ments and that the trial will begin after this stage is over and charges are framed against the accused persons. "The application shall be taken up at the relevant time," the judge said. Sisodia was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on February 26 for his alleged role in corruption in the formulation and implementation of the Delhi Excise Policy 2020-21. The AAP leader has been in custody since then.

The ED arrested Sisodia in a money laundering case stemming from the CBI FIR on March 9 after questioning him in Tihar jail. Sisodia, who held the excise portfolio, resigned from the Delhi cabinet on February 28. The Delhi government had implemented the excise policy on November 17, 2021 but scrapped it at the end of September 2022 amid allegations of corruption.

According to the investigating agencies, the profit margins of whole-

salers were arbitrarily increased from 5 per cent to 12 per cent under the new policy. The agencies have alleged that the new policy resulted in cartelisation and those ineligible for liquor licences were

favoured for monetary benefits.

However, the Delhi government and Sisodia have denied any wrongdoing and said the new policy would have led to an increase in revenue.

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED. Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat-362266. Branch Office - Sky Park, unit Nos 402 & 403, 4th Floor, Adjacent G E Road, Ravi Nagar, Opp. Rani Sati Mandir, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001. APPENDIX IV (See Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002) Possession Notice for Immovable Property. Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued a Demand Notice dated 28-05-2022 calling upon the borrowers Ramnarayan Lal Sahu, Kevra Sahu mentioned in the notice being of Rs. 29,29,525.09/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lacs Twenty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Five and Nine Paise Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

'No proposal on reservation in promotion for OBCs'

In central educational institutions

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

The Union Ministry of Education on Monday ruled out any proposal regarding reservation in promotion for OBCs in central educational institutions. The information was shared by Union Minister of Education for State Subhas Sarkar in response to a written question in the Lok Sabha by Manickam Tagore, the Congress MP from Virudhunagar in Tamil Nadu. "The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers Cadre) Act, 2019, provides for reservation of posts by considering the university as one unit," Sarkar said. "Also, according to the act, reservation is applicable in all the higher educational institutions except the institutions listed in the schedule and few other exceptions, as stated in the act. Further, as per this act, reservation is provided for all posts in direct recruitment in teachers' cadre in central educational institutions," he added.

Sarkar further said in his reply that, as on date, there is no proposal regarding reservation in promotion for OBCs. The minister said occurrence of vacancies and filling those is a continuous process. The vacancies arise due to retirement, resignation and additional requirements on account of enhanced students' strength. "Central universities have been directed to fill vacancies as and when arising. The onus of filling up of the posts lies with central universities,

which are autonomous bodies created under acts of Parliament," Sarkar said. "As on date, more than 6,080 faculty positions, including professor's posts, have been filled through special recruitment drives under Mission Recruitment, out of which 871 positions have been filled by Scheduled Castes (SCs), 426 by Scheduled Tribes (STs), 1,424 by Other Backward Classes (OBCs)," he added.

आम सूचना विक्रय विलेख (रजिस्ट्री पेपर) गुमा यह सूचित किया जाता है कि मेरे मुवाकिलत श्री दुर्गा प्रसाद अग्रवाल पिता स्व. श्री विश्व कुमार अग्रवाल निवासी अग्रवाल सोसायटी जे-4 रायपुर, रायपुर छात्रावास का निवासी है, के सम्बन्ध में आधिपत्य की निम्न सम्पत्तियों के विक्रय विलेख को मूल प्रति, जिसका पंजीवन दप पंजीयक कार्यालय रायपुर छ.ग. में कराया गया था, गुम हो गयी है तथा जिसकी सूचना दो ही मार था रायपुर में दिनांक 25/12/2011 को दर्ज कराया गया है। 1. प्लॉट नं. एन-15 खसरा नं. 359/1 रकबा 2400 वर्गफुट, मौजा रायपुर, विक्रय विलेख को विक्रेता श्री प्रदीप अग्रवाल व क्रेता श्री दुर्गा प्रसाद अग्रवाल के मध्य निष्पादित है, जिसका पुस्तक क्रमांक अ-1, ग्रंथ क्रमांक 49555 पृष्ठ 01 से 14 दस्तावेज क्रमांक 8051 (ख) दिनांक 03/02/2011 है। 2. प्लॉट नं. एन-16, 17 खसरा नं. 359/1 व 359 रकबा 2400 वर्गफुट है, मौजा रायपुर विक्रय विलेख को विक्रेता श्रीमती अश्वला व क्रेता श्री दुर्गा प्रसाद अग्रवाल के मध्य निष्पादित है, जिसका पुस्तक क्रमांक अ-1, ग्रंथ क्रमांक 49654 दस्तावेज क्रमांक 8629 दिनांक 14/02/2011 है, 3. प्लॉट नं. एन-04 और 05, खसरा नं. 359/1 रकबा 6320 वर्गफुट, मौजा रायपुर, विक्रय विलेख को विक्रेता श्रीमती मधुश्री अग्रवाल व क्रेता श्रीमती मीनिका मिश्र के मध्य निष्पादित है, जिसका पुस्तक क्रमांक अ-1, ग्रंथ क्रमांक 49534 दस्तावेज क्रमांक 8050 (ख) दिनांक 03/02/2011 है। वास्ते राजीव लोचन तिवारी अधिवक्ता एनआईवी, इंड्रावती कालोनी राजानासाब रायपुर (छ.ग.) फ़ोन: 70006-28794, 90093-88375

SVATANTRA MICRO HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD. Office No 1,2,3,4, Ground floor, Pushpak CHS, Malaviya Road, Vile Parle (East), Mumbai 400 057. TEL- 18001234427 / 022 26101076-79, Email : collections@mhfcindia.com. DEMAND NOTICE NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 NOTICE is hereby given that the following borrower/s who have availed loan from Svatanttra Micro Housing Finance Corporation Limited (SMHFC) have failed to pay Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs) of their loan to SMHFC and that their loan account has been classified as Non-performing Asset as per the guidelines issued by National Housing Bank. The borrower(s) have provided security of the immovable property/ies to SMHFC, the details of which are described herein below. The details of the loan and the amounts outstanding and payable by the borrower/s on date are also indicated here below. The borrower(s) as well as the public in general are hereby informed that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of SMHFC, the secured creditor has initiated action against the following borrower(s) under the provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the SARFAESI Act). If the following borrower(s) fail to repay the outstanding dues indicated against their names within 60 (Sixty) days of this notice, the undersigned will exercise any one or more of the powers conferred on the Secured Creditor under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, including power to take possession of the property/ies and sell the same. The public in general is advised not to deal with property/ies described here below.

कनारा बैंक Canara Bank. 1. Kumhari Branch, Durg (C.G.) 2. SME Branch, Raipur (C.G.) POSSESSION NOTICE [Appendix IV under the Act-Rule-8(1)] Whereas, The under signed being the Authorised officer of the Canara Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a Demand Notice was issued on the dated in the given following table calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days of receipt of said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property, described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against the account. The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the CANARA BANK (Below mentioned Branches) for the amount and interest mentioned thereon. The Borrower's / Guarantors / Mortgagee's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

इण्डियन ओवरसीज़ बैंक Indian Overseas Bank. Regional Office : 2nd Floor, Plot No.3, Malviya Nagar Opp. Patrakar Bhawan, Bhopal (M.P.)-462003. Tel: 0755-2570202 e-mail : 22531aw@iob.in E-Auction under SARFAESI Act, 2002. On 29.12.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES (under Proviso to Rule 8(6)/Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules) E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable property/ies under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical (whichever is applicable) Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Overseas Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "whatever there is" on 29.12.2023 for recovery of amount mentioned hereunder due to the Indian Overseas Bank (Secured Creditor) from the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) mentioned hereunder. The reserve price and Earnest Money deposit is mentioned hereunder. The sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the following Web Portal: https://www.mscecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi

EMD Submission Account Details : Transfer in favor of "SARFAESI SALE PARKING ACCOUNT" A/c no. 11150113035001, Indian Overseas Bank, M P Nagar Branch Code: 1115, IFSC: IOBA0001115. Schedule-1: Property Belonging to M/s. Pal Industries, Represented by its Proprietor-Mr. Brij Pal Singh Plot No. 27-C, admeasuring area 2400 Sq. fts., situated at Industrial Area Sector-H, Govindpura, Municipal Ward No.65, Tehsil-Huzur, Bhopal (M.P.) Boundaries: East - Road, West - Open Area, North - Nala, South - Plot No. 27-B The above said lands as set out in the Registered Lease Deed dated 30.04.1993 before Sub Registrar Office, Bhopal-3 in Vol. No. A-1/8738 in Doc. No. 378 with all other Appurtenances. Schedule-2: Property Belonging to M/s. Pal Industries, Represented by its Proprietor-Mr. Brij Pal Singh Back Side of Plot No. 27-C, admeasuring area 2400 Sq. fts., situated at Industrial Area, Sector-H, Govindpura, Municipal Ward No.65, Tehsil-Huzur, Bhopal (M.P.) Boundaries: East - Plot No. 27-A, West-Plot No. 27-D, North-Plot No. 27-C, South -Open land The above said lands as set out in the Registered Lease Deed dated 29.06.1995 before Sub Registrar Office, Bhopal-3 in Vol. No. A-1/10608 in Doc.No. 921/Ga with all other Appurtenances. Schedule-3: Property Belonging to M/s. Pal Industries, Represented by its Proprietor-Mr. Brij Pal Singh Property No.1: Plot No. 27-C (Plot No. 167-B area 4000 Sq. fts., Plot No. 167-C area 7000 Sq. fts., Plot No. 27-F area 5850 Sq. fts., Plot No. 27-G area 9100 Sq. fts.), total area 25950 Sq. fts., situated at Industrial Area, Sector-H, Govindpura, Municipal Ward No.65, Tehsil-Huzur, Bhopal (M.P.) The above said lands as set out in the Registered Lease Deed dated 31.03.2005 before Sub Registrar Office, Bhopal-3 in Vol. No. A-1/22082 in Doc. No. 4513 with all other Appurtenances. Property No.2: Adjoining Land of Plot No. 167-B, Plot No. 167-C and Plot No. 27-F, Plot No. 27-G, admeasuring total area 15601 Sq. fts., situated at Industrial Area, Sector-H, Govindpura, Municipal Ward No.65, Tehsil-Huzur, Bhopal (M.P.) The above said lands as set out in the Registered Lease Deed dated 31.03.2005 before Sub Registrar Office, Bhopal-3 in Vol. No. A-1/10608 in Doc.No. 921/Ga with all other Appurtenances. Property No.3: Adjoining Land of Plot No. 27-G and Plot No. 27-F admeasuring total area 2196 Sq. fts., situated at Industrial Area, Sector-H, Govindpura, Municipal Ward No.65, Tehsil-Huzur, Bhopal (M.P.) Boundaries: East - Plot No. 171-A (M/s. Guru Govind Engineering) West - Nala, North - Plot No. 27-G & 27-F (M/s. Pal Industries) - South - Plot No. 169- 169-A (M/s. Baba Engineering Co.) The above said lands as set out in the Registered Lease Deed dated 31.03.2015 before Sub Registrar Office, Bhopal-3 in Vol. No. A-1/22330 in Doc. No. 1/4604 with all other Appurtenances. * The aforesaid mortgaged properties are extended as collateral securities by way of mortgage to the credit facilities availed by M/s. Viak Sales (Proprietor-Mr. Vikas Singh, S/o. Brij Pal Singh) also. *Outstanding dues of Local Self Government (Property Tax, Water sewerage, Electricity Bills etc). 1.MPMKVV Co. Ltd. has claimed a sum of Rs. 19,97,920/- towards dues for power consumption from borrowers. (As per letter dated 20.04.2023) 2. DIC, Bhopal has claimed a sum of Rs. 26,910/- towards land rent dues and Rs. 42,54,000/- with 12% penal interest towards financial aid from the borrower M/s Pal Industries. (As per letter dated 02.11.2023) *Bank's dues (Rs.8,46,31,674/- as on 11.12.2023) have priority over the above mentioned electricity dues of MPMKVV Co. Ltd. & dues claimed by DIC, Bhopal. Bank dues will be appropriated as per the provision of law. * Bank's dues have priority over the statutory dues. Date and Time of E-Auction : 29.12.2023 (11.00 am to 1.00 pm) Bid Start Date : 13-12-2023 onwards Note : TDS applicable * In case of any sale/transfer of immovable property of Fifty lakhs and above, the transferee has to pay an amount equal to 1% of the consideration as applicable Income Tax. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, Please refer to the link provided in the following websites/ web page portal. (1) https://www.ibapi.in (2) http://www.mscecommerce.com/ (3) www.iob.in Note : This may also be treated as a Notice under Rule 8(6)/Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrower/s and guarantor/s of the said loan about holding of e-auction on the above mentioned date. Place : Bhopal Date: 12.12.2023 Authorised Officer Indian Overseas Bank

RPF rescues 261 lost children

Under Operation Nanhe Farishte

Bilaspur/Raipur, Dec 11: The Railway Protection Force (RPF) of the South East Central Railway, in a display of social responsibility and commitment to passenger safety, has successfully rescued 261 lost children, reuniting them with their families under the "Operation Nanhe Farishte" campaign. This remarkable achievement highlights the RPF's unwavering dedication to the welfare of passengers, especially women and children.

Since the inception of the campaign, 148 boys and 113 girls who were separated from their families have been rescued at various stations and trains within the jurisdiction of the South East Central Railway. The RPF's diligent efforts have not only safeguarded these minors but also ensured their safe return to their parents or placement with NGOs.



The RPF's commitment goes beyond rescues, as they continuously strive to enhance passenger safety and convenience. They have established 24-hour security helpines, women's helplines, and deployed women RPF staff

at stations and trains to prioritize the safety of women passengers. Additionally, vulnerable nighttime trains are escorted by RPF personnel to provide an extra layer of protection.

The RPF's dedication extends to maintaining a strict vigil on criminal activities such as theft of passenger luggage, drug abuse, pickpocketing, and more. Decoy Task Force teams have been deployed to curb these offenses effectively.

The public has responded positively to the RPF's efforts, reaffirming the importance of their work. The morale of the South East Central Railway's RPF officers and staff remains high, as they remain steadfast in their commitment to ensuring the security of railway passengers, passenger premises, and railway property.

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Thieves strike rich in three houses

In Gram Bagdehi; ran away with jewellery, cash worth Rs 1.75 lakh



Kurud, Dec 11: Theft in three houses in Gram Bagdehi has created sensation in the village. The thieves entered the house through the terrace and from farm-side area and opening the door of the room ran away with cash and jewellery worth Rs 1.75 lakh. The police has filed report about the theft incident and is carrying out investigation with the help of Cyber Cell.

As per information in this regard from villagers and police, the thieves strike rich on intervening night of Saturday and Sunday in Gram Bagdehi, between 12:00 mid-night and 3:00 am. It is learnt

that the complainant Rekhram S/o Dular Singh (29), the thieves entered his house in Bazarpara through terrace and ran away with silver jewellery of leg worth Rs 7000; 2 pair of 'Mangalsutra' worth Rs 10000; 10 pieces of silver 'bichia' worth Rs 10000; 1 pair of gold earrings worth Rs 10000, 4 pieces of silver rings worth 2000; 2 pieces of gold rings worth Rs 5000; 1 piece gold locket worth Rs 2000; 1 no silver coin worth Rs 1000; 3 pair of silver bangles worth Rs 500 and one mobile key-

paid phone worth Rs 1000 and cash of Rs 54000, totalling Rs 1 lakh worth of goods and jewellery.

In the same way, from house of complainant Radhika W/o Tuleshwar Sahu (22) in Sharda Chowk, the thieves entered the house from 'badi' and ran away with two pair of silver 'par-patti' worth Rs 8000; 3 pair of 'bichia' worth Rs 500; one silver ring worth Rs 1000 and a mobile worth Rs 8000 and cash worth Rs 18000, totalling Rs 35000. In the third incident, the thieves

ran away with cash of Rs 10000 kept in the room of their father in the house of Yogeshwar Sahu S/o Baisakhu Ram Sahu (25) in Sharda Chowk and ran away. It is learnt that the thieves even tried to steal things from cloth shop of Anak Ram Sahu. In this way there is theft of Rs around 1.75 lakh in all the three houses and the report was filed by the complainant in thana on Sunday. The police has filed report under section 457 and 380 and taken the matter under investigation. On getting information about the theft, SDOP KK Vajpayee, TI Birejhar check-post Tiwari, reached the site of all three incidents of theft and took on-hand situation and SDOP Vajpayee has confirmed about the theft and said that the accused would be nabbed soon.

Walkathon for Energy Conservation at NTPC Lara



Bilaspur (Lara), Dec 11: Under the observance of Energy Conservation Week 2023, a walkathon organised at NTPC LARA project on 10th December 2023. Under the guidance of Shri Diwakar Kaushik, Executive Director-NTPC Lara, employees and associates visited Maitree Nagar township, holding banners and placards to sensitize employees and associates to understand the need of energy conservation. Though NTPC is a power producing company, it always gives importance to sustainable development. Electricity generation by using conventional energy is a loss of resources. NTPC always gives importance to energy conservation and electricity generation from renewable sources. Energy conservation week is being celebrated from 8 to 14 December 2023 at NTPC Lara station by Energy Efficient Management Group.

Besides sensitizing people for energy conservation, all efforts are being taken to reduce energy consumption by adapting innovative building designs so that during daytime offices can be lit up by sunlight. Sodium halogen street lights have been replaced with LED bulbs.

On this occasion, Akhilesh Singh, GM (Operation & Maintenance), Rajeev Ranjan, GM (Fuel Management), SK Roy, GM (Operation), HODs and employees participated in this walkathon.

Farmers can inform about damage to crop on toll free No.: Sahu

Khairagarh, Dec 10:

Due to untimely rains from Michaung cyclone in the state, there are chances of damage to the paddy crop and 'dhaan karpa' and for this there is provision for claim compensation to insured farmers under PM Crop Insurance Scheme (PMICIS) for the notified crop paddy from notified village including paddy irrigated and paddy non-irrigated. In case if there is more than 25% loss to insured farmer for the harvested paddy crop spread in the farm to get it dry or in small bundle/ 'byara', due to unseasonal rains/hailstorms, cyclonic rains, then all such insured farmers will be covered under PMICIS and would be compensated for



the loss after the inspection. The farmers can inform about the same to the insurance company on toll free No. 1800-419-0344 or to 1800-11-6515 either in writing or through local Revenue/ Agriculture officer, concerned bank or district agriculture office bearer/ revenue office bearers within 72 hours of the fixed time limit along

with details of the percentage of damaged crops. In case of damage to horticulture crops, the farmers are asked to inform about the loss to the Revenue Patwari/ office bearer under Land Revenue conduct RBC-6-4a in writing.

MP's representative Bisesar Das Sahu and farmer's rep, has urged the farmers to inform the insurance company on their toll free no. or to the Revenue/ Agriculture/ concerned bank or through crop-insurance App within 72 about crop insurance details/ approximate percentage of crop loss due to rains and other details. It is after checking the affected insurance farmer about the loss that the benefits of the compensation can be given to him.

Track maintainers honoured for safe rail operations



Bilaspur, Dec 11: Safety remains paramount in the world of railways, and the dedicated efforts of railway workers do not go unnoticed. The Divisional Railway Manager, Praveen Pandey, recognized the outstanding safety contributions of two railway employees, Track Maintainer Khogasra Man Singh and Track Maintainer Umara Ramchandra. Both individuals played a pivotal role in averting potential accidents and ensuring the continued safety of railway operations. During their recent duties, Khogasra Man Singh and Umara Ramchandra demonstrated exceptional vigilance

and commitment to safety. They detected rail fractures and hot axles, promptly informing all relevant parties, preventing any potential disasters on the tracks. In a review meeting held in the Divisional Railway Manager's conference room, Praveen Pandey presented these dedicated employees with prestigious safety awards as a token of appreciation for their remarkable contributions. He also took the opportunity to congratulate the entire railway community for their unwavering dedication to safety and encouraged them to maintain their enthusiasm for future endeavours.

Legal literacy camp held in 229 CRPF Battalion



Bijapur, Dec 11: On the occasion of Human Rights Day, a legal literacy camp was organized in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh state on Dec 10. Shri Tajuddin Asif, Chief



Judicial Magistrate, Bijapur and President, Taluka Legal Service Committee, Bijapur, in collaboration with Shri Sunil Kumar Mishra, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of 229 Battalion of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), addressed the officers and soldiers of 229 Battalion on the occasion of Human Rights Day.

Judicial Magistrate, Bijapur said that every year December 10 is celebrated as Human Rights Day. This declaration was universally accepted by the United Nations General Assembly in the year 1948 to understand the importance of promotion and protection of human rights. Human rights are available to humans since birth. Human

rights are those fundamental rights which cannot be deprived of human beings on the basis of race, caste, nationality, religion, gender etc. The purpose of celebrating Human Rights Day is to make people aware of their rights; human rights also include the right to health, economic, social and education. The personnel of 229

On occasion of Human Rights Day

CRPF Battalion were especially encouraged to prevent human rights violations in relation to the general public as victims of Naxalite incidents, since District Bijapur is a Naxalite affected tribal dominated area. After explaining the importance of Human Rights Day, Tajuddin Asif Chief Judicial Magistrate also answered the questions asked by the officers and soldiers present. On the occasion of Human Rights Day, Varsha, Arun Sharma, Assistant Commandant and Corps Commandant Pushpendra Kumar and other officers and soldiers were present in the legal literacy camp.

Two die after being hit by truck



Dongargaon, Dec 11:

A youth and an aged person of Gram Diwanbhedhi died in a road accident taking place between Gram M a t h a d a b a r i - Rengkathara here on Sunday. As per information in this regard, brother of deceased youth Lalluram Sahu informed that he along with his brother and relative went to see girl for marriage in

their two-wheeler to Chilhati and were returning from there on Sunday. We were behind in our vehicle and the deceased brother Tejram in his scooty was sitting along with an aged relative person and was ahead of us. It was near Gram Mathaldabari that the Scooty bearing no. CG 07 CQ 4313 driven by Tejram S/o Dheluram Sahu (26) and his relative aged person were hit by some un-

known vehicle and both died on the spot. The eye-witness informed that the victims were hit by a truck loaded with paddy and in this both faced unfortunate death and were crushed from the head part. In this the media persons and police took their bodies to mortuary and after post-mortem on Monday, it will be handed over to the family members.

Akshat Kalash from Ayodhya reaches Kurud

Pran Pratishtha Grih Sampark campaign in Kurud underway

Kurud, Dec 11:

The Akshat Kalash, symbolizing the essence of Shri Ram's birthplace in Ayodhya, has now reached Kurud. As part of the upcoming consecration of Shri Ram Lala's life in Ayodhya on January 22, 2024, invitation letters have been dispatched to every household in all the mandals of Kurud block, extending an invitation to each family.

The grand procession of the Akshat Kalash commenced on Saturday, starting its journey from the ancient Shri Ram Temple. After a city-wide tour, the procession culminated at the Chandni Temple in the afternoon. Subsequently, the intact invitation letters



were filled in urns and distributed in every Mandal of Sangh Rachna. The entire community, along with saints and volunteers, were urged to congregate at the Shri Ram Temple to partake in the Kalash worship. This endeavour aligns with the initiation of the Shri Ram Mandir Pran Pratishtha Grih Sampark

campaign. This campaign, organized by the Kurud department committee comprising entities such as the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and affiliated organizations like Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Vidya Bharati, Bajrang Dal, and BJP, aims to reach every household between January 1 and 14, delivering invita-

tions for the consecration event. The campaign involves dedicated individuals like Convener Bhagirathi, Co-conveners Rajendra Sahu, Poshan Sahu, Dhaneshwar Nirmalkar, Jeetendra Chandakar, Nemichand Bais, Dugesh Sahu, as well as a significant number of devotees, Manas Premi, and Matrishakti.

Substandard construction plagues Jal Jeevan Mission in Pali Block

Korba, Dec 11: Concerns are mounting over the quality of construction in the Jal Jeevan Mission initiative within the Pali development block of the district. Residents in rural areas are expressing discontent as platforms for household water supply are being constructed without adherence to quality standards. In Vananchal village Gemra, Ratkhandi, the Jal Jeevan Mission scheme aims to provide water supply to homes through the installation of tap-equipped platforms. However, due to apparent negligence from departmental officials or tacit approval, contractors are conducting subpar construction work. Local villagers have alleged that during the platform's casting, the prescribed amount of cement was not used, resulting in a platform



surface showing only sand. A similar situation arose during plastering, leading to an attempt to cover substandard

work with a thick cement mortar. Villagers claim that each platform's construction is being completed using only one bag

of cement, raising concerns about their longevity and structural integrity. Some of the constructed platforms for water supply in the village under the Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme are already showing signs of deterioration, with borders beginning to crumble. This deterioration is exposing the poor construction quality. Despite the absence of a water tank and the commencement of water supply, the platforms are deteriorating prematurely. When villagers raised concerns with PHE department officials, they promised to investigate and request necessary improvements from the contractor. However, these assurances have yet to translate into tangible actions, leaving residents skeptical about the project's quality and longevity.

Bilawal moves SC for live streaming proceedings on case against Zulfikar Bhutto's death sentence

Islamabad, Dec 11 (PTI)

Pakistan People's Party chairman and ex-foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari on Monday approached the Supreme Court for live streaming of proceedings on a case seeking to revisit the controversial death sentence given to the party founder and former premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

In March 1978, a four-member bench of Lahore High Court had given the death sentence to Bhutto, which was later challenged in the Supreme Court.

In a four to three split verdict, a seven-judge apex court bench upheld the sentence during the military regime of the then-

army chief Gen Ziaul Haq in March 1979.

A nine-member larger bench of the apex court will commence on Tuesday the long-pending presidential case seeking to revisit the death sentence given to Bhutto.

The case was filed on behalf of former president Asif Ali Zardari on April 2, 2011, to seek an opinion on revisiting the death sentence given to the former premier under the Supreme Court's advisory jurisdiction.

Headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, the larger bench will consist of Justices Sardar Tariq Masood, Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Yahya Afridi, Aminud-Din Khan, Jamal Khan

Mandokhel, Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi and Musarrat Hilali. On Monday, Bilawal, through his lawyer Farooq H Naek, filed a petition in the top court requesting that the hearing of the case should be "live/on-air" so that the entire country could hear it, Dawn newspaper reported.

"The reference was filed by the then president of Pakistan namely Asif Ali Zardari, who is the father of the present applicant, hence, the applicant is the son of Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and the grandson of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was the founder of the Pakistan People's Party and a great leader of unprecedent scale, caliber,

and character," the plea said.

It stated Bhutto was "charged, convicted of conspiracy to commit murder, sentenced and executed on the testimony of an approver in the greatest miscarriage of justice that was ever to befall this country." "It is in order to remove this stain and correct the wrong in history that the applicant has preferred the instant reference to bring on record the reality of the life of his grandfather, hence, the applicant wants that the hearing of this case, should be live/on Air, so that the whole Pakistan can hear it and this would be transparent for everyone," the application said.

PIANO PERFORMANCE



Alicia Keys performs on Elton John's piano during a surprise performance at Kings Cross station on Monday.

Shooting of Sikh family in Canada a possible case of mistaken identity

Ottawa, Dec 11 (PTI)

A Sikh family from India who was targeted last month in a shooting spree in the Canadian province of Ontario that killed one person was possibly a case of mistaken identity, provincial police have said.

Jagtar Singh, 57, was killed while his wife Harbhajan Kaur, 55, and their daughter were critically injured during a shooting on Mayfield Road near Airport Road, along the Caledon-Brampton border, on November 21.

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and paramedics upon arrival found Jagtar Singh dead on the scene, and rushed Kaur and their daughter to hospital with life-threatening injuries, the Toronto Star newspaper reported on Monday.

Officers are investigating "all aspects of this homicide, including whether or not the victims of this crime were intended targets or not", OPP Detective Inspector Brian McDermott said.

"It is still too early to make any firm determinations on that aspect."

According to a source close to the victims who spoke on condition of anonymity, the family wants to make clear that they were not involved in anything that might have led to the November 20 shooting in the home they were renting.

Describing them as "innocent" and ordinary people, the source said the victims did not have any ties to criminal activity and had no connection to an illegal trucking operation at the same address, which had recently been shut

down by the Town of Caledon. The source said the man and his wife were visiting family from India when they were shot.

The source said the family believes the attackers who stormed into the home that night were looking for someone else. "They mistakenly shot this family thinking it was (that person's) family," they said.

Investigators have not said whether the shooting was linked to the business.

The source said the family was not connected to the business and was simply renting the upper part of the house. The basement unit was also being rented out. "This was a normal family," a representative of Gurudwara Jot Parkash Sahib, a Sikh place of worship in Brampton, said days after the shooting.

9 suspected terrorists arrested in Pakistan's Punjab

Lahore, Dec 11 (PTI)

Pakistani security agencies on Monday claimed to have foiled a "major terror plot" and arrested nine suspected terrorists of banned outfits including the Islamic State, Al-Qaeda and Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan in the country's Punjab province. In a statement, the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of Punjab police said that it conducted 70 intelligence-based operations in different districts of the province during the last week in which nine terrorists were arrested with weapons, explosives and other prohibited materials. The arrested terrorists belong to the banned organisations Daesh (Islamic State), Al-Qaeda, Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi. They were arrested from

Lahore, Bahawalnagar, Sialkot, Gujranwala and Hafizabad.

The CTD said that explosive materials, two hand grenades, one IED bomb, banned literature and cash have been recovered from the possession of the terrorists.

"The terrorists had planned to sabotage across the province and wanted to target important installations," it said, adding that the police have registered eight cases against the terrorists and shifted them to an unknown location for interrogation.

The CTD early this month had arrested 14 terrorists mostly belonging to ISIS and TTP in Punjab.

There has been a presence of sleeper cells of ISIS militants in Punjab, but the Pakistani government often denies their presence in the country's most populous province.

Rescuers have recovered 11 bodies after landslides at a Zambia mine

Lusaka (Zambia), Dec 11 (AP)

Eleven informal miners have been confirmed dead and their bodies retrieved from an open-pit copper mine in Zambia after landslides buried them in tunnels they were digging last month. One survivor has been found but up to 26 others remain missing and are feared dead nearly two weeks after the disaster. Rescuers announced the latest death toll late on Sunday. The survivor, a 49-year-old man, was pulled out from underneath the debris last week and is recovering in the hospital, said the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit, which is overseeing the rescue operation.

Rescuers also retrieved the first two bodies last week. Nine more were recovered this weekend, the disaster management unit said.

Government officials say as many as 38 miners might have been buried under the landslides at the mine near the city of Chingola, on Zambia's copper belt, although they aren't certain of the exact number.

They have been relying on families to report missing relatives and fears were growing that the death toll could rise to more than 30.

"Efforts to recover the remaining accident victims are ongoing," the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit said in a statement.

The disaster happened on November 30 when heavy rain caused landslides and the miners were buried in three separate tunnels while working in them late at night. The

rain also caused the area around the tunnels to be flooded and rescuers have had to pump out water from the site as well as clear rocks and earth. The army has been helping with the rescue operation.

The miners are believed to have been digging for copper ore illegally without the knowledge of the mine owner, making it difficult for authorities to know exactly how many were trapped underground.

Zambia is among the top 10 copper producers in the world. Chingola, which is around 400 kilometers (250 miles) north of the capital, Lusaka, has large open-pit mines, some of them stretching for kilometers (miles).

They are surrounded by huge waste piles of rocks and earth that have been dug out of the mines.

Iraq scrambles to contain fighting between US troops and Iran-backed groups

Baghdad, Dec 11 (AP)

Dozens of attacks on US military facilities by Iran-backed factions in Iraq over the past two months have forced the government in Baghdad to perform a balancing act that is becoming more difficult by the day.

A rocket attack on the sprawling US Embassy in Baghdad on Friday marked a further escalation as Iraqi officials scramble to contain the ripple effects of the Israel-Hamas war.

Iran holds considerable sway in Iraq and a coalition of Iran-backed groups brought Iraqi Prime Minister

Mohammed Shia al-Sudani to power in October 2022. But at the same time, there are some 2,000 US forces stationed in Iraq under an agreement with Baghdad, mainly to counter the extremist Islamic State group.

Baghdad also relies heavily on Washington's sanctions waivers to buy electricity from Iran, and since the US invasion of Iraq in 2003, Iraq's foreign currency reserves have been housed at the US Federal Reserve, giving the Americans significant control over Iraq's supply of dollars.

Al-Sudani's predecessors also had to walk a delicate line between Tehran

and Washington, but the Israel-Hamas war has considerably upped the stakes.

Since the onset of the war on October 7, at least 84 attacks on US bases in Iraq and Syria have been claimed by an umbrella group of Iran-backed Iraqi militants dubbed the Islamic Resistance in Iraq. The militants say their attacks are in retaliation for Washington's backing of Israel and its military presence in Iraq and Syria.

Al-Sudani has condemned the attacks and US counter-strikes as a violation of his country's sovereignty. He also ordered authorities to pursue

militants involved in the attacks, most of which did not cause injuries or major damage. His office declined further comment.

Washington has sent messages that its patience is wearing thin.

After the embassy attack, the Pentagon said that Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin "made clear (to al-Sudani) that attacks against US forces must stop".

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken told al-Sudani that Washington expects Iraqi officials to take more action to prevent such attacks, and believes they have the capability to do so, a US official told The Associated Press.

Austrian authorities arrest 16-year-old

Berlin, Dec 11 (AP) A 16-year-old teenager has been arrested for allegedly planning to attack a synagogue in Vienna, Austria's top security official said on Monday.

The teenager, who was arrested on Thursday, had announced in online chats that he intended to procure a weapon to attack an unspecified synagogue in Vienna, Interior Minister Gerhard Karner said. He had already obtained the financial means for the attack, Austrian news agency APA reported.

Officials did not identify the suspect. They said he lived near Steyr in northern Austria.

His home was searched and several electronic data carriers were seized, APA reported.

Pressure mounts on Hungary to unblock EU membership talks for Ukraine

Brussels, Dec 11 (AP)

Pressure mounted on Hungary on Monday not to veto the opening of European Union membership talks and the supply of economic aid to war-torn Ukraine at a pivotal EU summit this week, after Prime Minister Viktor Orban demanded that the issue be struck from the agenda.

With tens of billions of dollars in military and economic assistance blocked by Senate Republicans in the United States, Ukraine is desperate to ensure longer-term financial and military assistance as fighting in its almost 2-year war with Russia bogs down.

In a draft of the summit statement seen by The Associated Press, the EU's leaders will decide to open accession negotiations with Ukraine. But Orban insists that a "strategic discussion" is needed, given the stalemate on the battlefield and uncertainty about US leadership after elections next year. "I hope that the European unity

will not be broken because this is not the moment to weaken our support to Ukraine. Just the contrary, this is the moment to increase it," EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell told reporters in Brussels, where he chaired a meeting of the bloc's foreign ministers.

Decisions on EU enlargement, which also concern Bosnia, Georgia, Moldova this week, and a review of the bloc's long-term budget that includes 50 billion euros (USD 54.1 billion) in aid for Kyiv, can only be taken unanimously by all 27 member countries.

Hungary relies on Russia for some of its energy supplies, and Orban is seen as President Vladimir Putin's strongest

ally in Europe. The government in Budapest has routinely blocked work on sanctions against Moscow linked to the war.

In a letter to European Council President Charles Michel, who will chair the two-day summit starting on Thursday, Orban warned that forcing a decision on Ukraine could destroy EU unity. Other government leaders, ministers and EU officials admit to being perplexed about what Orban wants.

"The only way I can read the Hungarian position, not just on Ukraine but on many other issues, is that they are against Europe and everything Europe stands for," Lithuanian Foreign Minister Gabrielius Landsbergis said.

CEASE FIRE CALL



Pro-Palestinian demonstrators display signs during a protest 3, in Mansfield, Mass, held to call for a cease fire in the war in Gaza.

14-year-old boy arrested over attack on British Sikh man

London, Dec 11 (PTI)

A UK police have arrested a 14-year-old boy as part of their investigation of a hate crime in which a Sikh man in his late 50s sustained injuries after a group of boys attacked him in Slough, south-east England.

Thames Valley Police said the teenager was arrested last week on suspicion of grievous bodily harm with intent and has been released on police bail until February 15, 2024.

The force stressed that its investigation remains active and renewed its appeal for any information linked to the attack on November 21.

"This is still an active investigation and we are

seeking anyone with information to make a report online or by calling 101," said Detective Constable Holly Baxter, who is based at Slough Police Station.

"We have met with representatives from the gurdwara and continue to conduct further patrols in the area and anyone with concerns should speak to a uniformed officer or contact us by calling 101 or via our website.

We take all reports of hate crime seriously as we know that they have a devastating impact on individual victims and targeted communities," she said. The victim, named locally asINDERJIT SINGH, was walking through Langley Memorial Park when he was approached by a group of boys.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender Notice NO. : M-R-ET-23-24-10 Date: 07.12.2023
Name of Work: Special Repairs of wagons (1200 Wagons) Tender Cost: Rs. 7,21,1,8051.00/- EMD: Rs. 5,10,600.00/- Cost of tender Document: 10,000/- Closing date of above tender: 04.01.2024 at 15:00 Hrs. Manual offer will not be accepted and it will be summarily rejected. For Further details/purchase of tender document, eligibility criteria & complete details for the above work, please contact office of Sr.Div. Mech. Engineer (Co-ord)/S.E.C. Railway, Raipur or refer/download tender document which is available on our website: www.ireps.gov.in form 08.12.2023.
Sr.DME (Co-ord)/S.E.C. Rly, Raipur PR/R/Sr.DME/Co/IAPI/195
South East Central Railway @secrail

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CIN: L13100TG1958GO1001674.

WORKS DEPARTMENT- KIRANDUL
Tender Enquiry No: Works-Kirandul/Plant Office/2023/13/01, Dt:12/12/2023
MSTC Ref. No.: NMDC/Kirandul/176/23-24/ET/516
Estimated cost including GST is Rs. 406.34 lakhs

NMDC Limited, A "NAVARATNA" Public Sector Company under Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India, invites online bids from prospective bidders for the work of "Construction of New Plant Office Building, Kirandul".

The detailed NIT and Bid documents can be viewed and/or downloaded from 12/12/2023 to 10/01/2024 from following website links;
1. NMDC website-<https://tenders.nmdc.co.in/nmcdtender/>
2. Central Public Procurement portal-<https://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app> and search tender through tender enquiry number
3. MSTC portal-https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocure/nmcd/buyer_login.jsp For further help refer to 'vendor guide' given in MSTC website.

The bidders are requested to submit their bids online through MSTC Limited website. The details of submission of bid through online are given in NIT. The Bidders on regular basis are required to visit the NMDC's website/CPP Portal/ MSTC website for corrigendum, if any, at a future date.

For further clarification, the following can be contacted-HOP(Works),Works-Kirandul Tel no.07857-255978 email: (1) prasanna@nmdc.co.in(2) gnaresh@nmdc.co.in

For and on behalf of NMDC Ltd HOP (Works)



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Decisive Verdict

SC Upholds Article 370 Abrogation

The Supreme Court of India, in a historic and momentous ruling, upheld the government's decision to abrogate Article 370, marking a significant turning point in the history of our nation. The judgment, delivered by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, along with Justices Gavai and Surya Kant, resonates with the essence of unity and constitutional integrity that our great nation upholds. Article 370, which had conferred special status upon the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, has been a subject of debate and contention for decades. The apex court's decision has not only validated the government's stance but has also reiterated the fundamental principles of our Constitution. This ruling emphatically underscores that Article 370 was never meant to be a permanent fixture of our Constitution. Its revocation, as determined by the highest court of the land, is a testament to the Constitution's adaptability and its inherent provisions for change when the need arises. Additionally, the Supreme Court's validation of the creation of the Union Territory of Ladakh, as distinct from Jammu and Kashmir, further solidifies the constitutional framework governing the reorganization of states and territories. This decision underscores the government's commitment to ensuring efficient governance and regional development. Chief Justice Chandrachud's lucid exposition on the absence of sovereignty in Jammu and Kashmir post-accession in 1947 lays to rest any lingering doubts. It affirms that the state has been an integral part of India, devoid of any internal sovereignty since the signing of the Instrument of Accession. The Court's assertion that the Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir was never intended to be a permanent body and its recommendations were not binding on the President dispels any misconceptions surrounding the historical context of Article 370. The Supreme Court's declaration that the amendments to Article 370 through Article 367 were ultra vires serves as a stern reminder of the sacrosanct nature of constitutional procedures. Attempting to modify a foundational provision through covert means not only undermines our constitutional framework but poses a grave threat to our democracy. The commitment to restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir is a laudable step towards ensuring the aspirations of its people are met. The directive to hold elections in the region by September 2024 marks a pivotal moment in reestablishing democratic governance and stability. Justice SK Kaul's recommendation for a Truth and Reconciliation Commission is a command for accountability and healing. This Commission must be a platform for open dialogue, a means to confront the past, and a catalyst for reconciliation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's assertion that this Supreme Court verdict is a "resounding declaration of hope, progress, and unity" encapsulates the essence of this ruling. It reaffirms the principles of unity, equality, and constitutional integrity that our nation holds dear. The Supreme Court's decision to uphold the abrogation of Article 370 is a monumental step towards strengthening the unity and integrity of our nation. It reinforces the principles of our Constitution, upholds the rule of law, and signals a brighter future for the people of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh. This historic judgment will be remembered as a defining moment in India's journey towards progress and unity.

BJP's Strategic Move

A Masterstroke for 2024

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has made a strategic decision that holds immense potential, not just for the state but also for the impending Lok Sabha assembly elections. The BJP's choice of former Union Minister and tribal leader Vishnu Deo Sai as the next Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh may have come as a surprise to some, but it signifies a shrewd alignment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision. The importance of this move becomes apparent when one considers that tribal communities constitute a significant 32 percent of Chhattisgarh's population. Vishnu Deo Sai's elevation to the Chief Minister's post is a strategic choice for several reasons. Firstly, Sai boasts a considerable following in Chhattisgarh's tribal region, owing to his charismatic leadership and formidable organizational skills. This region plays a pivotal role in the state's political landscape, as it houses a substantial portion of the tribal populace. The fact that Chhattisgarh reserves 23 out of its 90 assembly seats specifically for the tribal community underscores the political weight of this demographic. Sai's background adds another layer of significance to his appointment. Hailing from the influential Sahu (Teli) community, his selection carries substantial weight in regions like Durg, Raipur, and Bilaspur, where this community wields considerable influence. The BJP's move takes into account not only the tribal factor but also the intricate caste dynamics that shape Chhattisgarh's political landscape. Geographically, Vishnu Deo Sai hails from the Jashpur district, located within the Sarguja Division in Northern Chhattisgarh. This region has its unique electoral dynamics, encompassing six districts with a total of 14 assembly seats. Over the years, these seats have displayed distinct voting patterns. In 2003, the BJP secured 10 seats in this region, with the Congress winning just four. In 2008, the BJP won nine seats, while the Congress secured five. In 2013, both parties garnered seven seats each. However, the 2018 elections marked a significant shift when the region's expectations of TS Singh Deo becoming the Congress Chief Minister were dashed. The Congress won all 14 seats in the region, but Bhupesh Baghel was chosen as Chief Minister, leaving the electorate disillusioned. During the campaign, Union Home Minister Amit Shah passionately advocated for Vishnu Deo Sai, assuring voters that Sai would play a pivotal role. This resonated with the electorate, resulting in the BJP sweeping all 14 seats in the Sarguja region. This victory was a crucial factor in the BJP's overall triumph in the state. The BJP secured 54 out of 90 seats, while the Congress managed just 35. Had the 14 seats in Sarguja gone the other way, reflecting the 2018 results, the Congress would have been poised to regain power with 49 seats, leaving the BJP trailing with only 40. The appointment of a tribal Chief Minister in Chhattisgarh carries significant implications not only for the state but also for neighboring regions like Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Odisha, which also house substantial tribal populations. With the 2024 Lok Sabha elections on the horizon, the BJP has strategically positioned itself to appeal to tribal voters across these states, potentially tilting the electoral balance in its favor. Furthermore, by designating Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma as Deputy Chief Ministers, the BJP has played a strategic card to secure the support of the OBC and Brahmin communities. The appointment of Raman Singh as the speaker of the assembly serves as a safeguard against internal dissent while appeasing Rajput voters.

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

CONVOCATION'S MOMENTS



President Droupadi Murmu with Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel during the 45th convocation of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, in Varanasi, Monday, Dec. 11.

Article 370: The Journey from Abrogation to SC's Approval

MANOJ KUMAR K P



The annulment of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, which granted special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, has been a significant and contentious chapter in the history of India. The decision to revoke this special status, made on August 5, 2019, triggered a series of legal challenges, political debates, and public discussions. On December 11, 2023, the Supreme Court of India rendered its verdict, upholding the government's decision to abrogate Article 370. The journey from the abrogation of Article 370 to the Supreme Court's approval, highlighting key events and legal developments along the way.

The Abrogation of Article 370

The story begins on August 5, 2019, when the Central government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, took a bold step by abrogating Article 370. This constitutional provision had granted Jammu and Kashmir

special autonomy within the Indian Union since the state's accession in 1947. The government's decision led to the reorganization of the region, with Jammu and Kashmir becoming a Union Territory, and Ladakh emerging as a separate Union Territory.

Legal Challenges Emerge

Soon after the abrogation of Article 370, legal challenges emerged. Advocate M L Sharma filed the first petition challenging the presidential order scrapping Article 370, contending that it was unconstitutional. Sharma was later joined by another lawyer from Jammu and Kashmir, Shaker Shabir, in this legal battle. The National Conference (NC), a prominent political party in Jammu and Kashmir, also filed a petition. The NC argued that the changes brought about by the abrogation had deprived the citizens of the state of their rights without their mandate.

Press Council of India's Support

In August 2019, the Press Council of India supported the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir administration's decision to impose restrictions on communication in the region. This move was made in response to the prevailing security concerns in the wake of the abrogation.

Challenges from Media

The restrictions on the media drew attention as well. On August

28, 2019, the Supreme Court issued notices to the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir administration on a plea by the editor of Kashmir Times, seeking the removal of restrictions imposed on journalists. Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, heading a bench, referred the matter to a five-judge Constitution bench.

Constitutional Bench Set Up

On September 19, 2019, the Supreme Court established a five-judge Constitution bench to hear the pleas challenging the abrogation of Article 370. This bench was tasked with the significant responsibility of examining the constitutional validity of the government's decision.

Verdict on Larger Bench Rejected

In March 2020, the Supreme Court declined to refer a batch of petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the Centre's decision to abrogate Article 370 to a larger seven-judge bench. This decision affirmed the court's commitment to adjudicate the matter through the existing Constitution bench.

Resumption of Hearings

Fast forward to July 11, 2023, when the Supreme Court announced that it would commence day-to-day hearings from August 2 on the petitions challenging the abrogation of Article 370. This marked a crucial phase in the legal proceedings.

Verdict Delivered

After 16 days of intensive hearings, on September 5, 2023,

the Supreme Court reserved its verdict on the 23 petitions related to the abrogation of Article 370. This period of anticipation finally led to the much-awaited judgment.

Supreme Court Upholds the Decision

On December 11, 2023, the Supreme Court delivered its verdict, endorsing the government's decision to abrogate Article 370. Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, along with Justices Gavai and Surya Kant, asserted that Article 370 was a temporary provision and that the President had the authority to revoke it. The apex court also upheld the formation of the Union Territory of Ladakh, emphasizing the constitutional framework that governs reorganization.

Conclusion

The journey from the abrogation of Article 370 to the Supreme Court's approval has been marked by legal battles, political debates, and public scrutiny. The apex court's verdict, upholding the government's decision, carries profound implications for the future of Jammu and Kashmir, its residents, and the nation as a whole. It reaffirms the principles of constitutional integrity and the adaptability of India's democratic framework. While the legal journey may have concluded, the socio-political ramifications of this historic decision will continue to shape the narrative of the region for years to come.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need to Reduce Inflation

India grapples with relentless inflation in staples like flour, pulses, and rice, a worrisome backdrop as general elections loom. The extravagant spending on luxury cars, upscale housing, and airfare infuriates middle and lower-income citizens, whose budgets primarily cater to essential needs. Furthermore, dismal forecasts for Kharif and Rabi crop yields deplete government reserves, leading to considerations of wheat imports from Russia. Skyrocketing international fertilizer prices strain subsidies. To curb inflation, releasing grains from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) is essential, but this will adversely impact the government's finances, escalating fiscal deficits with far-reaching economic implications.

N Ashraf, Mumbai

Smart City Negligence

It is a criminal negligence to evade environmental impact assessment before the excavation for building a tunnel or a high-rise. From the tunnel collapse in Uttarakhand's Uttarkashi to flooded streets in Chennai after a few hours of rain highlight that there is something wrong in urban planning. We do not need smart brutes but smart human beings to make anything be it a country or a city look smart. Moreover, rising inequality in India spoils efforts of making anything smart. As a matter of fact, a smart city should not require a wall to hide the truth. The policy makers must ensure food, health care, education and employment for all and give priority to improve the Human Development Index score rather than only to lopsided GDP growth. Would a model look smart by wearing a brand new costly coat along with a cheap, shabby pair of trousers?

Sujit De, Kolkata

Market movie

The main goal of making a movie is to make money. This is why it is especially made into commercial and masala films. People love the recently released movie "Animal". There are applause and whistles. This is one aspect of the film. On behalf of the film maker, it can be said that only those items come in the market which the audience likes to watch. But another important aspect is the impact of the film on people. This also cannot be ignored.

N Mateeni, Mumbai

Bhutan And Gross National Happiness

Kajal Chatterjee

It's indeed a wonder why questions should at all get raised revolving around the increasing migratory pattern of the Bhutanese citizens and the country's unique concept of "Gross National Happiness". Aren't we aware of the ultimate reality that migration is an international phenomenon being witnessed throughout the globe since the dawn of civilization in search of greener pastures! So what's the big deal if the Bhutanese people venture beyond the country's border to flourish in their respective trade.

Far from getting ashamed, Indians are extremely proud of their diaspora around the globe and zealously beat the trumpet of the "intellect" "efficiency" and "quality" of the countrymen. Perhaps Indians are the global leaders as far as giving up citizenship is concerned so as to permanently settle in various parts of the globe! Similarly Chinese Pakistanis Bangladeshis Sri Lankans Arabs are spread all across the world. If migration of people from other countries does not invite any question, rather praise by riding upon the slo-

gan "Global Village"; why should reservations be expressed upon the quality of life in Bhutan by latching upon the phenomenon of Bhutanese migration. The concerned question of linking Bhutanese migration with "failure" of the concept of "Gross National Happiness" reminds us of the blatant hypocrisy revolving around the migration of Bengalis.

When Gujaratis to Biharis, Punjabis to Tamils migrate to Bengal and various states of India and around the world; it bears "proof" of their talent, intelligence, knowledge, expertise, adventurism and hard work! But if Bengalis venture to Delhi Kerala Gujarat Haryana or foreign lands; it bears testimony to Bengal's "laggardness". What do these Bengal-bashers (specially of a particular dispensation) talk about.

It seems that within the boundary of India, Bengalis hold no right to migrate; in the international sphere, Bhutanese have no right to do so! As a matter of fact, just like the prosperity of Bengalis in the professional sector all around the country and the world prove the success story of Bengal and the top quality of

education in the state; similarly the increasing global presence of the Bhutanese around the globe prove the excellent quality of education and upbringing in Bhutan.

It has also been reported that the PDP President Tshering Tobgay, who was the Prime minister of Bhutan from 2013 to 2018, had charmed the audience in Vibrant Gujarat Global Economic Summit (Gandhinagar, January 2015) which included the likes of Mukesh Ambani, Gautam Adani, Adi Godrej. Indeed Tobgay had humbly termed his visit as "economic pilgrimage" and said "Our economy is small with a GDP of merely \$1.7 billion. I'm aware that many of the delegates here are worth more (Mukesh Ambani alone -- \$18 billion)".

However, perhaps the corporate honchos didn't get charmed on hearing the concluding part of that very speech as the then PM Tobgay had asserted that he would welcome investment only if it is CLEAN GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE because his nation desires well-being through GNH (GROSS NATIONAL HAPPINESS) which (according to Bhutan) is much more important than

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT. Tobgay quoted the fourth King Jigme Singye Wangchuk so as to define GNH in three simple words -- "DEVELOPMENT WITH VALUES".

Indeed Bhutan could have also "modernised" itself through rampant industrialisation by eradicating greenery, heartlessly throwing out indigenous population from their own soil, polluting the rivers and harming the environment. But Bhutan has refrained from doing so as it respects the VALUES without which "development" itself would get threatened as being witnessed throughout the world with innumerable islands and coastal areas set to get submerged by the rising oceans due to global warming in near future and nearly 5 million people dying every year globally due to active/passive tobacco consumption.

Not only has Bhutan banned sale and consumption of tobacco outright so as to ensure health for its citizens, it has presented a new concept to human civilization (GNH) which measures prosperity and well-being not through the statistical jugglery of GDP or Sensex figures; but wide non-economic factors

like health, education and ecology. No wonder why Bhutan has become the first carbon negative country in the world which means its forests absorb more Carbon dioxide than it produces. Thanks to Bhutan's strict environment protection policies; 72% of its area is forested and its Constitution guarantees that 60% of it will remain that way. Bhutan has shown the world the way to reverse global warming.

If survival of humanity and world civilization is indeed the call of the hour, all States should treat Bhutan as its role model. And so no luck to the Indian industrialists even if Tshering Tobgay gets reelected as Bhutan Prime minister. And instead of casting aspersions upon the efficacy of Bhutan's unique humane concept or gift named Gross National Happiness; we can remain assured that the tiny Himalayan nation is traversing in absolutely correct path of morality, which rest of the world must try to emulate for the sake of the global future.

(The views expressed above are the author's own. They do not necessarily reflect the views of Central Chronicle.)

BRIEF

Appointment



New Delhi: Automaker Stellantis India on Monday said it has appointed Aditya Jairaj as CEO and Managing Director of the company with effect from Jan 1, 2024. Jairaj, currently Deputy Managing Director, Stellantis India and Head Jeep India, will succeed Roland Bouchara, who will be assigned to another function in Europe after six and a half years of leading Stellantis in India, the company said in a statement. "As we bid farewell to Roland, we extend a warm welcome to Aditya as he takes on a new role."

Warehouse opening

Kolkata: Two-wheeler manufacturer Royal Enfield has opened its first warehouse in the eastern region to cater to the needs for spare parts, a spokesperson of the company said on Monday. With the establishment of the warehouse near Kolkata, the transit time for the supply of motorcycle parts will reduce significantly and also help develop channel partners. The warehouse, spread over a 50,000 sq ft area in Bagan area in Howrah district, will supply spare parts to the entire eastern and northeastern region.

Onion export



Nashik: NCP president Sharad Pawar on Monday joined a protest by onion farmers in Maharashtra's Nashik district and demanded that the ban on export of the key kitchen staple be lifted immediately. Several farmers staged a 'rasta roko' (road blockade) on the Mumbai-Agra National Highway against the Centre's decision to ban onion exports till March 31, 2024. Addressing onion growers in Chandwad village of Nashik, Pawar claimed the central government was ignoring the hard work of farmers and said cultivators need to be united and demand their rights.

Investment

New Delhi: Retirement fund body Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has invested Rs 27,105 crore in exchange-traded funds (ETFs) during the current fiscal till October, Parliament was informed on Monday. EPFO had invested Rs 53,081 crore in the ETFs during the fiscal 2022-23, higher than Rs 43,568 crore in 2021-22, Minister of State for Labour and Employment Rameshwar Teli said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.

India's bioeconomy grew to \$80 billion in eight years: Mandaviya

Target to reach \$600 billion by 2030

Ahmedabad, Dec 11:

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Monday said India's bioeconomy has grown eight-fold in the last eight years to \$80 billion, and the country has set a target to reach \$600 billion by 2030. The minister was speaking at the pre-Vibrant Gujarat seminar on 'Biotechnology: The Path of Innovation and Wellness for Viksit Bharat'. "The Indian bioeconomy has grown eight times in the last eight years to \$80 billion from \$10 billion earlier. India has set a target for the biotechnology industry to grow to \$150 billion by 2025 and \$600 billion by 2030. There are more than 760 companies and 4,240 start-ups in the biotechnology sector in the country," he said. The country is not far from being among the top 10 in the biotechnology

global ecosystem, he said at a seminar organised as part of the upcoming Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024. "Biotechnology will become the biggest foundation for health treatment, and will help resolve complex questions in the fields of agriculture, environment, industrial production, and several such areas," Mandaviya said. The economy will be based on biotechnology because of all these factors, he added. The National Biotechnology Development Strategy 2022-25 has focused on skill development, R&D, knowledge sharing, commercialisation facilities and public-private partnership mode to connect to the markets, the minister informed. As of 2020, the pharmaceutical sector contributed 62 per cent to the Indian bioeconomy, followed by bio-agriculture

(16 per cent), and bio-services and bio-industries (together accounting for 22 per cent), he said. By developing five vaccines for COVID-19, India showed its biotechnology prowess to the world, and it was made possible due to the biotechnology skills available in the country, he said. "India provided affordable vaccines to more than 125 countries. In coming times, India will make available many such biotechnology-based products for the welfare of the world," he said. Speaking at the seminar, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel said biotechnology is a rapidly growing "technology of hope". Under the visionary leadership of the then chief minister and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Gujarat has focused on the development of the biotechnology sector since 2004, he said.

Retail inflation now stable, temporary increases due to demand-supply mismatches: FM

New Delhi, Dec 11:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said retail inflation is now "stable" and temporary increases in inflation on a few occasions are caused by demand-supply mismatches arising out of global shocks and adverse weather conditions. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Sitharaman said India's retail inflation has declined from an average of 7.1 per cent in April-October 2022 to 5.4 per cent in the corresponding period of 2023. "The retail inflation is now stable and within the notified tolerance band of 2 per cent to 6 per cent. A steady decline in core inflation, estimated after removing volatile food and fuel items from retail inflation, has been critical in weakening the inflationary pressure in the Indian economy," she said. The core inflation rate has declined from 5.1 per cent in April 2023 to 4.3



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks in the Rajya Sabha during the Winter session of Parliament, in New Delhi, Monday, Dec. 11.

per cent in October 2023. The minister said retail inflation in India has been mostly within acceptable limits after the notification of the inflation tolerance band in 2016. "Temporary increases in inflation on a few occasions are caused

by demand-supply mismatches arising out of global shocks and adverse weather conditions," Sitharaman added. Proactive supply-side initiatives by the government and effective demand stabilisation measures by the

Reserve Bank of India have helped resolve the demand-supply mismatches and rein in inflation, she added. The measures taken by the government to restrain inflation include strengthening buffers for key food items, making periodic open market releases, easing imports of essential food items through trade policy measures, and preventing hoarding through imposition/revision of stock limits, and channelling supplies through designated retail outlets. To ensure food security for the poor, the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, which provides free foodgrains to about 81.35 crore beneficiaries, has been extended for five years with effect from January 1, 2024. In October 2023, the government also increased the subsidy under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana from Rs 200 to Rs 300 per 14.2 kg cylinder.

NEW LAUNCH



Founder and CEO of Kinetic Green Sulajja Firodia poses for photos during the launch of Kinetic Green's e-scooter 'Zulu', in Mumbai, Monday, Dec. 11.

RBI cautions against unauthorised campaigns on loan waiver

Mumbai, Dec 11: The Reserve Bank on Monday cautioned public not to fall prey to misleading advertisements related to loan waiver offers in print media as well as on social media platforms. In a statement, the RBI said it has noticed certain misleading advertisements enticing borrowers by offering loan waivers. These entities, it said, seem to be actively promoting many such campaigns across the print media as well as social media platforms. There are also reports of such entities charging a service/legal fee for issuing 'debt waiver certificates' without any authority. The central bank further said that in certain locations, campaigns related to debt waiver offers are being run by a few persons, which undermine the efforts of banks in enforcing their rights.

BMW India to hike car prices up to 2 pc from Jan 1

New Delhi, Dec 11:

German luxury car-maker BMW on Monday said it will increase the prices of its vehicles by up to 2 per cent across the model range from January 1 to partially offset the adverse impacts of fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and rising input costs. BMW India's decision to implement a price increase across model range is a response to a confluence of factors, BMW Group India President Vikram Pawah said in a statement. "In the face of evolving dynamics, fluctuations in exchange rates, and rising input costs, this price adjustment will sustain the



crucial balance that allows us to consistently deliver the high standards and power-packed experience our customers associate with BMW vehicles," he added. BMW India sells a range of luxury vehicles, starting from the BMW 220i M Sport to the BMW XM, priced between Rs 43.5

lakh and Rs 2.6 crore. The company joins the likes of other passenger vehicle makers such as Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai Motor India, Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, Honda, and Audi, among others, which have also announced plans to increase vehicle prices in January.

Cooking gas LPG rates for Ujjwala consumers cheapest in India: Govt

New Delhi, Dec 11:

The price of domestic cooking gas LPG at Rs 603 for a 14.2 kilogramme cylinder for beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) is the cheapest in India when compared to rates in neighbouring countries, Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said in the Rajya Sabha on Monday. The minister, during the Question Hour in the Upper House, said India imports 60 per cent of its LPG requirement. Despite volatile and high global prices of LPG, the government absorbed it and kept the prices lower for the Ujjwala beneficiaries. "Ujjwala cylinders are available at Rs 603. It costs Rs 1,059.46 in Pakistan, Rs 1,033.35 in Sri Lanka and at Rs 1,198.56 in Nepal. We

are providing LPG cylinders at 50 per cent of the price. ...We have absorbed the global price increase and that's why cylinders are cheapest in India," he said. The LPG price in Saudi Arabia has increased from USD 415 per tonne to USD 700-odd per tonne in two years, but the government has absorbed the rise in rates, he said. The minister said that the consumption under PMUY has gone up to 2.8 cylinders per household annually now. The number of connections under the scheme has also increased to 9.6 crore and utilization has increased. Responding to a query on the number of lives saved due to implementation of the PMUY, Puri said shifting from traditional firewood, kerosene and coal to a cleaner gas medium has significant health benefits,



especially for women. However, it is difficult to quantify precisely. He said the total number of cooking gas connections in the country, which stood at 14 crore in 2014, has increased to 33 crore at present. Out of which, the connections under the PMUY are 9.6 crore. The government has decided to provide additional 75 lakh gas connections

under the scheme, out of which 34 lakh has already been accomplished, he added. To another query on incorporating the auditor CAG recommendations on PMUY, the minister said all the recommendations were included while tweaking the scheme. "We take CAG recommendations very seriously unlike the previous dispensation," he said. Responding to a query regarding the number of oil bonds issued by the UPA-2 government, the minister said that the question is distinctly related to the Ujjwala scheme. The member's question is on the issue of price rise that was confronted by issuance of oil bonds. Close to Rs 1.41 lakh crore worth of oil bonds were floated between 2004 and 2014, for which the "second genera-

tion" (current government) is paying Rs 3.50 lakh crore. "It was an irresponsible governance model," he said and added that the current government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi took many steps to address the price rise. The government diversified sources of supply and reduced the central excise duty on petrol and diesel on two occasions. As a result, the loss of revenue to the government was Rs 2.2 lakh crore, he said. BJP-ruled states also reduced value added tax (VAT) on petrol and diesel, due to which there were two differential prices of petrol and diesel. In BJP-ruled states, the fuel was available at Rs 96 per litre and there was a difference of Rs 12 per litre from rates in Congress-ruled states, he added.

GST evasion of Rs 345 cr detected against lottery distributors: FinMin



New Delhi, Dec 11: A total of 12 cases of GST evasion involving Rs 345 crore have been detected against lottery distributors since July 2017, Parliament was informed on Monday. Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad in a written reply to the Lok Sabha said Rs 622 crore, including interest and penalty, have been recovered from lottery distributors from July 2017 till November 2023. "Twelve cases involving GST evasion of

Rs 345.57 crore have been detected against lottery distributors and Rs 621.56 crore (including interest and penalty) has been recovered/realized from July 2017 to till November 2023," Karad said. Karad further said the Finance Ministry had received a reference from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for comments regarding disbursement of prize amount of lotteries through formal banking channel. "Comments in this regard have been sent to MHA. Using formal banking channel for any kind of transaction, including disbursement of lottery prize, is helpful in mitigating the associated money laundering/terrorist financing/proliferation funding risks in view of the robust banking system and effective regulation/supervision of the regulated entities," Karad said.

Ficci expects economy to grow at 7.5-8 per cent this fiscal

New Delhi, Dec 11: Industry expects the economy to grow at 7.5 to 8 per cent in the current fiscal and 8 per cent in 2024-25 on the back of strong growth momentum, positive sentiments and rising private investments, Anish Shah, newly-elected president of the Federation Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Ficci), said on Monday. There will, however, be geopolitical pressure points that may have a bearing on India's growth prospects, he added. "We have seen great growth numbers so far at 7.8 per cent, 7.6 per cent. I expect that to continue because we have got strong momentum. We are seeing multiple companies investing, adding capacities,

something that Mahindra group has done as well. "We expect that growth momentum to continue at 7.5 per cent to 8 per cent in the current financial year and for next year; I would expect 8 per cent or higher," said Shah, who is also Group CEO and Managing Director of Mahindra and Mahindra, in an interview to PTI. Indian economy recorded a growth of 7.8 per cent in the first quarter (April-June 2023-24) and 7.6 per cent in the second quarter (July-September 2023-24). The growth rate in the first half (April-September) works out to be 7.7 per cent. On the pressure points on the economy, Shah said, "primary pressure points are outside India.

India spent Rs 27,131 cr in FY23 on import of copper: Govt

New Delhi, Dec 11: India spent Rs 27,131 crore on copper imports in 2022-23, up from Rs 21,985 crore a year earlier, Parliament was informed on Monday. On account of low availability of copper reserves in the country, India has always been an importer of copper ore and concentrate. Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Coal and Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi said, "Per annum net import value (and hence, net foreign exchange outgo) during the last two years... 2021-22 (is) Rs 21,985 crore, 2022-23 (is) Rs 27,131 crore." "India, with a refined copper production of 5.55 lakh tonne in FY2022-23, is the 10th largest in the world," the minister explained. The spurt in imports in the last two years is due to increased demand in copper refining, reflecting a post-pandemic



recovery, especially the growth in user sectors such as infrastructure, construction, telecom, electrical, renewable energy, and electric vehicles. Copper is one of the 30 critical minerals identified by the Centre. Copper concentrate is used as a raw material in the production of refined copper, in which the country has a robust capacity. "A new mineral concession, namely, exploration licence, for 29

deep-seated and critical minerals, including copper, has been introduced through the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Amendment Act, 2023." "Under this, the licensee is permitted to undertake reconnaissance and prospecting operations for critical and deep-seated minerals, which are otherwise difficult to explore and mine," he said. Exploration licence is aimed at encouraging the participation of private agencies so as to bring advanced technology, finance and expertise in exploration of critical minerals. Further, accredited private exploration agencies notified under the mining Act have been allowed to carry out exploration without prospecting licence and are made eligible for funding under the National Mineral Exploration Trust.

Five cos to float initial public offerings this week

New Delhi, Dec 11: The IPO lane is getting crowded as five companies, including India Shelter Finance and DOMS Industries, have lined up public offers this week on favourable market conditions. The other three companies whose maiden public issues are slated to open are Inox Group entity Inox India, Jaipur-based retail jewellery company Motisons Jewellers and Mumbai-based Suraj Estate Developers, according to their Red Herring Prospectus (RHPs). Together, these companies are estimated to raise at least Rs 4,200 crore. This comes on the back of 10 companies successfully concluding their maiden

public issues last month. The list included the IPO (Initial Public Offerings) of Tata Technologies, which was the first company from the Tata Group to float an initial share sale in nearly two decades. Tata Consultancy Services was the last IPO from the group in 2004. Overall, the Indian IPO market witnessed more than 44 issues that collected around Rs 35,000 crore in the current fiscal FY24 (till November). V Prashant Rao, Director & Head-ECM of Investment Banking at Anand Rathi Advisors, attributed several factors to the hectic IPO activity in the last few weeks, including strong post-listing returns for recent public issues and robust macros.

Mid-day meal cleanliness safety awareness program held

BJP workers celebrate over Vishnu Deo Sai as CM

Central Chronicle News Party Marwahi North Mandal and district member Ayush Mishra congratulated and extended his best wishes to former Union Minister tribal leader Vishnu Sai on being elected the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Legislative Party. He said that in accordance with the tremendous success that the people have given to the BJP by expressing confidence in the guarantee of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are implementing the policies and announcements of the BJP under the leadership of Vishnu Dev Sai. He expressed gratitude to Chhattisgarh election in-charge Om Mathur along with the three observers for the unanimous selection of Vishnu Sai.

Central Chronicle News
Party Marwahi North Mandal and district member
Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, Dec 11: As soon as Vishnu Deo Sai was unanimously announced as the Chief Minister, the workers of Gaurela Pendra Marwahi district distributed sweets along with fireworks and BJP workers congratulated each other with joy. Ritesh Farmaniyan, Pawan Tripathi, Ramji Shriwas Mahendra Shukla, Bhudhar Soni, Sharad Tamrakar, Dinesh Yadav, Vicky Shriwas Pradeep Majhi, Montu Shriwas and BJP workers celebrated at Durga Chowk in Pendra. General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata



VishnuDeo-Sai

In Government Primary School Bhendri

Central Chronicle News

Rajim, Dec 11: According to the orders of Chhattisgarh Government School Education Department, under the Chief Minister School Safety Scheme, a mid-day meal, cleanliness and safety awareness program was organized on the occasion of Bagless Day in Government Primary School, Bhendri, on the second Saturday of December.

In the program being run under the guidance of UNICEF, a video related to cleanliness and safety of mid-day meal was shown to the children. After that, senior teacher Tikuram Dhruv held a discussion



with the children on the basis of watch video on cleanliness and safety of mid-day meal, in which the main objective of quality and safety of mid-day meal is to eat tasty, nutritious food, free from adulteration, free from food colouring and following food safety rules.

While addressing the program, Sarpanch

Mohanlal Sahu, while doing the awareness program run by the School Education Department, inspired the children to study well and bring glory to their parents and village by occupying high positions. Also, under Super Saturday, a mock test was taken for 24 children present today in the cluster level coaching center run

at Government Primary School, Bhendri, for the entrance examination for admission in class 6th for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya 2024-25 was conducted.

As per the instructions of District Collector Akash Chhikara and orders of District Education Officer Ramesh Nishad, DMC KS Nayak, District

Nodal Officer Shyam Chandrakar, Manoj Kela, BEO Ramendra Joshi, BRC Tikendra Yadu, in all the primary schools of cluster centre Loharsi a coaching centre for Navodaya Vidyalaya examination and under Super Saturday, a coaching center was started in the cluster centre Loharsi under the guidance of Cluster Principal KL Kanwar and Cluster Coordinator Duleswar Sinha. In the coaching centre run, cluster coordinator Duleswar Sinha, Bhagchand Chaturvedi, Dhunnalal Devdas, Rekham Nishad, Tikuram Dhruv, Lalji Sinha, Pradeep Kumar Sahu, Tejkumar Mandalay, Dashrathlal Dekar, Bhagirathi Dahriye children were present.

PM interacts with beneficiaries under VBSY

Central Chronicle News

Mahasamund, Dec 11: Under the Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted directly with the beneficiaries and farmers benefited from various schemes through video conferencing. Live telecast of the program was organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhalesar Mahasamund and Lok Sabha MP Chunnilal Sahu were present as the chief guest in the program.

The Prime Minister said that Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra is being taken out across the country, the aim of which is to ensure that the full benefits of the major schemes of the government reach all the targeted beneficiaries in a timely manner.

Chief Guest MP at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mahasamund Chunnilal



Sahu, Collector Prabhat Malik, and District Panchayat CEO S. Alok were present. In the virtual program, Prime Minister Modi said that India will become developed only with the collective efforts of all of us.

We all have to develop India only with full dedication and better efforts. He said that Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra has become a great medium to reach such people, due to which people are getting the benefits of various schemes in

a short time. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Ayushman Card, Mudra Yojana have brought changes in the lives of people, it has improved the standard of living of the people. People from all over the country remained connected in the said virtual program through online medium.

MP Sahu informed that the Bharat Sankalp Yatra Rath, developed soon in Mahasamund, will go to all the Gram Panchayats and

will inform the people about the government scheme, so that all the people can get its benefits.

In the virtual program of Agricultural Science Center Bhalesar of Mahasamund district, distinguished citizens Sandeep Dewan, Yetram Sahu, Meena Verma, Hemlata Yadav, SK Verma, Agriculture Deputy Director FR Kashyap, officers, employees and a large number of farmers and beneficiaries benefited from the schemes were present.

In Ghonthia-Tolagaon

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Dec 11: Human Rights Day was celebrated in village Ghonthia and Tolagaon under the direction of Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority Bilaspur and Chairman Alok Kumar District Legal Services Authority and under the guidance of Chandra Kumar Kashyap President Taluka Legal Services Committee Khairagarh.

On the Human Rights Day organized under the Monthly Action Plan, Chief Judicial Magistrate Vivek Garg, while referring to the World Human Rights Day, said that the rights that humans receive by birth are called human rights and the Human Rights

Human Rights Day celebrated



Organization was formed on 10 December 1948 and along with protecting human interests in the world, it also protects their rights, but the irony of our country is that even after 75 years of independence, cases of human rights violations are seen, this is happening because we lack education.

He asked the villagers present to be aware of their rights as it is very important for every person to be aware of their

rights. Justice Garg further said that the government has given the right to serve for the benefit of the people and if you want to get the RC of the vehicle made then there is a fixed time for it, RC should be made within 15 days.

Paralegal volunteer Goludas Sahu, while explaining about the fundamental rights and fundamental duties, said that there are a total of 6 fundamental rights in the Constitution, there are

twice as many fundamental duties and the fundamental duty has been kept double because if we follow our fundamental duties, then our Rights will automatically be protected; there is a need to follow fundamental duties more than the rights provided in the Constitution.

On this occasion, village Sarpanch Kanhaiyalal Verma, Panchgan, Kotwal and a large number of villagers were present.

Millet Exhibition organized by 38th Corps of ITBF

Central Chronicle News

Kharora, Dec 11: Millet Exhibition was organized by 38th Corps of Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force on 9th December at Corps Headquarters, Kharora. In this exhibition, officials of 38th Corps of Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Amity University and A.A.F.T. took part. Stalls of various types of dishes made from coarse grains were set up by the university children.

Siddharth Kumar, Fighter, 38th Corps, IPC, while welcoming the Chief Guest and all the visitors, the force explained about the history of millet and its importance and requested them to include at least one dish made from millet in their daily diet. O.P. Yadav, Deputy Inspector General, Regional Headquarters (Bengaluru), Indo Tibetan Border Police Force, inaugurated the exhibition by cutting the ribbon, en-



couraging all to include millet dishes in their daily diet.

The dignitaries present were administered the "Nutrition with Nutritious Grains" pledge. People were made aware about millet through a presentation by Dr. Gajendra Chandrakar, Senior Scientist, Nodal Officer for Millet, Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur. In this millet exhibition, Mr. Jackson Theritil, Deputy Inspector General, Central Frontier, I.T.C.P. Bal, Dr. S. M. Ali, Krishi Vigyan Kendra

Raipur, Dr. Susant Singh, Associate Professor, Director Research and Development, Amity University, Dr. Amita Sakhya, Assistant Professor Food and Technology, Amity University, BSF, and others from the police force. Officials, members of Press Club Kharora, Vice Principal, Bharat Dewangan Government School Kharora, Gram Sabha, Gram Pradhan of Mudpar, Math and Tilda, force officers and women and school children of Himveer family participated.

CWJA celebrates its 5th anniversary among small children

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Dec 11: The fifth anniversary of Chhattisgarh Journalist Welfare Union (CWJU), a powerful and big union of journalists in the state, was celebrated on December 9 in the entire state. In the same context, Korba district unit also celebrated the anniversary of the union by cutting cake among the children of government primary school and Anganwadi of Dandpara development block Katghora located in Darri of the district.

On this occasion, Chhattisgarh Journalist Welfare Union Korba District Convener BK Mishra highlighted the important works of the

union, while District President Vijay Lal, while giving information about the achievements of the union, said that the main objective of forming the union was to ensure that the journalists get their rights.

When a journalist is in trouble, he feels alone, this is also because journalists have to face many challenges. For this purpose, State President Amit Gautam formed this union so that the problems of all the officers and members of this union can be resolved.

On this occasion, pencil boxes and biscuits were



distributed to the school children of Dandpara and Darri. Children should also be very excited. Former Darri Mandal President of BJP

Narendra Wakde highly appreciated this work of the union. On this occasion, Annapurna Sharma, head teacher of Dandpar School, Deepti Rathore

and Anganwadi teacher Neelu Tiwari and head reader from primary school Darri. Block Katghora, Geeta Wakde, assistant teacher Tilakram Banjara, school development committee members Trupti Kashyap, Sonam Yadav, Jaya Dhruv and Reena Chauhan were present.

Variety of programmes mark annual function

In Hum Academy School

Central Chronicle News

Jagdarpur, Dec 11: Hum Academy School (HAS) celebrated its annual function with great pomp on the theme of Srijan. During this, students presented colorful cultural programs. Seeing them, the people sitting in the audience gallery were mesmerized.

Students displayed diverse colors of their talent by presenting various dances, songs and dramas. During this, the guests praised the talent of the students. He encouraged the students to participate in cultural activities along with studies.

All the productions were created with amazing costumes, sound, lights, choreography, visual effects and special voice over. Hum Academy was shifted to



Kalipur Education Hub 4 years ago and in this new environment, the annual function was organized by the institute for the first time.

While some of the best presentations by the children garnered applause from the audience, the horror dance and pyramid yoga stunts left the audience holding their fingers tight.

Directors Hanif Barbatia and Sahil Barbatia said that in the new environment, the students of the institute are continuously enhancing their name in all fields, be it studies, sports or social.

Till now, more than 20 students from the institute have become doctors by participating in competitive examinations and many students are

earning name in the field of engineering.

In this event held on Saturday, the promising students who have passed out from the school and achieved their position in the society were honored by the institute. School students were awarded for their excellent performance in various creative and sports related activities.

Accused in three crimes nabbed

That of breaking bank lock, stealing bank siren wire and CCTV

Central Chronicle News

Jagdarpur, Dec 11: The person who broke the lock of the bank with the intention of theft was arrested on the night of Nov 21 in Niyandar Indian Bank of the district. The accused broke the siren wire and CCTV installed in the bank and stole one piece of CCTV and took it with himself.

Accused Chandan Patel, S/o Dhano Patel, is a resident of village Lamani Panara Para. One of his associates, a child who was in conflict with the law, has also been arrested.

At the behest of the accused and the child in conflict with the law, 1 piece of damaged CCTV camera installed in the bank, 01 piece of ax (tangiya), 02 pieces of



Android mobile and the clothes worn on the date of the incident were seized for evidence. Action was taken against the accused in the case and the child who was in conflict with the law in Parpa police station.

According to the information received from the

police, the applicant lodged a written report in Parpa police station that on November 21, 2023, unknown thieves tried to break the lock of the bank with the intention of stealing from it.

And by breaking the siren wires and CCTV in-

stalled in the bank, they stole one piece of CCTV and took it with them. On the report, crime number 286/2023 section 379,380,457,511 IPC was registered in Parpa police station and investigation proceedings were taken up.

A special team was formed to trace the unknown absconding accused and with the help of technical evidence and CCTV footage, the accused in the case, Chandan Patel, father of Dhano Patel, resident of village Lamani Panara Para and his friend, a child in conflict with the law, were taken into custody. After being taken into custody and interrogated, separate memorandum statements were taken in which they confessed to committing the crime.

Kohli will play major role in Test series: Kallis

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

Virat Kohli's form and knowledge about South African conditions will be key to India's success in the upcoming two-Test series, reckons legendary all-rounder Jacques Kallis.

India will play two red-ball games in Centurion and Cape Town from December 26-30 and January 3 to 7 respectively as part of the ICC World Test Championship.

"I am sure he will want to have a big series here in South Africa. He has been in good form. He will play a major role in helping India. If they are to win here, he will have to have a good series," Kallis told Star Sports.

Kohli amassed 932 runs from 30 innings to emerge as the highest run-scorer for India during the last WTC cycle. He has already



scored a century and a fifty in two completed Tests against the West Indies as part of the current cycle. Kohli is in imperious form, having racked up a whopping 765

runs in the ODI World Cup on home soil to be awarded the Player of the Tournament.

"He's a massive player, no matter where it is. Having played here quite a

bit and had a fair amount of success," Kallis said. "He'll be able to pass that knowledge on to the other guys, especially the younger guys and give them ideas on how to manage these conditions and then what to expect." Kohli, 35, scored two of his 29 Test centuries against the Proteas away from home. India had suffered a 1-2 loss in South Africa during the last World Test Championship cycle.

"This is a good Indian team but South Africa is tough to beat in South Africa," Kallis said.

"Centurion will probably suit South Africa and Newlands will probably suit India. It will be a good series and it will come down to one or two sessions that one team might play better than the other. It would be a closely-fought contest."

Bajrang, Sakshi meet Thakur requesting him to debar Sanjay Singh from contesting WFI polls

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

Olympic medal winning grapplers Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik, on Monday, met Sports Minister Anurag Thakur to once again request him to stop any one related to former Wrestling Federation of India president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh from contesting the upcoming polls of the national body.

The much-awaited WFI elections are scheduled to be held on December 21 during its General Body Meeting and the results will be declared on the same day itself.

Bajrang and Sakshi are among the wrestlers, who spearheaded the protest against Brij Bhushan for two months, on allegations of multiple

charges of sexual harassment against the BJP MP from Kaiserganj, Uttar Pradesh.

As per Tokyo Games bronze medallist Bajrang, they withdrew their protest after the government assured that no one related to Brij Bhushan will contest the polls.

Two candidates — Brij Bhushan-loyalist Sanjay Singh and 2010 Commonwealth Games gold medallist Anita Sheoran are in the running for the WFI president's post.

"Yes, we met with the sports minister today and reminded him of his promise that no one related to Brij Bhushan should contest the WFI elections," Bajrang told PTI. "Sanjay Singh is his close associate and he should withdraw

from the election race or otherwise we will decide our future course of action soon. We told that to that minister," said Bajrang.

Bajrang also stated that they have no issues with Sheoran as she is a former wrestler and is very well aware about the plight of the athletes.

"We want some former wrestler to take the charge of WFI, who at least knows what it takes to win medals for the country. Anita ji (Sheoran) is a Commonwealth Games medallist and understands the demands of wrestlers," he said.

Anita, who is in the running to become the first woman president of the WFI, is also reportedly a witness in the sexual harassment cases levied against Brij

Bhushan.

Brij Bhushan is facing multiple charges of sexual harassment and is currently out on bail. He is not eligible to contest in the WFI elections as has completed 12 years as an office-bearer, which is the maximum term allowed as per the National Sports Code.

He also assured that no one from his family would contest the polls.

Accordingly, Brij Bhushan, who is the president of the Uttar Pradesh wrestling body, and his son Karan, who is a vice president in the same state body, will not compete in the elections.

Brij Bhushan's son-in-law Vishal Singh, president of the Bihar Wrestling Federation, is also not contesting the elections.

ICC U19 WC: India to open campaign against Bangladesh on January 20

Dubai, Dec 11 (PTI): India will start their campaign in the Under-19 World Cup with a match against Bangladesh on January 20 in Bloemfontein, South Africa as per ICC's revised schedule, which was released on Monday. The fixture had to be renewed after the tournament was shifted from Sri Lanka to South Africa after the ICC suspended the island nation for political interference in cricketing administration. India have been placed in Group A alongside Bangladesh, Ireland and the USA. After their match against Bangladesh, India will face Ireland on January 25 at Bloemfontein and in their last league match on January 28, they will be up

against the USA at the same venue. The tournament will open with a double header on January 19 as Ireland will face-off against the USA at Bloemfontein while West Indies and South Africa will meet each other at the JB Marks Oval at Potchefstroom.

India's schedule:
January 20: India vs Bangladesh.
January 25: India vs Ireland
January 28: India vs USA

Other groupings:
Group B: England, South Africa, West Indies, Scotland.
Group C: Australia, Sri Lanka, Namibia, Zimbabwe.
Group D: Afghanistan,

Holder, Pooran, Mayers decline West Indies central contract

Kingston (Jamaica), Dec 11 (PTI): Joining the growing tribe of cricketers who stay away from the country's central contract, premier white ball players Nicholas Pooran, Jason Holders and Kyle Mayers have declined to join the West Indies roster for the 2023-24 season.

However, the trio will be available to play T20Is for Windies during the above-mentioned season, announced the Cricket West Indies (CWI) in a media release.

The latest West Indies central contract list includes 14 men and 15 women players.

"We are very clear in the direction we want to go. The players who have been



offered contracts are among those who we expect to feature, as we look to build towards challenging for the top spot when we host and compete in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 on home soil,"

said Desmond Haynes, WI men's chief selector.

"We also have away Test Series in Australia and England these are two major assignments. In the 50-over format we look to build a nucleus of players

aimed towards the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2027," added Haynes.

Former captain Holder last played for the West Indies in July Test and T20I against India at home and in ODIs against Scotland during the ICC World Cup qualifiers in Harare.

Pooran, also an ex-Windies captain in white ball formats, last played a T20I against India in August while his last ODI appearance was against Sri Lanka.

Mayers' last T20I and ODI were against India in August while his previous Test appearance came against South Africa at Johannesburg earlier this March.

Mohun Bagan lose 0-1 to Maziya, end AFC Cup campaign

Male (Maldives), Dec 11 (PTI): Two-time interzonal semifinalists Mohun Bagan Super Giant on Monday went down 0-1 to Maziya Sports & Recreation to conclude their AFC Cup campaign with three losses from six matches. The Juan Ferrando-coached side failed to make a comeback after a Hassan Raif stunner gave Maziya the breakthrough in the 40th minute and that goal proved to be the difference between the two teams. Mohun Bagan finished their AFC Cup campaign in third place with seven points, while Maziya bowed out having collected six points from as many matches. The Indian heavyweights were unlucky as Taison Singh's powerful 50th minute

strike from outside the box rattled the underside of the crossbar and bounced across the goal before Maziya custodian Hussain Shareef pounced on it.

In the 66th minute, Maziya right-back Hussain Sifaau's shot from distance missed the Bagan goal by inches after taking a slight deflection on its way. Substitute Hamza Mohamed's shot from a tight angle was blocked by Bagan goalkeeper Shaikh four minutes later. Hamza Mohamed hit the woodwork and Hassan Nazeem tested Shaikh with an acrobatic effort in the second-half injury time, but the one goal proved to be enough for the Maldives side to record their second win in the group stage.

Want to take all the positivity into next year and put up a show in bigger events: Ashwini

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

A sensational run over the last two weeks has given wings to Ashwini Ponnappa's Olympics dreams, and the ace Indian shuttler now wants to continue her fine run in the upcoming bigger tournaments to stay on course for a trip to Paris.

Ashwini, 34, and the 20-year-old Tanisha Crasto, who joined hands in January this year, secured their third women's doubles title and the second Super 100 crown with a 21-13, 21-19 win over Chinese Taipei's Sung Shuo Yun and Yu Chien Hui in the final of the Guwahati Masters on Sunday. The pair had finished



runners-up at the Syed Modi International Super 300 tournament last week in Lucknow and will start as favourites this week at the Odisha Open Super 100 in Cuttack.

Their exploits in Guwahati will lift them to world No. 23 when the BWF ranking is issued on

Tuesday, taking them closer to top 16, which is the cut off mark for the Paris Games.

"... the goal of course is to play at the Olympics but since we are a new pair, our focus is to do well in every single tournament we are playing, to put up a good show and that is

what we are focusing on right now," Ashwini, a two-time Olympian, told PTI.

"I think there are a lot of factors to get to the Olympics, and for us it is important to simplify our journey and focus on our performance, and if we are meant to be in the Olympics, then it's fine."

Currently, world No. 19 pair of Gayatri Gopichand and Treasa Jolly are the frontrunners in the Olympic race.

Ashwini and Tanisha had won the Abu Dhabi Masters Super 100 and Nantes International Challenge also this year. "Now, we will get an entry in to bigger tournaments.

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

Former Indian captain Sourav Ganguly feels women's cricket has attained immense strides in its growth and reach since 2019, perhaps more than their men counterparts.

Ganguly based his argument on the emergence of the Women's Premier League, a pool of talented players like Harmanpreet Kaur and Smriti Mandhana and the team's good efforts in some global events of late.

"The progress the women's cricket in India has made since 2019 is, perhaps, more than the men's team. The men's team has always been very good.



"But from where the women's team was to where they went — from winning the Asia Cup, the way they played in the World Cups. They were

the best team in the Commonwealth Games (runners-up in 2022)," Ganguly told Jio Cinema. "Harmanpreet, Smriti, you name them, Richa,

Jemimah, Shafali, the way they have progressed is impressive."

Ganguly was also effusive in his praise for young pacer Renuka Singh.

"When Jhulan (Goswami) finished, we thought where the next seamer would come from, and then Renuka (Singh) Thakur has developed over the last three years. So, that's the best thing about women's cricket," said the former BCCI president.

Ganguly, the Director of Cricket at the Delhi Capitals, was delighted to see the side picking up some talented Indian players from the recent WPL auction.

Girona shows it's a genuine title contender with 4-2 statement win

Madrid, Dec 11 (AP): Girona made its strong case to be considered a genuine contender for the Spanish league title by beating Catalan rival Barcelona 4-2 and overtaking Real Madrid at the top of the standings.

Ukraine forwards Artem Dovbyk and Viktor Tsygankov teamed up for Girona's opener, and Miguel Gutierrez, Valery Fernandez and Cristhian Stuani scored a goal each to seal the away victory against the defending league champions. Robert Lewandowski and Ilkay Gundogan scored Barcelona's goals. The statement win moved Girona two points ahead of Madrid, which drew 1-1 with Real Betis on



Barcelona's Ilkay Gundogan, bottom, reacts during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between Barcelona and Girona at the Olimpic Lluís Companys stadium in Barcelona, Spain.

Saturday. Barcelona dropped to fourth place, seven points behind its regional rival and five behind Madrid. Atletico Madrid regained third place with a 2-1 win over last-place Almeria to extend its winning streak at home in the league to 17 matches. Atletico has the same 34 points as

Barcelona with a game in hand. Barcelona had never lost in six matches against Girona in the league, with four wins and two draws. "Girona deserves a lot of credit. It has a great team," Barcelona coach Xavi Hernandez said. "It was an even match, it could have gone either way.

Asad Shafiq announces retirement from all forms of cricket

Karachi, Dec 11 (PTI):

Pakistan Test batter Asad Shafiq has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket after experiencing a dip in his passion for the game.

The 37-year-old made the announcement on Sunday. "I am not feeling the same excitement and passion playing cricket and neither do I have the same fitness levels required for international cricket. Which is why I have decided to say goodbye to all cricket," he told a press conference after leading Karachi Whites to the National T20 Championship title. Asad also confirmed he was about to sign a contract with the Pakistan Cricket Board to be a paid national selector. "I have got the contract from the board and I am looking at it and hopefully it will be processed soon."

He said working as a national selector was an exciting challenge for him and he would look to remain involved in the game. Asad formed the backbone of the Pakistan Test batting line-up from 2010 to 2020 scoring 4660 runs in 77 games at a healthy average of 38.19 including 12 hundreds and 27 fifties. Asad along with Azhar Ali, Younis Khan and Misbah ul Haq formed the core of Pakistan's Test batting. After the spot-fixing scandal of 2010 in England, Asad was seen as the perfect image of Pakistan cricket, clean and non-controversial and throughout his career he preferred to keep away from the media and limelight. Asad also said he had never been pressured to take any decisions in his international cricket and he always did what he felt was best.

'Impact player' Amanjot earns praise for all-round show



Mumbai, Dec 11 (PTI):

India fielding coach Munish Bali has described Amanjot Kaur as an 'impact player' after her all-round heroics helped the hosts register a consolation win in the third and final women's T20I against

England here. India defeated England by five wickets in the third match after losing the first two T20Is comprehensively in the three-match series.

On Sunday, Amanjot not only hit the winning runs for India but also produced impactful performances

throughout the course of the game as she returned 2 for 25 in her three overs and also took a splendid catch. India were in a tricky situation after a couple of quick wickets fell and 11 runs were required to win in the last two overs. Amanjot hit 13 of just four balls, including three boundaries, to finish the game with six balls to spare. "She's an impact player, if you see she bowled the fourth over in the powerplay and bowled very well," Bali told the media after the conclusion of the series. "She fielded very well. She bowled for 3-4 overs yesterday (on Saturday during second T20I) and made an immediate impact with a brilliant catch.

Viksit Universities essential for Viksit Bharat: Maha Guv

PM launches 'Viksit Bharat @2047: Voice of the Youth'

Mumbai, Dec 11:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched through virtual mode, the initiative 'Viksit Bharat @ 2047 : Voice of Youth' that seeks to involve the universities and students in attaining the goal of a developed India by 2047.

The Prime Minister addressed the workshop of Vice-Chancellors, Heads of public and private universities and educational Institutions organised on the Viksit Bharat by Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais at Raj Bhavan Mumbai on the occasion.



Stating that many countries of the world took a Quantum Jump to transform themselves into a developed nation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the Amrit Kaal of India's Independence is the right time to take a Quantum Jump to become a developed nation.

Addressing the Vice Chancellors, Heads of public and private universities and members of faculty, the Prime Minister appealed to them to make concerted efforts to involve maximum youths in the campaign and to ensure that not a single moment of the Amrit Kaal is wasted. The Prime Minister appealed to the

youths to share their ideas for Viksit Bharat on the government portal.

The Prime Minister said education and skills alone will not shape the character of the new generation. He said it is necessary to instil in them a civic sense to abide by traffic rules. He further said for India to become a Viksit Bharat, it is equally necessary that all the products 'Made In India' will bear the best quality standards.

Mentioning that the population of many developed countries is ageing, the Prime Minister said the next 30 to 40 years are going to be particularly important for India. He said universities should ensure that every youth passing out from the university has at least one skill.

NAVY DAY PREPARATIONS



Indian Navy personnel take part in rehearsals for Navy Day celebrations, at the Gateway of India in Mumbai, Monday.

CISF to provide counter-terrorist cover to upcoming Ayodhya airport

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

The soon-to-be opened international airport in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya could be provided a counter-terrorist cover by an armed contingent of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

Official sources told PTI on Monday that a security review of the 'Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram International Airport' has begun and a team of experts drawn from central and state intelligence and security agencies are analysing contours of the work here.

"Given the profile of the civil air facility and its threat perception, a strong security cover will be provided to the airport and the CISF is the nodal agency for this job," a senior officer said.

The CISF is the national civil aviation protection agency.

Once the security review by the agencies is over, the CISF could be tasked to guard the airport, the sources said. A report will be submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs which will take a final decision in this context, they added.

The first phase of the airport will be completed by December this year and it will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia had recently told reporters after he reviewed the work of the Ayodhya airport.

The airport's inauguration will come before the consecration ceremony of

the Ram temple in the city on January 22 next year.

"In the first phase, the airport will be spread across 65,000 square feet. Its capacity will be to handle two to three flights every hour. Work is on to build a 2,200-metre-long runway. It means that Boeing 737 and Airbus 319 and 320 will be able to land at this airport. Initially, there is an airport apron for eight aircraft," Scindia had said.

He also said that soon approval from the Cabinet will be taken for the second phase.

"In the second phase, the length of the runway will be increased from 2,200 metres to 3,700 metres. In other words, the length of the runway will be around four kilometres, so that international air-

craft like Boeing 787 and Boeing 777 can land in Ayodhya," Scindia said.

The minister added that the second phase of the airport will be of 50,000 square metres.

Currently, the CISF guards 67 civil airports in the country including hyper-sensitive ones in Delhi, Mumbai and Jammu and Kashmir.

It has an aviation security wing in its establishment that provides a counter-terrorist and anti-sabotage cover to airports by way of deploying armed personnel, technical gadgets and canine squads.

The force was entrusted with the task in the aftermath of the 1999 hijack of the Indian Airlines' Kathmandu-Delhi flight, IC-814, to Kandhar in Afghanistan.

Role of hawala operators, shell companies to be probed

Odisha Cash Haul

New Delhi/Bhubaneswar, Dec 11 (PTI): With the "highest-ever" cash seizure of Rs 351 crore by income tax sleuths during raids against a distillery company owned by a Congress MP's family, the role of hawala operators and shell companies that were allegedly used to

channel the "illicit" funds has come under the scanner, official sources said Monday. An interim report on the action has also been sent by the field investigation wing of the income tax department to the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) in Delhi, the administrative body for the department.

The searches that began against the Bhubaneswar-

headquartered Boudh Distillery Pvt. Ltd. (BDPL) are continuing at about seven locations on Monday, the sixth day after they were launched by the taxman on December 6 on charges of alleged tax evasion and "out of book" transactions. The searches are expected to be called off soon after the signing of some 'panchnamas' and

recording of statements, they said. The I.T department has effected the country's highest-ever cash seizure of Rs 351 crore by any agency in a single operation after the five-day counting ended on Sunday.

As many as 30-34 premises in Odisha, Jharkhand and West Bengal were searched, the sources said.

'Lack of sanitation, menstrual hygiene products at schools cause girls' absenteeism'

New Delhi, Dec 11 (PTI):

A comprehensive report on menstrual hygiene management in India was released by NGO Sulabh International on Monday found that girls are "fearful" of using school toilets during menstruation owing to lack of water, soap, sanitation and missing doors.

According to the report, the fear in school girls provokes absenteeism from schools during their menstrual cycle.

"Our data indicates that girls are fearful of using school toilets during menstruation owing to lack of water, soap, sanitation, missing doors and taps, and even missing dustbins," the report by

NEW REPORT

Sulabh International said. "This provokes absenteeism from schools during periods, which implies that for up to 60 days in a school year a menstruating girl is either unable to attend classes or goes half-heartedly, feeling ill-at-ease," it said.

"It emerges from our findings that distance from home to school is not as big a deterrent for girls to miss school, as is lack of menstrual hygiene management facilities," it added. The report further stated that it is a "forced choice" for the school girls to stay at home during their menstrual cycle.

"If school girls do not get regular menstrual hy-

giene material such as pads, they find it safer to stay at home. It is a forced choice when young girls choose security, privacy and safety of their home to manage their periods over the dismal absence of sanitation and menstrual hygiene management facilities in schools," the report said. According to the NGO, the study was conducted in 14 districts across 7 states of India including Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Tamil Nadu.

The research involved a sample size of 4,839 women and girls in 22 blocks and 84 villages covering diverse ethnicities in the country's remote areas.



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BJP MLAs in Rajasthan meet today

New CM likely to be announced

Jaipur, Dec 11 (PTI):

The newly elected BJP MLAs in Rajasthan will meet here Tuesday to formally pick the next chief minister of the state, party leaders said.

The MLAs were informed Monday about the meeting of the legislative party, where the BJP's central leadership is expected to make known its choice for the post and end days of suspense after the party won the assembly election.

The results of the November 25 polls in Rajasthan were declared on December 3. BJP MLA Jogeshwar Garg said the observers appointed for the

legislative party meeting will come to Jaipur on Tuesday and hold one-on-one talks with the MLAs in the morning. After lunch, a formal meeting will be held in which the MLAs will choose the legislative party leader, or the CM-designate. The party has appointed Defence minister Rajnath Singh, Saroj Pandey and Vinod Tawde as observers. MLA Kirodi Lal Meena said the MLAs have been informed about the legislature party meeting.

When asked about the MLAs who met former chief minister Vasundhara Raje at her home Monday, Meena said 17 MLAs have met him as well after the results and this should not be seen as lobbying. Several MLAs

have called on former CM Vasundhara Raje in recent days in what was seen as a show of support for her, amid speculation over whom the party's central leadership will pick as the next CM.

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