



## 2001 PARL ATTACK ANNIV

# Huge security breach in LS

Five arrested, hunt on for 1 more

New Delhi, Dec 13 (PTI):

In a major security breach on the anniversary of the 2001 Parliament terror attack, two persons on Wednesday jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber from the public gallery during Zero Hour and released yellow gas from canisters and shouted slogans before being overpowered by MPs.



A visitor jumps in the Lok Sabha chamber from the public gallery during the Winter session of Parliament, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

forces. Two persons, involved in the Lok Sabha incident, have been identified as Sagar Sharma and Manoranjan. Sharma had come to the visitor's gallery as a guest of Mysuru Lok Sabha mem-

ber Prathap Simha. Two individuals - Sagar Sharma and D Manoranjan - deployed yellow smoke canisters inside the Lok Sabha, and two others - Neelam Devi and Amol Shinde - burst red

and yellow canisters outside the Parliament. The fifth has been named as Lalit Jha, at whose Gurgaon home the other five stayed. The sixth has been named as Vicky Sharma, also from Gurgaon. He has also been arrested.

The two jumped into the chamber from the public gallery at around 1 pm. And while one was spotted jumping over the benches, the other was left dangling from the gallery before jumping into the Chamber, according to several MPs present in the House.

BJP member Rajendra Agrawal, who was in the chair, adjourned the proceedings till 2 pm as one part of the Lok Sabha chamber was filled with yellow-coloured smoke.

# CAF jawan killed, another injured in Naxal attack

Narayanpur, Dec 13:

A Chhattisgarh Armed Force (CAF) jawan was killed and another one injured after Naxalites attacked a team of security personnel and triggered a blast of an improvised explosive device (IED) in Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh on Wednesday, police said.

The incident occurred around 11 am in Aamdai Ghati iron ore mine area under Chhote Dongar police station limits when the security personnel were out on an area domination operation, a senior police official said. "Naxalites triggered an IED blast and opened firing on the patrolling team that led to an encounter between the two sides," he said.



# Vishnu Deo Sai takes oath as Chh'garh CM

Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma new Deputy CMs

Raipur, Dec 13:

Senior BJP leader and the tribal face of the party, Vishnu Deo Sai, on Wednesday took oath as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, ten days after the saffron party returned to power after a gap of five years by unseating Congress in the assembly elections.

State BJP president Arun Sao and general secretary Vijay Sharma, both first-time MLAs, took oath as deputy chief ministers.

Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan administered the oath of office and secrecy to Sai, 59, and his two deputies during a grand swearing-in ceremony held at the Science College ground here attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union ministers Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari and Ramdas Athawale, and BJP president JP Nadda. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, his Assam counterpart Himanta Biswa Sarma, former Chhattisgarh chief minister Raman Singh and party leaders from other states attended the event which saw a gathering of around 50,000 people amid tight se-



PM Modi, Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan, Chief Minister-designate Vishnu Deo Sai and Deputy CM-designate Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma during the latter's swearing-in ceremony, in Raipur (inset) CM Sai taking oath.

curity. From the Congress' side, former chief minister Bhupesh Baghel and ex-deputy CM TS Singh Deo were present. Baghel shook hands with PM Modi on the stage after the event. Speaking on the sidelines of the programme, senior BJP leader Narayan Chandel said the newly-anointed chief minister will soon expand the cabinet which will be a balanced one, hinting at caste equations to be taken into consideration.

As per norms, the Chhattisgarh cabinet can have a maximum of 13

ministers, including the chief minister. Sai belongs to the influential OBC community while Sharma, known for his hardcore Hindutva stand, is a Brahmin.

Earlier in the day, Sai offered prayers at the Jagannath temple in Raipur ahead of his swearing-in ceremony. He also paid tributes to freedom fighter Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee by garlanding their statues at different places in the state capital, officials said.

**'Sagar Sharma left Lucknow home to attend 'protest' in Delhi'**  
Family members of Sagar Sharma, one of the two men who jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber from the public gallery on Wednesday, said he left home here a few days ago to attend a "protest" in Delhi. However, the family said they are unaware about his involvement in the Parliament security breach.

**'Hang my son if he has done wrong'**  
"Hang my son if he has done wrong", said the father of one of the two men who jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber in a major security breach on Wednesday. Manoranjan D's father Devaraje Gowda, however, claimed that his son is honest and truthful and always desired to do good for the society. "It is okay if my son does good but if he has done something wrong then hang him. He is not my son (if he has done wrong)," Gowda said.

**LS, Delhi police to probe security lapse**  
Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Wednesday ordered a high-level inquiry into the incident of two persons jumping into the house chamber from the public gallery with smoke canisters. Birla lauded the Lok Sabha members, security personnel, chamber staff, and marshals for rising to the occasion and capturing the perpetrators. He said in 2001 too central paramilitary forces and other security had made collective efforts and prevented a terror attack on Parliament.

**Intruders got passes from BJP MP Prathap Simha's office**  
After the major security breach in the Lok Sabha, in which two men carrying smoke canisters jumped into the chamber of the House from the visitors' gallery, BSP MP Danish Ali said that at least one of the passes recovered after the attack had been issued by BJP MP Prathap Simha's office. Sources have also confirmed that both men who jumped into the chamber were given visitors' passes by Simha.

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# Special cleanliness prog organised in rural areas

# Habitual offender held for bike lifting

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Dec 13:** Under the Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan programme was organized in the district in urban and rural areas. It needs to be mentioned here that under the Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a special initiative is being taken to make people aware of cleanliness by organizing Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Cleanliness programs were organized in all the rural areas of the district. People from all sections participated enthusiastically and ensured their active participation in this campaign. Under the



Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra, major places of the village were cleaned in 300 gram panchayats of the district.

The squares and traffic junctions of Gram Panchayats, school premises, Anganwadi premises and market places were

cleaned. Public representatives, distinguished citizens, villagers, sarpanchs, secretaries, Anganwadi workers, sanitation workers, women self-help groups and employees are participating enthusiastically in the cleanliness campaign.

Programmes were organised to inspire the general public to keep homes, roads and public places clean, to control diseases related to cleanliness, to take steps towards a healthy and clean future and to educate people about the importance of cleanliness and ensure the use of toilets.

Such programmes create an atmosphere of happiness among the general public. Villages and cities are moving towards cleanliness. Under the campaign, public places and ponds were cleaned. Women self-help group conducted the task of garbage collection door to door.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Dec 13:** Police arrested a habitual offender on charges of bike lifting. A stolen bike was recovered from his possession. Considering the rising cases of thefts, SSP Ram Gopal Garg had directed to trace the accused and recover the stolen items.

In this sequel, a joint team of ACCU and Chhawani Police Station started maintaining vigil on the activities of suspects and criminal record holders. They also checked the criminals released from jail. The network of informers was activated to gather information about the suspects.

Meanwhile, police received a tip off regarding a habitual offender, who was recently released from jail. He was looking for cus-

tomers to sell a bike near Canal Road in Khursipar. Acting on this tip off, police team swung into action and the suspect was taken into custody.

During interrogation, he confessed to stealing the bike from Rajrajeshwari Temple. Police recovered the stolen bike bearing registration number CG07-BK-8808 from the possession of the accused identified as Chugge alias Sushil Sahu (28) son of Late Ram Lakhan Sahu a resident of Subhash Market, Zone 3, Khursipar.

He was produced before the court and has been sent to jail on judicial remand. SI Uday Shankar Jha, ASI Shamit Mishra, Constable Arvind Mishra, Rinku Soni, Rakesh Anna and Rakesh Chaudhary played a vital role in arresting the accused.



# Health officers asked to encourage ANC registration

# MLA gets OYO hotels sealed on complaint of immoral activities

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Dec 13:** Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena chaired a review meeting of the Health Department on Wednesday. He asked the health officials that they have the important responsibility. During the meeting, a thorough review of the antenatal check-up (ANC) was done.

The Collector gave necessary guidelines after analyzing the data related to fourth antenatal check-up, institutional delivery and other data related to institutional delivery on the basis of fourth antenatal check-up.

He said that ANM and Anganwadi center workers should visit door-to-door to motivate pregnant women. Through these tests, potential complications are detected before delivery, which significantly reduces complica-



tions during delivery and also reduces maternal and child mortality. ANC is necessary at least four times during the entire period of pregnancy.

The Collector gave instructions to encourage institutional deliveries and ANC registration. Collector instructed the top officers of the Health Department to issue notices to Sector Health Officers of Gram Panchayat whose ANC registration is less than 80 percent.

The Collector directed the Health Department

officials that the poor and needy people must get the benefits of the government schemes. He asked to run an awareness campaign to increase the registration of pregnant women and conduct deliveries in health centres.

He instructed the sector officers to conduct surveys in their respective areas and register pregnant women. He gave instructions to conduct safe deliveries in health centers to reduce maternal and child mortality.

Instructions were given to the sector health offi-

cers to provide better health facilities to the people and bring better results in the progress of implementation of the schemes. The Collector discussed the cases of death of newborn babies during delivery due to health reasons in the district.

The Collector asked the Health Department officials to ensure that more pregnant women undergo institutional delivery by giving wide publicity to the institutional delivery facilities available in the health centres.

Anganwadi workers and Mitani workers were asked to provide necessary support to pregnant women and spread awareness in the area and the facilities provided through the organization.

He asked private nursing homes to hold meetings from time to time and to take action if information is not received from the nursing homes. Collector said that making Ayushman card is very important from the health point of view of the citizens.

Everyone should make sure to do this work on priority. During the meeting, information was taken about the work being done by the physiotherapists. During the meeting, health officers of all the development blocks as well as Chief Health Officer Dr JP Meshram were present.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Dec 13:** Bhilai Municipal Corporation sealed two hotels run by OYO in the residential area of Shivaji nagar. MLA Rikesh Sen had received complaints against these hotels after which he reached the spot with the BMC officials and instructed them to take action against the hotel owners.

BMC sealed two hotel buildings in Shivaji nagar, which were run through OYO App in the residential areas. The BMC team led by MLA Rikesh Sen sealed two buildings on Street 6 which were named as Evening Star Inn and City Tower Inn.

People of Ward 14 Shivaji Nagar area had complained that unethical



activities were being conducted in these hotels located in the middle of residential areas. Taking cognizance of the complaint, Vaishali Nagar MLA Rikesh Sen reached the spot along with the team of corporation and police administration and gave instructions for action.

Corporation officials as the building owners Bajrang Yadav and Akash

Kumar Yadav to show necessary government documents like building permit, Gumasta license, property tax receipt, shop establishment, hotel registration etc.

When the owners were unable to produce the documents, the cops evacuated the building and the enforcement squad of BMC locked and sealed the buildings.

# Peddler nabbed with psychotropic drugs

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Dec 13:** Police nabbed a drug peddler and seized a huge quantity of psychotropic drugs from his possession. 705 nos Alprazolam Tablets were recovered from him.

On the instructions of SSP Ram Gopal Garg, a joint team of ACCU and Khursipar Police Station was maintaining vigil on the activities of suspects and criminal record holders. The network of informers was also activated for the purpose.

In this sequel, police received a tip off regarding a suspect who was peddling drugs near the



Electricity Office in Khursipar. Police team swung into action and the suspect was taken into custody. On searching, police recovered 47 strips (705 nos) Alprazolam Tablets, some cash and a

Samsung Mobile from his possession. He was selling the psychotropic drugs to the addicts.

The accused Saif Siddhiqui (25) son of Abdul Majid Siddhiqui, a resident of Shop no 79, Avenue C, A Market, Sector 01 was arrested and produced before the court.

SI Yuvraj Sahu, Constable Subhash Yadav, Sandeep Kurre, ASI Shamit Mishra, Constable Arvind Mishra, Rinku Soni, Rakesh Anna, Rakesh Chaudhary, Bhavesh Patel, gunit and D Prakash played a vital role in arresting the accused.

# Selection Trials for BSP Badminton Team on Dec 17

**Bhilai, Dec 12:** SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Department of Sports, Cultural & Civic Amenities (SCCA) is organizing Selection Trials to select players (Male) for BSP's Badminton Team, to take part in the SAIL Badminton Championship. SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) is organizing the SAIL Badminton Championship from January 06- 08, 2024, at Bokaro, Jharkhand. The Selection trial will be organized at Badminton Court, Indoor Stadium, Civic-Centre, Bhilai, on December 17, at 08.00 hrs, to select BSP's regular employees and players (Male) for BSP's Badminton Team. Registration for the Selection trial may be made with the selectors for BSP's Badminton Team, Praveen Upadhyay (74895-99530) and Salim Qureshi (94079-84236) on December 1, at 14:00 hrs, at Indoor Stadium, Civic Centre, Bhilai. Abhijit Bhowmik, Asst Mgr (SCCA) will be in-charge of the Selection Trial.

# Ore Crushing Unit inaugurated at OHP

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Dec 13:** The Iron Ore Lump Crushing Unit was inaugurated by Anirban Dasgupta Director In charge, Bhilai Steel Plant on December 09, 2023. The new unit shall crush iron ore lumps into fines to be utilised by Sinter Plants for making Sinter.

The fines generated from the crushing unit will have higher iron content and less gangue than the fines supplied from Mines. This shall result in production of better quality Sinter, which in turn will increase the productivity of Blast Furnaces.

Dasgupta appreciated the efforts of Ore Handling Plant (OHP)



team for ensuring timely execution of project for erecting the unit. He also appreciated the spirited Bhilai Collective for overcoming challenging situations and turning them into opportunities.

Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) was also highly appreciative of Team OHP for their efforts. He thanked everybody who helped for timely comple-

tion of the project.

BK Giri, ED (Mines) in his address praised all members of the team that was behind this project. S Mukhopadhyay, ED (Projects), AK Chakraborty ED (MM), Sameer Swarup, ED (Rowghat), Pawan Kumar, ED (P&A) and Dr Ravindranath M, CMO I/c (M&HS) were present on this occasion, along with

CGM in charges, CGMs, GMs and other senior officials of the Plant.

A video presentation explaining the working and significance of the ore-crushing Unit was also played on this occasion. Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c (Iron) briefed about the significance of the project in his welcome address.

The programme was compered by RK Bisare, CGM (Plate Mill) and Sushmits Patla, Asst Mgr (Personnel). Proposing the vote of thanks, HK Pathak, CGM (OHP) said execution of the project was a triumph of Team BSP, made possible with the support and guidance of Director I/c and ED (Works).

# 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat Ke Liye Ispat Ki Atmanirbharta' Selfie zone inaugurated in Maitri Bagh

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Dec 13:** A Selfie Zone, showcasing Aatmanirbhar Bharat Ke Liye Ispat Ki Atmanirbharta (Self-Reliance of Steel for a Self-Reliant India) was inaugurated by Pawan Kumar, ED (P&A), for the visitors at Maitri Baag, Bhilai, on December 12, 2023.

JY Sapkale, CGM (TSD&CSR), Jacob Kurian, GM (LA & PR), Vishnu Kumar Pathak, GM (TSD), and Dr NK Jain, DGM (Horticulture-TSD) were also present on this occasion, along with other Senior Officials and Plant Personnel.

The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has taken a firm step by progressing swiftly in the



field of steel manufacturing and currently, India has become a major steel manufacturer in the world. The leap of progress achieved by SAIL in the past nine years by contributing to several prestigious developmental projects including Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's Statue of Unity in Gujarat, Mangalyan, Chandrayaan, Atal Tunnel, Rohtang, Indian

Navy's Vikrant, and other warships have been showcased at this newly-inaugurated Selfie Zone.

An attempt has been made to convey SAIL's contributions to society, through this Selfie Zone at Maitri Baag, run by the Horticulture Section of BSP's Town Services Department, which has now become a new attraction for the tourists visiting Maitri Baag.

# Student Nurses Association of Chh'garh tops All-India Competition

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Dec 13:** The TNAI Headquarters, New Delhi organised the 30th SNAI National Biennial Conference at Thyagaraj Sports Complex from November 27-29, 2023 in which nursing students from different nursing colleges of Chhattisgarh State participated in various activities and emerged victorious and made our State proud at the National level. At Nationals, 58 out of 2800 nursing students participated and represented Chhattisgarh. The Biennial Conference of Student Nurses Association (SNA) is organized every two years under the aegis of Indian Trained Nurses Association, in which various activities like scientific paper presentation, extempore speech, essay, quiz, poster, on the spot painting, pencil sketching, best SNA diary and dance competitions are conducted for the nursing students of entire-



country, so that their talents can take flight.

This year, for the Best SNA diary second prize was bagged by Shankaracharya Swami Swaroopanand College of Nursing, Junwani. In Dance event, Jyotsana Gautam, Aishwarya Thakur, Sanskriti Shrivastava, Leena, Khushboo, Namrata Soni, Hina Yadav and Tanyalikuji of PG College of Nursing, Sector-9 grabbed third prize. Vaibhav Jacob Das of Shankaracharya Swami Swaroopanand College of Nursing was awarded first

prize in Personality Contest (Male). Similarly, Sakshi Rao of PG College of Nursing, gained second prize in Personality Contest (Female). Mridula Kumbhkar of Government College of Nursing, Bilaspur bagged first prize in Essay Competition. In Extempore Competition (Hindi), first prize was grabbed by Daminee Sinha of Government College of Nursing, Jagdalpur. Roshini of Government College of Nursing, Bilaspur was awarded third prize in Discuss Throw (Girls). For poster compe-

petition, in Medical Surgical Nursing, second prize was attained by Jayshree and Damini; in Community Nursing, second prize was awarded to Akanksha Miri and Nidhi Sahu; in Psychiatric Nursing, second prize was bagged by Romi Sahu and Rishika Kumari of PG College of Nursing. In SNA Activities Poster: Rupali, Janvee and Durgeshwari got second prize; in Pediatric Nursing, Pallavi Meshram and Chitra of Government College of Nursing, Rajnandgaon got first

prize. Behind these accolades, the consistent and unwavering support of TNAI Members of Chhattisgarh State Branch respectively, Chairman Prof (Dr) Abhilekha Biswal, Vice President Prof (Dr) Sreelata Pillai, Secretary Prof (Dr.) Sindhu A Menon, Treasurer Prof (Dr) Daisy Abraham, SNA Advisor Beena R Thomas, Chairman (Nursing Services) Sushila Singh, Chairman (Nursing Education) Prof (Dr) Sreemini Pillai, Chairperson (Public Health Section) Prof (Dr) Jaya Chakraborty etc played a major role in these exceptional achievements at the National Conference.

The SNAI Unit of Chhattisgarh received maximum prizes at the National Conference. This unit is always committed towards the excellence in all-round development of nursing students by participating in various extra-curricular activities.

**NEWS IN BRIEF****PM Modi accorded warm welcome at the Airport**

**Raipur:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a warm welcome at Raipur Airport. Rajya Sabha MP Saroj Pandey, MP Santosh Pandey, Director General of Police Ashok Juneja, Principal Secretary Manoj Pingua, Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Bhure, SSP Prashant Agrawal and other distinguished public representatives were present at the airport.

**Sai performs pooja-archana and took charge as CM**

**Raipur:** The Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai performed the traditional pooja-archana before assuming office at the Mahanadi Bhavan on Wednesday. For the first time in the history of Chhattisgarh, the Chief Minister performed traditional ceremony before taking office. It is noteworthy that the Chief Minister; Mr. Sai, is very religious, and he also worshipped at his residence and performed puja at the Lord Jagannath Temple in the morning." Deputy Chief Ministers Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma were also present on this occasion. Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain, Additional Chief Secretary Subrat Sahoo, and Director General of Police Ashok Juneja greeted the Chief Minister and extended a cordial welcome. After assuming office, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai also held introductions with senior officials from various departments of the ministry in his office chamber.

**Sai seeks mother's blessings ahead of oath-taking ceremony**

**Raipur:** Before taking the oath as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Shri Vishnu Deo Sai reached his home in Purna in the capital Raipur this morning to seek blessings from his mother, Smt. Jasmani Devi Sai. It is worth mentioning that Shri Vishnu Deo Sai will take the oath as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh at a grand ceremony to be organized at Science College Ground here today. Mother Jasmani Devi Sai not only blessed her son but also warmly embraced him. Smt. Jasmani Devi Sai stated that the one who shouldered the responsibility of the family at a very young age is now taking charge of the state. She lovingly fed sweets to Mr. Sai. Family members and relatives of Chief Minister Mr Sai present on the occasion extended their best wishes to him. It marked a deeply emotional and unforgettable moment for the family.

**CM performs puja with his family members at his residence Before the oath-taking ceremony**

**Raipur:** Before taking the oath as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Vishnu Deo Sai had 'Darshan' of the deities in the puja room of his house and participated in the puja. He also sought blessings from his mother Smt. Jasmani Devi. Chief Minister worshipped the deities at his residence, participating in the puja along with his family members, including his wife, Smt. Kaushalya Devi. Chief Minister performed the Nav Grah Puja, followed by 'Swastivachan'. Chief Minister and his family participated in the puja, concluding with a havan performed according to rituals. Chief Minister Shri Sai prayed for the well-being, happiness and prosperity of the people of Chhattisgarh. Before this, he also had the Darshan of Lord Jagannath, Balabhadra, and Subhadra ji at the Jagannath temple. Chief Minister sought the blessings of his mother and received them with a warm embrace from her.

# Vishnu Deo Sai-led govt to hold its first cabinet meet today

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Dec 13:** The first cabinet meeting of the newly-formed Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Chhattisgarh will take place on Thursday, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said.

After the ceremony, Sai and his two deputies went to the Mantralaya and took charge after performing rituals. The three held talks with state chief secretary Amitabh Jain and Director General of Police Ashok Juneja there. Talking to reporters, Sai said his first cabinet meeting will be held on Thursday.

"Today I, Sao ji and Sharma ji took oath. We are fortunate that PM Modi, home minister Amit Shah ji, national president Nadda ji, several Union ministers, chief ministers of several states and other



dignitaries attended the swearing-in ceremony. We would like to express our gratitude to them for making the event a success," the new CM said.

"...Today, no decisions have been taken. The cabinet meeting will be held on Thursday. An introductory programme with secretaries of all departments will also be held tomorrow. Subsequently a press briefing will be done," he said.

Asked about the decisions which could be taken on priority basis in the cabinet, Sai said, "We will discuss it in the cabinet. However, you all know the 'Modi ki guarantees' the promises made in our poll manifesto. Discussion will be held on it in the cabinet and priorities will be fixed."

After being elected as the leader of BJP legislative party on Sunday, Sai had said that sanctioning

**Cabinet expansion of Sai cabinet likely on Dec 16****Suspense continues over the probable for Ministerial berth**

**Raipur:** Suspense over the members of Chhattisgarh Cabinet continues on Wednesday also as apart from the Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, the State BJP President Arun Sao and General Secretary Vijay Sharma took oath as Deputy Chief Ministers. Initially, the majority of the eligible MLAs were also to be administered oath here on Wednesday but the late night political exercise, restrict the oath taking ceremony to just three members of BJP Government.

Amidst speculation over the probable faces in the BJP Cabinet, the Cabinet expansion is likely to be held on December 16. Just like so far, the Cabinet expansion too would bring a lot of surprise with several of the senior MLAs and former Ministers, out from the Sai Cabinet. Party insiders said that the BJP's central leadership has gone for last minute changes in the list of the Ministers which has further created panic among the senior members of BJP Legislative Party.

It is notable that the names of senior MLAs like Brijmohan Agrawal, Ramvihar Netam, Renuka Singh and Ajay Chandrakar are among those probable for the Cabinet berth but with changed political scenario, the senior MLAs are also not confident of Ministerial berth. Meanwhile, the Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Wednesday evening while talking to media persons said that the MLAs would have to wait for some time before few of them be inducted into his Cabinet.

18 lakh houses to the beneficiaries of PM Awas Yojana will be the first work to be done in the state. He had also said that on December 25, the birth anniversary of former PM

Atal Bihari Vajpayee who was founder of Chhattisgarh state, bonus against paddy procurement for two years which was pending during the previous BJP government

(2013-2018) will be given to farmers (who had then sold their paddy).

All the guarantees of Modi Ji, our poll promises, will be fulfilled in the next five years, he had said.

**Int'l Conf on IT commences with insightful sessions**

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Dec 13:** The 21st IEEE International Conference on Information Technology (OCIT-2023) kicked off on a high note at the National Institute of Technology Raipur on Wednesday.

Guest of Honour Prof. Saraju P Mohanty from University of North Texas, Denton delivered an impassioned talk, emphasizing Smart Agriculture. The talk focuses on technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) which supports automation, along with the Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) and Security-by-Design (SbD) which provides agriculture data integrity and security.

The Keynote Lecture by Prof. Siba K Udgata, Professor at University of Hyderabad, delved into the Explainable AI (XAI) Models for Informed Decision Making. Prof. Udgata emphasized on the various issues involved in the traditional AI system and also how different explainable AI models are

proposed to address these issues. He discusses mainly the LIME (Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations) and SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations) and how these models can be used to increase the transparency in the AI systems.

The post-lunch session commenced with an engaging plenary talk by Prof. TV Vijay Kumar, his presentation, delved into the Artificial Intelligence for Disaster Management. He explored the potential applications of this technology.

The day featured three technical sessions on "Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning, Networking and Information Security, Multimedia, Signal Processing, Embedded Systems, Data Science, Sequential, Parallel, Distributed and Cloud Computing, Power, Smart Grid and Internet of Things" with a total of 40 papers presented in each session before and after lunch.

**Mahadev app owner Ravi Uppal detained in Dubai****ED seeks deportation**

**Raipur/ New Delhi, Dec 13:** Ravi Uppal, one of the two main owners of the Mahadev online betting app, has been detained in Dubai by the local police on the basis of a red notice issued by the Interpol at the behest of the ED, official sources said Wednesday.

Uppal, 43, was detained last week in that country and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) authorities are in touch with the Dubai authorities to get him deported to India, they said. The businessman is being probed by the ED in a money laundering case linked to alleged illegal betting through online apps apart from the Chhattisgarh and Mumbai Police crime branch. The federal probe agency had filed a money laundering charge sheet

against Uppal and another promoter of the Internet-based platform, Sourabh Chandrakar, before a special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court in Chhattisgarh's Raipur in October. A red notice was subsequently issued against the two by the Interpol on the basis of the ED's request based on a court issued non-bailable warrant. Process is on to find Chandrakant, 28, too, the sources said.

The agency had informed the court in the charge sheet that Uppal has taken a passport of Vanuatu, an island country in the Pacific Ocean, even as he has not renounced Indian citizenship. Uppal, the ED said in the prosecution complaint, "generated and enjoyed proceeds of crime and is involved in their concealment and layering." It had alleged Uppal was "looking after the delivery of

the liasioning money to the bureaucrats and politicians of Chhattisgarh through Chandrabhusan Verma", an assistant sub inspector of police, and some others.

The projected proceeds of crime in this case is about Rs 6,000 crore, according to the ED. The agency had claimed in November, just before the first phase of Chhattisgarh assembly polls, that forensic analysis and statement made by a 'cash courier' named Asim Das have led to "startling allegations" that Mahadev betting app promoters have paid about Rs 508 crore to former Chhattisgarh chief minister and senior Congress leader Bhupesh Baghel so far, adding these allegations were "subject matter of investigation". Das had later submitted before the special court in Raipur that he had been framed as part of a con-

spiracy and he had never delivered cash to politicians.

The ED investigation has shown that Mahadev Online Book App is run from a central head office in the UAE, officials said. It operates by franchising "Panel/Branches" to their known associates on 70-30 per cent profit ratio, it had said.

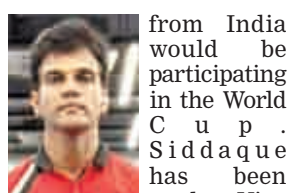
Large scale hawala operations are done to siphon off the proceeds of betting to off-shore accounts, it had said.

Large expenditure in cash is also being done in India for advertising of betting websites to attract new users and franchise (panel) seekers, the ED had said. The company promoters hail from Bhillai in Chhattisgarh and the Mahadev online book betting application is an umbrella syndicate arranging online platforms for enabling illegal betting websites.

**Ehsannul Siddaque named Vice Captain of India Advocates team for World Cup**

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Dec 13:** Ehsannul Siddaque from Chhattisgarh has been nominated as Vice Captain of the Indian Advocate Tem for the World Cup tournament for Advocates. Providing the above information in a joint press release, the President of Chhattisgarh Cricket Association Faizal Rizvi and Secretary Bhupender Jain said that the 8th Advocates Cricket World Cup would be held from December 27 to January 9 in Sri Lanka. They further informed that two teams



from India would be participating in the World Cup. Siddaque has been made Vice Captain of one of the team. Office-bearers have extended best wishes to him for the World Cup tournament. Above selection was made on the basis of the recently held All India Cricket Tournament for Advocates and subsequently a selection trials of 60 players was held at Bangalore. Siddaque is Opening Batter and also keeps Wicket for his team.

**Congress MLAs meeting held in Rajiv Bhawan**

**Raipur, Dec 13:** After the defeat in the assembly elections, the first meeting of the Legislative Party of the State Congress Committee was held in Rajiv Bhawan. 35 newly elected Congress MLAs including Chhattisgarh in-charge Kumari Selja, National Treasurer Ajay Maken, former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, former Deputy Chief Minister TS Singhdeve are present in the meeting. Through this meeting, Congress will select the name of the Leader of Opposition.

There is a shortage of leaders with vocal voice for the responsibility of Leader of Opposition in Congress. At present the names of Assembly Speaker Dr. Charandas Mahant, MLA Umesh Patel, Kanta MLA Kawasi Lakhma, Bastar MLA Lakheshwar Baghel are being put forward. Anila Bhendia is currently said to be the senior most MLA among the women MLAs of Congress. According to sources, only selected names have come forward for this key post in Congress.

# Deputy CMs Sao and Sharma are first-time MLAs

**With close RSS links**

Raipur, Dec 13:

Chhattisgarh BJP president Arun Sao and general secretary Vijay Sharma, who took oath as deputy chief ministers on Wednesday, are first-time MLAs and have held organisational positions in their political careers and considered close to the RSS.

Both come from diverse social backgrounds Sao is a prominent OBC leader, while Sharma is a Brahmin. This is the first time the state has had two deputy CMs since its formation in 2000.

BJP's impressive performance in the state brought Sao under the spotlight who was also seen as a potential candidate for the chief ministerial position.

The lawyer-turned-politician is seen as a non-

controversial and neutral leader with no affiliation to any group in the BJP's state unit but with a humble but aggressive personality.

Sao won the Lormi assembly seat by 45,891 votes against his nearest rival from Congress' Thaneshwar Sahu.

It is said that in the 2019 parliamentary elections, Sao, who lacked experience in electoral politics, had won the Bilaspur Lok Sabha seat by a margin of 1.41 lakh votes riding on the Modi wave.

A year before the assembly elections, the 54-year-old MP was made the president of the Chhattisgarh BJP unit replacing prominent tribal leader Vishnu Deo Sai, who took oath as the chief minister in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on Wednesday.

Sao, who hails from the influential Sahu OBC



community, is known for his strong base among the lower cadre and was touted by political experts as a good choice for the position of state BJP chief to mobilise party workers ahead of the assembly polls.

According to political experts, the OBC face was elevated to the key post as the Sahu community constitutes a major portion of the state's population and considerably influences the poll outcomes in 51



general seats in the 90-member assembly.

The move was also seen as a counter to the Congress's biggest OBC face and former CM Bhupesh Baghel, who projects himself as "son of the soil".

A lawyer by profession, Sao was earlier a member of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), a student wing of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), and other organisa-

tions since 1990. He was also an RSS worker.

Sao was instrumental in targeting the Bhupesh Baghel government over alleged scams and openly accused it of conspiring "targeted killing" of his party workers in Bastar leaders by Maoists this year.

Vijay Sharma, the second deputy CM, is a Brahmin and a vocal supporter of Hindutva. In the recent elections, he trounced influential Congress leader and then minister Mohammad Akbar in the Kawardha constituency by 39,592 votes.

Notably, Sharma (50) was arrested on the charges of rioting in connection with communal violence in Kawardha town in Kabirdham district in October 2021.

A communal clash had broken out over the removal of religious flags

from a thoroughfare in Kawardha. Two days after the incident, some right-wing outfits took out a protest rally during which violence erupted.

BJP MP Santosh Pandey, former MP Abhishek Singh and Vijay Sharma were named in the FIR on charges of rioting, abetting the riot and others by the police in connection with the violence. Sharma was arrested and later released on bail.

Sharma started his political career as a joint convener of the Kawardha city unit of ABVP.

From 2004 to 2010, he headed the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morch's (BJYM) Kabirdham district unit. He served as BJYM's Chhattisgarh unit president from 2016 to 2020. In 2020, he was elected as a member of Kabirdham Zila Panchayat.

## 13,000 revenue cases pending, delay in resolving cases during code of conduct

Raipur, Nov 13:

The efforts to resolve the revenue matters going on in the district for the last one year do not seem to be successful. Efforts were made to settle the cases by first setting up camps in all the tehsils. Even after this there was no significant benefit.

After this, the resolution of the cases remained stuck due to the Model Code of Conduct. Meanwhile, according to the Bhuiyan portal, more than 13,000 revenue cases are still pending in various tehsils of the district, whereas the number of these cases in various courts of Chhattisgarh is only 9324, while the resolution of these cases is only till the review meeting and inspection.

It does not appear to have any significant impact on the ground. Meanwhile, the work of voter list revision for the Lok Sabha elections is



starting from December 20 and the final publication of the voter list will be done in February.

In such a situation, there are signs of implementation of the code of conduct within a few days. In such a situation, only two months time seems to be available to resolve all the pending cases. After this, all the officers and employees will become busy in election work and people may have to face problems. According to

the website of Chhattisgarh Revenue Department, the number of cases pending in the revenue courts is more than nine thousand, whereas in the Bhuiya portal their number is around 13,000. However, only the figures of Bhuiya are true, because the cases which are registered in Bhuiyan on the website are not necessarily registered there also, hence there is a difference in the figures. The work of

revision of voter list for Lok Sabha elections will be expedited in January. During this period, the duty of most of the officers and employees will again be used for election work. In such a situation, the pendency of cases will increase again from January itself and people will have to make rounds again. Camps were organized by the district administration in all the tehsils to resolve the revenue cases, in which people did

not show interest and due to this the percentage of cases being resolved was not high. In such a situation, the situation seems to be resolved by setting up a camp again.

According to the officers, the cases in which there is no dispute are resolved before the deadline, whereas those in which there is any kind of dispute will take time to get resolved. At the same time, according to Bhuiyan Portal, the number of disputed cases is less, hence it seems possible to resolve all the cases as soon as possible.

In the review meeting, instructions have been given to immediately resolve all the pending cases. In this context, I myself went and inspected and have given instructions to resolve the cases as soon as possible. All matters will be resolved soon said Bibi Panchbhai, Additional Collector, Raipur

## Former Union Minister Netam congratulates new CM Sai

■ Says a CM from the tribal community will understand challenges, conditions and sentiments of tribal areas



Raipur, Dec 13:

Senior tribal leader of Chhattisgarh, former Union Minister and State President of Sarva Adivasi Samaj, Arvind Netam has congratulated Vishnu Deo Sai on being elected Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

He also congratulated the central leadership. Netam said that by being elected Chief Minister from the tribal area, Sai will understand the challenges, conditions and sentiments of the tribal area. Netam expressed hope that Chief Minister Sai will give new impetus to the development of tribal areas by talking to tribal societies.

According to him Draupadi Murmu from the tribal community be-

coming the President and Vishnu Deo Sai from the tribal community in Chhattisgarh getting the opportunity to become the Chief Minister is a big thing for the society. According to him people belonging to the tribal community say less and do more. Similarly, the new Chief Minister Sai will also work, he said. Netam told that he received an invitation for the swearing-in ceremony of the new Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh and cabinet members, in which he will attend.

According to Netam for the development of

tribal areas, it is necessary to see them separately from other areas. Generally development is measured by industrialization. The concept is that if there is industrialization then there will be development, he said, adding that industrialization is necessary, but natural resources should not be destroyed.

He expressed hope that the new Chief Minister Sai will deeply understand the sentiments of the tribal society and after talking to them, will create a new path of development for the tribal areas. Netam said that his experience regarding the development of tribal society in Chhattisgarh in the last years was not good.

There has been a lack of communication between the government and the tribal society, he said. With Vishnu Deo Sai becoming the Chief Minister, it is expected that this lack of communication will end, he added.

## Seven minors absconding from juvenile home arrested from Rajim

■ Were involved in serious cases like murder

Raipur, Dec 13: Police have arrested seven minor accused who were absconding from juvenile home located in Mana in Raipur. All the accused have been caught by the police from Rajim about 45 km from Raipur. All of them were lodged in juvenile home in serious cases like murder. At six in the morning on Sunday, all of them broke the window of their room and absconded. After which a case was registered under absconding sections in Mana police station and investigation was being done. Meanwhile, the



police got information about the presence of the accused in Rajim. After the information, the police took action and arrested all the seven accused. According to the information, the three absconding accused were sent to juvenile home in a murder case two years ago. The four accused of attempt to murder are residents of Gudhiyari and Ramnagar areas.

According to the information, after the fight and violence on Thursday, all seven planned to abscond together.

There is not much security on Sunday at juvenile home. Taking advantage of this, they broke the window and escaped. After this, hiding in the bushes behind, they reached Zora and from there took the auto and absconded.

## E-KYC needed to get gas cylinder for Rs 500

Only beneficiaries of Ujjwala scheme to get the benefit

Raipur, Dec 13:

People hoping a gas cylinder for Rs 500 may get a big shock. According to the information, instructions have been given to provide this benefit only to Ujjwala gas connection holders. For this, it is necessary for all Ujjwala gas connection holders to get e-KYC done in the concerned gas agency. The number of Ujjwala gas connection holders in the district is 65 thousand, who will get the benefit.

Due to server down in agencies, only eight thousand e-KYC has been done so far. Oil companies have asked gas agencies to do e-KYC only for those taking gas connections under the



Ujjwala scheme. After the announcement of the new government, preparations are being made by the companies to give subsidy on gas cylinders. To ensure that consumers get subsidy on time, all gas agencies have been instructed to do e-KYC of Ujjwala customers.

There are 35 gas agencies in the district, where

operators. They allege that instead of doing e-KYC, the agency people are misleading the public.

The administration has given an ultimatum to all consumers to get e-KYC done by December 31. Beneficiaries fear that if e-KYC is not done on time, they will be deprived of benefits.

This is the reason why they are busy in getting e-KYC done as soon as possible. Only Ujjwala beneficiaries have been instructed to get e-KYC done. According to the current instructions, the subsidized cylinders will be given only to the beneficiaries of Ujjwala, said KC Tharwar, Food Controller, Raipur.

## Forms can be submitted online for Open School exams

Raipur, Dec 13:

Chhattisgarh State Open School has set up Student Corner for the students to submit examination forms online for High School/Higher Secondary Examination. The students can submit forms in Student Portal through www.sos.cg.nic.in. For this the students will have to get registration done by entering their mobile numbers. The mobile numbers will be their user IDs. After registration, they important instructions will be seen. After going through the instructions the students will have to select examination, district and study centre.

## Dr. Arun Kumar Sen Memorial Music Festival on 14th



Raipur, Dec 13: In the memory of late Dr. Arun Kumar Sen, a multidimensional personality and talent in music and literature, Dr. Arun Kumar Sen Memorial Music Festival will be organised on December 14th from 6 pm in the auditorium of Rangamandir located at Gandhi Maidan. Newly elected MLA and Padma Shri awardee Anuj Sharma will also be present in this program. Chhattisgarhi folk music will be presented by his Aarug Band in the program.

## CM from tribal community brings an atmosphere of excitement: Netam

Raipur, Dec 13: In tribal-dominated Chhattisgarh, there is an atmosphere of enthusiasm in the state due to the election of new Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai from the tribal community. The tribal community is considering it as a big achievement and a matter of pride. He is hopeful that under the leadership of newly appointed Chief Minister Sai from the tribal community, work will be done with new energy in Chhattisgarh towards the upliftment of all sections of the society. Tribal leader Asharam Netam, who was elected MLA from Kanker Assembly constituency, said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister has historically been elected from the tribal



community in the state, which is a matter of pride for the entire Chhattisgarh. There has been a two decade old demand from the tribal community in Chhattisgarh to make Sai the Chief Minister; keeping this in mind Vishnu Deo Sai, who has a clean image and positive thinking, has been chosen as the Chief Minister. There cannot be anything more gratifying for the people of the state than the fact that keeping

in mind the years-old demand and public sentiments, the head of the state has been selected from the tribal community. He said that now all the schemes of the Central and State Government will be implemented with full promptness in the state of Chhattisgarh and all sections of the society will easily get the benefits of the schemes. Common public of home town Jashpur said that Vishnu Deo Sai has a sociable personality. He has always been helping the tribal people by meeting them. The entire tribal community is very happy on his election as Chief Minister. It is expected that he will pay special attention to the tribal society and work for their development.

## Inter-regional chess competition kickstarts at Power Company

■ Players from eight state regions vie for glory

Raipur, Dec 13: The Chhattisgarh State Power Companies commenced a three-day inter-regional chess competition, with an inaugural move played by KS Manothia, Executive Director of the Transmission Company, and MS Chauhan. Participants from eight state regions are competing in the event, organized by the Central Sports and Arts Council.

Executive Director Manothiya extended his congratulations to all the players during the open-



ing ceremony, highlighting the significance of such events in fostering team spirit.

MS Chauhan, the General Secretary of the Central Sports and Arts Council, expressed the hope that Chhattisgarh State Power Companies

would continue to host national-level chess competitions, strengthening the Council's role.

In today's league matches, Bhanupratap Mahant, RK Chauhan, Mukesh Sonkar, Rajesh Goyal Gupta, Manoj Thakur, and Satyendra Srivastava led

the men's category with two points each. In the women's category, Nutan Thakur, Sanli Chauhan, Malti Joshi, and Meena Kurre also secured 2 points each. The competition's final match is scheduled for December 14, with Chief Judge Vignesh and Deputy Judge Ayush Singh overseeing the proceedings.

The event featured the presence of Central Sports and Arts Council Secretary Pankaj Singh, S Rajesh Singh, Central Supervisor Rajneesh Choubey, MC Soni, and All India Chess Champion Nutan Thakur. The program was skillfully conducted by Manager Arun Dewangan.

## Collector inspects ongoing road construction work



Raipur, Dec 13: Collector Dr. Ravi Mittal today inspected the ongoing road construction work in Charidod-Bagicha and took stock of the quality of the work. He instructed the Executive Engineer, SDAO and Deputy Engineer of the Public Works Department to complete the road construction work on time. He also told to pay special attention to quality in road construction work. Taking stock of the ongoing construction work, Collector Dr Mittal directed the

concerned construction agency to bring progress in the road asphalt work and complete the work on time. The executive engineer of the concerned department said that the work of construction of garden road from Charaidoda is in progress. Bitumen road is being constructed from Charidod to Bagicha. With demarcation, people will get convenience in transportation.

## Science Exhibition held at Mother's Pride School

Raipur (Khamhariya), Dec 13: Mother's Pride Senior Secondary CBSE Affiliated School at Khamhariya students with full zeal and enthusiasm showcased their talents under the guidance of the mentors of schools by making their working and non-working models on Saturday Dec 9, 2023. This event was organized by the School management to spotlight students creativity and ingenuity in the realm of science and technology. The entire ground work was made in a synchronized way by the Administrative Manager of the school MK Sahu. His vision and style was extraordinary which made hassle-free functioning of the Event. The School also had a

parents teachers amalgamation on this day. Around 300 parents and guardians visited the school campus met the teachers of their wards and on the other hand they also showed anxiousness to visit the different segments of the models in the science Fair. That included variety of technologies whether it is captivating portrayal of the successful landing of Chandrayan on moon or let it be the awareness of having savings accounts in commercial banks. On one hand electromagnetic counter was capturing the crowd while on the other hand Consumer awareness from Production to Retail was being displayed. Young scientists were presenting Environment



safety whereas senior boys and girls were engaged in Chemistry based models. Biology wing was good enough in explaining the public about their digestive system and heart function where as Laws of Motion counter was equally eloquent. In a

nut shell each counter of the exhibition was so much devoted in their endeavor that visitors could not even stop themselves to visit the counter and listen to the students views and explanation about their models. Each and everyone in

the school was full of energy. From the team of Board of Directors, the Managing Director Adv. Aditya Krishna Tiwari showed a keen interest in students' work. Adv. Tiwari said that it shows the dedication and commitment of the team consisting of students and their mentors. He further said that Mother's Pride School has a tradition that it encourages each and every student to participate in every event. On the other hand principal Dr. K.L. Sikhwal assured the mass that in future, the school will come up with much more similar events to enhance students hidden talents for the overall growth of the child. School's Administrative Manager M.K. Sahu was man of the

show as without his laborious task such a big event was not possible. Sahu with dedication managed the entire discipline and managed the things very smoothly which shows his mastery in organizing the things systematically. The Science Exhibition in-charge Vishnu the Physics PGT said it's the guidance of the management and Administrative Manager Mr. M K Sahu that the event has gathered a grand success. The School Chairman Dr. Uma Tiwari congratulated the Entire team of the school especially Mr. M.K. Sahu for smooth conduct Mrs. Tiwari believes that at the end of the show it's a 'Team Work that makes A Dream to Come True'.

# Collector instructs under Swachhata Hi Seva campaign

Central Chronicle News

**Dhamtari, Dec 13:** District Collector Rituraj Raghuvanshi has given instructions to keep all the government offices and premises of the district clean and beautiful by running a cleaning campaign, under Swachhata Hi Seva (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan).

The Collector instructed all the district officers to keep their and their subordinate offices and premises clean and tidy, auction of old vehicles, old computers, furniture and unusable materials.

After the instructions of the Collector Municipal Corporation Commissioner Vinay Poyam, in various wards including Aama Pond, Baniya Pond, Corn Pond of District



Headquarters Dhamtari, Navagaon Ward, Makeshwar Ward, Hatkeshwar Ward, Vivekananda Ward, Ambedkar Ward, Ward, Ward, Ward,

Sunderganj Ward, Salhewarpara, did systematic disposal of polythene and other materials lying on the banks of the pond.

Municipal Corporation Commissioner Vinay Kumar Poyam said that cleanliness is a good habit, everyone should make this habit for clean environment and ideal lifestyle and in view of this, seeing the great need of cleanliness in the city, and our corporation has started Cleanliness Fortnight.

We need to keep ourselves, home, surroundings, society, community, city, garden and environment etc. clean every day, he said. He has also appealed to the city residents to keep their surroundings clean and make the city clean and beautiful.

# Door-to-door garbage collection done

By Swachhagrahis under 'Swachhata-hi-Seva' campaign

Central Chronicle News

**Korba, Dec 13:** Under 'Swachhata Hi Seva' (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan), under the guidance of Collector Saurabh Kumar, the work of door to door garbage collection is being done on priority by the Swachhagrahis in the urban and rural areas of the district.

Besides, they are also working towards cleanliness of the locality and ward, and in this series, cleanliness campaign was conducted in Kosabadi zone ward number 22 and 23 and Ravi Shankar zone number 24 of Municipal Corporation Korba.

Under the campaign, the city's taxi stand, sports ground, community hall as well as residential complexes in the area around Subhash Chowk, waste ma-



terials, debris, garbage etc. was cleaned and emissions from houses and shops were removed. An awareness campaign was conducted among the city residents to not throw waste on

roads and public places. Similarly, in rural areas too, Swachhagrahis are working on all aspects of solid and liquid waste management to make the villages clean and beautiful.

Swachhagrahis are running an awareness campaign to make the villagers aware of keeping the village clean and giving them information about separate disposal of wet and dry waste. In Gram Panchayats, other structures including soak pits are also being constructed for safe disposal of dirty water collected near water sources. For cleanliness awareness, women are creating clean environment in rural areas through meetings and awareness rallies in villages.

Apart from this, work is being done to educate the villagers about the importance of cleanliness to protect them from diseases and through collective labor donation, public places like temples, bus stands, ponds etc. are being cleaned.

# Resolution passed to expel rebels

● Indulged in infighting from INC

Central Chronicle News

**Kurud, Dec 13:** After the recently concluded assembly elections, a large workers meeting of the entire assembly constituency was organized by the Congress Party to discuss and review the results of the Kurud assembly, in which huge number of workers from all the villages participated.

In this meeting, all the workers expressed their views regarding the defeat in the assembly elections as there was resentment among the workers due to the defeat in the elections.

According to information received from reliable sources, some selected leaders were targeted by



the Congress Party in the review meeting of Kurud assembly level results and all of them were strong contenders for MLA tickets, whose complaint was made in PCC Raipur immediately after the voting and in the review meeting held, again the proposal to expel the same selected

leaders for their actions was passed.

In the review meeting District Congress Committee President Sharad Lohana, former District Congress Committee President Mohan Lalwani, Lok Sabha in-charge Vinod Tiwari, Assembly in-

charge Saqlain, former MLA Lekhram Sahu, District Panchayat President Kanti Sonwani, State Congress Committee member Prabhtrao Meghawale, former Vice President of Congress Rajkumari Dewan, Block Congress President Kurud Ashish Sharma, President

Magarlod Dihuram Sahupur, Pramod Sahu, Basant Sahu etc. were present.

It was said while filing a named complaint against the officials, that Nagar Panchayat President Kurud Tapan Chandrakar, former MLA candidate Laxmikanta Hemant Sah, District Panchayat President Sharda Sahu and District Congress Committee Vice President Bharat Nahar have worked against the Congress Party and the candidate.

In view of all these circumstances, it was proposed to take strict action against all of them and expel them from the party. At the end of the meeting, assembly candidate Tarini Neelam Chandrakar expressed gratitude to all the present workers.

# Informal meeting addresses welfare of SC/ST railway employees

● GM emphasizes rule-based employee problem resolution

Central Chronicle News

**Bilaspur/Raipur, Dec 13:** An informal meeting convened on December 12, with the presence of Alok Kumar, General Manager of South East Central Railway, brought together officials from the All India SC/ST Railway Employees Organization at the Zonal Headquarters auditorium.

The meeting saw the participation of M.S. Khobragade, Zonal President of the organization, Prabhat Paswan, Zonal Secretary, and officials from three other divisions, as well as department



heads, including the Additional General Manager of South East Central Railway.

During the gathering, officials from the All India SC/ST Railway Employees Organization raised various concerns related to the welfare of SC/ST Railway employees in front of General Manager Alok Kumar.

Department heads provided department-specific information on these issues, highlighting the steps taken for employee welfare. Alok Kumar stressed the impor-

importance of resolving employee problems according to established rules and provided necessary guidelines.

Principal Chief Personnel Officer R K Agarwal coordinated the meeting, where steps were taken to address fundamental employee complaints and concerns.

The meeting served as a platform for discussions on various issues between the railway administration and the association, with particular attention given to employee transfers.

# Manik Dutt to take part in Nat'l Judo Ch'ship

National Sub Junior Judo Championship from Dec 15 to 18 in Kochi

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Dec 13:** Talented young judoka, Manik Dutt from DPS Raipur, is all set to showcase his skills at the upcoming National Sub Junior Judo Championship, which is scheduled to take place from December 15 to 18 at the Rajiv Gandhi Indoor Stadium in Kochi, Kerala.

The championship, organized by the Kerala Judo Association under the patronage of the Indian Judo Federation, will feature participants from all over the country. Among them, the sub-junior judo team from Chhattisgarh will proudly include Manik Dutt, representing his home state.

Manik, currently a 9th-



grade student at DPS Raipur, has been diligently honing his judo skills under the expert guidance of Rekha, the Sports Officer, and Judo Instructor at DPS. His dedication and hard work have paid off with this opportunity to compete at the national level.

The Chhattisgarh state judo team, including

Manik, embarked on their journey to Kochi today by train, ready to face tough competition in the prestigious tournament.

It's worth noting that Manik Dutt and other talented judokas earned their spots in the Chhattisgarh state team through their exceptional performances in the 23rd State Level Judo Competition held in Bhilai.

The team will be led by experienced judo coach Bhagwati Suryavanshi, who holds a Black Belt Diagnosis, and supported by team manager Rajkumar Jaiswal and Uday Singh Yadav, both Black Belt holders themselves, informs Anis Memon, working committee member of State Judo Association

# SMJ distributes sweaters to school children



Central Chronicle News

**Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, Dec 13:** It was under banner of 'Samarth Mahila Jagriti' (SMJ) Pendra that woolen sweaters were distributed to school children in Saraswati Gyan Mandir School in Gaurela.

Members of Samiti

Shilpa Jain on occasion of 51st marriage anniversary of her mother-in-law Prabha Jain, father-in-law Narendra Jain, distributed woolen clothes to school children in presence of other members of Samiti and tried to bring smile on their faces. This particular initiative by SMJ was hailed all the school teachers and staff.

# Candidates asked to submit account details

● For VS No. 73- Kh'garh

**Khairagarh, Dec 13:** As per instructions by the Collector and District Returning Officer (DRO) Gopal Verma, all the candidates who have contested VS polls 2023 from VS No. 73-Khairagarh will have to submit true copy of the details of their account for election expenditure to DRO within 30 days of declaration of results.

As per orders issued in this regard, for the above ward, RO of VS No. 73-Khairagarh has been authorised and for his assistance Asst. RO and Accounts team will be present. RO office has been selected for the submission of account details by the candidate. For tallying of the account and maintenance of registers and updation of record Manglesh Kumar Namdev - Asst. Grade-2 DRO office- Khairagarh-

Chaukhadan- Gadai has been issued instructions.

**NAME CHANGE**

It is informed to the general public that I, Pratik Kumar Jain, S/O Suresh Kumar Jain resident of 04, Gandhi Chowk, Gandhi Chowk, Durg, Durg, PO: Durg, DIST: Durg, (C.G.) that in my Daughter's name in her passport is Taniya D/O Pratik Kumar Jain, so I have changed her name to Taniya Jain D/O Pratik Kumar Jain. So in future she should be recognised by her new name that is Taniya Jain D/O Pratik Kumar Jain. in all Government and other documents.

**Pratik Kumar Jain**  
04, Gandhi Chowk, Gandhi Chowk, Durg, PO: Durg, DIST: Durg, (C.G.)

**NAME CHANGE**

This is to inform the General Public that I, AMAR SETHIYA S/O LATE KANHAIYALAL SETHIYA resident of Vardhaman Heights, Ganjpara, GE ROAD, Durg(C.G.) have changed my old name AMAR SETHIYA S/O LATE KANHAIYALAL SETHIYA, So in future I shall be recognised by my new name AMAR CHAND SETHIYA S/O LATE KANHAIYALAL SETHIYA in all government and other documents.

**Amar Chand Sethiya**  
Vardhaman Heights, Ganjpara, GE ROAD, DURG (C.G.)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

(In Relation of Immovable Property bearing Khassa No. 291/1, Comprising Area 0.074 Hect. or 740 Sq. Mt. Built-up Area 300 Sq. Ft. Situated Mausa Kofhapur, P. H. No. 25, R.I.C. Anpara/Kh. Tahsil & District Durg (C.G.)

This is to inform to General Public that the Original previous GRT deed duly executed by Sri Kanhaiyalal S/O Devi Prasad in favour of Sri Sagari Shrinivas Aujkar S/O Sri Bhramas Aujkar Vide Book No. 1, Volume No. 35181, at Pages 367 to 393, Document St. No. 6359, Dated 16.03.2021 registered in the Office of Sub-Registrar, Durg (C.G.) of Khassa No. 291/1, Area 0.074 Hect. has been lost/Misplaced by Present Sri Lalit Agrawal S/O Sri Vinod Kumar Agrawal Whitten information duly given in the Police Station, Pulgaon, Durg (C.G.) for Lost of above Sale deed by present Owner.

Now, Sri Lalit Agrawal S/O Sri Vinod Kumar Agrawal has applied for Loan from My Client, Kotak Bank Ltd. If any Person/Bank/Corporation/Society/Institution/Govt. or No Govt. Authority etc., having an interest in the said Property or any part thereof may make their claim/objections with documentary proof to the undersigned office within 07 Days from the Date of Publication, without any reference to such claim and the same, if any shall be considered as waived & My client shall be enable to create mortgage on said property.

Please take Notice

Date: 13/12/2023  
Place: Raipur

**ASHUTOSH MISHRA**  
(Advocate)  
F-3, Modern Complex, Near Lalgaon City Mart, Motibag Chowk, Raipur (C.G.)  
Mobile No. - 94255-48998  
Phone - (0771) 2888998 (O)

**INFORMATION REGARDING MISSING OF DOCUMENT**

Land/Plot purchased by my Client -Smt. SHILPA KISHOR BHURLE W/O KISHOR BHURLE, ADD- HARSHIT VIHAR COLONY WARD NO. 19 URKURA RAIPUR (C.G.) Contact No. 8878332133 at Land/Plot No.109, Khassa No. 75/6, 78/2, 80/7, 81/1, Part of 78/4, present Kh.No. 78/117 area 1000 Sq.ft. which is situated/located in Harshit Vihar, Mouja Urkura, P.H.No. 108, Tahsil and District Raipur (C.G.) whose date of registry is 15.12.2014 in which seller is Singhania Buildcon Pvt. Ltd. through Director Subodh Singhania and Purchaser is Smt. Pooja Upadhyay W/O. Ashish Upadhyay, Resident of Baidulda, Kharrahat, Balaji Flex Gali, Dist. Raipur (C.G.), the original registry dated 02.11.2023 thereof has been lost by me somewhere in between my residence and Bank in Bhanpur Khamtarai area, Raipur (C.G.) which could not be found despite rigorous efforts. Hence, it is requested to the gentleman, brother or sister who finds it to kindly intimate me on my below mentioned address.

**Arvind Kumar Shukla**  
(M.Com, L.L.B)  
Advocate  
Krishna Nagar, Boriya Road, Raipur (C.G.)

**AVANSE FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED**  
Registered Address: 001 & 002, Futurum Business Center-A Wing, Near Hyatt Regency Hotel, Ashok Nagar, Sahar Road, Anandhi (E), Mumbai-400 099  
Branch Address: Avanse Financial Services Ltd. 02nd Floor Kamia Tower, Street No.8-A, New Shanti Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001

**SALE NOTICE/ E-AUCTION**  
(Under Rule 8(6) read with Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)

**05th E-Auction 15 days Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Co-Borrower(s), or their legal heirs/representatives that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Avanse Financial Services Ltd (AFSL) on 15th March, 2023, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and without recourse basis" on 04/01/2024, for recovery of Rs. 3,28,59,045/- (Rupees Three Crore Twenty Eight Lakhs Fifty Nine Thousand & Forty Five Only) outstanding as on 23rd June 2022, along with further interest and additional/Penal Interest from 24th June, 2022, due to the Secured Creditor i.e. Avanse Financial Services Ltd. from Gem Learning Services Private Limited (through its Directors & Other Officials), as Borrower, Biswajit Chatteraj, Manomohan Chatteraj, Satendra Shrivastava, Shikha Shrivastava Sikshoday Education and Research Foundation and Soumi chatteraj, as the Co-Borrowers.

The reserve price will be Rs 56,80,000/- & the earnest money deposit will be Rs 5,68,000/-

Description of Secured Asset	Type of Possession	Reserve Price (Rs) Incremental Amount	Earnest Money (Rs)	Date of Inspection
Plot.No. II-I, comprising area 1500 Sq. Ft. or 139.40 Sq. Mt., comprised in Part of Khassa Nos. 414/2, 415/2, 658/1, 659/1, 669/1, 673, 674/1 & 675, situated at Mouja Kapa, P.H. No. 109, R.I.C. Raipur-1, Tahsil & District Raipur (C.G.)	PHYSICAL	Rs. 56,80,000/-	Rs. 5,68,000/-	23rd and 24th December 2023 between 11:00 am to 01:00 pm.

The description of the property that will be put up for sale is in the Schedule. The sale will also be stopped if, amount due as aforesaid, interest and costs (including the cost of the sale) are tendered to the "Authorized Officer" or proof is given to his satisfaction that the amount of such secured debt, interest and costs has been paid. At the sale, the public generally is invited to submit their tender personally. No officer or other person, having any duty to perform in connection with this sale shall, however, directly or indirectly bid, acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in the property sold.

If the Borrower pays the amount due to the Avanse Financial Services Ltd. (AFSL) in full before the date of sale, the sale is liable to be stopped. The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and to the following further conditions:

The E-auction will take place through portal <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> or Auctiontiger Mobile App (Android) and also physically in our branch office on 04/01/2024 between 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm with unlimited extension of 5 minutes each.

- The particulars specified in the Schedule herein below have been stated to the best of the information of the undersigned, but the undersigned shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. In the event of any dispute arising as to the amount bid, or as to the bidder, the lot shall at once again be put up for auction
- The Property shall not be sold below the reserve price.
- Bid Increment amount will be Rs. 25,000/-
- All the Bids submitted for the purchase of the property shall be accompanied by Earnest Money as mentioned above by way of a Demand Draft favoring the "Avanse Financial Services Limited," payable at Avanse Financial Services Ltd. 02nd Floor Kamia Tower, Street No.8-A, New Shanti Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001" before 5.00 PM on the said 02-January-2024 and The Demand Drafts will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders.
- The highest bidder shall be declared to be the purchaser of any lot provided always that he is legally qualified to bid and provided further that the amount bid by him is not less than the reserve price. It shall be in the discretion of the "Authorized Officer" to decline acceptance of the highest bid when the price offered appears so clearly inadequate as to make it advisable to do so.
- For reasons recorded, it shall be in the discretion of the "Authorized Officer" to adjourn/discontinue the sale.
- Inspection of the property is fixed on 23rd and 24th December 2023 between 11.00 am to 01.00 pm and also may be done with prior appointment with Authorized Officer. (Piz call to Mr. Rahul Vishwakarma (Mobile No. 7974144736) and/or Ashish Chaturvedi on 9321413969.
- The person declared as bid winner shall, immediately after such declaration, deposit twenty-five per cent (25%) of the purchase amount to the "Authorized Officer" and, in default of such deposit, the property shall forthwith be put up again and resold.
- In case the initial deposit is made as above said, the balance amount of the purchase money payable shall be paid by the purchaser to the "Authorized Officer" on or before the 15th day from the date of confirmation of the sale of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day is a Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day. In default of payment within the period mentioned above, the property shall be resold, after the issue of a fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit shall stand forfeited to the Avanse Financial Services Ltd. and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all the claims over the property or to any part of the sum for which it may be subsequently sold.
- Details of any encumbrances, known to the Avanse Financial Services Ltd., to which the property is liable: Nil. Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property and any other known particulars bearing on its nature and value: Nil. Nothing other than the above
- For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the Service Provider, E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. Name: Ram Sharma. Email ID: [ramprasad@auctiontiger.net](mailto:ramprasad@auctiontiger.net) & Contact No. 9978591888
- For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in the website i.e. <https://www.avanse.com> and/or <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net>.
- Note: The intending bidders may contact the Authorized Officer Mr. Rahul Vishwakarma (Mobile No. 7974144736) / Email Id: [rahul.vishwakarma@avanse.com](mailto:rahul.vishwakarma@avanse.com) and also to Ashish Chaturvedi 9321413969 / Email Id: [ashish.chaturvedi@avanse.com](mailto:ashish.chaturvedi@avanse.com).

Place: Raipur  
Date: 14th December, 2023

Sd/-  
Authorized Officer  
For Avanse Financial Services Ltd.

## Jan Darshan starts again after a gap of two months

Bilaspur, Dec 13:

After a gap of two months, the weekly program of meeting the general public, Jan Darshan, started again here after the end of the election code of conduct. On the instructions of Collector Avnish Sharan, ADM Shivkumar Banerjee met the people and heard their problems and a total of 31 people applied to the Additional Collector for resolution of their various problems.

The Additional Collector handed over the application to the concerned officers and gave instructions to resolve it within the time limit. It is noteworthy that the weekly public darshan will now commence every Monday after the TL meeting at around 12 noon. In Jandarsan, along with the common people of the district, elderly people, women and rural farmers



reached the Collectorate to resolve their problems.

Mohanlal Dhruv of Gram Panchayat Lamer of Takhatpur block and others including others applied for siltification of the road coming from Lamer to Bhadam. The ADM handed over the related matter to Takhatpur CEO

and gave instructions for its immediate resolution.

Mohanlal Dhruv of Gram Panchayat Lamer demanded to get boreholes drilled for irrigation and told that he is a small and poor farmer and wants to do organic farming.

Divya Kaushik, resident of Birkoni, applied for

making priority ration card and Mahendra Manhat, resident of Karva Gram Panchayat of Kota Tehsil, met the ADM and applied for the repair of his motorized tricycle vehicle. ADM directed Deputy Director Social Welfare to provide necessary technical support.

## Free training being given by Force Academy

Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, Dec 13:

With the aim of preparing the unemployed youth of the district for the upcoming recruitment examination, a free Force Academy GPM Mazgaon has been established by Dr. Lal Umed Singh, Superintendent of Police, Balrampur. Efforts were being made to connect the students of Force Academy GPM Majhgawan through newspapers and social media; so that a better platform could be given to the young talents of the area and collective efforts could be made in the direction of both physical efficiency and knowledge acquisition.

An informal beginning was made a few days ago. The children were receiving training for physical efficiency under expert guidance on the ground and it was formally inaugurated on 10 December 2023 by Dr. Lal Umed Singh, SP Balrampur; the source of inspiration for the young talents of vil-



lage Majhgawan. Force Academy GPM Majhgawan was established so that the unemployed youth of the area can be given free training and can be prepared for the written examination free of cost.

The founder of the academy was Dr. Lal Umed Singh SP; the guide who played a special role in the establishment of Balrampur Academy was Manisha Thakur Raote ASP GPM. In the said program, Shyam Kumar Sidar SDOP Gaurela Saurabh Singh TI

Gaurela, Siddharth Shukla traffic in-charge GPM, Pr. Constable Vishwanath Wakare, Sanshudhan Bareth constable Alok Rai, Motiram Sahu, Vikas Pandey Academy coordinator Bhupendra Singh, coach Pawan Kumar, coach Chandraprakash Padwar, coach Sunita Singh, Piyush Kesharwani Gramin Jan Pahalwan Singh Maravi, Arjun Singh, Gajroop Singh, Uday Singh, Santosh Singh, Bhagirathi, Sumer Singh, Jhannu Singh Seva Singh Fatte Singh,

Narayan Singh, Maan Singh Chandrapal and all the participating students were present.

The program was addressed and guided by Dr. Lal Umed Singh, SP Balrampur and detailed information was given regarding the objective of establishing the Force Academy. Manisha Thakur Raote ASP GPM, SDOP Gaurela, Police Station Incharge Gaurela, Traffic Incharge GPM, Coach Sunita Singh and Coach Chandraprakash also addressed the children.

## Illegal paddy transport busted, 340 sacks seized at Odisha border

Jagdarpur, Dec 13:

The Nagarnar police in the district apprehended two vehicles engaged in the illicit transportation of paddy from the neighboring state of Odisha to unauthorized paddy procurement centers. A total of 340 sacks of paddy were seized from a pickup truck involved in the operation.

The incident unfolded when a team led by Naib Tehsildar Lakiram Pandey, stationed within the Nagarnar police station area, intercepted two trucks and a pickup vehicle at the Dhanpunji Naka Odisha border on a Friday morning at 4 am. Authorities requested documents pertaining to the paddy being transported, but due to the absence of any valid documentation, the Nagarnar police took swift action to impound the paddy.

It's important to note that paddy procurement operations commenced in Chhattisgarh on November 1. However, opportunistic middlemen have been attempting to surreptitiously sell paddy at illegal procurement centers in Odisha. In response to these unlawful activities, the



district administration has deployed a dedicated team. Naib Tehsildar of Nagarnar and local law enforcement jointly conducted an investigation, resulting in the seizure and confiscation of two Odisha-registered trucks and one Chhattisgarh registered pickup vehicle, all found laden with 340 sacks of paddy.

## PTM held for SAGES English and Hindi medium

Mungeli, Dec 13:

Parent-teacher meeting of classes 1 to 12 of both English and Hindi medium was held in Swami Atmanand Government English School, Daupara. PTM of primary department from class 1 to 5th and pre-secondary department from class 6th to 8th from 10 am to 11.30 am, class 12th commerce faculty of both medium from 12 noon to 1 pm, class 12th of science/mathematics faculty of both medium 1 PTM was held for all the faculty of class 11th both medium from 2.30 to 3.30 pm, class 10th both medium from 3.30 to 4.30 pm and class 9th both medium from 4.30 to 5.30 pm.

The present parents and students of all the departments were given inspection of their SA-1 i.e. half yearly examination and



report card by the class teachers of the respective class. The parents present openly shared personal problems related to their children with the teachers and principal and made possible suggestions. The class teachers were informed about their class wise attendance in the current session and were motivated to come to school regularly in the coming time.

Principal Dr. IP Yadav informed in his address that 75 percent attendance is necessary for all students for board classes. He urged the parents and

guardians to provide necessary cooperation and necessary suggestions for improvement for the all-round development of the students and thanked all the parents for making the conference a success.

All the teachers including examination in-charge Pankaj Mishra, class teacher Vandita Gupta, Shabnam Bano, Pushpanjali Koshale, Parul Ojha, Sandhya Kujur, Jyoti Jaiswal, Ruhi Fatima, Deepanjali Soni, exercise teacher Rajendra Prasad Sahu, librarian Ganjanand Kaushik were present in the conference.



## Shiv Mahapuram Katha in Karmari from Dec 14-24

Dongagaon, Dec 13:

On occasion of 'Margsheersh' month, 'Shri Shivmahapuram katha' will be organised in Gram Karmari's Durga temple premises from Dec 14-24. For reciting the 'Katha', Pt. Kamta Prasad Tiwari (Kamalkant) Aarajkund block Churia, who is the disciple of well-known religious Discourse Bhagwant Sant Niranjan brahmaleen Jagadguru Aadh Shankaracharya.

Prior to the deliver of Lord Ashutosh's story, the 'rudrabhishekh' of sacred 'Shivling' will be done daily from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and after this 'katha' will be delivered daily from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm. The 'Kalash Yatra' and 'Vyas Vedi Puja' and 'Mahantam' will be held on Thursday DSec 14; 'Ling puja mahima', 'Narad vyakhan', 'Shivadiik Charitra' on Dec 15; and on Dec 16- 'Shrishti Vistar', 'Brahma Sandhya', 'Shivvatva Nirupan Divya Katha will be delivered.

## Int'l Human Rights Day celebrated



Rajim, Dec 13:

International Human Rights Day was celebrated here in the city's Government Rajiv Lochan Postgraduate College and on this occasion, a speech competition was organized for the students. In this program organized under the guidance of the Principal of the institution, Professor ML Verma, Professor Ghanshyam Yadav, Head of the Hindi Department, was the chief guest, Dr. Samiksha Chandrakar,

Head of the Department of Political Science, was the special guest, and Professor Chitra Khote, Department of Political Science, was the special guest.

Chairman of Economics, Professor Akash Baghmare, Chairman of the Department of History were present. Program coordinator Professor Shweta Khare, Head of the Department of English, said that the participants presented their views in this speech competition organized on the theme of



Human Rights Day 2023, "Freedom, Equality and Justice for All". According to the decision of the jury of the competition, first place was secured by Miss Sonia Soni BA Second Year; second position was secured by Miss Isha Nirala BA Second Year and third position was secured by Miss Neha Sahu Yoga. Special guest Professor Chitra Khote gave information about the formation of Human Rights Commission. Special guest Dr.

Samiksha Chandrakar encouraged the students and said that they should participate in such competitions. In the presence of the chief guest, Professor Ghanshyam Yadav gave a very interesting explanation of the theme of Human Rights Day 2023 - Freedom, Equality and Justice for all. A large number of students including Shubham Sharma, Assistant Professor Yoga, were present in this program.

## Martyrdom Day of Martyr Veernarayan celebrated

Kareli Badi, Dec 13:

The Martyrdom Day of Chhattisgarh's first martyr, Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh, was celebrated for the first time at the Kareli Badi police check-post, located in the sub-tehsil of Kareli Badi. The check-post in-charge, at his own expense, organized this remarkable program that brought together young men and women, showcasing their talents and paying tribute to a national hero.

The highlight of the celebration was a captivating Karate demonstration by the talented members of the Shaurya Sports Club



from Kundel. Karate instructors and young individuals from Motimpur exhibited their skills also.

During the program, the attendees were treated to a moving narrative of Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh's remarkable bravery,

presented by the students from Bright Future Academy Bhendri. Karate instructor Ghanshyam Dhruv took the opportunity to underscore the significance of the training provided by the paramilitary forces and the army in

Kundel. He praised Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh's contributions, biography, and extraordinary courage. Adding an extra dose of motivation, Bhagirathi Sonkar uplifted the spirits of the youth with her inspirational songs. Notably, the event saw the recognition of a Chhattisgarh state-level gold medalist in Karate, with players being honored and awarded citations for their outstanding achievements.

Speaking on the occasion, SI Lakshmi Shankar Mandleshwar highlighted the significance of Veer Narayan Singh as the first

martyr, revered by the tribals of Chhattisgarh, particularly in the Sonakhan region. Public representatives who graced the check-post event encouraged young men and women to be aware of their rights and to follow the path shown by great leaders. They emphasized the value of hard work on the journey to success. The event also witnessed individuals from the community, including Sarpanch Domar Singh Sahu, Dhram Mande, Deputy Sarpanch Sevak Ram Bandhe, Hemant Sahu, Dinesh Jangde, and Head Constable Ravi Jagne, with their presence.

## SC's decision to uphold Article 370 historic: Sahu

Fingeshwar, Dec 13:

Former MP and National Vice President of BJP Backward Class Cell, Chandulal Sahu, here termed the Supreme Court's upholding of Central BJP government's decision to abrogate Article 370 as a historic decision and thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for this victory.

The former MP said that this decision was taken by the Lok Sabha on August 5, 2019, which has been maintained as is by the Supreme



Court today. The decision of the Supreme Court will usher in new hope, progress and unity in the lives of the people, brothers and sisters of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. Expressing great enthusiasm and hap-

piness, Sahu said that today's decision of the Supreme Court is not just a legal decision. This decision is a proof of the collective resolve of the Prime Minister to create a united India. From today onwards we will truly consider Kashmir as an integral part of India.

This decision of the Supreme Court is a slap against the conspiracy done with the people of the country by appeasing the 70 years of Congress rule; he said whose echo will be heard in India for a long time.

# Enthusiastic Sitapur women reach Raipur

# Sai pays tribute to former PM Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

And freedom fighter Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh, before taking the oath of office



**Raipur, Dec 13:** With the determination and efforts of the former Prime Minister late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Chhattisgarh state was carved out of Madhya Pradesh on 1 November 2000. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had decided in the year 1990 itself that Chhattisgarh region should be declared a state, separate from Madhya Pradesh. Shri Vajpayee admired Chhattisgarh for its tribal culture and forest resources. It is noteworthy that the demand for Chhattisgarh state was being raised since year 1965, but it was eventually met by the government of Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee in year 2000. Chhattisgarh's first freedom fighter Shaheed Veernarayan Singh was a tribal hero who sacrificed his life for Chhattisgarh Mahtari. He was born in 1795 in a zamindar family of Sonakhan. Veer Narayan Singh is an important name among the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the freedom struggle of 1857. He fought valiantly against the British rule to save poor from starvation during the severe famine of 1856. He formed an army of gunmen and fought bravely against the oppression of British rulers. To curb the rebellion, British administration imprisoned Veer Narayan Singh through diplomacy and hanged him to death on 10 December 1857, after trial.

The struggle and sacrifices of Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh for the motherland will continue to inspire us for generations to come. To commemorate his contribution, State Government has established "Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Samman" for excellent work in the field of upliftment of tribal and backward classes.

## Tirathamani from Jodhpur village attends CM's oath-taking ceremony

Says providing high-level representation to Tribal community is a historic decision

**Raipur, Dec 13:** "I am eager to witness the beloved leader of my area Shri Vishnu Deo Sai take oath as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh. This decision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to provide high-level representation to the tribal community is historic", said Mrs. Tirathamani Rajwade, who has come to Raipur from village Jodhpur (Lakhanpur) of Surguja division to attend the oath-taking ceremony. She expressed hope that the pace of development which was stalled for the last five years will now gain momentum. There is an unprecedented enthusi-

asm among the people regarding the oath-taking ceremony of the newly elected Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Shri Vishnu Deo Sai and his cabinet ministers. Shri Amarnath, who arrived from Chirmiri, told that he had left with his colleagues for Raipur last night and has arrived this morning. He is looking forward to witness the historic moment of Chief Minister taking the oath of office.

Devanand Mahant, a resident of village Baghnipali under Dabhra tehsil, has reached Raipur in the morning to take part in the oath-taking ceremony. Delighted

to hear the news of Shri Vishnu Deo Sai ji being made the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Farmer Devanand decided to visit Raipur and witness the historic moment of Shri Sai taking the oath of office. Uttam Singh Shyam and Chetan Singh, who arrived from Marwahi, said that a tribal Chief Minister will be taking the oath of office today. This is a proud moment for all of us.

It is noteworthy that people from all the districts of the state are arriving in the capital city to attend the ceremony and to extend best wishes to the Chief Minister.

Paikra, Sangeeta Kansari, Santoshi Pawle, Radha Yadav, Sarita Kansari, and Sarawati Paikra, also part

of the team, stated that the appointment of Vishnu Deo Sai ji as the Chief Minister will usher in a

new era of all-round development in the geographically backward Surguja division.



Raipur, Dec 13:

A team of 27 women from the Sitapur Assembly Constituency in the Surguja division has reached Raipur to fulfill their wish to witness the oath-taking ceremony of the Chief Minister elected from their region. Smt. Neeru Mistry, a team member, stated that Shri Ramkumar Toppo has historically been elected as the MLA in the Sitapur area. Expressing appreciation for the positive thinking of Prime Minister Shri

- To fulfil their wish of witnessing CM's oath-taking ceremony
- Hails PM's historic decision of electing tribal CM

Narendra Modi, she mentioned that the appointment of Vishnu Deo Sai ji as the Chief Minister has created an atmosphere of enthusiasm in the state, including the Surguja division. Smt. Bhuneshwari

# Teacher Vidhi Tiwari honoured



**Bemetara, Dec 13:** Under the auspices of the Department of Comprehensive Education of Andhra Pradesh State and the Council of Educational Research and Training, a lecture about Midbrain Activation Training Program by Vidhi Tiwari, a teacher posted in Government Pre-Secondary School, Agrikala, was organized on Dec 11 and 12 in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. On this occasion, Project Director of Comprehensive Education Department of Andhra Pradesh State IAS Srinivas Sir, Balkrishna Sir,

- For her lecture on Midbrain Activation Training by the Education Department of AP

Coordinator of Educational Research and Training Council Dr. Sarita Madam, Sonali Madam and many people of Andhra Pradesh Education Department were present. The people present in this lecture were surprised to know about this training and appreciated it wholeheartedly and also requested Ms. Vidhi Tiwari to give this

training to some teachers in some selected schools of Andhra Pradesh state in future. Give training. At the conclusion of the program, IAS Srinivas Sir, Project Director of the Department of Comprehensive Education of Andhra Pradesh State, expressed his gratitude to Ms. Vidhi Tiwari and honored her by giving her a shawl and memento. Even before this, teacher Vidhi Tiwari was also invited by the state of Uttarakhnad to give midbrain activation training. This training of teacher Vidhi Tiwari was also highly praised in the G20 program held in Pune.

# Naxalites announce bandh in India on Dec 22

Jagdalpur, Dec 13:

Naxalites' South Sub-Zonal spokesperson Samta issued a press statement in protest against the systematic repression on the Bihar-Jharkhand revolutionary movement for the last 22 months. The Central Committee of Naxalites has declared Anti-Repression Resistance Week from Dec 16 to 22 and Bharat Bandh has been announced on Dec 22. The Naxalite press statement said that the BJP government is openly violating the Constitution. Therefore, it should be uprooted and a coalition government of workers, farmers and middle class should be formed. This coalition government will be formed only from the revolutionary armed movement.

It has been said in the press statement that Jharkhand is such a state that 40 percent of the country's mineral wealth is in this state. That is why the broker capitalists of the country have made Jharkhand their base. It is being looted by corporate companies like Tata, Jindal, Mittal, Ambani, Adani, Birla, Ertel, Vedanta. For the last 20 months, people are getting scared due to 81 mm artillery bombs being fired on tribal villages of Bihar-Jharkhand. 132 Company's central paramilitary force, Jharkhand Jagwar together with 90000 police forces have been deployed. 48 new police camps have been set up in



Palamu area, Budha Pahad, Kolhan area, Saranda area, Parnand Andolan areas since 2020. A new police camp and hundreds of mobile towers have been installed in Goikera area of Chaibasa district. Informer people are running their operation based on the news given from mobile.

# Egoism and corruption of Cong reps reason for their defeat: Shukla

Jagdalpur, Dec 13: Senior Congress leader Umashankar Shukla said that the Congress government in the state has done a lot of development work in the last five years. Decisions were taken in favor of farmers, electricity waiver also benefited the public, appointments were also made on vacant posts. But there were many reasons due to which the mandate was given against the government. Among these, arrogance and corruption of the elected representatives was also a big reason. Also, there was a delay in removing the resentment of officers and employees. The public was angry not with the government but with the elected representatives. It is not an ordinary thing for many ministers including the State Congress President to lose, serious brainstorming is necessary for this. Shukla said that senior Congressmen like him were made to sit in the house and instead of being respected, they were even humiliated. Only a few Congmen worked in every district of the entire state and directly gained importance. This is why loyal and grassroots Congmen were



angry. He said that in the case of Bastar, the education department had completely become a den of corruption. Education racket was working not only in Bastar but in the entire state due to which teachers had to suffer the consequences. Even after paying huge amount in the name of posting and promotion, teachers are still troubled. No work is done without payment, all these things are common. Shukla said that senior Congress leaders should call a conference at the state level to find out the reasons for the defeat and find out from the grassroots workers why Congress did not get public support despite a lot of work. It would not be appropriate in the interest of the party to discuss only by calling MLAs and candidates.

# Lok Adalat in Civil Court on Dec 16



Bagbahra, Dec 13:

As per instructions from National Legal Service Authority (NLSA) New Delhi, Lok Adalat is being organised in all the Courts in the country. In this the cases which can be resolved through mutual consent are to be taken for prompt hearing and under this procedure for

holding Lok Adalat in Civil Court Bagbahra is in full swing. Under this the concerned parties are being informed about their cases through notices, so that benefit can be provided to more and more people.

President Taluk Vidhik Sewa Pradhikaran (TVSP) and Judge Avinash Toppo

has issued instructions to all the concerned departments of Tehsil area Bagbahra. Under this the Nagar Palika Parishad, Electricity Deptt; Telecom, local bank's transactions; cases of division of land, and in controversial cases, the con-

cerned parties have been asked to come for pre-litigation and put forth their version.

The information in this regard was given by Nayab Najir of Court Hitesh Diwan to all the government officials and employees and they were informed that preparations for the Lok Adalat is in full swing and all efforts be made to ensure that more and more people are benefitted. In this regard a meeting with all the departments and advocates of the Court was organised, informs Advocate Virendra Shukla in a press release.

# New Era Montessori celebrates annual festival



Korba, Dec 13: An annual festival based on Saptarang....The Spectrum was celebrated. The chief guest of this program was Dr. Mrs. Neerja Bajpai. The program started with lighting of Tilak lamp and Ganesh Vandana. School director and educational director Dinesh Lamba and Arun Lamba were also present. Children gave rainbow presentations in the event held at Senior Club Korba. This program was made successful under the guidance of school headmistress Archana Prasad. Children tied rainbow ties to old and new songs. At the end of the program, the annual function was concluded with a vote of thanks by the head teacher.

Korba, Dec 13: An annual festival based on Saptarang....The Spectrum was celebrated. The chief guest of this program was Dr. Mrs. Neerja Bajpai. The program started with lighting of Tilak lamp and Ganesh Vandana. School director and educational director Dinesh Lamba and Arun Lamba were also present. Children gave rainbow presentations in the event held at Senior Club Korba. This program was made successful under the guidance of school headmistress Archana Prasad. Children tied rainbow ties to old and new songs. At the end of the program, the annual function was concluded with a vote of thanks by the head teacher.

**छत्तीसगढ़ शासन जल संसाधन विभाग**  
कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता  
जल संसाधन सभाग, कोटा, जिला-विलासपुर (छ.ग.)

**निविदा निरस्तीकरण आदेश**

आदेश क्र./5924/व.ले.वि./2023 कोटा, दिनांक 08/12/2023

निविदा सूचना क्र. 07/व.ले.वि./2023-24 दिनांक 13.07.2023

सिस्टम नं. 1411484 केकराखोली एनीकट सूक्ष्म सिंचाई योजना का निर्माण कार्य (द्वितीय आमंत्रण) राशि रु. 372.05 लाख की निविदा को अपरिहार्य कारणों से निरस्त किया जाता है।

कार्यपालन अभियंता  
जल संसाधन सभाग कोटा  
जिला-विलासपुर (छ.ग.)

G-06303/3

**CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF RAJASTHAN, KISHANGARH**  
Reaccredited to Grade A++ by NAAC

Adv. : R/F.153/Rectt./2023/3099 Date : 06.12.2023

**Teaching Recruitment Notification**

Online applications invited from eligible Indian Citizens and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) for the teaching posts of

**Professor : 05**  
**Associate Professor : 03**  
**Assistant Professor : 07**

For complete details, visit website [www.curaj.ac.in](http://www.curaj.ac.in)

Registrar

**कार्यालय, नगर पालिक निगम, भिलाई**  
शिवाजी नगर, जोन क्र. 04

क्र./लोक.वि./जोन-4/2023/1331/365A मिलाई, दिनांक 11/12/2023

**// निविदा निरस्तीकरण सूचना //**

नगर पालिक निगम, भिलाई द्वारा कार्यालयीन निविदा सूचना विज्ञप्ति क्र./लोक.वि./जोन-04/2023/133/1096/365 मिलाई, दिनांक-05.10.2023; दैनिक समाचार पत्र क्रॉनिकल में दिनांक-07.10.2023 एवं देशबंधु में दिनांक-08.10.2023 को प्रकाशित किया गया था। उक्त जारी निविदा अपरिहार्य कारणों से निरस्त किया जाता है।

सूचनाार्थी!  
जोन आयुक्त

G-06317/4

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH, BILASPUR**

**Notice**

**Extension of Tender submission date**

No. 16518/CPC/2023 Bilaspur, dated 08/12/2023

This notice is in continuation of the Tender Notice no. 13534/CPC/2023 dated 11/10/2023 published on official website of High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for inviting estimates/quotations for the Procurement of articles for installation of ILL Line of JIO for the use in the Live Streaming of Court Proceedings of the High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur.

Due to some technical issues, the final date of submission of tender documents for the aforementioned tender will now be 15 days from the date of issuance of this notice (next working day i.e. 02.01.2024 due to the Winter Vacation) on the official website of High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur.

Interested firms may submit quotations for supply, testing, installation and maintenance of various Computer articles till 04:30 PM of the last date for submission. All other terms and conditions in the tender will remain unchanged.

Arvind Kumar Verma  
Registrar General

G-06317/4

**Directorate Veterinary Services, Chhattisgarh**  
Indrawati Bhawan, Block-3, Nawa Raipur Atal Nagar  
Phone no. 0771-2331393, 94, 95 Fax no. 0771-2331392/95 email - dirvet.cg@nic.in

Letter No 7264/NLM/LS/E-PROD/S/Nava Raipur Atal Nagar, Date: 07/12/2023

**e Tender Invitation Notice**

Online Tenders are invited For Selection of Insurance Companies for Insurance of Livestock for One, Two and Three Year Policy for financial year 2023-24 of Department of Veterinary Services, Chhattisgarh. The detailed schedules are as follows:

S.NO.	Tender Details	Name of Work	Approximate Amount
1	Tender No. 7263 Date: 07.12.2023	SELECTION OF INSURANCE COMPANIES FOR	Rs. 20.51 Lakh
2	Starting Date of online Tender Submission 08/12/2023	INSURANCE OF LIVESTOCK FOR ONE TWO AND THREE YEAR POLICY	
3	Pre Bid Meeting Date-20/12/2023 Time 12 PM		
4	Last Date of Tender Submission -28/12/2023 Up to 3.00 PM		

The detailed tender documents and the list of items are made available under Department-Livestock Development Department (LDD) on website <https://www.eproc.cgstate.gov.in> and <https://agriportal.cg.nic.in/ahd>

Director  
Veterinary Services  
Chhattisgarh

G-06328/1



## CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 49 No. 73

### India's Pragmatic Stance at the UN

In a world fraught with conflicts and crises, the United Nations serves as a global forum for nations to voice their concerns and seek resolutions to pressing issues. India's stance on a draft resolution in the UN General Assembly has drawn attention and sparked debates both within and outside the country. The resolution, which called for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas conflict and the unconditional release of all hostages, saw India voting in favour of the proposed amendment. The 193-member UN General Assembly convened an Emergency Special Session to address the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict, with Egypt introducing the draft resolution. The resolution garnered 153 votes in favour, while 23 nations abstained, and 10 voted against it. India's decision to vote in favour of the amendment, proposed by the United States, calling for the unequivocal rejection and condemnation of Hamas's terrorist attacks, has elicited varied reactions. It is important to understand the nuances of India's foreign policy in the context of this vote. India has historically maintained a stance of pragmatism and non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign nations. This principle has guided India's diplomatic approach, rooted in respect for international law and the United Nations' charter. The draft resolution, sponsored by several nations, including Algeria, Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Palestine, primarily demanded a ceasefire in Gaza and emphasized the need for all parties to adhere to their international obligations, especially concerning the protection of civilians. While the resolution did not explicitly name Hamas, it stressed the importance of humanitarian access and the immediate release of all hostages. India's support for the US-proposed amendment, which specifically condemns Hamas's terrorist attacks, underscores India's unwavering commitment to combating terrorism. India has been a victim of terrorism for decades and understands the devastating consequences of such acts. By aligning itself with the amendment, India sends a clear message that terrorism, in any form and from any entity, is unacceptable. However, this move should not be viewed as a shift in India's longstanding policy on the Israel-Palestine conflict. India has consistently supported a two-state solution, recognizing both Israel and Palestine's rights to exist within secure and recognized borders. India's support for the amendment does not diminish its commitment to a just and peaceful resolution of the Israel-Palestine conflict through negotiations and dialogue. India's decision also reflects its efforts to balance its interests in the Middle East, where it has strong diplomatic, economic, and strategic ties with countries on both sides of the Israel-Palestine conflict. Navigating these complex relationships requires careful diplomacy and a nuanced approach. India's vote demonstrates its ability to engage constructively with various stakeholders in the region while upholding its principles. Furthermore, India's stance aligns with its broader foreign policy goals of maintaining a strategic and non-aligned position on global issues. India has consistently supported multilateralism, emphasizing the importance of international cooperation to address global challenges. By voting in favor of the amendment, India reinforces its commitment to combating terrorism within the framework of the United Nations. India's actions at the UN exemplify its ability to navigate complex international dynamics while staying true to its values and principles.

### Combatting Corruption

#### A Shared Responsibility

Every individual, regardless of their background or financial status, has an inherent right to live a life free from oppression. While developing and least-developed nations strive to ensure the welfare of their citizens, the realization of many schemes and programs often falls short of their objectives. The impediment often lurking behind this shortfall is corruption in its various forms. Today, the world grapples with unprecedented challenges that threaten the prosperity and stability of people globally, and at the forefront of these challenges lies the pervasive issue of corruption. Corruption, in all its facets, exerts detrimental effects on every facet of society. It intricately weaves itself into conflicts and instabilities, jeopardizing both social and economic progress while eroding democratic institutions and the rule of law. Corruption, whether direct or indirect, casts a shadow on everyone's life. It not only follows in the wake of conflicts but frequently serves as one of their root causes. Corruption's complexity extends across social, political, and economic spheres, impacting nations worldwide. It undermines democratic structures, retards economic advancement, and contributes to governmental instability. Corruption erodes the very foundation of democratic institutions by warping electoral processes, subverting the rule of law, and fostering bureaucratic quagmires whose sole purpose is the extraction of bribes. While eradicating corruption entirely may be an insurmountable task given its pervasive nature, it is imperative to halt its course in our quest for global development and the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our path forward must prioritize transparency and accountability. On October 31, 2003, the United Nations General Assembly took a significant step by adopting the United Nations Convention against Corruption and designating the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as its secretariat for the Convention's Conference of States Parties. To date, 190 parties have pledged their commitment to the Convention's anti-corruption obligations, underscoring near-universal acknowledgment of the importance of good governance, accountability, and political dedication. Furthermore, December 9 was declared International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD) by the United Nations General Assembly to raise awareness about corruption and the Convention's role in preventing and combating it. The Convention became effective in December 2005. The theme for the 2023 IACD emphasizes the crucial connection between anti-corruption efforts and peace, security, and development. At its core, the message is clear: addressing this crime is a collective responsibility and commitment, requiring the cooperation and engagement of every individual and institution to mitigate its adverse effects. The 2023 IACD also marks the twentieth anniversary of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). Vigilance against corruption is paramount, and every one of us can play a role in effecting change. There are myriad approaches to combatting corruption, and campaigns worldwide have made significant strides in this direction. In today's age of social media and technology, effecting change is more accessible than ever before, and it hinges on our collective will to make a positive impact. Government bodies must exhibit unwavering political resolve, while citizens must remain perpetually vigilant in their pursuit of a corruption-free society. Together, let us strive to make a lasting difference and ensure a more sustainable future for all.

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

### GRAIN MARKET IN BIKANER

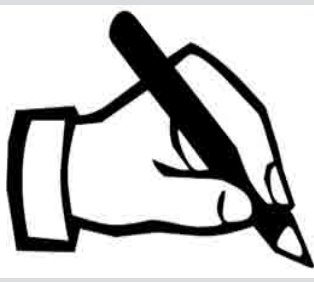


Workers sort groundnuts, at Anaj Mandi in Bikaner, Wednesday, Dec. 13.

## Political Biopics on the Indian Silver Screen



DR. VASISHT.M.C



Indian cinema has always been a reflection of society, capturing its diversity and dynamism. Over the past decade, there has been a surge in political biopics in Indian cinema, offering audiences a deeper insight into the lives, struggles, and achievements of prominent politicians. These films span various languages and explore the legacies of leaders who have left an indelible mark on Indian politics. "The Accidental Prime Minister," released in January 2019, explores the tenure of Dr. Manmohan Singh as India's Prime Minister. Directed by Vijay Ratnakar Gutte and based on Sanjaya Baru's book, the film features Anupam Kher as Dr. Manmohan Singh. It sheds light on the Congress party's dynastic politics and how Dr. Singh became entangled in its web. The film is critical of the Gandhi family's influence on the Prime Minister's office, with Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and Priyanka Gandhi coming under scrutiny. Kangana Ranaut, known for her bold choices, directed and produced "Emergency," a film set during the dark period of India's emergency from 1975 to 1977. Kangana herself plays the role of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. While the film was yet to be released at the time of writ-

ing, it is expected to provide a critical perspective on the events during the emergency. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, one of India's beloved former Prime Ministers, is the subject of two upcoming biographical films. "Main Rahoon Ya Na Rahoon Yeh Desh Rehna Chahiye - Atal," based on Ullakh NP's book, is scheduled for release on Christmas 2023, marking Vajpayee's 99th birth anniversary. The second film, "Main Atal Hoon," a solo project by actor Pankaj Tripathi, explores Vajpayee's personal and professional life, including his contributions to the nation. It is set to release on January 19, 2024, coinciding with the anniversary of Vajpayee's passing. "PM Narendra Modi," directed by Omung Kumar and starring Vivek Oberoi as Modi, narrates the journey of India's current Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. The film portrays Modi's rise from a humble tea seller to a national leader who led the BJP to a historic victory in the 2014 general elections. It highlights significant events from his tenure, such as the surgical strikes, demonetization, and the Balakot airstrike. The film faced criticism from both audiences and critics upon its release in May 2019. The legendary N. T. Rama Rao, a charismatic actor and politician who served as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, is the central figure in two biographical films: "NTR: Mahanayakudu" and "Laxmi's NTR." "NTR: Mahanayakudu," directed by Krish Jagarlamudi, delves into his political journey, including the founding of the Telugu Desam Party and his eventual ouster from power. "Laxmi's NTR," directed by Srinivas Avasara, focuses on his acting career, spanning from his debut in 1949 to his final film in 1977. Both films have received positive reviews but fell short at the box office. "Thackeray" offers a glimpse into the life of Bal Thackeray, the founder of the Shiv Sena party. Directed by Abhijit Panse, the bilingual film stars Nawazuddin Siddiqui as Thackeray and Amrita Rao as his wife Meena Thackeray. It covers the period from 1947 to 1993, showcasing Thackeray's rise as a prominent leader in Mumbai politics and his challenges to the Congress party. The film portrays Thackeray as a charismatic leader who passionately advocated for Mumbai's rights. "Thalaivi," featuring Kangana Ranaut, is a highly acclaimed political biopic that revolves around the late Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa. Directed by A. L. Vijay, the film traces Jayalalithaa's journey from a film star to a formidable political leader. It explores her struggles, controversies, and her relationship with her mentor, M. G. Ramachandran, played by Arvind Swamy. "Thalaivi" was released in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu languages on September 10, 2021. "Yatra," a 2019 Telugu-language biographical film, portrays the life and achievements of Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy, a former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Mammooty portrays

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YSR in the film, directed by Mahi V Raghav. The story revolves around YSR's famous Padayatra, a 900-mile walking tour he undertook during his election campaign in 2003. The film highlights YSR's connection with the people, his understanding of their problems, and the various welfare schemes he implemented after assuming office. It also touches upon the challenges and controversies he faced during his political journey, culminating in a tragic helicopter crash in 2009. A sequel to "Yatra" is currently in production. In the Marathi-language biopic "Gadkari," the life of Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport and Highways, takes center stage. Directed by Anurag Rajan Bhusari, the film chronicles Gadkari's political and personal journey, from his days as an ABVP student leader to his accomplishments as a minister, shedding light on lesser-known aspects of his life. While these political biopics offer a glimpse into the lives of Indian politicians, it is crucial to acknowledge their inherent biases and political agendas. Often, these films serve as vehicles for propaganda, aiming to elevate specific political figures or discredit others. Filmmakers should recognize that movies possess a unique language and chemistry that transcend mere propaganda. The true potential of cinema lies in its ability to stimulate critical thinking and reflection. Despite mixed commercial success and controversies, the trend of political biopics in Indian cinema is expected to continue in the 21st century. These films will continue to shape public perceptions and influence political discourse, adding a dynamic dimension to the world of Indian cinema.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Special Status Ends

The Supreme Court's unanimous decision upholding the Centre's revocation of Article 370 marks a historic milestone for India. August 5, 2019, when Article 370 was revoked, and December 11, 2023, when the SC validated the decision, are significant dates in India's contemporary history. These actions rectified past errors, placing Jammu and Kashmir on equal footing with the rest of the country. This move is likely to boost tourism in the region, promising a brighter future for J&K.

MK Nair, Raipur

#### Legal Clarity

The Supreme Court's recent decision on the abrogation of Article 370 can be described as epoch-making. It brings a definitive conclusion to the controversy surrounding Jammu and Kashmir's special status. The verdict dispels ambiguity and emphasizes the legality and constitutionality of the process, affirming that there was no malice involved.

Shiv Kumar Mishra, Raipur

#### Remarkable Ascent

Vishnu Deo Sai's appointment as Chhattisgarh CM is a testament to his remarkable journey from a panch to the highest constitutional office. His unwavering commitment to community service and dedication to the welfare of his village and state have been duly recognized by the BJP's national leadership. This reflects the essence of India's democracy, where individuals, regardless of their background, can ascend to significant roles in government.

Rakesh Gupta, Korba

#### Human Rights Beacon

The UN Charter's journey in upholding human rights globally is a testament to the world's commitment to safeguarding human dignity. This article delves into the document's evolution, highlighting its historical significance and enduring relevance. International efforts like this are essential in nurturing a world where fundamental rights are upheld and protected. The UN Charter stands as a platform and guiding light, uniting nations in addressing challenges and promoting the well-being of all individuals.

Krishna Kumar, Kollam

## Modi's Political Maneuvers and the Path Ahead



Yash Pal Ralhan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent announcements of chief ministers and deputy chief ministers in the key states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh have sent ripples across the political landscape. These appointments hold profound political implications, underscoring the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) relentless pursuit of expanding its parliamentary influence and

the possibility of securing a third term for Modi at the center, a feat only achieved by Jawaharlal Nehru in India's political history. The BJP's resounding victories in recent elections have allowed it to appoint a fresh crop of young and dynamic leaders to spearhead the governments, even in states where established leaders like Shivraj Singh Chouhan held sway. What is remarkable about these appointments is the BJP's ability to operate with the agility of a dynamic and innovative technology start-up turned super-unicorn. In the Modi era, the only outdated commodity is the status quo. This stands in stark contrast to the internal strife and conflicts witnessed within the Congress party, where clashes between Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers have been visible in states like Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Punjab. Additionally, the BJP's focus on empowering tribal communities carries immense political and national security significance. In Chhattisgarh, the

Bharatiya Janata Party has placed its bet on Vishnu Deo Sai as the new Chief Minister. This decision was made with careful consideration, taking into account Sai's tribal background and extensive political experience, which spans three decades as an elected representative and a minister. Accompanying Sai in this new leadership role are Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma, who have been appointed as Deputy Chief Ministers. Additionally, former Chief Minister Raman Singh has assumed the role of Speaker of the state assembly. However, the most formidable challenge confronting the new Chhattisgarh government is the monumental task of cleansing the state from the pervasive corruption that had plagued the previous regime. Despite vehement denials by the former administration, corruption had permeated various levels of governance. This pervasive issue cannot be solely attributed to individual involvement in illicit dealings; rather, it is rooted in a distorted politi-

cal philosophy and policy framework adopted by the previous ruling party concerning national issues. In Madhya Pradesh, the BJP named Mohan Yadav as the next chief minister, a decision that was not without its share of challenges, considering the enduring popularity of Shivraj Singh Chouhan. To bolster its position in states like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, where Yadavs hold considerable influence, the BJP strategically appointed a Yadav chief minister in Madhya Pradesh. This move is poised to resonate with this support base and further strengthen the party's standing in these critical regions. Moreover, the party selected Rajendra Shukla and Jagdish Devda as deputy chief ministers, while former Union minister Narendra Singh Tomar is set to assume the role of Speaker of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly. In Rajasthan, Bhajanlal Sharma was chosen as the next chief minister, supported by two deputies, Diya Kumari and Prem Chand Bairwa. Vasudev

Devnani has been designated as the Speaker. These appointments reflect the BJP's commitment to adopting a fresh and innovative approach to leadership. Modi's political maneuvers and the BJP's strategic thinking underline the party's aspiration to consolidate its position both regionally and nationally. The appointments of leaders from diverse communities and backgrounds signal the party's intent to appeal to a broad spectrum of voters. As India approaches the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, these decisions are expected to play a pivotal role in shaping the country's political landscape. The BJP's bold choices demonstrate that in contemporary Indian politics, the only constant is change, and the party is unafraid to embrace transformation. Modi's vision for a new India is reflected not only in his governance but also in his astute political acumen. As the nation looks ahead, these strategic moves may prove instrumental in determining the trajectory of Indian politics for years to come.



**BRIEF**

**Joined**



**New Delhi:** Fintech player Angel One on Wednesday said Hemen Bhatia has joined as chief executive officer of its asset management business. His joining will strengthen the position of Angel One Asset Management Company Ltd as a prominent player in passive investing space, Angel One said in a statement. Bhatia was former Head of ETF (Exchange Traded Fund) at Nippon Life India AMC. He played a key role in setting up CPSE ETF at Goldman Sachs AMC and has over 17 years of experience in the asset management industry.

**Services exports**

**New Delhi:** The country's services exports have touched USD 192 billion so far this fiscal and are expected to reach USD 400 billion by the end of 2023-24, SEPC said on Wednesday. Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) said that key sectors which are recording healthy growth rates include telecom, computer, information, and transport and travel. The council is also engaged in formulating strategies to propel the sector's growth, it said.

**Investment opportunities**



**New Delhi:** Foreign investors should explore business opportunities in India as it provides a huge domestic market and investment-friendly environment, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Wednesday. The availability of skilled manpower, equal treatment to all investors, and the aspirational young population are also some of the key reasons for investing in India, the minister added.

## FM introduces bill to give immediate effect to customs, excise duty proposals in Budget

New Delhi, Dec 13:

The government on Wednesday introduced a bill in Parliament, which seeks to give immediate effect to the changes in customs and excise duties announced in the Budget. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while introducing the Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023, in the Lok Sabha said the provisions are curbing speculative activities following changes in customs and excise duties in the Budget. While the changes in rates of income and corporate taxes, incorporated in the Budget announced on February 1, are effective from April 1 or a notified date, most of the changes in customs and excise duty rates be-



come effective from midnight. The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill 2023, will replace the The Provisional Collection of Taxes Act, 1931. The Bill provides for the "immediate effect for a limited period" of provisions in Bills relating to the imposition or increase of duties of customs or excise. Sitharaman said the bill

incorporates the existing provisions of the 1931 Bill. By invoking this particular Act, we are able to temporarily ensure, till the time the Finance Bill gets passed, no speculative activities are happening, Sitharaman said. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday introduced a bill in the Lok Sabha to raise the age limit

for president and members of GST appellate tribunals. The Central Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023, seeks to cap the age for president and members of the GST appellate tribunals (GSTAT) at 70 years and 67 years, respectively, higher than 67 years and 65 years specified earlier. An advocate with 10 years of 'substantial experience' in litigation in matters relating to indirect taxes in the Appellate Tribunal, would be eligible to be appointed as a judicial member of the GSTAT. As per the amendment, president and the judicial and technical members of the GSTAT shall hold office for four years, or until he attains the age of 70 years and 67 years, respectively,

whichever is earlier. The rules notified by the government earlier had fixed the age limit for the president and members of GSTAT at 67 years and 65 years, respectively. The GST Council chaired by Sitharaman and comprising finance ministers of all states and UTs, had in October approved the change in the age criteria. The president and members of the GSTAT would be eligible for re-appointment for a period of two years subject to the age limit of 70 and 67, respectively, as per the amended bill. Parliament had in March cleared amendments in the GST Act, enabling the creation of the Central Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunals.

## Infra spending, good performance by large economies push sharp uptick in GDP in H1FY24: Rajan

New Delhi, Dec 13:



Former RBI governor Raghuram Rajan has attributed the sharp uptick in GDP in the first half of the current fiscal to infrastructure spending and good performance by large economies of the world but added India has to do a lot of catching up and the USD 5 trillion economy goal for 2025 is nearly impossible.

Rajan further said that even as India's growth rate is strong, private investment and private consumption have not picked up. "So if you look at why we have done so well this year, one of the reasons we are doing so well is also because the world is doing well. "... the other reason for this very strong growth in the first half is tremendous government spending on infrastructure,"

Rajan told PTI. India retained the tag of the world's fastest-growing major economy, with its GDP expanding by a faster-than-expected rate of 7.6 per cent in the July-September quarter on booster shots from government spending and manufacturing. At constant (2011-12) prices in April-September 2023-24 (H1 2023-24), GDP is estimated at Rs 82.11 lakh crore as against Rs 76.22 lakh crore during the corresponding period of the previous year, showing a growth of 7.7 per cent in H1 2023-24 as against 9.5 per cent in H1 2022-23.

## Scindia discusses airfares, ways to improve airlines' on-time performance

New Delhi, Dec 13:

Civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia reviewed the self-monitoring mechanism for airfares put in place by individual airlines and emphasised keeping fares in check on select routes. During an advisory group meeting, there were discussions on airlines' on-time performance (OTP), and the minister instructed the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to relook technical specifications at VFR-equipped (Visual Flight Rules) airports to help enhance OTP, according to an official release. Scindia held a meet-

ing with the airline advisory group that was attended by representatives of various carriers, including Vistara CEO Vinod Kannan.



In a post on social media platform X, Scindia said that he met the advisory group to discuss solutions to enhance on-time performance and "airfares on a few sectors, and in-house practices followed by each airline". Specific details about the discussion on airfares and the particular routes could not be immediately ascertained. There have been concerns in certain quarters about the trend of rising air ticket prices.

## Presently no proposal to provide subsidy on import duty on EVs into India: Govt

New Delhi, Dec 13:

There is no proposal to provide subsidy on import duty on imports of electric vehicles into the country, Parliament was informed on Wednesday. Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Som Parkash said the government has taken a series of policy initiatives and measures to create a conducive ecosystem to promote industrialisation and domestic value addition and to make India globally competitive. The government has also taken various steps to boost domestic and foreign investments in India to enhance local value addition under Make in India initiative, the minister said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha. "Presently,



there is no proposal either to provide exemption from local value addition cost or to provide subsidy on import duty on import of electric vehicles in India," Parkash said. He also informed that the government has launched the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for automobile and auto component industry with a budgetary outlay of Rs

25,938 crore to provide financial incentives to boost domestic manufacturing of advanced automotive technologies products, including electric vehicles and their components. The scheme incentivises the establishment of giga scale ACC manufacturing facilities in the country for 50 GigaWatt hour (GWh). The minister said this while replying to a question whether it is a fact that the government has a proposal under consideration to exempt Tesla and other multinational car companies from local value addition of cost in heavy batteries, semiconductors and even magnetic parts and also subsidy on the import duty on the import of electric vehicles in India.

## Mercedes-Benz India to hike prices from Jan 1

New Delhi, Dec 13:



German luxury carmaker Mercedes-Benz on Wednesday said it will hike prices of select models in India by up to 2 per cent from January 1 next year to partially offset rising input, commodity and logistics costs. The price hike will range from Rs 60,000 for the C-Class to Rs 2.6 lakh for a GLS SUV and up to Rs 3.4 lakh for the top-end imported Mercedes-Maybach S 680. "High-cost pressures driven primarily by rising input costs, commodity pricing, and increased logistics costs, combined with inflationary pressures have been exerting cost pressure on our overall operations. "As we rein in higher efficiencies to offset these rising costs, a

slight price adjustment for select models is necessitated to sustain our profitable business operations and retain the price positioning," Mercedes-Benz India Managing Director and CEO Santosh Iyer said in a statement. He further said, "While we continue to absorb the majority of this increase, a small portion must be passed on to the market to offset these cost increases. Our tailored financing solutions from MBFS (Mercedes-Benz Financial Services) will, however, ensure an optimum cost of ownership for customers, having a minimal impact".

## Festive fervour leads to highest-ever November PV wholesales

New Delhi, Dec 13:

Domestic passenger vehicle wholesales rose to the highest level for the month of November, driven by robust demand especially for utility vehicles, industry body SIAM said on Tuesday. Overall passenger vehicle dispatches from companies to dealers rose to 3,34,130 units last month, a growth of 4 per cent year on year against the backdrop of a high base of last November. As per the SIAM data, market leader Maruti Suzuki India dispatched 1,34,158 passenger vehicles last month as compared with 1,32,395 units in November 2022. Rival Hyundai Motor India dispatched 49,451 units to its dealers last



month as compared with 48,002 units in the year-ago period.

Two-wheeler sales rose to 16,23,399 units last month, a growth of 31 per cent as compared to 12,36,282 units in November 2022. Similarly, three-wheeler dispatches also rose to 59,738 units last month, registering an increase of 31 per cent over 45,664 units last November. "All segments of the automobile industry witnessed robust growth during the festive season which ended in the first part of November," Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) President Vinod Aggarwal said in a statement.

## Rupee falls 4 paise to close at all-time low of 83.41 against US dollar

Mumbai, Dec 13:

The rupee depreciated 4 paise to hit an all-time closing low of 83.41 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday amid a strong American currency overseas. Forex traders said a steep fall in crude oil prices from USD 76 per barrel to the below USD 73 level provided support, but a muted trend in equity markets triggered negative bias against the local unit. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.39 against the greenback and traded in a tight range of 83.38-83.41. It finally settled at its lifetime low of 83.41 (provisional), a fall of 4 paise from the previous close.

## Inflation rises to 3-month high of 5.55 pc in Nov on firming food prices

New Delhi, Dec 13:



Snapping its declining trend, retail inflation rose to a three-month high of 5.55 per cent in November on firming food prices, including vegetables and cereals, though it remains within the RBI's comfort zone of less than 6 per cent. Inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 4.87 per cent in October and 5.88 per cent in November 2022, the government data released on Tuesday showed.

The previous high was 6.83 per cent in August and inflation had been on a decline since then. According to the National Statistical Office (NSO) data, inflation in the food basket increased to 8.7 per

cent in November from 6.61 per cent in October and 4.67 per cent in the year-ago month. Food basket has about 50 per cent weightage in CPI. The annual rate of price rise in 'spices' was 21.55 per cent, 'pulses and products' 20.23 per cent, vegetables 17.7 per cent, and fruits 10.95 per cent.

cent in November from 6.61 per cent in October and 4.67 per cent in the year-ago month. Food basket has about 50 per cent weightage in CPI. The annual rate of price rise in 'spices' was 21.55 per cent, 'pulses and products' 20.23 per cent, vegetables 17.7 per cent, and fruits 10.95 per cent.

## Skoda Auto India to hike prices by around 2% in 2024

Price hike will come into effect from January 1, 2024



Mumbai, Dec 13:

Skoda Auto India has announced a price hike of around 2% across its range from January 1, 2024. The hike will be effective on the entire range of Skoda Auto India vehicles - the Kushaq SUV, the Slavia sedan and the Kodiaq luxury 4x4. The price correction is owing to rising supply, input and operational costs. Skoda Auto India introduced the new Kushaq based on the all-new MQB-A0-IN platform specifically developed for India in July 2021. And the Slavia sedan in April 2022 based on the same platform. Both cars are now exported to GCC and other

## HDFC Life launches 'HDFC Life Click 2 Achieve' with guaranteed benefits

Mumbai, Dec 13:



HDFC Life, one of India's leading life insurers, has launched a new product - HDFC Life Click 2 Achieve, a guaranteed savings life insurance plan. The plan is designed to safeguard the future of loved ones' and attain their financial objectives. Why you need to add HDFC Life Click 2 Achieve in your portfolio? customers can enjoy a Guaranteed Immediate Income as early as the next policy month. It's completely flexible - you can customise your plan to receive benefits as early income, long-term income, lumpsum or period lumpsum (money back). You can choose the desired levels of protection with flexible sum assured and rider ben-

efits. Speaking on the launch, Aneesh Khanna, Head - Products & Segments, HDFC Life said, "Everything starts with a dream, and no matter how big the dream is, to make it a reality - you need to start with a secured step. Similarly, life goals are fulfilled with regular savings and planning. You can now take your first secured step towards fulfilling your dreams with HDFC Life Click 2 Achieve product.

## Mutual funds' SIP collection soars to Rs 1.66 lakh cr in 2023; lower ticket size to push inflow

New Delhi, Dec 13:

Investors are placing significant bets on systematic investment plans, or SIPs, with inflows rising to Rs 1.66 lakh crore in the first 11 months of 2023, while Sebi's decision to lower the ticket size to Rs 250 will further boost investment. The total invested in the first 11 months this year is way higher than Rs 1.5 lakh crore through the route in the entire 2022, Rs 1.14 lakh crore in 2021, Rs 97,000 crore in 2020, as per data with the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).

Going ahead, Akhil Chaturvedi, Chief Business Officer of Motilal Oswal AMC, anticipated a sustained and healthy year-on-year growth in overall SIP participation.

"With a buoyant economic outlook and increased market participation, investors are likely to continue favouring SIPs as a disciplined and accessible investment avenue. The ongoing strength in the market, coupled with the potential for healthy returns, reinforces our belief that the upward trend in SIPs will persist throughout 2024," he added. According to the data, inflow in mutual fund schemes through SIPs was at Rs 1.66 lakh crore in this year (till November). Industry experts have attributed several factors that influenced the surge in inflow such as awareness created by Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI), demographics, strong return on equity investment and ease of investment.

## Stock markets settle marginally higher on late buying; L&T, Reliance advance

Mumbai, Dec 13:



Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty eked out gains on Wednesday following late buying in capital goods, auto and energy shares as investors adopted a cautious approach ahead of the US Fed interest rate decision to be announced later in the day. The 30-share BSE Sensex advanced 33.57 points or 0.05 per cent to settle at 69,584.60, driven by late buying. During the day, it fell 450.47 points or 0.64 per cent to 69,100.56. The Nifty gained 19.95 points or 0.10 per cent to 20,926.35. Among the Sensex firms, NTPC, Power Grid, Mahindra & Mahindra, Larsen & Toubro, Sun Pharma, State Bank of India, Titan and Tata Steel

were the major gainers. Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv, UltraTech Cement and Bajaj Finance were the major laggards. In Asian markets, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower while Tokyo ended in the positive territory. European markets were trading with gains. The US markets ended in the positive territory on Tuesday.

## Various programs will be organized under Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

### Campaign aims to raise awareness in urban and rural areas

Central Chronicle News

**Korba, Dec 13:** The Women and Child Development Department has embarked on a mission to bring positive change to India through the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' campaign. To kick-start this nationwide initiative, a one-day workshop convened for CDPOs and supervisors in the District Panchayat meeting room.

The workshop, led by District Program Officer Preeti Khokhar Chakhiyar, delved into the intricacies of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra program. As part of the campaign, awareness vehicles will traverse urban areas and gram panchayats, enlightening communities.



Anganwadi workers will engage beneficiaries during community-based Suposhan Chaupal activities, providing insights into the program's aspects. Under the Suposhan Chaupal initiative, a thorough evaluation will be conducted, focusing on critical parameters that impact child well-being.

These parameters encompass essential aspects

such as healthy child competition criteria, monthly growth monitoring, personal hygiene, nutritional levels of children, the provision of hot meals for 3 to 5-year-old children, 'ready-to-eat' vaccinations for children aged 6 months to 3 years, deworming, and more.

All these factors will collectively contribute to

a comprehensive assessment, with a total of 50 marks allocated for this evaluation."

A comprehensive assessment will be conducted, with the evaluation team consisting of ICDS Project Officers, supervisors, Anganwadi workers, assistants, Panchayat representatives, ward members, healthcare person-

nel, and teachers.

Under the "Meri Kahani Meri Jubani" initiative, five beneficiaries from each Gram Panchayat will be identified to share their experiences and benefits of the scheme. Their stories will be scripted and recorded in an online portal.

During the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra events, Anganwadi workers will facilitate on-spot registrations. The workshop concluded with an action plan prepared by District Program Officer Women and Child Development Chakhiyar and District Women and Child Development Officer Gajendra Dev Singh. The workshop saw participation from ten project officers and all ICDS supervisors.

## CEO launches Crop Insurance Drive for district farmers



Central Chronicle News

**Dhantari, Dec 13:** In a move aimed at benefiting local farmers, Chief Executive Officer of the District Panchayat, Roktima Yadav, officially launched the Fasal Bima Rath.

The initiative, under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, will bring crucial insurance information to the doorsteps of farmers across the dis-

trict's development blocks.

During the Rabi year 2023-24, the government has extended crop insurance coverage to include major crops like wheat, both irrigated and non-irrigated, gram, rye-mustard, and linseed.

The premium rates have been set at Rs 480 per hectare for irrigated wheat, Rs. 345 for non-irrigated wheat, Rs 510 for gram, Rs 345 for rye-mustard, and Rs 240 for linseed,

ensuring wide accessibility for farmers.

Deputy Director of Agriculture encouraged farmers to maximize their crop insurance coverage, emphasizing that it will help compensate for losses caused by natural disasters.

This initiative promises to provide vital support to the farming community in the district, safeguarding their livelihoods and promoting agricultural sustainability.

## Ujjwala scheme gains momentum among enthusiastic women

Central Chronicle News

**Kurud, Dec 13:** Government schemes are now set to make the delivery of gas cylinder subsidies more efficient, while ensuring consumer verifications are up to date. The Know Your Customer (KYC) process for LPG connections is being digitized, encompassing all gas dealers.

Women in the region are showing immense interest in the Ujjwala scheme, which offers gas cylinders at subsidized rates under the new government's initiative. With the required documents in hand, women are thronging to complete their gas card KYC verification.



Saurabh Sharma, the director of Binda Gas Agency HP in Kurud Nagar, disclosed that there are approximately 31,000 consumers in Kurud Nagar and its surrounding rural areas. Already, KYC verification for around 1,500 consumers has been success-

fully completed, with a steady influx of people eager to complete their KYC. The online KYC process will adhere to the government's designated timeline.

Saurabh Sharma emphasized that their gas supply vehicles are also required

to undergo e-KYC within specified timeframes to avail gas subsidies. To facilitate this, consumers must possess an Aadhaar card, as the biometric machine requires matching the Aadhaar card number and thumb impression placement for verification.

## District-wide essay contest in honour of Dr. Padumlal Punnalal Bakshi

● Students invited to compete in essay writing

Central Chronicle News

**Khairagarh, Dec 13:** In memory of the renowned literary scholar Dr. Padumlal Punnalal Bakshi, a district-level essay competition is set to take place, thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Iqra Foundation and Shantidoot Sanstha.

Students in grades 9 to 12 are encouraged to showcase their writing skills in this special competition. To participate, students need to craft essays with a minimum of 300 words

and a maximum of 500 words. They'll have one hour to complete their essays. Importantly, no copying or use of digital devices, like phones, is allowed. Students can write their essays in either Hindi or English.

The competition is scheduled for December 17th, from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm, at Vigyan Bhawan, Dr. Padumlal Punnalal Bakshi Model Higher Secondary School in Khairagarh. Prizes will be awarded to the winners, with the top prize being Rs 2001 in cash in memory of Buddhavasi L.L.Ture by Shanti Devi Ture. The second prize, Rs 1601, is dedicated to the late Mohsin Khan by Moin Khan.



There's also a third prize of Rs 1100 in cash, presented by Advocate Sandeep Das Vaishnav in memory of late Ramendra Mohan Das. Exceptional writers will receive consolation prizes, and all participants will be given certificates and mementoes.

On December 28th, the anniversary of Dr. Padumlal Punnalal Bakshi's death anniversary, a special seminar will be held at Gaurav Sthal, Dr. Ambedkar Chowk, Khairagarh. This seminar will explore Dr. Bakshi's life, work, and contributions to Hindi literature. The winning participant will have the unique opportunity to meet and discuss with accomplished speakers.

To enter the competition, students can register with their school's principal or institution head. If you have questions or need assistance related to the competition, feel free to contact 94241-11414, 9303137073, or 9642463220.

## Allegations of coercion during KYC process

■ Consumer complaints arise over mandatory gas pipe replacement

Central Chronicle News

**Kurud, Dec 13:** Concerns have surfaced regarding the Bhakhara HP Gas Agency operators situated in Bhakhara Nagar Panchayat, as consumers claim they are being coerced into purchasing new gas pipes during the KYC verification process.

HP Gas Company guidelines specify that gas pipes should be replaced every 5 years for safety reasons. However, consumers in the Bhakhara area assert that their gas cylinder connections are only 2 to 3 years old, making it unnecessary to replace the pipes. They allege that this reference to the rules is being used to compel them into buying new pipes. Refusal to do so disrupts the

KYC process, leaving consumers frustrated.

In the rural areas, including Bhakhara Nagar, there are over 22,000 consumers with HP Gas connections. However, the KYC process has only been completed for 2,500 individuals so far, and complaints from consumers have begun to surface.

Omprakash Nahar, the director of Bhakhara HP Gas Agency, clarified that KYC verification is conducted at various service centers, including their institute. He acknowledged receiving a complaint about the forced sale of gas pipes, which he deemed incorrect. According to the standard procedure, consumers are advised to consider pipe replacement after 5 years as a precautionary measure. Any missteps in this process will be investigated, and consumers will be educated to prevent undue inconvenience.

## One-Day Human Rights lecture workshop held at SNG College

### Students present papers on various aspects of Rights

Central Chronicle News

**Mungeli, Dec 13:** The Department of Political Science at SNG College organized a one-day lecture workshop on the topic of Human Rights.

The lecture, held under the guidance of Principal Dr. Rajat Dave, delved into the importance of human rights, the role of the commission, its advantages, disadvantages, challenges, and the way forward, all illustrated through case studies.

Professor SK Tigga from Government New Girls College, Mungeli, served as the main speaker at the event. The program commenced with a warm welcome by the Principal, who greeted



the Head of the Department and professors. Professor Ashok Kumar Gupta facilitated the program, and Professor SK Tigga delivered the lecture.

The lecture covered various dimensions of

human rights, exploring the necessity of these rights, the commission's establishment, its merits, demerits, challenges, and potential solutions, all illustrated through case studies.

MA Politics students,

including Hemendra Singh Dhruv, Annapurna Sonwani, Rahul Mallah, Akshay Kumar, Shyam Singh, Parmeshwar Bhaskar, Tulsi Khande, Bhuneshwari, and Deepak Chandrakar, presented papers on different aspects of human rights.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks expressed by MA Political Science student Muskaan Soni. Notable participants included Prof. PK Devangan, Dr. MK Mishra, Prof. JP Upadhyay, Prof. Brajesh Upadhyay, Prof. Gochand Patel, Prof. Emrajput, librarian Ranjit Kumar, and students pursuing MA Political Science.

## Harish Kumar Sahu earns spot in senior national netball team

Central Chronicle News

**Dhantari, Dec 13:** In the recently concluded 14th state-level netball competition held in Janjgir Champa from December 5 to 6, 2023, young athletes from Dhantari district showcased their skills. Among them, Harish Kumar Sahu, a resident of Parkhanda and the son of Ramesh Kumar Sahu, has secured a spot in the national senior netball team due to his outstanding performance.

The upcoming competition is scheduled to take place in Haryana from December 14 to 17. Gopal Kumar Sahu, the sports teacher, expressed his pride in Harish's achievement. He mentioned that the entire school community, including Principal Heera



Ram Sahu, School Development Committee Chairman Devendra Sahu, Dr. Champeshwar Sonkar, Narendra DD, Sarpanch Shatrhan Barle, Secretary Lukesh Sahu, senior players Narendra Kumar, Shubham Goswami, Ajit Kumar, sportsman Nishad, Yogesh Vishwakarma, Himanshu, and the villagers, extended their best wishes for Harish's bright future.

## Build your future by identifying potential: Colonel Saurabh Kumar

● Support and guidance offered for NCC cadets

Central Chronicle News

**Arang, Dec 13:** Colonel Saurabh Kumar, Commanding Officer of the 27 Chhattisgarh Battalion, paid a visit, at Badi Prasad Lodhi Post Graduate Government College in Arang. During his visit, he inspected the N.C.C. office, reviewed documents, and expressed satisfaction with the proceedings.

Saurabh Kumar provided essential guidance on timely information updates, preparation for



"B" and "C" certificate examinations, nominal roll, online registration, and cadets' bank accounts. He also delivered an encouraging address, urging students to harness their potential and seize opportunities in defense services and other career fields. The Commanding Officer assured all possible assistance for NCC operations and the welfare of cadets. Additionally, NCC officers provided insights into cadet selection

processes and the availability of coaching facilities for competitive exams at the local Srijan Coaching Institute in Arang. Prior to Colonel Saurabh Kumar's visit, the institution's Principal, Dr. K.N. Sharma, along with cadets and NCC officers, extended a warm welcome. The Commanding Officer commended the discipline, turnout, and training activities of the cadets and wished them success in their future en-

deavors. The occasion was graced by the presence of senior college professors, including Prof. T. Sengupta, Prof. H.L. Verma, Dr. Sadhna Dixit, Dr. L.P. Sharma, Prof. Bhuneshwar Sahu, Dr. Indu Soni, Prof. Piyush Tandey, Prof. Gyanesh Shukla, Prof. Dharmendra Ghritalhare, Prof. Bhavana Purvia, Prof. Vibha Satpathy, Dr. Upendra Sahu, Purushottam Sahu, and Hemsagar Chaudhary.

## NTPC Lara celebrates its 11th Raising Day with fervour

Central Chronicle News

**Lara, Dec 13:** NTPC Lara, 1600-megawatt power station of power major NTPC Limited, celebrates its 11th foundation day with great zeal and fervour. Diwakar Kaushik, Executive Director (NTPC Lara) along with all General Managers and representatives of union and association cut the cake and greeted each other by offering sweets.

Addressing the employees, Kaushik appreciated all employees for their tireless efforts to bring this new plant to a position in the national level. In this financial year NTPC Lara station generated 8005 million units with 81.75 percent plant load factor.



Being laced with super critical technology and highly efficient plant the power houses of this plant generated electricity in less coal consumption in comparison to other sub-critical and super critical power stations.

NTPC Lara is the third highly efficient plant among all NTPC power plants and 40.6 percent more efficient in comparison to other sub-critical and supercritical plant. With high efficiency NTPC Lara can produce af-

fordable electricity for nation building.

NTPC Lara is on the verge of expansion. In the near future it is going to add another 1600 megawatt by installing two more 800 megawatt units. The lion share 50 percent of generated electricity from this plant is supplied to Chhattisgarh state and rest is supplied to Gujrat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Daman and Diu.

NTPC Lara undertakes various developmental activities by its CSR-CD activities in the field of Education, Health, Drinking Water and infrastructure development of surrounding villages, including Raigarh district and Chhattisgarh state.

## Indian team has responsibility to take women's cricket ahead: Harmanpreet Kaur



Navi Mumbai, Dec 13 (PTI):

Without hiding her desire to see more Tests being played in women's cricket space, captain Harmanpreet Kaur on Wednesday admitted that India will have to play a lead role to make it a reality through consistent performances.

After a gap of nearly nine years, India will be playing a Test at home when they take on England in a one-off match here at the DY Patil Stadium. India's last Test at home took place in November 2014 against South Africa at Mysore.

"Talking about women's cricket, it is improving day-by-day in India. A lot of people are coming to watch the match which we saw in the last T20Is," Kaur told the media on the eve of the match.

"Everyone in the

world...they want to play in India. In India, things are changing quickly when it comes to cricket. A lot of people are extending their love and we are also trying to improve. We have an opportunity to take women's cricket as high as we can. "I know that a lot hinges on the Indian cricket team when it comes to women's cricket. The way the approach is changing in India concerning women's cricket, obviously, we have a lot in our hands," Kaur added.

With India making a return to the Test arena after September 2021, Kaur said as players they desire to appear in more long-format matches but the administrators have to make the final call.

"As players we want to play more and more Test games. It is ICC and (the) board's call to take up," she said.

## India bank on spin to keep England in check in one-off Test

Navi Mumbai, Dec 13 (PTI):

In a bid to recover from a lackluster T20I performance, India, led by Harmanpreet Kaur, is gearing up for a one-off women's Test against England in Navi Mumbai. The four-day match is set to begin on Thursday, with India banking on their formidable spin attack to maintain their edge in this format.

India's historical record offers a significant confidence boost, having lost only one Test to England in 14 encounters since their rivalry began in 1986. Harmanpreet, in her maiden Test leadership role, is determined to preserve this proud record.

The previous clash between India and England in women's cricket ended in a draw in June 2021 at Bristol. Smriti Mandhana played a pivotal role, scoring 78 runs in the first innings, while the young sensation Shafali Verma stood out with scores of 96 and 63.

This Test holds special significance as it marks a double treat for Indian women's cricket. Given the scarcity of women's Test cricket, India has a reason to celebrate, with two Tests scheduled within a ten-day span. After facing England



Time: 9:30am IST.

Ishaque, who had a successful year, making her debut for the Mumbai Indians and emerging as one of the highest wicket-takers in the Women's Premier League (WPL). Ishaque made her T20I debut against England, contributing three crucial wickets in the final game to secure a consolation win.

Karnataka's left-handed opening batter, Shubha Sathesh, has earned her spot after impressing in the four-day practice matches during the senior team's camp. Among the batters, Jemimah Rodrigues and Harleen Deol lack Test experience, while one-Test-old Yastika Bhatia might get the nod as the wicket-keeper ahead

of Richa Ghosh. With the return of seamer Renuka Singh Thakur, who performed admirably with the new ball in the recent T20Is, India is hopeful of her making a significant impact. In the spin department, India boasts experienced campaigners in Sneha Rana and Deepti Sharma, which might keep Ishaque on standby.

For England, the injury-induced withdrawal of Emma Lamb has led to the inclusion of Maia Bouchier and Kirstie Gordon in the squad. The visitors will be relying on their seasoned players, such as Nat Sciver-Brunet, Heather Knight, Danni Wyatt, Kate Cross, and Sophie Ecclestone, for a productive outing in the Test.

## England's Knight reveals anxiety ahead of India Test



Navi Mumbai, Dec 13 (PTI):

England Women's captain Heather Knight said the one-off Test against India starting here on Thursday will be a huge unknown for both the teams and approaching the game with the right mindset will be crucial.

Indian women's outfit has not lost a Test at home since 1995 and away since 2006 will offer a massive challenge to the visitors, but the Harmanpreet Kaur-led side has not played red-ball cricket for the last two years.

However, Knight did not read too much into the non-familiarity factor.

"I think it is a huge unknown for both the teams. Obviously, playing multi-format for the Indian girls as well, they

have not really done it here for a long time. So yes, it's hugely exciting any time we get to don the whites," Knight told the media ahead of England's training session on Wednesday. England will be hitting the milestone 100th Tests but the skipper was not aware of the record.

"I had no idea, actually. That is quite a cool stat. I think playing a Test match in India is (in the) bucket list for any cricketer and it's really cool that we get the opportunity to do that," she replied.

"I absolutely love playing Test cricket. I've got some of the best memories in an England shirt playing in the whites. (It is) super cool that we get to play here and it's going to be a real tough challenge and one the team is really excited for," she said.

Knight acknowledged that there will be some anxiety in the camp but would draw inspiration from the quick turnaround between the Test and T20I series last year.

"It is a really quick turnaround and we do not play Test cricket very often. Naturally, there's bound to be more anxiety and worry and stress around the group just because it's purely something we don't play very often," she said.

## Cheteshwar Pujara signs up for Sussex for 2024 county season



Hove (England), Dec 13 (PTI):

Ignored for India's Test series in South Africa, veteran batter Cheteshwar Pujara has once again signed up with English county cricket club Sussex for the 2024 county season.

It will be his third straight season with the club, having first signed in 2022. As for the 2024 season, he would be available for

the opening seven games of the County Championship.

"I have enjoyed my time at Hove the last couple of seasons and couldn't be more delighted to be back again with the Sussex family," Pujara told Sussex after re-signing with the club.

"I am looking forward to joining the team and contributing to its success." Pujara had a great stint with the club, collecting 1,863 runs in 18 County Championship meetings at an average of 64.24, which includes eight tons and three half-centuries. His best knock for Sussex happens to be 231 versus Derbyshire in his first season, which also included a partnership of 351 with Tom Haines.

Commenting on Pujara's return to Sussex, head coach Paul Farbrace said, "I am delighted that Cheteshwar is returning to Hove again for the first two months of the season."

## Misfiring Indian bowlers in focus as India seek series-levelling win

Johannesburg, Dec 13 (PTI):

The Indian bowlers will come under sharp scrutiny in the team's effort to merge the immediate task of series-levelling and the distant target of finding an ideal combination for next year's T20 World Cup during the third and final match against South Africa here on Thursday.

The second T20I exposed the challenges faced by India's emerging bowlers. Arshdeep Singh and Mukesh Kumar struggled against South African opener Reeza Hendricks, conceding 15.50 and 11.33 runs per over, respectively. The rain and dew in Port Elizabeth added to their difficulties, highlighting a lack of control in unfavorable conditions. The absence of pacer Deepak Chahar due to personal reasons has compounded India's bowling woes.

Arshdeep and Mukesh are entrusted with filling the shoes of senior bowlers like Jasprit



Bumrah, but they have often found themselves in challenging situations. The recent 4-1 T20I series victory over Australia masked some flaws in the Indian bowling unit. Arshdeep, for example, had a brilliant last over against Australia but struggled throughout the series, conceding 10.68 runs per over across four matches. Mukesh added pace to his bowling but couldn't curb the flow of runs, going for 9.12 runs per over against the Australians.

With only four T20Is left before the T20 World Cup, it's crucial for these

bowlers to prove their worth and secure their spots in the team. Ravindra Jadeja, who returned to T20I cricket after a long hiatus, needs to improve his performance, and India hopes for a better showing from him.

On the positive side, Rinku Singh impressed with his maiden T20I fifty, and Suryakumar Yadav's consistent batting and leadership skills make him a key player for India. Openers Shubman Gill and Yashasvi Jaiswal will aim for a better start, provided Ruturaj Gaikwad doesn't return after falling ill.

## Shami in race for Arjuna Award



New Delhi, Dec 13 (PTI):

One of India's ODI World Cup heroes, pacer Mohammed Shami has been recommended for this year's Arjuna Award by the country's cricket board (BCCI), sources said on Wednesday. The 33-year-old had a spectacular run in the ODI World Cup, where India finished second best losing to Australia in the final. As per ministry sources, a special request was made by the BCCI to the Sports Ministry to include Shami's name as originally he didn't feature in the list of the country's second-highest sporting honour. Shami was the leading wicket-taker in the World Cup, with 24 wickets to his name from merely seven outings. After sitting out of the first four games, Shami shone bright when given the opportunity, claiming 24 wickets at an average of just 5.26.

## Didn't know how to come back after loss but now motivated for ultimate prize: Rohit

New Delhi, Dec 13 (PTI):

Rohit Sharma had no clue if he would ever get over the disappointment of the World Cup final defeat but the love and understanding of fans has now "motivated" him to make an earnest shot at another ultimate glory.

While Rohit didn't mention which ultimate glory he is talking about but it is fairly believable now that he is looking at leading India in next year's T20 World Cup in the West Indies and USA.

Rohit, who had a dream World Cup as a skipper and batter till the final, was virtually in tears as he left the ground and had gone to England for a break to just relieve himself from the pain.

"I had no idea how to come back from this for the first few days. It was my family, friends that kept me going. They kept things light. It wasn't easy to digest but life moves on and it wasn't easy to move



on," said Rohit, on his Instagram fan page, airing his sentiments for the first time since November 19, when the team lost to Australia. However, what Rohit loved was the appreciation and understanding of the fans of the team's brilliant show. Their kind words were part of his healing process.

## Suryakumar strengthens top position in ICC T20 batter rankings

Dubai, Dec 13 (PTI):

Star India batter Suryakumar Yadav consolidated his position at the top of the ICC Men's T20I Batter Rankings after being rewarded for his quickfire half-century against South Africa in the second T20I in Geberha, South Africa. The attacking right-hander gained a total of 10 rating points after smashing 56 from just 36 deliveries even though India fell short in the exciting clash by five wickets.

Suryakumar now has a total of 865 rating points, which is well clear of his nearest rivals - Pakistan's Mohammad Rizwan (787 rating points) and South Africa's Aiden Markram (758) - with less than six months out from the start of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

Suryakumar famously claimed the premier rank-



ing during the most recent edition of the T20 World Cup in Australia towards the end of last year and, on current form, it appears the India batter is

likely to hold that position into next year's tournament in the West Indies and USA.

South Africa opener Reeza Hendricks is one player to make ground on Suryakumar after he moved up one place to eighth following his innings of 49 against India, while Tilak Varma (up 10 spots to 55th) and Rinku Singh (up 46 places to equal 59th) also gained places.

With newly-crowned No.1 T20I bowler Ravi Bishnoi missing selection on the tour of South Africa so far, it has paved the way for Afghanistan ace Rashid Khan to join the India young gun at the top of the rankings for T20I bowlers.

Proteas spinner Tabraiz Shamsi also made some eye-catching ground by rising two places to 10th following an economical spell of 1/18 in their most recent contest.

## Mighty Germany stand in India's way in junior hockey WC semis

Kuala Lumpur, Dec 13 (PTI):

Momentum on their side, a determined India would look to overcome the mighty Germany to progress to the final of the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup for the fourth time in the history of the tournament here on Thursday.

The Indians produced a spectacular display of grit and character to prevail over the Netherlands, ranked fourth in the world, in the quarterfinal on Tuesday with a thrilling 4-3 win. Trailing 0-2 at half-time and 2-3 in the third quarter, the Indians exhibited immense resilience to beat the Dutch and set up a last-four clash against the Germans.

Skipper Uttam Singh led from the front, scoring the winner against the Netherlands three minutes from the hooter. Uttam's deputy Arajit Singh Hundal too was up to the task, scoring twice in the match. India captain Uttam said they are used to playing

under pressure situations.

"We are now used to playing under pressure. Be it the Asia Cup final against Pakistan or the bronze-medal match in the Sultan of Johor Cup, we have played and won under pressure.

"It's something we have worked on and we have developed a skill set. It also helps that five players from the existing team were part of the previous Junior World Cup, so our experience also comes in handy," he said.

The Indians would be brimming with confidence following the come-from-behind win but they will have to a defensive approach and concentrate more on their strength, which is attacking hockey.

Against Netherlands the other day, the Indians went on the back foot and were defensive initially, which cost them dearly but they got their act together in time and played attacking hockey thereafter to secure the hard-fought win.

## Pakistan aim for upset against mighty Australia in Perth

Perth (Australia), Dec 13 (AP):

Pakistan's new captain Shan Masood said his team will be out to buck considerable odds, and 28 years of history, with a victory over a full-strength Australia in the first Test from Thursday. Masood, who replaced top batsman Babar Azam as skipper after the 50-overs World Cup, conceded Pakistan were short of test match practice but said there was no question of playing for anything less than a win at Perth Stadium.

"You have to be positive," Masood, a fan of England's 'Bazball' style of play, told reporters on Wednesday.

"It's picking your battles, it's being sensible. It's about seeing the requirement of the games and seeing what are the ways we can save time in the game and create a situation where taking 20 wickets would be easy." Pakistan have taken 20 wickets only once in their last eight Tests in Australia going back to 2009, part of a sequence of 14 straight losses going back to their last win in November 1995.

Australia's bowling attack, having helped deliver the World Test Championship title and 50-overs World Cup this year, will be confident of dismissing Pakistan twice on what is expected to be a quick surface at Perth Stadium. Captain Pat Cummins named a full-



strength side on Wednesday with the return of off-spinner Nathan Lyon the only change from the side which retained the Ashes in the fifth Test against England in August. Cummins also announced that middle order batsman Travis Head, one of the heroes of Australia's World Cup triumph, would be one of the team's vice captains alongside Steve Smith. "I just think the personality that he brings to the team is something that we all love," Cummins told reporters. "He takes the game on and he enjoys it. He's always got a smile on his face. He never takes anything too seriously."

HC TO EC

## WARM WELCOME

# 'Hold Pune LS bypoll immediately'

Terms its stand on issue bizarre, unreasonable

Mumbai, Dec 13 (PTI):

The Bombay High Court on Wednesday asked the Election Commission of India to immediately hold the bypoll for the Pune Lok Sabha seat, stressing that people from the constituency cannot be left unrepresented for a long time. A division bench of Justices Gautam Patel and Kamal Khata ripped into the EC's stand on not holding the elections as it was busy with other polls, including preparation for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, calling it "bizarre and wholly unreasonable".

The Pune Lok Sabha seat has been vacant since the death of sitting BJP Member of Parliament (MP) Girish Bapat on March 29 this year.

"In any parliamentary democracy, governance is done by elected representatives who are the voices

of people. If the representative is no more, another must be put in place. People cannot go unrepresented. That is wholly unconstitutional and is a fundamental anathema to our constitutional structure," the court said.

The court passed its order on a plea filed by Pune resident Sughosh Joshi against a certificate issued by the EC to not hold the bye election to the constituency.

The EC had said it would not be holding the bypoll on two grounds one that it was busy with other polls including the preparatory activities for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and second that even if the Pune bypoll was held the elected representative would get a very short tenure.

The bench, however, refused to accept these grounds and said both are

not valid concerns. They are, in fact, an "abdication" of constitutional duties and obligations which cannot be accepted, it said.

"The ECI is not only vested but charged with the duty and obligation to hold elections and see to it that any vacancy is filled in. The ECI cannot let a constituency remain unrepresented. Voters cannot be denied this right," the court said.

It noted that the term of the Lok Sabha ends in June 2024 while the Pune constituency seat has been lying vacant since March this year. "The ground that the entire machinery of the ECI was busy with the preparatory activities for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections borders on the bizarre," the court said.

The court said these are not genuine difficulties expressed by the ECI to not hold the Pune bye election

and hence they are wholly unacceptable.

"No amount of inconvenience can undermine the statutory and constitutional obligations and duties cast upon the ECI. This is something unthinkable and would amount to sabotaging the constitutional framework," the court said in its order.

The court noted that the poll body's powers and directions are not exempt from judicial review, especially when the same affects public law and interest. Allowing the petition, the bench quashed the EC's certificate and directed it to hold the Pune bypoll immediately.

Joshi's advocate Dayaar Singla welcomed the order and said this would not only pave the way for the bypoll but also crystallise the right of the electorate to be represented.



MoS for Defence Ajay Bhatt receives the team of Himalayan Mountaineering Institute that carried out the expedition 'Mission Antarctica', in New Delhi, Wednesday.

## Cong MLA Prasad Kumar files nomination

Hyderabad, Dec 13 (PTI): Ruling Congress MLA Gaddam Prasad

Kumar filed the nomination for the Telangana Legislative Assembly Speaker post on Wednesday.

Prasad Kumar's election to the post is a foregone conclusion. Except the BJP, all other parties in the Assembly, including BRS, AIMIM and CPI, supported his candidature.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, his cabinet colleagues, BRS Working President K T Rama Rao, AIMIM MLAs and the lone CPI MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao were present when the nomination was submitted to the Legislature Secretary.

The Legislature Secretary had earlier in-

### For Assembly Speaker's post

formed that the nominations would be accepted between 10.30 AM to 5 PM on Wednesday, while the election would take place on Thursday.

Prasad Kumar, MLA from Vicarabad (SC), had served as a minister during the Congress regime in undivided Andhra Pradesh. AIMIM MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi, who was appointed as the Pro Tem Speaker, administered the oath of office to the newly-elected MLAs on December 9.

The BJP MLAs, however, stayed away from the House, alleging that Owaisi was appointed in violation of rules.

## Rajnath presents CSR Journal Excellence Awards 2023

Mumbai, Dec 13:

Defence Minister of India Shri Rajnath Singh was the Chief Guest and Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde was the Guest of Honour at the 6th Edition of The CSR Journal Excellence Awards 2023. The awards ceremony was hosted on the 9th December, 2023, at The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), Dalal Street, Mumbai. As it has been since the very inception, this year also, the theme for our awards was 'India First' with a focus on Youth Empowerment.

Addressing a gathering of over 600 citizens including senior bureaucrats, public representatives, social activists, youth leaders, artists, members of India Inc. and meritorious



students representing the future of our nation at the 6th edition of The CSR Journal Excellence Awards, the Hon'ble Defence Minister of India Shri Rajnath Singh expressed, "India has had a tradition of social welfare and philanthropy since ancient times of the sages. India is a country where if you face any kind of problem or unfortunate incident, your neighbors will

be the first to come and support you voluntarily. Even strangers come forward to rescue road accident victims and take them to the hospital. This shared humanity makes us treat everyone as our own and we follow 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' where we consider people across the world as our family. The CSR Journal since its very inception in 2014 has been

a source of inspiration and information for a lot of people, encouraging them to come forward and work for social upliftment. It is very important to recognise those people who are contributing for the betterment of the society and The CSR Journal deserves mention for that." Addressing the audience, Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde said, "In our country, there is an ancient tradition of charity and responsibility towards the society. Even today, when we donate something for charity, it is done without any publicity. Programmes like this are necessary to encourage more people to come forward for social welfare and The CSR Journal Excellence Awards is doing this work very sincerely.

## 'UIDAI imposes Rs 50,000 penalty for overcharging Aadhaar services, suspends operator'

New Delhi, Dec 13 (PTI): Any operator found overcharging for Aadhaar services is suspended and the registrar who appointed him faces a penalty of Rs 50,000, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

"Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has placed an obligation on all Aadhaar operators not to overcharge for Aadhaar services including update of biometric and demographic details," Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar in a written reply to the Lok Sabha said. "However, if any report on overcharging is received, the same is enquired and if established, a financial penalty of Rs 50,000 is imposed on the

enrolment registrar concerned and the operator is suspended," Chandrasekhar said. He said persons can lodge their grievances with UIDAI through email or call to the toll free number 1947. The minister said the enrolment and update of information of an Aadhaar number is done through a network of registrars and enrolment agencies, which are departments of the central government and state governments, public sector companies, scheduled banks and regulated entities, including CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd and other special purpose vehicles created by the central government or state governments.

## FRESH SNOWFALL



Roadside stalls and vehicles covered in snow after fresh snowfall at Auli, in Chamoli district, Wednesday.

## Swirling seawater plays host to pairs of mating Olive Ridley turtles

Kendrapara (Odisha), Dec 13 (PTI): Ahead of the annual mass nesting of endangered Olive Ridley sea turtles, pairs of these delicate marine creatures have begun emerging on the swirling sea waters off Odisha coast, officials said on Wednesday.

Forest personnel on patrolling duties have sighted pairs of mating turtles. It's a prelude to the mass nesting of turtles which generally occurs between February and March every year. For undisturbed breeding of the aquatic animals, prohibition on sea fishing continues to remain in force in the marine sanctuary, officials said. As many as 11.49 lakh female turtles



had laid millions of eggs along the nesting beaches in Odisha this year.

Gahirmatha beach, off the Bay of Bengal coast, is incidentally acclaimed as the world's largest-known nesting ground of these animals. Apart from Gahirmatha, these threatened aquatic animals turn

up at Rushikulya river mouth and Devi river mouth for mass nesting.

On the serene surface of sea waters, the turtle surveying teams spotted hundreds of mating pairs along the Gahirmatha coast. Fishing prohibition is presently clamped in Gahirmatha zone to en-

sure disturbance-free mating of the marine animals. After the end of the mating season, most of the male turtles usually return leaving behind the female turtles to lay their eggs, said Gahirmatha forest range officer Manas Dash. The female turtles virtually invade the nesting beaches usually at the dead of the night for laying eggs, the phenomenon otherwise described as 'arribada'. After laying eggs, the turtles leave the nesting ground and head for the sea. Hatchlings emerge from these eggs after 45-60 days. It is a rare natural phenomenon where the babies grow without their mother; added the forest officer.

HC OBSERVATION

## 'Surrogacy 'industry' shouldn't be encouraged in India'

New Delhi, Dec 13 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court Wednesday observed "surrogacy industry" should not be encouraged in India, where if left unchecked, it may grow into a billion dollar business.

The court made the observation while hearing a plea by an Indian origin couple living in Canada challenging the March 14 notification issued by the Centre amending the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act to ban donor surrogacy by altering Form 2 under Rule 7 of the Surrogacy Rules, 2022. A bench of

Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Mini Pushkarna said the changes in surrogacy rules happened at the instance of the courts.

"Why should the court get into all this now? This industry (surrogacy) need not be encouraged here. You are based in Canada. You cannot run an industry here. This will become a billion dollars industry. This is not a case where we should be asking the government to do anything," the bench said.

It listed the matter for further hearing on January 15, 2024, when similar other petitions

will also be heard. The Delhi government was represented through standing counsel Santosh Kumar Tripathi.

The petitioners said they are Indian nationals who got legally married according to Hindu rites and ceremonies, and are permanent residents of India.

They said they are a childless couple and have a medical condition that necessitated gestational surrogacy through which they intended to become parents. The plea said the couple requested for surrogacy with oocyte dona-

tion where embryos were to be transferred into the uterus of the surrogate mother. The embryos were to be created from donor oocytes and sperm of the husband.

It said the couple was granted certificate of medical indication for surrogacy with donor oocyte in December 2022, stating that they can undergo a surrogacy procedure as an advanced treatment for infertility.

However, on March 14, 2023, the Centre issued a notification amending the surrogacy regulations and banning donor surrogacy.

New Delhi, Dec 13 (PTI):

About 8,700 locomotives have Real Time Train Information System (RTIS) that helps in tracking the location and speed of trains, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw informed the Lok Sabha in a written reply on Wednesday.

The minister's statement suggests that over 60 per cent of train engines are covered with RTIS since railway sources say there are over 14,000 locomotives in operation in the country.

According to the Indian Railways Year Book 2021-22, there were a total 13,215 locomotives by March 31, 2022. This number was



Ashwini Vaishnaw

12,734 in 2020-21.

Vaishnaw made the statement while answering questions raised by BJP MP Sanjay Jaiswal regarding the RTIS project.

Jaiswal wanted to know

if "the Railways has signed any agreement with ISRO for a train tracking system in the country" and "the number of locomotives identified to be fitted with the said technology and the number of new locomotives being manufactured with the in-built tracking devices."

In response, Vaishnaw stated that presently, the RTIS system covers about 8,700 locomotives and the manufacturing of locomotives is an ongoing process.

According to the minister, RTIS is a 'Made-In-India, edge processing, IoT (Internet of Things)-based system that utilises ISRO's Satcom and

Satna technologies for automatic train tracking.

"The real-time data of RTIS helps in tracking the location and speed of locomotives and trains.

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