



Modi Sarkar ki Guarantee

Affordable air travel for all
1 crore 30 lakh people benefited by affordable air travel under UDAN scheme
Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat

BRIEF
A couple clicks selfies with tulips at a lawn near Shanti Path, in New Delhi, Sunday.

Re-elected
Guwahati: Assam cabinet ministers Atul Bora and Keshab Mahanta were re-elected as president and working president of Asom Gana Parishad (AGP), a partner in the BJP-led coalition government in the northeastern state, on Sunday. The two leaders were declared re-elected as per a unanimous decision at the party's central committee meeting.

Political tour
Ichapuram: TDP general secretary Nara Lokesh on Sunday commenced his political tour of 120 constituencies starting from Ichapuram in Srikakulam district to reach out to the masses and party cadres. The key focus of the tour named 'Shankharavarm', which will begin from where Lokesh's 3,132-km 'Yuva Galam' padayatra ended, is to enhance awareness on the TDP's future schemes for the people and also felicitate party workers who performed well at the grassroots level.

Stabbed
New Delhi: Five juveniles have been apprehended in connection with the stabbing of a 17-year-old boy in central Delhi's Patel Nagar area, an official said on Sunday. The incident took place when the boy was returning home after tuition on Friday night. The call about it was received at the police control room at 9:45 pm, police said.

Mishap
Bhubaneswar: At least five people were killed and 15 others injured in two separate road accidents in Odisha on Sunday. In the first incident, four people were killed and nine injured when a pick-up van carrying them collided head-on with a truck on NH-49 near Lakhanpur in Jharsuguda district around 10.30 am, a police officer said. The coal-laden truck overturned after hitting the pick-up van.

Suicide
Patan: A Gujarat government employee on Sunday ended his life by jumping off the terrace of his two-storey office building in Harij taluka of Patan district, police said. VO Patel, who served as the mamlatdar of Harij taluka, died by suicide at his workplace around 9:30 am, said Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySP) DD Chaudhary.

Weather
High 31 Low 19

'BJP to get 370-plus seats in LS polls'

PM slams Cong for 'loot and divide'
Jhabua, Feb 11 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said he is confident the BJP will cross the 370 seats-mark in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls, and even the opposition leaders in Parliament are saying the ruling coalition will get more than 400 seats.



PM Modi with Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda, MP CM Mohan Yadav and others during the 'Janatiya Sammelan' in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh, Sunday.

Addressing a public meeting of tribal community members in Madhya Pradesh's Jhabua district, PM Modi said the Congress was anti-tribal and thought of villages, farmers and the poor only during elections. He also said he had got overwhelming love from the people as he visited temples associated with Lord Ram in the south of the country. Aware of their imminent defeat, the Congress and its allies are resorting

to last ditch-tactics, the PM said, adding that "loot and divide" is the motto of the Congress. "The Congress when it is in power indulges in loot, while out of power engineers divisions (in society) based on language, region and caste," he said here. The Congress has drowned in its own sins and the more it will make efforts to come up the further it will slide down, the PM asserted. It got decimated in the 2023 (Assembly polls) and will be wiped out in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls, he said. "The people showed the mirror to the Congress in the Assembly polls. The mood of the nation is similar in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls," Modi asserted.

YOGI'S TEAM IN RAM TEMPLE



Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath with Deputy Chief Ministers K.P. Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, UP Assembly Speaker Satish Mahana and state legislators during a visit to the Ram Temple, in Ayodhya, Sunday.

Raja Devendra Pratap Singh, BJP RS candidate

For lone seat from Chh'garh
New Delhi/Raipur, Feb 11: The BJP on Sunday named 14 candidates for the upcoming Rajya Sabha polls including former Union minister R P N Singh and outgoing MP Sudhanshu Trivedi from Uttar Pradesh and its Uttarakhand unit president Mahendra Bhatt from the hill state. None of the Union ministers, whose terms are coming to an end, were named in the list amid a strong possibility that many of them will contest

the Lok Sabha polls. Raja Devendra Pratap Singh is BJP candidate for the lone Rajya Sabha seat which fell vacant in Chhattisgarh after sitting MLA Saroj Pandey's term expired. However, the party is yet to name many candidates. Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar, who represents Karnataka in Rajya Sabha, and BJP chief spokesperson and media head Anil Baluni, the outgoing MP from Uttarakhand, have not been nominated. Both may be fielded by the party in the Lok Sabha polls, sources said.

IndiGo plane misses taxiway at Delhi airport, blocks runway

Hits flight ops
New Delhi, Feb 11 (PTI): An IndiGo aircraft from Amritsar missed the exit taxiway after landing at the Delhi airport on Sunday morning, following which one of the runways was blocked for little over 15 minutes, impacting flight operations, according to sources. An airline spokesperson said the aircraft from Amritsar to Delhi missed the exit taxiway after landing at the Delhi airport due to low visibility. After missing the designated taxiway, the A320 aircraft, operating flight 6E 2221, went to the dead end of the runway 28/10 at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), the sources in the know said. The plane landed on runway 28/10 at around 8.30 am but could not exit to the designated taxiway. As a result, the runway was blocked for little over 15 minutes, the sources added. They said that a towing tractor towed the aircraft to a parking bay, following which normal operations resumed on the runway.

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जब सामना हो कैंसर से तो हम रखेंगे ख्याल
Take Care

'Got your love'
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday pleaded with a child at a tribal rally to stop waving at him so that his arm doesn't ache. "I got your love, son. Please lower your arm, otherwise it will start to pain," Modi appealed to the child, who was held up by a man, apparently his father, as the crowd cheered. While acknowledging the child's gesture Modi, repeatedly told him that his arm will start aching if he continues to wave at him. Modi was addressing the Jan Jatiya Mahasabha in Jhabua district after inaugurating and laying the foundation stones of Rs 7,550 crore development projects in Madhya Pradesh.

CAF jawan injured in IED blast

Airlifted to Raipur..
Bijapur, Feb 11: A jawan of the Chhattisgarh Armed Force (CAF) was injured when a pressure improvised explosive device (IED) planted by Naxalites exploded in Bijapur district on Sunday, police said. Three IEDs, weighing 5 kg each, were also recovered from the blast site between Dumripalnar and Timenar villages, an official said. The explosion occurred around 9 am when a team of security personnel was out on an area domination operation, he said. A CAF jawan came in contact with a pressure IED, triggering the blast, he said. "The jawan sustained injuries to his leg and was rushed to Nelasnar primary health centre, from where he was shifted to Dantewada district hospital. He will be airlifted to Raipur for further treatment, he added.

'BJP-RSS spreading hatred, while love is in India's DNA'

Yatra to cover 536 kms in state.....
Raigarh, Feb 11 (PTI): The BJP and RSS are spreading hatred while love is in the DNA of this country, said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi as his 'Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra' resumed in Chhattisgarh on Sunday after a two-day break. Addressing a gathering in Kevdabadi Chowk in Raigarh, Gandhi said his party wants a "Hindustan for the future generation where hatred and violence does not exist". "At present, hatred and violence is being spread in every corner of the country. Some say they don't like others on the basis of their language, some say they don't like others on the basis of the states they belong to. Such thoughts will weaken the country," he said. "The Bharatiya Janata Party and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh are spreading hatred, while love is in the DNA of this country. In this country, people belonging to different faiths and having different thoughts live together peacefully with love," Gandhi asserted. He slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for not visiting strife-torn Manipur so far despite hundreds of people dying and scores of houses getting torched since May last year. There is civil war under-



Cong leader Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, in Raigarh, Sunday.

'When Pak armed, trained Assam insurgents and sent them back to India'

UJFA THE MIRAGE OF DAWN
New Delhi, Jan 11: Pakistan armed and trained the first batch of insurgents of the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) in 1991-92, and sent them back to India to stir trouble in the northeast region, according to writer and researcher Rajeev Bhattacharyya, whose latest work details the untold story of the outlawed separatist outfit. Between 1996 and 2004, insurgents from outfits in the northeast such as the NDFB, PLA, and ATTF were trained at different locations in Pakistan with a focus on assembling bombs through sophisticated technology, Bhattacharyya says in 'ULFA: The Mirage of Dawn', based on interviews with ULFA members in the northeast, Myanmar, Bangladesh, former officers engaged in counter-insurgency operations, as well as papers of ULFA leaders. "It is estimated that around a hundred

rebel functionaries had received the training during this period. One ULFA batch was also taken to Tora Bora in Afghanistan for training. The modules offered to the rebel groups were of different durations, ranging from 17 days to three months," Bhattacharyya says in the book. "The first batch of ULFA militants was trained in Pakistan in 1991-92 in three groups comprising a total of about 40 functionaries. One group was trained near Peshawar and other functionaries were taken for short visits to Kandahar in Afghanistan and the arms bazaar at Darra Adam Khel near the Safed Koh mountains in Pakistan," he says in the book. Modi for the consecration ceremony in Ayodhya and criticised the Congress' stance of its leadership skipping the event. Talking to reporters at 'Kalki Dharm' here, he said, "Today, if one wants to remain in the Congress, it requires manipulation, chamchagiri (sycophancy) and lying." He further said, "Today Sachin Pilot is being insulted in Congress...he is swallowing poison like Lord Shiva. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is also being insulted."

'Sachin Pilot, Priyanka being insulted in Cong'

Sambhal (UP), Feb 11 (PTI):
A day after his expulsion from the Congress, Acharya Pramod Krishnam on Sunday said leaders like Sachin Pilot and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra are being disrespected in the party where people need "chamchagiri" (sycophancy) to survive. Krishnam also said he will stand with Prime Minister Narendra Modi throughout his life to further strengthen the country. The Congress on Saturday expelled him from the party for "indiscipline" and making repeated statements against the party. Krishnam, who had contested the 2019 Lok Sabha polls from Lucknow on a Congress ticket but lost, had recently praised Prime Minister



Modi for the consecration ceremony in Ayodhya and criticised the Congress' stance of its leadership skipping the event. Talking to reporters at 'Kalki Dharm' here, he said, "Today, if one wants to remain in the Congress, it requires manipulation, chamchagiri (sycophancy) and lying." He further said, "Today Sachin Pilot is being insulted in Congress...he is swallowing poison like Lord Shiva. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is also being insulted."

'Use of modern tech will provide world class education'

Higher Education Minister participates in talent award ceremony

Raipur, Feb 11:

State Higher Education Minister Brijmohan Agarwal participated in the talent felicitation ceremony of Shri Gobindram Shadani Government Arts and Commerce Girls College, Raipur. Addressing the students, he said that today's era is the era of technology. Technology is also changing with time, now after IT, the era of AI has arrived. By using technology in education we can achieve world class education. In the program, Higher



Education Minister Agarwal said that earlier people were reluctant to provide education to their daughters. But today girls have achieved their position in education, sports

and all other fields and have shown everyone that they are no less than anyone. He said when a daughter studies, she creates a better future not only for herself but for her entire family and society. During the program, the Education Minister announced Rs 25 lakh for the construction of smart classes in the college and Rs 75 lakh for the construction of rooms. He rewarded the girl students who excelled in various fields. On this occasion, the students presented colorful cultural programs.

HELMETS HIGH ON DEMAND



With traffic police getting strict on use of helmets on highways and other parts of city, the denizens are left with no option but to purchase a helmet for their own safety.

Raipur Police held a meeting with medical store and medical stockist owners



Raipur, Feb 11: As per the instructions of Superintendent of Police Mr. Santosh Singh, a meeting was called on February 11 by all the station in-charges of Raipur Police of the medical store and medical stockist owners located in their respective police station areas. The station in-charge has instructed the owners of medical stores and medical stockists to compulsorily keep the necessary documents regarding the possession and sale of banned codeine syrup, injections and intoxicating tablets and not to sell the said medicines to any person without a doctor's prescription. Other necessary guidelines were also given in this regard. If medical store owners and medical stockists are found buying and selling such medicines illegally, then legal action will be taken against them.

Commerce will now be taught in Pt RSU after 59 years

PhD research center to be built

Raipur, Feb 11: The years old demand of the students of Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University has been fulfilled. Commerce will be now taught Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University in school of studies after 59 years. The university was started in 1964. Since that time Arts and Science are being taught. Now for the first time commerce courses will start here. For this, a new school of studies will be started in the university. Here students will be able to study M.Com, along with this they will also be able to do PhD in Commerce.



justice system. University officials said that both the subjects are very important. Through their studies, students will get new employment opportunities. The demand for MCom has been there for many years, we have also written letters to the government several times. Last year also we expected that permission would be given to start the course, but it was not received. M.Com was not being taught in the university campus, but M.Com was taught in the affiliated colleges of the university. With the opening of a

commerce course in the university, students will get more research opportunities. A research center will also be built in the university. Till now college professors conduct research, but they lack resources. With the opening of research centers in the university, sources will become available to the students. Experts said that by starting commerce studies in the university, students of affiliated colleges will also benefit from it. In colleges, M.Com is taught on the old syllabus. Due to this, students have to wander for employment. After

starting the university, the university will prepare courses as per the demand of the industry and market. When the students are ready as per the demand of the industry, the industry will give them employment immediately. Major companies will come for campus placement. Multinational companies will also come to the university level.

The study of Master of Hotel Management is also starting from this academic session in PRSU. With this, students will get employment opportunities in the field of hotel management and tourism. For this, 30 seats have been earmarked in the first session. Similarly, under the National Education Policy, four-year B.Ed studies are also being started. Students will be able to take direct admission in BA B.Ed, BSc B.Ed, B.Com B.Ed after 12th class.

Hitendra Tiwari elected President of Raipur Advocates Association

Kishore, Ritu elected Vice President and Arun Secretary

Raipur, Feb 11:



Hitendra Tiwari has been elected as president of Raipur Advocates Association in a close contest. He defeated his nearest rival Dinesh Dewangan by 18 votes. Hitendra got 741 votes and Dinesh got 723 votes. Similarly, Kishore Tamrakar was declared elected for the post of Vice President (Male), Ritu Bundel Vice President (Women) and Arun Kumar Mishra were declared elected for the post of Secretary, while the office bearers of other posts were declared elected and handed over certificates by the elec-

tion officials. 56 advocate candidates had contested for 11 posts of Raipur Advocates Association.

The voting process to elect officials was completed on Friday. Out of the total 2,368 advocate voters registered in the association, 2,002 advocates had exercised their franchise (84.54 percent).

The process of counting of votes, which started in the court premises

from Saturday morning, continued till late night in the presence of election officials. During this time, a dispute also came to light between the candidates regarding the counting of votes for the post of President.

The elected candidates were welcomed with bursting of crackers and flowers and garlands.

After the counting of votes, all the winning candidates celebrated

their victory in the court premises. While the supporting advocates expressed happiness by bursting firecrackers, they welcomed the elected officials with flower garlands.

Kishore Tamrakar got 595 votes for the post of Vice President, Ritu Bundel got 546 votes for the post of Vice President (Women), Arun Kumar Mishra got 597 votes for the post of Secretary, Apoorva Sen got 678 votes for the post of Joint Secretary, Gayatri Sahu for the post of Joint Secretary (Women), got 588 votes, Shrikant Mishra got 712 votes for Treasurer, Bhanjan Kumar Jangade got 863 votes for Library Secretary, Parasram Kashyap got 1174 votes for Cultural Sports Secretary.

Adivasi Congress voices disillusionment against interim budget



Raipur, Feb 11: The anticipation surrounding the first budget presentation under the Vishnu Deo Sai government of Chhattisgarh has turned into disillusionment for the citizens of the state. Bhavani Singh Markam, Raipur City District President of Adivasi Congress, expressed deep disappointment with the budget, emphasizing that it failed to meet the expectations of various segments of society. Markam high-

lighted the collective hopes and aspirations of the people, spanning across farmers, women, youth, the poor, businessmen, government employees, and labourers, all eagerly awaiting measures for their welfare. However, the budget fell short of addressing pressing concerns such as rising inflation and providing relief to the populace. According to Markam, the budget's priorities reflect a disregard for the interests of the general public, accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party government of attempting to deceive the people with empty slogans. The palpable sense of betrayal among Chhattisgarh's populace underscores the urgent need for meaningful action and accountability from the government.

Zumba, Aerobics mark Road Safety Week 2024

Women took part in Walkaton wearing sari

Raipur, Feb 11:

On occasion of National Road Safety Week 2024, a novel programme on creating awareness about road safety and good health was organised jointly under the Inter-departmental Lead Agency-Road Safety Chhattisgarh and Traffic Police Raipur, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Rotary Club, C-3 India, Amazon, Stayfit with Me, A.S.G.I hospital, at Anupam Garden from 6:00 am to 9:00 am here on Sunday. Inaugurating the programme, AIG Traffic/President Lead Agency made an appeal for safety of self, family and general public through self-discipline and adhering to



road safety measures/traffic rules. Thereafter Chief of 'Stayfit with Me' Group- Shubhangi along with her energetic team demonstrated Aerobics and Zumba dance and made the youth, youngsters and elders dance

and perform various activities as per Zumba and Aerobics. During this coupons were distributed free of cost for eye and health check-up and for treatment of eyes and 'Sahaj Yoga'. Thereafter for the road safety aware-

ness, the women dressed in traditional Indian fashion that of Sarees, took part with great enthusiasm in the 'Walkaton' along with posters and banners. In the end, the best attire, energetic performance', award for best team were distributed to team CRC Psychologist; 'Stayfit With Me'; and ITMS team respectively.

These awards were presented at the hands of public representative and social worker Meenal Choubey.

In this programme, Ajay Pathak, Rotary Greater Team-Khileshwar C-3 India, Arpit Tiwari, ASP Sachin Choubey, Team Amazon, TK Bhoi, Priyanka, Upadhyay Seema, Alka, Arti, Sarita, Rajesh Dushyant, Bhanu, Ishu, Rahul and others gave valuable support.

Collector, SP to hold meeting with NGO officials and volunteers today



Raipur, Feb 11:

Collector Dr. Gaurav Kumar Singh, SSP Santosh Kumar Singh along with Municipal Corporation Commissioner Mr. Abinash Mishra, District Panchayat CEO Mr. Bishwadeep, under the first "Talk for Raipur" program will meet civil society, voluntary, social organizations and influencers working for quick civic facilities on Monday at 5 pm at Shaheed Memorial auditorium located at Rajbandha Maidan. On this occasion, there will be discussion based on the role of civil societies

'Talk for Raipur' dialogue to be held at Shaheed Smarak Bhavan today from 5 pm

providing services between the administration and the citizens. By participating in this program for free, all NGO officials and workers will be able to share useful information and their ideas. Everyone has been asked to reach the Shaheed Memorial auditorium located at Rajbandha Maidan, Raipur 15 minutes before the scheduled time.

BJP pays tribute to Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay

On his death anniversary.

Raipur, Feb 11: On the 56th death anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, founder member of Bharatiya Jan Sangh and pioneer of Antyodaya and Integral Humanism philosophy, Raipur District (City) unit of Bharatiya Janata Party paid tribute by garlanding his statue at Telibandha. Recalling the ideals of Pandit Upadhyay, BJP leaders said that the welfare and development of the person sitting at the last rung of the society was the dream of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay. Today, the double engine government of BJP led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is realizing the dreams of Pandit Upadhyay. In the program held in the presence of BJP state and district officials residing in Raipur city district area, the leaders garlanded the life-size statue of Pandit ji. On this occasion, Raipur West MLA and former minister Rajesh Munat, BJP State General Secretary Sanjay Srivastava and other senior officials were present.



After the tribute program at the statue of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay at Telibandha in Raipur on Sunday morning, BJP State General Secretary, Srivastava threw light on his life in a program organized at Raipur City District Office. Late Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was born on September 25, 1916 in Nagla, Mathura and he breathed his last before reaching Begusarai, Bihar, where his body was found in a suspicious condition. Upadhyay was a highly educated person. He received B.A. and M.A. Besides passing the B.Sc. examination, he also passed competitive examinations twice, but he refused the job of the British Government. In

independent India, he presented the philosophy of Integral Humanism and the principle of Antyodaya for the welfare of the person sitting at the last mile of the society. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was a beacon of light who talked about Antyodaya. He had made the welfare of the person sitting at the last mile of the society the agenda of political thinking. The effect of his thinking is visible today. Today the world is witnessing the power of Integral Humanism, where the BJP led double engine government at the Center and State is working with various schemes for the salvation of the last man of the society.

NIT Raipur's students grab placements at Adobe

Raipur, Feb 11:

National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur's final year students Akshat Agrawal and Sonali Tiwari from the Department of Computer Science Engineering and Vedansh Tandon from the Department of Information Technology earned PPO (Pre-Placement Offer) at the illustrious Adobe Inc. which stands as a global powerhouse in the digital software industry, renowned for its cutting-edge creativity and multimedia solutions. Akshat Agrawal has been offered the position of Software Development Engineer (SDE) with a PPO of 55 lakhs CTC. He detailed the summer internship process starting in the fifth semester, involving an online assessment with two DSA questions. Subsequently, the inter-

view round led to the selection of two candidates for the two-month program, culminating in a PPO from the company. He shared a detailed account of his meticulous preparation, commencing earnestly from the second year. His emphasis centered on concept building in Data Structures and Algorithms (DSA), coupled with consistent practice of coding problems and active participation in coding contests. Additionally, he gave some tips for appearing in the interview and stressed the importance of confidently seeking clarification by posing questions to the interviewer whenever uncertainties arise. He also underscored the significance of cultivating a supportive circle of friends and positive relationships with seniors who can get you through both favourable and challenging moments.



Vedansh Tandon has been offered the position of Software Development Engineer (SDE) with a PPO of 55 Lakhs CTC. He too clinched a two-month summer internship at Adobe, where his exceptional performance earned him, a Pre-Placement Offer and a subsequent full-time position as an employee. He urged students to cultivate a profound understanding of DSA, stressing the importance of tackling di-

verse problem types. Emphasizing quality over quantity, he advocated for honing creative thinking and optimization techniques. Sharing his own experience, he highlighted the value of undertaking projects and discussed those crafted by him which were centered around Machine Learning and Web Scraping. Furthermore, he advised juniors to actively participate in clubs and committees within the institute which would develop oratory and communication skills, fostering confidence and fluency during interviews. Sonali Tiwari has been offered the post of Software Development Engineer (SDE) with a PPO of 55 Lakhs CTC. She received a compelling offer for a two-month summer internship, delving into the role of a product intern, and subsequently secured

a permanent position as a Member of Technical Staff (MTS). Reflecting on her journey, she expounded on the Institute's carefully curated curriculum, crediting it for laying a solid foundation in fundamental concepts. The hackathons organized by the Institute also played a pivotal role in honing her ability to swiftly devise optimal solutions to complex problems. Advising aspiring students, she emphasized the importance of forging an individualized path towards achieving their aspirations, cautioning against blindly adopting someone else's strategic blueprint. Stressing the significance of goal setting, she recommended that students establish realistic daily objectives, underscoring the importance of unwavering commitment to their schedules, irrespective of external circumstances.



सत्यमेव जयते

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by
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on

12 February 2024, 10:30 AM

(via video conferencing)

Government of India, in collaboration with the Partner State Governments, creating new job opportunities

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Online training courses for all new appointees in various Government Departments through "Karmayogi Prarambh" Module



BJP will register historic victory in Durg Lok Sabha: Rajesh Munat

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 11: With the Lok Sabha elections round the corner, the top leadership of the Bharatiya Janata Party has started working on a plan to field its big leaders to mobilise grassroots level and further strengthen the support base. An action plan is being prepared according to the equation of each Lok Sabha. Party has created a cluster by adding 3 or 4 Lok Sabhas.

The party is implementing election management by giving the responsibility of the cluster to senior leaders. In this series, cluster in-charge Rajesh Munat chaired a necessary meeting of Lok Sabha Core Committee and Lok Sabha Management Committee of Durg Lok Sabha constituency (which comes under Raipur Cluster) in the election office.

Cluster in-charge MLA Rajesh Munat appealed to open offices in all the nine assemblies of the Lok Sabha constituency on February 29th. He said that whatever instructions and action plans are given to Chhattisgarh BJP by the



national leadership of BJP, every worker of the state BJP has to follow them in letter and spirit.

From the party officials to the workers, everyone should come together and ensure such coordination till the booth committee. To establish coordination, there should be extensive communication and transparency. Rajesh Munat said that the main work of the cluster in-charge is to establish communication and get the work done with transparency.

Whatever responsibilities we get from the top leadership, we have to take them to the booth and seriously follow the policy of

getting them implemented. In the coming days, along with a voter conference, Nari Shakti Vandan program, Gaon Chalo campaign, positive use of media and social media campaigns, etc have to be conducted for maximum inclusion of new people into the party.

A separate campaign has to be run among women groups and NGOs. Gaon Chalo Ghar Ghar Chalo campaign has been launched. He further said that just as BJP has made a tremendous comeback in just five years as a result of the tireless hard work of the workers. Similarly, eleven out of eleven Lok

Sabha seats of Chhattisgarh are to be won.

Cluster in-charge and MLA Rajesh Munat said that on the occasion of the death anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, he urged the workers to pledge for the victory of Durg Lok Sabha. Cluster and Lok Sabha in-charge Rajeev Agrawal said that they have formed an Election Management Committee at the Lok Sabha level, which will implement every election related work till the conclusion of the Lok Sabha elections.

Lok Sabha Core Committee has also been formed, which includes

MPs, State officials, District BJP President, General Secretary, MLA etc. Rajeev Agrawal said that after the Lok Sabha Election Management Committee, there will be a meeting of the Assembly level Election Management Committee soon after which the Assembly level election ofices will also be inaugurated. Lok Sabha convener Awadhesh Chandel conducted the meeting and vote of thanks was proposed by District BJP President Jitendra Verma.

Lok Sabha in-charge Chandulal Sahu, Cluster co-in-charge Rajeev Agrawal, Lok Sabha convener Awadhesh Chandel, Co-convenor Preetpal Belchandan, Cabinet Minister Dayal Das Baghel, MLA Doman Lal Korsewada, Lalit Chandrakar, Gajendra Yadav, former MLA and Assembly Speaker Premprakash Pandey, BJP District President Jitendra Verma, Mahesh Verma, Lok Sabha Speaker Sanjay Pradhan were present on the dais. Members of Lok Sabha Core Committee and Lok Sabha Election Management Committee attended the meeting.

7520 applications received at public grievance redressal camps

6628 applications resolved on the spot

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 11: Public grievance redressal camps were organized in all the tehsils of the district on February 11, 2024. SDM, 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 these camps, new Rin Pustikas were also distributed. The sub-divisional magistrates of the sub-division heard the problems from the applicants in the Revenue Public Grievances Redressal Camp and also resolved them on the spot.

In the public grievance redressal camps held at Durg, Patan, Dhamdha, Ahiwara, Bhilai-3 and Bori in the district, applications related to revenue matters, transfer, division, demarcation, death, rin pustika, income, caste, residence, birth-death certificate, etc were received. New rin pustikas were also distributed in the camp.

7520 applications were received in Revenue Tehsil Public Grievance



Redressal Camp. In which 6628 applications have been resolved and 892 applications are pending. Applications received in the camp under Durg Tehsil were 2204, 2142 were resolved and 62 applications are pending. Under Dhamdha tehsil, 706 applications were received, 444 were resolved and 262 applications are pending. Under Patan tehsil, 2505 applications were received, 2230 were resolved

and 275 applications are pending.

Under Bhilai-3 tehsil, 541 applications were received, 430 were resolved and 111 applications are pending. Similarly, under Bori Tehsil, 177 applications were received, 80 are resolved and 97 applications are pending and under Ahiwara Tehsil, 1387 applications were received, 1302 are resolved and 85 applications are pending.

Gond Mahasabha honours CM and elected representatives

- CM announces Rs 25 lakh for statue of Birsa Munda
- Rs 50 lakh for room construction in Gondwana Bhawan Durg



President of Central Gond Mahasabha Dhamdhar MD Thakur were present in the programme. Other office bearers and people of the Samaj were present in large numbers. The Gond community honoured the CM in the traditional way with a Manit Mukut (crown), bow and arrow.

Addressing the function, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has en-

trusted him with the responsibility of serving the people of the state. He anticipated that he would be successful in discharging the responsibility with the support of the society. He said that the state government is going to gradually fulfill the guarantee of the Prime Minister.

In this series, 18 lakh Pradhan Mantri Awas have been sanctioned to the poor of the state under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. The paddy bonus



amount of Rs 3716 crore for the last year 2014-15 and 2015-16 has been transferred to the accounts of the farmers.

Tendu leaves will be purchased from collectors living in forest areas at Rs 5500 per standard bag. The Chief Minister said that as per the Modi Ki Guarantee, the government is going to give Rs 1000 per month to each beneficiary woman under the Mahtari Vandan Yojana from next month.

Chief Minister said that Lord Ram Lala was consecrated by the Prime Minister in Ayodhya on January 22 after 500 years. He said that keeping in mind the faith of the people of the state, the government is going to implement the Ramlala Darshan Scheme soon.

On the demand of Gond community office bearers, Chief Minister announced Rs 50 lakh for construction of an additional room in Gondwana

Bhawan Durg and Rs 25 lakh for installing the statue of tribal folk hero Birsa Munda in Rajendra Park Chowk of Durg city.

CM said that Birsa Munda was a great Indian freedom fighter and social reformer. He paved the way for progress by fighting for the tribes. He added that Birsa Munda's life is an inspiration for all of us. Birsa Munda dedicated his entire life for the progress of the tribal society. His inspiring thoughts and revolutionary works continue to serve as guidance for us even today.

He is the dignity of our country and we should feel proud of him. Before attending the function, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai paid tribute to the statue of Maharani Durgavati of Gondwana at Civil Line Chowk. He offered prayers to Goddess Kali in the Kali temple.

Power Supply to be affected in Township

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 11: The Town Electrical Engineering Dept (TEED) under SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Town Services Department chalks out an annual preventive maintenance plan each year to minimize breakdowns and enhance the reliability of the system to ensure uninterrupted power supply in the township.

As per the Annual Maintenance Plan for 2023-24, there will be a planned shutdown for preventive maintenance of the HT system during the period from December 2023 to March 2024, to carry out several maintenance jobs and take corrective action. As per the maintenance schedule, the power supply will be affected in the following areas of the township every day from 10:00 hrs to 13:30 hrs

from February 12 to February 17, 2024.

The power supply shall be affected in Sector- 05, and Indra Place (Civic Centre) on February 12, 2024, and the Sector-03 area, on February 13, 2024. In some parts of Sectors-06&02, the CEZ Garage Compound, and Sector-01 area, the power supply shall be affected on February 14, while in the Camp Area and Khursipar Zone-01, power supply shall be affected on February 16, 2024, respectively, from 10:00 hrs to 13:30 hrs.

The pending maintenance work shall be executed on February 15 and 17, 2024, respectively. All the residents are requested to take note of the same. SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Town Electrical Engineering Dept. (TEED) has appealed to residents to cooperate.

Promote public transport to curb road accidents: Justice Sapre

Coordinated efforts of all departments required to reduce accidents

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 11: A joint road safety related meeting was organized on Saturday in the Collectorate of Durg district headquarters. Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre (President, Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety) presided over the meeting. Divisional Commissioner SN Rathore and Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary also attended the meeting.

At the outset, the condition of roads in the district and the reasons for accidents were displayed through a PowerPoint presentation by the police department. They were informed about the black spots identified by the National Highway Ministry and the corrective action taken so far.

Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre (President, Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety) said that a road accident breaks the financial condition of the entire family. In the meeting, discussions were held to create a model to prevent road accidents.

Use of goods transport vehicles for passenger transport especially the marriage processions in rural areas. Justice Sapre asked to mandatorily improve all roads including those of urban bodies and promote public transport. Steps will be taken to promote public transport in schools.

Along with provision of buses for students in all schools, helmets will be compulsorily ensured for two-wheeler drivers in schools, colleges and offices. Other important points to prevent road accidents were also discussed. Strict action will be taken against pressure horns.

To prevent stray animals roaming on the roads, emphasis was laid on ensuring arrangements in Gauthan and Kanji House and on making all the roads in the district of standard quality. ITMS cameras will be installed for challan action against those who exceed the prescribed speed limit for vehicles.

The drivers will also be checked. The school and college managers will be made the nodal to make it mandatory for the stu-



dents of schools, colleges and coaching institutes to wear helmets. It will be made mandatory for all employees of government and non-government offices to wear helmets while driving two-wheelers and wear seat belts while driving four-wheelers.

Such licensees whose license period has expired will be motivated to renew their license on time by sending SMS on mobile phone. While purchasing a new two-wheeler, the concerned dealer will compulsorily provide a helmet to the beneficiary.

A traffic park will also be built to make the general public aware of road safety and traffic rules. In case of a road accident,

the Health Department was directed to take initiative in providing immediate treatment (at golden time) to the accident victim.

DSP Traffic Satish Thakur said that on the basis of fatal road accidents that occurred in the year 2021, 22 and 23, as per the standards defined for black spots by the Ministry of Road Transport and National Highways, eight accidental road sections have been identified to reduce road accidents and mortality.

These spots have been marked as black spots for the year 2024. He also informed that for corrective work on all the above-mentioned roads, physical

verification of the roads and review of the causes of accidents has been done.

Apart from this, he also said that after the corrective work done on the previously identified six black spots roads of the district, due to non-recurrence of fatal road accidents, as per the standards defined for black spots by the Ministry of Road Transport and National Highways, by the year 2024, have been removed from the category of black spots.

Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary assured Justice Sapre on behalf of the district administration that necessary initiatives will be taken regarding road safety by following the instructions given by the officials. Municipal Corporation Bhilai Commissioner Devsh Dhrav, Municipal Corporation Durg Commissioner Lokesh Chandrakar, District Transport Officer Shailaab Sahu, Traffic DSP Satish Thakur and officials of Public Works Department, National Highways, Health, Education and Police Department were present in the meeting.

Bhilai Steel Plant records highest ever Hot Metal Production

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 11: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Blast Furnaces have recorded the highest ever production of 20,625 tonnes of hot metal in a single day on February 09, 2024, surpassing the previous best of 20,563 tonnes on December 22, 2022. Modex unit, Blast Furnace 8, named Mahamaya also surpassed the previous best production of 9,229 T of hot metal recorded on June 09, 2022 by producing 9406 T of hot metal on February 09, 2024.

It is worth mentioning that the record production by shop and Blast Furnace 8 on February 09, 2024 was accompanied by low coke rate, low fuel rate and low slag rate, all of which have contributed to significant cost reduction per tonne of hot metal. Director In-charge, Bhilai Steel Plant, Anirban Dasgupta con-



gratulated the entire team of Blast Furnaces and all upstream, downstream, and associated departments for the superlative performance, urging them to maintain the uptrend. ED (Works) Anjani Kumar and senior officers of the Plant also congratulated Team BF and members of all supporting shops and departments.

CGM I/c Iron Tapas Dasgupta congratulated

Team BF's for the stupendous performance. CGM (Blast Furnaces) Saumya Tokdar congratulated all members of blast furnace department and thanked all the associated departments including Ore Handling Plant, Sinter Plants, Coke Ovens and LD/CP. Without their support and contribution, it wouldn't have been possible to achieve this feat, he stated.

OBITUARY

Prahlad Mal Bajaj



the father of Naresh, Jagdeesh and Manish Bajaj.

Bhilai: Sector 1, C Market resident Prahlad Mal Bajaj left for heavenly abode at the age of 85 years on February 11. Last rites of the mortal remains will be performed on February 12 around 12:30 hrs at Ramnagar Muktidham. He was

Dr Ravindra Nath Verma



the father of Pankaj and Puneet Verma.

Bhilai: 11-C, Russian Complex, Sector 7 resident Dr Ravindra Nath Verma left for heavenly abode at the age of 73 years on February 10. Last rites of the mortal remains were performed at Ramnagar Muktidham. He was

Every department of state to be under surveillance of AI

- Now theft will stop, trust will increase
- Promotion of digital technology from Panchayat to Headquarters.

tal technology and networking.

The government claims that with this the common people will get online services of all departments. People can be connected with more and more government schemes.



For example, the technology based royalty system on coal was removed and a red tape based system was implemented. The BJP government will put a complete curb to such manual interventions.

According to tax experts, the provisions made to promote digitalization will prevent tax evasion and also increase transparency. Business Intelligence Unit is being developed in the GST Department. Stamp and Registration Department has launched a new system NGDRS for land and property registry and Mineral Department has launched Mineral Online 2.0 for the process of tender, auction and allotment. From State Water Information Center to Finance Department is working on IFMIS 2.0.

taxation. Chhattisgarh Center for Smart Governance will be established to promote the use of IT in all departments of governance. This technology based reform and good governance will be of great help in increasing GSDP from Rs 5 lakh crore to Rs 10 lakh crore in the coming five years.

The Finance Minister made it clear in the Assembly that the previous government had removed the online system of many departments and implemented offline system.

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 11: In Chhattisgarh, every department from Gram Panchayat to the headquarters will now be under the surveillance of Artificial Intelligence (AI). For monitoring through Artificial Intelligence, the state government has decided to promote digital technology as much as possible in every department. For the first time after the formation of the state, all the departments will be linked together with digi-

Finance Minister of Chhattisgarh, OP Choudhary said, through technology based experiments, we will stop theft in the government treasury. Also, without increasing the tax rate, we will increase the government's revenue by adopting transparent technology based

Punjab National Bank, Chakarbhatha branch dedicated to public

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 11: Deputy Zonal Head of Punjab National Bank Chhattisgarh-Jharkhand Mr. P. Arun Kumar Rao and Bilha SDM Mr. Bajrang Verma inaugurated the Punjab National Bank, Chakarbhatha branch in the building of Mr. Dinesh Pandey on Airport Road, Tehsil Dar Mr. Abhishek Rathore, Chief Executive Officer Nagari Panchayat Mrs. Bharti Sahu, Bilasa Devi Kevat Airport, Director Virendra Singh wished for the progressive progress of Punjab National Bank, Chakarbhatha and assured all possible cooperation.

On the auspicious occasion of the inauguration, Divisional Head Milind Khankhoje, PLP Chief Saubhagya Barik, GBB Raipur Head Chaturbhuj Rajesh Kumar, VK Sharma, Senior Manager Lalit Agarwal, Ashish

Sinha, Abhijeet Srivastava, MR Karmaveer, Omi Verma, Major Tiwari, Om Prakash Mahato along with heads of various branches of Bilaspur, Chakarbhatha branch chief Ravindra Kumar, Deputy Manager Ranjita Nayak, Chief Cashier Santosh Suryavanshi, Dharmendra and retired senior managers Rupratan Singh, Surendra Chavda, Kailash Agarwal, Ravi Tandon, Ramkumar along with Dinesh Pandey, Ranjit Pandey, Rajneesh Pandey, Parmanand Hansraj, Chetendra Suryavanshi and a large number of respected customers and staff members were present. While successfully conducting the program, Senior Manager of Customer Acquisition Centre, Lalit Agarwal said that in the present era of digital banking, the opening of a well-equipped, air-conditioned branch in Chakarbhatha will lead to the development of the entire area.



SDM Bajrang Verma, while wishing for the progressive progress of Punjab National, said that during the recession, banks of big countries were sinking due to subprime. But it was only because of nationalized banks that India's economy stood strong. Deputy Zonal Head Mr. P. Arun Rao said that every customer drawing regular salary from PNB can take a personal loan up to Rs. 10 lakh sitting at home in just

four clicks through PNB One App. He has urged the general public to contact the nearest branch of PNB to avail the above benefits. Bilaspur Division Head, Milind Khankhoje said that the first indigenous bank established by freedom fighter Lala Lajpat Rai on April 12, 1894 with Indian capital, by Indians, for Indians, has today grown into a huge tree. About 251 people opened savings accounts on the very first day. A large number of current account

Four wins silver medal in Master Athletics competition



Dalli-Rajhara, Feb 11: The master athlete of city Krishnamurthy won silver medal in the above 50 yr category in shot-put throw and Sheshnath Gupta won the silver medal in 5000 mts brisk-walk for the same age-group. Similarly in the 5000 mts race walk for age-group 40 & above, Parmeshwar Daharwal won the silver medal. These players represented Chhattisgarh in the 5th National Master Athletics competition held in Hyderabad from Feb 8-11 and by winning four medals brought laurels to Dalli-Rajhara city district Balod and to entire state. All the above athletes took part in this national competition under guidance of NIS Athletics Coach Sudarshan Kumar Singh. All the medal winning players and coach were extended greetings by the Athletics sports lovers and family members.

Indrasen Agarwal will cycle from Kanyakumari to Kashmir

For blood donation awareness

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 14: Indrasen Agarwal, a seasoned cyclist hailing from Raipur, is set to embark on a remarkable journey spanning from Kanyakumari to Kashmir with a noble mission at heart - to promote blood donation awareness.



With numerous cycling expeditions under his belt, covering approximately 28 thousand kilometers across diverse terrains and locales, Agarwal's latest endeavour promises to be both challenging and impactful.

A fervent advocate for altruistic endeavours, Agarwal has been a staunch supporter of blood donation initiatives, personally contributing to

the cause over 75 times. As an active member of the "Raipur Blood Donation Service Committee," he aims to ignite a collective consciousness towards the importance of blood donation, urging communities to join the noble cause.

a symbolic journey of compassion and solidarity. Starting from February 16th, Agarwal will traverse approximately 4500 kilometers over the course of 40 days, pedaling through diverse landscapes and communities to spread the message of hope and generosity.

Recognized for his commendable efforts, Agarwal has received accolades from various organizations, including the recent "Agra Alankaran Samman" conferred by the Chhattisgarhi Agarwal Samaj.

Dr SM Haq tenders resignation from the post of CMO

- From NMDC Apollo Hospital Bachel
- Terms his period of 15 yrs as highly satisfying

Central Chronicle News

Bachel, Feb 11: It is after rendering 15 valuable years of service including 13 yrs as Chief Medical Officer of NMDC Apollo Central Hospital, Dr SM Haq tendered his resignation here on Saturday. He said that it was through NMDC he got an independent opportunity to serve the people in the tribal region.



Dr SM Haq

NMDC is making all efforts to provide unparalleled health services to innocent tribal community of Bastar region. The senior officers of NMDC had always taken serious the good health of employees of NMDC and general public with use of biomedical instruments. Terming the long time spent in Iron Ore city as

highly satisfying experience, Dr SM Haq informed that it was with due assistance of officers, employees of NMDC, administrative officer and employees, public representatives, security staff and entire medical staff of the Hospital that has been able to successfully fulfill his responsibilities as CMO NMDC Apollo Hospital and he expressed gratitude towards all and added that as & when he will get the opportunity to serve the people of Bastar region, he would always give

it a priority. It is notable here that Dr SM Haq has been transferred to Apollo Hospital Chennai and no accepting it, Dr Haq has tendered resignation with a heavy heart. Having rendered his services as Hospital administrator for such a long time and known for his simple and cordial behaviour and administrative expertise, the news about his resignation came a sad news for the entire hospital staff along with villagers and public representatives of the region.

IOB celebrates 88th Foundation Day PM stresses on need for education based on Indian values

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 11: 88th Foundation Day was celebrated by Indian Overseas Bank, Regional Office, Raipur on February 10. In this sequence, various programs were organized in all the branches of entire Chhattisgarh including Raipur.



distributed in government institutions. During the walkathon, Chief Regional Manager - Mr. Anil Kumar Valecha along with Chief Manager

- Mr. Rajesh Kumar Yadav, Mr. Rajesh Das, Mr. Himanshu Sahu, Law Officer - Mr. RP Singh and other officers and branch managers were present.

Tankara (Gujarat), Feb 11: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said that an education education based on Indian values is the need of the hour. He was virtually addressing an event organised to mark the 200th birth anniversary of Arya Samaj founder Swami Dayanand Saraswati at his birth place Tankara in Gujarat's Morbi district.

"Swami Dayanand Saraswati at that time showed us how our orthodoxy and social evils had harmed us," Modi said. He also said that the British rulers "tried to show our society in bad

light due to orthodoxy and social evils of Hindu society." Swami Dayanand Saraswati had advocated for the equal rights for women in the society, the PM said. "An education system based on Indian values is the need of the hour."

Arya Samaj schools have been a centre for this. The country is now expanding it through the National Education Policy. It is our responsibility to connect the society with these efforts," he said. PM Modi also said he was honoured



to be born in Gujarat, where Swami Dayanand Saraswati was born. In his address, PM Modi conveyed his delight at the Arya Samaj organizing the event to honour

Swami Ji's contributions and to bring his teachings to the masses. Reflecting on his participation in last year's inauguration of the festival, he remarked, "When the contributions of such a great soul are so exceptional, it is natural for the festivities associated with them to be extensive."

"I am confident that this event will serve as an effective medium to acquaint our new generation with the life of Maharshi Dayananda," added Prime Minister Modi, emphasizing the importance of

passing down the legacy of such remarkable personalities.

Prime Minister Modi, noted that Swami Dayanand was born in Gujarat and was active in Haryana. The Prime Minister highlighted his connection with both regions and acknowledged the profound influence of Swami Dayananda on his life, stating, "his teachings have shaped my perspective, and his legacy remains an integral part of my journey." He extended his greetings to millions of followers both in India and abroad on the occasion of Swami Ji's birth anniversary.

Education a transformational mechanism to ensure equality: VP

Gondia, Feb 11 (PTI):

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Sunday said education is the most impactful transformational mechanism to bring about equality and cut down inequality. Addressing a function in Gondia district of Maharashtra, he said young parliamentarians with vision, mission, and talent have a big role to play in building Vikas Bharat of 2047.

Dhankhar also suggested that "value addition" to farm produce will bring qualitative improvements in the lives of farmers. "Today, the world is seeing the change in India and the change is imminent when the leader is aware of the ground reality and has the ability to

change them. Today, we have the able leadership at the Centre and in the state who are well capable of bringing the change," Dhankhar said. He said India is fast emerging as a strong nation.

"In 1989 when I became MP for the first time, it was a difficult time for our country. The country had to send its gold reserve by air to France where it was kept as a mortgage in two banks so that our country's financial credibility could be sustained," the vice president said. But the time has changed now and we have overtaken Canada, France, and England to become the 5th largest economy in the world, he added.

Parallel system of working dominates in CHMO office!

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Feb 11: The High Court of Chhattisgarh has taken care of the Medical College CIMS, but the offices of the Chief Medical and Health Officers of all the schemes including National Health Mission and National Health Rural Mission are completely in the grip of mafias. This is being done openly with Baba's men for last many years and even before that for 5 years when the Bharatiya Janata Party government was in power. Hundreds of complaints were received, published in all the newspapers and magazines, statements of ministers were made, complaints were filed till Rajya Pal, orders of Collectors were put aside on one side by the strong grip of mafias. On

the other side persons changed, officers changed, collectors, ministers and governments changed but no one could shake off the mafia occupying the office of the Chief Medical and Health Officer (CHMO). The same is the case with the District Red Cross Society, here too it is not a committee but only with a single person. It was published continuously in detail in the past days but the results is in vain. In the previous government, there were blacklisted pharmaceutical companies which caused deaths and sepsis due to non-standard and poisonous medicines, the then Health Minister was severely attacked, yet all those companies are still supplying medicines. Anonymous, unknown companies have contracts for



machines, maintenance and arrangements. The entire state knows that Bilaspur division has the biggest office of the Chief Medical and Health Officer. National missions worth crores of rupees are run from here and it is run by them. These are groups of mafias, Baba's favorite MLAs and Baba's men collected a lot of money during the Covid period, from SECL, NTPC, industry organizations and donors from society and social organizations, apart from this,

a foreign word and is used for those organizations which run an illegal system parallel to the government. We have used this word only for news flow.

Vijay Singh is not a name but an institution, a mafia leader because a single person cannot be so powerful unless he has a strong security cover and backing. Former MLA Shailesh Pandey had said that yes, he is the man of Health Minister TS Singh Deo, and he made recovery openly and through Vijay Singh, he was equally powerful earlier also. Yes during the Covid period, he was like Dhoom Ketu. Now once again coincidentally Bharatiya Janata Party is in government. City MLA Amar Agrawal had said that he will not allow the corrupt, mafia and hooligans to flourish. Now

there are eight MLAs and Deputy Chief Minister in Bilaspur district, all of them together pledged that corruption will not be encouraged in Vishnu Dev Sai's government. MLA on one side and Vijay Singh's arrangement on the third side means clearly that everyone is taking advantage of additional officer Vijay Singh in the office of Chief Medical and Health Officer. The complaint is not against Vijay Singh. It is absolutely necessary to eliminate such an illegal parallel system due to which poor patients are not getting government benefits and third and fourth class employees are facing exploitation. The district is waiting for the end of this corrupt system along with its kingpin.

Anganwadi workers overloaded with work

Khairagarh, Feb 11:

The Anganwadi workers of the district are being given the responsibility of many works together which includes children's nutrition and other works other than education. Lately District Project Officer has issued a letter to the Anganwadi workers and ordered them to provide necessary support to the Health Department in the Filariasis eradication program, for which booths will be set up in Anganwadi, schools, colleges and various institutions to provide medicines to the beneficiaries.

In the second letter, guidelines have been issued to submit all the documents determining the eligibility of married women under Mahtari Vandan Yojana, which has created a confusion of how two jobs simultaneously can be done by the Anganwadi workers. The Anganwadi workers also said that the department



issues orders to all the workers for other work without any information, due to which not only the education of small children is affected but basically the nutrition campaign of the workers is

also affected.

Though under the workers, the work of Mahtari Vandan Yojana is being carried out smoothly, but on Friday, the district administration has issued the order

for the eradication of filariasis program, which the workers have taken to protest and have opened over the ever increasing work load on them and to subsequently decrease them.

PVTG should get 100% benefit from the schemes: Collector

Bilaspur, Feb 11:

District Collector Avnish Sharan here held a meeting of district and block level officials in the meeting room of Kota District Panchayat and reviewed the PM Janman Yojana in detail. Giving it top priority, the Collector directed to achieve saturation level by linking PVTG with the scheme and said that any kind of negligence in the implementation of the scheme will not be tolerated at all.

The Collector said that PM should work with full concentration in achieving the goals of Janman Yojana and by setting up camps around the PVTG settlements, Aadhaar card, ration card, Jan Dhan account, Ayushman card, caste certificate, residence certificate and other basic facilities should be made 100 percent available to the beneficiaries. He said that the aim of this scheme is to provide complete development of special backward tribal groups and their habitations. It was told in the meeting that the target is



to build 1278 pucca houses under the scheme, out of which 291 houses have been built. The Collector gave instructions to start and complete all the approved works immediately and directed that the mobile medical unit should go to every settlement every fortnight. The Collector instructed the officials of the electricity department that not a single family should be deprived of electricity facility.

Recently, 20 beneficiaries have been given train-

ing in making Mahua Laddu. Aadhaar card of 6 thousand 384 beneficiaries was to be made, out of which Aadhaar card of 5 thousand 875 beneficiaries has been made. The Collector gave instructions to immediately make Aadhaar cards of the remaining beneficiaries and started a campaign and asked to get Ayushman card made.

It is noteworthy that the district is inhabited by Baiga and Birhor tribals in the form of PVTG

and their 54 settlements are in Kota, Masturi and Takhatpur blocks and about 6 and a half thousand population exists in the form of 1808 families.

Under the scheme, their social and economic status is to be upgraded by providing them the benefits of beneficiary oriented schemes along with the development of basic infrastructure of their settlements. SDM Piyush Tiwari and other officers were present in the meeting.

Collector inspects Bela Gauthan

In Korba development block

Korba, Feb 11:

District Collector Ajit Vasant here inspected Bela Gauthan of Korba development block and gave necessary guidelines to develop it as a model Gauthan by constructing various infrastructures and conducting activities in the Gauthan. On this occasion, Chief Executive Officer, District Panchayat Sambit Mishra, officers and employees of other departments including horticulture, animal husbandry, sarpanch, secretaries and women of groups associated with Gauthan were present.

While directing the officials, the Collector said that as per the instructions of the Government of India, Bela Gauthan will be developed as a model Gauthan and for this; the women groups associated



with Gauthan will be made self-reliant by creating various infrastructure to conduct livelihood promotion activities here. The Collector also talked about selecting a group of women to carry out various activities in Gauthan like manure production, poultry farming, mushroom production, garden development and providing necessary training to them. Besides, instructions were also given to complete other preparations including marking of place for development of community garden and construction of pasture in Gauthans at a fast pace.

Kamleshwar Singh reinstated

On the post of Principal in-charge

Khairagarh, Feb 11:



Kamleshwar Singh

After the order of the High Court, teacher Kamleshwar Singh has been reinstated to the post of in-charge principal. Director, Directorate of Public Instruction, Chhattisgarh, Nava Raipur has issued his order no. /192/2023/1113 dated 05/09/2023. Kamleshwar Singh In-charge Principal, Original post Lecturer L.B. Swami Atmanand English, Hindi Medium Girls Higher M.V. While Khairagarh was suspended, and the District Education Officer and the Investigation Officer sent the investigation report against Kamleshwar Singh to the Director for

disciplinary action without properly listening to his side. Considering the said action as politically motivated and contrary to the law as part of a conspiracy by some undesirable elements, Mr. Singh approached the High Court Bilaspur Chhattisgarh against the suspension order and case number WP (S) number 9714/2023 was filed. The case was defended by petitioner's advocate Anukul Vishwas and government advocate Ghanshyam Patel.

After hearing, the bench of learned Judge Arvind Singh Chandel, in the context of the order passed by the Supreme Court, New Delhi in Ajay Kumar Chaudhary vs. Secretary, Union of India (2015) 7 SCC 291, cancelled the suspension order considering it contrary to law and controversial and ordered to reinstate the petitioner in-charge Principal Swami Atmanand English, Hindi Medium Girls Higher Secondary School, Khairagarh. In compliance with the order dated 15.01.2024 passed by the High Court, Director of Public Instruction Chhattisgarh, Raipur has reinstated him in service by cancelling the suspension order in its order

number 104 dated 01/02/2024.

After the suspension order of Kamleshwar Singh is canceled and he is reinstated in service and many lecturer Sunil Kumar Guni, Chhatrapal Singh, Anil Pal, Manohar Chandel, Ajay Rajput, Tej Ram Kamdiya Chhattisgarh. Provincial President of Teachers Congress, Dr. Anil Shukla, Nigar Anjum Khan, Jaiprakash Sahu Sunil Kumar Dubey, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Operational Staff President, All Teachers Union Officer PL Sahara, State President Pension and Fund Accounts Employees Association, BEO Khairagarh Neelam Rajput, Representatives including BEO Chhuikhadan Ramendra Dadsena, BRC Sujit Singh Chauhan have congratulated him.

No eligible woman should miss benefits of MVY: Collector

Korba, Feb 11:

There is happiness and enthusiasm among women in the remote forests of the district to get the benefits of Mahtari Vandan Yojana. Collector Ajit Vasant personally inspected the application process at camp sites in villages Lemru, Nakia, and Vimalta of the Korba development block.

Engaging in discussions with beneficiaries, Vasant emphasized the significance of the Mahtari Vandan Yojana in empowering women economically. He stressed the importance of ensuring that every eligible woman receives the scheme's benefits without any hindrance. To facilitate this, he directed all officers to provide necessary assistance and ensure that no eligible woman is left out of the scheme's ambit.



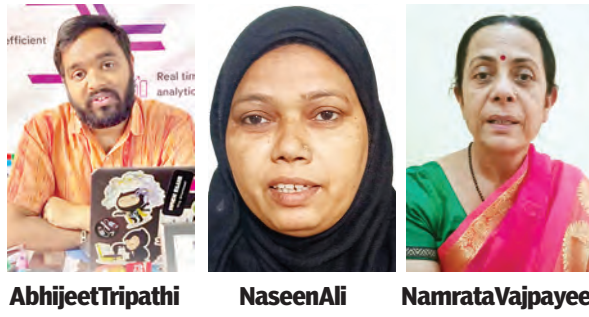
District Collector were District Panchayat CEO Sambit Mishra and District Panchayat Korba CEO Indira Bhagat, alongside other officials and staff. Their presence underscored the collaborative efforts aimed at promoting women's welfare and ensuring the seamless implementation of the Mahtari Vandan Yojana. Furthermore, Panchayat Sarpanches, Secretaries, Anganwadi workers, and Mitamis were instructed to extend support to women in need, highlighting the importance of community involvement in fostering inclusivity and empowerment.

Budget appreciated by every section of the society

Bilaspur, Feb 11:

Chhattisgarh government has given a big gift to the people of the state in its first paperless budget and every class has been taken care of in the budget and special provisions have been made for farmers, women and children. The people of Bilaspur have expressed happiness about the budget and termed it as a welfare budget and called it a budget that will give new dimensions to development.

Bilaspur residents expressed happiness over the budget and said that



the government has taken care of every section of the society in the budget. Abhijeet Tripathi, a software professional from Bilaspur, said that with the construction of PZ Hub in Raipur, people in this

area will get employment at the local level and there will be development and possibilities will increase. Student Khushi Bhanushali said about the government's budget announcement in the field of agriculture that it

will definitely be very beneficial for the farmers.

Housewives Nasreen Ali and Namrata Vajpayee said that the government has made many provisions in the budget keeping women and children in mind, which will benefit the needy families and their economic condition, nutrition and health will improve. Regarding the provisions made in the field of education and agriculture, students said that this budget of the government will lead to progress in the state and all sections of the society will be benefited totally.

One day seminar on PMVJ concluded

Manendragarh, Feb 11:

A one-day seminar cum awareness program on the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana concluded at Government Lahiri Postgraduate College, Chirmiri, organized by the Office of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Department in collaboration with the District Trade and Industry Centre. The event aimed to recognize the invaluable contributions of traditional artisans and craftsmen, acknowledging their skills as synonymous with the divine architect Vishwakarma. During



the seminar, Damodar Behera, the Nodal Officer for the PM Vishwakarma Yojana, along with officials from the MSME Department, briefed attendees, including Gram Panchayat Sarpanches and beneficiaries, on the various benefits of the scheme. These included provisions

for upgrading skills, providing modern tools and toolkits, offering collateral-free loans, and facilitating access to diverse markets for holistic development. Approximately 125 beneficiaries actively participated in the workshop, signaling a strong interest in leveraging government support for

enhancing their craftsmanship and productivity.

The seminar witnessed the participation of numerous key figures, including Mitwa Pada, General Manager of the District Trade and Industry Centre, Sanjeev Patil, a leading Bank Manager, and Principal Pandey of Lahiri Postgraduate College Chirmiri, alongside professors and staff members. Through informative sessions and interactive discussions, attendees gained insights into the significance of embracing modernization while preserving traditional craftsmanship.

50 bed expansion to Civil Hospital in Govt's first budget

Kurud, Feb 11:

The wheels of development of Kurud Assembly has again gained speed, with Senior MLA and former cabinet minister Ajay Chandrakar, having gifted 50 bed expansion to Civil Hospital Kurud in the very first budget of the new government, owing to which people of the area and remote forests including Kurud Nagar will get better health facilities.

People and common citizens have expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister of the state Vishnu Deo Sai, Finance Minister OP Choudhary and Ajay Chandrakar. It may be noted that while being the Health Minister in the Raman government,



Kurud MLA Ajay Chandrakar had upgraded the Community Health Center Kurud as a civil hospital and had also got all its resources and qualifications approved, but as soon as the government changed in the state, the Bhupesh Baghel government had stopped all the work of upgrading the Civil Hospital of Kurud.

What reps says

The upgradation of Kurud as a civil hospital has been possible only due to the willingness of Ajay Chandrakar, a hardworking public leader of Kurud assembly constituency, to work towards the area. With this, the best health facilities will be available to the people of rural areas and remote areas. I express my heartfelt gratitude to State Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai, Finance Minister OP Choudhary and MLA Ajay Chandrakar for this achievement of Kurud region.

Malakram Sahu,
Vice President of State Sahu Sangh

The gift of 100 bed civil hospital to Kurud is the result of the far-reaching thinking of MLA Ajay Chandrakar. He is always serious and ready to increase health facilities for the people of Kurud region. Now people will be able to get better health facilities in Civil Hospital Kurud and especially people from poor families will be able to get good health facilities in Kurud Nagar itself without wandering. Instead of women having to go far away, Kurud Civil Hospital will prove to be a very convenient and simple centre.

Krishna Kant Sahu MLA Representative

Former minister MLA Ajay Chandrakar has kept his promise and certainly there will be medical benefits in Kurud area. I express my gratitude to Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai, Minister OP Choudhary and Kurud MLA development man Ajay Chandrakar for this gift given to Kurud assembly constituency.

Bhanu Chandrakar, Leader of opposition Kurud

PHC Kunda gets NQAS award

Kawardha, Feb 11:

Primary Health Center Kunda, in Kabirdham district's Pandariya development block, achieved a significant milestone by clinching the prestigious National Quality Assurance Standard Award. This accolade, a first for the block, stands testament to the relentless pursuit of excellence guided by Collector Janmejay Mahobe's vision and CMHO Dr. BL Raj's leadership.



Dr. BL Raj elucidated the significance of the NQS program, designed to evaluate the quality of healthcare services across various departments including OPD, IPD, Lab, and Maternity Room. Under the meticulous assessment conducted on December 8th

and 9th, 2023, by National Evaluators Dr. Meenu Bhardwaj from New Delhi and Ramsuresh Chaurasia from Lucknow, Primary Health Center Kunda emerged triumphant with an impressive 92 percent score. The result, released by the Government of India, Health and Family Welfare Department, New Delhi, secured the center a coveted spot in the category of star ranking. The achievement of obtaining a certificate with 92 percent marks at the national level reflects the region's commitment to delivering top-notch healthcare services. This accomplishment is a testament to the concerted efforts and unwavering dedication of healthcare personnel, supported by the guidance of Collector Janmejay Mahobe and District Panchayat CEO Sandeep Agarwal.

Pak parties intensify efforts to form coalition government after split verdict

Islamabad/Lahore, Feb 11 (PTI): The three main political parties in Pakistan on Sunday intensified their efforts for the formation of a coalition government after it became clear that the coup-prone country faced a hung Parliament after general elections.

The general elections were held on Thursday, but the unusual delay in the announcement of results vitiated the atmosphere as several parties cried foul and some resorted to protests.

Former prime minister and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz supremo Nawaz Sharif received the backing of the powerful Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir on



Supporters of religious party Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam block a road as they protest against the delaying result of parliamentary election by Pakistan Election Commission in Karachi, Pakistan, Sunday, Feb. 11.

Saturday for his call for a unity government to pull Pakistan out of its current difficulties. The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has announced the

results of 264 out of 265 contested seats in the 266-member National Assembly. The result of one constituency was withheld by the ECP due

Arif Alvi says citizens shouted out loud their will in election

Pakistan President Dr Arif Alvi on Sunday said the voters, particularly women and youth, have "not only spoken but shouted out loud their will" in the general elections and urged all political parties and institutions to "respect and recognise" the huge mandate of the citizens. Alvi was a senior member of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party before former prime minister Imran Khan made him the country's President in 2018.

to complaints of fraud and it would be announced after redressing the grievances of the aggrieved. Election to one seat was postponed after the

death of a candidate. Independent candidates, a vast majority of them backed by jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), won 101 seats in the National Assembly.

They were followed by three-time former Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) with 75 seats, which technically is the single largest party in Parliament.

The Pakistan Peoples Party of Bilawal Zardari Bhutto got 54 seats, and the Karachi-based Muttahida Quami Movement Pakistan (MQM-P) of Urdu-speaking people who migrated from India during the Partition, got 17 seats.

SPRING FESTIVAL



Performers take part in a parade involving costumes, lion dances and floats, to mark Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival or Chinese New Year, in London, Sunday, Feb. 11.

Russia launches 45 drones in mass barrage of Ukraine

Kyiv, Feb 11 (AP):

Russian forces launched 45 drones over Ukraine on Sunday in a five-and-a-half-hour barrage, officials said, as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy continued the reshuffle of his war cabinet as the war enters its third year. In a statement, the Ukrainian air force said it had shot down 40 of the Iranian-made Shahed drones over nine different regions, including on the



outskirts of the country's capital, Kyiv.

The five-and-a-half-hour attack targeted agricultural facilities and coastal infrastructure, officials for Ukraine's southern de-

fense forces wrote on Telegram. They said that a strike in the Mykolaiv region had injured one person, sparking a fire and damaging nearby residential buildings.

Man pleads guilty to murdering Indian teenage wife in UK

London, Feb 11 (PTI):

A 24-year-old Indian man charged with the murder of his 19-year-old wife at a home in south London last year has pleaded guilty to the crime.

Sahil Sharma was arrested at the scene at Ash Tree Way in Croydon, the couple's residential address, on suspicion of the murder of Mehak Sharma on October 29 evening. When he appeared in custody at

Kingston Crown Court on Thursday, he pleaded guilty to the murder of Mehak. Both are Indian nationals. He is due to be sentenced at the same court on April 26.

"Sahil Sharma's actions have devastated a family. In killing his wife he has robbed her family of a loving daughter for reasons known only to himself," said Detective Inspector Laura Semple, of the Met Police's Specialist Crime Command.

Totally up for the fight' to win UK general election: Rishi Sunak

London, Feb 11 (PTI):

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said he is "totally up for the fight" of pitching his policies to the electorate to win another term for the governing Conservative Party as he prepares for a general election expected to take place in the second half of the year.

In an interview with The Times this weekend, the 43-year-old British Indian leader said he had reasons to be optimistic because the economy was "pointing in the right



direction" and that the "future is going to be better".

"At the beginning of this year there is a sense that the country is pointing in the right direction," he told the newspaper. "Because economic conditions have improved, because

the plan is working, you are starting to see mortgage rates come down and we have been able to cut taxes.

I do believe those pressures are starting to ease and that hopefully over the course of this year, we can continue to make even more progress," he said.

In a message as much for the voters as for the rebels within his own Tory ranks, the Conservative leader reiterated his plan to cut taxes for the hardworking people of the country.

Sr. No.	Branch Name	Branch Address	Locker No.	Name of the Locker Hirer(s)	Address	Amount Due	Amount Due From
30	Rajnandgaon	Kounn Bhatta, Stadium Chowk, Sahdeo Nagar, G.E.Road, Rajnandgaon-491441	2022	M Shekhar	S/O M J Rao ,A-501, Princess Pride Apartment, Hariom Nagar Rajnandgaon-491441	0	-
31	Rajnandgaon	Kourin Bhatta, Stadium Chowk, Sahdeo Nagar, G.E.Road, Rajnandgaon-491441	2004	Gayatri Verma	W/O Kamlesh Verma Riddhi Siddhi Colony, W No 39 Subham 56, Rajnandgaon-491441	28547.01	13-Dec-18
32	Tagore Nagar	Pachpedi Naka, Pujari Chambers, Block B1, Nh 43, Raipur-492001	124	Anindita Sharda	Villa A -24, Green Valley Sector 41/42, Amarnagar, Faridabad-121003	0	-
33	Tagore Nagar	Pachpedi Naka, Pujari Chambers, Block B1, Nh 43, Raipur-492001	222	Komal Kavar	Sai Villa Infront Of Jain Mandir Dawada, Colony Pachpedi Naka, Raipur-492001	171.74	24-Nov-23
34	Tagore Nagar	Pachpedi Naka, Pujari Chambers, Block B1, Nh 43, Raipur-492001	200	Mariya Qureshi	403 Bairamji Taun Mangalvari Bazar Mangalay, Bairamji Taun Mangalvari Bazaar Nagpur, Nagpur-440001	37091.25	1-Sep-20
35	Tagore Nagar	Pachpedi Naka, Pujari Chambers, Block B1, Nh 43, Raipur-492001	53	Dhirendra Kumar Ramji bhai Kavar,	Maruti Nandan App Block No 404, Ravapar Road Morbi, Rajkot, 363641	0	-
36	Tagore Nagar	Pachpedi Naka, Pujari Chambers, Block B1, Nh 43, Raipur-492001	129	Sunita Singh Tikhiha	H No Lakhnagar Nai Proppor Colony Vill, Raipur Nr Hariom Provision Stores, Raipur-492001	17298.02	23-Jan-23
37	Tagore Nagar	Pachpedi Naka, Pujari Chambers, Block B1, Nh 43, Raipur-492001	38	Sunil Sewak Balani	G-17 Ashoka Milleniom Complex Rajendra Nagar, Raipur-492001	0	-
38	Ambikapur	Benaras Chowk, Opp: P.G College, Nh 78, Ambikapur-497001	49	Anurag Sharma	Ambikapur, Surguja, Ward-44, 497001	20047.96	3-Jul-19
39	Durg	Jeevan Plaza Commercial Complex, G.E Road, [NH6], Ganjpara, Durg-491001	1011	Adesh Singh	Ft No 304 Shanti Niketan Apts, Malviya Nagar, Durg-4911001	22684.16	31-May-19
40	Jagdalpur	Akashwani Road, Nayapara, P.S:Parpa, Jagdalpur-494001	1018	Roopali Shrivastava	House No 201/Kh Mahadeoghath Road, Jagdalpur-494001	18507.77	23-Jan-23
41	Jagdalpur	Akashwani Road, Nayapara, P.S:Parpa, Jagdalpur-494001	2008	Abhiram Tamang	Near Rajendra Sharma House (Nayapara), Jagdalpur-494001	6375	24-Aug-20
42	Jagdalpur	Akashwani Road, Nayapara, P.S:Parpa, Jagdalpur-494001	2072	Sagar Panduranga Jagtap	Nathu Ram Gali Sadar Ward Jagdalpur-494001	9954.6	25-Nov-20
43	Jagdalpur	Akashwani Road, Nayapara, P.S:Parpa, Jagdalpur-494001	1032	Rajesh Jain	D-18 Mig Duplex Zone I Mp Nagar, Bhopal	0	-
44	GE Road, Raipur (CT)	Parthivi Pacific, G.E.Road, Raipur-492099	2033	Charanjeet Singh	Q No 1746 Tatibandh Near Bharat Mala School-492001	18427.25	8-Aug-19
45	Champa [CT]	Anupam Plaza, Station Road, Champa-495671	1039	Pushpa Soni	Near Manjali Talab Vill Champa Post Champa, Teh Champa Janjgir, Champa-495671	8457.5	23-Apr-19
46	Champa [CT]	Anupam Plaza, Station Road, Champa-495671	1072	Hari Singh Chandel	Netaji Chowk, Janjgir, Champa-495001	11990	23-Apr-19
47	Bhatapara	Sai Sadan, Main Road, Bhatapara-4931118	1044	Mahendra Maheshwari	Bejrang Ward Bhatapara-493118	8457.5	17-Jun-19
48	Dongargarh	Mahaveer Para, Beside Central Bank Of India, Dongargarh-491445	1074	Survean Singh Bagga	Ward No 11 Vinoba Bhawe Ward, Dongargarh-491445	44804.02	25-Jan-22
49	Devendra Nagar Raipur	Premises At Jail Road, Beside Hotel Babylon Inn, Devendra Nagar-492001	1006	Vijay Kumar Vishwakarma	House No 43/443 Near Lalit Mishra, Advocate Kailashpuri Raipur Raipur-492001	22169.72	23-Apr-19
50	Devendra Nagar Raipur	Premises At Jail Road, Beside Hotel Babylon Inn, Devendra Nagar-492001	1018	Arun Kumar Warethwar	H O Saraswati Warewar 10/A Chanakya Complex, Sec 3 Devendra Nagar, Raipur-492001	28357.23	13-Dec-18
51	Nehru Nagar Square	19, Priyadarshini Parisar, Grace Plaza, Nehru Nagar-Bhilai-490020	2012	Usha Kiran Kerketta	Qr 2A/52/8, Bhilai-490020	21209.26	11-Jul-19
52	Nehru Nagar Square	19, Priyadarshini Parisar, Grace Plaza, Nehru Nagar-Bhilai-490020	1055	Santosh Moar	Hn 495/1 Nr Hvc Petrol Pump C/O- Saikrupa Transport Gadchandur Road, Rampur Rajura Chandrapur-442905	0	-
53	Rajendra Nagar Bilaspur	Sudha Tower, Link Road, Near Rajendra Nagar Chowk, Bajpai Chamber, Bilaspur-495001	1049	Neelam Valchandani	Blik 64 Plot 17 Nehru Nagar West, Bhilai Nagar, Bhilai-490020	14139.75	13-Jul-20
54	Rajendra Nagar Bilaspur	Sudha Tower, Link Road, Near Rajendra Nagar Chowk, Bajpai Chamber, Bilaspur-495001	48	Alok Agrawal	B/11, Kranti Nagar, Bilaspur, 495001	14139.75	11-Jun-20
26	Korba [CT]	Power House Road, Korba, Chhaisgarh -495678	2032	Raja Nayak	12, Mungeli Road, Ward-1 Vikas Nagar, Bilaspur, Green Garden Colony, Bilaspur-495001	0	-
27	Raigarh (CT)	Near Bajaj Showroom, Jagatpur, Raigarh, Chhaisgarh-496001	1009	Rajesh Kumar Agrawal	S/O Ramnivas Agrawal Gounishankar Mandir Road, Behind Tel Mii, Raigarh-496001	37640.15	26-Dec-19
28	Raigarh (CT)	Near Bajaj Showroom, Jagatpur, Raigarh, Chhaisgarh-496001	1061	Kamla Aneja	W/O Anil Aneja 181a Sainik Colony Sector 49, Faridabad Faridabad Sector 49, Faridabad-121001	0	-
29	Rajnandgaon	Kourin Bhatta, Stadium Chowk, Sahdeo Nagar, G.E.Road, Rajnandgaon-491441	1013	Katla Nageswara Rao	2/21 Oc Colony, Asiganipalli Kanekal, Oc Colony, Ananthapur-515871	39178.22	18-Jun-19

These persons have failed and neglected in making payments towards the locker rentals to the Bank / not operated locker for a considerable period. The Bank is in the process of issuing the notices to them via a) SMS on their registered mobile no., b) Email on their registered email ID & c) Letters to their last known recorded address with the Bank, advising them to make the payment of locker rentals / operation of locker and/or close the locker facility(ies). This is a final notice to notify that if the above-mentioned person(s) fail(s) to pay the arrears of locker rentals to the Bank / operate locker on or before **12 May 2024** the Bank shall break and open the locks of the locker at locker hirer's risk and responsibility, as per the Banking Law and Practice and take inventory of items, if any, lying in locker and keep the same in Bank's custody until such time the arrears of rent along with interest, expenses, charges, etc. are paid to the Bank. The Bank reserves the right to adjust the cash, if any found in the locker against the outstanding dues of the above persons to the Bank and it shall be treated as proper discharge on the part of the Bank and no claims, whatsoever, shall be entertained thereafter in this regard. For the balance dues of locker rentals, the Bank reserves its right to proceed legally against the locker hirer/s for recovery of its dues.

Date: 12.02.2024
Place: Raipur

Circle BBO Head
Axis Bank Ltd.
Raipur Circle



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Perform & Transform

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the 17th Lok Sabha on its last day, he encapsulated the essence of the past five years under the BJP-led government as a period of profound reform, relentless performance, and remarkable transformation. He underscored the rarity of experiencing such comprehensive changes within the span of a single term, emphasizing that the fruits of these efforts have been palpable across the nation. Reflecting on the journey of the 17th Lok Sabha, PM Modi extended his gratitude to the members and commended the leadership of Speaker Om Birla in steering the proceedings of the House. He attributed the success of the government to its unwavering commitment to the principles of reform, performance, and transformation. Throughout the tenure of the 17th Lok Sabha, pivotal decisions were made, and formidable challenges were confronted head-on. PM Modi acknowledged the collective efforts of all stakeholders in steering the nation towards the path of progress. He emphasized the significance of the day as a moment to reaffirm their dedication to the nation after five years of a transformative ideological journey dedicated to serving the people. One of the hallmarks of the 17th Lok Sabha has been its exceptional productivity, with a staggering 97 percent. This remarkable feat is a testament to the commitment and diligence of the members in fulfilling their responsibilities towards the nation. The budget session of Parliament, which commenced on January 31 and was extended until February 10, marked the culmination of the legislative agenda of the 17th Lok Sabha before the upcoming general elections anticipated in April-May this year. As the nation stands at the threshold of a new electoral cycle, it is imperative to reflect on the strides made and the challenges overcome during the past five years. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country has witnessed a paradigm shift in governance, marked by bold reforms, exemplary performance, and unprecedented transformation across various sectors. From economic policies aimed at fostering growth and development to initiatives promoting social welfare and inclusivity, the government has left an indelible mark on the nation's trajectory. As we bid farewell to the 17th Lok Sabha, let us acknowledge its legacy of resilience, determination, and unwavering dedication to the service of the nation. The transformative journey embarked upon during these five years serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration for the future, reaffirming our collective commitment to building a prosperous, inclusive, and vibrant India.

Pakistan's Political Quagmire

Navigating Uncertainty

Pakistan finds itself at a critical juncture following the general elections, with the specter of uncertainty looming large over the formation of a stable government. Former Prime Minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, despite rallying supporters amidst his incarceration, failed to secure the necessary majority. With no clear winner emerging, the nation now braces for a period of intense political horse-trading and coalition-building. The post-election scenario is characterized by a complex web of alliances and rivalries, with the fate of the government hanging in the balance. Imran Khan's imprisonment and legal woes have not deterred his loyal base, who turned out in significant numbers to support him at the polls. However, his party's inability to clinch a decisive victory has left the political landscape in disarray. The challenge now lies in cobbling together alliances to muster the required seats for government formation. Both Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PMLN) and Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) are vying to keep Imran Khan out of power. Talks of a potential alliance between the two parties have surfaced, but even combined, they fall short of the majority by six seats. The delay in releasing the final election tally, coupled with allegations of result tampering, has cast a shadow of doubt over the legitimacy of the electoral process. Imran Khan's PTI has raised concerns about manipulation and has resorted to legal recourse and public protests to challenge the alleged irregularities. One complicating factor is the status of independent candidates, including those affiliated with PTI, who won a significant number of seats but face limitations in forming a government due to their exclusion from reserved parliamentary seats. This adds another layer of complexity to an already convoluted situation. As the nation awaits the resolution of these political intricacies, the economic challenges facing Pakistan remain pressing. The need for a stable and effective government capable of addressing these issues has never been more acute. The coming days will be crucial in determining whether Pakistan can overcome its political impasse and chart a course towards progress and stability. In this period of uncertainty, it is imperative for all stakeholders to prioritize the national interest above partisan considerations. The people of Pakistan deserve a government that is committed to addressing their needs and aspirations, and it is incumbent upon the political leadership to rise above personal rivalries and work towards a common goal of national prosperity and unity.

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.

DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA DEATH ANNIVERSARY



People attend a programme organised to pay tribute to Bharatiya Jana Sangh leader Deendayal Upadhyaya on his death anniversary, in New Delhi, Sunday, Feb. 11.

Perils of the women in Israel



ARKA GOSWAMI



The Israeli government announced intentions to implement judicial reforms in July of last year, which would have prevented courts from evaluating the "reasonability" of decisions made by ministers and the administration. The Israeli parliament, the Knesset, was passed the opposition as the law was approved 64-0. Following this, protests broke out, drawing thousands of demonstrators, many of them women who were worried about losing their hard-won freedom and equality. The Supreme Court has played a crucial role in advancing women's rights on a variety of problems in a nation where these rights have long been denied. Court rulings have eliminated retirement age differences, outlawed gender-based wage discrimination, endorsed affirmative action for women's access to state-owned corporate boards, and outlawed gender segregation in public areas. They have also established

women's rights to privacy in cases involving sexual harassment. The supreme court also makes sure that women are represented on important decision-making bodies and in political parties. As one of the five nations lacking a constitution, the Israeli parliament has passed fourteen fundamental laws that uphold liberty and human dignity. However, these laws haven't shown enough to accomplish their stated objectives. They do not guarantee a complete framework for safeguarding the rights of Israeli citizens, particularly the female population of the nation, nor do they entrench the right to equality. In this regard, the Supreme Court has been crucial—if occasionally defensive—in its interpretation of the Basic laws. Legislation addressing the dearth of women's rights is unlikely to occur: Despite a continuous increase from 14 members in 1999 to a record 35 seats in 2022, women's presence has substantially

evaporated. In the current government coalition women hold just 9 out of 64 seats and 6 out of 32 ministerial positions. As a result, Israel's position in the world rankings for the percentage of female parliamentary seats dropped from 61th to 93rd. A similar outcome is seen in local bodies, where just 14 out of 257 local authorities are led by women. If judicial reforms are carried out, the goals could have disastrous effects for women's rights and the judiciary. The first judiciary reform sought to reduce the number of women on the judicial appointments committee from four to three quotas. Should this decrease occur again, it will further reduce the influence of women in judicial selection. An additional clause aimed to broaden the jurisdiction of state-run rabbinical courts, which prohibit women from holding positions as judges or witnesses in civil cases. One further proposed law would give a simple legislative majority the authority to overturn a Supreme Court decision that prohibits the violation of the Basic laws. The ultra-orthodox community, referred to as Haredi in Israel, has experienced rapid population increase and currently holds a majority position in the coalition government, giving them unchecked power over Israeli society. They have persistently pushed for ever-greater concession at the expense of women, all under

the pretense of religious protection. The populace's protests following attempts at judicial reform demonstrated just how precarious Israeli society's democratic values are. However, postponing the reforms alone won't cut it. Israelis must, in the short term, demand a judicial solution that clearly guarantees women's rights. It is inappropriate to politicize the appointment of women to the judiciary. The higher gender parity with defined gender and minority involvement must also be ensured by a reevaluation committee. These principles need to be applied to all branches of government, including the legislature. Equalizer women's involvement in the Knesset can be aided by gender quotas and party list placing requirements. Under the current coalition administration, none of these will be simple to accomplish. However, Israel's moderate parties ought to give these objectives top priority, include them into their agendas, and get ready for the day when political pendulum will be advantageous. For a democracy to succeed, women must hold leadership positions in the government and have access to fundamental rights. Western friends of Israel applied pressure to revoke all pending judicial reforms. Women will be sidelined in this position if there is any compromise.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Technology Advancement

Science and technology continue to revolutionize human life, offering unprecedented miracles and advancements unimaginable just decades ago. A recent breakthrough by Elon Musk's Neura Link, implanting a wireless computer chip in the human brain, marks a significant stride forward. This innovation promises to be a boon for individuals with disabilities like paralysis, epilepsy, and Parkinson's, enabling them to control devices and communicate solely through their thoughts. By decoding brain signals, this technology offers newfound independence and possibilities, showcasing the immense potential of technology when wielded for positive ends.

N Mateeni, Mumbai

Repo rate effect

Home, car, and other loan borrowers will benefit from the status quo in the repo rate since their EMIs won't go up. It appears that the monetary policy will stay disinflationary to reach the 4 percent target over time. The government has mandated that food price inflation be kept within a range of 2 to 6 percent, but policy makers are still plagued by uncertainties on this issue. Before altering its stance or the repo rate, the RBI must ensure that inflation is steady and on a downward trajectory.

Arka Goswami, West Bengal

Anarchy prevails in Maharashtra

During one week, two heart-rending events have shocked the whole administration in Maharashtra. One of them, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Abhishek Ghosalkar was fatally shot in a firing in Dahisar area of Mumbai while shooter killed himself also. Second incident was that one MLA of rulling party in the state caught on camera firing at an Eknath Shinde faction leader inside a police station at Ulhasnagar in Mumbai. These two incidents created an atmosphere of "Jungle Raj" in the state. Sir, in my opinion as an Indian citizen is that it is happening, because culprits are not sent to jail and they got the support of fascist powers.

Md Alam, Maharashtra

Safety is Non-Negotiable

Aarti

For the fireworks industry, which largely deals in explosive materials, the Harda incident ought to serve as wakeup call to institutionalise safe work practices. It is disconcerting that there has been another massive blast in a fireworks factory. This time in Madhya Pradesh's Harda. The scant respect for prescribed standard operating procedures that reduced the three-storey factory to rubble on February 6 has killed 12 persons and injured more than 200. The high intensity explosion also damaged at least 50 houses in the vicinity while rocks and metal objects emanating therefrom hit several passersby. The unit which was a primary source of employment in the region, reportedly functioned without a fire extinguisher within its premises and also illegally housed a substantial stockpile of firecrackers. Laudably the fire was expeditiously extinguished and the injured swiftly shifted to nearby hospitals. Besides ap-

prehending the factory owners, the government transferred the District Collector as well as the Superintendent of Police and set up a three-member high-powered Committee to probe the incident. All firecracker units across the State are being audited for safety. Financial aid to the tune of Rs 4 lakh and 2 lakh is to be provided by the State and Central governments respectively to the kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 to the injured. Units manufacturing crackers are codified as a "dangerous operation" under the Factories Act, 1948. Classified as class 7 explosives, the manufacture, possession, use, sale, transport, import and export of firecrackers (fireworks) are regulated by the Explosives Act, 1884. Illegal manufacturing of firecrackers is punishable with up to three years imprisonment, or with fine which may extend to Rs 5,000 or with both. Although fire accidents due to crackers have been reported from across the country, a majority of the fatal ones seem to be incurring in and

around Tamil Nadu's Sivakasi, also known as the Fireworks Capital of India where 73 percent of licensed fireworks manufacturing units in the State operate. For the fireworks owners, the relatively dry climate and lack of rainfall is a boon. However, mostly people in and around Sivakasi, owing to lack of opportunities in other occupations in the region, work in the fireworks units as unskilled workers on contractual basis. The Chaitanya Prasad Committee, set up by the Tamil Nadu government, in the wake of one of the worst fire accidents that killed over 40 workers, many of them charred beyond recognition, came out with several recommendations. Some of the suggested safety measures like the banning sub-leasing of works by licensed units, maintaining inter-safety distances between sheds covered with earthen mounds, provision of a smoothened pathway with a width of 1.5 metres etc., merit implementation on a nationwide basis. Looking beyond Harda,

there is an imperative need to enforce the various rules and prescribed norms rather religiously. The major causes of accidents involving fireworks, as investigations from past incidents have shown, includes manufacturing firecrackers in makeshift unlicensed units, rough handling of chemicals by untrained/unskilled workers, spillage/overloading of chemicals during the filling process, working outside permitted areas etc. As most of the fatal accidents in fireworks industry seem to be recurring mostly in filling and mixing sections, the checklist of norms to be followed for manufacturing, storage and sale of fireworks needs to be strictly enforced. Accident prevention requires purposeful, continuous action on everyone's part. Both inside manufacturing units and outside, the workers handling firecrackers must understand the safety aspects and the supervisors should lead the effort in identifying possible hazards and correct them. This will go a long way to put an end to unsafe work-

ing conditions which continue to endanger lives in the fireworks industry. Most importantly, it needs to be appreciated that safety is non-negotiable. More so because, firecracker accidents not only cause a significant amount of avoidable stress and trauma for individuals but even create a ripple effect, adversely impacting the entire family. While enforcement of laws with zero tolerance is important, the certainty of the punishment is more of a deterrent than the severity of punishment. These five years were about reform, perform and transform in country: PM Modi Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that the past five years of BJP-led government were about "reform, perform and transform" in the country and it is rare that transformation due to these measures can also be experienced in the same period. (Writer is an independent researcher and freelance journalist. Views are personal.)

BRIEF

Growth momentum



New Delhi: JK Tyre expects demand momentum to continue for the tyre industry in the medium to long term, with the automobile industry set to grow amid a positive economic environment, according to a top company official. In an interaction with PTI, JK Tyre & Industries MD Anshuman Singhania expressed hope that the tyre maker would also continue to witness momentum in its top line and profitability. For the third quarter ended December 2023, the company reported a three-fold increase in its consolidated net profit to Rs 227 crore.

Growth without sustainability has no meaning: PK Mishra

Sambalpur (Odisha), Feb 11:



P K Mishra, the principal secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, said that high growth that is not sustainable will not be meaningful. Addressing the 56th Annual Conference of Odisha Economic Association here, he underlined the significance of attaining sustainable growth while achieving a high growth trajectory. "High growth that is not sustainable will not be meaningful," Mishra said. The shift in global supply chains, challenges from artificial intelligence in services, trade and employment, and the challenge of energy transition in the context of reducing carbon emissions are the three significant trends globally, he said. He also highlighted a few issues for economic research for achieving the

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). "Sustainable growth considers economic, social and environmental interdependence with a view to creating a balanced and resilient development model", he added. Reiterating the Prime Minister's Vision of India 2047, Mishra said that India should go beyond achieving the desired level of per capita income and be 'atmanirbhar' in all aspects. "Women will be leading India's development

story. The economy will be more inclusive and innovative while corruption, casteism and communalism will have no place in our national life," he said. He presented an overview of India's efforts to achieve the SDGs in view of its efforts to become a developed country in the year when the country completes 100 years of its independence.

The PM's Principal Secretary underlined the Government of India's efforts in the last 10 years to achieve sustainable development. He said that the G20 Presidency led by India was recognised globally for its unprecedented scale and success, emphasizing the adoption of new concepts for a sustainable and better future.

The concept of LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) and global initiatives such as the

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and International Solar Alliance (ISA) are significant landmarks in India's efforts to address climate change, he added. He also hailed second-generation reforms such as the implementation of GST in 2017 and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), introduction of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority bringing transparency and accountability among others that required a significant investment of political capital than just opening up of the economy. About the government's focus on infrastructure as a critical aspect of sustainable development, Mishra highlighted initiatives such as the PM GatiShakti and National Logistics Policy that enabled seamless multi-modal connectivity.

Banks should be mindful of legal, cyber risks emanating from AI: RBI Deputy Governor

New Delhi, Feb 11:



The banking sector and players in the space should be mindful of legal and cyber risks, and skill gaps emanating from Artificial Intelligence (AI), RBI Deputy Governor T Rabi Sankar has said. "With the adoption of AI and GenAI, laws are to be redefined. Industry needs to note that Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act rules are going to come soon, and banks may be in violation of some of it so it's important to start preparing for it," he said.

Addressing the 19th Annual Banking Technology Conference organised by the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) in Mumbai on Friday, he called upon banks to think of customer convenience and provide services accordingly. "When rules are made by us, we need to think of making it convenient for

customers and keep improving continuously," he said. Every new technology has erased few jobs but created newer ones, he said, adding that skilling and reskilling of the work force is a must.

NaBFID Chairman K V Kamath said what he had predicted 20 years ago has come true that banks will look like technology companies offering banking services. There is need for banks to be resilient, adopt cloud-based solutions, Kamath said, adding that competition is the key challenge that

banks are facing not just within banks but in the larger financial space. IBA Chairman Atul Kumar Goel said GenAI opens doors to unprecedented opportunities for banking leaders, shaping the future of financial services. Banks are already partnering with fintech companies to bolster their own digital transformation initiatives and keep up with startups that are successfully disrupting the banking industry, Goel, who is also Punjab National Bank MD, said.

The future is AI-driven, and the time to transform is now, Goel added. GenAI is poised to revolutionise banking by providing advanced insights into banking services, IBA CEO Sunil Mehta said. Banks will leverage Generative AI to offer highly personalised experiences to their customers, enhancing the overall banking experience, he added.

Tax collection

New Delhi: Net direct tax collection so far in current fiscal grew 20 per cent year-on-year to Rs 15.60 lakh crore, which is 80 per cent of revised budget estimates for full fiscal year. "The provisional figures of direct tax collections continue to register steady growth. Direct tax collections up to 10th February, 2024 show that gross collections are at Rs 18.38 lakh crore, which is 17.30 per cent higher than the gross collections for the corresponding period of last year," Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said in a statement.

Yamaha Motor rolls out new variant of FZ-X at Rs 1.39 lakh

Chennai, Feb 11:

Two-wheeler major India Yamaha Motor has unveiled a new variant of its popular motor-



cycle FZ-X for Rs 1.39 lakh (ex-showroom, Delhi). The first 100 customers opting to purchase the all-new Chrome Color scheme

online would receive a Casio G-Shock watch on delivery of the vehicle.

The variant retains the FZ-X's robust performance and cutting-edge technology that Yamaha is renowned for. The new color addition guarantees a blend of both style and performance to customers, the company said in a statement. FZ-X is equipped with a 149-cc engine, Traction Control System, and single-channel ABS among others.

New Delhi, Feb 11:

Maruti Suzuki may see some increase in costs due to the rerouting of vessels amid the ongoing Red Sea crisis, according to a senior company official. The auto major, which exported around 2.7 lakh cars last calendar year, however, noted that it does not expect the issue to have a very big impact on the company's overseas shipments. "We are seeing some logistical challenges because of the Red Sea issue. And there may be some increase in costs because of risk or because of rerouting of vessels but it should not be significant,"

Expect some impact on costs due to Red Sea crisis: Maruti Suzuki



MSI Executive Officer (Corporate Affairs) Rahul Bharti said in an analyst call. The lead time of dispatches might change, and there may be some uncertainty in vessels coming and picking up their consignments, among others, he noted. That is a small issue, which is quite common

in the export business, Bharti said. Red Sea strait is crucial for 30 per cent of global container traffic and 12 per cent of global trade. About 80 per cent of India's merchandise trade with Europe passes through this route. The situation around the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, a crucial shipping route for traders connecting the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea to the Indian Ocean, has escalated due to attacks by Yemen-based Houthi militants since December 2023.

Because of this, the shipping costs have jumped, and the consignments are taking more

time to reach Europe and the US, as the ships are taking the Cape of Good Hope route, encircling Africa. Maruti Suzuki has set an aim to export at least 7.5 lakh units by the end of this decade, Bharti said. Africa is turning out to be a good market, and for several reasons, the Middle East region has picked up quite well recently, he noted. The government is also signing some FTAs, where the company might get some relief in duty, Bharti said. He noted that the automaker is also gearing up to commence production of battery electric vehicles (BEV) this year. The first

model, a mid-sized SUV, would be exported to Japan and Europe while catering to the domestic market. "In addition to serving the domestic market, this mid-SUV segment product will be exported to developed markets, such as Japan and Europe," Bharti said. Elaborating on the model, he noted that the mid-sized SUV would be bigger in size than the Grand Vitara and come with a range of around 500 kilometres. "We have taken care of customers' range anxiety extremely well. It will be a high-spec vehicle. We are hopeful that the customers will receive it well," Bharti said.

New branches



Chennai: Public sector Indian Overseas Bank has drawn up expansion plans to open 88 new branches during the year commemorating the 88th Foundation Day celebrations, a top official said on Saturday. The Chennai-headquartered bank marking the occasion unveiled RuPay Credit Card variants, IOB Freedom Savings and Current Account Variant and Digital Documents Execution for online locker agreements.

VINTAGE & CLASSIC CAR RALLY



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri during the 57th Statesman Vintage & Classic Car Rally, at Statesman House, Connaught Place, in New Delhi, Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024.

Mcap of 4 most valued firms jumps Rs 2.18 lakh cr; LIC, SBI lead gainers

New Delhi, Feb 11:

Four of the top-10 most valued firms together added Rs 2.18 lakh crore in market valuation last week, with Life Insurance Corporation and State Bank of India emerging as the biggest gainers. From the top-10 pack, Reliance Industries, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and SBI were the gainers. They collectively added Rs 2,18,598.29 crore in market capitalisation. On the other hand, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Infosys, Bharti Airtel, Hindustan Unilever and ITC faced erosion from their valuation to the tune of Rs 1,06,631.39 crore. Last week, the BSE benchmark declined by 490.14 points or 0.67 per cent.

Red Sea crisis impacting supply chain: Audi India Head

Expect recovery in coming months

Muonio (Finland), Feb 11:

The situation in the Red Sea is creating supply chain issues for German luxury carmaker Audi, impacting car deliveries to customers in India in the first quarter but recovery is expected in the coming months, according to a senior company official. With electrification on its primary agenda, the company is also evaluating the possibility of assembling electric cars in India. Audi India Head Balbir Singh Dhillon told PTI.

"We are also challenged from time to time by various factors. Very recently because of the Red Sea situation there is a supply



chain constraint that we're facing in the quarter one of 2024. It is challenging for us in the first quarter but we expect to recover in the coming months," he said. Dhillon was responding to a query on outlook and challenges in 2024. Deliveries to customers for certain models at present have been delayed by a few weeks, he noted. Container vessels have

been facing attacks in the Red Sea, one of the most important trade routes in the world, since November last year following Israel's war against Hamas. When asked about the traction of electric vehicles in India, Dhillon said, "As of now, it is at a very nascent stage but this is like a marathon, we have to run for a long period of time."

States, UTs lowering tax on jet fuel provided huge fillip to airline industry: Scindia

New Delhi, Feb 11:

The government's efforts have resulted in 31 states and Union Territories now levying lower taxes on jet fuel, a development that has provided a huge fillip to the airline industry, which was witnessing a V-shaped recovery after the Coronavirus pandemic, Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said on Saturday. Emphasising that the civil aviation sector provides huge economic multipliers, he also said that greater connectivity has led to greater economic development. Air Turbine Fuel (ATF) accounts for around 40 per cent of the operational costs of an airline. Scindia said that after taking over as the civil aviation minister, he reached out to various states

and UTs to reduce the value-added tax (VAT) on jet fuel. At that time, only 12 states and UTs were having 1-4 per cent VAT on the jet fuel, and the rest were charging 20-30 per cent, he said. Today, Scindia said, 31 states and UTs are charging a VAT of 1-5 per cent on ATF, and that has provided a "huge fillip" to the airline industry. The industry was witnessing a V-shaped recovery after the pandemic, he added. During the pandemic, the civil aviation sector was significantly impacted and flight services were suspended for a certain period of time. Post the pandemic, the sector has recovered well, and domestic air traffic is on an upward trajectory. Greater connectivity has led to greater economic growth.

New Delhi, Feb 11:

Duty concessions on gold, which accounts for 80 per cent of India's imports from Peru, is the most challenging issue for New Delhi under the proposed free trade agreement with the South American nation, a report said on Sunday. Economic think tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said that gold, a high-value product with low volume, attracts a 10 per cent basic customs duty in India, and even minor tariff concessions could lead to a significant increase in imports. India and the South American nation Peru are negotiating a free trade agreement to promote bilateral trade and investments between the two

countries. In such pacts, two trading partners either significantly reduce or eliminate customs duties on the maximum number of goods traded between them, besides easing norms to promote trade in services. The next round of talks is expected to start this week in Lima, Peru. "Tariff concessions on gold, accounting for USD 1.8 billion or 80 per cent of India's imports from Peru in FY23, is the most challenging issue for India," GTRI founder Ajay Srivastava said. He argued that after tariff concessions under the India-UAE free trade agreement, gold imports from the UAE, India's second-largest gold supplier, doubled in 2023 compared to 2022. "Peru, the fifth-largest supplier to

India, could see a similar surge in gold imports if concessions are made," the report said. In 2023, India's global imports of unwrought gold are estimated at USD 43 billion, with Switzerland accounting for 40 per cent of these imports, it said, adding that given Peru's gold mines, its gold would easily meet any Rules of Origin criteria. "FTAs offer concessions on effective duties rather than on the bound duty. Excluding gold from an FTA would violate the World Trade Organization's Article XXIV, which requires duty cuts on substantial trade for FTAs," Srivastava said. He also said that India's bound duty on gold is set at 40 per cent, but the current applied tariff is 10 per cent.

Commissioning of India-assisted refinery in Mongolia by 2026: Dambajav Ganbold

New Delhi, Feb 11:

Mongolia's ambassador to India Dambajav Ganbold has said the India-funded greenfield oil refinery project in South Gobi is on track and will be operational by 2026. However, he acknowledged some delays from the Indian side in delivering products for the refinery plant.

"Of course, there are some delays from the Indian side in delivering the products, but overall, the project is progressing well," he told PTI. "It is crucial for our relations, and we eagerly look forward to its completion." With a USD 1.2 billion line of credit announced by India during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Mongolia in 2015, the refinery's construction has been delayed



by 1.5 years due to COVID-19. "The work on the refinery project is going well. Because of COVID, it has been delayed by one and a half years. We believe that it will be operational by 2026," Ganbold said. The refinery aims to reduce Mongolia's reliance on Russian oil imports. Upon completion, it will have a capacity of 30,000 barrels per day or 1.5 million tonnes annually, helping the country meet its demand for gasoline, diesel, aviation fuel, and liquefied petroleum gas.

Kumbh Kalpa Mela preparations in full swing

Brijmohan Agarwal's meeting yields visible results



Central Chronicle News

Rajim, Feb 10: Excitement brews in Rajim as preparations for the Rajim Kumbh Kalpa Mela gain momentum. The progress, following a meeting chaired by Minister Brijmohan Agarwal, has injected renewed vigor into the endeavor. With just a fortnight left

until the auspicious start of the Kumbh Mela on February 24th, efforts to ready the site from Triveni Sangam river to Naveen Mela ground are palpable. A flurry of activity unfolds daily, with dedicated personnel from various departments tirelessly toiling to ensure a seamless experience for devotees. Under the directive of

the Minister, stringent timelines were set during the meeting on February 3rd, mandating completion of all preparations by February 20th. One week since the meeting, significant strides have been made, particularly in road construction, overseen by the Public Works Department. The construction of roads, stretching approxi-

mately 10 to 12 kilometers along the river, is well underway, with stones being laid meticulously to enhance durability and accessibility. Additionally, the rejuvenation of the bathing pool near Ganga Aarti promises a refreshing experience for devotees, with measures in place to ensure continuous flow of clean water. Noteworthy advance-

ments include the commencement of work on Meena Bazaar, a perennial favorite among visitors. The delineation of the bazaar area signals the beginning of preparations for a vibrant marketplace, where revellers can immerse themselves in shopping and entertainment. Furthermore, arrangements for essential amenities such as bio-toilets, water supply, and electricity are being expedited, underscoring the commitment to providing a comfortable and safe environment for attendees.

As anticipation mounts, the prospect of hosting multiple Meena Bazaars and perhaps even a circus adds an extra dimension of excitement to the upcoming festivities. With every passing day, Rajim inches closer to welcoming throngs of devotees and enthusiasts to partake in the grand spectacle of the Kumbh Mela.

Free medicine distribution campaign to fight filaria



Dongargaon, Feb 11: In the threat of filariasis, officials and employees have initiated a comprehensive campaign to distribute free medication in Dongargaon and Dongargarh blocks of Rajnandgaon district. The endeavour comes in the wake of National Filaria Day, observed nationwide on November 11, aimed at raising awareness and safeguarding communities against this debilitating disease. Led by Tikesh Sahu,

District Panchayat President, and Dr. Ragini Chandre, Block Medical Officer, the inauguration of the filaria eradication program at the local community health center marks a pivotal step towards disease prevention and public health promotion. Dr. Chandre emphasized the gravity of filariasis, highlighting its status as a leading cause of long-term disability globally, according to the World Health Organization. The cam-

campaign seeks to mitigate the debilitating effects of chronic filarial conditions such as hydrocele, lymphedema, and chyluria, which not only endanger health but also engender social exclusion and economic hardship. With unwavering commitment from the state government, initiatives like these underscore a collective resolve to combat filariasis and safeguard the well-being of communities across Chhattisgarh.

Revenue camp resolves long-standing issues

Central Chronicle News

Dongargaon, Feb 11: On Saturday, February 10, a tehsil-level public problem-solving camp took place at Sanskriti Bhawan in Dongargaon. The camp was dedicated to resolving revenue-related issues plaguing the community.



The event saw the participation of the entire revenue team, including the Sub-Divisional Officer Revenue and Tehsildar, who diligently worked towards rectifying mutilated transfer revenue documents and addressing other pertinent matters. Among the myriad issues brought forth, the plight of 111 Kotwars in Dongargaon and 90 in Khujji stood out, as they hadn't received salaries

for the past four months. Hiralal, President of Kotwar Sangh, highlighted the recurring nature of this problem, which plunges Kotwars into economic turmoil every few months. Following verbal intimations, formal applications were submitted during the camp, with officials pledging swift resolution. The camp, which received 169 applications

overall, witnessed resolutions for 97 cases on the spot. Notably, issues ranging from income and caste certificates to demarcation and partition found expedited solutions, underscoring the camp's efficacy in addressing diverse concerns. SDM Ashwan Kumar Pusam emphasized the camp's role in resolving revenue discrepancies, assuring that unresolved

cases would receive prompt attention post-camp. However, despite the camp's significance, challenges remain due to limited awareness among villagers. Efforts to enhance publicity and outreach for future camps, including one at the district level, are underway to ensure equitable access to vital services and redressal mechanisms.

Divine festivities at Brahmachari Ashram Darri

Central Chronicle News

Dongargaon, Feb 11: Prepare for an enchanting spiritual journey as Brahmachari Ashram Darri on the banks of Shivenath River gears up for a series of auspicious events and preparations since the 14th of February.



Under the divine guidance of Saint Trilochan Das Brahmachari, the ashram is set to host the Five Kundiya Shri Lakshminarayan Mahayaga and Shri Ram Naam Akhand Kirtan, accompanied by the melodious rendition of Shri Ram Katha. Esteemed Pradhan Yagyacharya Basant Tiwariji Maharaj Pateli (Dalli) and other Vedic Pandits will orchestrate the Yagya ceremonies. From the 14th to the 24th

of February, devotees will witness a spiritual extravaganza, commencing with Kalash Yatra, penance rituals, and a series of sacred offerings. The highlight of the event includes the captivating narration of Shri Ram Katha by Saint Shri Ram Gyanikadas

Mahatyagi of Tirkhedi Ashram, Maharashtra. Culminating on February 24th with Maghi Purnima celebrations, devotees will partake in full Yagya offerings, cow worship, and a grand procession, followed by immersion rituals and a

Mahaprasadi Bhandara. Daily rituals, including Veda mantra recitations, Yagya Narayan Puja, and Mahaprasad Bhandara, ensure a spiritually enriching experience for all attendees, promising moments of serenity and divine blessings.

34th National Road Safety month promotes awareness



Central Chronicle News

Bijapur, Feb 11: The district of Bijapur embraced the spirit of the 34th National Road Safety Month with fervour as school students delved into various activities aimed at fostering traffic awareness. Led by the Traffic Police

Bijapur, under the guidance of Superintendent of Police Dr. Jitendra Kumar Yadav and Deputy Superintendent of Police Traffic Nodal Officer Vineet Sahu, a diverse array of events unfolded on February 10th. At the heart of the initiative were engaging activities such as Zumba dance, rangoli,

painting, songs, essays, and even sports competitions like the 100-meter race and fugdji. Through these endeavours, the Bijapur Police sought to instill in the young minds the importance of both physical fitness and adherence to traffic rules for safer roads. Students from numerous schools across Bijapur enthusiastically participated, showcasing their talents and commitment to road safety. The event culminated with the recognition of exemplary performances, with prizes awarded to the first, second, and third place winners across various competitions. In the 100-meter race, students from Swami Atmanand School and other institutions clinched top honors, demonstrating both speed and agility.

National Deworming Day celebrated in Singdehi



Central Chronicle News

Anwari, Feb 11: Singdehi village witnessed a commendable initiative as it celebrated National Deworming Day, aligning with the government's vision to prioritize children's health. The event, held at the government primary school and Anganwadi center, aimed to educate children about the importance of deworming for better health outcomes, including reduced anemia and improved nu-

trition. On February 10th, 2024, children aged 1 to 5 years received free deworming medicine at Anganwadi centers, while those aged 6 to 19 years were administered the medication at schools. The program, spearheaded by district president Parameshwari Mahendra Sahu, RHO Bharat Lal Sahu, head reader Ganesh Dhruv, Dewangan Gurujii, and Anganwadi worker assistants, ensured widespread participation and coverage.

Beacon of knowledge dispels terror's darkness: Collector

Central Chronicle News



Bijapur, Feb 11: Despite recent challenges posed by Maoist disturbances in the village of Bencharam, a beacon of hope emerged as the Collector of Bijapur inaugurated a new primary school, symbolizing resilience and commitment to education. Just a day ago, Maoists had struck fear by burning mobile tower equipment, leaving a trail of destruction. However, the Collector's arrival brought a renewed sense of optimism as he engaged with villagers to assess the situation and extend support. Addressing the community, the Collector emphasized the transformative power of education, urging villagers to embrace

opportunities for a brighter future. In a gesture of solidarity, he inaugurated the school building alongside Budhri Vacham, a respected elder of the village, underscoring the importance of collective effort in overcoming adversity. During the interaction, villagers voiced their concerns

and aspirations, confident in the Collector's assurance of addressing their needs and resolving grievances. The inauguration of the school building brought joy and anticipation, with villagers hopeful for improved access to education and opportunities for their children.

NSS is an effective platform for personality development: Gaharwar

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Feb 11: The National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of Indira Kala Sangeet University, Khairagarh, has kickstarted a vibrant 7-day special camp in the nearby village of Khajri with a strong focus on nurturing the theme 'Youth for a drug-free society'. The inauguration ceremony, graced by Registrar Prof. Dr. Neeta Gaharwar, set the stage for a week of engaging activities aimed at empowering rural youth and fostering community development. Under the guidance of Vice Chancellor Padmeshree Dr. Mamta (Mokshada) Chandrakar, the camp was inaugurated with great enthusiasm, witnessing the participation of Sarpanch Jeethu Markande of Gram Panchayat Khajri. Dr. Neeta Gaharwar, in her address, emphasized the significance of NSS activities in shaping the personality of youth, encouraging them to actively engage in initiatives that promote



holistic development. Sarpanch Markande echoed this sentiment, expressing gratitude to Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya for organizing the special camp and urging villagers and children to wholeheartedly participate. Drawing inspiration from local luminaries such as Dr. Natthu Tode and Dr. Lisheshwar Verma, who have made significant contributions to the fields of art and music, Markande underscored

the importance of nurturing talent within the community. Throughout the week-long event, esteemed faculty members and experts from the university will conduct sessions on various topics, enriching participants with valuable knowledge and insights. Additionally, NSS cadets will showcase cultural programs aimed at raising public awareness, further enhancing the impact of the camp.

Collector oversees Mahtari Vandan Yojana

● Women's enthusiasm evident in application process

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Feb 11: In a move to ensure seamless implementation of the state government's Mahtari Vandan Yojana, Collector Chandrakant Verma personally supervised the operation of special camps and centers designed to facilitate applications. The collector's hands-on approach aimed to streamline the application process and maximize the scheme's reach to eligible women. Venturing into the heart of communities, Verma meticulously inspected camps and form distribution centers established across key locations including Madrakohi, Saloni, Rengakathera, Pawantara, and Jalbandha at the Gram



Panchayat level. His guidance to officers underscored the importance of providing comprehensive support to enthusiastic women seeking to avail themselves of the scheme's benefits. The palpable enthusiasm among women was evident as they thronged to these camps, eagerly queuing up to complete the application process. Verma, recognizing the significance of the Mahtari Vandan Yojana, assured women of its transformative impact, emphasizing that all eligible mothers would reap its rewards. Highlighting the accessibility of the scheme, Verma noted the deploy-

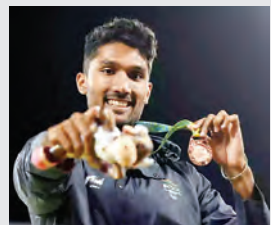
ment of local personnel to assist individuals with application procedures, ensuring inclusivity and participation at every level. With a 13-day window for applications, Verma urged careful consideration during the process, reassuring applicants of the government's commitment to their welfare.

ment of local personnel to assist individuals with application procedures, ensuring inclusivity and participation at every level. With a 13-day window for applications, Verma urged careful consideration during the process, reassuring applicants of the government's commitment to their welfare.

Collector inspects Janpad panchayats

In a surprise move, Collector Chandrakant Verma conducted an impromptu inspection of Khairagarh and Chhuikhadan District Panchayats to assess progress under the Mahtari Vandan Yojana. Seeking first-hand knowledge, he scrutinized online registration procedures and urged officials to expedite the process. Verma emphasized the importance of inter-departmental cooperation to accelerate online registrations alongside offline applications. Additionally, he directed efforts towards organizing the offices effectively and resolving issues concerning unusable goods. Chhuikhadan SDM Renuka Ratre, Chhuikhadan District Panchayat CEO JS Rajput, and other officials accompanied Verma during the inspection.

High jumper Tejaswin Shankar wins season-opening meet in Belgium



New Delhi, Feb 11 (PTI):

National record holder in high jump Tejaswin Shankar won the top prize in the International High Jump Gala Elmos 2024 athletics meet in Heist-op-den-Berg, Belgium with a leap of 2.23 metres. Shankar, competing for the first time since October last year, finished ahead of Greece's Antonios Merlos (2.20 metres) in the World Athletics Indoor Tour Challenger event on Saturday. The 25-year-old, who holds both the men's high jump and decathlon national records, however, could not better his personal best of 2.29m. Shankar is also focusing on decathlon and had won bronze and silver in the discipline in the Asian Championships and Asian Games last year.

Beardman, MacMillan take Australia to fourth U-19 World Cup title

Benoni, Feb 11 (PTI):

India's batting lineup misfired when it mattered the most as they suffered a heartbreaking 79-run loss to Australia in the final of the U-19 World Cup here on Sunday.

Opting to bat, Australia first posted 253 for 7, courtesy Oliver Peake's enterprising 43-ball 46 and Harjas Singh's 55 off 64 balls, and then returned to bowl out the five-time champions for 174 in 43.5 overs. Australia, thus, became four-time champions.

Chasing 254, opener Adarsh Singh made a 77-ball 47 but India kept losing wickets at regular intervals to collapse to 122 for 8 in 31.5 overs. Number 8 batter Murugan Abhishek (42 off 46 balls) then played an entertaining knock but it was too little and too late.

The loss brought back memories of Indian senior team's gut-wrenching loss to Australia in the 50-over



World Cup final at home in November last year. For

Australia, seamer Mahli Beardman (3/15) and off-

Brief scores

Australia: 253/7 in 50 overs (Harjas Singh 55, Hugh Weibgen 48, Harry Dixon 42, Oliver Peake not out 46; Raj Limbani 3/38, Naman Tiwari 2/63).
India: 174 all out in 43.5 overs (Adarsh Singh 47; Mahli Beardman 3/15, Raf MacMillan 3/43).

spinner Raf MacMillan (3/43) did most of the damage. Callum Vidler (2/35) and Charlie Anderson (1/42) were the other wicket-takers.

Earlier, Harjas topped for Australia with 55, while Weibgen and opener Harry Dixon made 48 and 42 respectively. Later, Peake propped up Australia with his breezy knock. Raj Limbani was the most successful Indian bowler with figures of 3/38, while Naman Tiwari picked up two wickets for 63 runs in nine overs.

Quite understandably, Australia chose to bat first

in a pressure match but their batsmen, except Harjas Singh who made a 55 (64b, 3x4, 3x6) could not build on the starts on a rather easy-paced pitch.

Limbani (3/38), who worked up a fair clip from the pitch, bowled opener Sam Konstas with a lovely in-coming delivery to deny the Aussies a quick start as they have done often in this tournament.

But the Australians found stability through Harry Dixon (42, 56 balls) and skipper Hugh Weibgen (48, 66 balls).

Dixon, in fact, started off in a blazing fashion, hammering left-arm pacer Tiwari (2/63) for 4, 6, 4 in the second over; but he settled into a more sedate rhythm in the company of Weibgen.

The hallmark of their second-wicket alliance that worth 78 runs in 18.1 overs, was the way they played the Indian spinners, a massive restrictive force throughout this showpiece.

Maxwell's blistering ton lifts Australia to 34-run victory



Adelaide (Aus), Feb 11 (PTI):

Glenn Maxwell continued his imperious form as he smashed a 55-ball 120 not out to equal Indian skipper Rohit Sharma's record of most centuries (five) in the T20I format here on Sunday. Batting at No. 4, Maxwell unleashed his fury against the West Indies bowlers, smacking 12 fours and eight sixes to bring up his century in 50 balls. His knock propelled Australia to a mammoth 241/4. In reply, the hosts restricted the West Indies to 207/9 to win the second T20I by 34 runs. Maxwell's last nine international

scores for Australia now read 106, 41, 201 not out, 1, 2 not out, 12, 104 not out, 10 and 120 not out. The West Indies chase was derailed by the loss of five wickets in the first seven overs, but a rally led by captain Rovman Powell (63 off 36 balls) and Andre Russell (37 off 16 balls) briefly gave the tourists hope of reeling in the mammoth target. But the weight of the chase ultimately proved too much as Marcus Stoinis (3-36) and debutant Spencer Johnson (2-39) led Australia's bowlers in restricting the West Indies chase to 207-9 in its 20 overs.

Real show stealer was Boomball: Ashwin lauds Bumrah's Himalayan feat



Chennai, Feb 11 (PTI):

Lavishing praise on teammate Jasprit Bumrah, senior India off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin said "Boomball" stole the show in the second Test against England and the pacer reaching top of the ICC rankings across three formats is a "Himalayan feat".

Bumrah displayed brilliance with the ball to play a key role in the team's series-levelling 106-run win in the second Test in Visakhapatnam. He put up a reverse swing master-class in England's first innings that yielded him six wickets (6/45), following it up with a three-wicket haul in their second essay for match figures of 9 for 91. His performance enabled him to jump to number one in the Test rankings list, becoming the first Indian pacer to achieve the feat. Bumrah has also held the top spot in the ODI and T20 rankings previously.

"The real show stealer was Boomball. Jasprit Bumrah has bowled extraordinarily," Ashwin said on his YouTube channel.

"He is the leading wicket-taker with 14 wickets and also the No.1 ranked Test bowler. The first India fast bowler to achieve number one across all formats. I am a big fan of his and this is a Himalayan feat."

Ashwin said that the extraordinary vibe and energy on the fourth day of the second Test helped India secure a favourable result.

"We came into the fourth day with it all being even-stevens. But our extraordinary vibe, energy and team performance helped us level the series 1-1."

The five-match series will be played across Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam, Rajkot, Ranchi and Dharamsala and Ashwin noted that most Indian players have not played Test cricket at these venues.

Harmanpreet's brace hands India 4-1 win over Spain



Bhubaneswar, Feb 11 (PTI):

Skipper Harmanpreet Singh slammed a brace as the Indian men's hockey team outplayed Spain 4-1 in a FIH Pro League match here.

Harmanpreet converted a penalty corner in the seventh minute before scoring from the spot in the 20th minute. Jugraj Singh also converted a penalty corner in the 24th minute while Lalit Kumar Upadhyay scored a field goal in the 50th minute to register the easy win for India.

Spain's lone goal came from a penalty-stroke conversion by Marc Miralles in the 34th minute.

The match also marked veteran midfielder and former captain Manpreet Singh's 350th international game after he made his India debut in 2011.

Spain started on a positive note, enjoying ball possession in the first five minutes but failed to create any clear-cut chance.

Soon Hardik Singh earned India's first penalty corner and in his 199th match, Harmanpreet scored his 150th penalty-corner goal.

Sunrisers claim back-to-back SA20 titles



Cape Town, Feb 11 (PTI):

Sunrisers Eastern Cape won back-to-back SA20 titles after an emphatic 89-run victory over Durban's Super Giants at Newlands here.

After topping the group stage, the Sunrisers delivered a clinical performance in the final on Saturday.

Half-centuries from Tom Abell (55) and Tristan Stubbs (56 not out) along with contributions from Jordan Hermann and captain Aiden Markram, who both contributed 42, respectively, saw the

Sunrisers post a formidable 204/3. The defending champions then bowled out the Super Giants for a paltry 115 in 17 overs.

Partnerships were crucial in the Sunrisers' innings with Hermann and Abell setting up the winning total with a 90-run stand for the second wicket after the early loss of Dawid Malan.

Durban's Super Giants captain, Keshav Maharaj, hit back with a double-wicket over by removing both set batters in Hermann and Abell.

But the Sunrisers showed they had plenty

more in reserve with Markram and Stubbs rebuilding the innings before exploding towards the backend with 98 runs off 55 balls.

The Sunrisers' bowling has been their strongest discipline all season and their seamers certainly rose to the occasion on the night. Dan Worrall (2/15) set the tone upfront again with the dismissal of Quinton de Kock early on before Marco Jansen delivered two hammer blows in the fourth over with the removal of Jon Jon Smuts and Bhanuka Rajapaksa to leave the Super Giants

reeling at 7/3. Wiaan Mulder attempted a recovery job with quickfire 38, but that's when Ottniel Baartman (2/17) delivered the moment of the match.

He had already dismissed Matthew Breetzke, but it was his in-swinging that wrapped the dangerous Heinrich Klaassen on the pads first ball that closed the game as a contest. DSG were on the ropes at 63/5 which left the door open for Jansen (5/30) to come charging through and finish off the Super Giants tail to complete the back-to-back triumphs.

England spinner Leach ruled out of remaining three Tests against India



London, Feb 11 (PTI):

England left-arm spinner Jack Leach was on Sunday ruled out of the remaining three Tests against India with a left knee injury, announced the England and Wales Cricket Board. However, no replacement will be called up for Leach, an indication that England will continue with the spin trio of Tom Hartley, Rehan Ahmed and Shaohab Basheer for the rest of the tour.

Joe Root is the visitors' fourth spin option behind the three regular spinners. Leach had sustained the injury during England's first Test victory in Hyderabad and missed the second Test in Visakhapatnam as a result. "He will fly home from Abu Dhabi in the next 24 hours, where the England team has been staying ahead of the third Test in Rajkot, which starts on Thursday (February 15). "Leach will work closely with the England and Somerset medical teams in respect of his rehabilitation," stated the ECB in a media release. The 32-year-old Leach has taken 126 wickets in 36 Tests, besides being a handy lower-order batter.

Afif's hat trick of penalties secures Qatar back-to-back Asian Cup titles

Lusail (Qatar), Feb 11 (AP):

Akram Afif dropped to his knees. Pretty soon he was being thrown into the air by his joyous teammates after the forward's hat trick of penalties secured back-to-back Asian Cup titles for Qatar.

Afif, the outstanding player of the tournament and leading scorer with eight goals, was nerveless when converting his spot kicks in a 3-1 win against Jordan at Lusail Stadium on Saturday.

Just over a year ago it had been Lionel Messi and Kylian Mbappe who had lit up this spectacular venue in arguably the greatest World Cup final of all time.

On this occasion it was Afif taking center stage and becoming the first player to score a hat trick in the Asian Cup final.

He had been his country's standout performer



from the start of the tournament and did not disappoint when it fell to him to produce the decisive moments against Jordan as Qatar became the first back-to-back winner since Japan in 2000 and 2004.

In front of more than 86,000 fans and with the pressure on, Afif never looked likely to miss from the spot and he sparked wild celebrations with each goal. (I scored) the

penalties because of the confidence my teammates had in me. It is not about technique, it is about the feeling that people are behind me - my team," Afif said. He won and converted his first penalty in the 22nd minute. And after Yazan Al Naimat leveled the game in the 67th he struck again from the spot in the 73rd and sealed the win in the fifth minute of stoppage time.

Nagal and Ramkumar draw French rivals in opening round of Bengaluru Open

Bengaluru, Feb 11 (PTI):

Indian ace Sumit Nagal is pitted against Geoffrey Blancaneux, while wild card entrant Ramkumar Ramanathan will face Maxime Janvier in the men's singles main draw of the Bengaluru Open beginning here on Monday.

World ranked 121 Nagal will aim to extend his dominance over French player Blancaneux, whom he has beaten three times, including in the Australian Open Qualifiers.

India No 2 Ramkumar has a 1-1 head-to-head record against Janvier of France and if he clears the first round hurdle, he is likely to run into top-seed Italian Luca Nardi, who has been drawn to meet a qualifier in his opening round.

Australian Adam Walton has been seeded



third and will open his campaign against Indian wild card entrant Prajwal Dev.

In the doubles main draw, Frenchman Dan Added and Korea's Yun Seong Chung have been given the top billing and will clash with the Australian pair Tristan Schoolkate and Adam Walton.

Australia's Christopher Matthew Romios and Poland's Piotr Matuszewski are seeded second and will take on Taipei's Ray Ho and Australia's Calum Puttergill.

Inter wins 4-2 at Roma to end De Rossi's perfect record

Milan, Feb 11 (AP):

A sublime second-half performance from league leader Inter Milan saw it win 4-2 at Roma in the teaming rain and end Daniele De Rossi's perfect record.

Goals from Gianluca Mancini and Stephan El Shaarawy had given Roma the lead at halftime following Francesco Acerbi's opener for Inter. But the Nerazzurri turned things around immediately after the break with a strike from Marcus Thuram, who also forced an own-goal from new Roma defender Angelino. Alessandro Bastoni sealed the match late on as Inter moved seven points above second-place Juventus. The Bianconeri can cut the gap to four points with a win at home to relegation-threatened Udinese on Monday but will then have played a match more than Inter.



Inter Milan's Italian defender #95 Alessandro Bastoni (C) and teammates celebrates at the end of the Italian Serie A football match between AS Roma and Inter Milan at the Olympic stadium in Rome.

Roma remained a point behind fourth-place Atalanta after De Rossi's first loss. The former Roma player had won all three of his matches as coach after replacing the fired Jose Mourinho.

The suspended Inzaghi watched from the stands as his team took the lead in the 17th minute with the help of a former Inter player.

'A few switching sides won't impact INDIA bloc'

Mamata still part of alliance

New Delhi/Raigarh, Feb 11 (PTI): Amid some INDIA bloc constituents switching sides to the NDA, Congress leader Sachin Pilot on Sunday said the opposition alliance is "strong" and the BJP is attempting a "frantic rejig" of the political landscape as it is worried over the collective strength of the coalition.

In an interview with PTI, Pilot also said West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC chief Mamata Banerjee is very much part of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), and expressed confidence that a way forward will be found in seat-sharing talks with her party.

He also said the BJP talking about 370 seats for itself and 400-plus for the NDA was more of "bravado and rhetoric" than a



Sachin Pilot

practical assessment on the ground. As the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra travels through Chhattisgarh, the AICC general secretary in charge of the state dismissed suggestions that the yatra was adversely affecting the poll preparations of the party and asserted that talks for seat-sharing with allies were going on simultaneously.

"As we speak, we are finalising seat-sharing agreements with most of our allies in different states. So it is not a question of either/or. The yatra is going on but other things are being handled by the AICC leadership and the state in-charges. The Congress president (Mallikarjun Kharge) is himself overseeing all these meetings and negoti-

ations that are being held," Pilot said.

"Our attempt is to make sure we fight unitedly. Yes we have had some that have left our alliance but largely the alliance is intact and very soon we will be announcing the seat sharing and a future roadmap that the alliance will come up with," the Congress general secretary told PTI.

Asked about suggestions that the INDIA bloc is unravelling with JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar crossing over to the NDA, RLD's Jayant Chaudhary's imminent switch-over and Banerjee attacking the Congress, Pilot said, "Look at the amount of partners that left the NDA? Akali Dal, Shiv Sena, PDP, AIADMK. So the number of those leaving the NDA is far larger than some of those people who may not be with us today."

Third offshore campus of IIT to be set up in Sri Lanka

New Delhi, Feb 11 (PTI): The third offshore campus of the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) is likely to be set up in Sri Lanka, according to sources.

The proposal for an IIT in Sri Lanka was announced last November in the 2024 Budget unveiled by Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, who also serves as the finance minister.

According to sources, the Sri Lankan government is in touch with IIT Madras for the ambitious project.

"A high-level delegation had recently visited the Chennai campus to dis-

cuss the future roadmap. The talks are on and the campus is likely to come up in Kandy," a source said.

"The delegation also visited the Research Park at the campus and interacted with officials about possible areas of engagement," the source added.

The Indian government had announced that opportunities for admission to the IITs in India will be provided to meritorious Sri Lankan students from the 2017-18 academic sessions onwards.

If the plan for the Sri Lanka campus comes through, it will be IIT Madras' second international campus.

Prez witnesses ceremonial change-over of Army Guard Battalion

At Rashtrapati Bhavan

New Delhi, Feb 11 (PTI):

President Droupadi Murmu on Sunday witnessed the ceremonial change-over of the Army Guard Battalion stationed at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here.

During the ceremony, the 6th Battalion of the Sikh Regiment on completion of its tenure as the ceremonial Army Guard Battalion handed over the charge to the 1st Battalion of 5th Gorkha Rifles.

Different infantry units of the Army function as the ceremonial Army



President Droupadi Murmu inspects the Guard of Honour during the ceremonial change-over of the Army Guard Battalion stationed at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi, Sunday.

Guard at the Rashtrapati Bhavan by rotation.

The Army Guard Battalion performs ceremonial duties at various important events such as the Guard of Honour to dignitaries, the Republic

CULTURAL RALLY



Devotees participate in a cultural rally during the 93rd annual session of the Srimanta Sankardev Sangha at Rangia, in Kamrup district, Sunday.

PM to distribute over 1 lakh appointment letters

To recruits in govt departments

New Delhi, Feb 11 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will distribute more than 1 lakh appointment letters to newly inducted recruits in central government departments on Monday via video conferencing.

On this occasion, the prime minister will also lay the foundation stone of Phase-I of the Integrated Complex "Karmayogi Bhavan" here. This complex will promote collaboration and synergy among various pillars of Mission Karmayogi.

Prime Minister Modi will distribute more than 1 lakh appointment letters to newly inducted recruits on February 12 at 10:30 am via video conferencing, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said. The Rozgar Melā will be held at 47 locations across the country and the recruitments are taking place across central government departments, and state and Union Territory governments are supporting this initiative.

The new recruits will be joining the government in various ministries and departments vis-a-vis Department of Revenue, Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Higher Education, Department of Atomic Energy, Ministry of Defence, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Railways, the statement said.

FELICITATION CEREMONY



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar with Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais and Chief Minister Eknath Shinde during the felicitation ceremony of meritorious students and prominent personalities of Bhandara and Gondia districts, in Gondia district, Sunday.

AIANA Chh'garh coordinator Vyas interacts with Dy PM of Fiji

AIANA Prog Celebrates Gujarati culture and successes

Ahmedabad, Jan 11: Kirti Vyas, the AIANA Chhattisgarh coordinator, had the honour of meeting Fiji's Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Biman Prasad, during the Pravasi Gujarati Parv program held in Ahmedabad. This prestigious two-day event, organized by the Association of Indian Americans in North America (AIANA), brought together a distinguished delegation of Gujarati personalities from various sectors. AIANA Chhattisgarh convenor Kirti Vyas led the Gujarati delegation in which mainly Nitin Dholakia, Krishnakant



Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Biman Prasad and the program was presided over by AIANA President Sunil Nayak.

The program, inaugurated by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel, aimed to celebrate and preserve Gujarati culture and language, both in India and abroad. It also served as a platform to recognize and honour individuals who have excelled in business, politics, and social endeavors, inspiring the Gujarati community to strive for greatness.

Praful Nayak, AIANA India's coordinator, expressed eagerness to visit Chhattisgarh soon, highlighting the potential for cultural exchange and collaboration between regions.

A bank in Ayodhya where only transaction is 'spirituality, inner peace, faith'



Suman Das, an account holder at the unique International Shree Sitaram Bank in Ayodhya which maintains ledger of 'Sitaram' name count.

with "Sitaram" scribbled on all pages. The spiritual bank, which was set up in November 1970 by Mahant Nriyā Gopal Das, the chief of the Shri Ramjanambhoomi Teertha Kshetra Trust, has over 35,000 account-holders in India and abroad including the US, the UK, Canada, Nepal, Fiji, the UAE and other countries.

The bank has a collection of 20,000 crore 'Sitaram' booklets from the devotees of Lord Ram.

According to Punit Ram Das Maharaj, the manager of the bank, the number of daily visitors at the bank has increased after the consecration ceremony of the grand temple last month. "The bank provides free booklets and red pens to devotees and keeps track of each account.

mind, faith and spirituality! Catching the attention of the devotees and tourists visiting the newly constructed Ram temple is "International Shree Sitaram Bank". The deposits here are booklets

ny of the grand temple last month. "The bank provides free booklets and red pens to devotees and keeps track of each account.

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