

Modi Sarkar ki Guarantee

Ensuring dignity of women

12 crore toilets constructed, Over 5 lakh villages declared 'ODF+'

Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat



cbc 22201/13/0247/2324

Narayana Health Take Care

On World Cancer Day MMI Narayana Hospital, Raipur presents

Cancer awareness bike rally

Schedule
Zombic 06:30 AM | Bike Rally Flag Off: 07:00 AM

4th Feb 2024, Sunday
Marine Drive (Tejbandha Lake), Raipur

Note: Helmet is mandatory for all riders

Advani gets Bharat Ratna

Very emotional moment for me: PM

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI)



Veteran BJP leader L.K. Advani at his residence, in New Delhi, Saturday.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on Saturday that BJP stalwart and former deputy prime minister Lal Krishna Advani will be conferred the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian award, and described it as a "very emotional moment for me".

"One of the most respected statesmen of our times, his contribution to the development of India is monumental. His is a life that started from working at the grassroots to serving the nation as our Deputy Prime Minister," Modi said on X.

His decades-long service in public life has been marked by an unwavering commitment to transparency and integrity, setting an exemplary standard in political ethics, the prime minister said.

Advani has made unparalleled efforts towards furthering national unity and cultural resurgence, he said.

"The conferring of the Bharat Ratna on him is a

very emotional moment for me. I will always consider it my privilege that I got countless opportunities to interact with him and learn from him," he said.

Modi spoke to the BJP's longest serving president, who is credited with crafting the party's rise through the 90s when it came to power for the first time with Atal Bihari Vajpayee heading coalition governments, and congratulated him.

Advani's parliamentary interventions have always been exemplary and full of rich insights, Modi said.

Soon after the prime minister's announcement,

a communication from the Rashtrapati Bhawan said President Droupadi Murmu has been pleased to award the Bharat Ratna to Advani.

After the announcement, the 96-year-old leader greeted mediapersons from a distance at his residence and his daughter Pratibha Advani told journalists that he is very happy at being given the country's highest state honour.

He thanked PM Modi and the people of the country, she said. 'Dada', she said in an affectionate reference to her father, noted that he has dedicated his entire life to the country.

Bharat Ratna not only honour for me.....

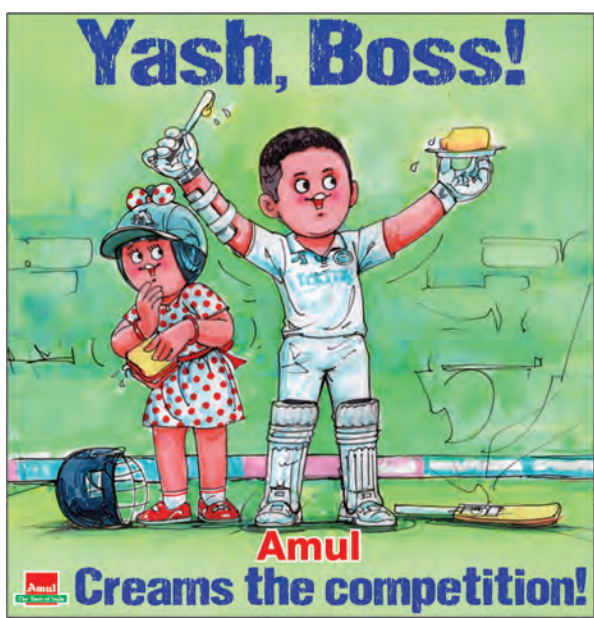
Veteran BJP leader Lal Krishna Advani said on Saturday that the Bharat Ratna award is not only an honour for him as a person but also for the ideals and principles that he strove to serve throughout life to the best of his ability.

"With utmost humility and gratitude, I accept the Bharat Ratna that has been conferred on me today," he said in a statement soon after Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced his name for the country's highest civilian honour.

The 96-year-old leader, the longest serving president of the BJP, said ever since he joined the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) as its volunteer at the age of 14 years he has sought reward in only one thing "in dedicated and selfless service of my beloved country in whatever task life assigned to me".

He said what has inspired his life is the motto: "This life is not mine. My life is for my nation."

Today, he said, he gratefully remembers two persons with whom he had the honour of working closely Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya and Atal Bihari Vajpayee, awarded the Bharat Ratna earlier.



Poonam Pandey is alive, appears in cervical cancer awareness video

Mumbai, Feb 03 (PTI):

Poonam Pandey on Saturday made an appearance on social media and said she is "alive", a day after there were reports that the actor had died of cervical cancer.

"I feel compelled to share something significant with you all - I am here, alive. Cervical Cancer didn't claim me, but tragically, it has claimed the lives of thousands of women who stemmed from a lack of knowledge on how to tackle this disease," the 32-year-old actor posted on Instagram alongside a video.

Pandey said she wants to spread "critical awareness" about the disease and ensure every woman is informed about the steps to take.

"Together, let's strive to put an end to the devastating impact of the disease and bring # Death To CervicalCancer," she wrote.

On Friday, the actor's team made the shock announcement that Pandey passed away after a battle with cervical cancer but there was no confirmation of the death of the model, influencer and sometime actor known for her bold statements and appearances.

Two Naxalites killed in encounter

With security forces

Narayanpur, Feb 03:

Two Naxalites were killed in a gun battle with security forces in Narayanpur district, police said on Saturday.

The encounter took place in the forest near Gomagal village under Orcha police station limits, where a team of security personnel was out on an anti-Naxalite operation on Friday evening, an official said.

The operation was launched following a tip-off about the presence of 'Ghul' alias Kamlesh, the secretary of the Nelnar area committee of Maoists, local organisation squad (LOS) com-

mander Somdu and other Maoists in the area, he said.

After the exchange of fire, bodies of two Naxalites, along with a .12-bore gun and a muzzle-loading gun, were recovered from the spot, he said.

The identity of the deceased Naxalites is yet to be ascertained, the official said, adding that a search is underway in the nearby areas.

Earlier this week, three CRPF personnel, including two belonging to its specialised jungle warfare unit CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action), were killed and 15 others injured in the encounter in Sukma district of the state.

BRIEF

PM Modi being received by Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma on his arrival, at the LGBI Airport in Guwahati, Saturday.

Hospitalised

Jaipur: Former Rajasthan chief minister Ashok Gehlot was admitted to Sawai Man Singh (SMS) Hospital here with a fever and low oxygen saturation after he tested positive for COVID-19 and swine flu. In a post on X on Friday night, Gehlot said he had a fever for the past few days and had tested positive for COVID-19 and swine flu.

FIR

Junagadh: Two persons were arrested by Junagadh police in Gujarat on Saturday after a video of an inflammatory speech allegedly delivered by an Islamic preacher went viral on social media. Police were trying to trace the preacher, Mumbai resident Mufti Salman Azhari, said Superintendent of Police Harshad Mehta.

Mishap

Palghar: A 14-year-old boy was killed and a man injured when a speeding truck overturned and hit the tempo they were travelling in on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Highway in Maharashtra's Palghar district on Saturday, police said.

Weather

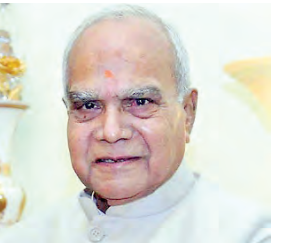
High 29 Low 15

Punjab Guv Purohit resigns

Chandigarh, Feb 03 (PTI):

Punjab Governor and Chandigarh Administrator Banwarilal Purohit submitted his resignation to President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday, citing personal reasons.

"Due to my personal reasons and certain other commitments, I tender my resignation from the post of governor of Punjab and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh. Please accept the same and oblige," Purohit wrote in his resignation letter. Purohit's resignation came a day after he met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Delhi. Their meeting came days after the BJP swept the Chandigarh mayoral polls, retaining all three posts, a setback to the Congress-AAP alliance which alleged tampering with ballot papers by the presiding officer. On Wednesday, a division bench of the Punjab and



Haryana High Court denied interim relief to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). The party had sought fresh polls under the supervision of a retired judge of the court.

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to consider an AAP councillor's request seeking urgent hearing of his plea challenging the high court order.

Purohit had been at loggerheads with Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann over several issues, including holding the Assembly sessions and appointments of vice-chancellors. Purohit had also taken exception to Mann calling his official letters "love letters."

'Ban on polygamy, child marriage'

Dehradun, Feb 03 (PTI):

A complete ban on polygamy and child marriage, a common marriageable age for girls across all faiths and enforcing similar grounds and procedures for divorce are understood to be among the major recommendations of a panel which drafted a Uniform Civil Code for Uttarakhand. The five-member government-appointed panel, headed by retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai, Friday submitted the four-volume report running into 749 pages to Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who said the draft will be examined, studied and discussed before it is tabled in the assembly on February 6. A special four-day session of the assembly has been convened from February 5-8 to pass a legislation on the UCC. Sources said the panel has also recommended that boys and girls will have equal inheritance rights, registration of marriages will be made mandatory and the marriageable age for girls would be increased so that they can become graduates before marriage.

Sena man shot by BJP MLA critical

Fadnavis orders high-level probe

Thane/Mumbai, Feb 03 (PTI):



Shiv Sena leader Mahesh Gaikwad receives treatment in a hospital after he was allegedly shot by BJP MLA Ganpat Gaikwad.

A Shiv Sena leader suffered multiple gunshot wounds and is in critical condition after a BJP MLA fired upon him over a land dispute in Maharashtra's Thane district, prompting the opposition to demand Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's resignation, citing deteriorating law and order in the state.

Deputy CM and state home minister Devendra Fadnavis said he has ordered a high-level probe to find out what made the MLA open fire and under what circumstances.

Kalyan MLA Ganpat Gaikwad of BJP opened fire on Mahesh Gaikwad, the Shinde-led Sena's Kalyan chief, inside the chamber of the senior in-

'I shot him myself, no regrets'

Maharashtra BJP legislator Ganpat Gaikwad has alleged that he fired at an ally Shiv Sena leader in self-defence and he has "no regrets" since they were beating his son inside the police station. He has been arrested. Mahesh Gaikwad, who belongs to Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's faction, and another supporter were injured in the firing after an argument over a land dispute. The incident occurred on Friday night in Ulhasnagar, which comes under Kalyan parliamentary segment. "Yes, I shot (him) myself. I have no regrets. If my son is being beaten in front of the police inside the police station, what will I do," he told media.



MLA in police custody till Feb 14

A court in Thane district on Saturday remanded BJP MLA Ganpat Gaikwad, arrested for allegedly opening fire on a local Shiv Sena leader inside a police station, to police custody till February 14. Gaikwad and two others were produced before a court of First Class Judicial Magistrate in Ulhasnagar in the evening. FCJM AA Nikam remanded the trio to police custody till February 14, a senior police officer told PTI.

Ulhasnagar falls in the Kalyan parliamentary constituency, represented by CM Shinde's son Shrikant Shinde. BJP and Shinde-led Sena belong to the ruling coalition in Maharashtra.

Mahesh Gaikwad was taken to a local hospital before being shifted to a private medical facility in Thane city. He underwent an emergency life-saving surgery and is on a ventilator, said the hospital, adding that his condition is "currently critical". A team of doctors is monitoring his vitals.

After 5-hour drama, cops serve notice to Kejriwal

Over claims of poaching AAP MLAs

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):



AAP leader Jasmine Shah speaks with Delhi Police Crime Branch officials who came to serve Arvind Kejriwal a notice regarding investigation into his claim that the BJP was trying to poach AAP MLAs, at CM's official residence in New Delhi, Saturday.

After a five-hour drama, Crime Branch officials of the Delhi Police on Saturday served a notice on Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, asking him to reply within three days in a probe into his claims that the BJP attempted to poach seven AAP MLAs.

A Delhi Police officer said, "We have served the notice on him (Kejriwal). He can give the reply in three days in a written form."

The Crime Branch has asked Kejriwal to reveal the names of AAP MLAs who were claimed to have

been approached by the BJP. Earlier, a drama unfolded at Kejriwal's residence in Civil Lines as a Crime Branch team arrived again on Saturday to serve him a notice in connection with the probe.

Last week, Kejriwal, in a post on X, had alleged that the BJP offered Rs 25 crore each to seven AAP MLAs to quit the party in order to topple his government.

Shortly after Kejriwal, Delhi Minister Atishi held a press conference and alleged that the BJP had

Sympathise with police.....

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday reacted to the police's attempts to serve him a notice over his MLA poaching charge against the BJP, saying he sympathised with the police who were being made to indulge in "drama" by their "political bosses" instead of preventing crime in the city. Drama unfolded at Kejriwal's official residence in Civil Lines Saturday morning as a crime branch team of the Delhi Police arrived to serve him a notice to join a probe over his claim that the BJP was trying to poach AAP MLAs.

launched "Operation Lotus 2.0" in Delhi.

SAURYA SANDHYA



Army officials show their skill at 'Saurya Sandhya', an Indian Army exhibition, organised as part of the Army Day, in Nagpur, Saturday.

Ensure continuous monitoring of hospitals empanelled under Ayushman Bharat Scheme: Health Minister

Jaiswal chairs a review meeting of the Health Department



Raipur, Feb 03:

Health and Family Welfare Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal chaired a review meeting of the Health Department at Mahanadi Bhawan Mantralaya. He obtained information from officials about the implementation status of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. He instructed them to ensure continuous monitoring of hospitals empanelled

State Government released budget

In a significant development, the state government has disbursed the third instalment of Rs 247.50 crore to settle claims for health services provided by private and government hospitals under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. This allocation was released by the Finance Department.

under the Ayushman Bharat scheme across the state. To facilitate this, he stressed the need to promptly fill vacant administrative and technical positions at the State Nodal Agency level.



Raipur, Feb 03:

Health Minister Jaiswal directed to investigate complaints against hospitals charging patients extra fees or engaging in other irregularities contrary to the scheme's guidelines. He urged

strict enforcement of regulations and swift action against any misconduct to ensure that patients receiving treatment under the scheme face no difficulties.

Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Ms Renu Pillay, Commissioner cum Director Health Services Rituraj Raghuvanshi, MD NHM Dr Jagdish Sonkar, MD CGMSC Ms Padmini Bhoi Sahu, and other department officials attended the meeting.

Exploring the economic impact of Industrial Development: PHDCCI's Chhattisgarh Industry Meet

Raipur, Feb 03:

State Chapter of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) organised its second members Meet "Chhattisgarh Industry Meet 2024: A symposium on industrial scenario in Chhattisgarh" in Babylon Inn hotel, Raipur. The meet played a crucial role in discussing and charting the course for Chhattisgarh's industrial advancement.

The symposium saw key figures, Mr. Shankar Bajaj, Chair PHDCCI Chhattisgarh Chapter and Director, Khyati Pet Industries Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Navneet Garg, Executive Director, Narmada Drinks Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Prateek Singh (Head Corporate Affairs & Corporate Communications, Arcelarmittal Nippon Steel India Ltd.). The due laid out PHDCCI's vision for fostering



Chhattisgarh's industrial growth through several programmes and policy initiatives.

It is worth mentioning that PHDCCI has long been involved in bridging the gap between government and industry, working both at the policy and grassroots levels in the state. As such, industry meet has become a platform for brainstorming and putting plans into action to maintain the momentum of robust industrial expansion. Addressing the Meet,

PHDCCI Chhattisgarh State Chair Mr. Shankar Bajaj, highlighted the opportunities that Chhattisgarh is offering in the key industrial sectors. On behalf of PHDCCI, he appreciates the progressive policies and improved infrastructure that are playing enabling roles for all round developments of the state. The "Chhattisgarh Industry Meet 2024" served as a platform for PHDCCI members, including the leading industry captains from Chhattisgarh, senior

industry professionals and industry experts, to discuss and analyse the current industrial climate in Chhattisgarh and the way forward. Mr. Navneet Garg, Co-Chair briefed about Pan India activities of PHDCCI, Policy advocacy and requested to increase membership base in Chhattisgarh. Mr. Sumit Dubey, Resident Director, gave the presentation on the Chhattisgarh State Chapter's plans as well as services offered by PHDCCI and membership development.

Alliance Air to cease flight services in Bilaspur from March 1

- Bookings will close after February 29 for New Delhi, Prayagraj, and Jabalpur.
- Udaan scheme agreement will conclude on February 29, doubts about service continuation.

Bilaspur, Feb 03:

The commercial air service that commenced on March 1, 2021, in Bilaspur is at risk of shutting down from March 1. The reason is the termination of the 3-year agreement with the UDAN scheme, which provided subsidies to Alliance Airlines operating from Bilaspur.

The 3-year agreement of the UDAN scheme is ending on February 29. Due to this, there is a

risk of closing down flights to New Delhi, Prayagraj, and Jabalpur operating from Bilaspur. Alliance Air Company has requested subsidies to continue air services. No decision has been reached by the state or central government, leading to the closure of flights from March 1. Now that there is a BJP government in the state and at the center, the expansion of air service in Bilaspur has begun to shrink.

The agreement for the Central Government's UDAN scheme to operate air services from the local Bilaspur airport was signed on March 29, 2021. Following this, passenger flights to New Delhi, Prayagraj, and Jabalpur started, benefiting from exemptions

Hike in airfares if flight continues

After the state government not giving rebate in UDF and PSF and the agreement of UDAN scheme ending, Alliance Air Company will have no other option but to increase the fares to continue air services. In such a situation, the fare to New Delhi will increase by about Rs two thousand. Besides, the airlines can also reduce the flight days.

under the scheme. The 3-year agreement expires on March 29, 2024. As a result, Alliance Air, the sole company operating air services from Bilaspur, will cease to receive VGF subsidies. With this in mind, the air company has sent a letter to the Chhattisgarh gov-

Passengers who booked tickets in advance are worried

When the journey is already scheduled, the passengers book the flight tickets in advance. With this the fare is charged less. At the same time, if you buy a ticket closer to the travel day, you have to pay more fare due to limited seat availability. Therefore, those who have booked advance tickets for New Delhi, Jabalpur and Prayagraj are worried. Passengers who booked advance tickets and are now facing cancellations or uncertain information are understandably worried.

ernment, requesting a rebate in UDF and PSF charges. The state government has yet to make a decision.

In this situation, it will be challenging for Alliance Air Company to continue air service from Bilaspur. The state government has not made any decision regarding the rebate request. At the same time, no information has been provided by the Central Government regarding

the continuation of the UDAN scheme. Consequently, Alliance Air Company has temporarily halted bookings for New Delhi-Prayagraj-Bilaspur and New Delhi-Jabalpur-Bilaspur flights operating from Bilaspur Airport starting March 1. If airlines do not receive the expected subsidies, there is a risk of closing New Delhi flights four days a week via Jabalpur and three days via Prayagraj.

Breast screening through Thermography by Ramakrishna Care Hospital

- On the occasion of World Cancer Day

Raipur, Feb 03:

For the first time in Central India, on the occasion of World Cancer Day, Ramakrishna Care Hospital in collaboration with Sunrise Foundation has provided free breast screening through Thermography device. This is the first time in Central India that this technique has been used for breast cancer training. Dr. Ravi Jaiswal, Trained Oncologist in thermography addressing the media persons here on Saturday informed that Thermalytics device is a mass screening device to detect breast cancer, which



does not feel any kind of touch or pain, and is completely radiation free. Dr. Deba Dulal Biswal informed that Ramakrishna Care Hospital is organising a Cancer Screening Camp on the occasion of World Cancer Day on February 3rd to screen breast cancer (by thermography), cervical cancer (by Pap smear) in women and oral cancer in men. Dr. Sourabh Jain emphasizes on increasing awareness

about cancer through screening so that we can diagnose cancer in its early stages. Dr. Sandeep Dave, Medical and Managing Director of Ramkrishna Care Hospital, experience and skilled surgeon with more than 35 years of experience, who with his hard work and efforts, got the status of best and world class hospital to Ramkrishna Care Hospital.

JCI Senator Shrikant Parakh appointed as National Coordinator

Raipur, Feb 03:

JCI (Junior Chamber International) has nominated Shrikant Parakh, former President of Raipur Capital and JCI Senator who has served in various capacities in Division 9, as the National Coordinator for the year 2024. JCI Senator Shrikant Parakh has been assigned this important post in view of his working system, participation and work efficiency. JCI is happy to make this announcement and said that the experience and leadership of Shrikant Parakh will play an important role in taking JCI to new heights. The members of JCI Raipur Capital have also congratulated Shrikant Parakh on his



new role and wished him a successful tenure.

JCI Senator Shrikant Parakh said on the occasion that he will fully discharge his responsibilities as the National Coordinator of JCI and will work closely with the members to fulfill the objectives of the organization. The wishes for suc-

cessful tenure was given by JCI Senator PPP JFR Rajesh Agarwal, Former Divisional President of JCI Zone 9 JCI Senator Amitabh Dubey, IPZP and ABM JCI Sen Akash Sundarani, JC Amit Khare, Chapter Coordinator JC Senator Chitanka Chopra, ABM and Former President JCI Sen Advocate Sandeep Thourani, President JC Senator Narendra Sinha, Secretary JC Kaushik Parmar, JC Vineet Gohil and JC Sudhir Agarwal, JC Ravi Sinha JC Tulsi Patel, IPP JCCA Vikram Girdkar, Women GC Chairperson JC Tina Dhabre and ZD Business JCI Sen Nishit Gohil, informs a release issued by organization's media in-charge JC Nohar Sahu.

Chh'garh wins 3 bronze medals in Sub Jr Taekwondo championship



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 03: Assam continued to dominate the medals tally in the 37th National Sub Junior Taekwondo championship on day two being organized under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Taekwondo Association (CPTA) here on Saturday whereas Chhattisgarh bagged three bronze medals here. Providing the above information, the General Secretary of Association Anil Dwevedi said that in the 18kg boys category, the bronze

medal was won by Shrihaan Chandra from Chhattisgarh whereas in the Under 24kg girls, the bronze medal was won by Shradha and in the U- 38kg girls category, the Chhattisgarh won another bronze medal with Daksha Choudhary excelling in the event.

Inspector General of Police Raipur Range Ratanlal Dangi was chief guest of the prize distribution ceremony whereas the Raipur Municipal Commissioner Avinash Mishra presided over the event.

Minister extend best wishes to Chh'garh Canoe team

- Five member team to participate in National championship

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 03: Minister for Sports & Youth Welfare Tankram Verma has extended best wishes to the Chhattisgarh team for the 34th National Junior & Sub Junior Canoe Sprint tournament being organised under the aegis of MP Association at Bhopal from February 9 to 12.

Chhattisgarh Pradesh Kayaking & Canoeing Association (CPKCA) players under the leadership of National Joint Secretary Prashant Singh



Raghuvanshi paid a courtesy visit to Sports Minister Verma here. Minister distributed sports kit to the players to extend best wishes to them for the National tournament. Pradeep Sahu, Saurabh Sahu, Tilak Sahu, Toran Sahu, Ganesh Sahu and Ashok Sahu are the members of

Chhattisgarh team for the National tournament.

Ravindra Singh from CPKCA was also present on the occasion. CPKCA President Baldeo Singh Bhatia, Working President Rohit Kale and General Secretary Abhijit Mishra too have extended best wishes to the players for the event.

CG govt sets up Ease of Doing Business cell for entrepreneurs, taxpayers

Raipur, Feb 03: The Chhattisgarh government has established an 'Ease of Doing Business' cell here for entrepreneurs and taxpayers, state finance minister O P Chaudhary said. The initiative aims to streamline administrative processes, the minister added. During her interim budget speech in Parliament, Union Finance Minister

Nirmala Sitharaman said the central government was focussing on 'GDP' which stands for governance, development and performance, he noted. The 'Ease of Doing Business' cell will make it easier for start-ups to come up, the minister said, adding that it will also address challenges faced by new businesses in GST registration. Both entrepreneurs and tax payers will have all necessary information available in one place, Chaudhary said. The cell will also organise training courses, seminars and workshops, he informed.

World Cancer Day: Anti Tobacco Awareness Program by Sanjeevani Cancer Foundation & VHAI

Raipur, Feb 03: 4th February is observed every year as World Cancer Day. On this occasion, an awareness program was organized under the joint aegis of Sanjeevani Cancer Care Foundation and Voluntary Health Association of India to spread awareness among the people. In this program, Sanjeevani Cancer Care Foundation Founder and Senior Cancer Surgeon Dr. Yousuf Memon, Indian Medical Association President Dr. Rakesh Gupta, Ex Agriculture Minister Mr. Chandrashekhar Sahu, Senior cancer surgeons Dr. Arpan Chaturmohta and Dr. Diwakar Pandey, chemotherapy and im-

muno-therapy experts Dr. Aniket Thoke and Dr. Rakesh Mishra, Pain and palliative medicine expert Dr. Avinash Tiwari, Adhvesh Malik and Sushmita Srivastava from Voluntary Health Association of India along with aware citizens of Raipur were present.

Dr. Yousuf Memon and Dr. Rakesh Gupta gave information about the link of tobacco products with cancer in India. Dr. Yousuf Memon said that tobacco consumption causes more than 13 lakh deaths in India every year, which is equivalent to 3500 deaths per day. Apart from causing deaths and diseases, tobacco also affects the economic and social develop-



ment of the country. He further said that not only is tobacco use a major risk factor for many types of cancer and diseases, but smokers also increase the risk of cancer for themselves as well as those around them through second-hand smoke. Dr. Rakesh Gupta said that the Indian Medical Association is committed to spreading awareness

about cancer prevention in Chhattisgarh. He advised people to stay away from tobacco products, excessive alcohol consumption, and other cancer causing factors and go for regular check ups and consult experts.

Throwing light on the increasing cases of cancer in Chhattisgarh, Dr. Arpan Chaturmohta and Dr. Diwakar Pandey ex-

plained that it is a matter of concern that nowadays the prevalence of gutkha, beedi, gudhakhu, khaini and other tobacco products is increasing along with oral cancer. Along with this, cases of other cancers are also increasing. Dr. Diwakar Pandey shared that if you notice signs like sudden weight loss, difficulty in breathing or swallowing, feeling of extreme fatigue, anemia, lump in the body, change in the skin, change in the habits of excreta, mouth ulcers, non-healing blisters, bleeding from stool, urine or vagina, you should immediately contact a doctor.

Dr. Aniket Thoke and Dr. Rakesh Mishra shared

that nowadays chemotherapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy are also given along with radiation and it plays an important role in eliminating and controlling cancer even in advanced stage cancer. Complete cure of cancer is possible if detected at the right time. Dr. Avinash Tiwari said that reducing the pain and other painful symptoms of a patient suffering from a major or serious illness and improving his routine and daily life is an important part of palliative care, which includes the use of scientific medicines. Along with this, psychological emotional spiritual strategies and support also play a big role.

Issued in public interest on the occasion of World Cancer Day



Sanjeevani Cancer Hospital



Fully NABH Accredited, 20 Cancer & Allied Specialists, 17 Years of Experience

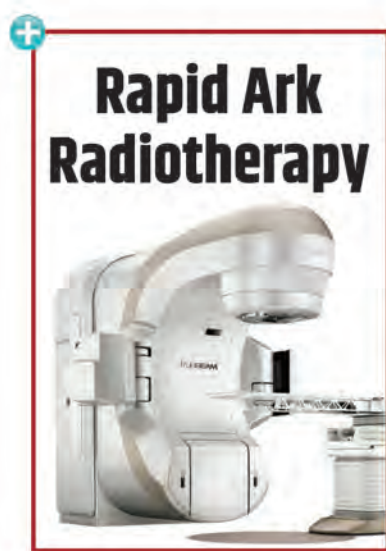
Early symptoms of cancer

- Weight loss for unexplained reasons
- Feeling extremely tired without any reason
- Sudden loss of appetite
- New persistent pain
- Frequent nausea or vomiting
- Blood in urine or stool
- Any new lump in the breast or body
- White discharge or bleeding from the vagina
- Persistent cough, blood in cough
- Non-healing mouth ulcers
- Change in size or color of a wart or mole

Ways to prevent cancer from occurring or recurring

- Avoid tobacco, gutka, pan masala, alcohol
- Maintain a healthy diet, Satvik Indian Food
- Avoid fast food, processed foods, red meat, excessive oil, spices
- Maintain a healthy weight (obesity increases cancer risk)
- Do regular exercise, yoga, pranayama (5 days a week, 30 minutes)
- Avoid stress (excessive stress and anxiety are the causes of many diseases other than cancer)
- Be mindful of suspicious symptoms, get regular check-ups
- Get screening test and vaccination done

The only hospital in Chhattisgarh where the following state-of-the-art facilities for cancer treatment are available under one roof



Our Specialists



Dr. Yousuf Memon
MBBS, MS, FSOG, FIAGES, FMAS
Director & Sr. Cancer Surgeon



Dr. Vikas Goyal
MD, DM (HAEMATOLOGY)
Hematology & Hemato-oncology



Dr. Aniket Thoke
MD, DNB, ESMO
Chemotherapy Specialist



Dr. Arpan Chaturmohta
MS, MCh, FIAGES
HOD, Sr. Cancer Surgeon



Dr. Diwakar Pandey
MS, MCh, DNB, FACS
Sr. Cancer Surgeon



Dr. Rakesh Mishra
MBBS, MD, DM
Medical Oncologist



Dr. Vivek Patel
MBBS, MS, MCh
Sr. Cancer Surgeon



Dr. Kalyan Pandey
MBBS, MS, MCh
Sr. Cancer Surgeon



Dr. Hiten Mistri
MBBS, MD (ANAESTHESIA)
Medical Oncologist



Dr. Avinash Tiwari
MD (Palliative Medicine)
Pain and Palliative
Medicine Specialist



Dr. Rudra Pratap Singh
MS, DNB (ORTHOPEDECS)
Orthopedic Cancer Surgeon



Dr. Abhiram G.A.
MBBS, MD (NUCLEAR MEDICINE)
Consultant, Nuclear Medicine



Dr. Ramesh Kothari
MBBS, MD, DMRT
Radiation Oncologist



Dr. Satish Dewangan
MBBS, MD
Radiation Oncologist



Dr. Rahul Goyal
MBBS, MD(ANAESTHESIA) FNB



Dr. Firoz Memon
MD (MEDICINE), Diabetologist
and non invasive cardiologist



Dr. Shubham Asrani
MBBS, MD (Radiology)
Radiologist



Dr. Yoshita Mulchandani
MBBS, MD (ANAESTHESIOLOGY)



Dr. Parvati Joshi
MD (Path), PGI Chandigarh



Dr. Sarin Krishna
MBBS, MD (NUCLEAR MEDICINE)
Consultant, Nuclear Medicine



Dr. Nallesh Sharma
BPT, MS (CLINICAL
REHABILITATION)
Physiotherapist



Dr. Amir Hussain
MD (PATHOLOGY)

Why choose Sanjeevani Cancer Hospital for cancer treatment?

- Experienced team of 50 doctors, 20 cancer and allied specialists, 350 staff. Holistic healthcare clinic, specialist, and blood bank in the hospital itself. Fully NABH Accredited Cancer Hospital, 17 years of experience.
- Impanelled with NABH, Chhattisgarh Government, FCI, NMDC, SECL, CSEB, NTPC, Railway, SAIL, BSP, ESIC, BSKY (Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana, Odisha), Ayushman Bharat, Khubchand Baghel and all insurance institutions.

Tribal Minister made surprise inspection of PRGS, Raipur



● Announcement of building a new computer lab soon

Raipur, Feb 03: Tribal, Scheduled Caste, Other Backward Class and Minority Welfare Minister Ramvichar Netam on Friday conducted a surprise inspection of Prayas Residential Girls School (PRGS) located in

Gudhiyari, Raipur. He inspected each and every room of the residential school. During this time he also inspected the dining room of the residential school.

He tested the quality of the food prepared for the children by tasting it and gave instructions to the officials to make necessary improvements in the food. During this, Minister

Netam immediately approved the new computer lab on the demand of the children for a computer lab.

Minister Netam gave instructions to make sports materials available soon to promote sports activities among children. On this occasion, he also gave approval to build a basketball court in the residential school premises. Apart

from this, instructions were given to the officials to soon provide musical equipment in the school to engage the students in cultural activities.

In the discussion during the inspection by Minister Netam, the officials said that 10 seats each have been reserved for minority and general category by the previous government in Prayas Residential Girls School, Raipur, which remains vacant every year. Minister Netam said that these seats should not remain vacant, if students from these categories are not found then needy Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Caste and Other Backward Class students should be given admission in rotational and merit order. On this occasion, teachers and students including the Assistant Commissioner of Tribal Welfare Department were present.

Workshop on Qualitative Research Designs Concludes in AIIMS

Raipur, Feb 03: All India Institute of Medical Sciences has organized a two-day workshop on 'Qualitative Research Designs and Analysis' on February 1 and 2. Participants from different medical colleges got a comprehensive view of the qualitative research framework and designing studies by employing qualitative methods in the workshop. The participants were also trained in NVivo software for scientific analysis of research outcomes.

Under the aegis of Nursing College, eminent experts from different medical colleges, including AIIMS Delhi, Rishikesh, and Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Karnataka, have imparted lectures during the workshop.

They provided an in-depth presentation on qualitative research methods, designs, data collection, sampling procedures, how to determine sample size, interview methods, focus group discussions, the latest features and functionalities of NVivo, and interpreting results.

The workshop was organized under the chairperson, Dr. Binu Mathew, by a committee comprising Joyce Joseph, Vahitha S, Veena Verma, Suganya P and Nursing Tutors.

Indian Railways women's handball team clinches gold



35th National Federation Cup Handball Tournament. Four SECR players shine

Raipur, Feb 03: In a remarkable display of talent and teamwork, the Indian Railways women's handball team emerged victorious by winning the gold medal at the 35th National Federation Cup Handball Tournament, held in Sangli, Maharashtra from January 28 to 31.

The winning team, representing Indian Railways, featured four outstanding women players from South East Central Railway, namely Kajal, Niki, Pankaj (Technician, Mechanical Department), and Meenu (Technician, Electrical Department). These talented athletes played pivotal roles in securing the top position.

Indian Railways, as well as South East Central Railway, have long been champions of promoting sports and nurturing talent. The dedication and support provided to athletes have yielded fruitful

results, with these players bringing honour not only to themselves but also to their country and the South East Central Railway.

The General Manager of South East Central Railway, along with other officials, extends hearty congratulations to the Indian Railways Women's Handball Team and the talented players from the South East Central Railway for their outstanding performance and achievements. They are encouraged to continue their pursuit of excellence in future competitions.

BIS carried out search and seizure operation at M/s Adhiraj Cement



Raipur, Feb 03: A team of Bureau of Indian Standards carried out search and seizure operation at M/s Adhiraj Cement at Rambod, Mungeli. During this search and seizure operation, the above firm was found to be illegally manufacturing cement and illegally marking ISI Mark without license from Bureau of Indian Standards.

The production and selling of cement without valid license from Bureau of Indian Standards is prohibited and illegal as per the Quality Control Order issued by Government of India. Marking of ISI Mark illegally without valid license from Bureau of Indian Standards is contravention of Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016.

During the search and seizure operation huge quantity of filled and

empty cement bags bearing illegal ISI marking were confiscated. Bureau of Indian Standards regularly carries out such search and seizure operations to prosecute violators of Bureau of Indian Standards, 2016. BIS also carries out awareness campaigns for consumers so that consumers are apprised about their rights and means of checking the validity of BIS Standard marked products. BIS has also brought out mobile application "BIS Care App" which can be used to check validity of ISI Marked products, Hallmarked jewellery, registration of Electronic products. It can also be used to lodge any complaint by consumer against misuse of BIS standard marks.

Health Employees Union demands removal of Medical College Dean

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 03: The Chhattisgarh State Health Employees Union took a significant step on February 2 by submitting a memorandum to prosecute violators of Bureau of Indian Standards, 2016. BIS also carries out awareness campaigns for consumers so that consumers are apprised about their rights and means of checking the validity of BIS Standard marked products. BIS has also brought out mobile application "BIS Care App" which can be used to check validity of ISI Marked products, Hallmarked jewellery, registration of Electronic products. It can also be used to lodge any complaint by consumer against misuse of BIS standard marks.

Alok Mishra, the State President of Chhattisgarh State Health Employees' Union, expressed concern

about the intentional delays in routine tasks and policy decisions at Medical College Raipur and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Medical College Raipur under Dr. Trupti Nagariya's leadership. These delays have disrupted hospital operations and negatively impacted patient services.

Dr. Trupti Nagariya had previously been removed from her position as Dean following a strike by CIMS Bilaspur employees, but she has been reinstated in the same role under the Congress government. Several critical hospital functions, such as the CT Scan in the Cancer Department, Mammography, Cobalt, and Infusion machines, re-

main non-operational. The vitrectomy machine in the eye department has been out of service for years without any improvements.

In a peculiar situation, the Dean of the Medical College, Raipur, is overseeing hospital operations instead of the Superintendent of Ambedkar Hospital. This has led to significant delays in providing timely services to patients due to the difference in financial powers between the Dean and the Superintendent. The union is demanding swift action to address these issues and ensure that patient facilities are not compromised due to administrative inaction under Dr. Trupti Nagariya's leadership.

Verma meets injured Jawans, commends their valour



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 03: Revenue Minister Tank Ram Verma visited a private hospital in Mowa, Raipur on Friday to inquire about the health of Jawans injured in a Naxal encounter on January 30 in Tekulagudem of Sukma district. Minister Verma expressed concern for the injured Jawans and gathered necessary informa-

tion about their treatment from doctors. He commended the Jawans for their selfless fight against Maoists.

On January 30, three Jawans lost their lives in an encounter with Naxalites in Tekulagudem village, Jagargunda police station area of Sukma district. The brave Jawans were Constable Deven C. and Constable Pawan Kumar from the 201 Cobra CRPF battalion, along with Constable Lambadhar Singha from the 150th battalion. A total of 16 Jawans sustained injuries in the incident, eight of whom were shifted to a private hospital in Raipur to ensure better treatment.

Achieve efficiency through continuous practice: Rajwade



Surajpur, Feb 03: Women and Child Development, Social Welfare Minister Lakshmi Rajwade on Friday participated in the Motivational Seminar and Career Workshop organized in the auditorium of Surajpur district. While addressing this motivational seminar and career workshop organized under the educational orientation program, Minister Rajwade advised

the students to practice continuously. She said that with continuous practice students can achieve efficiency and ensure success. Along with this, she talked about giving maximum space to studies in the timetable so that the students can take steps towards a bright future.

On this occasion, Premnagar MLA, Bhulan Singh Marabi also addressed the students and

shared his experience. Motivational speaker Mr. Prince Verma gave an excellent presentation in the program. He gave important tips to the students present to face the challenges in life. He told the children that even impossible tasks can be accomplished with continuous effort. Along with this, he inspired the children to dream big and also highlighted how to make con-

tinuous efforts to make them come true.

He advised the students to fully exploit the resources and facilities available to them. He told the students that success can be achieved in every field by implementing successful management, hence everyone should work hard with determination and become successful. Along with this, he also talked about taking inspiration from the great personalities of the country.

On this occasion, senior officials including Surajpur Collector Mr. Rohit Vyas also shared their experiences. A large number of students including officers and employees of Women Child Development and Social Welfare Department were present in the program.

Three teachers receive research grant of Rs 1.40 cr

● From Physics Department of CU from DST-SERB

Bilaspur, Feb 03: Three teachers of the Department of Pure and Applied Physics under the School of Physics of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (a Central University) have been provided a research grant of Rs 1.40 cr by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

On this occasion, all three teachers met Vice Chancellor, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal and expressed their gratitude for his continuous guidance, direction, inspiration and constant encouragement. Honorable Vice Chancellor congratulated the three teachers, the Dean, Prof. H.S. Tiwari, and the Head of the Department, Prof. M.N. Tripathi on this achievement of the teachers of the department. He stressed that the Central



University must be brought into the list of best universities in the field of research and innovation.

Dr. Pradeep Das, Assistant Professor, has received a grant of Rs 29 lakh for the project "Fermology and Magneto Transport Properties of Topological Nodal Line Semimetals". In this project, there will be research on topological semimetals, which will be used in quantum computers in the future, and will greatly increase the working capacity of computers. Dr. Shiv Poojan Patel,

Assistant Professor, has received a grant of Rs 45 lakh for the project "Structural Stability of Tungsten Based Nano Multilayers under Ion Irradiation". Under this project, materials used in nuclear fusion reactors will be tested which will prove helpful in creating artificial sun. Particle accelerator will be used in this project.

Dr. P. Rambabu, Assistant Professor, has received a grant of Rs 62 lakh which includes two projects, one on Discovery of novel topological phases in

magnetic Heusler alloys for future spintronics technologies through first principles calculations worth Rs. 36 lakhs, and second for study of Nernst effect through first principles calculations for energy harvesting in Heusler alloys based on anomaly worth Rs. 26 lakhs. It is known that ordinary current is caused by electronic charge, but under this project, the current can be controlled due to the spin of the electron, due to which there will be a revolution in the field of computers.

Rotary Club of Raipur Greater plans to spread awareness about Cervical Cancer and its vaccination

Raipur, Feb 03: Every year world cancer day is celebrated on 4th February. This is a day where we celebrate the courage & efforts of cancer survivors in their battle against this deadly disease. Along with that, we aim to educate the society about various ways to prevent cancer. This year Rotary Club of Raipur Greater has planned to spread awareness about Cervical Cancer and its vaccination. Cervical can-

cer is the most common gynecological cancer in India. Every 8minute, one woman dies of cervical cancer in India. Cervical cancer is caused due to a sexually transmitted virus called Human Papilloma Virus which enters the body of the female at the start of the sexual activity. This virus persists in the body of certain female and develops Cervical cancer over a period of next 10 to 15years. The primary pre-

vention of this cancer can be done by giving a vaccine before the start of sexual activity which can boost the body's immunity so that Virus can never make that female her host. Hence the most preferred age for vaccination is between 9years to 26years or before the females start their sexual activity. Although vaccine can be given to sexually active females, it is less efficient. There are at least four vaccines available

for Cervical Cancer Prevention but the most affordable and effective is Cervavac which is developed by Serum Institute of India. The vaccine needs to be given in two or three dosage depending on the age of the female. The vaccine is devoid of any serious side effects except for mild fever and malaise on the day of vaccination. To improve vaccination rate in Raipur, Rotary Club has planned first Cancer

Vaccination Camp of Chhattisgarh where females between 9 to 26 years of age or those who are sexually inactive will get vaccinated through the Indigenous Cancer vaccine-"Cervavac". The cost of this vaccine is Rs1300 per dose which is at a much subsidized rate compared to the market value. Along with this, an awareness session on Cervical Cancer and its prevention is planned before the vaccination

camp. The program is organized under the supervision of Rotary President Mr. Ajay Tiwari and Secretary Hrisabh Soni along with program Chairman Dr Saurabh Jain(Cancer Surgeon), and Dr Sowmya Raghuraj.

The Rotary Club invites the eligible females from Raipur to participate in this vaccination Camp so that we can make the youth of Raipur City free of Cervical Cancer.

Western Regional Hockey Competition from Feb 05

● At Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Hockey Stadium

Raipur, Feb 03: A two-day "Western Regional Hockey Competition for the year 2023-24" will be organised by the Office of the Principal Accountant General (Accounts and Entitlements), Chhattisgarh, Raipur and Indian Audit and Accounts Department at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

International Hockey Stadium, Raipur on February 5 and 6. Five teams from the Indian Audit and Accounts Department, namely- Raipur, Gwalior, Nagpur, Rajkot and Jaipur will participate in the competition. The competition will be inaugurated at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Hockey Stadium, Raipur at 10.30 am on February 5. The prize distribution and closing ceremony will be held on February 6.

Patnaik inaugurates first World Odia Language Conference

Bhubaneswar, Feb 03 (PTI): Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Saturday inaugurated the first ever 'Biswa Odia Bhasa Sammilani' (World Odia Language Conference) here at Janata Maidan.

The conference was inaugurated with the singing of 'Bande Utkala Janani', the state anthem of Odisha. All the Odias in the conference and across the state and abroad joined the festival of Odia language by singing the state anthem at the same time.



Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik during the inauguration of the 'Biswa Odia Bhasa Sammilani' (World Odia Language Conference) at Janata Madan in Bhubaneswar, Saturday.

Employees of different government organisations, school and college students, cops and non-resident Odias recited the anthem during the inauguration.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief minister said his government will accept the recommendations of the conference and formulate a dedicated language policy for the

state, which will pave the way for the future development of Odia language.

Modern culture and technology has an impact on the language. Therefore, there is a need for detailed discussion on all aspects of the language. There should be a thorough discussion on the creation of good literature and for better use of the Odia language, he suggested.

Expressing pleasure over the recognition of Odia language as a classical language, the chief minister said that language is the future. The state government has set up Odia University for the development of Odia language and promoting Odia language study.

Patnaik said, "Today we have all come together on one stage for the Odia language. Odias residing in India and abroad have also joined in the conference. Renowned Odia writers and researchers have also participated in it. It is a glorious time for Odia language and literature."

He appealed to all to work together for the development of Odia language.

Renowned Odia author and linguist Debi Prasanna Pattanayak was honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contribution to Odia language and linguistics. He has been felicitated with a memento and cash award of Rs 20 lakh by the chief minister.

Patnaik also felicitated Odia writers Pratibha Ray and Sitakant Mahapatra during the inaugural function. The conference, which will continue till February 5, will have 16 sessions and a special session on Jagannath consciousness.

PUBLIC MEETING



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi speaks at a public meeting during the 'Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra', in Deoghar district, Saturday.

Former SC judge Lokur expresses concern about rising number of special leave petitions

Jaipur, Feb 03 (PTI):

Expressing concern about the rising number of special leave petitions in the Supreme Court, Justice (retired) Madan B Lokur on Saturday said the situation was getting worse and claimed high courts were not following properly the constitutional provisions on issuing certificates for filing such petitions.

Participating in a session at the Jaipur Literature Festival (JLF) here, he also said the Supreme Court had missed in 2015-16 a "good opportunity" to frame guidelines on special leave petitions as it rejected a petition in this regard.

Various issues related to the judiciary such as its relationship with the executive, gender equality, use of artificial intelligence, and public criticism of the judiciary in the era of social

media were discussed at the session on 'Justice: The Voice of the Voiceless', also attended by Justice (retired) Muralidhar.

Justice Lakur, who retired from the Supreme Court in December 2018, said a large number of SLPs can have regressive consequences. He said the number of such cases is rising and the situation is going from bad to worse.

In 2015-16, a petition was filed in the Supreme Court to frame guidelines on SLP but the apex court at that time refused to do so, he said, adding it was a good opportunity which the Supreme Court missed.

There are appropriate constitutional provisions regarding granting of SLP permission certificates by high courts but these are not followed properly, he said. On the allocation of cases to Constitution benches, Justice Lokur

said the power in this regard should be exercised in "a proper and impartial manner". There should be no politics and a case should not be assigned to any particular judge, he added.

On the issue of women judges not being given proper representation in the judiciary, Justice Lokur, referring to Justice Leila Seth, said that she was a brilliant jurist but she was not elevated to the Supreme Court. On this, Justice Muralidhar said that there was a need to sensitize male judges to go beyond gender bias and ensure justice for all.

Referring to the 75th anniversary of the Supreme Court, celebrated recently, former chief justice of the Orissa High Court Muralidhar said the Supreme Court, which is seen as the most powerful court in the world, has done a lot in protecting the fundamental

rights of the people, rights of women and children, rights of minorities and prisoners.

While the role of the Supreme Court in maintaining public confidence in the judiciary has been appreciated, it has also faced criticism from the public regarding some decisions, be it the Sabarimala issue, gay marriage or the recent judgment regarding the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The apex court upheld the constitutional validity of several provisions of the PMLA. Under the law, the Enforcement Directorate has the power to attach property, arrest and search an accused and seize illegal property.

Justice Muralidhar said the reality is that today the entire judiciary is under public scrutiny.

Social media reflects the public's frustration

with the judiciary, mass media debates the performance of the judiciary, he said.

Describing it as natural, he said that in the era of rapidly changing technology, public expectations from the judiciary have increased.

On the use of artificial intelligence in the judiciary, Justice Muralidhar said it will definitely help in reducing the workload on courts, management of cases, and proper disposal, etc. but the right to privacy and sensitive information falling into the hands of technology and AI will be at stake.

He also said that AI cannot acquire the right to give decisions in the legal field.

Sital Kalantry and Aparna Chandra, co-authors of the book "Court on Trial: A Data-Driven Account of the Supreme Court of India", also participated in the session.

'In India, medical profession is not commerce but service'

Jodhpur, Feb 03 (PTI):



Mansukh Mandaviya

Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Saturday said the medical profession is "not commerce but service" and likened the role of a doctor to a priest in a temple, who is dutiful to a patient and the hospital.

Mandaviya was addressing the fourth convocation ceremony of the AIIMS, Jodhpur, in which 22 students were awarded medals while about 780 UG, PG, Nursing and super-specialty students were given degrees.

The minister also inaugurated and laid foundation stones for several facilities at AIIMS, Jodhpur and six other AIIMS in Bilaspur, Bhubaneswar, Nagpur,

Deoghar, Gorakhpur and Rishikesh.

Addressing the gathering, Mandaviya said, "Medical (profession) in India is not commerce, it is service." He called upon the passing out students to voluntarily serve in far remote areas without having

any need for the government to get them to fill a bond to this effect.

"In my country, there is no necessity for the doctors to fill a bond and they realise that unless the health facilities are not accessible to all, I will serve wherever the duty is given", he said.

The health minister urged the passing out doctors to pledge that they would serve as government doctors for at least two years in those primary health centres (PHC) in remote desert areas of this state where no doctor wishes to go.

"If we work with this vision, only then we will be able to realise the dream of a developed country by 2047", the minister said.

Aluminum plant soon in Talaja

Mumbai, Jan 03: Bonlon Industries Ltd., engaged in production of copper wires is now undertaking a project to manufacture aluminum rods and ingots. Bonlon Industries, (BSE listed) will put up its new modern plant in Talaja MIDC, Maharashtra. Initially, the annual production capacity will be 75 thousand tonnes. This plant will make rods, wires and ingots from aluminum scrap, whose demand is increasing in various sectors. According to a senior officer of the company, land has already been acquired for the new project and the production will commence very soon. It has been planned to commence the production in the new plant right in the financial year 2024-25. The new plant will contribute Rs 200-250 crore annually to the company's business with a net profit margin of 4 to 5 per cent. Promoted by Arun Kumar Jain family, Bonlon Industries is a 25-year-old company that mainly manufactures copper wire and rods. The promoter group holds 64% stake in Bonlon.

ED moves court after Kejriwal skips summons

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI): The Enforcement Directorate on Saturday filed a complaint against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in a court here for not appearing before it in a money laundering case linked to the alleged excise policy scam. The complaint was filed before Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Divya Malhotra, who put up the matter for further hearing on February 7. "Fresh complaint case" for non-attendance in compliance of Section 50, PMLA, 2002, received by way of assignment," the judge noted. The judge heard the part arguments and adjourned the matter. "This is a fresh complaint case. Submissions heard. Put up for remaining submissions/ consideration on February 7, 2024," the judge said.

'Revengeful raids on Harsh Mander proves democracy in dire straits'

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The Congress alleged on Saturday that the CBI raids on activist Harsh Mander and his NGO proved that democracy was in dire straits and speaking for the marginalised was banned under the current dispensation.

The CBI registered a case of alleged violation of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act against Mander and his NGO Centre for Equity Studies and searched his premises on Friday.

Reacting to the development, Congress general secretary Randeep Surjewala said, "Atrocious and revengeful raids on Harsh Mander by Modi Government

proves...democracy is in dire straits. Expressing opinion is now a crime. Disagreement is treated as sedition. Speaking for the marginalised is banned."

"The CBI is now - Castigate, Blame, Incriminate," he also alleged in a post on X.

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor also came out in support of Mander, whom he has known since college days.

"He was and remains one of the purest souls I have ever come across a man of unimpeachable integrity, sincere intention and boundless compassion. His mind and heart extend themselves to humanity's unfortunates, the dispossessed & marginalised.

Lekhi hits out at audience for not chanting 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai'

Kozhikode (Kerala), Feb 03 (PTI): Union Minister Meenakshi Lekhi on Saturday lashed out at a section of the audience at a youth conclave here for not chanting the "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" slogan despite she repeatedly asked them to do so.

A visibly irked Lekhi asked them whether Bharat was not their mother and even suggested a woman, who was reluctant to raise the slogan, to leave the venue.

The conclave was organised by certain right-wing outfits. Concluding her speech, the senior BJP leader chanted "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and asked the audience to repeat it.

As the response from the audience was not as expected, she asked whether Bharat was not

their home.

"Is Bharat only my mother or your mother as well? Tell me...Tell me...Is there any doubt? No doubt?...Enthusiasm needs to be expressed," the Union Minister of State for External Affairs & Culture said.

She repeated the slogan and said that the response from the left side audience was still poor.

Pointing at a woman in the audience, Lekhi said, "The lady in yellow (dress) can stand up. Don't look on to the sides. This is how I am going to speak to you. I am going to ask you a straight question. Bharat is not your mother?... Why this attitude?"

Lekhi again chanted Bharat Mata Ki Jai. The woman was still standing idle, doing nothing.

Public Notice

This is to inform to the public that the original Sale Deed dated 08/05/2014 is registered in the office of Sub-Registrar Raipur, Vide Book No. A-1, Volume No. 63149, Serial No. 421, Page No. 23 to 24 executed by Smt. Preeti Devi Agrawal/W/O. Shri Jagannath Agrawal, Raipur (C.G.) in favour of Smt. Raziya Begum W/O. Md. Gous R/O Sabuni Bada Gali, Ifari Telers, Raja Talab, Raipur (C.G.) for the old Kh. No. 356/26, As per Bhujiyar records Kh. No. 359/148, Area 4000 Sq. Ft. Situated at Saddu, Kushabahu Thakre Ward No. 26, New Ward Pt. Mali Lal Nehru Ward no. 08, Raipur. P.C. No-44, RIC-Raipur-1, Raipur & Distt-Raipur (C.G.) in respect of property owner has been lost/Misplaced by Owner Shri Rahul Kumar Verma S/O Shri Suresh Chandra Verma R/O Flat No. C-404, Raheja sky, Near Play Home School, Saddu, Raipur (C.G.). The FIR has been placed for lost of the above said Sale deed by the owner.

Now Shri Rahul Kumar Verma has applied for loan from JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED hereby invites claims & objections, if any, for the mortgagee the above said property within the 15 days from the date of publication of this notice along with relevant proofs and documents supporting the claim in my office. If no objections are received within above mentioned time, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

Raipur
Dated 03/02/2024 Vijay Shankar Tiwari
Advocate
779, "Gauri Kesar Kunj",
Sundar Nagar, Raipur (C.G.)
Mobile 94252-08945, Mobile 90390-08945

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Appendix-IV A [See provision to rule 8(6) & 6(2)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE & IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-auction Sale Notice For Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rules 8(6) & 6(2) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) & Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged / charged to the secured creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the authorised officer the Canara Bank (secured creditor) will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & WHAT EVER THERE IS" on 29-02-2024, for recovery of bank dues to the Canara Bank (secured creditor)

Name and address of the Borrower & Guarantors	Description of Property	Demand Notice Dt. Possession Dt. Outstanding Amt.	Reserve Price EMD Amt. Bid Increment Amt.
Borrower: M/s Bhilai Bricks Prop Shanti Pandey Village Dhor P.C. No 24, Teh Patan Dist-Durg CG-490020 Mrs Shanti Pandey W/o Late Shri Shyam Charan Pandey Mr. Ajay kumar Pandey S/o Late Shri Shyam Charan Pandey Mr Sachin Kumar Pandey S/o Late Shri Shyam Charan Pandey Smt Pooja Pandey D/o Late Shri Shyam Charan Pandey	Plant and Machinery at PH No. 11 Kh no. 782/2, Village Dhaur Teh, Patan Dist Durg-CG.	27-04-2021 23-08-2021 as on 02/02/2024	₹ 11.22 Lakhs ₹ 1.20 Lakhs ₹ 10000/-

₹ 13,31,873.43/-
SYMBOLIC POSSESSION + Interest & charges

Last date for submission of online bids is on or before 27/02/2024 upto 5.00 p.m.
Date and Time of e-auction : 29/02/2024, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM (With unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each)

Account Detail for EMD Submission : Demand draft in favour of Authorized Officer, Canara Bank, SPLSD ARM Branch (6816) Bhopal OR shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to credit of account of Canara Bank, ARM Branch, A/c No 209272434 IFSC Code: CNRB0006616
For sale proceeds of Rs. 50,00,000 (Rupees Fifty lacs) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at the rate 1% on the sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (https://www.canarabank.com) or may contact Mr. Ranjan Kumar Panil, Chief Manager, SPLSD ARM Bhopal, Canara Bank, Plot no. 4, PSP Area, Near AIIMS, Saket Nagar Bhopal. Contact no. 8989000127 / 8449087876 / 9137453982 during office hours on any working day.
Place: Bhopal. Date: 02/02/2024

AUTHORISED OFFICER, CANARA BANK

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PH: 0788 - 2261892, 2264992, E-mail: recovery.durg@bankofbaroda.com
POSSESSION NOTICE

(As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002) Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice to the following borrowers / guarantors calling upon the Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The under mentioned Borrower / Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantors and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 and under section 14 of the Act of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.

S. N.	Branch Name/Ph.No.	Name of Borrower / Guarantor	Description of Property	Demand Notice Date, Amount & Symbolic / Physical Possession Date
01	Main Branch Durg 9752410745	Mrs. Upasana Tiwari (Borrower) & Mr. Bhola Prasad Tiwari (Co-Borrower), Plot No.66, Pradipti Nagar, Borsi, Durg, C.G.	Equitable Mortgage of diverted property situated at Kh.No. 215/29, Area 1000 Sq. Ft. situated at Mouza Borsi, Inside Madhuban Nagar Ward No. - 51, P. H. No. - 19/23, RIC Kasaridih, DURG, Tah. & Dist. Durg, C.G. standing in the name of Mrs. Upasana Tiwari W/o Mr. Bhola Prasad Tiwari. Bounded : On the North by: 30 ft Road, On the South by: House of Harjeet Kaur, On the East by: Land of Laxmi Devi, On the West by: Land of Chumman Lai Sahu.	18.11.2023 Rs. 22,88,408.00 + Interest + other charges 30.01.2024 Symbolic Possession

The Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagees in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the above mentioned property and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda for above mentioned amount interest and other charges thereon.
The Borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
Date: 04.02.2024, Place: Bhilai, Chhattisgarh
Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

Chronicle APPOINTMENT WANTED
Applications are invited from English medium candidates for the following posts latest by 20th February 2024 for MVN Bhilai & Patan.

POST	QUALIFICATION
NTT/ PRT	Graduate with D.Ed/ B.Ed.
TGT	Graduate/ Post Graduate with B.Ed.
PGT	Post Graduate with B.Ed (2 yrs. Exp.)
Accountant	B.Com/ M.Com (2 yrs. Experience)
Counsellor	Graduate/PG with fluency in English speaking
Music	Degree/Diploma in Music
Librarian	B.Lib/ M.Lib
PTI	B.Ped/ M.Ped

MAITRI VIDYA NIKETAN (Bhilai & Patan) Ph: 9752545670, 0788-2265128, 2265912

Admn action taken against illegally operated oil factory

Food department seizes 80 drums of oil

Khairagarh, Feb 03:

Administrative action was finally taken on Thursday against the illegally operating oil factory in Thelkadih and 80 drums of oil and other materials kept in the factory were seized. Under the leadership of Tehsildar Preeti Larokar, a team of Food Inspector Vinod Sagar and other administrative employees found in the investigation that the dumped oil in the illegal oil factory operating in Thelkadih was brought from Krishna Oil Factory, Bargarh, Orissa. During interrogation, Rahul Deshalhare, resident of village Machanpar Dongargaon police station, declared the factory as his own and pre-



What officer says

"Under the supervision of the Food Department, 80 drums of oil and other materials have been seized, which have been handed over to Thelkadih police station."

Preeti Larokar,
Tehsildar Khairagarh

"The material has been seized and delivered by the Revenue and Food Department; the remaining action will be taken tomorrow."

Alok Sahu,
Police Station Incharge Thelkadih

sented the GST bill for the oil purchased from Orissa.

According to Rahul, the seized oil is gums oil which is the waste of refined oil and it was brought with the intention of making soap, but sources regarding the matter say that engine oil was made from this oil in Thelkadih. During investigation, the administrative staff did not find any valid documents related to running the factory after which the seized 80 drums of oil and other materials have been handed over to Thelkadih police. The illegal oil factory operating in Thelkadih was running on the land of local Sarpanch Anand Banjare. Sarpanch and Deputy Sarpanch Umendra Dewangan alias Munna had all the information about this factory but without NOC, corruption was going on here.

Administrative action against brick kilns



Lakhs of bricks seized in Ratanbhat, Karmari and Matia

Dongargaon, Feb 03:

After the news of illegal brick kilns running in many villages in the area continuously appeared in the newspapers, the administration has come into action and almost all the departments related to brick kilns are reaching the spot and raiding. In the same sequence, a total of 3

lakh 20 thousand bricks of illegal brick manufacturing being done by 5 people in village Ratanbhat and 4 in village Karmari under Tehsil Kumarda, have been seized by the joint team of Revenue and Mining Department and action has been taken under the Mining Act.

The Electricity Department is also taking action in the case of electricity theft. In Ward Matia of Dongargaon, action has been taken by Dongargaon Tehsildar Pyarelal Nag on Thursday 1st February, in

which the team of Revenue Department and Nagar Panchayat had reached with them and here also raw and baked bricks have been seized. According to the information received from the villagers, red brick is sold at the rate of five to six thousand rupees per thousand and about one lakh bricks are baked in one kiln.

Many commercial and environmental losses are caused by digging soil from farmers' lands without altering it, illegal use of electricity given for

farming, exploitation of water from the ground, huge quantities of wood and poultry manure used in brick kilns, but due to lack of concrete action, the number of these brick kilns is continuously increasing. During the action taken in Matiya of Dongargaon Nagar Panchayat area, the officials also checked the ration cards, while brick construction is being done indiscriminately by encroaching on the farmers' lands as well as the government lands.

Collector conducts surprise inspection at district hospital

Engages with patients to enhance health services



Bijapur, Feb 03:

In a significant move towards enhancing healthcare services in the district, Collector Anurag Pandey conducted a surprise inspection of the District Hospital. His visit aimed to gather information about healthcare provisions and improve health facilities for the residents.

Pandey, accompanied by the Civil Surgeon and Chief Medical and Health Officer (CMHO), discussed crucial aspects of the hospital's operation. He inquired about daily outpatient department (OPD) services, inpatient department (IPD) capacity, availability of diagnostic services like sonography and X-ray, and the adequacy of medicine stocks. Moreover, he examined

the condition of the blood bank and the functionality of essential medical equipment. Detailed insights were also sought regarding the availability of medical professionals and specialists. In line with the commitment to providing better healthcare, Collector Pandey issued clear directives to enhance health services for the community. Additionally, he stressed the importance of conducting auctions for unused materials and maintaining cleanliness within the hospital premises. Taking his dedication a step further, Collector engaged with patients and their families, actively seeking feedback on the facilities provided by the hospital. This interactive approach allows for a more patient-centric healthcare system, ensuring their needs and concerns are addressed promptly. The inspection, conducted with the participation of Joint Collector Pawan Kumar Premi, Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. Ajay Ramteke, Civil Surgeon Dr. UK Dhruv, and the dedicated hospital staff, reflects the administration's commitment to continually improving healthcare services in the district.

Sai Baba's Palki Yatra taken out with devotion



Bagbahra, Feb 03:

Sai Baba's Palki Yatra was taken out with enthusiasm in village Salhebhantha, in which a large number of Sai devotees participated. Khallari MLA Dwarkadhish Yadav participated in the program and also distributed blankets to the needy. Sai Baba's Palki Yatra and Mahabhandara was organized under the aegis of Shri Sai Baba Darbar Salhebhantha Tendukona and the yatra reached Salhebhantha from Tendukona bus stand via

Bastipara, Bazaar Para, Gayatri Nagar Sai Temple, in which a large number of Sai devotees participated. Mahabhandara was organized today on Thursday, in which Khallari MLA Dwarkadhish Yadav participated and accepted the Prasad. Prominent on this occasion were Shiram Dewan, Mansingh Dewan, Bhim Dewan, Vikas Sahu, Vinay Sahu, Lalit Khairwar, Vinod Dewan, Devendra Bairagi, Nandkumar Patel and villagers including Neera Dewan, Rajni Dewan were present.

Road Safety Maha Week camp organised

SP appeals to citizens to follow traffic rules

Khairagarh, Feb 03:

Under the direction of SP Ankita Sharma, all the police stations of the district received necessary guidelines to smoothly operate the traffic system of the district. In compliance with which, Khairagarh Police organized a Road Safety Maha Week camp at Ambedkar Chowk. SP Ankita Sharma herself was present at RTO.

In the camp, driving license made at half the cost of agents making the license was given and drivers who came to the camp were advised to wear helmets, seat belts while driving and keep necessary documents with them while driving. Drivers without helmets were appealed to wear helmets and were given informa-



tion about the benefits of wearing helmets and disadvantages of not wearing them and were made aware of traffic rules.

In the camp organized under the road safety campaign, the SP appealed to all the citizens of the district to have all the proper

documents and license as per their vehicle and to wear helmet for two-wheeler drivers and seat belt for four-wheeler drivers and to follow the traffic rules in the district. An appeal was made to cooperate in stopping any kind of possible accidents.

Police should establish cordial relations with common citizens: Sharma

Dy CM participates in the Police Gaurav Samman ceremony

Kawardha, Feb 03:

Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, while paying tribute to the martyred soldiers in the Naxalite encounter at Bijapur-Sukma Border Tekalguda, Chhattisgarh, has strongly condemned the Naxalite violence. He said that Naxalism is opposed to development and Chhattisgarh government is opening police camps in Naxal affected areas to provide security to the people living in Bastar, and actually, this is not a police camp but a



development camp for the people living in Bastar.

Through this development camp, people living in the forests of Bastar are being provided basic facilities like education, health, roads, drinking water, electricity and other basic facilities, he further said. The Deputy Chief Minister said this

while addressing the Police Gaurav Samman program organized at PG College Auditorium, Kawardha.

In this Police Gaurav Samman ceremony he honoured police officers and employees who did remarkable work in 32 different categories. During this, he honoured retired

head constable Birbal Bhagat by giving him a shawl and quince. While addressing the Police Gaurav Samman ceremony, Deputy Chief Minister Sharma also said that in the coming times, the action of Chhattisgarh government against Naxalism will be even faster. He

also mentioned the murder in Lalpur of Kawardha and condemned such incident.

On this occasion, Kailash Chandravanshi, Jaswinder Bagga, former District Panchayat member and Chairman Mukesh Aggarwal, Ramkrishna Sahu, Sandeep Agarwal, Sallil Chandrakar, Dr. Atul Jain, Mr. Daulat Ram Kashyap, Collector Janmejay Mahobe, Superintendent of Police. Dr. Abhishek Pallav, Superintendent of Police Mr. Harish Rathore, Hemant Gupta, Bhavesh Mishra along with public representatives, police officers and employees were present.

Congmen pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi

Jagdarpur, Feb 03:

District Congress Committee (DCC) officials and workers celebrated the death anniversary of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi by paying floral tributes to the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi at the Congress Bhawan of the District Headquarters. During this period, a seminar was also organized by Congress Committee officials and workers. They also expressed their views on the sacrifice of Mahatma Gandhi.

Bastar DCC President Sushil Maurya threw light on the biography of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi. He said that Mahatma Gandhi made an important contribution in the country's freedom



struggle by following the path of truth and non-violence. Gandhiji liberated the country from the slavery of the British.

Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi was not a person but an ideology. Following whose thoughts and guidance India has established itself as an ideal nation today. During this, senior Congmen Hanuman

Dubey, Kaushal Nagvanshi, Narendra Tiwari, Ravi Shankar Tiwari, General Secretary Zahid Hussain, Altaf Khan, Mahesh Dwivedi, Treasurer Aseem Suta, Shadab Ahmed, Ankit, Salim Jafar Ali, Gulmel Singh, Jyoti Rao, NSUI City President Vishal Khabari, Anand Sharma etc. were present.

Annual festival celebrated in Nehru Smriti Vidyalaya

Birkoni, Feb 03:

Annual festival was celebrated with great pomp at Nehru Smriti Vidyalaya in village Birkoni. Chief Guest was High School Principal and Nodal Officer Karan Singh Sori, Saraswati Shishu Mandir Director Gaukaran Sahu, Cluster Coordinator Nibharan Das Manikpuri, Nagar Panchayat Vice President Pappu Patel, Dudhram Sahu, Puran Sahu, Lalit Nishad, Damodar Chandrakar, Jagdish Chandrakar and Devnath Sahu.

Small children displayed their local culture and talent on the stage, in which the children explained the importance of patriotism and apart from dancing and singing; first group dance program of nursery children was presented in several groups. Then the junior students gave a colorful presentation and got applause from the audience. Children in Chhattisgarhi costumes danced and



gave a mesmerizing presentation of Bastaria dance and Swachh Bharat play performed on the theme of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. On this occasion, a large number of Villagers including children, parents and

Principal Tup Singh Nishad, Khemin Sahu, Bharti Chakradhari, Bharti Yadav, Tejeshwari Yadav, Godavari Nishad, Usha Sahu, Neera Nishad, Vinamrata Sen, Chhaya Sahu were present.

Administration on high alert to stop middlemen in PPC's

Kabirdham, Feb 03:

District Collector took a meeting and gave instructions to alert other staff including revenue, sub-registration, food for paddy procurement centers including Kawardha, Biranpurkala, Saraisat, Sonpuri of the district, and gave strict instructions to thoroughly check each token.

The administration is alert to ensure that genuine farmers do not face any kind of inconvenience and problems in selling paddy within the extended time limit, while the district administration has become on high-alert to stop middlemen and traders from selling paddy



during this extended time.

Collector Janmejay Mahobe held a joint meeting of Food, Sub-Registrar, District Marketing and District Cooperative Central Meeting late on Wednesday evening and conducted a thorough review of the paddy procurement to be held till 4th February.

The Collector thoroughly reviewed the paddy procurement centers of the district where maximum paddy tokens have been issued for February 1, in those paddy procurement centres, information was taken about farmers holding tokens in procurement centres Kawardha, Birpurkala, Sonpuri Rani, Saraisat and other paddy procurement centres. It

was informed here that tokens have been issued by 478 farmers for the purchase of 950 tonnes of paddy for February 1 and it was also informed in the meeting that in the current Kharif marketing year 2023-24, three thousand more farmers have sold their paddy at the support price as compared to last year 22-23.

Two juveniles held for bike lifting

Bhilai, Feb 03: Police arrested two juveniles and recovered a stolen Royal Enfield Bullet worth Rs 1.25 lakh from them. They were nabbed by a joint team of Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit Durg and Police Station Mohan Nagar.

Police had received a complaint on January 25 from the victim Dukhharan Manikpuri, a resident of Green Chowk, Mohan Nagar. He had parked his Royal Enfield Bullet (CG 07 BB 1607) near Riyaz Garage on January 24 around 10:00 pm and had gone to his home. When he returned back, the bike was missing. The bike was stolen by some unknown thief. Police lodged an offence under Section 379 of Indian Penal Code.

On the instructions of Senior Superintendent of Police (Durg) Ram Gopal Garg, Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Abhishek Jha,



The team collected

footage from CCTV cameras installed on the roads around the incident site and observed them minutely. The team maintained vigil on the suspects and criminal record holders.

The network of informers was also activated. Meanwhile, Police received a tip off regarding two juveniles who were

driving a vehicle without registration number. Police team swung into action and rounded up the accused behind the Circuit House in Mohan Nagar area. On initial enquiry, they tried to mislead the cops but during sustained interrogation, they confessed to stealing the bike - Royal Enfield Bullet from near Green Chowk on the night of January 24. The stolen bike worth Rs 1.25 lakh was seized from the possession of the accused. Further action is being taken from Mohan Nagar Police Station.

ASI Rajesh Pandey, Head Constable Santosh Mishra, Constable Narendra Sahare, G Ravi, Chitrasen Sahu, Balmakund Sahu, Tishwar Rathore, Komal Rajput, Jagjit Singh, Khusid Khurram Bakh, Sanat Bharti from ACCU and Head Constable Uttam Soni from Police Station Mohan Nagar played a vital role.

Public grievance redressal camps organised in Revenue Divisions

Bhilai, Feb 03: Public grievance redressal camps were organized in all the Revenue Inspector Divisions of the district on Sunday. Tehsildar, Naib Tehsildar, Revenue Inspector and Halka Patwari were present in the camps and resolved the applications of the people related to the Revenue Department. During this camp, new Rin Pustikas were also distributed. ADM Arvind Ekka, Additional Collector Gokul Raote, Joint Collector Harvansh Singh Miri and Sub-Divisional Magistrates of the concerned sub-division inspected the Revenue Public Grievance Redressal Camps. They heard the problems of the applicants and also resolved them on the spot. On Sunday, camps were organised under Durg Sub-Division in Jewra Sirsa, Nagpura, Anda, Kohka, Kasaridih, Junwani, Risali, Titurdih,



Durg, Sikola, Utai and Anjora (B); under Patan sub-division in Jangaon (M), Ranitarai, Patan, Amleshwar, Selud and Jangaon(R), and under Dhamdha at Pendravon, Dargaon, Boribujurg and Dhamdha as well as at Charoda, Kumbhari, Jamul, Bhilai-3, Ahiwara and Murmunda under Bhilai-3 sub-division. In the Revenue Public Problem Redressal Camp, applica-

tions related to revenue matters like transfer, division, demarcation, settlement, Rin Pustika, income, caste, residence, birth-death certificate were taken. New Rin Pustikas were also distributed in the camp.

In Durg tehsil, 142 applications were received, out of which 125 were resolved, 17 applications pending, seven applications were received for di-

vision of property, two were resolved, five are pending, 12 applications were received for demarcation, five were resolved, seven are pending, 19 applications were received for certified layout, eight were resolved, 11 are pending, 11 applications were received for rin pustika, 11 were resolved, 627 applications were received for DSC and all were disposed off.

Geet Vitan Kala Kendra to celebrate 'Basant Utsav' today



Bhilai, Feb 03: Basant Utsav is the celebration of spring. This beautiful celebration of spring festival was started by Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore at Shantiniketan

and is celebrated with immense zeal and fervour. There is a long musical procession with Tagore's music, rhymes and dance. Geet Vitan Kala Kendra Risali will celebrate the

festival of Basant Utsav at Shantiniketan at Pioneer Monument (Civic Centre) from 15:00 hrs on February 04. This programme will be conducted amidst the nature as it is

celebrated in Shantiniketan. The songs and dance will be based on Rabindra Sangeet (Naveen Pran Meh Basant). One of the main attractions of this programme will be performance by the students of fine arts. They will show their feelings about the nature's beauty in their canvases, informed Geet Vitan Kala Kendra Chairperson Rajani Sinha and Vice Chairperson Soumen Kundu in a press communique. The duo appealed to all the music lovers to attend this programme and feel the essence of music and enjoy Basant Utsav.

Stage all set for Mega Flower show 2024 at Maitri Baag



Bhilai, Feb 03: The horticulture Section of the Town Services Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant will be organizing the Flower Show 2024 at the Candle Lawn of Maitri Baag on Sunday, February 04, 2024, from 09:00 hrs onwards. The Maitri Baag Management has done a lot of preparations including painting and other beautification work on a large scale, to ensure the success

of Flower Show-2024. Chief Guest Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (SAIL-BSP) shall inaugurate the Flower Show at 16:00 hrs. A huge Tambura Sculpture shall also be inaugurated on this occasion.

Various competitions including Rangoli, Bouquet, and Salad-making competitions will be held on this occasion. Entries from residential and school gar-



dens, potted Cactus, Bonsai, Croton, Foliage, and seasonal plants like Sevanti, Dahlia, Roses, cut flowers of plants, floral decorations, special vegetables and fruits grown in the kitchen garden of BSP employees will be on display in the Flower Show. Registration and entry for all competitions will begin at 9:00 hrs on February 04, 2024.

The decorations at Maitri Baag's Selfie Point, Candle Lawn, and Sunken Lawn, along with colorful stalls based on Rangoli on the water surface and Gardening shall be the main attractions of the Flower Show 2024. There is no entry fee for participation in the competition. The Maitri Baag Management has appealed to the public to attend this annual programme in large numbers.

URM records best ever performance for second consecutive month



Bhilai, Feb 03: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Modex Unit, Universal Rail Mill that rolls out the world's longest 130 meter rails in single piece and supplies 260 meter long welded rail panels to Indian Railways has recorded best ever monthly production of prime rails in the desired R 260 grade in 60E1 profile for the second consecutive month in January 2024.

The Mill that recorded best ever monthly production of 82,041 Tonnes of prime rails in December 2023 has surpassed this record by producing 82,439 T of prime rails in January 2024. The mill

recorded best ever production of 86,714 T of finished rails in January 2024, surpassing the previous best of 85,804 T of finished rails in the previous month of December 2023.

As many as 5184 numbers of 130 metre rails were welded into 260 metre long welded rail panels in January 2024, surpassing the previous best monthly record of 5179 welded panels in Dec 23. It is worth mentioning that there has been a marked improvement in cobble reduction in Mill.

The best-ever monthly performance since inception by URM both in Dec

23 and in Jan'2024 was made possible with collective efforts of Team URM in association with several other departments including Research & Control Lab, Steel Melting Shop 3 and 2, RITES, Traffic Dept, Production Planning & Control Dept.

cluding Research & Control Lab, Steel Melting Shop 3 and 2, RITES, Traffic Dept, Production Planning & Control Dept.

DIRECTORATE OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH

NIT NO.343/M-235(V)-DATED 02/02/2024

DT&CP invites detailed proposals from eligible consultants ("Bidder") for providing Selection of Project Support Consultants for Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Government of Chhattisgarh, Nava Raipur Atal Nagar

Event Description	Scheduled Date
1. Pre-Proposal Conference	Date 17/02/2024 Time 12.00hrs
2. Proposal Due Date (PDD) and time	Date 01/03/2024 up to 15:00 Hrs.

For RFP document and further information please visit Website: www.tcp.cg.gov.in All other information in this regards will be published in the department's website only.

(By the order of Director)

Additional Director
Directorate of Town and Country Planning,
Government of Chhattisgarh

G-07507/1

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR

(CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice
Main Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Tenders are invited for the Following works:-

S. No	System Tender No./ Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in Lacs)
1	152262 Third Call 30.01.2024	CONSTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL COURT BUILDING (INCLUDING 3 COURT ROOMS) AT SECTORE 24, ATAL NAGAR, NAWA RAIPUR I/C. WATER SUPPLY, SANITARY FITTINGS & ELECTRIFICATION WORK. DISTT. RAIPUR (DN. NO. 3, NAWA RAIPUR).	728.40

Last Date of Tender Downloading S.No. 01 date 12.02.2024. For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer
(Central Tender Cell)
Office Of Engineer In Chief
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar

G-07490/1

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी विभाग, रायपुर परिक्षेत्र रायपुर (छ.ग.)

ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा सूचना

राज्य स्तरीय निविदा प्रकोष्ठ द्वारा एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदार से प्रथम "ए" (प्रतिशत दर) एवं "एफ" (लमसम दर) पर कार्य हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

क्र.	निविदा आमंत्रण क्र./दिनांक	सिस्टम नं.	निविदा आमंत्रण	जिला	योजनाओं का नाम	अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में)	ठेकेदारों की श्रेणी
1	21/01-02-2024	152224	प्रथम	जांजगीर-चौपा	डमरा जल सुदृढीकरण संयंत्र कार्य हेतु	112.07	सी एवं उच्च
2	22/01-02-2024	152225	प्रथम	जांजगीर-चौपा	डमरा जल वितरण प्रणाली कार्य हेतु	667.52	ए एवं उच्च

Important Events and Time Schedule-Date of calling NIT-01-02-2024, Bid Start Date-06-02-2024, Pre Bid meeting date-12-02-2024, Bid Due Date-23-02-2024, PHY Doc. Submission last Date-26-02-2024, PQ Document Download Date-26-02-2024

नोट:- उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट वेबपोर्टल <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> में उक्त निविदा दिनांक 05.02.2023 से देखी जा सकती है।

अधीक्षक अभियंता (प्रकोष्ठ प्रभारी)
राज्य स्तरीय निविदा प्रकोष्ठ
कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता
लो.स्वा.यां. विभाग, परिक्षेत्र रायपुर (छ.ग.)

G-07494/1

Public Works Department
Sector-19, North Block, Nava Raipur (C.G.)

E-Procurement Tender Notice
E-mail : tenders-pwd.cg@gov.in

NIT No. 463 /TC/EinC/ PWD/2023-24 Dated- 30.01.2024

The Engineer-in-Chief, Public Works Department on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh invites percentage rate bids on electronic tendering system under RCPLWE RRP-III in the district of Kanker & Dantewada for construction of 01 road and 01 Bridges with estimated cost amounting Rs 1020.66 Lacs including their maintenance for five years from the contractors registered with unified registration system (e-registration) in Chhattisgarh. Non registered bidders may submit bid; however the successful bidder must get registered in appropriate class under "Unified Registration System (e-Registration)" of Chhattisgarh before signing the agreement.

The bid document shall be available to bidders online free of cost and should be submitted online e-procurement system of government of Chhattisgarh in <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>. Bids form will be available on the website from 31.01.2024 and may be submitted up to 17:00 Hrs. on 21.02.2024

For participating in bidding process, bidders are required to register in the above web-site with nominal fee of Rs 500/- to be paid online to service provider. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from authorized certifying authorities.

The bidders are required to submit (a) original bid security in approved form and (b) original affidavit duly verified and notarized as per clause 4.4 B (a) (i) and 4.4 B (c) to Chief Engineer, Tender Cell, First Floor, Nirman Bhawan, PWD, North Block, Sector-19, Nava Raipur (C.G.) 492-002 as per provisions of bid document through Speed/Registered post, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive.

Detailed schedule of important dates may be seen on notice board of offices and also available on website of Public Works Department <http://pwd.cg.nic.in>

Chief Engineer
(Central Tender Cell)
Office of Engineer-In-Chief
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar (C.G.)

G-07502/3

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

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. 522 Date 31/01/2024	SELECTION OF INSURANCE COMPANIES FOR INSURANCE OF LIVESTOCK FOR ONE, TWO AND THREE YEAR POLICY	Rs. 20.51 Lakh
2	Starting Date of online Tender Submission 01/02/2024 Time 5:30 PM		
3	Pre Bid Meeting Date - 05/02/2024, Time 12 PM		
4	Last Date of Tender Submission 12/02/2024, 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-07460/1

संचालनालय स्वास्थ्य सेवायें,
छत्तीसगढ़
स्वास्थ्य भवन, सेक्टर-19, नार्थ ब्लॉक
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर रायपुर, छ.ग.

:- सूचना :-

वर्ष 2023 में छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य में शासकीय चिकित्सा महाविद्यालयों से चिकित्सा स्नातकोत्तर (पी.जी.) पाठ्यक्रम उत्तीर्ण अनुबंधित छात्र/छात्राओं का अनुबंध अनुसार 02 वर्ष की ग्रामीण सेवा हेतु पदस्थापना आदेश जारी किए जाने हेतु काउंसिलिंग किया जाना है।

उपरोक्त संबंध में लेख है कि दिनांक 07.02.2024 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे से काउंसिलिंग हेतु संबंधित स्नातकोत्तर (पी.जी.) छात्र/छात्राओं को संचालनालय स्वास्थ्य सेवायें स्वास्थ्य भवन सेक्टर-19, नार्थ ब्लॉक में आयोजित किया गया है। काउंसिलिंग से संबंधित छात्र/छात्राओं की सूची एवं विस्तृत दिशा-निर्देश विभागीय वेबसाइट www.cghealth.nic.in में देखी जा सकती है।

संचालक स्वास्थ्य सेवायें द्वारा अनुमोदित।

संचालक स्वास्थ्य सेवायें, छत्तीसगढ़

G-07505/1

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता,
लो.नि.वि., राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परिक्षेत्र, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

दिनांक : 01.02.2024

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु ऑनलाइन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

क्र.	नि.आ.सू.क्र. दिनांक	सिस्टम आईडी क्र.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत
1.	64/CE/NH/TC/44-34/2023 (2nd Call)	2024 MoRTH_793207_1	Short Term Maintenance works and activities (STMC) on section from Km 80.600 to 110.000 of Ambikapur Ramanujanagar Garhwa Road N.H-343 in the state of Chhattisgarh.	Rs. 223.08/- (I/c GST)
2.	65/CE/NH/TC/44-35/2023 (2nd Call)	2024 MoRTH_793209_1	Short Term Maintenance works and activities on section (i) from Km 363.000 to Km 373.500, Km 375.620 to Km 385.700, Km 429.200 to Km 429.850 and Km 433.850 to Km 437.670 of Katni - Gumla Road NH-43 (Old NH-78) AND (ii) from Km 215.800 to Km 216.700 of Simga-Bilaspur-Katghora-Ambikapur Road NH- 130 (Old NH - 111) in the state of Chhattisgarh.	Rs. 196.69/- (I/c GST)
3.	66/CE/NH/TC/44-36/2023 (2nd Call)	2024 MoRTH_793210_1	Short Term Maintenance works and activities (STMC) on section from Km 0.000 to 57.600 of Ambikapur Ramanujanagar Garhwa Road N.H-343 in the state of Chhattisgarh.	Rs. 315.16/- (I/c GST)

निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 15.02.2024 शाम 17.30 बजे तक है।

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी सड़क परिक्षेत्र एवं राजमार्ग मंत्रालय (MORT&S) के ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट वेब पोर्टल <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

मुख्य अभियंता
लो.नि.वि., राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परिक्षेत्र,
रायपुर (छ.ग.)

G-07497/1



CENTRAL Chronicle

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Drone Deal

Enhancing India's Security

The Joe Biden administration has taken a pivotal step by notifying the US Congress of its intent to sell 31 MQ-9B armed drones to India. This momentous acquisition of high-altitude, long-endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) is estimated to cost \$3.99 billion, and it holds the promise of elevating India's capabilities to confront both present and future threats. This editorial delves into the implications and the broader context of this game-changing drone deal. The acquisition of these advanced drones marks a significant milestone in India's efforts to bolster its surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities. The MQ-9B armed drones, comprising 15 SeaGuardian drones for the Indian Navy and eight SkyGuardian variants each for the Army and Indian Air Force, are poised to play a pivotal role in safeguarding India's interests in sea lanes and beyond. These high-altitude, long-endurance UAVs are well-equipped to conduct unmanned surveillance and reconnaissance patrols, providing invaluable intelligence and enhancing situational awareness. One of the key areas where these drones are expected to have a profound impact is maritime security. The Indian Ocean region is witnessing a resurgence of piracy, as well as threats to shipping vessels by militant groups, particularly in the Red Sea. In a recent display of India's commitment to maritime security, the Indian warship INS Sumitra, aided by a leased MQ-9B drone, conducted anti-piracy operations and successfully rescued two hijacked fishing vessels and their crew members. This operation underscored the potential of drones in safeguarding vital sea routes and countering maritime threats. The decision to supply these advanced drones to India is a testament to the deepening cooperation between the United States and India. US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller rightly emphasized that this move would enhance India's maritime security and domain awareness capabilities. It also highlights the significance of the partnership between the two nations, characterized by mutual trust and shared strategic interests. Moreover, the commitment to this drone agreement reflects the maturity of the bilateral relationship. Despite occasional differences and challenges, both India and the United States have managed to sustain and strengthen their strategic and defense cooperation. Even during periods of tension, such as the recent Gurpatwant Singh Pannun case, where allegations of an Indian hand in a plot to kill a designated terrorist surfaced, the two nations have maintained a steady exchange of information and have not allowed such issues to derail their broader strategic objectives. While the details of the drone deal and the specific delivery timeline are yet to be finalized, it is evident that this agreement holds immense potential for India's defense forces. The combination of enhanced surveillance capabilities and increased firepower will bolster India's position on the global stage and serve as a deterrent against potential threats. As the US Congress is expected to give the green light to this monumental drone deal, India stands on the precipice of an era where its security and defense capabilities will reach new heights. This is not just a transaction; it is a manifestation of the shared commitment to safeguarding regional stability, securing vital sea lanes, and promoting peace and security in the Indo-Pacific region.

Interim Budget 2024

A Missed Opportunity for the Middle Class

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee

The 2024 interim budget, presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, has left many in the middle class feeling neglected and disappointed. Instead of addressing critical issues facing this segment of the population, the budget appears more like an election campaign pamphlet, with a focus on specific demographics while ignoring the struggles of the middle class. While Sitharaman's budget highlights initiatives for the poor, women, youth, and farmers, it's hard to ignore the fact that the middle class has seen little relief since 2014. The middle class has witnessed a series of financial burdens, including bank charges for cheque books, increased home and car loan rates, and rising toll prices, which have surged by 20% since 2014. The cost of essential commodities such as petrol and diesel continues to rise, and import taxes have been increased, further squeezing the finances of the middle-class population. Additionally, the issue of growing beggars in metro cities has not been adequately addressed in the budget. The government's "SMILE" scheme, aimed at rehabilitating 20,000 beggars by 2025-26, offers some hope, but it remains to be seen how effective this initiative will be in tackling the issue of beggary in India. The disappointment extends to the salaried class and pensioners who had hoped for some relief in the form of reduced income tax rates or subsidies for medical insurance expenditures. Unfortunately, the budget did not deliver on these expectations, leaving the middle class to bear the burden of high taxes and healthcare costs. The glaring disparity in tax rates between individuals and corporates is another sore point. While individuals in the middle class are paying nearly 25% of their income in taxes, corporates enjoy a significantly lower tax rate of 10% on their EBIDTA. This imbalance raises questions about fairness and equity in the tax system. The government's failure to address these issues has left the middle class feeling increasingly burdened and disillusioned. Many are frustrated with the perception that the government is more interested in extracting taxes than in alleviating the financial challenges faced by the middle class. The government must reevaluate its priorities and take meaningful steps to address the financial challenges faced by the middle class if it wishes to gain their trust and support in the future.

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

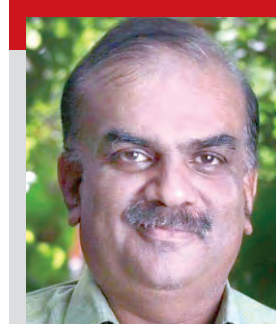
YEAR OF WOODEN DRAGON



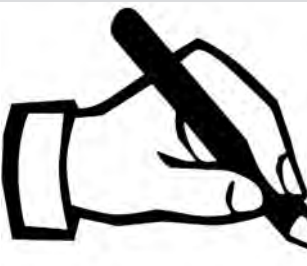
Indonesians of Chinese descent wash the statues of their goddess at a temple in Kuta, Bali, Indonesia on Saturday, Feb. 3. Indonesian Chinese are preparing to welcome the year of Wooden Dragon for lunar new year, which falls on Feb. 10 this year.

Dynastic Politics in India

A Complex Tapestry of Power and Influence



DR. M.C. VASISHT



India, with its rich history and diverse culture, has long been a land of political intrigue and dynastic legacies. From ancient kingdoms to modern democracies, the influence of powerful political families has woven a complex tapestry in the country's political landscape. This article delves into the phenomenon of dynastic politics in India, exploring its historical roots, notable political families, and the impact on the nation's democracy.

Historical Origins

The roots of dynastic politics in India can be traced back to ancient times. Buddhist and Jain writings mention the sixteen mahajanapadas or Indian states as early as 600 BCE, with hereditary monarchies prevailing as the legitimate form of governance. Under this system, political authority was often inherited within ruling families. Although India transitioned from monarchy to democracy, vestiges of this hereditary tradition persisted.

Modern Dynastic Families

Today, dynastic politics is a defining feature of India's political landscape.

Prominent political families wield significant influence across national and regional parties, often spanning multiple generations.

Some of the noteworthy dynastic families include:

- The Nehru-Gandhi Family:** Renowned for producing three Prime Ministers - Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, and Rajiv Gandhi - this family has maintained its stronghold in the Indian National Congress party. The legacy continues with leaders like Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.
- The Scindia Family:** Hailing from the erstwhile royal family of Gwalior, this family boasts a long history of political engagement. Jyotiraditya Scindia, formerly a Congress leader, made headlines by joining the BJP in 2020.
- The Reddy Family:** A political force in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the Reddy family includes YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, the current Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, and YS Sharmila, a recent entrant into Congress.

- The Thackeray Family:** The Shiv Sena, a regional party in Maharashtra, was founded by the late Bal Thackeray. His son, Uddhav Thackeray, and nephew, Raj Thackeray, play prominent roles in state politics.
- The Abdullah Family:** Associated with Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, this family has produced three Chief Ministers - Sheikh Abdullah, Farooq Abdullah, and Omar Abdullah.
- The Badal Family:** Dominating Punjab's politics for decades, the Badal family includes Parkash Singh Badal, Sukhbir Singh Badal, Harsimrat Kaur Badal, and Bikramjit Singh.
- The Karunanidhi Family:** A major player in Tamil Nadu politics, the Karunanidhi family boasts leaders like M. Karunanidhi and M. K. Stalin, associated with the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.
- The Pawar Family:** A prominent force in Maharashtra politics, the Pawar family features Sharad Pawar, Supriya Sule, and Ajit Pawar within its ranks.
- The Deve Gowda Family:** Janatha Dal (Secular) has seen H. D. Deve Gowda's leadership pass to his sons, H. D. Kumaraswamy and H. D. Revanna.
- The Yadav Families:** Both Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have witnessed the rise of the Yadav political dynasties. Lalu Prasad Yadav's family in Bihar and Mulayam Singh Yadav's family in Uttar Pradesh have played pivotal roles.
- The Paswan Family:** A known political dynasty in Bihar, the Paswan family was led by the late

Ram Vilas Paswan and is now represented by Chirag Paswan.

- Mayawati and Family:** Mayawati, the leader of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), has designated her nephew, Akash Anand, as her political successor.
- Mamata Banerjee and Abhishek Banerjee:** In West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has declared her intention to continue serving until 2036, with her nephew Abhishek Banerjee poised for a future role.

These families have left an indelible mark on Indian politics, producing Prime Ministers, Chief Ministers, Union Ministers, and influential party leaders. Their influence extends to national and regional politics, contributing to the diverse fabric of India's democracy.

Critiques and Challenges

Dynastic politics in India has faced its fair share of criticisms. Detractors argue that it undermines democracy, meritocracy, and accountability while fostering a culture of entitlement, corruption, and factionalism. Nonetheless, supporters contend that it mirrors India's social and cultural realities, where strong family ties and loyalty hold immense value.

In conclusion, dynastic politics in India is a multi-faceted phenomenon deeply ingrained in the nation's political landscape. It reflects both historical precedents and contemporary complexities. Whether seen as a necessary adaptation or a concerning trend, the influence of political families continues to shape the course of Indian democracy, leaving it an ever-evolving and dynamic force in the country's governance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Snow Leopard Count

The Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SLPAI) by the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Programme (GSLESP) found 718 snow leopards across India. This extensive study covered 120,000 km of the trans-Himalayan region, recommending the creation of a dedicated snow leopard cell at the Wildlife Institute of India. These beautiful big cats are predominantly found in six Himalayan states: Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh. Their physiology, with a large nasal cavity and ample red blood corpuscles, aids high-altitude living. Thick fur and a long tail help them endure the cold. Habitat loss, poaching, climate change, and human-animal conflicts have reduced their numbers.

Dr. Ganapathi Bhat, Akola

Budget Analysis

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's budget speech showcased the Modi government's achievements but lacked significant voter-centric initiatives. Despite emphasizing fiscal consolidation and economic growth, it downplayed rising inequality and sluggish private consumption. Prioritizing fiscal prudence may slow economic momentum, with the greater concern being addressing inequality. A casual reference to future development plans suggests confidence in winning upcoming elections. Overall, the budget favors continuity over bold reforms, raising doubts about its effectiveness in addressing critical economic challenges.

N Mateeni, Mumbai

Interim Budget 2024

Finance Minister Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman's Interim Budget signals economic stability following a decade of necessary reforms. While the full budget awaits presentation after the Lok Sabha elections and government formation, this Interim Budget offers glimpses of future priorities. It strikes a balance between aspirations and preparedness, reflecting a measured approach towards economic stability.

Jahangir Ali, Mumbai

Europa Exploration

NASA's Europa Clipper mission, set for launch in October, is destined for Jupiter's moon, Europa, with the aim of exploring the possibility of extraterrestrial life. Instead of orbiting Europa, it will conduct continuous close flybys at a mere 25 kilometers from the moon's surface. Jennifer Scully from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory anticipates this mission will yield valuable insights into this mysterious moon. Of utmost importance is the evaluation of potentially habitable subsurface oceans. While the Clipper can't directly search for life, it will lay the foundation for future research endeavours.

Arka Goswami, West Bengal

Ups & downs of Power Politics in Bihar-II



Er. Prabhat Kishore

In the opposition, there was internal fight in the SSP between the upper and backward caste lobbies for leadership in which Karpooi Thakur, a Nai, succeeded. Daroga Roy govt. (16th Feb. 1970 to 22nd Dec. 1970) fell down and Karpooi Thakur became CM on 22nd Dec. 1970 with the support of the Jansangh. He too became a victim of defections and had to resign on 2nd June 1971. A forum of like minded legislatures named "Pragatishil Vidhyak Dal" was formed and its leader Bhola Paswan Shastri took over as CM for the third time. He again fell to kept legislature united and resigned on 27th December 1972; followed by President Rule on 9th Jan. 1972.

In a span of just 5 years since 1967 to 1972, the People of Bihar have faced 9 chief ministers. In a bid to eradicate the unstable political scenario, Congress was voted to power in 1972 election with 167 seats. The Congress continued its traditional game and in place of Ram Lakhan Yadav, the leader of the legislature party in the dissolved assembly, Kedar Pandey, a Brahmin, was made the CM (19.3.1972 to 02.07.1973). Pandey Government step down within one year and for the first time in the history of Bihar a Muslim leader Abdul Gafoor (02.07.1973 to

11.04.1975) was made the CM to counter the heavyweights Mishra brothers. Gafoor had to resign following the JP movement. Taking emotional sympathy of the assassination of the then railway minister Lalit Narayan Mishra in a Bomb explosion in Samastipur in 1974, his younger brother Dr. Jagannath Mishra, a Brahmin, became the CM (11.04.1975 to 30.04.1977) and during his tenure emergency was imposed on 25th June 1975. On 30 April 1977, Vidhan Sabha was dissolved and Bihar came under President's Rule.

In general election of June 1977, the Janata Party came to power with a landslide victory in the state. Despite strong opposition from State Janata Party President Satyendra Narayan Sinha, Karpooi Thakur was elected the leader of the legislature party and took oath as the CM (24.06.1977 to 21.04.1979). Thakur gained name & fame, when he implemented long-awaited Backward Class reservation in State Government services as well as institutions and distribute appointment letters to all unemployed engineers in the state. Under the patronage of Satyendra Narayan Sinha and even the blessings of JP, there were aggressive protests against the reservation. Ultimately, Karpooi Thakur had to resign and Ram Sundar Das, a Chamar, took charge of the CM (21.04.1979 to 17.02.1980). The key of power was

with S.N. Sinha and Dasji had no control over the administration. President's Rule was imposed on 17th February 1980, and the Vidhan Sabha was dissolved.

Congress returned to power in the Mid-term Bihar Assembly election in 1980 and Dr. Jagannath Mishra (08.06.1980 to 14.08.1983), became the CM for the second time. Mishra's worst functioning angered the Congress high command and Chandrashekhar Singh, a Rajput (14.08.1983 to 12.03.1985) was made the CM. The general election in 1985 was fought under Singh's leadership and the Congress returned to power, but surprisingly he was stepped down and State Congress President Bindeshwari Dube, a Brahmin, was blessed as the CM (12.03.1985 to 13.02.1988) by the Party high-command. Dubeji has full support of the MLAs, but Congress High Command pressurized him to resign and a new face, Bhagwat Jha Azad, a Brahmin, (14.02.1988 to 10.03.1989), was made the CM.

In the meantime, V.P. Singh started his activities against Bofors Scam & corruption and lateron Socialists also joined him. To counter V.P. Singh in the coming the Vidhan Sabha election, the Rajput leader Satyendra Narayan Sinha (11.03.1989 to 06.12.1989) was made the CM, his long awaited dream. He tried his best to implement the popular welfare schemes and to sort out unemployment issues. But in V.P. Singh wave,

the Congress loose in Lok Sabha election and Satyendra Sinha was stepped down. Dr. Jagannath Mishra (06.12.1989 to 10.13.1990), who had the image of a corrupt politician in the public, was again made the CM. Dr. Mishra hampered all those popular ongoing works, which were of no personal benefit. Corruption has reached the highest level ever since independence. In the 1990 general election of Vidhan Sabha, Janata Dal came to power and the Congress was ousted forever.

In 1990, there was direct fight for leadership in Janata Dal between Devial supported Laloo Prasad and V.P. Singh supported Ram Sunder Das. Das had an edge over Laloo, but at the last moment Chadrashkehar supported Raghunath Jha jumped into fray spurring some upper caste MLAs, who were loyal to Dasji. Nitish Kumar and Sharad Yadav were instrumental in favour of Laloo Prasad, a Yadav, who was elected leader and sworn in as the CM (10.03.1990 to 25.07.1997). Due to technical reason President's Rule was in force since 28.03.1995 to 4.5.1995. For his involvement in Fodder Scam, Laloo Prasad had no way other than to step down. Laloo surprised everyone, when he put forward his house-wife Rabri Devi for the post of CM. Rabri Devi was elected the leader of the legislature party and in its history, Bihar saw its first women CM (27.7.1997 to 2.3.2002). Although, for short time President's

Rule have been imposed since 11.02.1999 to 9.3.1999. In the general election of 2000, no single party secured majority. Governor Vinod Narayan Pandey invited Nitish Kumar, a Kurmi, (3.3.2000 to 10.3.2000) to form the government, but he could not succeed to gather majority mark and resigned within 7 days. Rabri Devi was once again sworn in as the CM with the support of the Congress, whose all legislatures got ministerial berth and its leader Sadanand Singh was chaired as Vidhan Sabha speaker. In the general election held in February 2005, no party got a clear majority. Ram Vilas Paswan's Party, LJP was in position of king maker, but he takes "Na Lenge, Na Denge" policy on the question to support any of the two alliances.

Rabri Devi had to resign and President's Rule was imposed on 7th March 2005. At last, Ram Vilas's Party broke up and a large chunk of its legislatures joined Nitish's Party JD(U). In the November 2005 election, JD(U)-BJP alliance got an absolute majority and Nitish Kumar (24.11.2005 to 22.05.2014 and 22.02.2015 uptill now) was elected leader of the alliance and sworn in as the CM. In the November 2010 election, JD(U)-BJP alliance again got landslide majority winning 203 of the total 243 seats and Nitish Kumar continued. (Author is a technocrat & academician.)

BRIEF

Fossil fuels



Shimla: Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said that 19 electric vehicles launched by the transport department have proven to be game changer for environment and cost savings of Rs 28 lakh in one year. The state transport department was the first in the country to adopt e-vehicles, marking a successful milestone in our commitment to environmental sustainability, Sukhu was quoted as saying in a statement.

Windfall tax

New Delhi: The government has hiked windfall tax on domestically produced crude oil to Rs 3,200 per tonne from Rs 1,700 per tonne with effect from Saturday. The tax is levied in the form of Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED). According to an official notification, SAED on export of diesel, petrol, and jet fuel or ATF, has been retained at nil. The new rates are effective from February 3. India first imposed windfall profit taxes on July 1, 2022, joining a host of nations that tax supernormal profits of energy companies. The tax rates are reviewed every fortnight based on average oil prices in the previous two weeks.

Toy exports



New Delhi: The country's toy exports have jumped to USD 325.72 million in 2022-23 from USD 96.17 million in 2014-15, Parliament was informed on Friday. Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Som Parkash said that the government is providing all-round support for creating a conducive manufacturing ecosystem for the toys industry. As a result of measures, the manufacturing ecosystem of the industry has witnessed "remarkable" growth, leading to a substantial decrease of 52 per cent in overall import of toys from USD 32.55 million in 2014-15 to USD 158.7 million in 2022-23, Parkash said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha.

India moving fast, set to become 3rd largest economy in our third term: Modi

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India is moving fast and will become the world's third-largest economy in the "third term" of his government. Addressing industrialists at Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024 here, the Prime Minister said the auto and automotive component industry will play a significant role in making India a global economic powerhouse. Modi also announced that the government is working on a new scheme to develop rest facilities on National Highways for truck and taxi drivers. "Drivers are an important part of the mobility sector. They drive for long hours but they do not have access



to proper resting place...They do not get adequate time to take rest and sometimes this leads to road accidents," Modi said. In the first phase, 1,000 modern buildings with amenities such as food stalls, clean drinking water, toilets, parking and rest places will be constructed, he

added. Modi said that it will give a boost to both the ease of living and ease of traveling for truck and taxi drivers, thereby improving their health and also help in preventing accidents.

"India is on the move, and is moving fast. In a way, this is the beginning of the golden period for India's mobility sector," he said. "Today India's economy is expanding rapidly. India is sure to become the third largest economy in the world in the third term of our government," the Prime Minister said. The country is going to general polls in April-May this year. The Prime Minister recalled a mobility-related conference from his first term (2014-19) and talked about his focus on battery and electric vehi-

cles. Modi expressed satisfaction that he could see significant progress during his second term and said that in the third term mobility will see new heights.

Stressing that the "speed and scale" of his government has changed the very definition of mobility in India, Modi said the numbers of growing economy and the growing income are bound to infuse new confidence in the mobility sector. Modi said that the number of cars sold in India rose from 12 crores to more than 21 crores from the 10 years before 2014 to after 2014, while the number of electric vehicles sold in India rose from two thousand per year 10 years ago to 12 lakh per year today.

One Nation, One Election to improve govt efficiency, foster economic development: CII

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Expressing its support to simultaneous elections that would synchronize the electoral cycles at the central and state levels, industry body CII said 'One Nation One Election' would enhance governance efficiency, and foster economic development. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) presented its views to the High-Level Committee on One Nation One Election (ONOE) on Friday. The High Level Committee on One Nation One Election, chaired by former President Ram Nath Kovind held its fifth meet-

ing. "CII's view was based on the economic benefits of streamlining the electoral process, that would enhance governance efficiency, and foster economic development," the industry body stated. It argued that asynchronous multiple elections lead to frequent disruption in policy making and administration, leading to uncertainty about the government's policies. "It also affects the working of the Government due to its officials being roped in for election duties. Investment decisions by the private sector tend to slow down prior to the elections," said CII.

Forex reserves increase USD 591 mn to USD 616.7 bn

Mumbai, Feb 03:

India's forex reserves increased USD 591 million to USD 616.733 billion for the week ended January 26, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said on Friday. In the previous reporting week, the overall reserves had dropped USD 2.795 billion to USD 616.143 billion. The country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of USD 645 billion in October 2021. The reserves took a hit as the central bank deployed the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments since last year. For the week ended January 26, the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, increased USD 289 million to USD 546.144 billion, the data said.

Money laundering concerns and KYC non-compliance led to ban on Paytm Bank by RBI

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Money laundering concerns and questionable dealings of hundreds of crores of rupees between popular wallet Paytm and its lesser-known banking arm had led Reserve Bank of India to clamp down on tech poster boy Vijay Sekhar Sharma-run entities, sources said. The central bank has ordered Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) to halt most of its business including taking further deposits, conducting credit transactions and carrying out top-ups on any customer accounts, prepaid instruments, wallets, and cards for paying road tolls after February

29. This means customers can access their existing deposits and pay for services with money stored in their wallets till February 29. And in case, RBI does not relent, top-up for Paytm wallet will stop and transactions through it would no longer can be carried. In a major action against PPBL, the Reserve Bank earlier this week directed the lender to stop accepting deposits or top-ups in customer accounts, wallets, FASTags and other instruments after February 29. The PPBL, sources said, had lakhs of non-KYC (Know Your Customer) compliant accounts and in thousands of cases single PANs were

used for opening multiple accounts. There were instances where the total value of transactions - running into crores of rupees, much beyond regulatory limits in minimum KYC pre-paid instruments raising money laundering concerns, sources said. According to an analyst, Paytm Payments Bank has about 35 crore e-wallets. Of this, about 31 crore are dormant while only about 4 crore would be operative with either no balance or a small balance. An unusually high number of dormant accounts are prone to have been used as mule accounts. So, there were major irregularities in KYC, which exposed the

customers, depositors and wallet holders to serious risk. Sources said the RBI in 2021 detected serious KYC Anti Money Laundering violations and the bank was directed to address these deficiencies. However, they continued to persist. The compliances submitted by the bank were found to be incomplete and false on many occasions, sources said. Accordingly, in March 2022, RBI imposed supervisory restriction on PPBL to stop on-boarding new customers with immediate effect and to appoint an external audit firm to conduct a comprehensive system audit.

Now, pay for Eiffel Tower visit through UPI

Mumbai, Feb 03:

Tourists visiting Paris' Eiffel Tower will now be able to book their trip to the iconic monument using India's Unified Payment Interface, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) said on Friday. The NPCI said its arm NPCI International Payments (NIPL) has tied up with French e-commerce and proximity payments Lyra, which will help ensure that the UPI payment mechanism is accepted in the European country,

starting with the Eiffel Tower. "Indian tourists can now book their visit to the Eiffel Tower by purchasing tickets online using UPI (Unified Payment Interface), making the transaction process quick, easy, and hassle-free," an official statement said. The announcement was made in Paris at an event organised by the Indian Embassy in France to celebrate India's Republic Day, it added. At present, Indian tourists rank as the second largest group of international visitors to the Eiffel Tower, it said.

I-T dept will erase petty tax demands on its own: CBDT chairman on Budget announcement

New Delhi, Feb 03:

The income tax department will "erase" petty tax demands pending against about 80 lakh taxpayers on its own and issue a "speaking order" explaining the process to be followed, CBDT chairman Nitin Gupta said Friday, a day after the measure was proposed in the interim Budget. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had on Thursday declared the government's proposal to withdraw outstanding direct tax demands up to Rs

25,000 till 2009-10 fiscal and up to Rs 10,000 for financial years 2010-11 to 2014-15. This was being done, she said, as part of an effort to improve ease of living and ease of doing business for citizens. The finance minister added that there were "a large number" of petty, non-verified, non-reconciled or disputed direct tax demands, many of them dating as far back as the year 1962, which continue to remain on the books, causing anxiety to honest taxpayers and hindering refunds of subsequent years. "We will erase these

demands, we will extinguish such a demand from the records of the tax department. The taxpayer does not have to do anything and we will not be getting in touch with them (taxpayer) at all." "This process will not be adverse to the assessee," Gupta told PTI in a post-Budget interview. However, he said, such demands will be put on the e-filing portal of the individual taxpayers so that they can also have a look and if there is any issue, the department will resolve it, the top tax department officer said.

Indian economy to grow at 6.7 per cent between fiscals 2024 to 2031: CRISIL

Kolkata, Feb 03:

The Indian economy is expected to grow at an average rate of 6.7 per cent per annum until the end of the decade, CRISIL said in its latest report. The economy will grow at this rate between the financial years 2024 to 2031, a notch above the pre-pandemic average of 6.6 per cent. According to CRISIL, the key contributor to this trend will be capital. This is a result of the invest-

ment-driven strategy of the government when the private sector was shy of making investments. The government increased capital expenditure significantly to support building expenditure and providing interest-free loans to states to bolster their own investment efforts, the report said. CRISIL said that after a robust 7.3 per cent growth this fiscal, there will be moderation to 6.4 per cent in the next financial year.

Investors have no voting rights on CEO change: BYJU'S

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Edtech major Think and Learn Pvt Ltd, which operates under the brand name BYJU'S, on Friday said investors have no voting rights on the CEO or management change as per the shareholder's agreement. At least six BYJU'S investors have called for an Extraordinary General Meeting

(EGM) to address issues at the edtech major and ousted founders from having control over the firm. "Think & Learn Pvt Ltd has noted with sorrow, statements from a select few investors calling for an EGM to replace founder and group CEO Byju Raveendran. Under these unfortunate circumstances, we would emphasise that the shareholder's agree-

ment does not give them the right to vote on CEO or management change," the company said in a statement. The investors led by Dutch investment firm Prosus in the EGM notice requested the resolution of the outstanding governance, financial mismanagement and compliance issues and the reconstitution of the Board of Directors.

Availability of containers not affected due to Red Sea crisis: Patel

New Delhi, Feb 03:

The Red Sea crisis at present has not affected the availability of containers for traders and the government is closely monitoring the situation, Parliament was informed. Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel said that exports from India are continuing as the sailings of containers carrying ships from India have been



diverted via the Cape of Good Hope route, encir-

cling Africa. "The crisis in Red Sea, at present, has also not much affected the availability of containers in most of the ports," she said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha. The crisis in the Red Sea shipping route began after Yemen-based Houthi rebels launched frequent attacks on commercial shipping vessels plying through the route in November as a fallout of the Israeli-Palestinian war, which

started in early October 2023. Due to the crisis, the movement of goods from the Red Sea, the world's busiest shipping route, has disrupted the global supply chains as vessels have to take long routes for exports and imports. The minister said that Indian Navy has substantially enhanced maritime surveillance efforts in central/north Arabian Sea and augmented force levels.

अग्रवाल वर चाहिये

अग्रवाल वर चाहिये- 30 कन्याएं सी.ए., 40-डॉक्टर, 50-ईजीनियर, 150-ग्रेजुएशन, 100-सर्विस क्लास, 10-मेडिक, 5-माहेश्वरी, 10-जैन, 5-खंडेलवाल, 100- तलाकशुदा-विडोह, नि: शुल्क साधारण परिवार कन्याएं हेतु मारवाड़ी वर-वधू फोटो बायोडेटा सहित संपर्क करें- मितल मैरिज व्यूरो अरिहंत काम्प्लेक्स, रेलवे स्टेशन के पास, रायपुर. व्हाट्सएप- 9302454825. (253559)

सामान्य वर चाहिये

वधु- डिप्लोमा इलेक्ट्रॉनिक इंजीनियरिंग आउट 50 वर्ष, उंचाई 5 फीट, गौर वर्ण, बौद्ध समाज, सेवानिवृत्त कॉलेज शिक्षक, व्यवसाय/तलाकशुदा/ वर चाहिए-धर्म जाति बंधन नहीं. मो.-9421733910.

वधु 59, उंचाई 5'3", शिक्षा 12वीं, पेन्शन 30,000- अंतरजातीय, विधुर, रिलेशनशिप चाहिये संपर्क-मो.-7249773272, 8421834723.

बंगाली वर चाहिये

बंगाली ब्राम्हण, तलाकशुदा, नि:संतान कश्यप गोत्र 1984, नर गण, 5'3", रायपुर (छ.ग.) के प्राइवेट युनिवर्सिटी में अडिस्ट्रेट प्रोफेसर युवती हेतु सरकारी/ प्राइवेट संस्था में कार्यरत युवक चाहिए. रायपुर या आसपास को प्राथमिकता. घर जमाई भी स्वीकार्य. केवल बंगाली ब्राम्हण ही संपर्क करें. मैरिज व्यूरो क्षमा. मो. - 9 9 7 7 6 1 8 5 5 8 , 9425845648. (253530)

आवश्यक सूचना

पाठकों को परामर्श दिया जाता है कि वे किसी भी विज्ञापन के अनुसार, कार्य करने से पूर्व समुचित जांच कर लें. वर-वधु के पत्र, आयु, आय संबंधी विवरण के संबंध में विज्ञापनदाताओं द्वारा किये गये दावों और वर्णनों के लिये यह समाचार पत्र समर्थक अथवा उत्तरदायी नहीं है.

नवभारत मैट्रीमोनियल

जोड़ियां स्वर्ग में बनाई जाती है... अब इनको दुहना और भी आसान नवभारत मैट्रीमोनियल के साथ...

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

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

Bhakhara police crack theft case, recover stolen goods and cash

Dhamtari, Feb 03:

A case of theft in the Bhakhara police station area has been successfully resolved through the combined efforts of the Cyber Cell and Bhakhara Police, resulting in the recovery of stolen cash and goods worth Rs 85,000. The incident involved the breaking of locks on 6 shops in two separate crimes.

Between approximately 20.00 hrs on January 11 and around 09.00 am on January 12, the suspects broke into Punam Electronic Municipality Market in Nagar Panchayat Bhakhara. They stole Rs 25,000 from a cash drawer. Additionally, the suspects targeted Dewangan Shringar Sadar and Dewangan Brothers Palika Bazar, stealing fancy items worth Rs. 24,000 and cash amounting to Rs. 16,000. They also made away with Rs. 20,000 kept in the store bag of the combine shop numbers 24



and 25, breaking the lock of the shutter. In total, Rs. 61,000 in cash and fancy goods worth Rs. 24,000 were stolen, amounting to a total of Rs. 85,000. The victims promptly reported the incident to the Bhakhara Police Station, leading to the registration of cases 14/2024 and 15/24 under Section 457, 380 IPC.

In response to the case, Superintendent of Police Prashant Thakur's directives for swift action, the Bhakhara Police,

under the guidance of Additional Superintendent of Police Madhulika Singh and Police Sub-Divisional Officer KK Vajpayee, launched a prompt investigation aided by technical services. Through a collaborative effort between the cyber team of District Dhamtari and Bhakhara Police station personnel, suspects from the Raipur district area were apprehended. The arrested individuals in-

clude Aman Markam, also known as Babi, aged 18 years and 01 month, residing in Amlidih under Raipur's Hall Housing Board Colony Police Station. Harsh Kumar Sahu, alias Harshu, aged 19 years, is a resident of Labhandi under Telibandha Police Station in Raipur. Aju Dewar, aged 18 years and 15 days, resides in the Housing Board Kachna area under Raipur's Rajendra Nagar Police Station. During interrogation, the suspects confessed to their involvement in the crimes.

Stolen Cash and goods worth Rs 85,000 and two motorcycles used in the incidents were seized. A comprehensive search of about 200 CCTV camera footage was conducted along the Bhakhara to Raipur Durg road. The arrested individuals have been remanded to judicial custody at the honorable Court in Kurud.

DAV School hosts inspiring science exhibition

Bilaspur, Feb 03: The DAV Public School, Vasanth Vihar, witnessed a remarkable showcase of creativity and innovation as it organized a successful science exhibition on Tuesday, blending science, art, and culture harmoniously.

ASP Rajendra Kumar Jaiswal, the esteemed chief guest, inaugurated the exhibition with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, while Principal K. Parthipen extended a warm welcome to him with a bouquet of flowers. The event provided a platform for students to display their talents through diverse model exhibits across various subjects.

A standout attraction at the exhibition was Rafiq Abdullah Khan's presentation on solar energy, drawing considerable attention. The presence of his parents, renowned social worker and Congress leader Dr. Hameed Ullah Khan, and Arshmina Khan added prestige to the occasion. The students of DAV School showcased their



creativity by crafting unique models in the fields of science, art, literature, and social sciences, reflect-

ing a rich cultural perspective. With the participation of over 500 enthusiastic children, the exhibition

garnered well-deserved praise from the attending parents, who openly expressed their appreciation. Chief guest Rajendra Jaiswal commended the artistic thinking and endeavours of the students, emphasizing the hidden talents within each child. He highlighted that such events not only contribute to the holistic development of students but also provide a platform to nurture their talents. Notably, the students presented a well-crafted model of the Ram Temple, exemplifying the school's commitment to excellence. Principal K. Parthipen expressed his gratitude to everyone and motivated the children to continue exploring their potential. The event was graced by the presence of notable figures, including Professor Gana Prantika, Aspinder Kaur, Aruna, Pramod Tiwari, Lata Mahato, Ramesh, Arun Soni, Bhaskar, and Ramesh Shatakshi Saxena, who applauded the students' creative prowess.

Students demand improved security and facilities in girls' hostel

ABVP submits memorandum to SDM for change

Dongargaon, Feb 03:

Students from Dr. Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar College, along with the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, took a significant step towards improving conditions at the girls' hostel. On Friday, they submitted a memorandum to the SDM office, highlighting issues related to security and amenities in the hostel.

The students, who currently reside in the girls' hostel, raised concerns about the lack of facilities despite substantial fees. They emphasized that the hostel, designed for approximately 50 students, charges an annual hostel fee of Rs 6,000 per student and a monthly mess fee of Rs 15,000 per student. However, they claim that the facilities provided do not



align with the fees paid. The condition of the hostel is reportedly subpar, with broken taps, pipes, and bathroom doors, as well as inadequate meal services. Furthermore, cleanliness is compromised due to a lack of cleaning staff.

One of the most pressing concerns addressed in the memorandum is the absence of security measures in the girls' hostel. Astonishingly, the students revealed that a male peon is responsible for security in a facility intended for female

residents. This lack of security poses a significant risk to the students, particularly considering the hostel's location outside the city. Students have reported feeling unsafe at night due to gatherings of people consuming alcohol near the hostel premises.

The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad has demanded swift action to rectify these issues and improve conditions in the girls' hostel. They have warned that if necessary measures are not taken

promptly, they may resort to more vigorous protests to ensure the safety and well-being of the students.

Another aspect brought to light is the violation of regulations regarding hostel management. According to the rules, a female warden should be appointed in a girls' hostel, but the current male superintendent does not fulfill this requirement. Students allege that the superintendent rarely visits the hostel, preferring to stay at the college. This situa-

"There is no such complaint had been received until now. However, girl students informed me about insufficient food and inadequate arrangements at the hostel. The college staff has been directed to rectify the situation promptly."

Dr. B.N. Meshram, Principal of the college

"The matter will be thoroughly discussed with the college management. After a thorough investigation, necessary actions will be taken to address the concerns raised by the students."

A.K. Pusam, SDM Dongargaon

tion has hindered access for local public representatives and media personnel, preventing them from understanding the challenges faced by the students.

Crackdown on tobacco offenders

40 challans issued for tobacco violations

Kawardha, Feb 03:

In a proactive effort under the National Tobacco Control Programme, authorities in Kawardha have taken significant steps to enforce the rules of COTPA 2003. Acting on the directives of Collector Janmejy Mahobe and under the guidance of Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. B. L. Raj, a robust crackdown was initiated today in the urban area of Kawardha. A total of 40 challans were issued, and necessary actions were taken under Sections 4 and 6 of COTPA 2003. The enforcement targeted paan shops, street vendors, and the Amrittulya Tea Center located on Lohara Road, ensuring that these establishments



adhere to tobacco control regulations. DPM Srishti Sharma emphasized that the challan action was directed at individuals who violated these regulations. Additionally, individuals found smoking in public places were also subject to challans. During the proceedings, the detrimental health effects of tobacco use were explained, and advice was provided to encourage compliance with

COTPA rules. Pamphlets detailing COTPA 2003 were distributed to raise awareness among the public. The enforcement team was composed of dedicated members, including District Nodal Officer Dr. Roshni Patel and Drug Inspector Jitendra Patidar, along with representatives from the police department, labour department, and health department.

Strict action against drivers using pressure horns and modified silencers

Dhamtari, Feb 03:

In a determined effort to combat noise pollution and uphold environmental regulations, law enforcement agencies are taking decisive action against drivers using pressure horns and modified silencers. Under the direction of Superintendent of Police Prashant Thakur and the guidance of Additional Superintendent of Police Madhulika Singh, Deputy Superintendent of Police Traffic Mani Shankar is leading the charge in ensuring that drivers comply with the law.

The campaign against noise pollution, prompted by the honorable High Court's directives, has gained momentum. During the month of January, 545 drivers were penalized, resulting in the collection of Rs 17,130 in summon fees. This



proactive stance against noise pollution has been reinforced with strict actions aimed at DJ operators who defy the honorable High Court's orders in Bilaspur.

On February 1, a special campaign was conducted

across all police stations and posts, resulting in action taken against 144 vehicle drivers responsible for noise pollution. An impressive sum of Rs 45,400 was collected in summon fees. Notably, this campaign also led to the penaliza-

tion of 10 Bullet vehicle drivers found operating their vehicles with modified silencers, which were subsequently confiscated.

Law enforcement authorities have affirmed their commitment to ensuring that the crackdown on noise pollution remains an ongoing effort. They urge the general public to actively contribute to environmental protection by refraining from using loudspeakers and modifying their vehicles to incorporate pressure horns and modified silencers. During vehicle inspections, strict measures will be enforced, ensuring that vehicles are devoid of loudspeakers, pressure horns, or modified silencers. Drivers found in violation of these regulations will face legal consequences, with cases being presented in the honorable Court.

Paddy worth lakhs soaked in water due to chaos in Koliyari PPC



Anwari, Feb 03:

Paddy worth lakhs faced the risk of water damage at the Cooperative Society Primary Agriculture Branch 171 in Koliyari. A sudden change in weather brought heavy rain for an hour between 5 to 6 in the morning, resulting in chaotic conditions at the paddy procurement center.

The unexpected rainstorm left the paddy procurement center in disarray, with lakhs of rupees' worth of paddy soaked in water. Despite funds being allocated to committees for adequate preparations, some committee managers neglected their responsibilities, causing financial losses for the government. This situation highlights the importance of conscientious



management to prevent such losses.

With the deadline for completing paddy procurement just two days away, the farmers' substantial stockpile faced haphazard storage. On-site observations by our correspondent revealed

that instead of proper tarpaulin covering, harvested rice was exposed atop the drainage system, sheltered only by damaged and old tarpaulins. This neglect underscores the manager's lack of responsibility, jeopardizing a significant investment.

Students and parents rally against teacher shortage in school

In Government Higher Secondary School Loharsi

Fingeshwar, Feb 03:

Students, parents, and villagers locked the main gate of Government Higher Secondary School Loharsi in the development block in protest this morning. Their actions highlighted the acute shortage of teachers that has plagued the institution.

The students voiced their concerns, stating that the school has been without a chemistry teacher for the past 7-8

years. Furthermore, the absence of teachers for English, Sanskrit, and Science subjects has left them unable to receive instruction in these vital areas since the beginning of the academic session. This situation raises concerns about their preparedness for upcoming 10th-12th board exams.

Parents said that, at the beginning of this session, 5 teachers left the school, 2 teachers retired, 2 teachers got promoted and subsequently left, and 1 teacher was transferred. Despite these departures, no replacements were assigned to fill these crucial teaching positions. In re-

sponse to this pressing issue, parents submitted a comprehensive memorandum to the District Education Officer (DEO) in May 2023 and to the District Collector in December 2023, urgently requesting the appointment of teachers for essential subjects at the school. Regrettably, as of now, no action has been taken on their applications.

Parents have raised grave concerns about the state of the school, citing teachers' lack of focus due to internal politics. This distraction has led to students neglecting their studies and instead spending their days playing and



wandering aimlessly. The school environment has become unregulated and lacks proper control. On Thursday, the school witnessed a complete absence of study activities for all six periods.

In response to these deteriorating conditions, parents demanded action against the remaining teachers and imposed a school lockdown along with the students. This collective action aimed to

draw the administration's attention to their pressing concerns and grievances.

The shortage of teachers is a widespread issue across government schools in the division. Many schools lack teachers for essential subjects, severely impacting the quality of education. Shockingly, in some instances, schools in the Fingeshwar development block are operating without a designated head of the institution or principal. The entire school system relies heavily on temporary in-charge personnel.

The current circumstances raise questions

about the feasibility of initiatives like "Padhega India to Badhega India". Despite the Prime Minister's efforts to boost students' morale and self-confidence through programs like "Pariksha Pe Charcha," the absence of teachers poses a significant challenge to education.

Instances of school lockouts due to teacher shortages have occurred in various locations within the development block. Urgent and decisive action is imperative to address this issue effectively, as temporary measures will not suffice in resolving the problem.

To draw attention to their pressing concerns, parents and students initiated a school lockdown. The DEO promptly responded to the protest, reaching the school and engaging with the students and parents. Following discussions, the DEO assured the community that their issues would be communicated to the government, and steps would be taken to rectify the situation. In response to the teachers' lack of commitment, the DEO announced that one day's salary would be deducted from the teachers at fault, emphasizing the need for teacher accountability.

Bumrah, Jaiswal give India upper hand

Visakhapatnam, Feb 03 (PTI):

Jasprit Bumrah put up a special exhibition of reverse swing on a flat deck after Yashasvi Jaiswal's maiden double hundred to bowl out England for 253 in their first innings and put India ahead in the second Test here on Saturday.

India tallied 396 all out in their first innings after starting day two at 336 for six. Jaiswal (209 off 290) became the third youngest double centurion from India in the morning session and was the sole shining light in an otherwise grim batting effort.

In response, England were bowled out in 55.5 overs in the final session to concede a 143-run first innings lead to India.

Needing to bat five overs before stumps on day two, India were unscathed at 28 for no loss in their second innings.

England began aggressively courtesy Zak Crawley (76 off 78) before Bumrah halted their charge with a masterclass in reverse swing that resulted in his 10th five-wicket haul. He ended with figures of six for 45 in 15.5 overs, his best in India.

He also became the second fastest Asian fast bowler after Pakistan's Waqar Younis to complete 150 scalps.

Joe Root (5), Ollie Pope



Jasprit Bumrah celebrates the wicket of England's batter Tom Hartley.

(23), Jonny Bairstow (25) and England skipper Ben Stokes (47) were victims of Bumrah's brilliance. The 30-year-old also completed 150 wickets in the process.

Kuldeep Yadav, playing his first game of the series,

supported Bumrah with three wickets. R Ashwin could not get a wicket while second pacer Mukesh Kumar was taken to the cleaners.

India have managed to gain advantage but will



Yashasvi Jaiswal celebrates after scoring double century.

need to bat well on day three as no total can be considered safe against the 'Bazball' driven England side. The pitch is gradually deteriorating with the odd ball keeping low or bouncing extra. On either side of

the afternoon and evening session, watching Bumrah go about his business was a sight to behold.

Everytime there was a partnership developing, Rohit Sharma turned to Bumrah and he did not dis-

appoint his skipper.

He removing Root and Pope in a searing spell gave India much needed momentum after Crawley attacked the home team spinners to ensure England reached 155 for four at tea.

Bumrah put Root in his two minds by mixing the in and away swinger, leading to his downfall. Root was protecting his pads expecting an inswinger but Bumrah got the ball to move away from the fourth stump, inducing an outside edge.

The lead India pacer's ball to dismiss Pope was even more special, a fast reversing yorker to which the England number three had no answer to. It was a 'banana in-dipper' that tailed from the fifth stump at a fair clip and England's first Test hero failed to bring his bat down in time.

Bumrah accounted for Bairstow, Stokes, Tom Hartley and James Anderson in the final session. His ball to Bairstow was similar to Root's and outcome was another catch to Shubam Gill at first slip.

Hartley (21) and Ben Stokes (47) frustrated the Indians with a 47-run stand for the eighth wicket until Bumrah breached the England skipper's defense.

For the second game in a row, Stokes was left shell shocked by Bumrah's magic.

Why do we need turning tracks, we need to play on good wickets: Ganguly

Visakhapatnam, Feb 03 (PTI):

Jasprit Bumrah's throbbing afternoon spell on the second day of the second Test against England here on Saturday made former Indian skipper Sourav Ganguly advocating for sporting pitches rather than preparing rank turners.

Bumrah homed in on Ollie Pope's stumps with a laser-guided yorker to dismiss the England batter for 23 off 55 balls, earning it a separate fan base altogether.

It wasn't entirely surprising then to see Ganguly, a lifelong supporter of pace bowling and sporting tracks, airing his views in favour of decks that keeps bowlers of all genres in the game, rather than just spinners.

"When I see Bumrah, Shami, Siraj, Mukesh bowl, I wonder why do we need to prepare turning tracks in India my conviction of playing on good wickets keeps getting stronger every game.

They will get 20 wickets on any surface with Ashwin, Jadeja, Kuldeep and Axar (for support)," Ganguly wrote on his X (formerly Twitter) account.



The former BCCI chief had also expressed a similar view during India's home series against Australia early last year, particularly after the Indore pitch earned "poor" rating from the ICC.

"Great to see Ashwin bowl so well on a good pitch class will always show Hopefully, this will be a good Test match a good opportunity for Indian batsmen after some tuff wickets to bat on, in this series," Ganguly had tweeted during the Ahmedabad Test after senior spinner Ravichandran Ashwin bagged six wickets.

Here too, Ganguly hinted that the overall batting quality in the longer format has dropped in the last few years because of preparing pitches with quick results in mind.

Ashmita loses in semifinals of Thailand Masters



Bangkok, Feb 03 (PTI):

Talented Indian shuttler Ashmita Chaliha's impressive run came to an end, losing in straight games to local player Supanida Katethong in the women's singles semifinals at the Thailand Masters Super 300 tournament here on Saturday. The 24-year-old from Guwahati suffered a 13-21 12-21 loss to world no. 17 Supanida in a 35-minute

clash. The battle between the two left-handed shuttlers turned out to be a one-sided affair as Supanida moved to a comfortable 8-3 lead and kept charging ahead to take the opening game. The second game was a similar story as Ashmita could manage 6-7 before falling apart as Supanida reeled off nine of the next 10 points to take the match beyond the Indian's reach.

Ramkumar, Balaji give India 2-0 lead over Pakistan

Islamabad, Feb 03 (PTI):

India blunted Pakistan's challenge on the opening day to take a 2-0 lead in the Davis Cup World Group I play-off tie with Ramkumar Ramanathan and N Sriram Balaji rising to the occasion in the high-pressure contest, here Saturday.

A fired-up Aisam-ul-haq Qureshi gave his all in a tight opening singles but the intensity of the match and tough conditions took a toll on him as he suffered a hamstring injury in the third set, which prevented a close finish to a hard-fought contest.

Ramkumar served extremely well in the match and also returned better in the second set to prevail 6-7 (3) 7-6 (4), 6-0 while 43-year-old Aisam served 10 double faults in the match, going for broke.

Ramkumar's strong



India's N Sriram Balaji during the Davis Cup 2024 tennis match between India and Pakistan, in Islamabad, Saturday, Feb. 3.

service and percentage tennis was key to the out-

come of the match. He served nine games at

love, keeping the points short and crisp.

Down by a set, Ramkumar wriggled out of a tough situation when serving at 3-4, he was down 15-40 and never looked back in the match in which he fired 20 aces.

Balaji, a doubles specialist, was challenged by Aqeel Khan, but the Indian defeated the veteran Pakistani 7-5, 6-3 in the rain-hit second singles.

Balaji had a grip over the match. He broke Aqeel once in both the sets. His movement, strong serve, use of drop shots all came together for a comfortable win in the end. India are one win away from advancing to the World Group I.

Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni will now look to seal the tie on Sunday when they take on Muzammil Murtaza and Barkat Ullah in the third match.

After Afghanistan, BCCI likely to help Nepal teams

■ Get game exposure and training in India

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

Having been a pillar of support for Afghanistan cricket for close to a decade now, the BCCI is set to extend infrastructure and exposure-related assistance to Nepal's talented players with the aim to maintain a robust cricketing eco-system in the South Asian region. If all goes well, there is a strong possibility that the senior national team of Nepal could train in Delhi and play some warm-up games before leaving for the United States to play the T20 World Cup in June. Cricket Association of Nepal (CAN) president Chatur Bahadur met BCCI secretary Jay Shah in the national capital on Friday on the sidelines of a WPL meeting, with a request of helping the budding cricketers of his country get quality game time and access to infrastructure, which is

not always readily available in the Himalayan nation.

"CAN president Chatur Bahadur had met BCCI secretary Jay Shah during an ACC (Asian Cricket Council) meeting recently and invited him to come to New Delhi for a discussion. Accordingly, Mr Bahadur and Mr Shah met and BCCI secretary has asked him to draft a formal proposal as to what kind of help they expect from BCCI. Mr Shah has been very supportive of promotion of cricket in Nepal," a CAN source told PTI on the condition of anonymity. The passion for cricket in Nepal is unbelievable and whenever the national team plays a match, the stadiums are packed to capacity. The war-ravaged Afghanistan national and U-19 teams have trained in Greater Noida in the National Capital Region (NCR) for a number of years and BCCI is all set to help in the growth of Nepal cricket in coming years, which will also foster bonhomie between the neighbours.

Let Yashasvi play, do not over-hype achievements: Gautam Gambhir

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

Former India cricketer Gautam Gambhir is not in favour of over-hyping Yashasvi Jaiswal's double hundred in the second Test against England as he feels the natural game of youngsters like him is adversely affected by the increased burden of expectations.

India opener Jaiswal scored his maiden Test double hundred in the ongoing second Test in Visakhapatnam on Saturday, becoming the third-youngest Indian to achieve the feat.

Playing only his sixth Test, the 22-year-old's sensational knock of 209 off 290 balls single-handedly powered India to 396 all out in 112 overs on the second day of the match. Jaiswal's accomplishment marked him as the first Indian left-hander since Gambhir to score a double hundred in the traditional format. Gambhir achieved the feat in 2008 against Australia.

"I want to congratulate the youngster for his achievement but, more importantly, I want to tell everyone that let the young man play. We have seen in the past that in India we have a habit, especially the media, to over-hype their achievements and give



them tags and make them look like heroes," Gambhir told PTI during an interaction. "The pressure of expectation gets the better of them and the players are not able to play their natural game. Let him grow and enjoy his cricket," added Gambhir. While Jaiswal has excelled with the bat so far in the Test series, Shubman Gill and middle-order batter Shreyas Iyer have struggled for runs, and the 42-year-old cricketer-turned-politician backed the under-performing players, saying they should be given more time.

Both Gill and Iyer made promising starts in the second Test but failed to convert them into substantial totals. Gill, who scored 34 in the first innings in Visakhapatnam, has not scored a of half-century in his last nine Test innings, while Iyer too has been off-colour.

Cash-strapped PHF owes 6 months salary to its employees

Lahore, Feb 03 (PTI):

The never ending ordeal of Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) continued as the cash-strapped national body has not paid its employees for the last six months. According to details, all the employees of PHF at its headquarters in Lahore and sub-office in Karachi are still waiting to get their salaries for the last six months.

Over 80 office and ground employees are said to be in dire straits as they have also not been getting any medical benefits for the last six months. To make matters worse even the national senior players have neither been paid their contract salaries or allowances for the last 4-5 months for even participating in the recent Olympic qualifiers in Oman.

A source aware of the developments said that Pakistan captain, Imad Shakeel Butt and some other players also clashed with the team management during the qualifiers over the issue of non-payment of their daily dues.

"At one stage Butt even threatened not to play further matches until the dailies were cleared," the source said. The nadir is that no one knows who is to be blamed for this sorry situation in Pakistan hockey.

Sai Sudharsan hundred gives India A big edge over England Lions

Ahmedabad, Feb 03 (PTI):

Bhardwaj Sai Sudharsan underlined his growing status as a productive top-order batter with a hundred against England Lions, as India A reached a position of strength on the third day of their third unofficial Test here on Saturday.

Sudharsan made 117 off 240 balls as India A made 409 in their second innings for an overall lead of 402 runs.

Chasing 403 for an improbable win, the Lions are 83 for two in their second innings at stumps.

Opener Alex Lees is keeping vigil at an unbeaten 41.

They need a further 320 runs on the final day to win and level the series, which the hosts now lead 1-0.

And for all that, India A, resuming from 148 for three, needed to thank Sudharsan who built on his overnight 54 substantially.

India left-hander Rinku Singh made a 25-ball 38 with five fours and a six as India gained early momentum in the first session.

Sudharsan and Rinku made 55 runs for the fourth-wicket stand.

Pacer Matthew Fisher ended Rinku's stay, casting

him. But the home side gained more advantage through Sudharsan and Kumar Kushagra, who added 81 runs for the fifth wicket.

Sudharsan, who smashed 16 fours during his innings, this time did not fail to convert his fifty into a hundred. The 22-year-old Tamil Nadu batter had made a 97 in the previous 'Test' against the Lions.

His effort was in stark contrast to his opening partner and skipper Abhimanyu Easwaran's outings as he has managed just one fifty (58) in five innings against the Lions in this series.

But he fell to Fisher, giving a catch to wicketkeeper Olle Robinson.

Mbappe misses penalty then scores as PSG beats Strasbourg



Strasbourg's Ivorian defender #24 Abakar Sylla (L) and Paris Saint-Germain's French forward #10 Kylian Mbappe compete in the French L1 football match between RC Strasbourg (RCS) and Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) at the Meinau stadium in Strasbourg.

Paris, Feb 03 (AP):

Kylian Mbappe missed a first-half penalty and scored one of the simplest goals of his career a few minutes later as Paris Saint-Germain convincingly beat Strasbourg 2-1 to remain on top of the French league.

Mbappe saw his seventh-minute spot kick parried for a corner by Strasbourg goalkeeper Alaa Bellaarouch on Friday. But

he was on hand 25 minutes later when Bellaarouch fluffed a clearance straight at Marco Asensio and Asensio's pass left his teammate with an open goal from 20 meters.

The same pair was involved in PSG's second three minutes into the second half. This time Mbappe broke on the left and crossed to Asensio, whose perfectly placed shot wrong-footed the keeper. Strasbourg got a goal

back through Dilane Bakwa midway through the second half and it dominated the late exchanges but it was not enough to end a winless run against PSG that stands at 12 games.

The result also ended Strasbourg's six-game unbeaten run in Ligue 1. It remained in 10th spot.

PSG was nine points ahead of second-placed Nice, which plays at Brest on Sunday.

CBI not exempted under RTI Act: HC

● Permitted to furnish info on allegations of corruption

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The CBI is not completely exempt from the purview of RTI Act and the transparency law permits it to provide information pertaining to corruption and human rights violation, the Delhi High Court has held.

Perusing Section 24 (Act not to apply to certain organisations) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, the high court said it showed that even though the name of the organisation (CBI) found mention in the Second Schedule to the law, it did not mean that the entire Act is not applicable to such organisations.

"The proviso to Section 24 permits information pertaining to allegations of corruption and human rights violation to be made

available to the applicant and the same cannot be included in the exception provided to organisations mentioned in the Second Schedule of the RTI Act," Justice Subramonium Prasad in an order passed on January 30 and made available late Friday evening.

The high court passed the order on a plea by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) challenging a November 2019 decision of the Central Information Commission (CIC) directing the probe agency to provide certain information to Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer Sanjeev Chaturvedi.

Chaturvedi had sought information about alleged corruption in purchase of disinfectant and fogging solution for the medical store of Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Centre, AIIMS.

He was the chief vigilance officer of AIIMS at the relevant time when

he had sent a report regarding alleged corruption in the purchases being made for the trauma centre.

Besides, Chaturvedi had also sought a certified copy of the file noting or documents or correspondences related to the investigation done by the CBI in the matter.

According to the officer, since CBI took no action on the information provided by him, he approached the Central Public Information Officer (CPIO) of the probe agency.

After the CBI declined to furnish the information, he approached the CIC which ordered the central agency to provide him the details. The CBI then approached the high court challenging the CIC's 2019 order.

The CBI had argued that Section 24 of the RTI law acts as a complete bar and the agency was exempt from the provisions

of the Act.

It contended that the proviso to Section 24 is not applicable to CBI and the agency cannot reveal the details of investigation it has conducted.

The federal probe agency said intelligence played a very vital role in its investigation of offences of corruption, and many important and sensitive cases were registered on the basis of intelligence inputs. Therefore, it cannot disclose the details of the investigation to Chaturvedi, the CBI said.

The high court said Chaturvedi has sought information regarding his complaint alleging corruption in purchase of fogging solution and disinfectant for the store of the trauma centre and this is not a case where sensitive information has been collected by the CBI the disclosure of which would be prejudicial for the officers involved.

COMMISSIONING CEREMONY



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R. Hari Kumar during the commissioning ceremony of INS Sandhayak, at the Naval dockyard in Visakhapatnam, Saturday.

PM launch power projects worth Rs 28,978 cr

Bhubaneswar, Jan 03:

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the Nation NTPC Darlipali Super Thermal Power Station (2x800 MW), NSPCL Rourkela PP-II Expansion Project (1x250 MW) and lay the foundation stone of NTPC Talcher Thermal Power Project, Stage-III (2x660 MW) with a total investment of Rs 28,978 Crore on 3rd February, 2024.

Located in Sundargarh district of Odisha, Darlipali STPP is a pit-head Power Station with Supercritical (highly efficient) Technology, and is supplying low-cost power to its beneficiary states, such as Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Sikkim.

The 250 MW project of

NTPC-SAIL Power Company Ltd is established in Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) to provide reliable power for the steel plant which is vital for economic growth.

Further, NTPC is developing Talcher Thermal Power Project, Stage-III within old TTPS plant premises in Angul district of Odisha, which was taken over by NTPC from Odisha State Electricity Board in the year 1995. The old TTPS plant was decommissioned after completing more than 50 years of service to the Nation.

The upcoming plant will have highly efficient Ultra Super Critical Technology based units and approximately three times capacity of the old TTPS plant. While 50% capacity from this project is dedicated to the state of Odisha, other

beneficiary states such as Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Assam will also get low-cost power from this pit-head station.

This project is being constructed with all modern environmental features like efficient electrostatic precipitator, Flue gas desulphurization, bio-mass cofiring, covered storage space for coal and will thus help in lesser

Coal Consumption and CO2 emissions. The press conference was also graced by Shri Diwakar Kaushik, CEO, NSPCL, Shri Gautam Deb, Executive Director, Talcher Thermal, Shri Harjit Singh, Executive Director, Corporate Communications, New Delhi Shri Ashok Kumar Sehgal, Business Unit Head, Talcher Kaniha, Shri Harsha Nath

Chakraborty, Business Unit Head, Darlipali, Shri Rajnish Rastogi, CGM(HR), ER-II HQ, Shri Tridib Dev, GM(OS), NSPCL and Shri Veerendra Singh, Regional Officer, NHAI

Besides creating direct and indirect employment opportunities in the region, these projects have contributed to improvement of physical infrastructure such as approach road, drainage, transportation and communication facilities. Various community development initiatives are also being undertaken by NTPC in the surrounding villages in the area of education, drinking water, sanitation, health, women empowerment, rural sports, etc. NTPC has also set up a Medical College cum Hospital in Sundargarh, Odisha.

Kota DM launches 'Dinner with Collector' to ease stress of coaching students

Kota, Feb 03 (PTI):

Kota District Magistrate Dr Ravinder Goswami has launched a weekly 'Dinner with Collector' programme under the 'Kamyab Kota' campaign to ease the stress of the coaching students in this coaching city.

Himself an MBBS and a former coaching student from the town, Goswami launched the programme last month in view of the rising number of suicides by coaching students, mainly due to study-related stress.

Under the 'Dinner with Collector', he has dinner with the students in a hostel every Friday to listen to their mind and heart.

On February 1, he interacted with the students of a hostel in the

Indraprastha area. He sang Bollywood songs with the students, shared success mantras and motivated them.

Notably, two coaching students and a 27-year-old BTech student committed suicide by hanging last month. Twenty-six coaching students allegedly committed suicide in Kota in 2023, the highest figure so far in the city, where over two lakh students come from all parts of the country every year for preparation of entrance exams for admission in medical and engineering colleges. There are about 4500 hostels and 40,000 PG accommodations for these coaching students in the city. During the latest interaction, Goswami, an IAS officer of 2016 batch, told the students, "Why to

create self-doubt?" Sharing their concerns about studies and preparation for competitive exams at the dinner, he told them to identify their strong as well as weak points, and to improve the weak ones.

It was the second programme of its kind, the first being on January 26, which was the 75th Republic Day.

On a question by a student, Kripa, about anxiety before exams, Goswami said, "Self-doubt and anxiety within limits are good as they activate your sympathetic nervous system, leading you to indulge in fight and flight mode. But do not take anxiety to the extreme level. From flight mode, you reach the interaction, Goswami, an IAS officer of 2016 batch, told the students, "Why to

feel your hands are trembling," the collector advised by referring to a conversation between Lord Krishna and Arjun in Bhagwad Geeta.

Recounting his own experience as a student in Kota years back, the collector said he never got name and number in test series during two years of his preparation in Kota for entrance exam for admission in medical college. But he never got worried, he said, and added that he avoided creating self-doubt.

"God opens several doors, so why to create self-doubt?" he told the students.

At the dinner, while holding a mike, Goswami sang the old Hindi song 'Aa chal ke tujhe, main le ke chalu ek aise gagan ke taley'.

WARM RECEPTION



Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai being garlanded on his arrival for the inauguration and foundation stone laying ceremony of various developmental projects, in Narayanpur, Saturday.

Portfolios allocated in Bihar cabinet

● Nitish retains home, BJP gets finance, health

Patna, Feb 03 (PTI):

Portfolios were on Saturday allocated in the new Bihar cabinet, with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar retaining the crucial home portfolio but giving away finance, which his JD(U) had held, to new ally BJP.

According to an official notification besides home, which helps the CM maintain control over the state police, Kumar has also retained key departments like cabinet secretariat, election, vigilance, general administration and "all other portfolios not allocated to anyone else".

State BJP chief Samrat Choudhary, who has become a Deputy Chief Minister, has got finance, a portfolio that his party has always held whenever it has shared power with the JD(U) supremo. Earlier, when Kumar was running a government with the 'Mahagathbandhan', comprising Congress, RJD, the health, finance department was held by the JD(U).

Besides finance, Choudhary has been given health, another portfolio that the BJP has held whenever it shares power in Bihar. Besides, he has been given commercial tax, urban development and housing, sports, panchayati raj, animal husbandry and fish-

eries and law. Choudhary's party colleague Vijay Kumar Sinha, who is also a Deputy CM, has been given agriculture, road construction, revenue and land reforms, mining and geology, sugarcane, labour resources, art, culture and youth affairs, minor water resources and public health engineering department, the notification said.

Senior BJP leader Prem Kumar, who is only the third BJP leader to have been inducted into the nine-member cabinet formed last Sunday, has got cooperatives, OBC and Extremely Backward Classes Welfare, disaster management, tourism and environment and climate change.

'65000 'ghost patients' underwent tests at Mohalla clinics'

● In Delhi last year

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

A preliminary inquiry by the Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) of the Delhi government has revealed that 65000 ghost patients underwent pathological tests at the Mohalla clinics through private labs during 11 months of 2023, officials said on Saturday.

Two private labs conducted nearly 22 lakh tests during February-December, 2023, out of which 65000 were found to be fake, they said.

The labs were paid Rs 4.63 crore by the government for the tests conducted by them, they said.

Last month, Delhi Lt Governor V K Saxena recommended a CBI probe into the reports of irregularities in lab tests conducted at the Mohalla clinics. The ministry of home affairs has directed the CBI to undertake investigation in the matter.

The private labs conducted tests allegedly on ghost patients who never visited any Mohalla Clinic, claimed an ACB official. "It also emerged that the Lab Management Information System (LIMS), containing the name and mobile number of the patients, was also developed, operated and conveniently manipulated by the two private labs," he said.

Fresh snowfall blankets Gulmarg, records minus 10.6 deg C



Girls on a snow-covered road after a fresh snowfall, at Tangmarg in Baramulla district, Saturday.

Srinagar, Feb 03 (PTI):

Several parts of Kashmir, including Srinagar city, witnessed fresh snowfall on

Saturday as the MeT department has forecast moderate top-heavy snowfall in the valley over the next 48 hours.

While it started snowing early in the morning in the higher reaches of Kashmir; the plains of the valley also witnessed snowfall as the

day progressed, officials said. They said the day temperatures are likely to stay between zero and three degrees Celsius at most places in Kashmir. Authorities have issued avalanche warnings in hilly and mountainous areas of Kashmir while motorists have been advised to drive carefully in view of slippery roads, the officials said. Meanwhile, there was respite from intense cold conditions last night but the minimum temperature stayed several degrees below the normal for this time of the year.

Gulmarg skiing resort in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus 10.6 degrees Celsius, up by 1.4 degrees from the previous night's minus 12.0 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 8.3 degrees Celsius, up from minus 11.9 degrees Celsius the previous night.

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