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Viksit Bharat



Qatar releases eight ex-Indian Navy personnel

PM 'personally supervised' case: FS

New Delhi, Feb 12 (PTI):

Qatar has released eight jailed former Indian Navy personnel and seven of them returned home on Monday morning, in what is being seen as a major diplomatic victory for India that came nearly three-and-half months after a Qatari court handed them death sentence that was subsequently commuted to jail terms.

Foreign Secretary Vinay said Minister Narendra Modi himself constantly supervised all the developments in the case and has never shied away from any initiatives to ensure the return of the Indians.

At a media briefing, the foreign secretary announced that Modi will

BRIEF

An artist gives finishing touches to in idol of Goddess Saraswati ahead

of Saraswati Puja festival, at a

vorkshop, in Nadia district, Monday

Railways has collaborated

with Swiss firms for tun-

nelling works for various

projects, including the

Rishikesh-Karna Prayag

Udhampur-Srinagar-

Baramulla Rail Link,

the Rajya Sabha.

Stay extended

New Delhi: The Supreme

on the operation of its order granting bail to activist Gautam Navlakha

in the Elgar Parishad-

New Delhi: The National

Investigation Agency on

Monday said a suspected

master trainer of banned

Popular Front of India

his house in Kerala.

(PFI) was arrested from

MARKET

NIFTY 21,616.05

SENSEX 71,072.49

BULLION

71,759

GOLD 62,222

SILVER

Weather

Maoist links case.

Arrested

Court on Monday extended the stay imposed by the Bombay High Court

New Railway Line and the

Railway Minister Ashwini

Vaishnaw has informed

Collaborate

■ New Delhi: The Indian



Former Indian naval personnel, who were jailed and handed down death sentences in a case of suspected espionage in Qatar, arrive in India following their release, in New Delhi, early Monday.

Nitish wins floor test by

129 votes, Oppn walks out

travel to Qatari capital Doha on Wednesday after concluding his two-day trip to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), but indicated that the trip was long conceived. The foreign secretary, without elaborating, said New Delhi continues to work with the Qatari government to ensure the early return of the eighth Indian. In an

Patna, Feb 12 (PTI):

Democratic Alliance government in Bihar, led by

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, on Monday won

the trust vote in the state

assembly, with 129 MLAs

voting in favour of the mo-

tion, amid a walkout by all

Altogether, 129 legisla-

tors voted in favour of the

motion, but Kumar rose to

suggest that the vote of

Maheshwar Hazari, who

belongs to the JD(U), also

Usually, the person in

the Chair does not take

part in voting, unless

Hazari ordered a head-

count after having de-

clared the motion as

passed through voice vote,

following a request from

Parliamentary Affairs

Minister Vijay Kumar

Chaudhary, which was seconded by Kumar, the

JD(U) president.

Speaker

non-NDA members.

Deputy

be counted.

there is a tie.

early morning statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said India appreciates the decision by the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani enabling the release and home-coming of the Indians. The former Indian Navy personnel apparently faced charges of espionage, but neither the Qatari authorities nor

The NDA, comprising

the JD(U), BJP, former CM

Jitan Ram Manjhi's HAM

and an Independent, had a

combined strength of 128

in the 243-strong assembly.

However, it received a shot

in the arm with three RJD

MLAs Prahlad Yadav.

Neelam Devi walking over

BJP MLAs, who were

elated at the party's return

to power after a gap of

nearly 17 months, erupted

in chants of Jai Shree Ram'

as the trust vote was won

by the chief minister, who

spoke for nearly 30 min-

utes, venting spleen against

erstwhile allies RJD and

Congress as also the opposition INDIA bloc, which he

had helped form.

Anand and

Chetan

to the ruling side.

The eight nationals are: Captains Navtej Gill and Saurabh Vasisht, Commanders Purnendu Tiwari, Amit Nagpal, SK Gupta, BK Verma and Sugunakar Pakala, and sailor Ragesh.

New Delhi made the charges against them public. "The Government of India welcomes the release of eight Indian nationals working for the Dahra Global company who were detained in Qatar," the MEA said. "Seven out of the eight of them have returned to India. We appreciate the decision by the Amir of the State of Qatar to enable the release and home-coming of these nationals," it said in a brief statement

'Took decision after consulting

New Delhi, Feb 12 (PTI):

Rashtriva Lok Dal (RLD)

Asked if party MLAs were upset with the RLD joining the NDA, Singh said, "If someone is reporting that, I don't think they have talked to the MLAs. I talked to MLAs and workers and made a decision after that. There was no planning, we were forced to make a decision in a short time due to the circumstances." Though Singh and the BJP have made no formal announcement, both sides gave ample hints about the RLD switching from the INDIA bloc to the NDA since February 9, when Charan Singh was named for the highest civil-

party workers'

leader Jayant Singh on Monday said the decision to go with the NDA was taken after consulting his party MLAs and workers after the Bharat Ratna was announced for his grandfather Chaudhary Charan Singh.

ian award.

Soumya Vishwanathan murder case: 4 convicts get bail

New Delhi, Feb 12 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court on Monday granted bail to four convicts serving life imprisonment in the murder case of TV journalist Soumya Vishwanathan.

A bench of Justices Suresh Kumar Kait and Girish Kathpalia suspended the sentence of Ravi Kapoor, Amit Shukla, Baljeet Singh Malik and Ajay Kumar till the pendency of their appeals challenging their conviction and sentence.

The bench noted that the convicts have been in custody for 14 years.

The high court had on January 23 asked the Delhi Police to respond to the appeals filed by the

Vishwanathan, who worked with a leading English news channel,



hours of September 30, 2008, on Nelson Mandela Marg in south Delhi while she was returning home from work in her car.

Kumar under Section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 3(1)(i) (committing organised crime resulting in the death of any person) the Maharashtra Control of Organised

The court had made it

three years of simple imprisonment under section 411 (dishonestly receiving stolen property) of the IPC. It, however, set off the three-year sentence against the time Sethi had already served, noting he remained in custody for more than 14 years and underwent incarceration during the trial for offences under the IPC and MCOCA for conspiring to

will run "consecutively"

The fifth convict, Ajay

Sethi, was handed down

Kapoor's counsel had submitted that he has been in custody for the last 14 years and nine months and urged the court to suspend his sentence during the pendency of the ap-

abet, aid, or knowingly fa-

cilitate organised crime

and receiving proceeds of

SETBACK TO CONG

Ex-Maha CM Ashok Chavan quits Cong



Former Congleader Ashok Chavan addresses the media.

Mumbai, Feb 12 (PTI):

In a setback to Congress ahead of Lok Sabha elections, former Maharashtra Chief Minister Ashok Chavan on Monday quit the Congress, amid speculation that he is veering towards BJP.

In a letter to state Congress president Nana Patole, Chavan (65) said he was resigning as a primary member of the grand old party. He also submitted his resignation as an MLA to assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar.

Chavan's exit from Congress comes days after

May join BJP

'Will decide next political move in 2 days

Former Maharashtra Chief

Minister Ashok Chavan, who guit the Congress on Monday, said he has not taken any decision yet on joining the ruling BJP and will decide on his next political move in a couple of days. In a letter to state Congress president Nana Patole, Chavan (65) said he was resigning as a primary member of the grand old party. He also submitted his resignation as an MLA to assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar.

senior Maharashtra Congress leaders Baba Siddique and Milind Deora quit the party.

Amid the buzz that

Chavan will join the BJP, Maharashtra deputy chief Fadnavis told reporters, "Aagey aagey dekho hota hai kya (wait and watch what happens".



'INDIA alliance strong despite Nitish's exit'

Korba, Feb 12 (PTI):

Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Monday said the opposition INDIA bloc is strong and all constituents will soon finalise seat sharing for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls. Addressing a press conference in Barpali village in

Nitish Kumar's JD(U) as well as

the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD)

Chhattisgarh's Korba district, he said Bihar Chief Minister

quitting the Congress-led bloc will not have any impact. "INDIA alliance is strong. Nitish ji has

done volte-face and RLD is trying to do the same. There were 28 parties in the alliance and two have left. Jairam Ramesh However, discussion is

underway with AAP, DMK, NCP, Uddhav Thackerayled Shiv Sena (UBT) and Mamta Banerjee ji over seat sharing (for Lok Sabha polls),"

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four convicts.

was shot dead in the early

A special court had on November 26, 2023, awarded two life terms to Ravi Kapoor, Amit Shukla, Baljeet Malik and Ajay

Crime Act (MCOCA).

clear that the sentences

organised crime.

Strength of love:

Congress

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Feb 12 (PTI): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday walked towards a crowd in Chhattisgarh's Korba district that had many persons shouting pro-Narendra Modi slogans and shook hands with them, with the opposition party stating that "there is great strength in love".

Gandhi's 'Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra', which entered the state from Odisha last week, was passing through Dhodipara on the way to Katghora from Korba.

Sharing a video of the incident on X, the Congress said, "There is great strength in love. BJP workers stood to protest #BharatJodoNyayYatra. But when the vatra passed by there and public leader @RahulGandhi ji met him, the scene became something like this..'

In the video, a large number of people can be seen lining the road, including a group wearing saffron scarfs and holding flags having the image of Lord Hanuman and shoutRam' and 'Modi Modi'.

On seeing them, Gandhi got off his vehicle, walked up to them and shook hands with several people in the crowd. He then got back into his vehicle and blew kisses at the crowd.

Earlier in the day, addressing a gathering in Sitamadi in Korba, Gandhi said people were distressed with unemployment and inflation under BJP rule. Asking people to wake up, the Congress leader said masses were being robbed and misled by the ruling dispensation.

The Congress MP reiterated his party's demand for a caste census and said it will be done with the people's support.

The backward classes, Dalits and Adivasis (tribals) comprise 74 per cent of the country's population, but not a single person from these communities is agement of India's top 200 companies that are being given "all the money of the country", he claimed.

The BJP calls it a "Hindu Rashtra", but 74 per cent of the population and the poor from the general country have been getting nothing, he said.

They are only for beating "thali" (steel plate), ringing "ghanta" (bell), showing mobile phones



the media. In the media,

Modi ji, Ambani ji, Adani

ji and Ramdev Baba will

be seen for 24 hours. Rahul

Gandhi will not be seen be-

cause he talks about issues

Gandhi further asked

people if they have seen

those from the backward

segments, Dalits and

OBCs as the owners of big

cepted loss...chanting 'Jai

Shri Ram, Jai Shri Ram'

for 24 hours. It is good but

your money is being

snatched everyday and

you are dying of hunger,"

He further appealed to

the people to not get ad-

dicted to mobile phones

'You have slept and ac-

hospitals or universities.

(of people)," he said.

Rahul shakes hands with persons shouting pro-Modi slogans

and dying in hunger, he said in an attack on the Modi government.

"Tell me, have you seen any poor person, labourer, unemployed person or small businessmen at the Ram Mandir inauguration (on January 22)? I only saw Adani ji, Ambani ji, Bachchan, Aishwarya Rai and other big businessmen. Adani ji, Ambani ji and their families were giving big statements," Gandhi said.

People are not getting employment and are facing the wrath of inflation, while "Adani and Ambani are making profits selling Chinese goods," the Congress leader alleged.

"You will ask me why my speech is not shown in

"If I had come here 100 years ago and asked about the things that get you addicted, you would have answered - liquor, cannabis and charas. Nasha means a person not paying attention to his/her own life and getting diverted to other things," he said.

Nowadays, people and students are hooked to their mobile phones for 8-10 hours (in a day) which is the "most dangerous addiction," Gandhi asserted.

'You people are not able to understand. You are spending 24 hours on your mobile phone. Your attention is being diverted," he

Gandhi said whether people visit a temple, mosque, gurdwara or watch a mobile phone, they should ask one question to themselves everyday that how much money they are getting from the country's funds.

"The day 10 lakh people start asking this question, the entire country will be shaken. I don't feel good saying that you don't understand (issues). But, indeed, your pocket is being robbed and you are being misled," he said.

Gandhi also targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi, claiming he was earlier in a general category

caste which was included in the OBC (Other Backward Classes) list in 2000 under the then Gujarat BJP government led by Modi.

"Now you will say I am also not an OBC. I am not an OBC, but I don't like injustice," he added.

Gandhi also criticised the Agnipath scheme for short-term recruitment of soldiers as Agniveers in the armed forces, and claimed the Army and the country were being divided into two parts.

The Congress leader offered the microphone to a retired army man, who was with him in his jeep, and the latter then spoke on recruitment for government vacancies.

Gandhi subsequently said, "I forget that I am not Modi ji who does not commit mistakes. I am like you (people). Vacancies for the government posts should be filled as it is the public's right to get jobs.'

The Bharat Jodo Nyay Chhattisgarh on February 8 from neighbouring Odisha and after a break of two days resumed from Raigarh district on February 11. It passed through Raigarh and Sakti districts on Sunday and resumed from Korba on

'Govt resolve to make women self-reliant'



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 12: Today in India, women are walking shoulder to shoulder with men in every field. Giving priority to women empowerment, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has started many schemes for the empowerment of women self-help groups.

The objective of these schemes is to make women financially independent and self-reliant. Senior Brijmohan Minister, Agarwal said this in the 'Shakti Vandan Abhiyan' program under Women Help Group Empowerment on Sunday.

In the program organized in Virbhadra Nagar under the chief hospitality of Brijmohan Agarwal, he said that the government is running many programs for the empowerment of women. These schemes have had a positive impact on the lives of women.

ing financially independent and self-reliant. He said that it is necessary to spread awareness among women about schemes being run for them and to encourage women to take advantage of these schemes, for which such events are being organized.

Agarwal distributed cheques to the beneficiaries of various schemes on the occasion. In the program, stalls were set up by the concerned departments to provide informaschemes.

Padmashree brothers, Leader of Municipal Opposition Corporation Mrs. Meenal Choubey, Deputy Leader of Opposition Manoj Verma, Corporator Sarita Dubey, Corporator Mrityunjay Dubey, former Corporator Yaad Ram Sahu, Municipal Corporation officers, employees, beneficiaries and

Program for public awareness and health promotion held

Under National Road Safety Month 2024 in capital city

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 12: On the occasion of National Road Safety Month 2024, on Sunday from 6 am to 9 am, at Anupam Garden, Inter-Departmental Lead Agency Road Safety Chhattisgarh in association with Traffic Police Raipur, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Rotary Club, C-3 India, Amazon, Stayfit with Me. ASGI Hospital organized a innovative program of health promotion and road safety awareness. Inaugurating the pro-

Traffic, Chairman-Lead Agency appealed to protect oneself. family members and general public by self-discipline, road safety measures and



Thereafter, Stayfit with Me group head Shubhangi along with her energetic colleagues danced with the children, youth and elderly during the aerobics and demonstration. During this, Sahaja Yoga, eye check-up and health check-up were also conducted and free coupons for eye

treatment were distributed. Thereafter, Vishal Matri ners and posters for road safety awareness, participated with full enthusiasm in the walkathon wearing saree, the typical attire of Indian culture.

At the end of the program, Team CRC Cyclolog, Stayfit With Me, ITMS Team were felicitated by public representative and social worker Meenal Chaubey by distributing tion and best team respec-

Ajay Pathak and Rotary Greater Team, Khileshwar C-3 India, Arpit Tiwari, ASP Sachin Choubey, Team Amazon, Upadhyay, Privanka. Seema, Alka, Aarti, Sarita, Rajesh, Dushyant, Bhanu Ishu and Rahul extended their support to make the

Justice Manohar Sapre reviews road safety measures

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 12: Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre, Chairman of the Supreme Court Committee on Safety, reviewed the road safety measures being taken by the National Highway Authority and the Public Works Department in the serious road accident prone sections between Durg and Raipur road.

Justice Manohar Sapre also inspected Highway Patrol vehicles, ambulances, speed radar guns, interceptor vehicles, black spots and gave instructions for continuous corrective measures to save lives. He also discussed with NHAI, traffic police



nel and general public regarding road safety.

On this occasion, various departmental officers

Drug free society is necessary to build a strong Ch'garh: Sharma

CG Chemist and Druggist Association expressed concern over use of intoxicating medicines

Departmental Agency (Road Safety) Chhattisgarh Mr. Sanjay Sharma, General Manager

Lead Binjewar, RTO Raipur Mr. Kirtiman Singh, DSP Traffic Mr. Gurjeet Singh and Mr. Satish Thakur

Education Minister paid tribute to Pt. Deendayal **Ūpadhyay**

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 12: On the occasion of 'Samarpan Diwas', the death anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, various programs were organized in Raipur. Senior Minister Brijmohan Agarwal participated in the programs and paid Pandit tribute Deendayal Upadhyay. Agarwal said on this

occasion that Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was a great thinker, politician and social reformer. He propagated the philosophy of 'Antyodaya'. He was a nationalist and dedicated to preserving the



rich culture and heritage of India.

His life and works will always be remembered which inspires us to create a better society. Agarwal said that the aim of Antyodaya is to empower the poorest and

deprived sections of the society. He also said that, in today's time, when the world is getting divided, Deendayal Upadhyay's teaching of 'Integral Humanism' gives us the message of unity and brotherhood.

Dayanand

Raipur, Feb 12: Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, while addressing the felicitation ceremony of Chhattisgarh Chemist and Druggist Association at Veer Savarkar Bhawan in Kawardha, said that we all need to be concerned about the utility of intoxicating medicines for building a strong society, family and strong Chhattisgarh. It is a pleasant initiative that this social concern is starting from Kabirdham district today.

Central Chronicle News

Deputy Chief Minister Sharma said that the Medical Association itself has expressed concern over the use of intoxicating drugs and its consumption and sale, this is a good beginning. He said that the Chhattisgarh government will provide all possible help to the Medical Association in the fight to get rid of drug addiction. He said that there is a need to create public awareness in the society against drug addic-



tion. The association has also decided to expand this liberation war in the entire state. While assuring the Sangh, he said that the concerned Superintendent of Police should also be specially invited in the districts where workshops will be organized under this campaign. For this, full cooperation will be provided by the state government. In the function, the medical director has also decided to keep a record of the people using drugs, this is highly

commendable. On the initiative of **Deputy Chief Minister and Home** Viiav Minister Sharma. Chhattisgarh Chemist and Druggist Association today passed a proposal to make Kabirdham district a district free from the use of intoxicating medicines as an addiction. Chhattisgarh Chemist and Druggist Association also said that this deaddiction campaign will be run in the entire state in the coming days. Deputy Chief Minister Sharma

this felicitation ceremony, state and district level officials Chhattisgarh Chemist and Druggist Association congratulated Deputy Minister **Chhattisgarh Chemist and Druggist** Association has expressed gratitude for the initiative and meaningful efforts of Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma for making a provision of Rs 300 crore in the Chhattisgarh budget for the expansion of the much-

the coming days, Kabirdham district will fulfill the concept of a fully developed district.

A felicitation ceremony for

Deputy Chief Minister Vijay

Chhattisgarh Chemist and Druggist Association at Veer Savarkar Bhawan, Kawardha. This event was presided over by Umesh Sirothia, Avinash Aggarwal, Superintendent of Police Dr. Abhishek Pallav, Kailash Chandravanshi Chandraprakash Chandravanshi former Municipality President Devkumari Chandravanshi, Anand Mishra, CMHO Dr. BL Raj, Anildani, Amit Bardiya, David Khatri was present. On this occasion, Kaishal Chandravanshi, Chhattisgarh, General Secretary of Chhattisgarh Chemist and Druggist Association, Avinash Agrawal addressed and also gave important suggestions to support the campaign.

200th birth anny of Swami Dayanand Saraswati celebrated

At Monnet DAV

Central Chronicle News

MandirHasaud, Feb 12: Monnet DAV Public School. Mandir Hasaud. Raipur has observed the 200th Birth Anniversary of Swami Dayanand Saraswati on Feb 12 in school premises.

Lala Hansrai, also known as Mahatma Hansraj, 1864 to 1938, was an Indian educationist and a disciple of Arya Samaj movement founder Swami Dayanand. He founded the Dayanand Anglo-Vedic



Schools System (DAV) with country lies in the principles Gurudatta Vidhyarthi in Swami Lahore in 1886, where the Saraswati. DAV schools try to first DAV was established. impart Vedic tradition and The foundation of more than exhort its students to imbibe 1000 DAV schools across the the teachings of Swami Davanand Saraswati. The 5 Kundiya Havan

(Yagya) was performed by all the students chanting Vedic mantras under Tarun Kumar Satyawan Barik, Teachers in Sanskrit. To create spiritual ambience, Vikrant Rao Sureshe, Music Teacher, sung mesmerizing hymns. Rajkumar Sharma, Principal, briefed the life of Swami Dayanand Saraswati and urged the students to read the Vedic scriptures available in school library. At the end, a divine food (Prasad) was distributed to the students and the parents.

Four Naxalites sentenced to lifer

In 2014 **Tahakwada** attack case

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Feb 12: A court Chhattisgarh's Bastar district on Monday sentenced four Naxalites to life imprisonment for the deadly attack in which 15 security personnel and a civilian were killed in Tahakwada village in

Special judge D R Dewangan convicted Mahadev Nag, Kawasi Joga, Mani Ram Madiya and Dayaram Baghel of charges under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Explosives Act, and the Arms Act and sentenced them to life imprisonment, special public prosecutor Dinesh Panigrahi told PTI.

Nag, Joga and Madiya Fifteen security personwere residents of Bastar, while Baghel was from neighbouring Sukma district, he said. The case was probed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Armed Naxalites attacked a joint team of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and police near state village Tahakwada under Tongpal police station limits in Sukma district on March 11, 2014.

nel, 11 from the CRPF and four from the state police, and a civilian were killed in the incident. The Tongpal police

had registered a first information report (FIR) against senior leaders Sonadhar, Shankar, Ganesh Uike, Vinod, Sumitra, and 150-200 other active cadres of CPI (Maoist). The NIA later took over the probe, the lawyer said.

We make laws here to shape developed Ch'garh for you: CM

Met the children of **Bemetara's Academic World School in the Assembly office room**

Raipur, Feb 12: Chief

Minister Vishnu Dev Sai constantly communicating with the children of the state to prepare and shape the generation that will have the responsibility of taking charge of a developed Chhattisgarh in the year 2047. The Chief Minister on Tuesday met the children of Academic World School, Bemetra, who had come to visit the Assembly premises, in the Assembly office room and children that this is the most important place resolved their queries. On this occasion, Deputy where the MLAs intend to prepare important laws Chief Minister Vijay Sharma was also present. for the state and work to-The children were accomwards taking the state forpanied with MLA Bhavna

The Chief Minister told the children to ask whatever they want to ask. He also asked the children



ward. The Chief Minister informed the children that when you grow up, people of your generation will reach here and take

Chhattisgarh forward. To ensure that the children of the state have good upbringing and get basic facilities, we passed the budget here and also made

> The Chief Minister said that the way you saw the library here and praised it. That kind of library is there in Raipur by the name of Nalanda campus in which young students prepare for exams and read books. This time in the budget, we have decided to prepare 20 libraries in other districts in the

same manner. There will be a good library in every district, where there will be lots of books for you and you will be able to prepare your bright future by reading them

Student Piyush Rajput asked the Chief Minister that if you are the Chief Minister, how are you taking Chhattisgarh forward. The Chief Minister said that some of your children will be from farmer families. We have taken special care of the farmers. We are giving them the price of paddy at Rs 3100 per quintal under

Raipur, Feb 12:

Commissioner

Sanjay Alang conducted review

of health services and gave

instructions to conduct death

audit of all the deaths of the

patients taking place in district

hospital and hospitals associat-

ed with the medical colleges in

the division. Hesaid that in this

death audit, the phase-wise

details of different stages of

the treatment would be known

and in turn would help in

reducing the reasons behind

death at the time of treatment.

He gave instructions to the

doctors offer treatment to the

patients seriously with latest

technical know-how. Dr Sanjay

Alang also asked the doctors to

take all necessary ideas to

reduce the causes behind

death of patients including

child and mother mortality. Dr

Alang also asked the doctors to

timely refer the patients for

treatment to higher institu-

Divisional

Raipur Dr

bonus amount to the farmers. We buy 21 quintals of paddy per acre.

The Chief Minister said that we bring schemes keeping in mind the interests of all sections, which benefits everyone. We have also kept the budget proposal in a similar manner. Initiatives have been taken for proper development in all areas due to which the entire state will move forward rapidly in the path of progress.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister told the children that Prime Minister Narendra Modi always keeps discussing with the children. He always talk to children about their studies and other topics related to children. The guarantee he has given to the people of the state to beautify Chhattisgarh. We are working towards complet-

CHECKING IN OUTER



The traffic police is checking vehicle documents of vehicles in outer along with strictness on use of helmets and seat belts while driving, so as to ensure safe driving.

Union Minister of State pays courtesy call on Governor

Raipur, Feb 12: Minister of State for Commerce Industry, Government of India, Anupriya Singh Patel greeted Governor Vishwabhushan Harichandan at

Death audit of patients to be done to control death incidents: Dr Alang



senting him a flower bunch and a shawl. She informed the Governor about the schemes of the Central Government, The Governor presented her autobiographical book

More than 54 lakh ration card holders applied online for renewal

Raipur, Feb 12: The work of renewal of all 77 lakh ration cards currently prevalent under the public distribution system in Chhattisgarh is going on from January 25. As of February 12, 54 lakh 03 thousand 620 ration card holders have submitted applications for renewal. People are taking full advantage of the online facility provided by the Food Department for renewal of ration cards and are submitting applications for renewal of ration cards through the Food Department's app from their mobiles.

It is noteworthy that ration card renewal is being done from January 25 to February 15, 2024. A new mobile app of the Food, Civil Supplies and Protection Department has been prepared by the Food Department for ration card renewal, it can be downloaded by going to the Play Store. People can also download form from website of Department **Beneficiary**



khadva.cg.nic.in Ration card holders can submit electronic application for renewal online through this app in their mobile. For those beneficiaries who do not have Android mobile or where there is no mobile connectivity, the facility of submitting electronic application for renewal of ration cards through online process at the fair price shop level is also being provided.

BJP State President provide guidance Raipur, Feb 12: BJP state general

secretary Sanjay Shrivastava informed that an important meeting in view of forthcoming Lok Sabha polls was held at party's Kushabhau Thakre premises here on Monday. It was participated by Samitis of the p arty, wall writing, hoarding samiti, Mahila & SHGs and NGOs, Sampark Abhiyan, 'Gaon Chalo Abhiyan', Ram Mandir Darshan, booth empowerment campaign, PM Vishwakarma Yojana Abhiyan, PM Swa-Nidhi Yojana, 'Labharthi Sampark Yojana' and other important samitis. All the Samitis were given guidance by the BJP State President Kiran Singh Deo, Regional Organisation General Secy Ajay Jamwal, state organisation Gen. secy. Pawan Sai gave valuable guidance in detail and directed all to complete their works within 20 days. The meeting was attended by State gen. secy. Ramji Bharti, Bharat Verma, former Leader of Oppn Narayan Chandel, BJP state V-P Laxmi Verma, Bhupendra Savanni, Sarla Kosaria, Vikas Mahato, Pradeep Gandhi, Shailini Rajput, Prabal Singh, Amit Sahu, V Pratap Viswanathan, Avdhesh Chandel, Kishore Mahanand, Daya Singh

District admn.. police should be ready to make 'Green Corridor' on single phone call

tions seeing the criticality of their illness, so that they can get proper treatment facilities and their life can be saved. This important meeting was attended by Dean Raipur Medical College, Superintendents of Raipur and Mahasamund government hospitls and EEs of Medical Services Corporation, Blood bank in-charges and DSP of Traffic police.

In the meeting, Divisional Commissioner took information about arrangements in the Operator Theatres of Medical Colleges, availability of surgical experts in case of operations and surgical instruments. He also gave instructions to make all arrangements to keep OT rooms infection-free and

ensure sufficient availability of for delay in construction work medicines and chemicals and reagents required. Dr Alang also directed to keep informaimmediately. tion about patients admitted in

due to land dispute at the earliest and informed it to the concerned Collector through letter department-wise, institutional Commissioner directed to delivery and entire record of carry out the construction cesarian operations in day and work of infrastructure in health night hours. Dr Alang also institutions and hospital keepdirected to increase instituing in mind the quality of work and complete it within time tional delivery. He also took information about sanctioned limit. and pending works in the hoscall: pitals, health centres and for

Green Corridor on phone

Divisional

In the meeting the Divisional Commissioner took information from officers of the traffic

police in making preparation for need for a green corridor. DSP Traffic Police informed that any needy person or hospital can avail facility for Green Corridor through a

To provide treatment to seri-

ous patients or for any transplant of organs from one place to another, the district administration and police should always be ready and on the alert. There are dedicated 8 highway patrolling teams always posted from Durg to Raipur. DSP informed that in the last one year, Green Corridor was formed for 57 times and serious patients and organ transplant cases were sent to respective destination on time. He informed that if any needy person or hospital is in need for Green Corridor then they can call on Police Control Phone No. 94791-91099 or to DSP Traffic on government phone no. 94791-91018 by making a phone call.



forms in large number here on Monday.

In Durg

Durg, Feb 12: Authorities in Durg district on Monday demolished the illegally constructed portions of houses of three persons arrested in connection with the murder of a 17-year-old boy in Bhilai city, officials said.

According to officials, the action was taken based on a report of the revenue inspector and patwari to the local municipal corporation.

The authorities razed illegally constructed portions of houses belonging to the accused, Nikesh Chauhan, Sumit Chauhan and a minor boy, in the Shardapara locality under

About the action...

medicines. He also directed the

officers to sort out the land

controversies or other reasons

According to officials, the action was taken based on a report of the revenue inspector and patwari to the local municipal corporation. The authorities razed illegally constructed portions of houses belonging to the accused, Nikesh Chauhan, Sumit Chauhan and a minor boy, in the Shardapara locality under Chhawani police station limits. The trio were among five persons arrested for stabbing the Class 12 student to death over a personal dispute in the locality on January 21.

Chhawani police station limits, an official here said. The trio were among five persons arrested for stabbing the Class 12 student to death over a personal dispute in the locality on January 21, he said.

A probe by the civic authorities revealed that the families of the accused had encroached on additional land while constructing their houses, the official said. A notice was served to them for encroachment, and action was taken as per the Municipality Act, he said.

Welcoming the civic body's action, local BJP MLA Rikesh Sen warned that people committing offences in his Vaishali Nagar constituency will face similar action.

"The bulldozer action was taken on the houses of the accused in the murder Class 12 student Shivam.

I had said on January 22 that if anyone is found indulging in offences of 302 (murder), 307 (attempt to murder), molestation or any other crime, they will face the same action. Criminals in my constituency should now remain alert," Sen said. The state will become crimefree under the leadership of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, he said.

Last month, authorities had taken similar action against the main accused in the murder of a cow shelter worker in the state's Kabirdham district

and bride's side, while 80

Four men working in Jal Jeevan Mission proj abducted by Naxals

Sukma, Feb 12: Four workers engaged in Jal Jeevan Mission works in Sukma district were allegedly abducted by Naxalites, police said on Monday. The incident took place on Sunday under Jagargunda police station limits, located inside a forest around 40 kilometres from Sukma town, officials said.

As per preliminary information, a group of where Jal Jeevan Mission underway and abducted Kin of the workers are

four workers, they said.

Naxals reached the site pipeline laying work was

on through various channels to secure the release of abducted workers, they Two of the workers are from Sukma town and two

yet to lodge a complaint

with police but efforts are

from villages nearby, officials said. The mother of one of

the workers said he is her lone son and the only earning member of the family.

The wife of another abducted worker asked Naxalites to release her husband immediately.

"I have two children and our family is very poor," she said.

Raipur, Feb 12:

CAIT National Senior Vice President Mr. Amar Parwani & State President Jitendra Doshi informed Agrawal Traders across the entire country including state are optimistic about the current wedding season, which commenced on January 15th and will extend till July 15th. During this period, approximately 42 lakh weddings are expected to take place nationwide, resulting in a substantial capital influx of about 5.5 lakh crores of rupees through weddingrelated purchases and services, according to a survey conducted by the

research arm of CAIT, the CAIT Research & Trade Development Society, among traders and service providers in 30 different cities across various states.

The wedding season, considered a significant part of the Indian economy, is playing a pivotal role in its robust growth, stated CAIT. Following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal, destination weddings within the country have gained popularity among all types of weddings. CAIT National Senior Vice President Amar Parwani, chairman Mangelal Maloo, Amar Gidwani State President Jitendra Doshi States

Working President Singh Vikram Parmanand Jain, Vashu Makhija, state General Secretary Suriender Singh, State Working General Secretary Bharat Jain, and State Treasurer Ajay Agrawal informed that in Delhi alone, more than 4 lakh weddings are expected to take place during this season, generating approximately Rs 1.5 lakh crore in business revenue. Last year, around 35 lakh weddings occurred during the wedding season ending on December 14th, with expenses estimated at Rs 4.25 lakh crore. During this marriage season, it is estimated that about 5 lakh weddings will

In entire country including state during current wedding season

42 lakh weddings with an expenditure of Rs. 5.5 lakh cr to be solemnised: Parwani

have an expenditure of Rs 3 lakh per wedding, while approximately 10 lakh weddings will cost around lakh each. Furthermore, 10 lakh weddings are projected to incur expenses of Rs 10 lakhs per wedding, followed by 10 lakh weddings with expenditures of Rs 15 wedding. lakhs per Additionally, 6 lakh weddings are expected to have an expenditure of Rs 25 lakhs each, 60 thousand weddings with Rs 50 lakhs

expenditure per wedding, and 40 thousand weddings with expenses exceeding Rs 1 crore. Overall, during this six-month period, approximately Rs 5.5 lakh will circulate crore through wedding-related purchases in the markets.

Mr. Parwani and Mr. Doshi emphasized that in anticipation of the lucrative business opportunities during the wedding season, traders nationwide are adequately stocked with wedding-related goods to meet customer preferences and demands. They mentioned that approximately 20 percent of the expenditure for each marriage is allocated to both the groom's

percent goes to thirdparty agencies involved in wedding arrangements. Before the wedding season, a significant amount of business is conducted in home repairs and painting. Additionally, jewelry, sarees, lehengachuni, furniture, readymade garments, clothing, footwear, wedding and greeting cards, dry fruits, sweets, fruits, worship items, groceries, food grains, decoration items, home decor, electrical utilities, electronics, and various gift items are typically in high demand and expected to generate significant business this

Centre has given the due honour to the entire tribal community: Sai

By appointing me as CM of Chhattisgarh

CM attended the felicitation ceremony of Kendriya Gond Mahasabha Dhamdhagarh

Raipur, Feb 12:

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai attended the felicitation program Gond Kendriva Mahasabha today. In his address to the program as Chief Guest, Shri Sai said that the leadership at the Centre has given the due honour to tribal community by appointing me as the Chief Minister

Chhattisgarh. "I am a tribal, your brother and ally. With your support, I aim to serve Chhattisgarh Mahatari with all my heart and best of my capabilities", said Chief Minister Shri Sai while addressing the felicitation and martyrdom day ceremony of Amar Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh organized by Kendriy Gond Mahasabha Dhamdhagarh at Kachna Dhurwa Temple premise located in Civil Lines of District Headquarters Durg. On this occasion, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai announced immediate sanction of Rs 25 lakh for installing the statue of tribal folk hero Birsa



Munda and Rs 50 lakh for construction of additional Gondwana in Bhawan in Durg, on the demand of Kendriya Gondwana Mahasabha. People present at the program cheered and applauded the announcements made by Chief Minister. Chief Minister said that Chhattisgarh Government is dedicatedly and rapidly fulfilling the guarantees of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Besides the approval of Pradhan Mantri Aawas to more than 18 lakh eligible families of the state, our government has paid the outstanding bonus of two years worth Rs 3716 crore to the farmers in their accounts. Our government is also commencing the implementation of Mahtari Vandan Yojana from

March 1. At present, applications are being collected and once the eligible beneficiaries for the scheme are identified, they will be provided an amount of Rs 1000 per month directly in their bank accounts.

Chief Minister said that Chhattisgarh is the 'Nanihal' of Shri Ram. Chhattisgarh is the place where Shri Ram had spent most of his exile period. Chief Minister further said that Shri Ram's affection for the people of this region and Mata Shabri's pure devotion towards Lord Shri Ram are the invaluable assets Chhattisgarh. He said that fulfilling the guarantee of Modi ji, our government has started Shri Ramlala Darshan Scheme. Praan Pratishtha of Shri Ramlala has been been provide remuneration of

Gondwana Mahasabha for installation of the statue of freedom fighter and social reformer tribal leader Birsa Munda. Tribal leader Birsa Munda was born in Banga village of Jharkhand. Birsa Munda fought to free the people from the dictatorship and oppression of the British and protected the rights of the tribal communities. Chief Minister said that Birsa Munda's life, his inspiring thoughts and revolutionary works are a source of inspiration for all of us. At the program, the officials of Kendriya Gond Mahasabha honoured Chief Minister by crowning him with a bejeweled cow horn and gifted him a bow and arrow. On this occasion, Chief Minister was also weighed with Motichoor laddus by the tribal Gond community. In the program, Food Minister Dayal Das Baghel and MLAs Doman Lal Korsewada, Gajendra and Chandrakar and President Kendriya Mahasabha Dhamdhagarh Thakur and other officials and people of the community were present in large

Rs 5500 per standard bag to tendupatta collectors.

Chief Minister Vishnu

Deo Sai congratulated

Youth should participate in building a 'Viksit Bharat': Modi



Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, congratulated and extended best wishes to more than 1 lakh youth by virtually handing out appointment letters in the 'Rozgar Mela' organized at 46 places in different states of the country. He appealed to the youth to become partners in nation-building, stating that the job creation campaign by the Government of India is being carried out with complete transparency, ensuring equal opportunities for all the youth of the country to

prove their abilities. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while addressing the virtual programme following the laying of the foundation stone of Karmik Bhawan in Delhi, stated that it will aid in the training and coordination of personnel. He added that positive steps are being taken so that youth can secure their place based on hard Recruitment processes for the jobs are being completed within the stipulated

No compromise on quality or delays tolerated: Sao

PM virtually handed out appointment letters to more than 1 lakh youth across the country

implementation of the Startup Scheme, youth are getting various employment opportunities.

In the series of 'Rozgar Mela' being organized in various states of the country, one such event was organized at the Central Reserve Police Force Camp located in Arang of Raipur district. Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Anupriya Patel participated in the virtual distribution programme of appointment letters to the candidates in this Rozgar Mela. On this occasion, she distributed appointment letters to 75 candidates selected in various Central Armed Forces and other departments. She stated that this 'Rozgar Mela' is a historic step towards fulfilling the commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to give top priority to em-

lyst for employment generation in the future and provide meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in the development of the nation.

In the Rozgar Mela, appointment letters were distributed to 04 candidates of the Central Reserve Police Force, 09 of the Border Security Force, 01 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, 17 of the Postal Department. 10 of Revenue C.B.I.C., 04 of FCI&PD, 05 of Labour (EPFO), 20 of Hindustan Copper Limited, and 05 of

Higher Education. Additional Director General (I.P.S.) Amit Kumar, Inspector General of Police (I.P.S.) Saket Kumar Singh, Inspector General Chhattisgarh Sector Central Reserve Police Pandey, Commandant of Group Center Raipur Ajay Kumar Singh, selected candidates, and their families, along with officials and employees of central departments.

Radio is a powerful medium of communication: Sai

World Radio Day today

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, in his message on the occasion of World Radio Day on February 13, stated that radio remains a potent medium of communication. World Radio Day is celebrated with the purpose of recognizing the significance of radio in fostering freedom of expression, facilitating public debate, and promoting education dissemination. He added that radio is renowned as the most potent and economical medium for

Raipur, Feb 12:

information dissemination. Countless messages have been conveyed to diverse audiences through radio, particularly reaching those residing in rural areas, towns, and remote locations where alternative communication means are limited. Even today, radio retains its efficacy as a powerful communication tool. Sai stated that despite being a centuriesold medium, radio continues to serve as a vital means of communication. Its importance is particularly evident in emergency situations.

Over 103.40 lakh MT of paddy lifted in the state

Raipur, Feb 12: Till now, the state government has purchased a record 144.92 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of paddy from farmers at support price. Along with paddy procurement, continuous lifting of paddy is going on for custom milling. Till now, DO has been issued for lifting of 106 lakh 69 thousand 702 metric tonnes of paddy, against which 103 lakh 40 thousand 304 metric tonnes of paddy has been lifted by the millers. In lieu of paddy procurement, an amount of more than Rs 31,913 crore has been paid to the farmers. According to the information received from the General Manager of Markfed, till now 144 lakh 92 thousand 96 metric tonnes of paddy has been purchased from 24 lakh 72 thousand 440 farmers in the state till February 04 at support price.

Mungeli, Feb 12:

Deputy Chief Minister Public Health Engineering Minister Arun Sao has issued instructions to demolish the substandard water tank under construction in Deorhat of Lormi development block of Mungeli district. Deputy Chief Minister Sao, during his recent visit to Deorhat to attend a programme, promptly went to the work site and inspected it upon receiving complaints from villagers about low-quality construction and de-

directed Engineer-In-Chief of the Engineering Department to inspect the water tank under construction and submit an inspection report. Following the inspection, the work was found to be of poor quality and riddled with flaws. Consequently, the Deputy Dv CM Sao strict on quality of construction works orders demolition of substandard water tank under construction

after 500 years. Our gov-

ernment is providing peo-

ple the opportunity to do

'Darshan' of Ramlala, at

Referring to another

guarantee of Prime

Minister Shri Narendra

Modi, Chief Minister said

that the Prime Minister

had promised procure-

ment of 21 quintals of

paddy per acre from the

farmers at the rate of Rs

3100 per quinta, which we

have fulfilled. The differ-

ence amount in price of

paddy will be paid to the

farmer in lump sum.

Government has provi-

sioned Rs 10 thousand

crore in the budget for this

purpose. Fulfilling the

guarantee of Prime

Minister, our government

has now issued an order to

government expense.

Villagers' complaint prompts inspection of water tank, **Engineer-In-Chief instructed** to submit inspection report

Chief Minister ordered its demolition and the construction of a new water tank. The demolition of the under-constructed water tank has commenced. The Engineer-In-Chief has also recommended action against the responsible officers and the contractor in the inspection report.

Since assuming the role as Minister of the Public Health Engineering Department, Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao has stressed the importance of quality construction and timely completion of projects under the Jal Jeevan

Mission. He has consis- appointed for the con- part of both the contractently directed departmental officers in this regard, stating that compromise on quality and delays are unacceptable under any circumstances. After inspecting the

water tank under construction in Deorhat, the Engineer-In-Chief of the Public Health **Engineering Department** reported that the agency

struction work, Shri Ram Construction Company from Bijuri (Anuppur), has delivered poor-quality construction and extensively delayed the work. Given the failure to adhere to prescribed standards and quality in the construction of the water tank, it is deemed unfit for public use. This indicates serious negligence on the

tor and departmental engineers. The third-party inspection **Engineering Staff College** of India, responsible for overseeing the work, has also been found unsatisfactory. In light of the negligence during the tank's construction, Engineer-In-Chief has instructed the demolition of

the substandard water

tank and the construction of a new tank meeting prescribed standards. The contractor has been instructed to take proper precautions during the demolition to prevent any untoward incidents. The inspection report

highlights that the reputation of the Jal Jeevan Mission has been tarnished due to the poor quality of construction work. Consequently, the contractor, Shri Ram Construction Company, is prohibited from participating in any work related to the Public Health Engineering Department until further notice. The Engineer-In-Chief has directed the Chief Engineer, Bilaspur, to prepare show cause notices and charge sheets for disciplinary action against the concerned Executive Engineer, I.P. Mandavi, Assistant Engineer S.P. Sonwani, and Deputy Engineer I.S. Kashyap.

General

Santosh Dewangan and

Entire country is grateful to the PM: Dewangan

Korba, Feb 12: Industry, Commerce and Labor Minister of Chhattisgarh Government, Lakhanlal Dewangan said today that during his 10 years of tenure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi increased the respect of India on the world stage and raised the head of the country, for this today Chhattisgarh as well as the entire country is grateful to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and thanks him. He said that the Prime Minister made schemes for all sections of the society, there was concrete implementation of the schemes at the grassroots level, which benefited crores of people of the country, their standard of living increased and their problems ended.

Minister Industries Lakhanlal Dewangan said these things during the Shakti Vandan Abhiyan program organized at Kabir Bhawan complex located in Sardar Patel Nagar Pass. Shakti Vandan Abhiyan program was organized at Kabir During his tenure of 10 vrs. PM raised India's head high on the world stage

Women of self-help groups doing excellent work, Nari **Shakti honoured**

Bhawan Pass, while giving his dignified presence as the chief guest of the event, Industry Minister Dewangan honoured the women of self-help groups and Nari Shakti who did excellent work and extended his congratulations and Best wishes.

On this occasion, Dewangan first inaugurated the program by garlanding the portraits of Mata, Deendayal Upadhyay and Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and lighting the lamp. Addressing the program, Cabinet Minister Dewangan further said in his address that PM Narendra Modi has made schemes for all

sections of the society, es-



of Mahtari Vandan Yojana forms Urging the women present on this occasion, Industries Minister Dewangan said that under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of the state Vishnu Deo Sai has implemented 'Mahtari Vandan Yojana', under which every year 'Nari Shakti' will get a support of Rs 12000 per year, which will come directly into your bank account. He said that fill the forms of Mahtari Vandan Yojana as soon as possible and submit them compulsorily so that you can get the benefits of this scheme from March 1.

Mandatory submission

pecially for improving the living standards of women, youth, poor, indigent and people standing at the last end of the society. Taking concrete steps towards improving their condition, providing them all possible help and ending their miseries, dozens of schemes were implemented by him. He said that Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, STEP, Pradhan Mantri Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, Mahila

Speakers gave detailed information about the schemes

During the program, Corporation Leader of Opposition Hitanand Agrawal, Corporator Ritu Chaurasia, Ward Councilor Budhwar Sai Yadav, BJP District General Secretaries Santosh Dewangan and Tikeshwar Rathiya, Mahila Morcha District President Vaishali Ratnaparkhi, Jyoti Verma, Budhwara Dewangan and other speakers praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi on various occasions. Gave detailed point-wise information about public welfare schemes to the citizens present and appealed to take maximum benefit of these schemes.

Samman Bachat Yojana, Minister **Employment Generation** Programme, Pradhan Mantri Vidya Lakshmi Programme, e-Shram and many schemes are included including card scheme. Along with this, many schemes

Mahtari Vandan Yojana, Lakhpati Didi Pahal Yojana, Comprehensive Nutrition Scheme, National Social Assistance Program are being implemented. He said that now a double engine government has including come in Chhattisgarh

Among the honour of 'matratva shakti' today the **Industry Minister honoured** women self-help group members Anju Sharan, Sharma, Rita Annu Tiwari. Kaushal. Reema Devi, Ranjita Bada, Maryam Minz, Jyotis Yadav, Anuradha Rameshwari Devi, Madhuri. Soni, Karuna Kashyap, Geeta Tomar, Uma Devi, Savitri Yadav, Anita Jaiswal, Savitri Tandon, Sadhna Gurug, Sandhya Devi, Lakshmi Verma, Parbin Begum, Annu Kenwat,

under the leadership of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, now there will be complete development of our Chhattisgarh and the development of the state which was done during the 15 years tenure of the then Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh will now be taken forward again.

During the program, Leader of Opposition Hitanand Aggarwal, Councilor Chaurasia, Ward Councilor Budhwarsai

Tikeshwar Mahila Morcha District President Vaishali Ratnaparkhi, Budhwara Verma, Dewangan, Councilor Kavita Rajput, Firtaram Sahu, Councilor Vijay Sahu and Golu Pandey Pureen Bai Kanwar, BJP Mandal President Ajay Vishwakarma, Ishwar Sahu, former corporator Radhelal Yadav, Dinesh Vaishnav, Prafulla Tiwari, Archana Runijha, Devaki Sahu, Kalindri Rajwade Hema Pandey, Suman Soni, Bali Sahu, Narendra Patanwar, Parvinder Corporation's Kaur. Additional Commissioner Treasurer Kumhar, Zone Commissioner Commissioner Pawan Verma, Health Officer Dr. Sanjay Tiwari, Assistant Engineer D.C. Sonkar, Deputy Zone Incharge Ghanshyam Shriwas, Arun Mishra etc. and others were present.

tracks, national highways

and state highways in trib-

al regions remained sus-

pended since morning,

due to the blockades put

up at several locations," a

"Blockades were erected

at many places in West Tripura district. However,

normal life was largely un-

affected in Agartala

Municipal Corporation

areas (AMC)," District Magistrate (West Tripura),

Visha Kumar, told PTI.

senior police officer said.

CENTRAL CHRONICLE, RAIPUR, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024

'BJP govt gave 1.5 times more jobs than preceding govt did in 10 years'

serted that the measures

taken by his government,

be it a scheme for rooftop

solar power for one crore

homes or the massive in-

vestment in infrastruc-

ture, have been creating a

lot of employment oppor-

With over 1.25 lakh

start-ups, India is the third

largest eco-system in the

sector, and youngsters are

launching new firms in

even smaller cities, he

said, adding that it is creat-

Modi said 40,000 modern

ing lakhs of jobs.



PM Modi digitally addresses the 'Rozgar Mela', Monday.

New Delhi, Feb 12 (PTI):

Narendra Modi Monday said his government has given 1.5 times more jobs in its 10 years than the previous dispensation did in the same du-

Handing over recruitment letters to government jobs to more than one lakh youngsters via video conference during a Rozgar Mela programme, Modi castigated the previous government for taking

an inordinately "long time" to complete recruitment exercises and said it

The prime minister said government has brought transparency and is working to ensure that recruitment is done in a time-bound manner.

Youngsters now believe that they all have equal opportunity and can find a place for themselves in the government system through hard work and talent, he said.

The prime minister as-

the Vande Bharat trains will be manufactured and included in normal trains to increase convenience and comfort for passen-

Accusing previous governments of not paying due attention to the railways, he said the entire sector is transforming

"They neglected the common people's expectations," Modi said, attacking the previous govern-The prime minister said

his government has extended tax rebates to startups and has announced a fund of Rs 1 lakh crore for research and innovation.

Highlighting the far-

reaching impact of connectivity, Modi spoke of new markets, expansion of tourism, new businesses and the creation of lakhs of jobs due to this.

Blockade over Kokborok script issue disrupts rail, vehicular movement

In Tripura

Agartala, Feb 12 (PTI)

Train services and vehicular movement were severely impacted in tribal belts of Tripura, as the "indefinite" rail-road blockade over the Kokborok script issue by students' bodies began on Monday.

The student wing of Tipra Motha, the main opposition party of the northeastern state, announced an indefinite road and rail blockade from February 12 to press for the demand that students be allowed to write their Kokborok language papers in Roman script in the upcoming class 10 and 12 state board examina-

Tipra Motha supremo Pradyot Kishore Manikya Debbarma claimed during the day that he got assur-

Mumbai, Feb 12:

Obstetric

Bharat Serums and

Vaccines Limited (BSV) a

leading biopharmaceuti-

cal company in India, has

collaborated with the

Study on Female Breast

Committee, Federation of

Gynaecological Societies

of India (FOGSI) to in-

crease awareness towards

breastfeeding and postpartum care through the

The RISHTA initiative

endeavours to foster a

conducive and support-

ive ecosystem for breastfeeding by educating the

paramedics on the health

benefits of breastfeeding,

while taking care of the

emotional and mental

wellbeing of the new

on two formats of train-

ing: One program focuses

RISHTA 2024 focuses

mothers.

RISHTA initiative 2024.

'RISHTA' promotes

awareness on breastfeeding

and post-partum care



Protestors block railway tracks during a protest organised by TISF demanding to instate Roman script for Kokborak language along with Bengali in Tripura Board of Secondary examination, on the outskirts of Agartala, Monday.

ance from the highest level' in Delhi that the students will be allowed to write Kokborok in their choice of script.

Kokborok, an indigenous language spoken by nearly 24 per cent people of the northeastern state, does not have a script. Students generally write papers for the language in the Bengali

practitioners through 'Train the Trainer" pro-

gram and will run as a

pilot in six cities in its

taken by experienced gy-

naecologists and the

cities covered include

New Delhi, Bareilly,

These sessions will be

first phase.

Patna,

Faridabad

Dehradun.

Raipur, C.G. 0771-4265624, 4265623 il: bom981@mahabank.



Appendix IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property) [Rule - 8 (1)]

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Bank of Maharashtra under Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule : 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 01/12/2023 under Section 13 (2) of the said Act and called upon you M/s Rishi Agro Implement through its Proprietor- Mr. Ganesh Anant S/o Shri Keshav Ram Anant to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being Total Rs. 79,86,768.66 (Rupees Seventy Nine Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Eightand Paise Sixty Six only) plus unapplied interest from 01/12/2023 and expenses incurred for recovery against Mortgage of Scheduled property, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The said notice was sent by R.P.A.D.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with Rule 8 of the Security

Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on **08.02.2024**The Borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Bank of Maharashtra for an amount mentioned above.

The borrower's attention is livited to provisions of sub-section (N) of Section

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Equitable mortgage of CSIDC land (Lease deed executed or 11/04/2018 deed no. 320, Book no. -1, Volume no. 73312, Page no. 275 to 304) allotted to M/s Rishi Agro Implement through its proprietor Mr Sanesh Anant s/o Mr. Keshav Ram Anant having plot no.95, Sector –B Part of Khasra No. 67, P.H. No. 100, admeasuring 1161.45 sq. mtr (0.116 hect), Located at Metal Park, Rawabhata, Phase – II, Village Raipur, C.G. and construction thereon. Boundaries of the property: North: 18 mtr. wide CSIDC Road, East : Plot No. 96, West : Plo o. 94. South: Plot No.98

Description of the moveable Property. 1.) Hypothecation of stocks and book debts up to 90 days. 2.) Hypothecation of assets (Plant and Machineries, furniture and fixtures etc.) Purchased / acquired with the



ROHA HOUSING FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED

Lucknow,

Corporate Office: Unit No. 1117 & 1118, 11th Floor, World Trade Tower,

Sector 16, Noida, Uttar Pradesh - 201 301 Raipur Branch: Shop No. 206, 2nd Floor, Lal Ganga Business Park, NH-43, Pachpedi Naka Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001.

Authorised Officer: Sankalp Dixit-7987871480, Reetesh Tiwari-9300601377

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Roha Housing Financ

Private Limitedunder the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 for the recovery of amount due from borrower/s, offers are invited by the undersigned in sealed covers for purchase o mmovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, on 'As is Where is Basis'. 'As is What is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis', Particulars of which are given below:-

sr.	Guarantor (s)	Notice Date	Description of the	Reserve	Deposit (EMD)
	(Lan No. / Branch)	and Amount	Immovable property	Price (RP)	(10% of RP)
1.	LAN: HLRAICPPSC000005005593 Branch: RAIPUR 1. Mr. Jibrail Ansari 2. Mrs. Afsana Parveen Both Add.: 1st Floor, Murra Bhatti Gudhiyari, Gandhi Nagar Raipur, Chhattisgarh 492001	11-08-2023 & ₹ 8,66,394/-	All the piece and parcel of property bearing - Plot part of Kh.No. 158/18 P.H.No. 00037, Mauza Gondwara, R.N.M. Raipur 1, Tah & Dist. Raipur 492003, Chhattisgarh. Four Side Boundaries:- East- Road, West- Land of Jain, North - Land of Seller, South- Land of Seller	12,24,000/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Twenty Four Thousand	₹ 1,22,400/- (Rupees One Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Four Hundred Only)

(1) Date & Time of Inspection: 02-03-2024, between 11.00 am to 2.00 pm.

(2) Last Date of Submission of Sealed Bid/Offer in the prescribed tender forms along with EMD and KYC is 14-03-2024 within 5:00 PM at the Branch Office address mentioned herein above. Tenders that are not filled up or tenders received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.

(3) Date of Opening of the Bid/Offer (Auction Date) for Property is 15-03-2024 at the above mentioned branch office address at 11.00 AM to 2:00 PM. The tender will be opened in the presence of the Authorised Officer.

(4) The notice is hereby given to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s, to remain present personally at the time of sale and they can bring the intending buyers/purchasers for purchasing the immovable property as described herein above, as per the

(5) This is 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002 is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to

the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the above described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Roha Housing Finance Private Limited (RHFPL) Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and to the amount due to Roha Housing Finance Pvt. Ltd., in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped. (6) The immovable property will be sold to the highest tenderer. However, the Authorised Officer reserves the absolute

discretion to allow interse bidding, if deemed necessary. The Property as mentioned will not be sold below Reserve Price (7) RHFPL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the property as mentioned above. The Property shall be auctioned on 'As Is Where Is Basis' 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis'.

(8) The Demand Draft Should be made in favor of 'Roha Housing Finance Private Limited' Only

(9) The detail terms and conditions of the auction sale are incorporated in the prescribed tender form. Tender forms are available at the above mentioned Branch office. Authorised officer reserve the rights to extend the date of tender o

change the terms & conditions of bidding. For further details & other terms & conditions of bidding please visit our branch For further details, contact the Authorised Officer, at the abovementioned Office address.

Place : Chhattisgarh Date: 13-02-2024

Authorised Officer Roha Housing Finance Private Limited

GOURI TRITIYA



Women in bridal attire perform rituals as they celebrate ancient Nag festival 'Kanchoth', also known as 'Gouri Tritiya', in Bhaderwah of Jammu & Kashmir, Monday

Sandeshkhali incidents shattered my senses:

Bengal Guv Kolkata, Feb 12 (PTI): Tensions simmered in Bengal's Sandeshkhali block, as Governor CV Ananda Bose made a hurried visit to the troubled region, pledging iustice for the women who claimed to have suffered abuses, even as six BJP lawmakers faced suspension for raising concerns about the situation in the assembly. Protests persisted in Sandeshkhali for the fifth consecutive day, with a significant number of women taking to the streets, demanding the arrest of TMC leader Sheikh Shajahan and his alleged "gang." The accusations include forcefully capturing land and sexually harass-

Gupteswar forest in Odisha declared as Bio-Diversity Heritage site

Bhubaneswar, Feb 12 (PTI):

The pristine Gupteswar Forest, adjacent Gupteswar Shiva temple in Odisha's Koraput district has been declared as the Biodiversity-Heritage Site (BHS) of the state, a government notification said. The site is spread over 350 hectares of demarcated area. Along with its sacred grooves traditionally worshipped by the local community, the site is bestowed with a wide range of flora and fauna. the notification said.

The biodiversity inventory and survey conducted by the Odisha Biodiversity

Board shows the presence of at least 608 faunal species including 28 species of mammals, 188 species of birds, 18 species of amphibia, 48 species of reptiles, 45 species of pisces, 141 species of butterflies, 43 species of moths, 41 species of odonates, 30 species of spiders, six species of scorpi-

on, and 20 species of lower

invertebrates, it said.

Significant faunal species like mugger crocodile, kanger valley rock gecko, sacred Grove Bush Frog, and avifauna like black Jerdon's baza, Malaber trogon, common hill myna, white-bellied woodpecker, and banded bay cuckoo and others have also been documented.

The limestone caves of Gupteswar are adorned with eight species of bats out of the total 16 species found in southern Odisha. Among them, two species Hipposideros galeritus and Rhinolophus rouxii are under the near-threatened category International Union for Conservation of Nature.

This site also has a rich floral diversity embracing 182 species of trees, 76 species of shrubs, 177 species of herbs, 69 species of climbers, 14 species of orchids and threatened medicinal plants like Indian trum-

pet tree, Indian snakeroot, Cumbi gum tree, Garlic pear tree, Chinese fever vine, Rohituka tree, Jodpakli, Indian jointfir, a number of wild crop relatives of ginger and turmeric. In addition to this, many agriculturally and industrially important micro-organisms have also been indicated to exist in this primeval ecosystem.

Declaration Gupteswar as BHS while boosting the cultural attachment of people with this forest will also lead to the conservation of its precious biodiversity. With this declaration, the state has now four BHSs.

Bank of Baroda

ो क्षेक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Regional Office, First Floor, Zonal Market, Sector-10, Bhilai (C.G.) - 490006 PH: 0788 - 2261892,2264992, E-mail: recovery.durg@bankofbaroda.com

(Publication in the Newspapers in case of return/failure of service of 60 day's Notice U/s.13 (2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002) The Authorized Officer, Bank of Baroda had issued 60 day's Notices to under mentioned borrowers / Guarantors U/s.13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 by Registered A/D/speed post, But these Notices were returned by the Postal authorities due to the reason of refusal to take delivery/wrong address/person left the place/city. These borrowers/guarantors have given their under mentioned movable/immovable assets by way of hypothecation / mortgage as security to secure the various credit limits granted by the Bank to the borrower(s). Due to non-payment of Bank's dues and non-fulfillment of terms and conditions of the loan, default has beer committed by the borrower (s) / guarantor (s) in payment of bank loan and interest and the loan account has become NPA as per RBI guidelines In view of the above, a 60 days Public Notice is given to the following borrower(s)/guarantor(s) to pay the bank dues as stated below alongwith interest till payment failing which the bank will be constrained to enforce its security interest without intervention of Court or Tribunal by taking recourse to one or more of the measures under Chapter - III of the Act. The borrower/guarantors are also directed by this Notice that in terms of Section 13(13) of the Act they shall not transfer by way of sale/lease or otherwise (other than in ordinary course of business) any of the secured assets charged to the bank without prior consent of the bank. The details of borrower/guarantors and secured assets is as follows, against whom the bank will start initiating action after 60 days in the event of non-payment of banks' dues by them.

No.			Name of the Co-Borrower & address	Outstanding Amount as per	(NPA Date: 29.11.2023) (Notice Date: 12.12.2023)	
	& Phone No.				Details of Secured assets	
	Rajnandgaon Branch	Mrs. Ravita Lakra Kusum Appartment, A-2, Ward No 7, Mudliyar Colony, Near Sahkari School, Rajnandgaon, Dist Rajnandgaon, C.G 491441.	Mr. Sunil Kumar Lakra Kusum Appartment, A-2, Ward No 7, Mudliyar Colony, Near Sahkari School, Rajnandgaon, Dist Rajnandgaon, C.G 491441.	A. 1971	Equitable Mortgage of All piece and parcel on Part of Kh. No. 441/6, Area - 800 sqft (74.34 sq. mtr), Situated at village chikhali,P.C No. 27/47, Ward No. 13, Rajnandgaon,Tahsil & Dist Rajnandgaon (CG) belonging to Smt. Ravita Lakra. Boundaries of the Sale Deed - South - Remaining land of Prashant Vaishnav, North - Land of Ashok Sahu, East- Land of Ashvani Gharde, West - Road.	
Da	te:13.02.20	24. Place: Bhilai. Chh	attisgarh		Authorized Officer, Bank of Baroda	

1 in 5 migratory species faces extinction: UN report

New Delhi, Feb 12 (PTI):

One in five migratory species is threatened with extinction and 44 per cent have a decreasing population trend, according to the United Nations' first 'State of the World's Migratory Species' report released on Monday.

The situation is far worse in aquatic ecosystems, with 97 per cent of the migratory fish listed for protection under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) at risk of extinction. Established in 1979, the CMS focuses on bringing countries and stakeholders together to agree on the actions needed to ensure that migratory species survive and

The report launched at

the opening of the 14th conference of parties to CMS in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, said 82 per cent of the species listed under Appendix I of the convention are threatened with extinction and 76 per cent have a declining population trend. Eighteen per cent of Appendix II species are globally threatened, with almost half (42 per cent) showing decreasing population trends.

convention's Appendix I lists migratory species which are endangered. Appendix II lists migratory species "which have an unfavourable conservation status and require international agreements for their conserva-

tion and management". The report also identifies 399 globally threatis a leading cause of mor-

ened and near-threatened migratory species (mainly birds and fish) that are not yet listed in the CMS Appendices that may benefit from international protection.

According to CMS Executive Secretary Amy Fraenkel, overexploitation (hunting and fishing, both targeted and incidental) emerges as the greatest threat for many migratory species, surpassing habitat loss and fragmen-

The report said the habitat fragmentation resulting from dams is currently greatest in East Asia, Europe, the Indian sub-continent, North America and Southern Africa. By-catch of nontarget species in fisheries

tality of many CMS-listed marine species. Other key threats to mi-

gratory species include pollution (including light and noise pollution), climate change and invasive species. Over the past 30 years, 70 CMS-listed migratory species -- including the steppe eagle, Egyptian vulture and the wild camel -- have become more endangered. Just 14 species have an

improved status. These include blue and humpback whales, the whitetailed sea eagle and the black-faced spoonbill, the report said. It said 58 per cent of the monitored sites recognized to be important for CMS-listed species are facing unsustainable levels of anthropogenic pressure.

Zumba dance, rangoli competition organized

For school children at the safety center.

■ Under 34th **National Road Safety Month**

Bijapur, Feb 12:

Under the 34th National Road Safety Month 2024 in district Bijapur, on Saturday school students were made aware about traffic rules and signals through various programmes by the Traffic Police Bijapur. In the Road Safety Awareness month, under the guidance of Superintendent of Police Bijapur Dr. Jitendra Kumar Yadav and the Deputy Superintendent of Police Traffic Nodal Officer Vineet Sahu, under the auspices of the Traffic Police, Zumba dance, rangoli, painting, songs, essays, 100 meters race,



Bijapur Police appealed for a healthy body and a healthy mind through Zumba dance. An appeal was made to follow the traffic rules and signals legally for safe traffic.

In the said program, students of 'Chhu Lo Aasmaan'. Swami English Atmanand Medium Bijapur, Swami

Atmanand Hindi Medium Bijapur, Eklavya, Ankur Public School, Kanya Parisar Bijapur, Adeshwar Public School Bijapur participated. First, second and third prizes were given to the participants in various competitions. In the 100 meter race, first in the girls category was Bulbul Swami Atmanand School,

Kumari Sarita Eklavya School, third was Kumari Kanjal Ankur Public School. In the 100 meter race boys category, Arjun Swami Atmanand stood second in Hindi medium, of Sameer Atmanand stood second in English medium, Anil of 'Chhulo Aasmaan' stood third. Ishita Rana got the first place in the speech

Collector inaugurates

Bencharam-Budhari

On February 7, armed

Maoists had carried out

the incident of arson of

batteries and other equip-

primary school in

Bijapur, Feb 12:

competition, Rajesh from 'Chu Lo Aasman' got second place, Ishita Rana Swami Atmanand Hindi Medium got second place, Rashmi Shimla Girls Education Complex got third place. In the Road Safety Survival Song Competition, Nagmani Group Kanya Parisar Bijapur stood first, Surabhi Group Swami Atmanand English Medium stood second, Khushi Yadav Swami Atmanand Hindi Medium stood third, Bijapur. In the painting competition, first place was given by Disha Group, Swami Atmanand Hindi Medium, second was by Ashish Group, Swami Atmanand Hindi Medium, Nandu Korsa and Mohit Kashyap Chhu Lo Aasmaan Rahe.In the essay competition, Sanjana Girls Education Complex stood first, Akash Akanksha Swami Atmanand School English Medium stood second, Anita Semla Girls Campus Bijapur stood third.

Basant Sachev appointed State Secy. AHS



Dhamtari, Feb 12:

Senior jornalist of city and former Working President Puja Panchayat Sindhi Samaj (PPSS) Dhamtari and former advisor PPSS Dhamtari Basant Sachdev has been appointed as Secretary in Antarashtriya Hindu Sena (AHS).

For this appointment Basant Sachdev has expressed gratitude to Int'nl President AHS Mahant Aditya Krishnagiri, national organisation gen. secy. Jayakant Kumar Vatys, Int'nl Gen. Mahendra Gandharv and President AHS Chhattisgarh Navak and said that he would work with commitment to take the organisation forward.

Darkness of terror will be dispelled by the lamp of knowledge: Pandey

liquor worth Rs 2940

Police seizes country



Dhamtari, Feb 13:

As per instructions by senior police officers of the district, TI Kurud Thana under leadership of SDOP Kurud KK Vajpayee and under guidance of Addl. SP Madhulika Singh raided the place in Gram Nari, near a culvert, with information that illicit liquor is being sold in the

The police on reaching there nabbed on Kamlesh Singh with 23 quarter bottles of country liquor and 10 quarter bottles of 'Desi Masala', with each having 180 ML and total 5.940 bulk

lts of liquor worth Rs 2940 and cash amount of Rs 190 from liquor sold. It was amidst the witnesses that a the material was seized and he was booked under section 34 (2) Of Excise Act and neccessary legal action was taken.

The accused nabbed is Kalmesh Singh S/o Late Ramdas Singh, R/o Kiran dabha, Nari, Thana Kurud, District Dhamtari Thana In the above action TI Kurud Inspector Arun Sahu, SI Ravindra Sahu, Mahesh Sahu, Kishore Deshmukh played an important role in nabbing

lage. While explaining the

importance of education

to the women and vil-

Collector said that educa-

tion is the only medium

through which every ad-

verse situation can be

The villagers discussed

lagers

overcome.

present, the

Lost child in fair saved by police

Handed over back to parents acting promptly

Dhamtari, Feb 12:

The Borai police acting promptly handed over an innocent child who got separated with his mother and father in Borai fair recently. Ankit Markam is a six yr old boy and he got lost / deatached with his parents in the huge crowd of people in Borai mela re-

The police on seeing the child crying took him to search of his parents in the Borai Mela. It was on holding inquiry nearby that finally the police came to know about the lost son of parents in the

Jagdalpur, Feb 12:

Dedication

The death anniversary of

Pt Deendayal Upadhyay

celebrated

Bharatiya Janata Party

Municipal Board Jagdalpur.

BJP state president Kiran

Deo said on the occasion of

dedication day that the

world's most popular leader

and country's Prime

Minister Narendra Modi is

fulfilling the dreams of

Upadhyay inspires all peo-

Dav

bv



them, they were called to the police thana. The child and the parents identifiedeach other. The name of mother of Ankit is Babita Markam and that of his father is Ramesh Markam from Gram Thana Vishrampuri. On finding her son safe and sound with police, brought tears in the eyes of the mother. Both husband and wife

Death anny of Pt Deendayal Upadhyay

celebrated as dedication day

ple. Pandit Deendayal's thoughts and ideas are

going to inspire generations

to improve India as a na-

the dedication day, officials

and workers will donate Rs

5 to Rs 2000 only through

Narendra Modi app. And

the surrender amount of Rs

2000 more will be taken

through cheque in the name

of Bharatiya Janata Party

medium on

Kiran Deo said that on

tion, as a society.

the police to keep their son safe and expressed gratitude towards them for bringing back their son

For this remarkable work, TI BoraiInspector Pramod Amaltas, Devnath Sinha, head constable Saurabh Patel. Jitendra Korram, Kuber Singh Jarri played an important role in searching parents of the lost child in Borai

ment of the mobile tower in village Bencharam under Jangla police station. After reaching there on Friday, the Collector took stock of the situation with the villagers. Anti-development slogans had been written on the walls by the Maoists, which were erased in the presence of the Collector. The Collector talked about pro-

same time, people were made aware to leave the hollow ideology and join the main stream to improve the future of them-

Collector about the demands and problems of the villagers in order to conduct the development works in a better way.

It was informed that the primary school building

in the village is ready but the school is not being run. After which the Collector took immediate action on the spot and inaugurated the school building at the hands of Budhri Vacham,

cordially with the Collector and informed him about the various problems and demands of the village. Collector Pandey said that all the demands will be resolved as per the rules. He also motivated all the eligi ble beneficiaries to take the benefit of the currently running Mahtari Vandan Yojana. The villagers expressed happiness at the inauguration of the school building and said that now their children will be able





Jagdalpur, Feb 12:

formed on Sunday and raid

action was taken. During the raid, 4 gamblers Sameer Sedre, Rakesh Das, Avinash, Karandas were caught red handed gambling. Rs 2260 in cash and playing cards were recovered from his possession and possession. A criminal case was registered against the said accused under Section 03 ChG Gambling Prohibition Act 2022.

Two accused threatening people with axe and knife arrested

Jagdalpur, Feb 12:

An accused was arrested in the case of scaring the common people with a sharp axe in Metguda Jawahar Nagar ward under Bodhghat police station area of the district. A sharp axe has been seized from the possession of the accused criminal Manoj Kumar, S/o Madan, who was threatening people. In another case, in Adawal Rajeev Para, a person was threatening people by waving a sharp weapon, a knife. A sharp weapon, a knife, has been seized from the possession of the accused criminal Khema Ram Yadav, S/o Budhram Yadav.



Action was taken against both the arrested criminals by registering a crime under section 25, 27 of the Act in Bodhghat police station. After the proceedings, both the accused have been sent on judicial remand.

Pandit Deendayal, the Chhattisgarh. BJP State source of inspiration of Committee Bharatiya Janata Party, by welfare of the poor through many schemes and programs. The life and mission of Pandit Deendayal

Working member Vidyasharan Tiwari said that Deendayal Upadhyay, who gave the slogan of Antyodaya, said that if we want unity, we will have to

social policy related to the roots of India have the power to change the destiny of the country. No country has been able to develop by being cut off from its roots. The program was conby General Vedprakash ducted Secretary Pandey and

understand Indian national-

ism. Which is Hindu nation-

Ramashray Singh. During this, prominent BJP workers including Subhau Lachuram Kashyap, Kashyap, Sudhir Pandey, Sanjay Pandey, Anand Mohan Mishra, Yogendra Pandey were present.

Kotwali police station of the district received information from an informer that some people were gambling in Suncity Atal Awas Lalbagh of the city. Gamblers are gambling by betting money on playing cards. To act on the information, a police team was

Only to beat plates, ring bells, show mobile phones and die of hunger: Rahul big businessmen. Adani ji, Ambani ji and their families were giving big statements. Terming it as economic injustice, the Congress leader alleged that people are not getting employment and are facing the brunt of inflation,

Rahul Gandhi asked people have they ever seen backward, Dalit and OBC persons as owners of big hospitals or universities? He said, you have slept and accepted the Chanting Jai Shri Ram, Jai Shri Ram 24 hours. This is good, but your money is being taken away every day and you are dying of hunger.

PM Modi's caste

targeted Rahul Gandhi also hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi and claimed that he previously belonged to the general category caste, which was included in the OBC (Other Backward Class) list in 2000 under the then Modi-led Gujarat BJP government. He said, now you will say that I am also not OBC. I am not OBC,

but I do not like injustice. A dig at the central regarding

by the armed forces and claimed that the army and the country is being divided into two. The Congress leader offered the microphone to a retired army personnel who accompanied him in his jeep and later he spoke on recruitment for government va-

Rahul unveils the statues of his grandmother and father in Korba:

cancies.

Rahul left on foot from TP Nagar Chowk to Indira Shakti Sthal located at Indira Stadium and then he unveiled the statues of late Indira Gandhi and late Rajiv Gandhi located in the campus here. During this, former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and former minister Jai Singh Agrawal leaders of the Congress Committee were present. Rahul Gandhi unveiled the statues of his grandmother and father in

Former CM Bhupesh Baghel also ride in the jeep:

Rahul Gandhi stopped near Darri Hasdev Barrage. Congress workers accorded a grand welcome to him there. Former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel also rode in the jeep. Then the convoy moved ahead towards the pass. The convoy reached Katghora. Where the Congress workers welcomed him warmly and gave him a grand welcome.

Korba, Feb 12:

Former AICC President Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra started from Manipur in the North-East. Bharat Nyay Yatra started from Bhainsma in Korba after which the Yatra reached Nagar Chowk and where Rahul Gandhi addressed the people and said that hatred and violence are increasing due to injustice. People said the reason for this is unemployment, inflation and fear, so we added the word justice in the journey. He further said that even a billionaire is paying the same amount of tax as the common man. GST money goes from your pocket to the



government. You are paying GST and your money is going to only 2-3 people. Rahul Gandhi said about the mobile phone of a person present is the mobile phone from China and to which Adani and Ambani are making. Due to which they and China are getting

benefiting. The common

man has no benefit from

this. Rahul Gandhi made a retired soldier and a laborer sit with him in his car. Poor and the backward are not getting any-

thing: Rahul Gandhi said, backward classes, Dalits and tribals constitute 74 percent of the country's population, but not a single person from these com-

munities owns or manages India's top 200 companies. Taking aim at the BJP government, he said, BJP calls it Hindu Rashtra, but 74 percent of the country's population and the common poor are not getting anything. Targetting at the Centre, he claimed that they were only there to bang plates, ring bells, show mobile phones and die of hunger. Mentioned about

Ambani and Adani: Congress MP said, tell

me, have you seen any poor, labourer, unemployed person or small businessman at the inauguration of Ram Temple? I saw only Adani ji, Ambani ji, Amitabh Bachchan, Aishwarya Rai and other while Adani and Ambani are earning profits by selling Chinese goods. Told the public to be aware:

> govt Agniveer: The Congress MP also

> criticized the Agneepath scheme for recruitment of soldiers as fire warriors

PML-N floats idea of 'participatory coalition government'

Islamabad, Feb 12 (PTI):

The Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) led by former three-time prime minister Nawaz Sharif has pitched the idea of a "participatory coalition government" to rival parties to end the logjam following the split verdict in the February 8 election, according to media reports on Monday.

PML-N has 75 seats in the 266-member National Assembly, the single largest party. Independent members, mostly backed by jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, have secured 101 seats.

Former law minister Nazeer Tarar termed this scenario Hobson's choice' and said not a single political party had secured a majority in the National Assembly, insisting that elections were

senior PML-N leader was talking to the media after a meeting of

Germany, Monday.

Washington, Feb 12

(PTI): US President Joe

Biden has slammed his

predecessor Donald Trump

for dragging Indian-

American Republican

presidential candidate

Nikki Haley's husband

into the swirl of personal

attacks. Haley's husband

Major Michael Haley, a

commissioned officer with

National Guard, is current-

ly on a year-long deploy-

ment with the 218th

Maneuver Enhancement

Bridge, which is providing

support in the Horn of

Africa. He deployed in

June. Trump at a rally in

Saturday questioned the

whereabouts of Michael

Haley. "Where's her hus-

band? Oh, he's away... What

happened to her husband?

Where is he? He's gone,"

Carolina

Carolina

South

US President Joe Biden

slams Trump for his comments

on Nikki Haley's husband

Trump said at his rally in

Conway in South Carolina.

his first visit to the state

this year. "The answer is

that Major Haley is abroad,

serving his country right

now. We know he thinks

our troops are 'suckers,'

but this guy wouldn't know

about service to his coun-

try if it slapped him in the

face," Biden said in a tweet

Haley, 52, the only candi-

date against Trump in the

Republican Party's nomi-

nation race, fired back at

Trump's comments later

on Saturday and again on

"Donald Trump's com-

ments represent a pattern

of disrespect to every mili-

tary member who sacri-

fices for us and the families

who sacrifice alongside

them," she told Face The

Nation CBS on Sunday.

on Sunday.

Sunday.

Imran Khan's party to sit in opposition; rules out joining any coalition govt

Islamabad. Feb 12 (PTI): Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party will not join hands with rival PML-N or the PPP to form a coalition government and would sit in the opposition despite having a majority in the newly elected Parliament, party leader Barrister Gohar Ali Khan has said. Independent candidates, mostly affiliated with Khan's PTI, secured the most parliamentary seats in last week's general election. However, PTI does not have enough seats in the 266-member National Assembly to form a government on its own. "We don't feel comfortable with both (Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and Pakistan Peoples Party) of them. There will be no talks with anyone to make a government or to make a government together with them. It is better to sit in the opposition than to make a government [with them], but we think we have the majority," Gohar Khan told Dawn News. The Election Commission of Pakistan has announced that independent candidates, a majority of them supported by the PTI secured 101 seats, followed by Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) with 75 seats, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) getting 54 seats, and Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) bagging 17 seats.

the party's top brass at Jati Umra in Lahore during which consultations were held regarding the future course of action. The exminister said the PML-N had started consultations with its former allies to form a unity government in the Centre.

"There's only the possibility of forming the (federal) government with the backing of the PML-N. It will be a participatory coalition government." he

said, adding that it was in "the largest interest of the country that all should join hands" to form the federal government, the Dawn newspaper report-

According to PML-N sources, the initial formula stipulates that if the coalition parties agree to give the post of prime minister to the PML-N, then the post of president and speaker will be given to the Pakistan Peoples Party

ROSE MONDAY PARADE

A float depicting "Barbies and Ken", with the characters of Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, Alice Weidel,

center, and Sahra Wagenknecht is driven through the streets during the Rose Monday parade in Mainz,

Jakarta, Feb 12 (AP):

Wednesday will elect the

successor to popular

President Joko Widodo,

who is serving his second

It is a three-way race for

the presidency among cur-

rent Defence Minister

Prabowo Subianto and two

former provincial gover-

nors, Anies Baswedan and

Subianto, who is widely

seen as the front-runner,

has picked Widodo's eldest

son, Gibran Rakabuming

Raka, as his running mate.

are eligible to vote in the

democracy and the most

populous Muslim-majori-

ty nation. Here is some in-

formation about the candi-

dates and their running

About 205 million people

third-largest

Indonesians

and final term.

Ganjar Pranowo.

Tribune newspaper reported.

Similarly, the post of deputy speaker can be given to the Muttahida Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) or any of the independent members joining the coalition. Besides, the PML-N may keep the finance ministry, and other ministries will be distributed among allies with mutual consulta-

cal strength, both the PML-N and the PPP are in a position to form a coalition government in the Centre. However, PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif announced that all parties except PTI should join hands in the upcoming set-

According to the results announced by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) till Sunday, of the total 265 National Assembly seats, PTI-backed Independents bagged 101 seats, followed by PML-N at 75, PPP at 54, MQM at 17 and other smaller parties won 17

According to the formula, the sources said the decision regarding the nomination for the positions of Senate chairman and deputy chairman will be decided in consultation with the allies after the Senate elections.

"The PML-N has held a consultation for a long time on this initial formula." a source said.

'Ahlan Modi' event scaled down due to inclement weather

Dubai, Feb 12 (PTI): The Ahlan Modi' community event to be addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday in Abu Dhabi has been scaled down due to inclement weather conditions in the UAE, an official involved in preparations said on Monday.

The event Ahlan Modi' (Hello Modi in Arabic) was scaled down after heavy rains and flashes of lightning were reported the UAE across overnight, causing traffic snarls and waterlogging.

Community Sajeev Purushothaman told PTI that preparations for one of the biggest diaspora events of Prime Minister Modi ever at the Zayed Sports Stadium in Abu Dhabi

were going fine but the participation was reduced from 80,000 to 35,000 because of the weather. Defence minister and 2 former

Gurung, both 33, have scripted history by becoming the first lesbian couple in Nepal to officially regis ter their marriage.

Bardiya district in western Nepal, and Suprita, a resident of Syangja district, on Sunday, got their marriage registered at Municipality of Bardiya

TENDER NOTICE

(1) Tender Notice No. E-R-T-80-23-2 Date: 08.02.2024 Name of Work : Provision of Toe wall raising of bridge retaining wall, bridge tablet, inspection steps, grouting work ncluding stone pitching of bridge slope etc. under the jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Balod, Tender Value 4,65,00,229/-, EMD: ₹ 3,82,500/-. Submission of Tender: upto 11.00 Hrs. on 07.03.2024, Opening of

Tender: 11.00 Hrs. on 07.03.2024. For further details/purchase of tender document, eligibility criteria & the complete details for the above work please contact office of the Sr DEN(Co.)/ Raipur or refer/ download tender document which is available or

कार्यालय, राज्य न्यायालयिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला (छत्तीसगढ) गृह (पुलिस) विभाग छत्तीसगढ़ शासन

द्रभाष क.-0771-3501122 क्रमांक रा.न्या.वि.प्र./भर्ती/एम-679/2024

Kopassus soldiers kid-

napped and tortured polit-

ical opponents of Suharto,

his then-father-in-law. Of

22 activists kidnapped that

year, 13 remain missing.

Subianto never faced trial,

although several of his

men were tried and con-

लंक https://phq.cgstate.gov.in/fslonline/पर आमंत्रित किया जाता है ।

राज्य न्यायालयिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला

Israeli forces rescue 2 hostages in dramatic Gaza raid

Rafah, Feb 12 (AP)

Israeli forces rescued hostages Monday, storming a heavi ly guarded apartment in the Gaza Strip and extracting the captives under fire in a dramatic raid that was a small but symbolically significant success for Israel. The operation killed at least 67 Palestinians, including women and children, according to Palestinian health officials in the beleaguered territory.

To assist the rescue forces, heavy airstrikes pounded the area near the apartment in Rafah, a city on the southern edge of the Gaza Strip where 1.4 million Palestinians have fled to escape fighting elsewhere in the Israel-Hamas

The raid was celebrated in Israel as a victory in the sluggish battle to free the hostages, with more than 100 captives still held by Hamas and other Gaza militants, and briefly lifted the spirits of a nation still reeling from Hamas' cross-



Hostages Fernando Simon Marman, right, and Luis Har, second from left, hug relatives after being rescued from captivity in the Gaza Strip, at the Sheba Medical Center in Ramat Gan, Israel, Monday.

But in Gaza, where civilians have borne a staggering toll since the war erupted on October 7, the operation unleashed another wartime tragedy, with many Palestinians killed or wounded.

More than 12.300 Palestinian minors children and young teens have been killed in Israel's war against Hamas, the Health Ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said Monday.

That means minors

make up about 43 per cent of the total number of 28.176 Palestinians killed so far. About 8,400 women were also among those

The ministry, which does not distinguish between combatants and civilians, provided the breakdown of minors and women at the request of The Associated Press. Israel claims to have killed thousands of Hamas fight-

First lesbian couple in Nepal officially registers their marriage



Anju Devi Shrestha and Suprita Gurung pose for photos after they became the first lesbian couple in South Asia to officially register their marriage, at Baddiyatal in Bardiya district. Nepal.

tificate, said Sunil Babu

Panta, a gay activist and a

former member of

Parliament. This is the

first case of a lesbian cou-

ple officially getting reg-

istered for their marriage

claimed. Nepal was also

the first country in South

Asia to have formally reg-

istered same-sex mar-

riage. Mayako Pahichan

Nepal, a non-governmen-

tal organisation, mean-

Love", in a statement, ex-

"Recognition of

Anju Shrestha, nicknamed and Suprita

Dipti, a resident of Jamuna

district. Ward Secretary Dipak Nepal handed them the marriage cer-SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

our website www.ireps.gov.in.

Divl. Engineer-PR/R/Engg./AN/246 S.E.C.R., Raipur f South East Central Railway @@secr

पलिस लाईन कैम्पस, टिकरापारा, रायपुर (छ.ग.) वेबसाईट — https://www.fsl.cg.nic.ir

:: सचना ::

छत्तीसगढ राज्य न्यायालयिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला. रायपुर का विज्ञापन क्र. रा.न्या.वि प्र./भर्ती एवं चयन/एम-4712/2023 दिनांक 06.10.2023 द्वारा जारी तृतीय एवं चतुथ श्रेणी के बाहन चालक के 4, प्रयोगशाला परिचारक के 8, भृत्य के 2 एवं विसरा कटर के : पद कुल 17 पदों पर छत्तींसगढ़ राज्य के मूल/स्थानीय निवासी अभ्यार्थियों को दिनांक 12 02 2024 से 28 02 2024 (रात्रि समय 11:59 बर्ज) तक ऑनलाईन आवेदन पत्र भरने हेत्

> संचालक रायपुर (छ.ग.)

rights of the sexual minority communities since 2001 and the campaign has become successful in getting officially registered same-sex marriage after more than two decades of struggle," it said in a state-

pressing happiness over

the official registration of

same-sex marriage. "The

Nepalese LGBT communi-

ties have launched a campaign for identity-based

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

lame of Work : 1. Construction of acility at RUB 388 & 370 under the Balance work for improvement of RPI Barrack at Durg. 3. Construction of naintainers under the jurisdiction of Si DEN/I/R. 4. Civil work for procurement SSE/C&W/Durg, through Bulk M & F Programme, Tender Value: Submission of Tender: upto 11.00 Hrs. on 07.03.2024, Opening of South Asia, Pant Tender: 11.00 Hrs. on 07.03.2024.

For further details/purchase of tender document, eligibility criteria & the complete details for the above work please contact office of the Sr DEN(Co.)/ Raipur or refer/ download tender document which is available o our website www.ireps.gov.in.

PR/R/Engg./AN/249 S.E.C.R., Raipu

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

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

Tenders are invited for the Following works:-

System Name of Work Tender No./ Date		PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)	
152532 First Call 05.02.2024	First Call Paraswani Village at Distt. Raipur (Dn. No.2.		
152602 First Call 06.02.2024	First Call Saklor-Hirmi Road, Length 15.00 k.m.,i/c.		
152614 First Call 06.02.2024	First Call RAMADABARI ROAD, LENGTH 2.00 KM, I/C.		
152661 First Call 07.02.2024	First Call Road to Kowataal Suvataal Approach Road		
152662 First Call Road of District Narayanpur From CH. 1.00 To 12.00 Length=12.00 KM. (C.G.).			
152673 First Call 07.02.2024	Construction of Gopalbhouna to Kapisda Approach Road Length 5.00 km.	623.74	
	Tender No./ Date 152532 First Call 05.02.2024 152602 First Call 06.02.2024 152661 First Call 07.02.2024 152662 First Call 07.02.2024 152662 First Call 07.02.2024 152673 First Call	Tender No./ Date 152532 First Call 05.02.2024 Paraswani Village at Distt. Raipur (Dn. No.2, Raipur.) 152602 First Call 06.02.2024 Widening & Stregthening of Padkidih-Ravan-Saklor-Hirmi Road, Length 15.00 k.m.,i/c. Culverts at Distt. Balodabazar-Bhatapara.(Dn. Balodabazar). 152614 First Call 06.02.2024 CONSTRUCTION OF BAVANKERA TO RAMADABARI ROAD, LENGTH 2.00 KM, I/c. CULVERTS AT DISTT. MAHASAMUND (DN. MAHASAMUND). 152661 First Call 07.02.2024 152662 First Call 07.02.2024 152673 First Call 07.02.2024 Construction of Khaira Chhote to Bhedvan Main Road to Kowataal Suvataal Approach Road Length 4.10 km. Strengthening of Palli-chhotedonger-Orchha Road of District Narayanpur From CH. 1.00 To 12.00 Length=12.00 KM. (C.G.). Construction of Gopalbhouna to Kapisda Approach Road Length 5.00 km.	

Last Date of Tender Downloading S.No. 01 To S.No. 03 date 27.02.2024 Other Tenders Date are Schedule as date 28.02.2023. For more details on he tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

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

UK plan to send asylum-seekers to Rwanda incompatible with human rights nizing a bill designed to Court human rights standards". European

London, Feb 12 (AP): The British government's plan to send some asylum-seekers on a one-way trip to Rwanda is "fundamentally incompatible" with the UK's human rights obligations, a parliamentary rights watchdog said Monday, as the contentious bill returned for debate in the House of

Parliament's unelected upper chamber is scrutiovercome the UK Supreme Court's ruling that the Rwanda plan is illegal. The court said in November that the East African nation is not a safe

country for migrants. The Safety of Rwanda Bill pronounces the country safe, makes it harder for migrants to challenge deportation and allows the British government to ig-

nore injunctions from the

Human Rights that seek to block removals.

Parliament's Committee on Human Rights, which has members from both government and opposition parties, said in a report that the bill "openly invites the possibility of the UK breaching international law" and allows British officials "to act in a manner

that is incompatible with

lawmaker Joanna Cherry, who chairs the committee. said the bill "risks untold damage to the UK's reputation as a proponent of

governors vie for presidency

on Monday.

mates. Defence Minister

Prabowo Subianto is the

only candidate with links

to the 1967-98 Suharto dic-

tatorship, when he was a

lieutenant general. A long-

time commander in the

Kopassus special forces,

he was dishonourably dis-

charged in 1998 after

Workers arrange ballot boxes on a truck for the distribu-

tion ahead of Feb. 14 election in Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia

she said.

Scottish National Party

human rights" "This bill is designed to remove vital safeguards against persecution and human rights abuses, including the fundamental right to access a court,"

Diplomatic Triumph

Established 1974 Volume 49 No. 133

Release of Indian Navy Veterans from Qatar

ndia celebrates a significant diplomatic triumph as Qatar grants release to eight former Indian Navy personnel, previously detained on allegations of espionage. This development marks a crucial milestone in the longstanding ordeal endured by these individuals and their families. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has expressed profound gratitude to the Amir of the State of Qatar for facilitating the return of seven out of the eight nationals associated with the Dahra Global Company. This favorable turn of events follows a series of strategic diplomatic maneuvers, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi's engagement with Qatar's Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani during the COP28 summit in Dubai. The Indian government's relentless pursuit of justice for the detained Navy veterans culminated in the Qatari court's decision to commute their death sentences to imprisonment, following an appeal initiated by India. The return of Captain Navtej Singh Gill, Captain Birendra Kumar Verma, Captain Saurabh Vasisht, Commander Amit Nagpal, Commander Purnendu Tiwari, Commander Sugunakar Pakala, Commander Sanjeev Gupta, and Sailor Ragesh to their homeland evokes a sense of relief and gratitude. Their expressions of appreciation towards Prime Minister Modi underscore the pivotal role of diplomatic intervention and leadership in resolving complex international disputes. The case, shrouded in secrecy due to its sensitive nature, saw the Indian nationals detained in August 2022 under allegations of espionage while employed with Dahra Global. The subsequent legal proceedings led to the issuance of death sentences by Qatar's Court of First Instance in October 2023, prompting India to vehemently contest the ruling and pursue all available legal avenues. Throughout this ordeal, the MEA consistently emphasized the gravity of the situation and reiterated India's commitment to securing justice for its citizens. The charges leveled against the Navy veterans, although undisclosed, underscored the complexity of navigating international legal frameworks and bilateral relations in cases involving sensitive national security issues. The successful resolution of this case epitomizes the efficacy of diplomatic dialogue and international cooperation in safeguarding the rights and interests of individuals embroiled in legal disputes abroad. It reaffirms India's unwavering commitment to upholding the rule of law and protecting the welfare of its citizens, both at home and abroad. As the Navy veterans reunite with their families and reintegrate into civilian life, their ordeal serves as a poignant reminder of the challenges inherent in navigating the complexities of international law and diplomacy. The collaborative efforts of government officials, legal experts, and diplomatic envoys have culminated in a favourable outcome that underscores the resilience and determination of the Indian state in safeguarding the rights and dignity of its citizens. In commemorating this diplomatic triumph, India reaffirms its commitment to fostering constructive dialogue and engagement with the international community, while steadfastly advocating for the principles of justice, fairness, and human rights on the global stage. The successful repatriation of the Navy veterans stands as a testament to the efficacy of diplomatic engagement and concerted efforts in resolving complex legal disputes and

Haldwani Violence

safeguarding the interests of its citizens.

he events unfolding in Haldwani serve as a stark reminder of the delicate balance between governance, justice, and communal harmony. Amidst the court-mandated removal of religious structures, what transpired was not only a breakdown of law and order but also a fracture in the social fabric of the community. The aftermath. marked by violence and loss of life, demands a thorough examination of the circumstances leading to such a tragic outcome. First and foremost, the handling of such sensitive matters necessitates a cautious and measured approach. The removal of religious structures, especially in contested areas, requires meticulous planning and effective communication to prevent escalating tensions. Unfortunately, the chaos that ensued in Haldwani indicates a failure in these crucial aspects. While the state government maintains that the violence was not communal but rather a targeted attack on the state machinery, it is imperative to delve deeper into the root causes of the unrest. Claims and counterclaims only serve to obscure the truth and hinder the path to reconciliation. The assertions made by local authorities must be scrutinized impartially, with accountability being a paramount consideration. In the wake of the violence, the invocation of the National Security Act against the rioters underscores the gravity of the situation. However, it is essential for the government to demonstrate consistency and impartiality in its response. Zero tolerance for violence should extend to all perpetrators, regardless of their affiliations or motivations. Equally crucial is a thorough investigation into any administrative lapses that may have contributed to the escalation of tensions. Crucially, restoring peace and fostering communal harmony must be the foremost objectives moving forward. Initiatives such as the establishment of peace committees can serve as constructive platforms for dialogue and reconciliation. Engaging with community leaders and stakeholders is paramount in rebuilding trust and preventing the recurrence of such tragic events. Moreover, introspection is warranted regarding the handling of intelligence inputs and the urgency with which the demolition drive was conducted. Were there missed opportunities to anticipate and mitigate the potential for unrest? Could greater collaboration with community leaders have facilitated a more peaceful resolution? These questions demand earnest reflection and proactive measures to address systemic shortcomings. The violence in Haldwani serves as a sobering reminder of the fragility of communal harmony and the imperative of responsible governance. Moving forward, concerted efforts must be made to heal wounds, restore trust, and prevent the recurrence of such tragic incidents. Only through genuine dialogue, accountability, and a commitment to justice can lasting

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

peace be achieved in Haldwani and beyond.

FEEDING SIBERIAN SEAGULLS



Mahant of Baghambari Math Balveer Giri Maharaj feeds Siberian seagulls during the annual 'Magh Mela', at Sangam in Prayagraj, Monday, Feb. 12.

The Imperative of Implementing the Uniform Civil Code





he Constitution of the country inspires us for equality and harmony and the commitment to implement the Uniform Civil Code law will act as a bridge to realize this inspiration." The Uniform Civil Code is discussed in Article 44 of the Constitution. Related to the **Directive Principles of State Policy,** this article states that 'The State shall endeavor to obtain a uniform civil code for the citizens throughout the territory of India'.

According to the Indian Constitution, India is a secular country, in which followers of all religions and sects (eg Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist, etc.) have the right to make laws related to their respective religions. There are two types of personal laws in India. The first is the Hindu Marriage Act 1956 which applies to Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and other sects. Second, Muslim personal law applies to those who follow the Muslim religion.

In such a situation, while the Hindu Marriage Act 1956, made under the provisions of the Indian Constitution, is applicable for all other religions and sects except Muslims, then there is talk of implementing a similar law for the Muslim religion as well, which will be relevant and new. There is hope for an India in the making. It is expected to remove the inconsistencies related to India's law. Because

the same civil code is followed in many countries of the world. These countries include Pakistan, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Turkey, Indonesia, Sudan, Egypt, America, Ireland, etc. In all these countries there are uniform laws for all religions and there are no separate laws for any particular religion or community. But in India, such a game of appeasement was played for political gains, which is destroying the philosophy of unity in diversity and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

Due to personal laws, situations of inconsistency are also arising in some places. Community events are also seen from a political point of view, this way of looking at the incident is promoting class discrimination. As soon as the Uniform Civil Code is enacted, justice will be done for the country's, especially half-Muslim population. Polygamy Will be banned. Women will get rights in ancestral property, it will also be possible to get the right to adopt children. The minimum age for marriage of a girl in all religions will be 18 years.

At present Muslim society is governed under personal law based on Sharia. In this, Muslim men are allowed four marriages. As soon as this comes into force, only one marriage will be valid. Muslim girls will also get equal rights as boys. Bad practices like Iddat and Halala will

be banned. In the case of divorce, husband and wife will have equal rights. India is a country with many religions, customs, and practices. The Uniform Civil Code will help India become more unified than it has been since independence. It will help bring every Indian, irrespective of his caste, religion, or tribe, under one national code of civil conduct. UCC will also help in reducing vote bank politics which most political parties indulge in during every election. UCC will help society move forward and take India towards the goal of becoming a truly developed nation.

UCC is the only way to ensure that all Indians are treated equally. All laws relating to marriage, inheritance, family, land, etc. should be equal for all Indians. A Uniform Civil Code does not mean that it will limit the freedom of people to practice their religion, it just means that every person will be treated equally and all citizens of India will be subject to the same laws. It has to be done no matter what or what religion it is. Codification and unification of various individual laws will create a more coherent legal system. This will reduce the existing confusion and enable easier and more efficient administration of laws by the judiciary. India has a unique blend of codified personal laws of Hindus, Muslims, Christians, and Parsis.

There exists no uniform family. related law in a single statute book for all Indians that would be acceptable to all religious communities coexisting in India. UCC is certainly desirable and will go a long way in strengthening and consolidating Indian nationalism. The differences are in its timing and the manner of realizing it. Instead of using it as an emotional issue to score political points, political and intellectual leaders should try to build consen-

The question is not about the pro-

tection of minorities or even national unity, it is simply about treating every human individual with dignity, which personal laws have so far failed to do. Religious personal laws are misogynistic and by allowing outdated religious rules to dictate family life we are condemning all Indian women to subjugation and abuse. The Uniform Civil Code will also help in improving the status of women in India. Similarly, it will be mandatory for people of all religions to register for live-in relationships. Registration of marriage is also necessary for this.

Besides, many other things can eliminate the difference between men and women through this. It would be good if everyone understood its merits and came forward to praise it instead of opposing it. What is needed today is that all the state and central governments of the country should soon make laws on this. Different laws of different religions put a burden on the judiciary. With the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code, this problem will be solved and the cases pending in the courts for years will be decid-

There will be the same law for everyone in marriage, divorce, adoption, and division of property, no matter what religion they belong to. Implementation of uniform law for every Indian in the country will also affect the politics of the country and political parties will not be able to do vote bank politics and there will be polarization of votes. The implementation of the Uniform Civil Code will also improve the condition of women in India. If we think about this in an Indian spirit, then it will naturally be seen that uniform civil law will become an important basis for the development of the country and society.

> (Writer is a research Scholar in Political Science, Independent iournalist and columnist.)

Radio Unveiled

Radio serves as a potent medium for global dialogue and idea exchange, amplifying diverse voices and vital discussions. Its affordability aids remote communities and disaster response. Despite challenges from digital media and economic constraints, radio adapts, fostering community cohesion and democratic discourse. World Radio Day, observed on February 13, 2024, by UNESCO, highlights its enduring significance and calls for industry unity to address contemporary obstacles. Emphasizing radio's pivotal role in emergencies, the event underscores its capacity to bridge societal divides and promote inclusivity.

Dr. Krishna Kumar Vepakomma,

Hvderabad

Unsung Hero: Kailash Satyarthi

It is raining "Bharat Ratnas" all around with the "posthumous" honours dominating the show. Yet why doesn't the fully living and walking Kailash Satyarthi, Nobel Laureate for Peace, get treated as "Ratna" of Bharat.

Does such indifference towards him draw "inspiration" from his "sin" of registering valiant fight and work, which have blatantly exposed the dark scandals of child labour and slavery in front of the international community, thereby bringing shame and disgrace to the "Ram Rajya". Perhaps such naked truth about the relentless assault upon childhood is too much for that nation to digest which is "valiantly marching" towards the goal of emerging as "world's third largest economy". May be Satyarthi doesn't fit in the scheme of things as this selfless epitome of humanity doesn't represent any particular caste/regional/linguistic/religious vote bank and so absolute irrelevant in the "Electoral market". The marginalisation of Kailash Satyarthi from the national limelight bears testimony to the callous negligence towards millions of hapless innocent children of much zealously "worshipped" Bharat Mata. **Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata**

Pakistan Election

The results out so far of the general elections in Pakistan may be indicating instability as no party has been able to emerge as clear winner to form the Government. PTI-backed independents' performance must have shocked Mr. Sharif and the military establishment backing him to the core. For, it highlights democratic temperament of Pakistani people, who have in a way challenged the military might and radical elements. This is a good thing to happen for Pakistan. But, as the situation is still dominated by the military, it remains to be seen whether Pakistani military draws proper lessons from the election results or becomes more suppressive. A lot depends on Pakistani peoples assertion of democratic values.

Karan Singh, Chennai

Your unique smell can provide clues about how healthy you are

Aoife Morrin

undreds of chemicals stream from our bodies into the air every second. These chemicals release into the air easily as they have high vapour pressures, meaning they boil and turn into gases at room temperature. They give clues about who we are, and how healthy we are.

Since ancient Greek times, we've known that we smell differently when we are unwell. While we rely on blood analysis today, ancient Greek physicians used smell to diagnose maladies. If they took a whiff of your breath and described it as fetor hepaticus (meaning bad liver), it meant you could be headed for liver failure.

If a person's whiff was sweet or fruity, physicians thought this meant that sugars in the digestive system were not being broken down, and that person had probably diabetes. Science has since shown the ancient Greeks were right liver failure and diabetes and many other diseases including infectious diseases give your breath a distinctive smell.

In 1971. Nobel Laureate chemist Linus Pauling counted 250 different gaseous chemicals in breath. These gaseous chemicals are called volatile

organic compounds or VOCs.

Since Pauling's discovery, other scientists have discovered hundreds more VOCs in our breath. We have learned that many of these VOCs have distinctive odours, but some have no odour that our noses can perceive.

Scientists believe that whether a VOC has an odour that our noses can detect or not, they can reveal information about how healthy someone

A Scottish man's Parkinson's disease onset was identified by his wife, retired nurse Joy Milner, after she was convinced the way he smelled had changed, years before he was diagnosed in 2005. This discovery has led to research programmes involving Joy Milner to identify the precise smell of this disease.

Dogs can sniff out more diseases than humans because of their more sophisticated olfactory talents. But technological techniques, like analytical tool mass spectrometry, picks up even more subtle changes in VOC profiles that are being linked to gut, skin and respiratory diseases as well as neurological diseases like Parkinson's. Researchers believe that one day some diseases will be diagnosed simply by breathing into a de-

Breath is not the only source of VOCs in the body. They are also emitted from skin, urine and faeces.

VOCs from skin are the result of millions of skin glands removing metabolic waste from the body, as well as waste generated by bacteria and other microbes that live on our skin. Sweating produces extra nutrients for these bacteria to metabolise which can result in particularly odorous VOCs. Odour from sweat only makes up a fraction of the scents from VOCs though.

Our skin and also our gut microbiomes are made up from a delicate balance of these microbes. Scientists think they influence our health, but we don't yet understand a lot about how this relationship works.

Unlike the gut, the skin is relatively easy to study you can collect skin samples from living humans without having to go deep into the body. Scientists think skin VOCs can offer insights into how the microbiome's bacteria and the human body work together to maintain our health and protect us from disease.

In my team's laboratory, we are investigating whether the skin VOC signature can reveal different attributes of the person it belongs to. These signals in skin VOC signatures are probably how dogs distinguish between people by smell. We are at a relatively early stage in this research area but we have shown that you can tell males from females based on how acidic the VOCs from skin are. We use mass spectrometry to see this as the average human nose is not sophisticated enough to detect these VOCs.

We can also predict a person's age with reasonable accuracy to within a few years from their skin VOC profile. This is not surprising considering that oxidative stress in our bodies increases as we age. Oxidative stress happens when your antioxidant levels are low and causes irreversible damage to our cells and organs. Our recent research found by-products of this oxidative damage in skin VOC profiles. Not only are these VOCs responsible for personal scent they are used by plants, insects and animals as a communication channel. Plants are in a constant VOC dialogue with other organisms including pollinators, herbivores, other plants and their natural enemies such as harmful bacteria and insects. VOCs used for this back and forth dialogue are known as

What has science shown about love pheromones?

In the animal kingdom, there is good evidence VOCs can act as aphrodisiacs. Mice for example have microbes which contribute to a particularly smelly compound called trimethylamine, which allows mice to verify the species of a potential mate. Pigs and elephants have sex pheromones too. It is possible that humans also produce VOCs for attracting the perfect mate. Scientists have yet to fully decode skin or other VOCs that are released from our bodies. But evidence for human love pheromones so far is controversial at best. One theory suggests that they were lost about 23 million years ago when primates developed full colour vision and started relying on their enhanced vision to choose a mate. However, we believe that whether human pheromones exist or not, skin VOCs can reveal who and how we are. in terms of things like ageing, nutrition and fitness, fertility and even stress levels. This signature probably contains markers we can use to monitor our health and diagnose disease.

> (Writer is Associate Professor of Analytical Chemistry, Dublin City University)

BRIEF

Cognizant office



Bhubaneswar: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Sunday inaugurated the first facili-Cognizant in Bhubaneswar. "The entry of Cognizant marks a significant milestone for new Odisha and further solidifies its reputation as a leading IT invest ment destination in the country," the chief minister said while speaking on the occasion. Odisha has emerged as a "destination of the future" with a growing scale of investment, talent pool and ambition, he said. "All these factors have become the cornerstones of our state's journey towards growth and development which is fuelled by a robust ecosystem encouraging entrepreneurship,

Top position

technological innova-

businesses," he added.

tion, and new-age

New Delhi: Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) on Sunday said it has secured top position for its climate actions and environmental performance in assessments done by four global rating agencies. The assessments were done by CDP, S&P, Sustainalytics and Moody's . While the company secured 'leadership band' in **CDP Climate** Assessment 2023, it ranked first on the environmental dimension among 324 companies in the transport and transport in-

Startup initiative

a statement said.

frastructure sector by

S&P Global CSA 2023,



Bhubaneswar: Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Sunday launched an initiative of IIT-Bhubaneswar's Research and Entrepreneurship Park, which aims at creating 100 startups with a valuation of Rs 100 crore each by 2036. The 100-Cube' startup initiative was unveiled by Pradhan here, who said innovation is "in the DNA of Odia society" "After seeing the new ideas and innovations of our youths, I am confident that 100 startups will be created by 2036," he said. To achieve this goal, the park will provide essential resources, mentorship, seed capital and access to potential investors. It is set to expand to about 80,000 square feet from the existing 20,000 square feet over the next two vears with support of Rs 130 crore from the Ministry of Education, officials

Create 25 mn job creation by 2030 to help get industry status: Kant

India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant on Monday asked hospitality and tourism sector players to tell politicians about creation of 25 million jobs by 2030 while seeking their help for the demand of industry and infrastructure status. Speaking at the 6th Hoteliers' Conclave organ-Association of India (HAI), Kant said somehow the tourism industry has failed to tell the politicians that it is a big creator of jobs, while agreeing with their demand for industry status. "If you look at tourism. I think from a perspective of a political lens, the politician only understands one thing and that is how many jobs is the tourism sector creating."



"Tourism has a huge multiplier impact for every direct job that you create, you create seven indirect jobs, but I think somehow the tourism industry has failed to tell the politicians that we are a big creator of jobs." In terms of employment, Thailand creates close to 20 million jobs, Malaysia about 15 million jobs and India creates 7.8 million jobs from the

the tourism industry to have a target of telling the political system across Centre and states that if you give attention to million jobs by 2030 and it is doable target," Kant suggested in response from HAI leaders who sought his help to get industry and infrastructure status for the sector. If the target is put before the political system that 25 million jobs will be created by the tourism sector, it will have a huge impact on the minds of the political system and they will do everything possible for tourism, he added. "To my mind that's the only language which will be understood that you should push at state level," Kant asserted. He agreed with the de-Centre and state levels.

saying, "when you treat a sector as a commercial sector, the power tariff is much higher. The interest rates are higher, and it's necessary that tourism is treated as an industry." With the substantial high power tariff, the day-to-day operations of players are impacted, he acknowledged. "My view on that is very clear that all states must see every activity in every sector of the tourism industry (sector) as a industry," Kant said, adding while 11 states have done it, many have not extended the full benefits of it to the players. He asserted that the tourism sector is "an industry because it is a very major job creator" and pushing it as an industry will really help both at the

RBI rules out review of action against Paytm Payments Bank

New Delhi, Feb 12:

Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das on Monday ruled out any review of the central bank's action against Paytm Payments Bank (PPBL), saying the decision was taken after a comprehensive assessment of the functioning of the lender. In a major action against Paytm Payments Bank (PPBL), RBI, on January 31, directed it to stop accepting deposits or top-ups in any customer accounts, wallets, FASTTags and other instruments after February 29.

"At the moment let me say very clearly there is no review of this (PPBL) decision. If your are expecting a review of the decision, let me very clearly say there is (going to be) no review of the decision," Das said at a press conference after the 606th meeting of the Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India. The meeting was ad-

Minister Sitharaman. The governor said any decision against entities regulated by the RBI is taken after a comprehensive assessment. While emphasising that RBI is supportive of the fintech sector, Das said it is also committed to protect the interest of customers as well as ensure financial stability. The central bank is expected to soon issue a set of FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) on the Paytm matter this week. While announcing the action against PPBL, the RBI had said the direction follows persistent non-compliances and continued material supervisory concerns

Earlier on March 11, 2022, the RBI had barred PPBL from onboarding new customers with immediate effect.

In its latest action, RBI has asked the Paytm Payments Bank not to take deposits/ credit transactomer accounts, prepaid instruments, FASTags, and NCMC cards, among others after February 29, 2024.

However, the central bank has allowed credit of interest, cashbacks, or refunds even beyond Further, February 29. withdrawal or utilisation of balances by PPBL customers from their accounts, including savings bank accounts, current accounts, prepaid instruments, FASTags, and National Common Mobility Cards are permitted without any restrictions, up to their available balance. RBI also directed termination of the 'nodal accounts' Communications One97 Communications which owns Paytm brand holds a 49 per cent stake in Paytm Payments Bank Limited but classifies it as an associate of the compa-

ny and not as a subsidiary.

Tourism, hospitality sector expected to create 50 mn jobs in 5-7 yrs: HAI

New Delhi, Feb 12:

Hotels' Association of India (HAI) on Monday said the hospitality and tourism sector expects to create 50 million direct and indirect jobs in the next 5-7 years but government support is required for getting the full industry and infrastructure status in states to tap the employment potential.

The infrastructure status for the hospitality sector can push up investments not only to create accommodation, but also in the process boost income and employment generation, President Puneet Chhatwal said while speaking here at the 6th HAI Hoteliers' Conclave. Chhatwal, who is also the

Managing Director and

CEO of Indian Hotels Company Ltd, said while tourism is a nillar of development creating about 10 per cent of the total employment and contributing 8 per cent to GDP with a huge multiplier effect that can help inclusive growth, "there is often a gap between this realisation and the actual policy implementation". Addressing a press conference, HAI Vice-President K B Kachru said in the last two years there has been "a rise of 271 per cent in hirings". 'That is how business is moving. Now we need to focus a lot on developing tourism, not only at higher levels but also at entry levels... This focus has to remain and if we don't do that we will not be able to

Demerger process to be completed in next 9-12 months: John Slaven

Jharsuguda, Feb 12:

Vedanta is working "actively" for demerger of its key businesses, including aluminium, into separate listed companies and the process is likely to be completed in next nine to 12 months, a top official of company Billionaire Anil Agarwalowned Vedanta Ltd had last year announced creation of independent verticals through demerger of its metal, power, aluminium, and oil and gas businesses to unlock potential value. In an interview to PTI, John Slaven, CEO of aluminium business of Vedanta, said, "We are working very actively in securing the successful demerger of the aluminium business." The process for the demerger is currently underway and is subject to a number of approvals



from various authorities, he added. "We also need approval from our current lenders in the allocation of debt across the various entities that will be separated. So that's playing out at the moment. It's not directly within our hands. So unfortunately I'm not in a position to tell you categorically when it will occur. We are confident that in the next 9 to 12 months the demerger will be completed," Slaven said. The move, he

said, will be an evolutionary step for Vedanta's aluminium business as it will help Vedanta Aluminium to chart out its own course. "I think more fundamentally it enables our investors and Vedanta Resources to really have a much better understanding of the opportunities and potential of the aluminium business. "It will become much more visible as it would be a pure-play. We will have a dedicated management team, a dedicated board of directors will be able to chart our own strategy with input from the investor community." Slaven said. About capacity expansion plans for 2024-25, he said that the company will see a significant change in its business because the refinery expansions at Lanjigarh will be effectively completed by the end of next fiscal year.

Retail inflation eases to 3-month low of 5.1 pc in Jan



New Delhi, Feb 12:

Retail inflation eased to a three-month low of 5.1 per cent in January mainly on account of lower food prices, according to official data released on Monday. Inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was at 5.69 per cent in December 2023 and 6.52 per cent in January 2024. In August 2023, inflation touched a

high of 6.83 per cent. According to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) retail inflation in the food basket was at 8.3 per cent in January 2024, down from 9.53 per cent in the preceding month. The Reserve Bank of India has been tasked by the government to ensure retail inflation remains at 4 per cent with a margin of 2

GLOBAL BUSINESS SUMMIT



Union Home Minister Amit Shah with Spiritual leader Sadhguru during the ET Now Global Business Summit 2024, in New Delhi, Saturday

Sensex tanks 523 pts on profit India's vegetable oil imports taking in banking, metal shares

Mumbai, Feb 12:

Sensex Benchmark plunged by 523 points on Monday due to profit taking in metal and banking shares amid mixed trends in global markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex settled 523 points or 0.73 per cent lower at 71,072.49 as 22 of its components closed in the red and eight in the green. The barometer opened higher and touched a high of 71.756.58 in early trade. However, profit taking in Reliance Industries, metal giants and banking shares dragged the index to a low of 70,922.57 during intra-day trade. The broader NSE Nifty also closed 166.45 points or 0.76 per cent lower at 21,616.05 with 34 of its constituents ending in the red. Metal, bank-



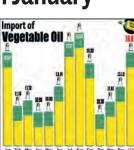
ing and select oil shares succumbed to selling while pharma and IT shares bucked the trend. "An uptick in exchange margin requirements caused a decrease in positions, primarily in mid and small caps. Aside from the pharma and IT sectors, selling was widespread, with notable struggles seen in PSU banks," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial

fall 28 pc in January

New Delhi, Feb 12:

The country's vegetable oil imports declined by 28 per cent to 12 lakh tonnes in January from a year-ago period, industry body SEA said on Monday. Vegetable oil imports stood at 16.61 lakh tonnes in January 2023. India is a leading vegetable oil buyer in the world. In the first quarter (November-January) of the current oil year, total imports dropped 23 per cent to 36.73 lakh tonnes as against 47.73 lakh tonnes in the same quarter of previous year.

According to the Solvent Extractors Association of India (SEA), about 7,82,983 tonnes of palm oil and 4,08,938 tonnes of soft oil were imported in January



this year out of total veg etables oils. As on February 1. total edible oils stock stood at 26.49 lakh tonnes, down 7.64 per cent from that of the yearago period, it said in a statement. SEA said prices of edible oils, which are currently low, may go up this year on lower production, global economic issues and supply con-

Industrial production grows 3.8 pc in December 2023



New Delhi, Feb 12:

India's industrial production grew 3.8 per cent in December 2023, according to official data released on Monday. Factory output measured in terms of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) had witnessed a growth of 5.1 per cent in December 2022. "India's Index of Industrial Production grows by 3.8

per cent in December 2023," an official statement said. The data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) showed that the manufacturing sector's output grew 3.9 per cent in December 2023, up from 3.6 per cent in the year-ago month. In December last year, the mining production rose 5.1 per cent and power output increased 1.2 per cent.

Rupee rises 7 paise to close at 83 against US dollar

Mumbai, Feb 12:

The rupee appreciated 7 paise to close at 83 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday, on softness in the American currency and easing crude oil prices. However, weak domestic markets and foreign fund outflows capped sharp gains, forex traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.01 against the greenback. The unit hit an intra-day high of 82.98 and a low of 83.02. The local unit finally settled at 83 (provisional) against the dollar, higher by 7 paise from its previous close of 83.07. "We expect the rupee to trade with a slight positive bias, positive global equities and a slight correction in the greenback.

Paytm gets merchants' backing; assures service continuity without disruption

New Delhi, Feb 12:

Fintech firm One97 Communications, which owns the Paytm brand, has received support from merchants, and it assured them of continuity of services without any disruption, the company said in a blog on Sunday. The blog post came amid the recent criaround Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL), an associate company of Paytm, which has been barred by the RBI from accepting deposits or top-ups in customer accounts, wallets, FASTags and other instruments February Withdrawal or utilisation

of balances by its customers from their accounts, including savings bank accounts, current accounts, prepaid instruments, FASTags, and National Common Mobility Cards, are to be permitted without any restrictions up to their available balance.

'We assure our users and merchant partners that the Paytm app and services continue to operate at full capacity. In instances, where our associate Paytm Payments Bank acts as a back-end bank, we can seamlessly transition these services to other partner banks. This ensures that our merchant partners face no disruptions, no need to revisit existing setups, and no additional effort," the blog said. Paytm said its merchant partners can continue to benefit from solutions like Paytm QR codes, Soundbox, and card machines, just as before. "Leading industry players across retail, entertainment, and beyond, such as Arvind Limited, Smaaash, BIBA, and more' stand testament to the strength of our partnerships, having experienced firsthand the benefits of

lutions," the blog said. Leading companies have expressed their satisfaction with their prolonged

our seamless payment so-

association with Paytm, it added. "We have been working with Paytm for two years, and they have always been at par when it comes to their innovative products and services. I everyone to continue using Paytm services as before, the blog quoted Hotspot Retail Private Limited Chief Operating Officer Satya N Satyendra as saying. The blog shared testaments from Advaith Hyundai, Smaash, BIBA Fashion, and Arvind Limited, which runs brands like Calvin Klein, Tommy Hilfiger etc, around the service being offered by Paytm.

JHBSSK would act as major centre for exchange of information: Bohra

Inaugurates Bhavna Sewa Suvidha Kendra in Pandaria, Pandatarai

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, Feb 12: MLA Pandaria VS Bhavna Bohra had made a declaration of starting 'Jansewa he Bhavna Sewa Suvidha Kendra' (JHBSSK) for convenience of people of her region under 'Bhavan Didi's guarantee' in her election manifesto decla-

So fulfilling her promise, Bhavna Bohra inaugurated JHBSSK at Pandaria and Pandatarai here on Saturday. Earlier a similar centre was inaugurated at

During this MLA Bhavna Bohra said that she stands committed to fulfill the promise made by her to meet up the expectation and demands of people of her family from Pandaria Vidhan Sabha area. In this series JHB-



SSK was inaugurated at Pandaria and Pandatarai and she said that it will benefit the general public.

Bhavna Bohra said that for prompt redressal of all the public grievances and solution to all the public problems and government related works will be done through this centre. Here the people can submit their application for any demand or public griev-

It is through 'Jansewa ki Bhavna' that our efforts for progress and development of Pandaria VS would continue unabated, she added. Bhavna Bohra said that for solution to their complaints or giving any suggestions or about any government schemes, any person had to visit the headquarters.

But now with establish-

ment of this Centre, they would be able to find solution to their problems near their home itself and would save their time and money in travelling long distance and in turn provide mental and financial

Bohra said that it has been her effort that the redressal to the public grievances is met immediately and she continues to get feedback and suggestions for necessary development in the region. This centre will act as

bridge and main centre to exchange dialogue and information between public and elected representative and she extended greetings to people of ther region for opening of the Centre and assured them what all promises and guarantees BJP has made would be fulfilled.

Provision of Rs 300 cr made for laying of railway line

From Katghora to Dongargarh

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, Feb 12: The denizens of Kawardha were anxiously waiting for railway line and it was during the last term of BJP in the State, the foundation stone ceremony of line railway Katghora- Donagargarh was laid by the then Railway Minister Piyush Goyal in sports ground of Karpatri School. But with the formation of Congress government in the state, this project went into

But with the BJP government coming back to power, it was right in the first budget of the state by CM Vishnu Deo Sai and with efforts of Dy. CM Vijay Sharma, a provision of Rs 300 cr was made for



BJP party workers welcomed Dy. CM Vijay Sharma on his arrival in city amidst light showers

laying of railway line from Katghora Dongargarh. So with the provision for laying of railway line in the budget, the people of the region are having high hopes of getting their long pending demand fulfilled and would get the railway link soon. The benefit of Double Engine government would now be possible for the people of Kawardha directty.

It was on maiden arrival of Dy. CM and MLA Kawardha Vijay Sharma after the presentation of the state budget, the denizens of city accorded him warm welcome at city's Bharat Mata Chowk in a stage.

On this occasion, people of city expressed gratitude towards Dy. CM Vijay Sharma for getting budget sanction for the railway line. Dy. CM Sharma said

that it with support of all that he always try to fulfill their demands.

The double engine government of CM Vishnu Deo Sai and it is under the leadership of Narendra Modi that the demand of new railway line would soon be fulfilled. On this occasion all BJP (urban) Mandal level office bearers, party workers and citizens were present in large number.

tion; RI Nikhil Jha gave

giving possession of the

same land to Manish Rai,

Kumud Awasthi, Sandeep

Kedia and Amrit Talal

There is a road in the

east of Kumud Awasthi's

Chauhadi, but there is a

road on the west side of

the spot and Manish Rai

was ousted by Tehsildar

Rajkumar Sahu and Amrit

Jobanputra has been

wrongly demarcated by RI

Apart from this, the ille

Jobanputra.

Nikhil Jha.

Dr. Sadhana conferred top great artist of Aakashvani

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Feb 12: Chhattisgarh's famous Sugam Sangeet singer Dr. Sadhna Rahatgaonkar has been awarded the title of Top Great by All India Radio. At the national level, All India Radio has selected Sadhna in the field of ghazal singing and for this purpose; Sadhna had given examination from Akashvani Raipur. It is noteworthy that

Sadhna, taking inspiration from her late father Basant Rahatgaonkar, completed her training from music teachers Late NB Lonare, Pt. Bhagwan Prasad Sharma, Pt. Mukherjee, Guru completed her training from Indira Kala Sangeet Vidyalaya, Khairagarh also received PhD degree under the direction of Prof. Dr. Mridula Shukla. Dr. Sadhna, who has brought laurels Chhattisgarh including Khairagarh in the field of

nominated artist of ICCR (Indian Council Cultural Relations) and is currently working as Assistant Professor Hindi in Government Chandulal Chandrakar Arts and Science College, Patan. The university family has congratulated her for this achievement.

Illegal encroachment removed from 20 acres land in Mopka

On the instructions of the Commissioner

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Feb 12: Illegal encroachment was removed from the land allotted to the corporation in Mopka and the encroachment was removed on the instructions

Corporation Commissioner Kumar. About 16 acres of land has been freed from a dozen illegal encroachers and a garden will be built by the corporation as per proposal.

The illegal encroachment removal team of the corporation along with revenue and police has removed the illegal encroachment, as the illegal encroachers had put up huts, boundary walls,



columns, tin sheds and boards on the corporation land, along with a banner of Aryan Builders.

It is noteworthy that the state government has appointed Commissioner Municipal Corporation Bilaspur as Mauza Mopka Government land Khasra No. 993/1 located in Tehsil 29 and District

Bilaspur, out of 57.475 hectares, 6 hectares were allotted under the conditions for the construction of the garden.

The above land was encroached upon by certain elements and on the instructions of the Municipal Corporation Commissioner, 16 acres of croachment. The encroachment was freed in the presence of Tehsildar, Officer Suresh Sharma, Encroachment Squad, Zone Commissioner

Patwari Harish

occupation of Saraswati Sahu, Mohan Sahu, Anil Shriwas, and Sara Khan has been removed. About 20 acres of government and corporation land has been freed Engineer Jugal Singh, from land mafia, in which important schemes of the Halka Patwari RI.Two government are to be im-

Excellent performance of Rajiv Lochan College



In Inter-College Ball Badminton competition

Central Chronicle News

Rajim, Feb 12: Inter-College Ball Badminton Competition was organized at Vivekananda College, Rainur, in which students from various colleges of Raipur sector participated and in this competition, students of Government Rajiv Lochan College, Rajim performed very well. The college students secured second place in this competition, and the college students also performed well and reached the semi-finals. Principal of the college, Prof. Verma, Sports Officer Akash Baghmare, Team Manager Prof. Sonam Chandrakar and officers and employees of the college have expressed happiness over this performance

Drug trade in full swing in Kurud Nagar

Youth under tne intiuence of illicit liquor, ganja and pills

Central Chronicle News

Kurud, Feb 12: Drug trade is going on in full swing in Kurud city and due to easy availability of illegal liquor, ganja, pills etc. the youth are in the grip of addiction.

And by forming groups under the influence of drugs, bullying in the city, creating ruckus, using banned silencers with loud noises, using pressure horns with ear-splitting noises, driving motorcycles

cult for the people to move on the main roads as well as on a daily basis, which are on return causing accidents.

Apart from this, due to the apathy of the responsible public representatives, officers and employees towards the city's system and civic facilities, encroachers have illegally encroached upon places by opening stalls and stalls and selling non vegetarian food aiding to the merry making of the youth drug addicts.

The busy road be-tween Kargil Chowk, Sports Ground and Chhota Canal has be-

at high speed all day come a den of alcocenters and tasting shops, due to which it has become like taking a risk for people to walk on this path.

Crowds of drunkards and anti-social elements work in many stalls in front of the sports fair grounds to create unrest in the city, on which the police administration does not take any action and the common people are extremely worried and there is a resentment among the common public and many in unity have demanded the clearance of the anti social elements and drug addicts from

Budget will shape the future of youth, women and farmers: Vikrant

Central Chronicle News

Kharagarh, Feb 12: Responding to the budget presented Chhattisgarh Assembly, State BJP Working Committee member and Rajnandgaon District Panchayat Vice President Vikrant Singh said that this budget will be a budget that will shape the future of women, youth and farmers of Chhattisgarh.

This budget will help in development of Chhattisgarh and by taking a resolution, a definite target is being set in which the GSDP of the state is to be doubled in 5 years, he said. Singh also said that this budget is a budget that



VikrantSingh

fulfills Modi's guarantees and in this budget, many guarantees of Modi including Mahtari Vandan, payment to farmers, Prime Minister's residence, Jal Jeevan Mission,

Ghunghutta River.

The mafia gives Rs 200

per bag to the villagers and

one person delivers seven to

10 bags and the extent is

that the coal mafia conducts

mining on the river banks

every year, but no action is

Kam Lalia Darshan, free treatment, provision for landless agricultural laborers will be fulfilled.

Vikrant Singh further said that this budget is challenging every challenge and the goal of increasing the state's income by 22 percent without imposing tax burden on anyone is laudable.

Provisions have been made in the budget for every area, every department, every section of the state, which will bring prosperity in the lives of the people of Chhattisgarh and will truly prove to be a milestone in realizing Chhattisgarh's dream of becoming a developed state, Singh concluded.

Coal being stolen from Amera open coal mine

Central Chronicle News

Lakhanpur, Feb 12: Coal is allegedly being stolen by villagers from Amera Coal mine and big pits have formed in these illegal coal mines, going rampant. After the complaint, the police team arrived to take action and seized a large quantity of illegal coal, even though as per information, the seized coal did not reach the police station but reached the brick kilns.

Coal is being purchased from the villagers by installing weighing machine in the coal mafia field from Amera open mine under Lakhanpur police station area of Surguja district and is being used in brick kilns.

A complaint was made about theft of coal from



large number of tractors were requisitioned there to take the seized coal to Lakhanpur police station.

Till the time the coal was loaded in the said tractor vehicles with the help of the villagers, instead of taking

Lakhanpur police station, the seized coal were sold in the brick kilns operating in With the help of the vil-

lagers, the coal mafia collects coal in the fields just a hundred meters away from



the Amera mine and transports the coal illegally in two-wheeler, four-wheeler and six-wheeled vehicles and disposes of it in many districts including the brick

There is always a dispute kilns of the area. Not only this, the coal between SECL and the vil $mafia \ is \ operating \ the \ mine$ lagers on the issue of vil-



of Ghunghutta river and at least twenty to thirty tonnes of coal is being produced every day from the Amera

through the nearby villagers, is mining coal by employing hundreds of laborers from SECL and the acquired land near this mine on the banks of the

mine and the coal mafia.

taken. Experts in the area say that action is not taken against the coal mafia because the mafia also passes on a part of their earnings to those responsible.

What officer says:

A major accident can happen on these pits at any time. If the government administration does not take strict action in this direction soon, then a major accident is being invited or may happen, but by then it will

be too late. BR Khande, SDM

In this regard, after discussing with Lakhanpur SDM B R Khande, he said that to curb illegal coal excavation and transportation, a team has been formed and revenue employees have been directed to take duty. He said that if coal theft does not stop, action will be taken by forming a joint team of Mineral Department and Revenue Department. - LR Chauhan

> **Sub Inspector Incharge Police Station**

In this regard, after talking to the in-charge sub-inspector of the police station. LR Chauhan, he said that he has no information about it.

> Mukesh Kumar Chaudhary, Amera Regional Assistant

Nagal jumps 23 places to break into top-100 of ATP singles rankings

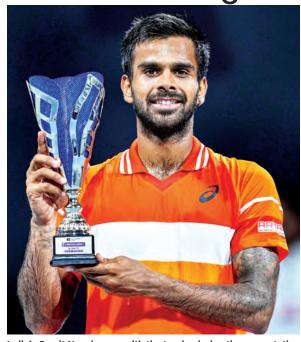
New Delhi, Feb 12 (PTI)

India's leading singles player Sumit Nagal on Monday jumped 23 spots to break into the top-100 of the ATP singles rankings for the first time in his career.

The win at the Chennai Open challenger event on Sunday pushed Nagal to 98th in the latest singles rankings led by Serbian Novak Djokovic.

Last month, Nagal had become the first Indian to beat a seeded player at a Grand Slam in 35 years when he upset then world no.27 Alexander Bublik of Kazakhstan in the first round. He eventually lost to China's Juncheng Shang in the second round. Nagal is the first

Indian to feature in the top-100 since left-handed



India's Sumit Nagal poses with the trophy during the presentation ceremony after winning the singles event at the ATP Challenger Chennai Open 2024 tennis tournament, in Chennai.

made the cut in 2019.

'I'm very emotional. You know, every tennis player's dream is to be top 100 at least. And like I said earlier, to win this match in front of the home crowd in your own country, I don't think I could have asked for a better place," Nagal said after his victory in Chennai on Sunday.

"I don't think there were words, everyone was crying. Less words, more tears. I'm still very emotional. It's been very tough last year with being ranked 500, getting surgery done, not having financial support.

"A lot of ups and downs, you know. And I'm very happy that I found a way to push every single day and give myself a chance to be

'In Virat's absence, great chance for England to win series'

Cape Town, Feb 12 (PTI):

Former pacer Stuart Broad says the ongoing India-England Test series is the most evenly-matched contest that he has seen between the two sides but the visitors have a strong chance of emerging triumphant as the "fire, passion and competitiveness" of Virat Kohli is missing from the home team's arsenal.

Speaking to PTI on the sidelines of the just-concluded SA20, where he was a commentator, Broad said the absence of Kohli due to personal reasons is a downer but the matches so far have been engrossing.

The five-match series is locked 1-1 and the two teams will now square off in the third game in Rajkot, beginning February 15.

'(The) first two matches were very competitive and it is one of the most exciting India-England Test series that I have seen. It is the most level series," he said.

"India won the last Test but England's playing style ('Bazball') is quite effective in India. With Virat not in the team, it is a great opportunity for the England team," he



Former English cricketer Stuart Broad speaks during an interview with PTI, in Johannesburg, South Africa, Monday.

Broad feels Kohli's break has also opened a window of opportunity for the youngsters in the Indian team to make a name for themselves.

"The battle between Virat and England bowlers had been great in the past. (James) Anderson and Kohli's battles are quite famous. It's a shame for the series and the sport that he will be missing," he ob-

"...Virat adds to the quality of any contest because he is such a wonderful player who brings fire, passion, lowing to the sport. But personal matters always take preference over cricketing matters," he said.

"We saw in the last match when Yashaswi Jaiswal scored a brilliant double century," pointed out the bowler who snared 604 wickets in 167

Broad said he is also very happy with the performance of his former new-ball partner James Anderson on India's unresponsive tracks. Anderson replaced Mark Wood in the second Test at Visakhapatnam and picked up five wickets.

'We saw in the second Test, seamers played an important role with Jasprit Bumrah giving a match-winning performance and Jimmy bowling like that on those pitches.

"Everyone expected that the pitch might spin a little bit more but seamers had a lot more success. Maybe with the moisture in the morning, he said.

"Jimmy is nearing 700 wickets and I know he is someone who always takes wickets in a winning cause," he added about the 41-year-old Anderson, who has claimed 179 Test wickets against India in 68 tests

Maxwell on Adelaide night out fiasco

'It was less than ideal, affected my family more'

Melbourne, Feb 11 (PTI) Ending up in hospital

after a late-night party in Adelaide was "less than conceded Australian swashbuckler Glenn Maxwell about the headline-grabbing incident last month, saying his family was affected more than him by the dramatic turns of events.

Maxwell was out drinking and watching a concert by 'Six and Out', the band featuring former Australian fast bowler Brett Lee, when he felt unwell and was rushed to hospital in an ambulance last month. He reportedly lost consciousness during the ride.

"I think probably it affected my family a little bit more than it affected me. I knew I had that week off. And obviously that incident was less than ideal. and the timing," Maxwell was quoted as saying by the 'Australian Associated



"But I had that week (during which the incident took place) off, I knew I had that week off away from the game," he said. On Sunday, the 35-year-

old showed that he remains Australia's most dangerous batter in the shorter formats as he smashed a sensational 120 not out off 55 balls against the West Indies. It was a record-equalling fifth T20I hundred for him.

...I came back and got back into my running, my

gym program and it felt really good and refreshed once I got back. And it's all been focused on getting myself ready for this (T20) series and what's to come,' Cricket Australia (CA)

had launched an investigation into the incident and as a result, he was not a part of the preceding ODI series against the West Indies. Later, head coach Andrew McDonald urged the big-hitter "to hold up his end of the bargain' and "take care of himself".

"He needs to obviously have a look at what he's doing at his end and is that the right thing to be doing at that time?" McDonald had stated. Maxwell said he moved on quickly from the incident in Adelaide.

"I just moved on pretty quickly. I was back in training on Monday so I was pretty good. The coach, Bails, everyone really, they have been outstanding,

Tm sure there will be a couple of players who will play for India'

Benoni (SA), Feb 12 (PTI):

India U-19 head coach Hrishikesh Kanitkar is confident that at least a couple of players from the 2024 batch, that ensured a fifth consecutive final appearance for the record five-time champions, will go on to play for the senior team.

Although five-time champions India lost the final to Australia by 79 runs, players like skipper Uday Saharan, Musheer Khan, Saumy Pandey and Sachin Dhas were impressive throughout the tournament.

"Definitely (the future of India is very bright). As a bowling side and as a batting side, there have been stand out performances by quite a few players.

They have shown maturity in tough situations and that bodes well for Indian cricket," Kanitkar said at the post-match press conference on Sunday.

Saharan, who plays for Punjab, ended the tourna-



ment as the highest rungetter with 397 runs.

His stature grew as the tournament progressed. He scored a century against Nepal before playing a match-winning 81 in the semifinal against South Africa.

Number three batter Mursheer, the younger brother of prolific Mumbai batter Sarfaraz Khan, was the team's most consistent performer with the bat and ended with 360 runs. The two other stand-out players were Dhas, who revelled in the role of a finisher, and left-arm spinner Pandey, who snared 18 wickets.

batter Maharashtra Dhas showed temperament, a pre-requisite for the highest level.

The Indian team has always been an age-group powerhouse and the U-19 World Cup has presented stars like Virat Kohli,

Jaipur, Feb 12 (PTI):

Yuvraj Singh, Mohammed Kaif, Suresh Raina, Shikhar Dhawan, Rohit Sharma, Ravindra Jadeja, KL Rahul, Rishabh Pant, Shubman Gill and Yashasvi Jaiswal to name a few. "Everytime time there are a couple of guys who step up either in the IPL or the Indian team. I'm sure there will be a couple, but there is great competition back home," Kanitkar added. Squad members Arshin Kulkarni and Avanish Rao went into the U-19 World Cup having already secured IPL con-

Kanitkar feels playing in the U-19 World Cup provides the players with an insight into how playing at the senior level is.

"For the players great journey, everything is highlighted, these performances matter, they are under the scanner. They get used to these situations. The know what expect and are prepared when they play higher cricket," said the 49vear-old head coach.

New Delhi 'National' Marathon to be held on Feb 25

New Delhi, Feb 12 (PTI):

The ninth edition of New Delhi Marathon, recognised by Athletics Federation of India (AFI) as a national event and a qualifying meet for Paris Olympics, will be held at the JLN Stadium here on February 25. The top five finishers among the elite runners -- both men and women -- will receive prize money. Both the men's and women's marathon winners will pocket Rs 1.5 lakh while the second place finish ers will get Rs 1 lakh. The third, fourth and fifth place finishers will win Rs 50,000, Rs 30,000 and Rs 30,000 respectively. "The 9th Edition of New Delhi Marathon 2024 is scheduled to be held on 25th February 2024 at JLN Stadium New Delhi stands recognized by Athletics Federation of India as National Marathon,' the AFI said in a circular. "It is pertinent to mention that this Marathon will be a Paris Olympics qualifying event." The Paris Olympics marathon race qualifying times for men and women are 2 hours 8 minutes and 10 seconds and 2 hours 26 minutes and 50 sec-

Chappell ahead of Rajkot Test

'India have real battle on their hands'

Melbourne, Feb 13 (PTI):

Former Australia skipper Ian Chappell feels England under Ben Stokes will give India tough competition in the remainder of the Test series but backed the hosts to win it.

The marquee five-match series is locked at 1-1 after India and England pulled off thrilling victories in Visakhapatnam Hyderabad respectively.

"As the home side India should eventually win a tough series, but it has a real battle on their hands," Chappell wrote in his column for 'ESPNCricinfo'.



"England under the aggressive leadership of Stokes are a far cry from the poorly captained Joe Root team that capitulated against spin on their last tour of the country." he added. In their previous tour of India in 2021, England, playing under Joe Root, had surrendered the Test series after winning the opener. While star batter Virat Kohli will not be part of the series, the India team will be bolstered by the return of the KL Rahul and Ravindra Jadeja, who have been included in the squad for the remaining three Tests.

2nd career ATP title Dallas, Feb 12 (AP): Second-seeded Tommy

Paul won his second career ATP title, surging ahead by winning the first three games in the third set and beating unseeded Marcos Giron 7-6 (3), 5-7, 6-3 in an all-American final at the Dallas Open.

Neither player had dropped a set on the hardcourt in Dallas before the final. Paul held serve to open the deciding set, and again in the third game. He took the second game that included Giron's third double fault in the first all-American tourlevel final since Tokyo two

Jadeja sizzles with seven-for as Tommy Paul wins Saurashtra crush Rajasthan by 218 runs

> Left-arm spinner Dharmendrasinh Jadeja once again did the star turn with career-best figures of 7 for 32 and played a leading role in Saurashtra's 218-run drubbing of Rajasthan in their Ranji Trophy Group A match here on Monday.

Having picked up five wickets in the first innings, Jadeja ended with career-best match figures of 12 for 131, as the defending champions logged six points from the contest on the fourth and final day.

Resuming on overnight

Kerala crush Bengal, jump to third spot

nings to pocket 4/104 as

Bengal were bowled out

for 339 in their tough chase

Opener Abhimanyu

174 for 4 and 245 runs ahead. Saurashtra stretched the overall lead before declaring their second innings on 234 for 6 with Arpit Vasavada re-

maining not out on 74.

Walking into the middle after Saurashtra had lost their fourth wicket for 74, Vasavada added 102 runs with Player of the Match Sheldon Jackson (49).

Jackson had scored 116 in Saurashtra's first innings after Cheteshwar Pujara's 110.

Set a target of 305, thanks to the efforts of Jackson and Vasavada, Rajasthan, who rode on a

collective batting display to total 257 in their first innings, simply fell apart in their second essay and were bowled out for 87 in 28.4 overs, bringing the match to an early end.

onds respectively.

While Jadeja was, without an iota of doubt, the star of the show, Yuvrajsinh Dodiya (3/25) gave his colleague great support with his off-break bowling, snaring three wickets to add to his four in the first innings.

spinners took 19 of the 20 wickets was a clear indication that the pitch favoured the tweakers

That the Saurashtra

Davis Cup stars felicitated at inauguration of Bengaluru Open 2024

"It's a proud moment for

Bengaluru, Feb 12 (PTI):

The Indian Davis Cup team, which defeated Pakistan resoundingly on their own turf recently, was felicitated during the inauguration ceremony of the Bengaluru Open 2024 at the Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA) Stadium here on Monday.

The main draw of the tournament was inaugurated by Manjunath Prasad, additional chief Karnataka government's department of youth empowerment and sport.

the Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association to have Davis Cup stars participating at the DafaNews Bengaluru Open 2024. Their achievement in Pakistan was historic and inspiring," said R Ashoka, President Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association.

'We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the entire team for their remarkable victory in this historic match and we look forward to celebrating many more successes in the future."

Indian thrashed Pakistan 4-0 to secure their place in the Davis Cup World Group I earlier this month.

The members of the winning team Ramkumar Ramanathan, Sriram Balaji, Saketh Myneni and Nikki K Poonacha -- were present at the felicitation ceremony as they will also feature in the ongoing tournament. "We welcome all of you to the sixth edition of Bengaluru Open 2024 and wish you all the best. It will be an exciting week for the fans as top players

will be in action, compet-

ing for the coveted title,"

said Prasad.

Thumba (Kerala), Feb 12 (PTI):

Veteran all-rounder Jalaj Saxena grabbed a match haul of 13 wickets on a rank-turner as Kerala crushed Bengal by 109 runs to taste their first win of the ongoing Ranji Trophy season here on Monday.

The win propelled Kerala (14) to third in the Group B table behind leaders Mumbai (30) and Andhra (25).

This was Bengal's second successive defeat of the season as the last edition's runners-up slipped to sixth spot and their knockout qualification hopes are as good as over.



Assam's bowler Rahul Singh after taking 5 wickets during the 4th day of the Ranji Trophy cricket match between Assam and Bihar. in Guwahati, Monday.

nings defeat to Mumbai at home in their previous The spin-bowling all-

Bengal had endured an in-

rounder Saxena followed

up his 9/68 in the first in-

of 449 runs.

Easwaran completed his second fifty of the match after Bengal resumed the day on 77/2. But Saxena gave the breakthrough first dismissing Anustup Majumdar (16) and then halted Abhimanyu's patient innings for 65 (119b).

Playing his penultimate match of his career, veteran Manoi Tiwary also became Saxena's victim falling cheaply for 35. Tiwary has announced that he will finally call it a day after Bengal's last league match against

Rahane slams fifty, Mumbai log 3 pts

In Raipur, veteran India batter Ajinkya Rahane struck his first fifty of Ranji Trophy season, as his 56 not out helped Mumbai bag three points by virtue of their first innings lead over hosts Chhattisgarh. Resuming the day on 97/1 with an overall 98 run lead, Mumbai declared their second essay on 253/6 as both the skippers, Rahane and Amandeep Khare, agreed for a draw before the tea break. For the home side, left-arm spinner Ajay Mandal returned with 5/63 but that was not enough to bowl Mumbai out.

Bihar at Eden Gardens from February 16.

Returning to action after a two-month injury layoff, Bengal premier allrounder Shahbaz Ahmed was the lone warrior for as he chipped in with an entertaining 100-ball 80 (8x4,

Karan Lal gave him sup-

83-run alliance for the seventh wicket. But it was just a formali-

port with a 78-ball 40 in an

ty for the visitors with Basil Thampi (2/8 from 2.4 overs) wiping out the tail, first by effecting the runout of India Test-bound Akash Deep and then dismissing Shahbaz.

Kejriwal, Mann offer prayers at Ram temple in Ayodhya

Ayodhya (UP), Feb 12 (PTI):

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his counterpart Punjab Bhagwant Mann along with their family members offered prayers at the Ram temple in Ayodhya on Monday.

"Today I had the good fortune to have the darshan of Ram Lalla. I felt immense peace after offering prayers at the shrine that cannot be described in words," Kejriwal later told reporters.

The AAP leaders, their spouses and other family members spent around one hour and 15 minutes at the Ram temple.

"It is a matter of good fortune for the entire



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann during a visit to the Ram Temple, in Ayodhya, Monday.

world that a beautiful and grand temple has been constructed in Ayodhya and lakhs of Ram devotees are coming every day to offer worship," Kejriwal

Both the chief ministers arrived in the city by air this afternoon.

Though Kejriwal, who is the national convener of the Aam Aadmi Partv (AAP), was invited for the

Pratishtha (consecration) ceremony of the idol of Ram Lalla, he had said he wanted to visit it later with his family. Kejriwal and Mann

were hosted over lunch by Champat Rai, General Secretary of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra, AAP UP president Sabhajeet Singh said. Speaking to media persons at Ayodhya airport

before returning to Delhi, Kejriwal said, "We have

prayed at the temple for

happiness, peace and health of everyone." Mann said India is a country of multiple religious faiths where all festivals are celebrated togeth-

New Delhi, Feb 12 (PTI): The tion of assets by judges of the government has told a parliatop court and high courts on mentary panel that it is plantheir initial appointment. ning to frame rules to lay down

The action-taken report of the committee on its earlier report on "Judicial processes and their reforms" was tabled in Parliament last week in the just-concluded Budget session.

In its earlier report, the committee headed by BJP MP Sushil Kumar Modi had said that as a general practice, all constitutional functionaries and government servants must file annual returns of their assets and liabilities.

"The Supreme Court has gone to the extent of holding that the public has a right to know the

assets of those standing for elections as MPs or MLAs. When so, it belies logic that judges don't need to disclose their assets and liabilities. Anybody holding a public office and drawing a salary from the exchequer should mandatorily furnish annual returns of their property," the committee had opined.

GOVT TO PARL PANEL

'Rules proposed for mandatory

declaration of assets by SC, HC judges'

It had also said that declaration of assets by judges of the higher judiciary - the Supreme Court and 25 high courts - will only bring more trust and credibility to the sys-

"As the last resolution of the Supreme Court on the declaration of assets by judges on a voluntary basis is not complied with, the committee recommends the government to bring about an appropriate legislation to make it mandatory for judges of the higher judiciary to furnish their property returns on an annual basis to the appropriate authority," the parliamentary committee had said. In its response or "actiontaken", the government said that based on the recommendations made by the committee, the Department of Justice "is proposing to frame rules under the High Court Judges Act, 1954, and the Supreme Court Judges Act, 1958, to lay down a procedure for making statutory provisions in the rules for declaration of assets by the judges of the Supreme Court and high court judges on their initial appointment and thereafter every year by the due date". It said the consultation with the Registry of the Supreme Court has since been initiated, soliciting their views in the matter, "Their response, however, is awaited," the com-

Will list plea of Thackeray faction against speaker's order: SC

New Delhi, Feb 12 **(PTI):** The Supreme Court said Monday it will list the plea of the Uddhav Thackeray faction challenging Maharashtra Assembly

Speaker Rahul Narwekar's order declaring the Shiv Sena bloc led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde as the "real political party" after the outfit's split in June 2022. The plea of

Thackeray faction was listed for hearing on Monday but the matter could not be taken up during the day due to paucity

tion) file a response. The notice was issued earlier," senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the Thackeray faction, told the bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra.

"We will list it," the CJI

In the meantime, senior advocate Harish Salve, appearing for the Shinde group, said since a petition on the issue was also pending in the Bombay High Court, proceedings cannot go on in two courts simultaneously.

Earlier, on February 5,

"Let them (Shinde fac- the CJI-led bench had agreed to consider listing the Thackeray faction's

> The top court had on January 22 issued notices to Chief Minister Shinde and other lawmakers of his group on the Thackeray bloc's plea challenging the speaker's

The court had then ordered its listing after two

The Thackeray faction has alleged that Shinde "unconstitutionally usurped power" and is heading an "unconstitutional government" in Maharashtra.

Maha Governor presides over **Convocation of HSNC University**



Mumbai, Jan 12: Maharashtra Governor and Chancellor of universities Ramesh Bais presided over the Second Annual Convocation of the **HSNC** Cluster University at the K C College Auditorium, Mumbai. Degrees were awarded to 32 graduating students. Provost of HSNC University Dr

Niranjan Hiranandani, President of HSNC Board Anil Harish, Secretary Dinesh Panjwani, former President of the Board Kishu Mansukhani, Vice Chancellor of HSNC University Dr. Hemlata Bagla, Heads of Department, graduating students, teachers and parents were present.

a procedure for making statu-

tory provisions for declaration

of assets by judges of the

Supreme Court and high

courts. Consultations have

been initiated with the top

court's registry in this regard,

the Department of Justice in

the law ministry said and

added that its response on the

issue is awaited. Based on the

government's response record-

ed in the action-taken report.

the department-related stand-

ing committee on law and per-

sonnel asked the justice

department to fast-track the

consultation process with the

Supreme Court Registry for

making the statutory provi-

sions in the rules for declara-

'Assam govt ready for talks with ULFA (I)' Guwahati, Feb 12 (PTI):

The Assam government is ready to hold peace talks with the hardliner ULFA (Independent) and doors for negotiations with its chief Paresh Barua are Parliamentary Affairs minister Pijush Hazarika said in the state Assembly on Monday.

The Barua-led faction has remained outside the ambit of negotiations even as a peace pact has been signed with the pro-talks group, Hazarika said.

Responding to a discussion on the recently-signed tripartite peace agreement with ULFA, Hazarika, on behalf of Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma who also holds the Home department, said the government is willing to hold talks with the ULFA (I) also. "The ULFA had split into two groups, and the one led by Arabinda Rajkhowa and Anup Chetia, had come forward for talks and the peace pact was signed. The other faction, led by Barua, is yet to engage in talks and rechristened itself as ULFA (I)", he said.

"The government has been repeatedly urging Paresh Barua to come for talks and we feel that peace will be further strengthened in the state if his faction also come overground", the minister added. The matter was raised by opposition Congress MLA

Kamalakshya Purkayastha, who raised apprehensions over the utility of the peace agreement when one of the faction was not a signatory



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