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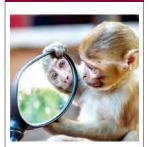
Modi Sarkar ki Guarantee **Prosperous Farmers, Prosperous Nation**

Kisan Rail connecting farmers with new markets; Over 2300 Kisan Rails operationalised on 167 routes

Hamara Sankalp **Viksit Bharat**







A monkey looks at his reflection in a two-wheeler's rear-view mirror, in New Delhi, Monday.

Bus service

■ Bhubaneswar: Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday launched affordable bus services under the **Location Accessible Multi**modal Initiative' (LaccMI) in five more districts of the state. Subarnapur, Cuttack, Jharsuguda, Kandhamal and Sambalpur were added to the list of LaccMI, officials said.

Arrested

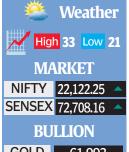
New Delhi: The CBI arrested an enforcement officer of the EPFO on Monday while allegedly receiving a bribe of Rs 2 lakh from a software company which had received funds of more than Rs 3 crore under the central government's Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana, officials said.

Uphold

Kochi: The Kerala High Court on Monday upheld the conviction of the accused in the T P Chandrasekharan murder case of 2012. It also dismissed the appeal of the convicts challenging the trial court order sentencing them. A **Division Bench of** Justices A K Jayasankaran Nambiar and Kauser Edappagath set aside the acquittal of the two other accused and convicted them for criminal conspiracy in the case related to the murder of **Revolutionary Marxist** Party (RMP) leader Chandrasekharan at Onchiyam on May 4, 2012.

Injured

■ Panaji: Goa Minister Subhash Phal Desai on Monday said he was injured when a mob attacked him with stones after he unveiled a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at a village in South Goa. There was heavy police presence in Sao Jose De Areal village near Margao town on Sunday after some people installed a statue of the Maratha king, while another group took objection.



GOLD 61,993 71,480 SILVER

Farmers' body dismisses Centre's 5-year MSP contract offer

Amid a tense stand-off between the government and farmers, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha - an umbrella organisation of farmer unions not directly linked to those leading this round of protests - has rejected a five-year contract to buy three types of pulses, maize, and cotton at the old MSP. The SKM on Monday evening criticised the proposal as "diverting and the focal demands of farmers", and insisted on nothing less than the purchase of "all crops (23, including the above five) with guaranteed procurement (as) promised in the BJP manifesto (before the) 2014 general election".

This procurement, the SKM stressed should be based on the C2+50 per cent MSP, or minimum support price, formula of Swaminathan Commission and not the existing A2+FL+50 per cent method. The SKM also criticised the government led in this instance by



Farmer leader Rakesh **Tikait speaks during 'Kisan Mazdoor Mahila** Mahapanchavat', in **Ghaziabad, Monday.**

three union ministers, in-Agriculture cluding Minister Arjun Munda for a lack of transparency through the four rounds of talks so far. And finally, the SKM has also demanded the government make progress on other demands, which include loan waivers, no hike in electricity tariffs, and the withdrawal of police cases filed during the 2020/21 protests, when protesting farmers had violent clashes with security personnel. There has also been no progress, the SKM said, on demands like a comprehensive public sector crop insurance scheme and a monthly pension of ? 10,000 to farmers over the age of 60. A demand to prosecute Home Minister Ajay Mishra Teni in connection with the deaths of farmers in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri - has also not been resolved.

The Samvukt Kisan Morcha is not the farmer body at the head of these protests, which are led by a non-political offshoot with same name. Nevertheless, as a large federation of farmer unions, it can influence those farmers who participated in Sunday's meeting with the government.

In the overall narrative of the farmers' protests, this is crucial because those now at Shambhu on the Punjab and Haryana border - and speaking to the government - are seeking additional support, and getting the SKM on-board will add a good deal of muscle in attempts to bargain with the authorities.

PM to dedicate IIT Bhilai permanent campus today

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI):

In a boost to the education sector. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate campuses of three IIMs -- Jammu, Bodh Gaya and Visakhapatnam - and lay the foundation stone of several projects worth over Rs 13,000 crore on Tuesday. The projects which will be dedicated in-

clude a permanent cam pus of IIT Bhilai, IIT Tirupati, IIT Jammu, IIIT Kancheepuram Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) - a pioneer skill training institute on advanced technologies - in Kanpur; and two campuses of Central Sanskrit University Uttarakhand's Devprayag and in Agartala, Tripura.



'Policy to deal with career progression of women army officers'

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI): The Centre informed the Supreme Court on Monday a detailed policy on career progression of women officers in the Indian Army will be in place by March 31, 2024.

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud took note of the submission of senior advocate R Balasubramanian, appearing for the Centre, and directed that an updated status report be filed on this by April 1.

"By March 31, 2024, a detailed policy will be in place on career progression of women officers

mayoral poll ballots, video

■ By Mar 31

and command in regular major unit. Balasubramanian told the bench, also comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra.

Senior advocate V Mohana, representing some women officers, said all 225 male officers who were promoted have been granted command position in regular major units.

She said out of 108 women officers, only 32 were granted command position in regular units.

SC calls for Chandigarh

the apex court was told that deliberations were underway to formulate a policy to deal with the issue of career progression of women officers in the Indian Army and for considering their promotion from the rank of colonel to brigadier.

The top court had then granted the Army time till March 31, 2024 for drawing up a policy pursuant to an earlier direction on career progression of women officers.

Some women Army officers have alleged discrimination in promotion from the rank of colonel to brigadier. In a landmark

verdict on February 17. 2020, the top court had ordered permanent commission for women officers in the Army, rejecting the Centre's stand on their "physiological limitations" as being based on "sex stereotypes" and calling it "gender discrimination against women".

The apex court had di rected that all serving Short Service Commission (SSC) women officers have to be considered for permanent commission irrespective of them having completed 14 years or, as the case may be, 20 years of service

Class 8 student commits suicide



Deceased student.

Ambikapur, Feb 19: A 14-

year-old student of a pri-

vate school committed sui-

cide in Surguja district,

The incident has come

days after a Class 6 student

of the same school com-

mitted suicide, citing ha-

ing in an under-construc-

tion house in a locality

under the Gandhinagar

police station area on

Sunday night, station

The girl was found hang-

police said on Monday

rassment by a teacher.

About the incident... The girl was found hanging

one month

in an under-construction house in a locality under the Gandhinagar police station was a Class 8 student at a private school.

Second incident in

house officer Ashwini Singh said. She was a Class 8 student at a private school, he said.

No suicide note has been found so far, and an accidental death report was registered, the official said.

On February 6, a Class 6 student of the same school was found hanging from the ceiling in a room at her house in the Darripara area under the Manipur police station limits.

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI):

Observing that "horsetrading is taking place", the Supreme Court has said it would peruse on Tuesday the ballot papers of the Chandigarh mayoral polls and the entire video-recording of the counting day, and directed the registrar general of the Punjab and Haryana High Court to depute a judicial officer to bring the records safely to Delhi.

The top court, on February 5, rapped Returning Officer Anil Masih, who conducted the mayoral polls, observing that it was obvious that he had defaced the ballot papers and that he should be prosecuted, adding that his action amounted to "murder" and a "mockery"

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud

Poll officer quizzed, fresh counting of votes ordered

"Horse-trading taking place," the CJI said while declining a plea that the case on the mayoral polls be heard on some other day instead of Tuesday. Masih appeared before the bench in pursuance of the apex court's direction and was guizzed by the judges over the alleged tampering of certain ballot papers. Replying to the judges' guestions. Masih said he did put the "X" mark on eight already "defaced" ballot papers and accused Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) councillors of creating a ruckus and trying to snatch away the ballot papers. He said that due to this, he was looking at the CCTV camera at the

directed the Chandigarh administration Monday to provide security to the judicial officer, to be appointed by the high court, to ensure the safety of the officer and the

counting centre.

Manoi Misra, said.

Lucknow, Feb 19 (PTI):

Pradesh, the prime minis-

ter emphasized the impor-

tance of working towards

a common goal of having

Indian food products on

dining tables across the

His remarks came amid

a protest by a section of

farmers over their vari-

ous demands such as a

legal guarantee for mini-

mum support price for

Minister

Prime

millets.

said.

"Horse-trading taking place," the CJI said while declining a plea that the case on the mayoral polls be heard on some other

the bench in pursuance of the apex court's direction and was quizzed by the judges over the alleged tampering of certain ballot papers.

without SC approval fresh proposal for opening a zoo or starting a 'safari' on forest land will now require the approval of the Supreme Court, which on Monday issued a slew UTs, on its website by April 15.

'No new zoo, safari

The top court took note of the submission that the definiamended law on conservation leaves out nearly 1.99 lakh sq km of forest land from the ambit of 'forest' which can be used for other purposes. Dealing with a batch of peti-

of directions for forest conser-

vation across the country.

tions challenging the amendments to the forest conservation law of 2023, a bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra directed the state governments and union territories to provide the details of the forest land within their jurisdiction to the Centre by March 31 this year. The top court said the

of Environment,

Forest and Climate Change will put all the details on "forest like area, unclassed forest land and community forest land", to be provided by the states and

"No Zoos/Safaris to be notified in forests lands without prior approval...any proposal for the establishment of Wildlife Protection Act 1972 owned by Govt or any authority in forest areas other than protected areas shall not be finally approved save and except with the prior permission of this court," it said.

In its interim order, the bench asked the states and UTs to act as per the definition of "forest" as laid down by the top court in the 1996 judgment in the case of TN Godavarman Thirumulpad vs Union of India.

It noted that the process of identifying land recorded as forests in government records is going on as per the amended

Govt to discuss demands for Ladakh's statehood, inclusion in 6th Schedule for Ladakh, inclusion of

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI):

The Centre agreed on Monday to discuss threadbare the demands for Ladakh's statehood, the inclusion of the Union Territory in the 6th of Schedule Constitution and the setting up of an exclusive public service commission for the high-altitude re-

The agreement was arrived at a meeting held here between the High Powered Committee (HPC) for Ladakh headed by Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai and a 14member delegation of the Apex Body of Leh (ABL) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA), representing various organisations

of the Union Territory. 'The meeting decided to discuss threadbare our main demands: statehood

Ladakh in the Schedule Constitution and the constitution of the exclusive public service commission for Ladakh on February 24," according to a joint press release issued by the ABL and KDA. The two organisations

from Ladakh also decided to call off "for the time being" their plan to go on a hunger strike from Tuesday "in view of this significant development".

The meeting resolved to constitute a joint sub-committee for carrying forward the exercise to look into the details of the demands.

"We have, accordingly, set up the sub-committee with the following mem-Thupstan Chhewang, Chering Dorjay Lakrook and Nawang Rigzin Jora, rep-

resenting the ABL, and Qamar Ali Akhoon, Asgar Ali Karbalai and Sajjad Kargili, representing the KDA," the release said. The two organisations

conveved the names of the sub-committee members to Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla. 'All members of the

sub-committee are in Delhi and we look forward to fruitful discussions at the next meeting," the release added. The other demands of

the delegation include two Lok Sabha seats (one for Kargil and one for Leh) and job opportunities for the residents of the Union Territory, sources said.

Ladakh currently has one Lok Sabha constituency. Ladakh, which no longer has any Assembly constituency, was earlier part of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

records. "We ourselves will look at the records at 2 pm," the bench, also comprising justices J B Pardiwala and

day instead of Tuesday. Masih appeared before

'Govt helping farmers to take agriculture on a new path' which are now being ex-'Cong believes only

Narendra Modi said on Monday that his government was helping farmers to take agriculture on a new path, and laid focus on natural farming and Addressing an event in Lucknow in Uttar

> PM Modi speaks during the 4th groundbreaking ceremony of UP Global Investors' Summit, in Lucknow, Monday.

focus on natural farming and millets. "This is the right time for investment in superfoods like millets,' he said.

He cited the emergence "We are assisting and of large-scale natural encouraging farmers to farming along the banks take our country's agriculof the Ganges in Uttar ture on a new path," he Pradesh, which not only benefits farmers but also emphasised the helps preserve the purity one family has right over Bharat Ratna'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday targeted the Congress and said the party believes that members of only one family has the right over the Bharat Ratna. "Just a few days ago, our government had the privilege of awarding Bharat Ratna to Chaudhary Charan Singh, the messiah of farmers. Honouring Chaudhary Saheb, the son of the soil of Uttar Pradesh, is an honour for crores of farmers and labourers of the country.

of sacred rivers.

The prime minister appealed to food processing entrepreneurs to prioritise the mantra of "zero effect, zero defect" in their endeavours

He highlighted the success stories of products such as Siddharth Nagar's rice and kalanamak Chandauli's black rice,

ported in significant quantities, and pitched for collective efforts to take Indian food items to people across the world. The prime minister en-

couraged entrepreneurs to form partnerships with farmers, underscoring the government's efforts in empowering small-scale farmers through farmer producer organisations and cooperative societies, which present opportunities for mutually beneficial partnerships.

"Benefit to farmers and agriculture is good for your business too," Modi told the investors.

He also referred to the Bharat Ratna award to former prime minister

"Just a few days ago, our government had the privilege of awarding Bharat Ratna to the messiah of Chaudhary

Chaudhary Charan Singh

farmers, Charan Singh," he said.

Biker's stunt video lands him in trouble

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 19: On the basis of a video shared on social media, police took action against a biker, who performed a stunt on a busy road. Police produced his case before the court after which the biker had to pay a fine of Rs 6000.

Later, the stunt biker apologised and appealed to other youth not to perform stunts on bikes. Common people can send videos / photos of traffic violators on traffic help number 94791-92029.

On the instructions of Superintendent of Police, Durg, Jitendra



Shukla and under the leadership of Deputy Superintendent of Police, Traffic, Satish Thakur, Traffic Police Durg has issued a helpline number for common citizens for complaints and suggestions related to traffic.

On February 16, police received a video of a two-

wheeler rider (CG 07 CR 1638), who was standing on the bike's seat and driving carelessly on the busy road near Maroda Over Bridge. On the instructions of senior officials, Traffic Police searched the bike owner and his address.

Later, the bike owner

was called to the traffic headquarters along with the vehicle. The bike was seized and presented before the court. The court imposed a fine of Rs 6,000. Police conducted counselling after which the stunt rider appealed to other riders not to perform stunts or ride carelessly.

St Thomas College conducts community service 'Gyaan Daan'

At Government Primary School Ruabandha

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 19: The PG Department of Economics, St Thomas College Bhilai conducted community service "Gyaan Daan" at Government Primary School Ruabandha. The initiative taken by the Department from 2016 to till date with a view to provide Free of Cost Service to society as a Gyaan Daan.

This academic session started from August 2023 to February 2024. BA (Economics) students Dhiriti, Tanushree, Prabhjot of BA 2nd year

Shakti Aanya: special programme organized for women employees

and Muskan, Syed Suleiman, Kritika and Tripti of BA 1st year are engaged in teaching primary students.

To create interest among kids, BA students not only engaged them in the academics but also involved them in the extracurricular activities. This program has been successfully carried out with the cooperation of school teachers Head Mistress Sarita Mandare and other staff.

Administrator Dr Joshi Varghese and Principal Dr MG Roymon of St Thomas College Bhilai appreciated the admirable service provided to primary school. For smooth conduction of this service is continuously supported and guided by HOD of the Department Dr Aparna Ghosh, faculties Dr Kiran Bala Das and Aparna Dutta.

Ravindranath M, CMO I/c

Dr Ravindranath con-

gratulated the partici-

pants and said that togeth-

er, we can inspire and sup-

port women to break bar-

riers and build a future

where every woman can

achieve her fullest poten-

The informative and en-

riching session proceed-

ings were summarized by

Amulya Priyadarshi, GM

(HRD), who also proposed

(M&HS).

Prime Minister to inaugurate IIT Bhilai today

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 19: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is going to inaugurate IIT in Bhilai. It will be inaugurated on February 20 2024 at 11.00 am through video conferencing.

Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Vishnu Deo Sai will participate in the program. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of State (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh, Lieutenant Governor,

Jammu and Kashmir



Narendra Modi

Manoj Sinha and Lok Sabha MP Durg Vijay Baghel will attend the programme. Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 19: The HRD department of BSP organized two days sessions under the Shakti Aanya program, a special program for women employees. This program focused on training the women executives of Bhilai Steel Plant to think about their careers and how they can reach higher positions.

This transformative event is dedicated to celebrating and empowering women in all facets of life, fostering an environment that encourages personal and professional growth. As many as 21 women executives from E-1 to E-4 grade participated in this training program.

This session was organized by the Five Female

Executives Shabanam Shweta, DGM (Projects), Lalitha, AGM (PSD), Smita Jain, AGM (F&A), Komal Mehra, AGM (Contract cell) and Neeraja Sharma, AGM (INCOS) who were selected for and then trained under SAIL level AANYA program.

It is noteworthy that

only 27 women executives were selected for this special program by the SAIL management, and five among these female executives from BSP were part of this innovative program.

BSP's HRD department is training the non-executive women employees also under the AANYA initiative. This two-day session was focused on crucial subjects of profession-



al and personal life, including work-life balance, tiny habits that help in managing assignments, leadership skills, communication skills, teamwork, and breaking through the glass ceiling.

glass ceiling. Notably, this forum was launched to inspire, educate, and encourage women to reach new heights in their careers and personal lives. HRD believes in the power of education and empowerment to drive positive change.

Nisha Soni, CGM

(HRD&BE) inaugurated the training programme on 16th February 2024 and spoke on the aim and significance of the special program. The valedictory ceremony of the Shakti Aanya program was the vote of thanks. The session was compered by Avanthi Vuchula, Manager (HRD).

It is noteworthy that the HRD department of BSP

organizes various special programs for women employees throughout the year under the umbrella 'SHAKTI'.

Free Health Camp at Deobaloda

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 19: Bhilai Steel Plant, conducts several public welfare activities as part of its organizational social responsibility towards the community in and around its areas of operations. The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department of the Plant organized a one-day free Health Camp, at Model Steel Village Deobaloda on February 17, 2024.

A total of 46 villagers, including 13 men, 26 women, and 07 Children from Model Steel Village Deobaloda, availed free health services at the daylong Health Camp. Free medicines were also distributed to villagers attending the camps at both Deobaloda.

The Medical Team from CSR department, comprising, Dr Savita, Pharmacist



Khilawan Kumbhkar, Nurse Rekha Dev, for Blood-Sugar and BP examination, and Shambhu Dayal, for registration, volunteered their services for the Medical Camp at Model Steel Village Deobaloda. Sita Sinha from the CSR department was present during the Health Camp at this Health Camp.

It is noteworthy that Health Camp is one of the

prime initiatives, through BSP's which Department has contributed substantially towards Public Health & Medicine. The CSR Department of Bhilai Steel Plant, conducts health camps from time to time in the adjoining areas or mines, with the aim of ensuring adequate Medical and health facilities to the communities within which it works.

Petty contractor nabbed for stealing electric wires

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 19: With the arrest of five ruffians, police claimed to have busted a gang of wire thieves. The accused had stolen 450 meters of aluminium wire from 09 poles. Police was receiving regular complaints regarding theft of power cables and wires in Patan area.

On the instructions of Inspector General of Police, Ram Gopal Garg, the team of Durg Police led by Jitendra Shukla, ASP (City) Abhishek Jha, and ASP (Rural) Anurag Jha is making efforts to trace the people involved in thefts and other property crimes.

Under the supervision of Sub-Divisional Officer of Police (Patan) Devansh Singh Rathore, the team of Patan Police led by



Inspector Rajendra Kumar Yadav started tracing the suspects. In this sequel, they received a tip off regarding some suspects. Police team swung into action and 05 persons were arrested.

They were moving in a pickup vehicle (CG 07 CA 2444). When they were unable to give a satisfactory reply, they were brought to

the police station and strictly interrogated. During interrogation, they confessed to stealing electric wires from nine electric poles in Village Amapendri Khar Ruhi.

The main accused Chandrahas Sonkar is a petty contractor in the Abhanpur electricity department. He admitted to committing theft along

with his accomplices. The accused get CSEB vehicles registered and do contract work during the day and steal wires at night. They were booked under the provisions mentioned in Section 379, 34 of IPC, Section 3 of Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act and Section 139 of Electricity Act.

The accused are identified as Chandrahas Sonkar (39) son of Kunj Bihari Sonkar; Jitendra Yadav alias Golu (30) son of Gopi Yadav, Nohar Lal Sonkar (38) son of Panna Lal Sonkar; Naveen Yadav (21) son of Gokul Yadav, and Lakshmi Narayan Nishad (21) son of Janak Ram Nishad, a resident of village Raveli, Post Parsada, Police Station Mujgahan, District Raipur.

Child hit by reversing car dies at hospital

Bhilai, Feb 19: In a shocking incident, a two-and-a-half year old child died in an accident late evening on Sunday. He was hit by a reversing car, which was being driven by his uncle. According to information, the incident occurred at Shastri

Nagar, Chhawani.

On Sunday evening,

Vinod Soni's elder brothr was reversing nis car Suddenly, Vinod's child Sagar came out of the house and ran towards the rear end of the car. After being hit by the reversing car, the child fell down and suffered head injury. The child was rushed to BM Shah Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. Police have lodged an FIR and investigations are on.

Former Head of Coke Ovens shares insights

Into working at BSP, challenges overcome and mantras for success

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Feb 19: Ever since Bhilai Steel Plant began its operations thousands of men and women have toiled hard to give their best to the organisation. The history of Bhilai Steel Plant is not just about those who laid the foundations of this Plant in the late 50s and early 60s and in the decades after, it is also about all those who have given their lifetime working to expand capacities, modernise steel making operations and bring in new and improved systems in the functioning of different shops and departments.

While it is impossible to reach out to all the retired employees to learn about their experiences and contribution, an attempt is being made to contact some senior officers who have exited the organisa-

tion upon superannuation in recent years. The objective is to hear from them about how the decisions and actions they took along with their respective teams impacted the organisation, and what they would like to share with those who have succeeded them.

We begin this series with one such person, Gurugubelli Atchuta Rao who spent his entire work life in BSP in the Plant's Coke Oven & Coal Chemicals Dept after joining BSP in August 1985. Having worked in different capacities, Rao who retired as CGM of the same department in May 2022 shares his insights.

Let us hear from him about what he has to say to those still in service and about some of the biggest challenges he faced and how these were overcome with the help of his team.

Here we reproduce Rao's replies to some questions

Q. You would have gained rich experience of working in different capacities during your career. What would you like to say for the benefit of those presently engaged in similar capacities in Bhilai Steel Plant? A.

Simply put, people should think positive and move on. You will get all the required resources and support from Management if you move in the right direction. One should have dedication and self confidence to take up big tasks. Once you get into the task, it becomes simple and easy.

Q. Bhilaians have always strived to do better in their own respective fields of working. In your capacity as leader of your team/department, you would have taken certain initiatives for the benefit



A. Earlier the coke oven batteries were taken mostly for hot repairs which used to extend the life of batteries only for 2 to 3 years, but smoke emitted through chimneys from the hot-repaired oven wall joints was above CECB Norms.

During my tenure, the strategy has been changed to only cold repairs by dismantling the battery above pusher level and rebuilding with replacement/refurbishment of mechanical, civil & electrical equipment.

This has extended the life of batteries up to 5 to 7 years and pollution from batteries was kept within norms. There were many such initiatives like replacement of vertical primary coolers with cross-

flow horizontal coolers for COB#7& 8.

Replacement of ammonium Sulphate Plant 1 with Clause Reactor Plant for COB#1 to 6 area, refurbishment/ replacement of coke oven gas lines in planned manner for the entire CO & CCD and strengthening/ replacement of coal & coke conveyor galleries are among the other initiatives taken.

Another step taken was provision of a nitrogen network for CCD, specially ETPs (electrostatic tar precipitators) where occurrence of fires were more. The list goes on.

These actions have benefited the Plant by eliminating black smoke from chimneys in coke ovens as a measure in pollution control and strengthening safety in coal chemical departments.

Q. SAIL-BSP has reached new heights of ex-

cellence in various parameters in the last few decades. After such a long innings in Bhilai, how do you look back on your own personal contribution to the organisation?

A. I am fully satisfied with contributing and doing my bit for the organisation, which I must say, has given me a lot in return. My personal contributions for strengthening the work culture, health of equipment in coke ovens, safety pollution control etc will definitely help the organisation to reach greater heights.

Q. Pls share your views on how performance of the shop/department where you have worked for the longest duration, can be improved.

A. It is a gradual process. The work culture of coke ovens is laudable. However, the talent pool is slowly dwindling in coke

ovens for which initiatives need to be taken to inject young blood at all levels starting from Operators to Managers. This will help in improving performance of both the department and Plant.

Q. Pls also share your own personal views on work life balance in Bhilai Steel Plant vis a vis other organisations in the steel industry with which you are familiar A. Work life balance be-

comes normal if crisis management is avoided. What I mean is timely actions for upkeep of the health of the Plant will help in creating a conducive work atmosphere. If the plant runs smoothly, the work life balance will be automatically taken care of. Further, implementation of projects should be done in a time bound manner for making life of managers easy.

Admn reshuffle: PSC exam controller Vasnaik shifted to Bastar

SAS Officer Tanuja Salam to be Director **Sports & Youth Welfare**

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Feb 19: In a significant administrative reshuffle, the state government on Monday issued fresh posting orders of 8 Administrative State Officers (SA) here. Chhattisgarh Public Commission Examination Controller Arti Vasnaik has been shifted to Bastar as Deputy Commissioner in Divisional Office whereas the 2008 batch SAS Officer Tanuja Salam has been posted as new Director Sports & Youth Welfare from the department of Public Health & Family Welfare. Similarly,

Collectors Gajendra Singh Thakur and Virendra Bahadur Panchbhai have been shifted to Sukma and Narayanpur respectively Bastar. Deputy Commissioner Akhilesh Sahu has been shifted as Chief Executive Officer of Bilaspur District Panchayat whereas Dhamtari Upper Collector Ravi Kumar Sahu has shifted

Mahasamund. 2015 batch SAS Officer Pranav Singh posted as Additional Managing Director at Chhattisgarh Co-operative Marketing Federation Nava Raipur has been shifted to Sarguja as Deputy Commissioner whereas Under Secretary Revenue Umesh Kumar Patel has been posted as Joint Collector at Jashpur.

6 IPS Officers given fresh postings

Raipur, Feb 19: State

Government on Monday

issued fresh posting orders of the Indian Police Services (IPS) 74 RR batch after their training at various districts. According to the information received, 2021 batch IPS Officer Aman Kumar Jha has been posted as Superintendent of Police Raipur whereas Akash Kumar Shukla has been shifted from Raipur to Raigarh as CSP, Chirag Jain from Sarguja to Durg as CSP, Ravindra Kumar Meena from Bastar to Korba as CSP, Rohit Kumar Shah to Sarquia, Udit Pushkar to Jagdalpur and Umesh Prasad Gupta as CSP Bilaspur.

CEO calls for maintaining credibility, transparency and fairness of elections

Training of **Returning, Assistant Returning and Deputy District Election Officers for Lok Sabha elections**

Raipur, Feb Maintaining the credibility, fairness and transparency of elections is the test of qualification of an election officer, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Mrs Reena Baba Saheb Kangale said here today. This should be reflected in every work of the election officer, she said while addressing the inauguration of the certification program of Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers organized as per the instruc-tions of the Election Commission of India before the Lok Sabha General Elections.

A two-day orientation program for the newly appointed District Election Officers and Deputy District Election Officers also started today. Mrs. Kangale called for working towards better and easier elections in the Lok Sabha Elections-2024 like



casion of the inauguration of both the trainings, Additional Chief Electoral Officer Nilesh Kumar Mahadev Kshirsagar, Joint Chief Electoral Officers PS Dhruv and Dr KRR Singh and senior officials of the Chief Electoral Officer's office were present.

According to Kangale instructed to ensure fair and transparent elections by working on the information given during the training on the responsibilities of District Returning Officer and Returning Officer, revi-



important topics.

National level master trainers Dr KRR Singh, US Agrawal, Pranav Singh, Shrikant Verma, Pulak

Bhattacharya and Mrs Geeta Dewan and experienced state level trainers are providing information on the use of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM)

and VVPAT, facilities for polling team and disabled voters, paid news, media and media monitoring committee, vote counting and declaration of results, as well as use of information technology and vote counting applications.

The five-day certification program for Assistant Returning Officers is being conducted by the International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) from February 19 to February 23 at the Chhattisgarh Administration Academy, Nimora. As many as 11 Returning Officers, 15 District Returning Officers, 33 Deputy District Election Officers and Returning Officers are participating

RMC budget to be presented in general body meeting on 21st Feb

Raipur, Feb 19: Raipur ings of the previous Municipal Corporation secretariat has organized a meeting on 21st February in the general auditorium of the **Municipal Corporation** Headquarters building, Sadan in accordance with the order of Speaker Pramod Dubey. Action will be taken

to confirm the proceed-

general meeting. After this, there will be a question hour, in which the questions asked by the corporators and their answers will be processed.

tion hour is fixed as per rules. After the question hour, the annual budget Corporation Raipur for

The duration of ques-Municipal Mayor Aijaz Dhebar will present the Mayor's address on the annual budget for the financial year 2024-25 in the corporation general body meeting. The set agendas will be discussed in the general body meeting of the Municipal Corporation as per the

the financial year 2024-

25 will be presented.

Lt Gen Ashok Jindal joins AIIMS-R as Executive Director

Established Early Intervention Centre for Special Children and the State-ofthe-Art Accident & **Emergency Centre** in Delhi

Param Vishisht Seva Medal awardee Lt Gen **Jindal instrumental** in the revival of the **Liver Transplant Program in Army Hospital Delhi**

Raipur, Feb 18: Lt Gen Ashok Jindal, former Director Commandant of Army Hospital (Research & Referral), New Delhi, joined central India's premier medical and research graduate of the Armed in Maharashtra by UNICEF.



Faculty Members and Officers of AIIMS Raipur welcoming Lt Gen Ashok

Executive Director on Monday. After his joining, Lt Gen Jindal motivated all faculty members and employees to focus on patient-centric services and research on emerging challenges in the health

(AFMC) in Pune. He did

his MD in Community Medicine and Diploma in Industrial Health from AFMC, Pune, and was awarded a PhD from the prestigious JNU, Delhi. He holds the distinction of being the first doctor to be awarded the Yuddh Seva Medal by the President of India for the skilful management of battle casualties during an attack by Pakistan at a height of 19000 feet on Siachen Glacier in 1987.

He has been awarded the Lt Gen BD Varma Silver Medal, the Army Commanders Award twice for best paper, and the Saroj Jha Award. He has 30 research publications to his credit and was nominated as a member of the Task Force for evaluation

Lt Gen Jindal has been ry leadership in restruc-

WHO faculty Fellowships 'Entomology', 'Research Methodology'. and 'Epidemiology'. He has been the editor of **'Standard** Treatment Guidelines: Medical Management and Costing of Select Conditions', a book produced in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and WHO. He is also editor of the 'Manual of Health of the Armed Forces'.

In his 39 years of Army service, Lt Gen Jindal has been a professor at AFMC Pune and a professor and HoD at Army College of Medical Sciences in Delhi, besides serving in the United Nations in Cambodia. He was awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal' by the President of India in 2022 for exemplaturing medical resources in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh during operations and management of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He was instrumental in the revival of the Liver Transplant Program, establishment of Early Intervention Centre for Special Children and the State- of- the- Art Accident & Emergency Centre in Army Hospital (Research & Referral), New Delhi. On Republic Day 2024, he was awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal by the President of India for distinguished service of the most exceptional order.

After his joining, Lt Gen Jindal interacted with all Deans and HoDs and motivated them to provide state-of-the-art medical services to patients coming from different states in viewed.

Apex Committee meeting of State Water and Sanitation Mission concludes

Raipur, Feb 19: The meeting of the Apex Committee of the State Water and Sanitation Mission was held at Mantralaya (Mahanadi Bhawan) through video conferencing under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain. The physical and financial progress under Jal Jeevan Mission was reviewed in the meeting. Similarly, the implementation of group water supply schemes along with the updated status of water supply schemes recommended by the subcommittee of the State water and Sanitation

Drone technology a boon for high level investigation

instructed the officers of Jal Jeevan Mission to work by coordinating with the officers of various departments of the state government. The Chief Secretary gave instructions to the officials regarding providing water supply under running water in all the schools, Anganwadi, Gram Panchayat buildings, health centers and ashram Similarly, under Jal-Jeevan Mission, the updated status of tap water for every house for the year 2023-24 was reviewed in detail.

the meeting that under child development, the community-based health, education and The Chief Secretary single source scheme, ac-

vide drinking water to the families living in about 451 settlements of Dhamtari, Jashpur, Korba, Mahasamund and Narayanpur. The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary of Panchayat and Rural D e v e l o p m e n t Department, Niharika Barik, Secretary of Finance Department, Ankit Anand, Mission Director Jal-Jeevan Mission, Sunil Jain, Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering, ML Agrawal and officers from Rural Development Officials were told in Department, Women and

tion is being taken to pro-

Collector takes stock of preparations for Rajim Kumbh



Instructions given to ensure arrangements for the devotees

Raipur, Feb 19: Collector Dr Gourav Singh reached Nayapara of Abhanpur tehsil this morning and took stock of the preparations for Rajim Kalp Kumbh in the area of ??Raipur district besides giving necessary instruc-

He told the officials to make all arrangements for

the devotees coming to Kumbh. He directed the municipal officials to maintain cleanliness and form a monitoring team for this. The Collector dithe Food Department to complete the entire process of the 'Dal-Bhat' Center so that it can be started on time. Besides, instructions were given to the PHE department to make arrangements for drinking water, toilets and allotment of shops in an organized

manner. He said that the pond to be built in the district for Rajim Kumbh Kalpa should be cleaned properly. Old vehicles should be removed from the roadside and construction materials should be kept inside so that traffic remains orderly, he said, adding that barricades should be installed along

the roads near the river. Dr. Singh asked the Railways to put railway track in order so that there is no problem in parking. He directed to form a joint Administration, Revenue and Municipal Council for continuous monitoring of Rajim Kumbh Mela. The Collector also took stock of the construction work of Rajim-Abhanpur Highway in Abhanpur and gave necinstructions. essarv Municipal Corporation Commissioner Abinash Mishra, Panchayat Vishwadeep were present

on this occasion.

Drone test flight of 40 km distance organized for blood sample

transportation

Raipur, Feb 19: Rajmata Smt Devendra Kumari Singhdeo Government Medical College, Ambikapur Chhattisgarh, was selected for the Government of India's pilot project Use of Drone Technology in Health Service Delivery. Under this, blood samples will be collected from the Community Health Center Udaipur at the Government Medical College through drone and after examination, the report will be sent to

Center Udaipur. For its implementation, the first drone trial was conducted on Monday at Rajmata Smt Devendra Kumari Singhdeo Government Medical College, as an experiment in the first phase. Blood samples and samples for OT culture were sent for testing by drone from Udaipur Community Health Center, 40 km away from Medical

the Community Health

Many tests are not done in the labs of community health centers located in



remote areas of Surguja and Bastar region and they have to be sent to the nearest referral centers.

Udaipur from Medical College Ambikapur where its successful land-

loaded into the drone and the drone was sent back to the Medical College, Ambikapur. For this project, two



In such a situation, drone facility can prove to be a boon for patients. In the trial test, the drone took 30 minutes to reach

Stadium Ground in Udaipur. Within 15 minutes, the blood sample, which weighed approximately 600 grams, was

drone sisters of self-help groups were sent to Delhi for training in drone operation. Of them one Drone Didi has been trained for Udaipur and one Drone Didi for Ambikapur for the work of sample loading and un-loading. If this project proves a success, it will be implemented in all the districts of the state. Providing facilities for immediate testing and sample reporting to patients admitted from remote areas through air transport can prove to be a boon for Surguja district.

New industrial policy of state will be based on agriculture and forests: Industry Minister Dewangan

al Global Summit was organized by the Indian Chamber of Business and Commerce on Saturday at Ambedkar Auditorium, Janpad Road, New Delhi. The annual Global Summit was organized by the Economic Forum and the Ministry of MSME, Government of India. Chhattisgarh State Commerce, Industry and Labuor Minister Lakhan Lal Dewangan participated in the said program along with the delegation. On this occasion, Minister Dewangan said that if we make the farmers of the country self-reliant, then we will definitely have to focus on agriculture based industries. Chhattisgarh

state is an agriculture



Minister Lakhan Lal Dewangan participated in the Annual **Global Summit held in New Delhi.**

is called the rice bowl. Chhattisgarh state is covered with 44% forests and agriculture and forests will definitely play a major role in developing the rural economy.

Dewangan Minister said that in the new indus-

Chhattisgarh state, a policy will definitely be kept to promote agriculture, horticulture and forest based industries, so that the farmers of the state and the people living in tribal areas can get direct benefits from it. . This will in-

of the state. Chief guest of the program Narayan Rane, Minister of Micro, and Medium Enterprises, Government of India also participated in the programme. On this occasion, he said that the policy will have to be made keeping this in mind the development activities of the future. This initiative of Indian Chamber of **Business and Commerce** will definitely play an important role.

On this occasion, along with Minister Lakhan Lal Dewangan, other representatives of Korba Municipal Corporation, Corporator Dewangan, Tiwari, Narendra Patanwar. General Manager CSIDC, OP Banjare were also present.

Virtual foundation stone laying of court building and employee residences by Chief Justice

Justice Ramesh Sinha of Chhattisgarh High Court joined virtually at 11:00 am on February 18, 2024 at 11:00 am, through video conferencing, to inaugurate the new court building near bus stand Champa in Champa of Janjgir Champa district. The foundation stone on the court building was laid on Sunday. In the said program, in addition to the Civil Court building Champa, the foundation stone of the Civil Courts Akaltara, Navagarh, Sakti, Malkhauda, Dabhra, Jaijapur and the new employee residential complex Janjgir was also laid. Meanwhile, Port-Folio Judge of the district Mr. Partha Pratim Sahu was present at the venue and performed Bhoomi Pujan and laid the foundation stone of the build-

Sinha in his address said that work is being done in collaboration with the State Government to provide infrastructure to the Court and initiatives have also been started for this. He said that we have environment in the courts of the state. This project is an important step towards providing court building and accommodation for the judicial officers/employees so that they do not have to face any difficulties in getting the court building and accommodation. He instructed the officers and engineers of the concerned department to complete this project with better quality and within the stipulated time

He said that a wellequipped residential colony for judicial employees in any district is encouraging and infuses new energy, which

frame. He also asked the judi-

cial officers and the District

Magistrate to continuously

monitor this project to ensure

and the new colony in the district should be such that it proves to be an example for the state. Justice Partha Pratim Sahu,

the special guest of the Bhoomi Pujan and foundation stone laying ceremony, Chhattisgarh High Court and Portfolio Judge Champa, on this occasion, congratulated the judicial officers, district administration officers, police officers and court employees, including the district administration and police administration present employees. While addressing, he also extended best wishes for the construction of court buildings and residential houses. On this occasion. District and Sessions Judge Mr. Suresh Kumar Soni welcomed the

Judge for giving the gift of new court buildings and a residential colony with all facilities to Janjgir Champa district The foundation stone was laid by special guest Justice Partha Pratim Sahu while performing Bhoomi Pujan after the program with full rituals. Rajendra Verma, Chief Justice of the Family Court along with other judges and employees of the Family Court and District Court were also present in the program of Bhoomi Pujan and foundation stone laying ceremony of the residential colony for the proposed new Behavioral Court building and judicial employees. The vote of thanks in the program was given by Mrs. Pallavi Tiwari. Second Additional Sessions

Archaeologists of country gave lectures on historical and archaeological heritage of Chhattisgarh

National Seminar on **'History of Chhattisgarh - National** Perspective' held

Raipur, Feb 19: On the second day of the National Research Seminar on 'History of Chhattisgarh -National Perspective' organized by the Directorate of Archaeology, Archives and Museums under the Department of Culture, three academic sessions were organized at Mahant Ghasidas Memorial Museum, Raipur. In the seminar, historians and archaeologists of the country gave detailed lectures on the historical and archaeological heritage of Chhattisgarh.

In the seminar, Dr. Alka Yadav of Bilaspur read research papers on the tradition of Naga Sadhus in Kankali Math of Raipur. Tijram Pal on Thakur Dev Vivah and Ghanshyam Nag of Kondagaon read reRaja of Bade Dongar. Rahul Kumar Singh gave a larger perspective of the memorials of the deceased Professor R.N. Vishwakarma presented a lecture on Chhattisgarh's contribution to Indian art.

In the seminar, Dr. Anamika Sharma of Raipur presented research papers on role of tribal women in Indian politics, Chaturvedi of Surguja presented fighters of Surguja in Indian independence, Dantewada presented the historical and cultural study of Phagun Madai in Indian folk festivals, Mahasamund. Dr. Vijay Sharma of the district read a research article on public awareness whereas Dr. K.K. of Raipur Agarwal presented a lecture on the development of political consciousness in Chhattisgarh and Dr. Mahendra Kumar Mishra of Odisha presented a lec-

search papers on Limau ture on Jagannath, the symbol of cultural rela-Chhattisgarh and Odisha.

In the seminar, archaeol-

ogist Dr. Kamta Prasad Verma of Madhya Pradesh discussed Tripuri Kalchuri architecture in Surguja region, Dr. Devendra Kumar Singh and Priya Sharma of Amarkantak discussed the ruins and crafts of Kotesar Nagoi temple in Korba district, Dr. Bhenu discussed rock paintings of Bastar. Presented his research on Chhavavad. Dr. Dinesh Nandini Parihar of Raipur gave a lecture on the national importance of the ancient path system of Chhattisgarh and Dr. Praveen Kumar Mishra, Director Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi, gave a lecture and guided the re-

searchers. Historians, archaeologists and researchers from different states of the country were

Demand to start direct flight service between Raipur-Ayodhya



great enthusiasm among the devotees to have darshan of Lord Shri Ram Lala in Ayodhya. In view of this, the government is running a special Aastha train. On Sunday, the third batch left from across the district. The arrival of passengers going Ayodhya started Bilaspur railway station since morning. According to the information, the State BJP President met the Union Civil Aviation Minister and gave a letter demanding to start direct flights from Raipur to Avodhya Dham. He also expressed his gratitude to the Union Minister for starting regular Indigo

Jagdalpur from March 31. The state BJP president

wrote in his letter, Chhattisgarh is the land of Mata Kaushalya, that is why we all consider Lord Shri Ram as our nephew. Ram Lalla's grand and divine life is honored at Shri Ram's birthplace. There is a lot of support and trust in the state towards the Prime Minister. Now the scheme to provide darshan of Shri Ram Lala to the party workers has also started. Since there is no direct flight from Raipur to Avodhva, devotees are facing a lot of difficulty in air travel. Due to which the people of the state are demanding a direct flight from Raipur to Ayodhya to connect Chhattisgarh with Ramnagari Ayodhya. By connecting Raipur to Ayodhya by direct air service, apart from saving time and money of the passengers and devotees, it will also be convenient to visit the temple of Lord Shri

Take action against those who violates traffic rules: SP

Raipur Police to run a campaign

Raipur, Feb 19: SP Santosh Kumar Singh said that take action against whoever violates the traffic rules, even if it is his own vehicle or driver. Strictly issue the challan and recover the fine. He appealed to everyone to set an example for others by wearing a helmet while riding a two-wheeler and wearing a seat belt while driving a car. He was holding a review meeting of officers and employees posted in traffic in the meeting room of the traffic headquarters building.

On the occasion, SP took necessary information from the officers and emplovees present regarding the smooth operation of the city's traffic system. Besides, instructions were given to make better arrangements and take strict action against drivers who violate traffic rules. In the meeting, SP also instructed the officers



and employees to strictly follow the traffic rules and said that it is necessary to protect one's body. When we follow the rules ourselves, we will get moral strength to give the message to the common people. He asked the employees to wear clean uniforms and behave well with the common citizens while on duty. If any driver misbehaves, then immediately inform the police station in-charge or the patrolling of the nearest police sta-

Will win more seats than BJP in

tion should be taken against careless drivers who drive after consuming alcohol and make noise of firecrackers in Bullet vehicles. There is a need to launch a special campaign against such drivers and arrest them. Take strict action against vehicles parked with no parking on major roads within the city. If law and order situation arises while on duty immediately inform the police control room or senior officer, so that criminal incidents can be stopped before they happen. If you find any person's activity suspicious, inform your authorities. He also listened to the problems of officers and employees. Additional Superintendent of Police Traffic Sachindra Kumar Superintendent of Police Traffic Gurjit Singh, Sushanto Banerjee, Karan Kumar Uke and all traffic police station in-charges were present in the

SP said that strictest ac-

MoU worth Rs 1.27 lakh crore failed to take off during Congress regime

Not even 10 percent investment took place

Raipur. Feb 19: Most of the MOUs made with industries from 2019 to 2023 during the Congress rule have lapsed. The previous government had claimed an investment of Rs 1.27 lakh crore, but even 10 percent investment could not be successful in the Minister has presented a report on this in response to a question in the Assembly session on February 15.

In response to the question, Industries Minister Lakhanlal Dewangan said that an investment of Rs 1 lakh 27 thousand 329 crore was claimed to provide employment to 1 lakh 38 thousand people, but at present only 8,454 people have got employment. Out of the contracts signed with 216 industries, at present production has started in only 25 industries.

?The Industries Minister gave this answer in response to the question of BJP MLA Ajay Chandrakar in the Assembly. Among the producing industries, employment was proposed in 10,665 industries, out of which that too could not be completed 100 percent. Of the 216 companies, 160



were state level, 54 were national level and 2 were foreign companies.

Industrial Policy 2019-2024 was implemented during the Congress regime, out of which most of the provisions of the industrial policy could not be implemented. On this matter, the delegation of the industrial union said that in the previous government, neither land could be obtained nor the process of subsidy, interest grant and land allotment could be completed under the industrial policy. Due to many reasons the contract could not succeed. Sponge Iron Association President Anil Nachrani said that the biggest problem was the availability of land. Public hearings remained stuck in the districts. General Secretary Rolling Banke Association, Bihari Agarwal said that if there is a better policy, there is immense poten-

tial for investment in the

state. There should be ef-

fective implementation of

the provisions mentioned

in the industrial policy.

According to the information received from the Industries Department, the MoU of 192 industries is still effective, that is, the deadline of the contract has not expired. There is a possibility of investment of Rs 94,000 crore, out of which 1.15 lakh people can get employment. However, it depends on the intentions of the industry groups whether they would like to extend the contract or

In comparison to the Congress government, the BJP government is working on a new industrial policy to attract industries. According to Industry Department officials, measures are being taken in the new industrial policy to overcome the problems of previous industrial policies.

Chhattisgarh's ndustries Minister Industries Lakhanlal Dewangan said, the new industrial policy of the state government will be released by November 2024. We will remove the problems faced by the previous government regarding establishment of industries and investment. The industrial groups which had expressed their desire to invest in the state during the tenure of the previous government. If they want to invest, facilities will be provided to

University and board exams to start in March



Raipur, Feb 19: The annu-

al examinations of Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University are starting from March 5. 10th and 12th board exams are also starting from March 1. Due to both the examinations starting simultaneously, many private students are facing difficulty in getting the examination centre. Many colleges and schools are located on the same campus. Due to the college and school being on the same campus, the seating capacity is less, due to which the colleges are not taking centers for private students.

The college management said that we will first arrange for the meeting of our regular students and in the space left, we will give the opportunity to other college or private students to take the examination. Daga College and Mahant College, operating in the middle of the city have schools running in the premises of both the

The building of both school and college is also the same. Students do not

face any problem in reaching these colleges. Apart from this, the colleges and schools running in Gudhiyari and Amlidih are also running in the same building. Due to nonavailability of examination centers for private students in the city, they will have to go to distant colleges and appear for the examination. This time the number of students has also increased due to the annual examination

Till now, due to annual examination being held in three shifts, students used to get divided, but this time it is not so. Examinations starting from March 5: The annual examinations of the university are starting from March 5, which will continue till May. UG second and third year examinations will start from 5th, while the final year examinations are proposed from March 15th.

versity

amination as private.

Raipur, Feb 19: State Congress President and MP Deepak Baij said that Congress will perform better than BJP in Chhattisgarh in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. BJP is worried that the assembly elections are going to be repeated in the state. The people of the state want to know what happened to the promises made by BJP and Narendra Modi to the being held in two shifts. people of the country in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections? The 10 years of Modi government will be

State

Congress

come. Promised to bring

back black money from

abroad. Vijay Mallya,

Lalit Modi, Nirav ran

away with the country's

money with the con-

nivance of the Modi gov-

ernment, and the Modi

government kept watch-

ing. Black money did not

come from abroad. The

vote was taken by promis-

ing to get Rs 15 lakh in

every person's account,

remembered as a monument of breaking the promises of BJP. President and MP Deepak Baij said that this time in the Lok Sabha elections the people will vote to get rid of the Modi government. Modi had promised that good days would come. The days of Modi's About 86 thousand studeparture have come but the good days have not

dents will appear as private students in the uniexamination. Private students appear in the examination in both UG and PG. This time, about one lakh 46 thousand students will appear in the annual examination, out of which about 60 thousand are regular students. The remaining approximately 86 thousand students appear in the ex-



leave alone Rs 15 lakh, not even a single penny came.

President and MP Deepak Baij said that BJP makes election promises before the elections to cheat the public and after winning the elections, calls them 'jumlas'.

This is the real character of BJP. Even in 2014, Modi had promised the people of the country to reduce inflation in 100 days. It was promised to provide employment to 2 crore youth every year. It was promised that Rs 15 lakh will be deposited in the account of every citizen. There was also a promise to double the income of farmers but even after forming the government for 10 years, none of the promises were fulfilled. Now to cheat the people of Chhattisgarh, by throwing new 'jumlas',

they have given Modi's guarantee. But the public has understood the character of both BJP and Modi. BJP is losing the elections badly in the

President and MP Deepak Baij said that there was only talk of zero tolerance against corruption and the Modi government itself was involved in corruption in the Rafale defense deal. Modi government failed to make appointment to the post of Lokpal as per UPA law. Modi government remains the protector of Adani's corruption. There was a promise of providing employment to two crore youth every year, but due to GST and demonetization, crores of jobs were snatched away, what happened to the two crore jobs which were to come every year? 10 crore people were to get employment in 5 years but unemployment creased. There was deception in implementing the Women's Reservation Bill. One Rank One Pension has failed. Could not control inflation, rising prices of gas, petrol and diesel increased during Modi rule. According to the Swaminathan Committee report, farmers could not be paid double the cost.

SP declares 11 candidates from UP for LS Polls

Lucknow, Feb 19 (PTI):

The Samajwadi Party on Monday declared 11 candidates from Uttar Pradesh for the upcoming general elections with the list also including the name of Lok Sabha MP Afzal Ansari. The party's announcement comes amid the offer of 17 Lok Sabha seats to the Congress, an alliance partner in the INDIA bloc.

Afzal Ansari, who is the sitting BSP MP from Ghazipur parliamentary constituency, has been fielded from the same seat

The Supreme Court had in December 2023 conditionally suspended Ansari's conviction in a 2007 Gangsters Act case,

imate representation in the legislature since a by-election may not be held given the remaining tenure of the current Lok Sabha.

The other candidates announced by the party are Harendra Malik (Muzaffarnagar), Neeraj Maurya (Aonla), Rajesh Kashyap (Shahjahanpur-SC), Usha Verma (Hardoi-RK Chaudhary (Mohanlalganj-SC), SP Singh Patel (Pratapgarh), Ramesh Gautam (Bahraich-SC), Shreya Verma (Gonda), Virendra Singh (Chandauli) and Rampal Rajvanshi (Misrikh-SC).

Of the 11, four hail from the backward community, five from the Scheduled Caste category, Virendra Singh is a Thakur, while Afzal Ansari is a Muslim.

The Samajwadi Party has been facing flak from party leaders and alliance partners over not giving tickets to the PDA (Pichhda, Dalit, Alpsankhyak) candidates for the ongoing Rajya Sabha elections. For Rajya Sabha, voting for which will take place on February 27, the SP has fielded two Kayasthas -- cinestar Jaya Bachhan and former UP Chief Secretary Alok Ranjan and a Dalit Ramji Lal Suman.

Asked if its list for LS polls is a damage control exercise, SP spokesperson Rajpal Kashyap told PTI, "This list has all the elements of the 'PDA' embedded in it. And this is not a damage control exercise.' He added, "The party's earlier list also had all the elements of PDA. Now, those who are raising questions, they have some vested interests.'

The SP on Monday of-

fered 17 Lok Sabha seats to the Congress in Uttar Pradesh, with the condition that its chief, Akhilesh Yadav, would join the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra in Raebareli only if the proposal is accepted. "We have given a final offer of 17 Lok Sabha seats to the Congress. Akhilesh Yadav's participation in the Nyay Yatra in Raebareli on Tuesday will depend on their acceptance," SP chief spokesperson Rajendra Chaudhary

SHIVAJI JAYANTI



Young women carry statues of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj during a procession to celebrate his birth anniversary, in Nagpur, Monday.

NCW chief seeks Prez Rule, Mamata's resignation

National Commission for Women (NCW) chair-Rekha person Sharma on Monday called for resignation of West Bengal Chief Mamata Minister Baneriee and imposi-

tion of President's Rule following allegations of sexual abuse by TMC leaders in Sandeshkhali. The NCW chief's re-

marks drew a sharp rebuttal from the ruling TMC, which accused the panel of echoing the BJP's agenda and wondered why the panel failed to show similar promptness in BJP-ruled states. Sharma, who led a delegation of NCW to the unrest-hit area in North 24 Parganas district, said the visit was aimed at bolstering confidence among women to speak out about their experiences.

Amid ongoing tensions in Sandeshkhali over protests against TMC-led atrocities and sexual harassment, police maintained a strong presence as normalcy struggled to return to the area.

"After speaking with women in Sandeshkhali, it's clear the situation is dire. Numerous women shared their harrowing experiences; one even reported being raped inside a TMC party office. We demand President's Rule in Bengal, which we will also include in our report," Sharma stated to PTI.

The demand for imposition of President's Rule in West Bengal came days the National Commission for Scheduled Caste (NCSC) recommended the same in its report submitted to President Droupadi Murmu on alleged harassment of women by TMC supporters in Sandeshkhali. "I think the Chief Minister should resign," Sharma said while talking to reporters.

She accused the Mamata Banerjee government of attempting to suppress women's voices to conceal the truth and emphasised the need for the arrest of Shajahan Sheikh, an absconding TMC leader allegedly involved in the atrocities, encourage more women to come forward with complaints

"I am in Sandeshkhali for the entire day to hear from women But the culprit must be arrested. Once (Shajahan) Shiekh

is arrested, I believe Chola

सुखजिंदर कौर, पति श्री

confidence in them. I will talk to the police," Sharma told reporters soon after reaching the area.

Sharma's visit comes after a two-member team of the commission took stock of the situation in the area last week and submitted a report. The NCW chairperson alleged that neither the district magistrate nor the superintendent of police were present there to meet her.

"The administration and

POSSESSION NOTICE Under Rule 8 (1)

Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13/121 read with Rules 9 of the Security Interest

[Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column (B)

below on dates specified in Column (C) to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column (D) below with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given

to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties mortgaged

Column ([E] below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance

Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column (DI along with interest and other charges, Under section 13 [8] of the

Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges

The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company

plaints. We have to instil the police are not listening to complaints of women Mamata

state Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu said on Monday. This and they do not do anylandmark initiative will be launched in the coming year to restore wathing. Only one woman terbodies by rehabilitating minor irrigation tanks, ponds, and their feeder channels in Panchavat Unions, he said. has come out and registered her statement before a magistrate. We want more women to come in the front... Chief Minister **PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION SALE OF SECURED ASSETS** Banerjee has never al-Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (RARC), a Trustee of "RARC 026 Trust" is an lowed her officers to assignee and a secured creditor of below mentioned borrowers by virtue of Assignment meet teams of central of-Agreement dated 30.12.2016 executed with Reliance Capital Limited. The undersigned in exercise of powers conferred under the Securitisation and Reconstruction o ficers as she is trying to inancial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and Security Interest hide the truth. But the Enforcement) Rules, 2002 hereby give notice to public in general that the below mentioner truth will come out, property shall be sold by way of "online e-auction" for recovery of dues. The properties shall be Sharma said. sold strictly on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "NO RECOURSE" basis apart from CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Name of Borrower/Guarantors

. Mr. Deepak Kumar Khattar (Borrower), At. S-6, Rajiv Nagar, 2,59,57,558.06/ Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492001. Also At, E-34, IGVP, Opposite City Centre Mall, Pandri, Raipur, Chattisgarh-492001 Crores Fifty-Nine . Mrs.Dimple Khattar (Co-Applicant)

Goregaon (East), Mumbai- 400063.

TN to restore 5.000 waterbodies Chennai, Feb 19 (PTI): About 5,000 water bodies across Tamil Nadu will be restored through community participation under the guidance

of leading scientific institutions, at an estimated cost of Rs 500 crore,

Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd.

Sml. Asha Khattar (Legal heir of Shyam Khattar-Co-Applicant)) W/o Shyam Khattar) At, S-6, Rajiv Nagar, Raipur, C.G.- 492001 . Smt. Vandana Ishrani (D/o Shyam Khattar- Co-Applicant) At, Sector 4, Devendra Nagar, Behind Durga Temple, Raipur Chhattisgarh-492004

t, S-6, Rajiv Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492001

i. Smt. Sweta Chelwani (D/o Shyam Khattar- Co-Applicant) Al, 11, Kothi, Jari Patka, Nagpur, Maharashtra-440014 . Smt. Nisha Jeevan (D/o Shyam Khattar- Co-Applicant)

At, S-6, Rajiv Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492001 DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLES PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of land and any building constructed or to

be constructed at Plot No. E-4, RDA, Devendra Nagar, Yojna

No.32, Indira Gandhi Vyavsayik Parisar, Ph. No- 109, K.H. No

RESERVE PRICE FMD AMOUNT 6.50.000/ 65,00,000/-Rupees Six Lakhs Fifty

as on dt.05.02.202

(Rupees Two

Lakhs Fifty-

Seven Thousan

Five Hundred

Fifty-Eight and

Date of

07.11.2022

117/2(P) & 136/1(P) Pandritarai, Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492001 and area admeasuring 693 square feet. Owned by Deepak Kumar Khattar. Boundaries - North by - Road, South by - Plot No. E 07, East by - Plot No. E 05, West by - Plot No. E 03 Details of Auction Events: nspection of Property

14.03.2024 from 11.00 A.M. to 2.00 P.M. : 20.03.2024

Last date for bid submission

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF E-AUCTION SALE erty shall not be sold below the reserve price and sale is subject to the confirm by M/s. Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (RARC) as secured creditor. The

properties shall be sold strictly on "ASIS WHERE IS", "ASIS WHAT IS" and "NO RECOURSE". auction will be held through RARC's approved service provider M/s ARCA EMART PRIVATE LIMITED at website: https://www.Auctionbazaar.com (web-portal of ARC) EMART PRIVATE LIMITED). E-auction tender documents containing online e-auction bit form along with General Terms and Conditions of online e-auction sale are available in

websites: www.rarcl.com and https://www.Auctlonbazaar.com intending bidders may download relevant documents. The intending bidders are required to have a valid email id as the participation ID an password by e-auction agency shall be communicated at their e-mail id only. Intending bidders have to submit their BID in the prescribed format with EMD remittance details along with self-attested KYC documents (PAN, AADHAR card etc.) and the same

itted to Authorized Officer of Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (RARC) at 11th floor, North Side, R Tech Park, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East)

Mumbai- 400063 and by email to Narendra.r.shukla@relianceada.com ar vined pawaskar@relianceada.com after which the participation ID and password shall be communicated at their email only. Last date of submission of Bid Form is on 20.03.2024. The bid form or EMD received late for any reason whatsoever will not be entertained. Bid withou EMD and Bid below the reserve price shall be rejected summarily. Bidder has to mandatorily give undertaking under Section 29Aof Indian Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

Neither RARC nor the service provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure on the part of the bidder on account of network disruptions. Toward off such incidents, bidders are advise to make all necessary arrangements such as alternative power back-ups etc.

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT fund transfer to Current Account No. 00600310040511 Name of the Bank: HDFC Bank. Branch: Fort Mumbai Name of the Beneficiary: RARC 026 Trust, IFSC Code: HDFC0000060. Please note that the Cheques/Demand Draft shall not be accepted towards EMD.

The Bids below reserve price and/or without EMD amount shall not be accepted. Bidden may improve their further bid amount in multiple of Rs.1,00,000/- (Rs. One Lakhs Only). In case sole bidder, bidder has to compulsory improve his bid minimum by one incremental

The successful bidder shall pay 25% of the bid amount/sale price (including earnest mone) already paid) immediately after declaration of successful bidder. The successful bidder sha deposit balance 75% of the bid amount/sale price within 15 days from declaration of If successful bidder fails to deposit sale price as stated above, all deposits including EMI

shall deemed to be forfeited without any further notice. However, extension of further reasonable period for making payment of balance 75% may be allowed and shall be at the sole discretion of Authorized Officer

11. The EMD amount of unsuccessful bidders will be returned without interest, after the closu of the E-auction sale proceedings.

12. The particulars given by the Authorized officer are stated to the best of his knowledge, belie and records. Authorized officer shall not be responsible for any error, mis-statement of

13. The undersigned Authorized Officer has the absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale or modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice or assigning any reasons.

4. The bidders should make discreet enquiries as regards charges/encumbrances on the property and should satisfy themselves about the title, extent, quality of the property before submitting their bid. No claim of whatsoever nature regarding charges, encumbrances over the property and any other matter etc., shall be entertained after submission of the online bid.

15. Any arrears, dues, taxes, charges whether statutory or otherwise including stam duty/registration fees on sale of property shall be borne by the purchaser only. 6. For further details, contact Mr. Narendra Shukla, Assistant Vice President Resolution

Mobile No-9321339065 and Mr. Vinod Pawaskar, Head-Legal, Mobile No-8080722836 of Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd. at above mentioned address. The sale certificate shall be issued after receipt of entire sale consideration and confirmation of sale by secured creditor. The sale certificate shall be issued in the name of the successful

No request for change of name in the sale certificate other than the person who submitted the bid/participated in the e-auction will be entertained THIS NOTICE WILL ALSO SERVE AS STATUTORY 30 DAYS NOTICE TO THE BORROWER GUARANTORS/MORTGAGOR UNDER SARFAESI ACT AND RULES MADE THEREUNDER.

Date: 20.02.2024

Authorised Office

For Reliance Asset Reconstruction Co. Lid

Snakebite now a notifiable disease in Karnataka

Bengaluru, Feb 19 (PTI):

The Karnataka government has made snakebite a notifiable disease in the state across all health facilities on the Integrated Health Information Platform, an official order released on Monday said.

According to an official notification February 12, Karnataka's Health Department has directed all private and government hospitals as well as medical institutes to register all the cases of snakebites -- be it in-patients, out-patients and death cases on the Integrated health Information Platform.

This means that any snakebite case in the state presented to a private or government hospital, must

be reported under the Integrated Surveillance Program of

snakebites.

Welcoming the move, Humane Society International (HSI) India said it commends the government's surveillance measures to reduce the burden of snakebite and celebrates the landmark decision of Karnataka becoming the first state in India to declare snakebite

740 MLAs, MPs joined BJP in past 10 years, claims JMM

Jharkhand

the BJP has adopted the adage either my way or the state government. The move comes in the

wake of increased incidents of snakebite in Karnataka. As per a report and data from the Department of Health and Family Welfare, in 2023 alone (between January and October) the state recorded 5,316

a notifiable disease.

Ranchi, Feb 19 (PTI):

Morcha (JMM) on Monday claimed that over the past 10 years, as many as 740 MLAs and MPs have joined the BJP against whom the saffron party had directly or indirectly leveled allegations of cor-

Attacking at the Centre, the party also alleged that highway', pointing to Jharkhand as the prime

example. Speaking to reporters, JMM general secretary and spokesperson Supriyo Bhattacharya alleged that the country has witnessed many strange things including directives on what to eat, wear, study, and even hear, from 2014 to 2024. "According to them, anyone in the opposition is corrupt, while

those in BJP are clean.

NCW Chairperson Rekha Sharma during a visit to Sandeshkhali, in North 24 Parganas district, Monday.

more women will come

out with their com-शपथ

दरजीत सिंग, निवासी– म.नं. एन/4. रुसागर नगर, टाटीबंध रायपुर छ.ग. की वासी हूँ जो निम्नलिखत कथन यह कि, मेरा नाम व पता उपरोक्तानुसार

सत्य एवं सही है । यह कि, मेरा आघार नं. 4714 9485 with the Company described in Column [F] herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column [F] in exercise of the 8310 है जिसमें मेरा नाम बुटिवश PARMINDER KAUR MAAN दर्ज हो गया है यह कि, मेरी 12वीं की अंकसची जिसका

रोल नं. 136203 है जिसमें मेरा नाम SUKHJINDER KAUR दर्ज है जो। and expenses before notification of sale कि सत्य एवं सही है। यह कि, मेरे आधार कार्ड में दर्ज नाम PARMINDER KAUR MAAN को विलोपित कर 12वीं की अकसची

आधार पर मेरा नाम SUKHJINDER KAUR दर्ज किया जाए जिसके संबंध मे यह शपथ पत्र आप श्रीमान के समक्ष प्रस्तुत कर रही हूँ ।

में शपथकर्ती यह सत्यापित करती हूँ की उपरोक्त शपथपत्र की कंडिका क्रमांक 01 से 04 तक मेरे ज्ञान से सत्य व सही हैं, जिसमें अपने हस्ताक्षर कर सत्यापित कर दी । 15.02.2024

Name and Address Date of Outstanding **Details of Property** of the Borrower/s Demand Notice C Loan Account No. Property 1- Commercial Apartment/ Office 11.11.2022 ₹ OHERRH00002837629. bearing No. 28. Super Built-Up area 332 Sq 62,28,127.00 1. Pawan Agrawal, 36 Ward No 3 Near Kisan Rice ft. Comprised in part of Khasra No. 325/1 & Mill, Neora Tilda, Neora, Chhattisgarh-493114. 326/1, situated at Second floor of Multi as on elam Agrawal, 36 Ward No 16 Near Kisar 05.11.2022 story premises known as "RIO", Village Rice Mill, Neora Tilda, Neora, Chhattisgarh-Deopuri, P.H. No. 114/52, R.I.C. Raipur-1. and interest and 493114, 3. Deepak Agrawal, 36, Near Kisan Rice charges thereon. Tahsil & District Raipur (C.G.) Boundaries: Mill, Neora Tilda, Neora, Chhattisgarh-493114. As Per Sale Deed: North: Office No. 42 4. Priyanka Agrawal, 36 Ward No 16 Near Kisan South: Galiyara, East: Office No. 29, West: Office No. 27 Rice Mill, Neora Tilda, Neora, Chhattisgarh-493114, 5. Neelam Traders, Near Krishi Upaj Mandi, Neora, District-Raipe Date: 19.02.2024, Place: Raipur (C.G.) Authorised Officer/ Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited

Omkara Assets Reconstruction Pvt. Ltd.



CIN: U67100TZ2014PTC020363 Corporate Office: Kohinoor Square, 47th Floor, N.C.Kelkar Marg, R.G.Gadkari Chowk, Dadar (West), Mumbai - 400028 Email: rajesh.jumani@omkaraarc.com/zuber.khan@omkaraarc.com Authorised Officer M no.: +918657969231

[Appendix - IV-A]

[See proviso to rule 8 (6) r/w 9(1)]

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 "SARFAESI Act") read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) r/w 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Securer Creditor, physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Ornkara Assets Reconstruction Pvt. Ltd. Further, Ornkara Assets Reconstruction Pvt Itd (OARPL (acting in its capacity as Trustee of Omkara PS 30/2021-22 Trust) has acquired entire outstanding debts of the below accounts vide Assignment Agreement dated 30.09.2021 from Indusind Bank Ltd (Assignor Bank) along with underlying security from assignor bank. Accordingly, OARPL has stepped into the shoes of assignor bank and empowered to recover the dues and enforce the security. The Authorized Officer of OARPL took handover of the physical possession of the below mentioned secured property from the Borrower/Montgagor/Co Borrower. The Authorized Officer of OARPL hereby intends to sell the below mentioned secured properties for recovery of dues and hence the tenders/bids are invited in sealed cove for the purchase of the secured properties. The properties shall be sold in exercise of rights and powers under the provisions of sections 13 (2) and 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act; on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and "Without recourse Basis" for recovery of amount shown below in respective column due to OARPL as Secured Creditor from respective Borrower and Co-Borrower(s) shown below. Details of the Borrower(s)/Guarantors/Mortgagors, Securities, Owner, Outstanding Dues, Date of Demand Notice sent under Section 13(2), Possession Date, Reserve Price, Bid Increment Amount, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Date & Time of Inspection is given as under

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Guarantors/ Mortgagors	Details of the Secured Asset	Owner of the property	Outstanding Dues as on 30.06.2023 (IN INR)	Demand Notice Date	Physical possession Date	Reserve Price (IN INR)	Bid Increment Amount (IN INR)	(IN INR)	Date & Time of Inspection
To .	M/S Galaxy Marketing (Through its Proprietor Mrs. Amrita Nebhani alias Mrs. Amrita Talreja) Mrs. Amrita Nebhani alias Mrs. Amrita Talreja Mrs. Kavish Kumar Taireja	All the part and parcel of property bearing Shop No. 48 at Lower Ground Floor of Shyam Square admeasuring Built Up Area-215 Sq. Ft situated Part of Plot No. 1, Part of Sur/ey/Khasra No. 117/2 & 136/1, Devendra Nagar Scheme No. 32 of RDA, Village Pandri Tarai, PH. No. 109, Shahid Hemu Kalani Ward No. 35 City, Tehsil and District-Raipur, Chhattisgarh and bounded by (as per Sale Deed): North: Open Space South: Corridor East. Shop No. 46 West-Shop No. 49 "The details of the property are more specifically described in the Deed No. 3471(kh) dated 19.08.2015 in the name of Smt. Amrita Tarleja sillas Amrita Nebhani wo Mr. Ravish Kumar Tatreja.	Mrs. Amrita Nebhari alias Mrs. Amrita Taireja	Rs. 43,04,347.04 (Rs. Forty Three Lakhs: Four Thousand Three Hundred Forty Seven and Paisa Four only)	23.08.2021	28.06.2023	Rs. 36,80,000/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakha Eighty Thousand Only)	Rs. 25,000/-	Rs. 3,88,000/ (Rupees Three Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Only)	04.03:2024 01.00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

count No.: 055505010221, Name of the Beneficiary: Omkara PS 30/2021-22 Trust, Bank Name: ICICI Bank, Branch: Bandra (E) Mumbai, IFSC Code: ICIC00 Last date and time for submission of bid letter of participation/KYC Document/Proof of EMD Date of E-Auction & Time

TERMS & CONDITION OF THE AUCTION: For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's (OARPL) website i.e.

http://omkaraerc.com/auction.php.or.website.of.service.provider i.e. http://www.bankeauction.com STATUTORY NOTICE FOR SALE UNDER Rule 8(6) r/w 9(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 This notice is also a mandatory notice of not less than 15 (Fifteen) days to the Borrower(s) of the above loan account under Rule 8(6) r/w 9(1), of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002 and provisions of Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, informing them about holding of auction leafe through e-auction on the above referred date and time

Date: 20.02.2024

Authorized Officer, Omkara Assets Reconstruction Pvt Ltd. (Acting in its capacity as a Trustee of Omkara PS 30/2021-22 Trust)

Legal literacy camp organized in Mudhipar school



Government Higher Secondary School in Mudhipar witnessed a transformative event with the organization of a Legal Literacy Camp, aimed at enlightening students about their legal rights and responsibilities. Under the guidance of Judicial Magistrate First (JMFC) Guru Prasad Dewangan, the camp focused on the importance of strategic planning for achieving success. Dewangan emphasized the need for clear goal-setting, resource identification. and maintaining focus to

During his address to

avoid distractions.

Dewangan, emphasized the seriousness of ragging, terming it a legal offense. He condemned the practice wherein senior students in colleges and universities engage in disrespectful behavior towards newcomers to flaunt their superiority.

Dewangan underscored the alarming nature of ragging, stating that it often escalates into indecent acts and methods. sometimes resulting in mental or physical torture for new students. He reiterated the importance of eradicating ragging altogether, emphasizing that such behavior should neither be condoned nor tol-

rated on the provisions of the POCSO Act, emphasizing that even in cases where sexual intercourse with a minor occurs with their consent as part of a romantic relationship, the law still applies. He clarified that ignorance of the law cannot serve as a defense in such cases, and courts cannot grant leniency based on this argument. Dewangan highlighted the detrimental impact of youth lacking awareness about the legal consequences, stating that lives and careers are often ruined as a result. He emtions like schools and colleges. Dewangan stressed the need for proactive efforts to raise awareness and prevent legal infractions among the youth.

Furthermore Dewangan shed light on the alarming rate of motor accidents caused by reckless driving, stressing the importance of vehicle insurance to mitigate financial losses. Paralegal volunteer Golu Das Sahu provided insights into cybercrime prevention, equipping students with knowledge to navigate the digital landscape safely.

The event, organized under the direction of Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority Rajnandgaon, Kumar, garnered enthusiastic participation from Principal KM Qureshi, RL Banjare, dedicated teachers, and a large cohort of students. Through initiatives like these, Mudhipar School aims to foster a generation of well-informed and law-abiding citizens, contributing to a brighter future for the

Collector's dynamic initiatives transforming JNV



Bemetara, Feb 19:

In a move towards educational enhancement, Collector Ranbir Sharma orchestrated a pivotal meeting of the School Management Committee at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in Gram Panchavat Bahera. Commencing the day's proceedings, Collector Sharma, adorned in humility, graced the school with his presence, offering floral tributes to the revered statue of Mother Saraswati. Addressing the

delivered a motivational discourse, urging them to embrace diligence and perseverance, encapsulating his wisdom with the adage, "If you have the strength, go ahead.' Emphasizing the importance of holistic development, he enlightened the students about the four dimensions of personalitymental, physical, social, and moral roles. A literary interlude ensued, with Class VIII student Sakshi Sinha reciting verses from Rashmirathi, captivating the audience with her elo-

from inspiration to action, the Collector, along with the District Education Officer and other officials, embarked on an inspection of the children's hostel. Identifying safety concerns, directives were issued to address hazards promptly, including the rectification of a perilous spot and the renovation of

the campus pond. Demonstrating an ardent commitment to environmental stewardship, Collector Sharma championed green initiatives, advocating for a clean camestablishment of a vibran kitchen garden. His unwa vering dedication to sustainability was epitomized by the symbolic act of tree planting, fostering a verdant landscape for genera-

The Collector envisaged a thriving academic ecosystem, directing the installation of a solar power plant and the development of an art museum. With meticulous attention to detail. Sharma oversaw the progress of ongoing construction projects, ensuring timely completion

Mass ideal marriages of 86 couples held in Ahiwara

phasized the importance

of educating youth and fu-

ture generations about



Nandini Ahiwara, Feb 19: In a remarkable initiative under the Women Child Development Project, Municipal Council orchestrated a mass ideal marriage ceremony for 86 couples, held at Recreation Club, Nandini

Kanyadan Minister Scheme, witnessed chanting of mantras and participation from the Gayatri Parivar. Amidst the rhythmic welcome of musical instruments, the couples were seated in the pavilion, and the marriages were



Durg, graced the occasion as the chief guest, while President of Ahiwara Municipality, presided over the event. The ceremony was attended by esteemed dignitaries including Ravi

and others. MP Vijav Baghel lauded the Chief Minister Kanyadaan Yojana, urging widespread participation in the initiative to promote affordable marriages. He extended blessings to all the newlywed couples, emphasizing

Dream of poor parents come true: **Natwar Tamrakar**

fare. President Natwar Lal Tamarkar echoed similar sentiments, expressing delight over the realization of dreams for 86 couples. He advocated for collective ideal marriages as a means to circumvent extravagant ceremonies, extending his heartfelt wishes to all the newlyweds. The successful execution of the event garnered praise for Ajay Sharma, Shail Thakur, Ranjana Thakur, and others involved. Their efforts were hailed as pivotal in organizing such a significant event, with discussions already underway for future

District development takes center stage in Collector's review meeting urban bodies. Emphasizing cerns surrounding water man-

Manendragarh, Feb 19:

Collector D. Rahul Venkat spearheaded a pivotal monthly review meeting of the district's urban bodies, underscoring a collaborative approach to address pressing issues and pave the way for progress.

The meeting, convened with key stakeholders including CMOs, engineers, and accountfrom Municipal Corporation, Municipality, and Nagar Panchayat, delved into multifaceted strategies aimed at enhancing the district's infrastructure and fostering community welfare.

Amidst detailed discussions, Collector Venkat underscored the imperative of presenting accurate information regarding setup approvals, staffing, and

transparency and accountability, he directed officials to conduct drone surveys in collaboration with Patwaris to meticulously map government and private lands, facilitating informed decision-making and efficient land management practices. A pivotal aspect of the meeting centered on the identification of suitable locations for vital amenities such as bus stands and parking spaces, with a keen focus on alleviating congestion and ensuring seamless mobility within Municipal Corporation Chirmiri and other urban areas. Collector Venkat's directives regarding temporary vending zones and waste management initiatives reflect a proactive stance towards urban reiuvenation and sustainable growth. Addressing crucial con-

agement and sanitation, the Collector urged officials to devise comprehensive action plans, ensuring regular water supply and efficient waste disposal mechanisms. Notably, instructions were issued to prioritize repairs to water systems ahead of the summer season, mitigating potential water shortages and safeguarding community well-being. attendance

esteemed officials including Municipal Corporation Commissioner B.S. Markam. Municipal Council and Nagar Panchayat CMOs Ishaq Khan, Tarun Kumar Ekka, and other dedicated professionals, collectively reaffirming their commitment to steering the district towards a brighter and more

Modi to virtually inaugurate state-of-the-art KV today

Collector inspects preparations for virtual inauguration

Minister Narendra Modi will virtually inaugurate Kendriya new Vidyalaya building located Maharajpur Kabirdham district of Chhattisgarh on February 20. This much-awaited event will witness the participation Chhattisgarh's Deputy Chief Minister and Home

Minister Vijay Sharma alongside MP Santosh

Pandey, who have been spe-

cially invited to grace the

occasion. The construc-

including

Kawardha, Feb 19: Prime



ing and employee residential quarters, amounts to a commendable Rs 20.56 crore investment, reflecting the government's commitment to providing quality education infrastructure. Collector Janmejay Mahobe, ensuring meticulous arrangements for the inauguration, personally inspected the preparations

District Panchayat CEO Sandeep Agarwal. Their supervision underscores the dedication to ensuring a seamless virtual ceremony that befits the importance of this educational milestone. The completion of the new Kendriya Vidyalaya campus stands as a testament to the collaborative efforts of Deputy Chief Minister

Santosh Pandey. Their re lentless advocacy and support have brought this project to fruition, promising enhanced educational facilities for the district's students. Principal Sushil Kumar highlighted the journey of the Kendriya Vidyalaya, with its foundation stone laid in 2017. Currently accommodating students up to class 11, the school boasts an enrollment of 486 students, comprising a balanced mix of

boys and girls. The new campus features state-of-the-art classrooms and ample space for extracurricular activities. including sports and cultural events, ensuring a holistic learning experience

A workshop addressing wild animal conservation and fire safety was convened in Kutumsar village, underscoring the importance of environmental stewardship. Attendees included departmental officers, employees, memthe Development Committee, and village Sarpanchs. Discussions focused on forest fire prevention and wildlife preservation in the Kanger Valley and its

adjacent forest regions. Over 100 participants from 20 eco-development committees engaged in the workshop, reviewing last year's action plans for fire management and outlining strategies for the up-



efforts were highlighted, such as the implementation of patrolling teams by committees like Kamanar and Nagalsar, demonstrating a proactive approach to forest protection.

Dhamsheel Ganveer,

Director of Kanger Ghati, lauded the collective endeavors of communities in forest fire prevention. Last year, eight committees successfully averted forest fires in areas like Koleng, Topar, Gopapadar, and others, showcasing the efficacy of community-driven initiatives. To enhance early warning systems, committee members are integrated into the Forest Survey of India's fire alert mechanism, ensuring swift response to potential

tion, and security forces

Decline of naxal influence in Bastar division

■ 14 security caps installed in the core area of **Naxalites in three** and a half months

Jagdalpur, Feb 19:

The grip of Naxalism in Bastar division is steadily weakening as affected areas witness a notable reduction in insurgent activities. Recent reports from law enforcement indicate a significant step forward in this regard. Over the past three and a half months, beginning in November 2023, authorihave initiated strategic security measures to address the prechallenges. vailing Among these efforts, the installation of new security outposts in Bijapur district stands out as a critical development.

Notably, in Bijapur district, caps have been installed in Palanar, Dumaripalnar, Chintavagu, Kavadgaon, Mutvedi, and Gundam, while in Sukma district, the new caps include Muller, Paria, Salatong, Mukrajkoda, Duled, and Tekalgudem.

Simultaneously, significant security measures have been implemented in Purvi and Kanker districts. A total of 14 new security caps, known as Panidobir, have been established in these areas. Particularly vulnerable was Purvati, situated on the border of Bijapur and Sukma districts, previously serving as the Naxalites' military battalion head-

quarters. Authorities have established a camp in the former stronghold of the Naxalite government, bolstering security measures in the region. Additionally, a tactical headquarters has been set up by the police and armed forces, marking a pivotal step in neutralizing Naxal influ-

Presently, only two areas remain accessible to Naxalites in the



Bastar division: the Indravati Tiger Reserve National Park in Bijapur district and the sparsely populated region of Abujhmad. These locations serve as potential hideouts for the dwindling Naxal presence.

Naxalism extend beyond security operations. Local communities are benefiting from infrastructure development initiatives, including the construction of roads, bridges, and electrification projects. Moreover, essential services such ration shops, Anganwadi centers, healthcare facilities, and educational resources are being provided to enhance the well-being of residents.

Innovative safety caps are being installed regularly for the purpose of benefiting. In this connection, with the joint installation of a new security cap on February

CRPF/STF/Cobra/DRĞ /Bastar Fighter and under local police Jagargunda police station in the border area of Bijapur and Sukma, almost the last base of Naxalites was destroyed. Anmit has put the nail in the coffin of the area.

Bastar Inspector General Sundarraj P. underscored the commitment of the Bastar Police, local administra-

to promote the holistic development and safeguard the lives and property of the region's residents. With the establishment of new camps and concerted efforts. positive outcomes are anticipated in the near future. Emphasizing the importance of maintaining law and order in the Bastar division, IG Sundarraj affirmed the collective resolve to foster a positive identity for the region. Through collaborative endeavors and effective governance, Bastar aims to overcome challenges and create a safe and prosperous environment for its inhabitants.

Houthi rebels' attack severely damages a Belize-flagged ship

In key strait leading to the Red Sea

Dubai, Feb 19 (AP):

A missile attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels that damaged a Belizeflagged ship travelling through the Bab el-Mandeb Strait that connects the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden has forced the crew to abandon the ship, authorities said Monday. Another ship reportedly came under attack as well in the Gulf of

Iran-backed Houthis also claimed they shot down an American MQ-9 Reaper drone, something not immediately acknowledged by US forces in the region. However, the

Meanwhile, the US military said it was conducting new airstrikes targeting the rebels, including one that targeted the first Houthi underwater drone seen since they began launching attacks on international shipping in November.

The ship targeted in the Houthi attack on Sunday reported sustaining damage after "an explosion in close proximity to the vessel," the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre

"Military authorities report crew have abandoned the vessel," the UKMTO said. "Vessel at anchor and all crew are safe."

Houthi Brig Gen Yahya Saree issued a statement claiming the attack, sav-

ing the vessel was "now at risk of potentially sink-

ing".
"The ship suffered catastrophic damages and came to a complete halt,' Saree said. "During the operation, we made sure that the ship's crew exited

The private security firm Ambrey reported the British-registered, Lebanese-operated cargo ship had been on its way to Bulgaria after leaving Khorfakkan in the United Arab Emirates. Ship-tracking data from

MarineTraffic.com Associated Press identified the vessel targeted as the Rubymar. Its Beirutbased manager could not be reached for comment. The Houthis later also

ship as being partially laden with cargo, but it wasn't immediately clear what it had been carrying. The ship had turned off Identification System tracker while in the Persian Gulf early this month.

Later Monday, the UKMTO and Ambrey said a second vessel came under attack in the Gulf of Aden. Ambrey described the vessel as a Greek-flagged, US-owned bulk carrier bound for Aden, Yemen, from Argentina. Those details, combined with ship-tracking data, identified the vessel as the Sea Champion. Its managers could not be immediately

77TH BRITISH ACADEMY FILM AWARDS



Johnnie Burn, centre left, Tarn Willers, centre right, winners of the best sound award for 'The Zone of Interest', Himesh Patel, from left, and Marisa Abela pose for photographers at the 77th British Academy Film Awards,

Imran Khan's party-backed candidates will join Sunni Ittehad Council



Islamabad, Feb 19 (PTI):

Jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf on Monday said that the party-backed independent candidates, who won the February 8 elections, will join the Sunni Ittehad

Council is an alliance of Islamic political and religious parties in the Muslim-majority country which represents followers of the school of Sunni

"Our candidates in the

Sunni Ittehad Pakhtunkhwa assemblies will join the Sunni Ittehad Council," Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Barrister Gohar Khan said.

Though independent candidates backed by the party won the maximum number of seats in (PMLN) and the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) - have announced that they will form a coalition government after the February 8 elections resulted in a hung Parliament. The winning independ-

ent candidates had to join a party within 3 days after the notification of the results. The post-poll alliance by the PML-N and the PPP could mean that PTI will not be able to form the next federal government, prompting Khan's party to allege that the two rival parties were trying to steal the people's mandate with the help of the powerful establish-

Khan's beleaguered party received a major boost on Saturday when a senior government official in charge of the elec-

leged that rigging took place and dragged the Chief Election Commissioner and the Chief Justice into it.

Buoyed by the allegations of vote rigging, the PTI on Sunday demanded a judicial probe into the manipulation of the results of the elections.

Independent candidates a majority backed by former prime minister Imran Khan's PTI party 93 National Assembly seats in the election.

The PML-N won 75 seats while the PPP came third with 54 seats. The Muttahida Pakistan Movement (MQM-P) has also agreed to support them with their 17 seats.

To form a government, a party must win 133 seats out of 265 contested seats the 266-member

Over 29,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel-Hamas war: Gaza Health Ministry

Rafah, Feb 19 (AP)

Palestinians have been killed in the Gaza Strip since the start of the Israel-Hamas war, the territory's Health Ministry said Monday, marking another grim milestone in the deadliest round of violence in the history of the Israeli-Palestinian con-

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to continue the offensive until "total victory" against Hamas, raising fears that troops will soon move into the southernmost town of Rafah on the Egyptian border, where over half of Gaza's 2.3 million people have sought refuge from fighting elsewhere.

The Health Ministry said 107 bodies were brought to hospitals in the last 24 hours. That brings the total number of fatalities to 29,092 since the start

own tallies. tween civilians and combatants in its records, but says around two-thirds of those killed were women and children. It says over

been wounded. The Health Ministry is part of the Hamas-run government in Gaza but maintains detailed records of casualties. Its figures from previous wars in Gaza have largely matched those of UN agencies, independent ex-

69,000 Palestinians have

The war began when Hamas-led stormed into southern Israel from Gaza on October 7, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and taking around 250 hostage. More than 100 captives

were released during a weeklong cease-fire in November in exchange for 240 Palestinians imprisoned by Israel. Militants still hold around 130, a

Maldives govt will scuttle illegal efforts to impeach Prez Muizzu

Accusing the Opposition of trying to illegally overthrow Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu's government in less than 100 days in power, a senior minister has said the administration would not allow them to do so unless they cut "every vein in our throats". The comments by Minister of Islamic Affairs Mohamed Shaheem Ali

was accompanying Muizzu on his first trip to Addu, the second-largest urban area in the Maldives in terms of population.

Pro-China Muizzu, 45, defeated India-friendly incumbent Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in the presidential runoff held in September last year.

Saeed alleged that the government is facing chal-

and were being bombarded with the relentless spread of misinformation and baseless rumours, The Edition reported.

He said that it is the responsibility of the Opposition to hold the government accountable.

However, he said, it is not part of holding a government accountable to attempt to create obstacles

Male, Feb 19 (PTI): Saeed came on Sunday as lenges from inside and out, for and overthrow a government elected by the people just as it has begun, in a manner that will ultimately cause the most harm to the people themselves. "They have turned this into a game, it is of great concern that they have gone to the point where they are discussing impeaching a President elected by the people of this

As African migrants increasingly attempt to reach Spain

Rabat, Feb 19 (AP):

The Moroccan navy said it intercepted 141 people attempting to traverse the Atlantic Ocean as migration from West Africa to Spain's Canary Islands has

take over the metropolis.

Residents of the nearby

town of Sake have been

fleeing fierce fighting be-

tween Congolese govern-

ment troops and the group.

of the year.

Morocco intercepts boat with 141 people

Morocco's Royal Armed Forces said in a statement Sunday it was able to rescue all passengers on a boat off the coast of the Western Sahara, a disputed territory with a coastline that Morocco has controlled

It said the 141 people all came from sub-Saharan Africa and likely embarked

once members of Congo's

army. M23 is one of more

than 100 armed groups ac-

tive in eastern Congo

seeking a share of the re-

gion's gold and other re-

since 1975.

spiked since the beginning more than a week earlier the wooden vessels miirom Mauritania

Morocco's southern neighbor and the primary point of departure for migrants attempting to reach Spain's Canary Islands. The interception was the

largest that Moroccan authorities have reported this year. The Canary Islands are roughly 62 miles (100 km) from Morocco's Atlantic coast but pirogues -

grants often use to cross often launch from as far south as Gambia, from where the journey can take up to 10 days, according to the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime. Spain's Interior Ministry reported 11,704 migrants had arrived to the Canaries as of Feb 15more than a sixfold increase

Rwanda rejects US calls for withdrawal of missiles and troops from eastern Congo

Kampala, Feb 19 (AP):

Authorities in Rwanda on Monday rejected US calls for the withdrawal of troops and missile systems from eastern Congo, saying they are defending Rwandan territory as Congo carries out a "dramatic military build-up" near the border.

Foreign Rwanda's Ministry in a statement spoke of threats to Rwandan national security stemming from the presence in Congo of an armed group whose members include alleged perpetrators of the 1994 geno-

The rebel group, known by its initials FDLR, "is fully integrated into" the Congolese army, the statement said.

Although Rwanda has long cited a threat posed by FLDR, authorities there had never admitted to a military presence in eastern Congo, whose authorities accuse the tiny central African country of actively supporting the violent armed group known as

Department in a statement

Saturday criticised the worsening violence caused by M23, describing it as a "Rwanda-backed" armed group. That statement also urged Rwanda "to immediately withdraw all Rwanda Defence Force

personnel from the

(Congo) and remove its surface-to-air missile sys-The US statement represented "an abrupt shift in policy, or simply a lack of internal coordination. causing Rwanda to "ques-

tion the ability of the

United States to serve as a

credible mediator"

Africa's Great Lakes rethe Rwandan Foreign Ministry said.

country," he said.

UN experts previously said they had "solid evidence" that members of Rwanda's armed forces were conducting operations there in support of

M23's rebellion has caused the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people in Congo's North Kivu's province in recent

Fighting near Goma, the region's largest city, has intensified in recent days as the rebels threatened to

Many M23 fighters, includsources as they carry out ing Congolese Tutsis, were mass killings. कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता

लोक निर्माण विभाग (भ/स) संभाग राजनांदगांव (छ.ग.)

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (प्रथम आमंत्रण)

निविदा विज्ञप्ति क. 879/33/नि.वि./लोनिवि/2023-2024 एकोकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित मैनअल निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती हैं:-

निविदा प्रपत्र हेतु आवेदन प्रस्तुत करने ठेकेदारों द्वारा प्रस्तुत निविदावें प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि

: 07/03/2024 अपरान्ह 5.30 बजे तक 18/03/2024 अपरान्ह 5.30 बजे तक

: 19/03/2024 अपरान्ह 11.30 बजे कार्य का विवरण कार्य की

राशि अनुमानित ागत (लाख में 02 04 03 33 7000.00 राजनोदर्गाव (विकासखण्ड-राजनोदर्गाव) 9.18 गरा वार्ड नं. 15 में सामुदायिक भवन का निर्माण कार्य राजनांदगांव (विकासखण्ड-राजनांदगांव) 6.48 5000.00 T0198 मैट्रिक छात्रावास के बाजू वार्ड नं. 45 गोकुल नग सामदायिक भवन में टायलेट कक्ष का निर्माण कार्य

निविदा समय-सारणी एवं आवश्यक निर्देश:- आवेदन पत्र के साथ निम्नलिखित दस्तावेज की छायाप्रति प्रस्तुत करना अनिवार्य है। (1) पंजीयन की छायाप्रति (2) जी.एस.टी. प्रमाण-पत्र (३) पेन कार्ड (४) बैंक सालवेंशी (5) अन्य जानकारी कार्यालयीन अवधि में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक निर्माण विभाग (भ/स) संभाग राजनांदगांव (छ.ग.)

G-07903/1

from a year earlier. कार्यालय कलेक्टर (आदिवासी विकास) गौरेला-पेण्डा-मरवाही (छ.ग.)

इरभाष क.-07751 220658 Email - pmsgaurela क्रमांक/ऑ.ला.पो.मै.छा./2023-24/322 गौरेला-पेण्डा-मरवाही, दिनांक 16/02/202

//तिथि में वृद्धि सूचना प्रकाशन// वर्ष 2023-24 में अनुसूचित जनजाति, अनुसूचित जाति एवं अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के लिए ऑनलाईन पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति (कक्षा 12 वीं से उच्चतर) हेतु विवृत्ति

गौरेला-पेण्डा-मरवाही जिले एवं छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य के बाहर अध्ययनरत् (छ.ग. के नेवासी) जो शासकीय/अशासकीय महाविद्यालयों, विश्वविद्यालयों, इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज डकल कॉलेज, नर्सिंग कॉलेज, पॉलिटेक्निक एवं आई.टी.आई. आदि में अध्ययनरत् है। जिनक संस्थाओं में प्रवेश विलम्ब से हुआ है तथा जिन पाठ्यक्रमों का परीक्षा परिणाम विलम्ब से घोषिर हुआ है, ऐसे अनुसूचित जनजाति, अनुसूचित जाति एवं अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के विद्यार्थियों, जो विभाग द्वारा संचालित पोस्ट मैट्कि छात्रवृत्ति की पात्रता रखते हैं, को सुचित किया जाता है कि शिक्षा सन्न 2023-24 हेतु ऑनलाईन पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति (कक्षा 12वीं से उच्चतर) के पंजीयन स्वीकृति एवं वितरण की कार्यवाही http://postmatric-scholarship.cg.nic.in/वेबसाइट

ार ऑनलाईन को जा रही है। जिसके अंतर्गत संस्थाओं के प्रस्ताव/स्वीकृति लॉक करने हेतु विभाग द्वारा वर्ष 2023-24 हेतु नानुसार तिथि में वृद्धि की जा रही है:

क्र.	प्रक्रिया	अंतिम तिथि			
1	छ.म. राज्य में अध्ययनरत् विद्यार्थी द्वारा ऑनलाईन आवेदन हेतु (नवीन/नवीनीकरण)	दिनांक 19.02,2024 से दिनांक 14.03.2024			
2	छ.ग. राज्य के बाहर अध्ययनरत् (छ.ग. के निवासी) विद्यार्थी द्वारा ऑनलाईन आवेदन हेतु (नवीन/नवीनीकरण)				
3	Draft Proposal Lock करने हेतु	दिनांक 19.02.2024 से दिनांक 28.03.2024			
4	Sanction Order Lock करने हेतु	दिनांक 19.02,2024 से दिनांक 30,03,2024			

यह अंतिम अवसर विद्यार्थियों को प्रदाय किया जा रहा है। निर्धारित तिथियों के पश्चात शिक्षा सत्र 2023–24 की पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति हेतु आवेदन एवं Draft Proposal Lock, Sanction Order Lock करने का अवसर प्रदान नहीं किया जायेगा। उक्त तिथि तक कार्यवाही पुणै नहीं करने ार यदि संबंधित संस्थाओं के विद्यार्थी छात्रवृत्ति से वंचित रह जाते हैं, तो इसके लिए संस्था प्रमुख

नोट:- छात्रवृत्ति का PFMS के माध्यम से आधार आधारित भगतान किया जा रहा है। अत सभी विद्यार्थी ऑनलाईन आवेदन करते समय <mark>आधार सीडेड बैंक खाता नम्बर की प्रविध्</mark>टि करन सनिश्चित करें।

डॉ. ललित शुक्ला) सहायक आयुक्त आदिवासी विकास गौरेला-पेण्ड्रा-मरवाही (छ.ग.)

(Established under the Central Universities Act, 2009) Tejaswini Hills, Periye P.O, KASARAGOD-671320 No. CUK/APPT/NT/IAO/2017 Dated 1" February 2024 **EMPLOYMENT RE-NOTIFICATION**

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

(NON TEACHING) Online applications are invited from the eligible Indian nationals for filling up the post of Internal Audit Officer on deputation/Short term contract basis. The notification containing full particulars such as Number of Posts, Notification No., Category, Essential Qualifications, Experience, Pay, Details of Submission of Online Application etc are available at the University website: www.cukerala.ac.in. The last date for receipt of Online application is 11th March 2024. CBC 21353/12/0016/2324 REGISTRAR

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) 🗝 ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा अमंत्रण सूचना क .101/न .पा.नि ./यो .प्र ./2023-24 विनांक 19/02/2024 एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत डी व प्रवर श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-कार्य का विवरण (फ लाख में)

in

अंतिम तिथि Construction of 03 nos. Aspirational Toilet Block Type-I under SBM 2.0 as per enclosed pecifications and drawings including Defect Liability period of 60 months from the date of उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शतेँ, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञप्ति, निविद

दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट वेक्साईट https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in



Established 1974 Volume 49 No. 140

Combating Anti-Indian Violence

Upholding Diversity in the US

he incidents of violence against Indians in the United States have sparked widespread concern and condemnation, prompting the White House to reaffirm its commitment to preventing such attacks. The Biden administration's acknowledgment of the issue is a welcome step, but more concrete action is needed to address the underlying factors contributing to these tragic incidents. The surge in the Indian diaspora's presence in the US in recent years is undeniable. With a significant increase in Indian students choosing American universities, there has been a corresponding rise in the number of Indian immigrants. However, this influx has been marred by a disturbing trend of unnatural deaths among Indian-origin individuals, particularly students. The deaths of several Indian students since the beginning of the year have sent shockwayes through the community, raising questions about safety and security in the US. While some of these incidents may be attributed to unfortunate accidents or isolated criminal acts, there are troubling signs of racial targeting and discrimination. In one alarming case, a victim narrowly escaped with his life, highlighting the dangers faced by individuals who may be perceived as different or foreign in the US. The prevalence of gun violence and the glamorization of criminal lifestyles in certain segments of American society further compound these concerns, underscoring the need for vigilance and precaution among newly arrived Indians. Beyond individual acts of violence, there exists a broader societal issue of prejudice and xenophobia towards those who do not fit the traditional mold of white or African-American Americans. Sikhs, in particular, have been targeted in hate crimes, with their turbans erroneously associated with terrorism. Such incidents not only pose a threat to the safety and well-being of individuals but also undermine the values of diversity and inclusivity that the US claims to uphold. The recent surge in hate crimes, as evidenced by FBI statistics, underscores the urgency of addressing these deep-seated prejudices and misconceptions. While the White House has condemned violence based on race, gender, or religion, more proactive measures are needed to combat systemic discrimination and promote tolerance and acceptance. It is not enough to merely protect individuals like Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, whose actions have been deemed terrorist activities by India; the focus must also be on safeguarding the broader Indian community, which has made invaluable contributions to the US economy and society. As the Biden administration grapples with domestic and international challenges, it must prioritize the protection of all individuals within its borders, regardless of their background or nationality. Upholding the principles of liberalism and diversity requires more than just rhetoric; it demands concrete actions to address systemic inequalities and ensure the safety and well-being of all residents. Only through collective efforts can the US truly fulfill its promise of being a beacon of freedom and opportunity for people of all backgrounds.

Unveiling Digital Wellbeing Insights from the DOL Index

Dr Krishna Kumar Vepakomma



ecognizing the pivotal role ■ V of digital wellbeing in shap ing our overall welfare across work, education, and leisure is crucial for a comprehensive sense of wellbeing in our daily Racaityte-Gabriele Karasauske, Surfshark's spokesperson, emphasizes the seamless integration of the digi-

tal transformation into our global daily routine, influencing various facets of life. She underscores the importance of identifying strengths and areas needing attention in a nation's digital quality of life, highlighting the purpose of the DQL Index. The progress of Digital India has experienced significant transformations recently. According to a recent revelation, India secured the 52nd position out of 121 countries in the Digital Quality of Life Index survey conducted by Surfshark, a cybersecurity firm. The assessment encompassed critical factors such as internet quality, affordability, e-infrastructure, e-government, and e-security. India's digital progress is evident as it climbed seven places from 59th to 52nd, attributed to a substantial improvement in internet quality. Notably, India ranks 16th globally in internet quality, with a 36% increase over the global average. Mobile internet speed experienced a staggering 297% growth, driven by widespread 5G rollout, while fixed broadband speed saw a modest 16% increase. Despite these advancements, internet affordability remains a challenge. India holds the 28th rank, requiring individuals to invest 1 hour and 48 minutes monthly for a fixed broadband line and 44 minutes and 22 seconds for mobile internet access. Examining the pillars of the DQL Index, India's e-infrastructure ranks 91st, indicating a need for improvements in digital public infrastructure. The G20 forum recently highlighted an increased adoption of digital public infrastructure globally. In the realm of e-government, India secures the 35th position, reflecting government initiatives like Digital India and Skill India. However, in terms of e-security, India is ranked 66th, facing security risks with 91% of companies experiencing ransomware attacks. In India, adapting to the changing digital landscape is essential, and bridging the digital divide is critical for nations to capitalize on opportunities in the digital age. The DQL Index, a key tool, evaluates 121 countries based on five crucial parameters, providing insights into the quality of digital life and highlighting the continuous

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

global need for improvements.

TOURISTS IN INDIA GATE



Tourists on the Kartavya Path near the India Gate in New Delhi, Monday, Feb. 19

Caste Census: Tool for development with justice



People's voice for a complete Caste-based Census is gaining momentum in various corners of the country. In the absence of a caste census, the country is relying upon 90-year old data to formulate its holistic developmental policies and schemes for backward and deprived sections of the society. Caste and social justice are interlinked to each other and Caste census will help the government to implement welfare schemes, with the pious motto of ' Jiski Jitni Bhagidari , Uski Utni Hissedari ".

For a welfare government, it is a constitutional obligation and commitment for the inclusive growth of the weaker sections of the society. So, Caste Census is vital for social A section of people argue that it may allow social tension to develop between communities in the country. Such fictional argument of a handful casteist forces is creating hurdles in way of all-round development with social justice. If religionbased and language-based census had not created division and hatred in the society as per their claim, now a complete caste-based census can create differences in the society?

Actually the various census, conducted after independence, can not be termed as casteless, since not only castes of Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribes are being recorded, but religion-based census too is being conducted. It is beyond the perceive of the people that why the Centre is hesitating on a complete Caste-based Census, enumerating OBCs too.

The reference to Caste Census is found in the Rigveda and Kautilya's Artha Shastra; although Caste or Class categorisation was not so nasty as are being seen today. Systematic caste-wise enumeration of population was introduced by the Registrar General of India in 1881 under British Rule, which continued till 1931. In the 1941 census too, the caste-wise figures were collected, but the exercise was curtailed due to World War-II and final data could not be published. In 1951, the Census exercise was revamped drastically and recording of caste, except SCs and STs, was abandoned. Thus 1931 Census, which included Pakistan and Bangla Desh territories too, became the last caste-based census in India.

The first Backward Classes Commission, headed by Kaka Kalelkar, has recommended in its report of 1955 for undertaking castewise enumeration of population in Census 1961. The second Backward Classes Commission, i.e. Mandal Commission has highlighted that the report is based on 1931 Census data, which is not adequate and hence next, i.e. 2001, Census should be caste-based. The commission had no way other than to assume inter se rate of population growth of various communities & religious groups over the last half a century to be remaining the same. But this was far from reality. The census records of the years 1951 and 2011 reveal that the population of Hindu has decreased from 84.1% to 79.30%, whereas that of Muslim has increased from 9.8% to 14.23%.

Similarly, the population of SC and ST has increased from 14% to 16.63% and 6.23% to 8.61% respectively. Obviously, the assumption of constant decadal growth of all communities is a farce.

In December 1996, the H. D. Deve Gowda Cabinet has taken decision for caste-wise enumeration in Census 2001. But in 2001, the Vajpayee-led NDA government scuttled the decision on the plead of socalled caste-biases. In June 2010, The UPA government had made a commitment for caste census after discussion in both Houses of Parliament. But instead of adding a column in the main decadal Census of 2011, a separate Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) was initiated, whose final report was neither concluded and nor made public. On 31st August 2018, after reviewing progress for Census 2021, the then Home Minister has promised for collecting data on OBCs first time, but the Government took U-turn in Lok Sabha in 2021 saying No to it.

The demand for a complete caste-based census emerges every time in Parliament, when it is due. Usually, such demand comes from OBCs and other deprived sections of the society and it is constantly & aggressively opposed by the representatives from upper castes, who are dominating the power share despite having nominal population share and are afraid of loosing their age-

long monopoly. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is leading the chorus for Caste Census and all political as well as social institutions are in its favour. The proposal for caste census in 2021 was unanimously passed by the Bihar Vidhan Sabha on 17th February 2019 and again on 27th February 2020. Such a resolution has also been passed in Maharashtra Vidhan Sabha on 8th January 2021. Last year Odisha became third state to urge the centre for holding enumeration of Socially and **Educationally Backward Classes** along with a general census in 2021. Presently Telangana state is all set for caste census in the state. The

National Commission for Backward Classes has also urged the government for the same. But, as Central Government has not accepted the proposal, the various State Governments should come forward to conduct the exercise on their own resources on the pattern of Bihar and Karnataka.

It may be noted that the Karnataka High Court and the Supreme Court had directed the Karnataka State government to provide the latest percentage of a particular caste in the total population of the state, whenever the government plans to extend reservation facility to a particular caste. So, the State government decided to conduct the caste census to know the current status of various castes in the state. The Maharashtra State **Commission for Backward Classes** (MSCBC) has recommended for Socio Economic and Caste Census by the State government. Bihar state has already conducted caste census and rescheduled and enhanced the reservation percentage as per the outcome of socio-economic status.

Caste Census at national level is the need of the hour, as the unavailability of reliable and authentic data regarding the exact population of each segment of the society, geographical area of their spread & density is posing a huge challenge in ensuring focused and outcome-specific planning. The latest data and statistics are the essential tool for policy-making and research, as it helps the policy-makers to determine the target and direct the course of policies & actions. With the fresh assessment of the castewise population, the economic deprivation levels of different castes in various states could be determined and it would help to tailor reservation policy to ensure equitable representation of all of them.

(Author is a technocrat and academician. He holds Master in Engineering from M.N. Regional **Engineering College,** Allahabad/Prayagraj)

Agrarian Adversity

It's disheartening to witness mistreated farmers facing tear gas and rubber bullets while peacefully protesting justifiable demands—an affront to the farming community. The denial of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops remains a significant stumbling block, hindering progress and perpetuating injustice. Instituting a legal guarantee for MSP not only empowers growers to diversify their crops but also shields them from exploitation by corporate interests. Politicians' hollow promises offer little solace; true change requires genuine respect and care for the backbone of our agricultural sector-the farmers. It's time to prioritize their well-being and ensure they receive the dignity and support they deserve for their tireless contributions to so-MK Nair, Raipur

Democracy Gagged

The Income-Tax department's demand on Congress, crippling its finances just before elections, reeks of political vendetta. A 45day delay in tax filing warrants a Rs 210 crore penalty? This unprecedented action, coupled with the Supreme Court's verdict on electoral bonds, paints a chilling picture. Money in politics warps elections, and targeting the Opposition with dubious charges undermines democracy's very foundation. Can we afford to let accountability become a tool to silence dissent? Every stakeholder, but especially the ruling party, must uphold transparency and fair play. Mohammad Taukir,

Bettiah, Bihar **Red Herring?**

India's exports show mixed signals: January saw a 3.1% rise to \$36.92 billion, but year-onyear, they lag 5%. Electronics shine with 20.7% growth, while labor-intensive sectors like textiles struggle. Imports grew 3%, but excluding oil and gems, they fell 2.3%. Red Sea fears seem unfounded, but long-term impact remains unclear. However. electronics and pharmaceuticals offer promising avenues, but broader concerns persist. Diversification and policy tweaks could unlock India's true export

Tauqueer Rahmani, Mumbai Ban Manja

The alarming rate of severe injuries and fatalities caused by Chinese manja demands immediate action. Despite the ban implemented in 2017, cases of animals and birds getting ensnared in this glass-coated string persist due to lax enforcement. It's imperative to impose strict penalties on violators. Collaborative efforts among government agencies, NGOs, and citizens are necessary to raise awareness about the string's dangers. Only through concerted action can we mitigate the devastating impact of this hazardous material on

both wildlife and public safety. Shiv Kumar Mishra, Raipur

Southern states' fears on delimitation: **Balancing representation and justice**



Yash Pal Ralhan

elimitation, the process of redrawing electoral boundaries to ensure fair representation, has become a contentious issue in India, particularly for the southern states. Amidst fears of disproportionate parliamentary representation, these states are voicing their concerns, highlighting the potential consequences of pop-

ulation-based delimitation. This ar-

ticle delves into the intricacies of the debate, exploring the underlying fears, implications, and the

quest for equitable representation. Southern states, distinguished by their commitment to population control measures, fear being penalized under a population-based delimitation system. The apprehension stems from the possibility of losing parliamentary seats despite their proactive efforts towards national interest. This disparity in treatment between states following population control measures and those neglecting them raises questions of fairness and justice within the democratic

Tamil Nadu's Assembly resolution against the central government's delimitation agenda marks a significant step in articulating the collective concerns of southern states. It underscores the urgency for the central government to address these apprehensions and safeguard the integrity of democratic processes. The resolution reflects not just a regional sentiment but a broader concern

for preserving the principles of tion of delimitation criteria to enfairness and representation in

India's democratic fabric. At the heart of the issue lies the looming threat of unequal parliamentary representation post-delimitation. Southern states anticipate a reduction in parliamentary seats, which they perceive as a form of penalization for their developmental initiatives. This apprehension is exacerbated by the projected gains for northern states that have not adhered to population control measures, creating a sense of injustice and imbalance in the allocation of parliamentary seats.

The potential ramifications of skewed representation extend beyond electoral politics, affecting the balance of power and resource allocation. Southern states, despite contributing significantly to the country's GDP, risk losing their voice and bargaining power in national decision-making processes. This disparity undermines the principles of federalism and democratic governance, necessitating a reevalua-

sure equitable representation. The interplay between delimitation and other legislative agendas. such as the Women's Reservation Bill, further complicates the landscape. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin's apprehension that delimitation may undermine southern states' bargaining power underscores the broader implications of this issue beyond mere seat allocation. It underscores the need for a comprehensive approach that considers the intersectionality of various legislative agendas and their impact on regional representation.

Addressing the concerns raised by southern states requires a concerted effort from all stakeholders. The central government must acknowledge the legitimate apprehensions of southern states and work towards devising a more inclusive and equitable delimitation framework. This entails recalibrating delimitation criteria to reflect not just population dynamics but also developmental indices, ensuring fair representation for all states

Furthermore, political parties across the South must unite in opposition to the current delimitation methodology, transcending partisan divides for the collective good. This concerted effort can amplify the voices of dissent, compelling the central government to reconsider its approach and uphold the tenets of democratic governance. It is imperative to foster regional consensus and solidarity in advocating for fair representation, thereby strengthening the demo-

cratic fabric of the nation. In conclusion, the delimitation debate underscores the delicate balance between representation and justice in India's democratic landscape. Southern states' concerns regarding disproportionate parliamentary representation highlight the need for a reevaluation of delimitation criteria to ensure fairness and equity. By addressing these concerns and fostering regional consensus, India can uphold the principles of democratic governance and reinforce its commitment to inclusive representation for all states.

BRIEF

Investment



Kolkata: Union minister B L Verma on Monday said the central government has invested Rs 5 lakh crore in the North East since 2014, while Rs 11 lakh crore more will be pumped into the region for its allround development. This part of the country holds immense investment potential, said the Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER). "Already Rs 5 lakh crore has been invested by the government since 2014. While another Rs 11 lakh crore is underway for the region on developmental projects to improve infrastructure,' Verma told PTI on the

Tea exports

Summit.

sidelines of the North East Investors

■ Kolkata: Tea exports from India have declined by 1.17 per cent to 207.14 million kgs in the January-November period of 2023, according to official data. The country shipped out 209.60 mkgs of tea during a similar 11-month period of the previous year. During the calendar year 2022, the total tea exports were 231.08 mkgs. Regionwise, exports from North India, comprising primarily the states of Assam and West Bengal, stood at 125.27 mkgs, down from 132.21 mkgs in the comparable periods of 2023 and 2022 respectively, the Tea Board data said. Shipments from South India during the first 11 months of 2023 increased to 81.87

Semiconductor

to the data.

mkgs from 77.39 mkgs

in the previous simi-

lar period, according



New Delhi: Two full-

fledged semiconductor fabrication plants are going to come up in India very soon entailing multi-billion dollar investment besides several chip assembly and packaging units, Minister of Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar said. In an interview with PTI, the minister confirmed that the two projects include a USD 8 billion proposal submitted by Israel-based Tower Semiconductors and the other from Tata Group. "I am happy to share this with you and you are probably the first one I'm sharing this with. In the near term, two full-blown fabs are going to come up in India. These are going to be multi-billion-dollar fabs in the 65, 40 and 28-nanometer technology and there are going to be a host of other packaging proposals that we are evaluating,' Chandrasekhar said.

Goyal confident of rate cut by RBI in coming months

Commerce and Industry

Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday exuded confidence that the Reserve Bank will cut interest rates as inflation is under control. The RBI has been maintaining the benchmark interest rate at an elevated level of 6.5 per cent since February 2023. Goyal said that the economic fundamentals of the country are strong and inflation is under check. He said that the average inflation of 10 years in India is about 5 to 5.5 per cent. It was the best-performing decade and because of that, the interest rate came down "dramatically" and the central bank was strengthened and had the ability to bring down the interest rate. "Of-course in the last year and a half, post Ukraine-crisis, interest rates have again gone up by 250 basis points. But



now that inflation is pretty much in control, I suspect we will soon see the reversal of the rate hikes starting in India, whether it happens in the next or the second monetary policy from now. I think it's only a matter of time," Goyal said. In case the Reserve Bank goes for a reduction in the key short-term lending rate (repo), the cost of borrowings both for corporate as well as individuals, will go down, and hence EMIs. The RBI on February 8, for the sixth time in a row, left the key

6.5 per cent, which may keep the cost of borrowings for both individuals as well as corporates largely stable, and lowered the retail inflation projection to 4.5 per cent for next fiscal. The next bi-monthly monetary policy will be announced on April 5. The consumer price index was 5.1 per cent in January, down from 6.52 per cent in January 2023. The wholesale price index (WPI)based inflation eased to a three-month low of 0.27 per cent in January, mainly due to moderation of food prices, including veg-

The minister was addressing 35 journalists from 19 Latin American and Caribbean countries here. He also said that the government's ambition is to increase the current USD 3.7 trillion economy to be a USD 30-35 trillion

GLOBAL INVESTORS' SUMMIT



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during the 4th groundbreaking ceremony of UP Global Investors' Summit, in Lucknow, Monday, Feb. 19.

India tops list for highest number of passengers at Dubai airport

With 11.9 million arrivals

Dubai, Feb 19: India emerged at the top spot for the highest number of passengers flying through the Dubai International Airport, the world's busiest for international travel, with traffic totalling 11.9 million guests, the airport announced on Monday. According to a statement, the Dubai airport, known as DXB, surpassed not only its own yearly forecast but also pre-pandemic levels of traffic. In 2023, DXB witnessed a surge in passenger numbers, reaching 86.9 passengers (86,994,365), an impressive



year-on-year increase of 31.7 per cent. It was just under a per cent higher than the passenger numbers recorded in 2019 (86.4 million), the numbers were driven by robust growth in the second half of the year during which the airport recorded a total of 45.4 million guests. With 7.8 million guests,

December was the busiest month in the fourth quarter during which the airport welcomed a total of 22.4 million guests, a yearon-year growth of 13.8 per cent compared to Q4 of last year. Q3 remained the quarter with the highest traffic since 2019 with 23 million guests while August, with 7.9 million

guests, was the month with the highest traffic. DXB is currently connected to 262 destinations across 104 countries through 102 international carriers, according to data for 2023. India claimed the top spot among destination countries with traffic totalling 11.9 million guests, followed by Saudi Arabia with 6.7 million guests and the UK with 5.9 million guests. Other country markets of note include Pakistan (4.2 million), the US (3.6 million), Russia (2.5 million), and Germany (2.5 million). DXB processed a total of 77.5 million bags in 2023, making it the highest volume of bags managed during a calendar year at the airport.

NITI Aayog pitches for tax reforms

Mandatory saving plan, housing plan for elderly

New Delhi, Feb 19:

Government think tank NITI Aayog has pitched for tax reforms, mandatory saving plan, and housing plan for elderly in India, as the population of senior citizens is projected to reach 19.5 per cent of the country's population by

In a report titled 'Senior Care Reforms in India -Reimagining the Senior Care Paradigm', NITI Aayog said a national portal for senior care must be developed for senior citizens to provide easy access of services to them. "Since the social security framework in India is limited, most seniors depend on the income generated

Variable interest rates result in the erosion of their income, sometimes even below sustenance levels. "Therefore, a regulatory mechanism is required to set a viable base rate for the interest accrued on senior citizen deposits,' the report said.

The report emphasised that giving a further concession to older women will contribute to their financial well-being. The elderly in India currently comprises a little over 10 per cent of the population, translating to about 104 million, and is projected to reach 19.5 per cent of the total population by 2050. The report also suggested that the government should reassess the reverse mortgage mechanism to increase liquidity for seniors and by making necessary amendments to the current reverse mortgage rules. "Tax and GST reforms, etc, on senior care products (needed) to increase the ease of adoption and safeguard the elderly population from the financial burden," the Aayog said.

Population ageing is a global phenomenon, and the number of people over 60 years of age has been rising rapidly across the world. India, too, is witnessing an exponential growth in the number and proportion of elderly people, coupled with decreasing fertility rate (less than 2.0) and increasing life expectancy (more than 70

ICICI Bank, Bharti Airtel,

Trade industry wants PM to address unemployment, promote ease of doing business in J&K

Srinagar, Feb 19: Welcoming

Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Jammu & Kashmir, the local indus try on Monday said it expects the PM to address the key issue of unemployment and promote ease of doing business in the vallev. "The Prime Minister's visit on Tuesday coincides with the inauguration of some prestigious projects which are destined to play an important part in the development of Jammu & Kashmir," the KCCI said in a statement. The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) highlighted that the lack of infrastructure and support to industry have been a key roadblock in the overall development of the

union territory. The KCCI



looks up on the Prime Minister to implement his favourite 'Ease Of Doing Business' scheme in the UT, it said. While thanking the Prime Minister for accepting many of its suggestions in the past, the KCCI said, "it looks up to the Prime Minister with hope for considering suggestions critical for all round development of Jammu & Kasmir, more so, in view of the alarming rate at which the unemgrowing." The KCCI said it would emphasize the implementation of the Prime Minister's favourite 'Ease Doing Business scheme. "The lack of infrastructure, Industrial policies, and lack of support to local industries has put a spanner in the wheels of development/ growth of local industry," it said. The KCCI said Jammu & Kashmir has been returning to normalcy which has resulted in considerable growth in tourist footfall. "However, the ill-equipped existing Airport Terminal is causing tremendous difficulties to travellers. The Srinagar Airport needs to be expanded and upgraded to enable it to cater to the growing number of travellers," it added.

Nifty hits record high, Sensex ployment rate has been up 281 points Mumbai, Feb 19: Stock markets closed multiple

higher for the fifth consecutive day on Monday with the benchmark Sensex rising 281 points and Nifty scaling its fresh lifetime high driven by gains in financial and FMCG shares. The 30-share BSE Sensex rose by 281.52 points or 0.39 per cent to close at 72,708.16. As many as 17 Sensex shares advanced while 13 closed in the red. After a firm start, the index hit a high of 72,881.93 in day trade. The broader Nifty closed at its all-time high of 22,122.25 points, up by 81.55 points or 0.37 per cent from the last close. The 50-issue barometer also scaled its

Stock markets advance for 5th day BSE Sensex Previous day close: Change +281.52 72,426.64 GRAPHICS

intra-day record high of 22,186.65 helped by gains in pharma, banking and

As many as 27 Nifty shares posted gains while 23 declined. Key stock indices closed in the green for the fifth straight day on Monday, gaining around 2.3 per cent. Overall market capitalisation of BSE listed shares surged to Rs 391.69 lakh crore or USD 4.72 trillion, making investors richer by Rs 2.20 lakh crore. Among Sensex shares, Bajaj Finserve,

Bajaj Finance, Sun Pharma, Maruti Suzuki, ITC, and Nestle were the lead gainers. On the other hand, L&T Wipro, IndusInd Bank and TCS and Tata Motors were the lead losers. Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said "Despite an unattractive risk reward, the broader market continued its outperformance in expectation of improvements in private capex and optimism about political stability. "Benign input costs and expectations of a pickup in rural demand will aid corporate earnings growth." Key Asian markets were mixed. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 0.8 per cent and Tokyo's Nikkei 225 lost 0.04 per cent while the Shanghai Composite index gained

Govt not considering cut in import duty on rubber: Official

New Delhi, Feb 19:

The government is not considering any cut in import duty on rubber as of now as the differential between the local and international prices is maintained, a senior official said on Monday. "We have a differential already maintained for the imports that we are getting vis-avis the local production. "If you see the local price visinternational price...so there has been a differential maintained on account of that import duty. So I do not think there is any rethink on reducing import duties as of now," Additional Secretary in the commerce ministry Amardeep Singh Bhatia told reporters here. He was replying to a question

about the domestic user industry's demand to cut the duties and that of local producers against any duty reduction. Tyre makers are one of the major consumers of the commodity. Over 13 lakh rubber growers are there in the country. Kerala accounts for a major chunk of the production, which was 8.39 lakh tonne in 2022-23. Consumption during that fiscal was 13.5 lakh tonne. The gap is bridged by imports from countries such as Vietnam, Malaysia and other southeast asian nations. In order to regulate the import of natural rubber, the government had increased the duty on import of dry rubber to 25 per cent or Rs 30 per kg, whichever is lower from April 30, 2015.

ITDC looking for new business opportunities, strengthening regional offices: MD

New Delhi, Feb 19:

State-owned India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd is looking for new business opportunities besides strengthening its existing verticals as it seeks to carry forward the momentum of record financial performance of last fiscal, according to its Managing Director M R Synrem.

The company which offers hospitality, travel and tour, events and engineering related consultancy services, plans to strengthen its offices in Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata with an aim to develop these as regional hubs for its busi-

"We want not to only expand but whatever we have now to take it a notch



further ahead, take it much higher and look at new business opportunities also for ITDC as a company," Synrem told PTI on the sidelines of the launch of the company's new mascot 'Adyant' and a fresh tagline. On the new business opportunities, he said, "We have won a bid for a new duty free shop at the Vizag shop

(Visakhapatnam) airport. We participated in the competitive bid and we have won it. It is a new thing which is coming up very soon." Sharing plans to strengthen India Tourism Development Corporation's (ITDC) regional offices to expand its business, he said at present the staffing at the company's offices in Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata is not reasonably strong with only one officer stationed in these regional offices.

"As a team we are studying how to develop the regional offices as also a regional hub so that we can take our business there as

There's not a business that cannot be taken in these places of the well," Synrem said.

India needs to grow at 9-10pc for 3 decades: Kant

To be USD 35 trn economy by 2047

100 in 2047, India should be

a USD 35 trillion econo-

my," Kant said while ad-

dressing a session at

Mumbai Tech Week

(MTW) hosted by Tech



Entrepreneurs Association Mumbai (TEAM). Which means, India will become the second largest economy in the world, Kant stated. "And to be a USD 35 trillion economy means that we need to grow year after year for close to three decades by 9-10 per cent annually and this means that we need to do a lot of disruptions and constant innovation," he noted.



Alleged corruption unveiled in PMGSY road construction



In Kabirdham District

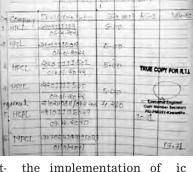
Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, Feb 19: The revelations of discrepancies and fraudulent practices in road construction under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) have brought Kabirdham district into the spotlight.

Concerns have been raised regarding Package No. CG-09-122, specifically the construction of the road from Pandatarai to Madmada Laduwa where

have been detected, casting doubt on the integrity of officers involved.

One of the glaring irregularities pertains to the timing of measurements and the release of Measurement Books (MBs). Shockingly, it has been discovered that measbefore the issuance of MBs, suggesting potential malpractice such as purchasing asphalt after bitumenization (BT). This alarming revelation has prompted complaints to higher authorities, raising questions about accounta-



In a concerning in

stance, the MB for the

aforementioned road con-

struction was issued by

the Executive Engineer on

10/03/2021, whereas the

evaluation was recorded

on 16/01/2021, indicating

even before the MB is is-

sued the evaluation has

been done. Such discrep-

ancies point to the ques-

tionable conduct of offi-

cers and employees en-

trusted with overseeing

Furthermore, anom-

alies have been identified

project execution.

PMGSY projects.

ic construction components, such as the side shoulder of Wet Mix Macadam (WMM), where deviations from standard measurements have occurred.

For instance, in item No. 3.12 (A), the width of the WMM shoulder was reduced to 3 cm, ostensibly to provide undue financial benefits amounting to Rs 200, while adjustments were made in item number 3.12 (B) to favour the contractor.

Another troubling revelation involves the evaluation of Prime Quote pric-

Despite claims of SS-1 requirements totaling 22.057 discrepancies emerge in billing records, with only one bill dated 06/12/2021, invoice No 22011111119 for 6.00 MT, while the remaining two bills dated 04/01/2022 are documented separately with invoice number 2201111502 and 2201111500 which is page No. 37 has been registered.

To hide the mistake, the evaluation work of item No. 5.7 (ii) has also been curtailed, due to which the the contractor will be benefited, which has led to the demand for a high-level inquiry into the matter.

The matter is very old, I will be able to tell something only after seeing the file.

Jitendra Kumar Meshram Executive **PMGSY** Engineer Kabirdham

Concerns raised over substandard road construction

District Panchayat Chairman highlights issues of poor infrastructure



Khairagarh, Feb 18: In a bid to address the ongoing challenges faced by residents in Khairagarh, District Panchavat Chairman Viplav Sahu has taken a proactive step by lodging a formal complaint with Collector Chandrakant Verma regarding the substandard construction of the Pandadah-Mudhipar road.

Sahu's grievance stems from the deteriorating condition of the 8-kilometer road, crucial for connectivity between Pandadah and Mudhipar villages, adjacent to the district headquarters.

This road, long-awaited by the communities spanning approximately 20 villages, was envisioned to streamline transportation, particularly for farmers and businessmen. However, despite initial optimism, the road's construction, completed in August 2023 after a lengthy wait, has left much to be desired.

lack of quality and timely completion, Sahu points fingers at the Public Works Department and the contracted construction company for their apparent negligence and collusion.

Expressing dismay over the

The dilapidated condition of the road can be gauged from

drive even a two-wheeler comfortably. He highlights the prevalent issues of corruption, alleging a lack of oversight and accountability in the construction process.

In his complaint to Collector Verma, Sahu emphasizes the urgency of rectifying the situation, urging concrete actions against those responsible. His demands include a thorough investigation into the misconduct, stringent measures against erring officials and contractors, and expedited maintenance work to restore the road to its intended func-

Collector sets ambitious goals for educational excellence

Pushing for exceptional examination results in secondary education

Central Chronicle News

Mahasamund, Feb 19: District Collector Prabhat Malik convened a special review meeting at the District Office today, underscoring the imperative of achieving outstanding academic out-

Collector Malik, alongside Kamal Chandrakar, Assistant Director Satish Nair, and Block Resource

During the meeting,

vating the annual examination results of both Class 10th and Class 12th to surpass the 90% and 95% benchmarks, respectively.

Emphasizing the pivotal role of motivation, he urged concerted efforts from educators, students, and parents alike. Additionally, he advocated for supplementary classes and strategic preparation aligned with examination blueprints to bolster students' performance. Recognizing the administrative hurdles students often encounter, Malik mandated the timely issuance of caste certificates for all eligible students from Class 1st to Class 12th. This initiative aims to pre-



empt any hindrances students might face in higher education due to documentation issues.

Furthermore, he underscored the necessity of basic amenities in educasegregated toilets, and access to clean drinking water. Any deficiencies in these provisions were to be promptly addressed, with a comprehensive list of requirements compiled for immediate action. Collector also stressed

punctuality among teaching staff, while advocating for the expansion of infrastructure wherever necessary to accommodate growing student populations. The meeting witnessed the active participation of BRC representatives from various blocks, including Mahasamund, Bagbahra, Pithora, Basna, and Saraipali, reflecting a unified commitment towards realizing the outlined

Amitabh Jain leads virtual meeting on key initiatives

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Feb 19: Collector Chandrakant Verma and pertinent departmental officials engaged in a virtual meeting orchestrated by Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain, underlining progress across multiple fronts including the Mahtari Vandan Yojana, jail capacity management, and road safety protocols.

Amitabh Jain, alongside Divisional Commissioners, Collectors, CEOs of District Panchayats, and Corporation Commissioners, spearheaded discussions on advancing the Mahtari Vandan Yojana, a pivotal initiative aimed at maternal healthcare. Jain's directives underscored the imperative of



timely verification, appli cation processing, and beneficiary list publication. With meticulous planning outlined by MBVV Secretary, online registration and subsequent procedural steps were set to be completed within specified timelines, fostering efficient program implementation.

Promoting road safety

Amidst deliberations on district jail capacities and infrastructural expansions mandated by the Supreme Court, Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain emphasized the judicious utilization of resources to meet burgeoning demands. Moreover, Jain advocated for robust road safety measures, advocating for citizen engagement initiatives and collaborative efforts with educational institutions, women's safety groups, and NGOs to promote helmet usage among two-wheeler riders. Post-meeting directives from Collector Chandrakant Verma underscored the importance of adhering to the outlined strategies, ensuring a seamless transition from discussion to action. The virtual conclave witnessed the active participation of Assistant Jail Superintendent Yogesh Kumar Banjare, SDM Renuka Ratre, MBVV Officer RK Jambulkar, E-District Manager Mithlesh Thakur, and other key stakeholders, underscoring a collective commitment towards the realization of shared objectives.

Guest lecture held at Ambedkar College's chemistry department

Central Chronicle News Dongargaon, Feb 19: In

a bid to foster academic enrichment and expand students' knowledge horizons, the Chemistry Department Ambedkar College hosted a captivating guest lecture, under the stewardship of Principal Dr. B.N. Meshram and the dynamic leadership of Professor Chanchal Stella Kujur, Head of the Department

The lecture, held in the esteemed presence of Dr. Hemlata Mohbe, a retired

of Chemistry.

principal renowned for her expertise, garnered eager anticipation from both faculty members and students alike. Dr. Mohbe assumed the role of the keynote speaker, delving into the intrica-Spectroscopy, a pivotal topic in the realm of chemistry.

With remarkable clarity and pedagogical finesse, Dr. Mohbe elucidated the principles, applications, and indispensable role of mass spectroscopy in modern scientific inquiry. Her lucid explanations resonated profoundly with the audience, bridging the gap between theoretical concepts and practical utility. The event witnessed an

impressive turnout, with M.Sc. final year students of Chemistry keenly absorbing the invaluable insights shared by Dr. Mohbe. Additionally, the active participation of esteemed faculty members Archana Dewangan and Pawan Dewangan further enriched the discourse, fostering a collaborative learning environment.

Direct rail facility from Chh'garh to Arrah from today

Extension of South Bihar Express

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Feb 19: In a move aimed at enhancing passenger convenience, Indian Railways has announced the extension of 13288/13287 Rajendranagar-Durg-Rajendranagar, South Bihar Express service to

Arrah Junction in Bihar. Operated under the Danapur Railway Division of the East Central Railway, this extension will provide di-

rect rail connectivity between Chhattisgarh and Arrah, benefiting travellers starting February 20. Effective from the specified date, the 13287 Durg-Rajendranagar, South Bihar Express departing from Durg will now terminate at Arrah Junction instead of Rajendranagar.

Simultaneously, the Rajendranagar-Durg, South Bihar Express originating from Rajendranagar will commence its journey from Arrah to Durg, replacing its former route via Rajendranagar.

Workshop on Indigenous Sports and Yoga

Rajim. Feb 19: A work shop aimed at promoting indigenous sports and yoga was conducted at the Education Regional Institute in Shyamala Hills, Bhopal.

The training program, aligned with the National Education Policy 2020, saw the participation of 20 teachers each from Chhattisgarh, Goa, and Madhya Pradesh. Among them was Chitrarekha Nagesh, a teacher at Government Higher Secondary School, Murmura.

The workshop, titled "Training of KRP of



Western Region on East Indian Sports and Yoga with reference to NEP 2020," took place at the Regional Institute of Education of the National Council of Educational and Research.

Led by Professor Dr. Mahendra Baruah, the program

initiates Rapta bridge construction

February 10th to 14th Sixty teachers, including Chitrarekha Nagesh, par ticipated in the training as Key Resource Persons (KRP). These KRPs are now tasked with providing training in their respective provinces and districts, assuming the role of

Farewell given to 12th class students in Rampur



Anwari, Feb 19: A poignant farewell ceremonv marked the culmination of academic endeavours for the students of class 12th at Government Higher Secondary School, Rampur, on February 16th.

exercise teacher DK Sahu, Thakur, and S Agarwal, among others, the event was a testament to the enduring bonds forged within the school community. Amidst an atmosphere filled with nostalgia and optimism, faculty members and students alike gathered to bid a heartfelt adieu to the departing class. The occasion served as a fitting tribute to the collective achievements and cherished memories shared throughout

their academic journey.

Expressions of gratitude and well-wishes resounded as each student was accorded a respectful farewell, accompanied by heartfelt hopes for a prosperous and fulfilling future. The ceremony not also underscored the unguidance provided by the dedicated faculty members.

Central Chronicle News

Pandariya, Feb 19:

Pandariya Municipality

embarked on a transfor-

mative journey with the initiation of new construc-

tion work on the much-

awaited Rapta bridge, situ-

ated on the borders of

Ward No. 11, 12, and Ward

15. Under the leadership of

Chairman, instructions

were swiftly issued to com-

mence this pivotal project,

The auspicious occasion

witnessed a solemn

ward, invoking blessings

tion of the Rapta bridge

Municipality

construction. With reverence fervor, prayers were of fered to Lord Ganesh, symbolizing auspicious beginnings and divine guidance for the monumenendeavor

ahead. bridge, nestled in the picturesque locale of Bairag Para within the Pandariya

Municipal Council, had languished in a state of disrepair for over two decades, severely impeding public mobility during inclement weather con-

Recognizing the urgent need for its restoration, meticulous planning and deliberations culminated in a formal proposal sub-



mitted to the government during the 2022-23 fiscal

Subsequently, the Urban Administration Development Department granted approval amounting to Rs 10 lakh 68 thousand for the construction of Rapta, underscoring the state's commitment to addressing critical infrastruc-

ture needs

Of paramount significance, the Rapta bridge serves as a vital artery connecting Ward No. 11, 12, and Ward No. 15, facilitating seamless access for students to educational institutions such as Kanya Shala and Saraswati Shishu Mandir.

Moreover, its strategic lo-

cation enables convenient transit for residents to essential facilities including the tehsil office, hospital, and agricultural produce

The dilapidated condition of the bridge had long been a source of inconvenience and peril, particularly during the monsoon sea son, prompting fervent appeals from the local populace for its reconstruction.

The groundbreaking

ceremony witnessed an outpouring of support and appreciation from distinguished individuals including Municipality Chairman representative Shiv Gaikwad, former Municipality Vice President Ramkumar Thakur, retired educators Chandraveer Singh and Surendra Singh Raj, alongside a host of esteemed citizens.

Baghel, and joined by a host of dedicated educators including RK Tandon, HK Sahu, KK Verma, BK Nishad, JK Sahu, GK Sahu,

Led by the esteemed head of the institution, RK

marking a pivotal moment in the city's ongoing quest for comprehensive develonly celebrated the aca-Bhoomi Pujan ceremony, demic accomplishments of the graduating class but led by Chariman representative Shiv Gaikwad and wavering support and esteemed citizens of the for the successful execu-

Jaiswal and Co show experience is not everything as India unearth talent for future

Inexperience of India's batting line-up was flagged as a major concern following the shocking loss in the first Test but three games into the five-match series against England, the same fearless bunch has grabbed its chances to give the hosts a comforting 2-1 advantage

Irrespective of what happens in the remaining two games, the series will be remembered for the coming of age of 22-yearold Yashasvi Jaiswal, who has bossed the English bowlers with back to back double hundreds at the top of the order.

While growing up, nothing came easy for Jaiswal and after getting his set of opportunities across formats, it is not surprising that the southpaw has shown an insatiable hunger for runs.

The way he constructed his innings in Rajkot not only belied his age, it was also a master-class in Test match batting. He was extremely watchful at the start of the innings before deciding to hit sixes at will including three off the great James Anderson in three different directions.

From the team's perspective, another big takeaway from the Rajkot Test was the performance of debutants Sarfaraz Khan and wicketkeeper-batter Dhruv Jurel. "Ye aaj kal ke bacche



(these kids of today)," quipped skipper Rohit Sharma, sharing a picture of the trio on his social media account, a day after the record win in Rajkot.

In the absence of Virat Kohli and KL Rahul, the middle-order looked extremely vulnerable but after finally getting his big break. Sarfaraz showed he belonged at the biggest stage from ball one and piled on the runs like he did for years in domestic cricket.

Indian batters are not known for their sweep shots but in a welcome change, that is how Sarfaraz got most of his runs in the game.

He did not play the reverse that often but his conventional sweep and slog sweep off the spinners did fetch him a lot of put pressure on the opposi-

Jurel's nimble work behind the stumps was hard to miss and was highlighted with his spectacular run out of in form England opener Ben Duckett in the second innings here.

With the bat, his supreme confidence was summed up best when he made a split second decision to play a ramp shot off express pacer Mark Wood and the ball sailed over the

Needless to say, Rohit was a pleased man and was quick to acknowledge the efforts of the inexperienced lot. On purpose, he did not gush over Jaiswal and Co, who have a long future ahead of them.

"It's a very good feeling to win a game like that and especially with such a young team as well. (We two debutants (Sarfaraz Khan and Dhruv Jurel) and not a lot of Test matches amongst the playing eleven as well.

"A lot of credit to these young boys who have come in and showed a lot of character. Looks like they actually belong here and they want to stay here as well," said Rohit after the massive win on

The opposition, however, was more effusive in praise for Jaiswal with Duckett calling him a "superstar in the making".

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI)

Sarfaraz Khan's domi-

ners in just his debut Test

was no fluke. It was the

culmination of over 15

years of hard work that

involved playing 500 deliv-

eries everyday under the

watchful eyes of his zeal-

ous father Naushad Khan.

centuries in his debut

Test in Rajkot, Sarfaraz

has shown that he is here

to stay in the Indian team.

The 26-year-old got his

Test cap after years of

toiling in the domestic cir-

cuit and also honing his

skills at his father's

With two confident half

performance

England's spin-

KKR name Dushmantha Chameera as replacement for Gus Atkinson

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI):

Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) on Monday named Sri Lankan Dushmantha Chameera as a replacement for England pacer Gus Atkinson for the 2024 Indian Premier League.

Chameera will join KKR at a reserve price of Rs 50 lakh, the IPL organisers said in a statement.

The Sri Lankan speedster was a part of Rajasthan Royals and Challengers Bangalore in the 2018 and 2021 seasons respectively.



He represented Lucknow Super Giants in the 2022 season, where he picked up nine wickets from 12 matches. Gujarat Giants and RCB name replacements for WPL Rising star Kashvee Gautam, the most expensive uncapped Indian player in Women's Premier League (WPL), has been ruled out of the second edition owing to an injury. Gujarat Giants, who had secured the services of Kashvee for Rs 2 crore have named Mumbai's Sayali Sathgare as a replacement at a reserve price of Rs 10 lakh. India all-rounder Kanika

Ahuja, too, has been ruled out of WPL 2024 owing to an injury.

Challengers Roval Bangalore have named Shradda Pokharkar. Maharashtra's left-arm fast bowler as her replacement. She has been signed at a reserve price of Rs 10 lakh.

Our team balance has improved: RCB skipper Mandhana

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI):

RCB skipper Smriti Mandhana says her team's balance has improved considerably after acquiring new players and it should help them do a better job in the second season of the Women's Premier League (WPL), starting February

Banaglore had endured a tough inaugural season in 2023 as it lost six of the eight matches and finished fourth in five-team competition. The second season will be played in New Delhi and Bengaluru.

RCB had spent close to 2.5 crore to acquire services of many impact players like Ekta Bisht (left-arm spinner), Kate Cross (pacer), Georgia Wareham of view, quite a few players (leg-spinner), Sabbineni were released and we



Meghana (all-rounder), Simran Bahadur (medium-pacer), Molineux (left-arm spinner) and home-grown talent Shubha Satheesh (all-

'I would definitely want it to be better than the first season. From RCB's point brought in new players. So, the balance has improved for sure, and we are hoping to live up to our potential," Mandhana told JioCinema.

The team had released seven players: Komal Poonam Zanzad. Khemnar, Preeti Bose, Sahana Pawar, Dane van Niekerk, Erin Burns, and Megan Schutt.

The stylish batter said playing the domestic season has not only prepared her well for the upcoming WPL, it also she helped her identify a few good players.

"Playing in the domestic season helped me practice well and we saw quite a few girls against whom we've not played previouslv. I was able to recommend a few names to my

these girls." RCB had released a few

members and bought as many as six new players during the WPL auction last December. "Last year, when we

joined the team two days before the tournament, we didn't know about 90% of the players. We didn't know what they did and what they didn't. This year, it was important to know their strengths and weaknesses so that we can play better. The WPL is a short tournament and it's difficult to change things when it's on." Asked if she considers RCB as title contenders, the southpaw said: "We don't want to think too far ahead. We definitely want to do better than last year and are motivated to do it. The peo-

New Zealand women win Oceania tournament to qualify for Paris Olympics Wellington, Feb 19 (AP):

ple at our franchise are

New Zealand will compete in the women's football tournament at the Paris Olympic Games after beating the Solomon Islands 11-1 in the final of the Oceania qualifying tournament on Monday in Apia, Samoa. Hannah Wilkinson, who scored the first goal of the Women's World Cup in New Zealand and Australia last year, was one of four players to score twice for New Zealand. The others were Grace Jale, Indiah-Paige Riley and Katie Kitching. New Zealand led 5-0 at halftime. The final saw New Zealand continue its dominance of a tournament in which it scored 32 goals and conceded two in five matches. New Zealand is the sixth team to qualify for the Olympic women's tournament after host France, Canada, United States, Brazil Colombia. Australia and Japan are expected to qualify for the 12-team tournament later this

World TT Championships

Indian women blank Uzbekistan 3-0, men lose to South Korea

Busan, Feb 19 (PTI):

Indian women's team eased past Uzbekistan while the men endured successive defeats with the loss to South Korea in the World Table Tennis Team Championships here on Monday. Ayhika Mukherjee and

Sreeja Akula were rested from the rubber, providing an opportunity to Archana Kamath and Diya Chitale. They both won their respective singles while senior teammate Manika Batra also had it easy against her opponent to make it a 3-0 win for India. Archana defeated Gufranov 11-7, 11-3, 11-6, while Manika stormed past Markhabo Magdieva 11-7, 11-4, 11-1. Diya on the other hand faced tough resistance before prevailing over Rozalina Khadjieva 11-6, 10-12, 11-4, 11-6. Having started off



loss to China, Indian women's team now have secured two wins on the trot to occupy second spot in the Group 1 standings.

They will next face Spain in their concluding Group 1 league fixture on Tuesday. They earlier defeated Hungary 3-2.

The men's team of veteran Sharath Kamal, reigning national champion Harmeet Desai and G Sathiyan lost their respective singles to go

their campaign with a 2-3 down meekly in its third third seeds Korea.

Harmeet, who is India's top-ranked player at 67, went down to world number 14 Jang Woojin 4-11, 10-12, 8-11. Sathiyan was then brushed aside by world number 16 Lim

Sharath managed to put up a fight, taking the second game but couldn't capitalise on the momentum losing 9-11, 11-8, 6-11,

group stage tie against

'Macho Cricket Club'. The hard work and sys-Jonghoon 5-11, 7-11, 7-11. tematic planning of the past few years, especially

during the two COVID-19 lockdowns, paid off against the likes of Tom Hartley, Joe Root and Rehan Ahmed in Rajkot. 5-11 to Lee San Su. "It has taken playing 500



How Sarfaraz mastered spin: 500 balls

per day in nets and a 1600km car journey

deliveries per day from off, leg and left-arm spinners across Oval, Cross and Azad Maidans in Mumbai," said a coach

who has seen Mumbaikar's growth from close quarters.

...during (COVID) lockdown, he undertook a car

From Mumbai to Amroha, Moradabad, Meerut, Kanpur, Mathura and Dehradun, he travelled and played on proverbial 'akhadas' where the ball turns square with one shooting up and few staying down, he added. The Sarfaraz that was

manoeuvering the spinners with ease, honed his skills the tough way. The credit for the final product lies not just with Naushad though. Coaches 10

Bhuvneshwar Kumar Rastogi), (Sanjay Mohammed Shami (Badruddin Sheikh), Kuldeep Yadav (Kapil Deo Pandey), Gautam Gambhir (Sanjay Bhardwaj) and father of India captain Abhimanyu Easwaran (RP Easwaran) have also contributed in their little way to make Sarfaraz a finished product.

Bumrah likely to be rested, fit-again Rahul set to be back for Ranchi Test

London, Feb 19 (PTI):

Former England captains Nasser Hussain and Michael Vaughan have criticised the team's 'Bazball' approach in the ongoing Test series against India, saying the visitors need to apply themselves based on match situation instead of being guided by a one-dimensional philosophy of aggression. India registered their biggestever Test win, annihilating England by 434 run in the third Test in Rajkot on Sunday. Chasing 557 to win, the tourists were bundled out for 122. The home side leads 2-1 in the fivematch series with games left in Ranchi and Dharamsala. "This was the worst defeat under (Ben) Stokes and Brendon McCullum, and one that exposed their method. They cannot take the ag-

gressive at every opportu-

nity, they have to pick their

moments," Vaughan wrote

his column

for



"Telegraph.co.uk'. Hussain echoed the sentiment. "Bazball is about being attacking but it is also about soaking up pressure,' Hussain said on 'Sky

In contrast, India's Yashsavi Jaiswal, who has two double hundreds in the series so far, Shubman Gill (91) and debutant Sarfaraz Khan played mature knocks in Rajkot, taking time to settle in before going for their strokes.

"They need to look at the way Jaiswal and Shubman Gill played on day three. They soaked up the pressure for 30 or 40 balls, and then they started to get



wicket-taker in the fivematch series with 17 scalps and singlehandedly bowled India to victory in the second Test. The hosts lead 2-1 in the five-match rubber. The team will travel to

Ranchi tomorrow and Bumrah is likely to be given rest," said a BCCI source while also informing that Rahul is nearing full fitness and should be a part of the squad in Ranchi.

The decision to rest Bumrah doesn't come as a surprise considering he bowled 80.5 overs in the first three Tests.

As part of workload management, India had also rested Mohammed



Siraj from the second Test in Visakhapatnam before turned to play a part India's record

Rajkot on Sunday. India are well-placed to seal the series in Ranchi but if they are not able to, the home team will desperately need the services of Bumrah for the fifth and final Test in Dharamsala

434 run win over

the visitors in

beginning March 7. Rahul, who missed the second and third Test after complaining of pain in his right quadriceps, had reached 90 percent fitness last week, according to an insider. "He is reaching his match fitness and should be available for Ranchi

Test," the source added. Rahul was among India's best batters in the opening Test Hyderabad before going down with the same injury that he suffered during the IPL last year.

I don't like word retirement but I'm happy in my quiet space: Lanning

Bengaluru, Feb 19 (PTI):

She doesn't like the word "retirement" but former Australia captain Meg Lanning is happy to be in her "quiet" space and follow her passion in franchise-based cricket around the world, including the Women's Premier League.

Lanning, who has scored as many as 3405 runs in 132 matches in her T20I career, announced her retirement from international cricket November last year.

She admirably led Delhi Capitals in the inaugural WPL last year, emerging as the top-scorer in the tournament with 345 runs from nine games. The Capitals lost by seven wickets in the final against Mumbai Indians.

"I don't like the word retirement, but it's been nice to be a little bit quiet, spend time at home, and play some cricket here and there," the 31-year-old batter said in a release issued by DC. "I still love playing,



and I've been looking forward to the WPL, so really excited and hopefully can help Delhi win the title

Lanning, who had her first training session with

DC in Bengaluru after

joining the team over the

weekend, spoke highly about the inaugural WPL season and hopes the upcoming edition would be even better. "It's nice to get out here,

have a bit of run around. Everyone looks in really good nick. There is a lot of improvement from everyone, and I'm super excited to see what we can produce this year," she said. "I loved the time last

year. Opening the batting with Shafali (Varma) was a lot of fun and it is something I'm looking forward to again this year. "I think as a group, we

gelled nicely. It was a very easy group, nice to hang out on and off the field, we seemed to be able to come together, so it was a lot of fun. I'm sure this year it's going to be much the DC will open their 2024

WPL campaign against defending champions Mumbai Indians at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on February

boundaries.

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like constipation, inflammation,

pain, burning, pricking and

itching sensation of anal region.

Multi-tier security for PM's visit to Jammu

Jammu, Feb 19 (PTI)

A multi-tier security setup has been put in place and traffic advisories issued Minister Prime Narendra Modi's visit to Jammu on Tuesday, officials on Monday said.

Modi is scheduled to address a public rally at Maulana Azad Stadium in the heart of winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir during his visit February 20, they said.

The officials said the prime minister will also launch multiple development projects, including for education, railway, aviation and road sectors, worth Rs 30.500 crore. According to a statement issued by the

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI):

Improving air quality in

India requires long-term ef-

fort, a senior US scientist

has said and noted cost-in-

tensive technologies such as

smog towers and cloud seed-

ing are not sustainable solu-

tions to the pollution prob-

In an interview with PTI.

Richard Peltier, a member

of the World Health

Global Air Pollution and

Health Technical Advisory

Group, said there is a good

understanding that air pol-

lution is "really quite bad"

across India but precision

is lacking due to the limited

lem plaguing the country.

Organization's



distribution of air pollu- he said. Asked about the

Science

Prime Minister's Office (PMO), he will also distribute appointment letters to about 1,500 newly recruited government employees of Jammu and Kashmir and interact with beneficiaries of various schemes as part of the 'Viksit Bharat, Viksit Jammu' programme.

"A multi-tier security

'Smog towers, cloud seeding not

solution to air pollution problem'

When asked how much

time is needed to control air pollution in cities such

as Delhi, he cited the exam-

The US implemented the

Clean Air Act in the 1960s,

Peltier said and added only

recently has the country

developed air quality that

is generally considered

good. "So, it took 50 or 60

years to get here. This is

not an instantaneous prob-

lem. This is not something

that's going to be resolved

with the stroke of a single

pen or a law. This takes

time ... It is more of a marathon than a sprint,"

tion monitors.

ple of the US.

setup has been put in place across Jammu for the Prime Minister's visit to the city of temples. The major focus of heightened security arrangements remains the venue of his public meeting and adjoining areas," a senior police officer told PTI. He said that a

high alert had been sounded

role of smog towers in re-

solving the issue, Peltier —

also an executive editor of

the Journal of Exposure

Environmental

Epidemiology — said these

giant air purifiers work on

a small scale but are im-

practical for entire cities

due to cost and mainte-

nance challenges. "Do they

remove air pollution from

the air? Yes, they do. Do

they remove an adequate

amount of air pollution

from the air? Absolutely

not. It is like trying to dry

up a big mighty river with

a bath towel. You just can-

not do it." he said

border and highway grids were further strengthened with the officers asked to intensify patrolling and checking of vehicles to keep subversive elements at bay. The officials said the

along the borders, while the

Maulana Azad Stadium has been taken over by the security agencies who conducted a thorough anti-sabotage check.

On February 17, Jammu District Magistrate Sachin Kumar Vaishya announced a temporary ban on the use of drones, paragliders and remote controlled microlight aircrafts as a precautionary measure to counter possible activities by the terrorists and anti-national

BMC celebrates Shiv Jayanti



Guv Bais garlands statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji

Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais offered floral tributes to the equestrian statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at Shivaji Park Mumbai on the occasion of Shiv Jayanti. Guardian Minister of Mumbai Deepak Kesarkar, administrator of BMC I S Chahal, Kishan Jadhav of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Smarak Samiti were among those present.

Mumbai, Jan 19:

Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais attended the Jayanti celebrations organised by the Brihan M u m b a i Mahanagarpalika at Krida Bhavan near

www.centralchronicle.in

Shivaji Park Mumbai. A cultural programme comprising patriotic songs on the life and work of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was presented by the Music Department of BMC.

The Governor announced a prize of Rs. 25000 to the Music Department of BMC on the occasion.

Administrator Dr I S Chahal, Additional municipal commissioner Dr Ashwini Joshi were among those present.

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'Sharad Pawar faction can use 'NCP-Sharadchandra Pawar' name'

Till further orders'

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI): The Supreme Court on directed that Monday Commission's order of February 7 granting 'Nationalist

Sharadchandra Pawar' for the group led by Sharad Pawar will continue till further orders.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and K V Viswanathan sought response of Ajit

SC no to court-monitored probe

New Delhi, Feb 19 (PTI): The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a PIL seeking a court-monitored CBI or SIT probe into the violence in West Bengal's Sandeshkhali village, saying the incidents cannot be compared to the savagery in Manipur.

A bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and Augustine George Masih said the Calcutta High Court is alreadv seized of the

"The local high court will be the best to assess the situation. Let there be no dual forums," the bench said while granting liberty to the PIL petitioner to approach the high court.

As the hearing began, petitioner-lawyer Alakh Alok Srivastava said disturbing incidents have come to light where a number of women have claimed they have been raped.



Pawar-led faction on a plea

of Sharad Pawar against the

February 7 order of Election

Commission recognising

the Maharashtra deputy

chief minister-led group as

Nationalist



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