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BRIEF



Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha clean the gold-plated walls and dome of the Golden Temple, in Amritsar, Thursday.

Interest rates

New Delhi: The government on Thursday said the interest rates on various small savings schemes will remain unchanged for the guarter beginning April 1, 2024. "The rates of interest on various small savings schemes for the first guarter of FY 2024-25. starting from April 1, 2024, and ending on June 30, 2024, shall remain unchanged from those notified for the fourth quarter (January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024) of FY 2023-24," said a finance ministry notification.

Booked

Indore: A case was filed against three persons, including a female, on Thursday for allegedly circulating a video showing a 30-year-old woman being stripped and beaten up over a dispute in Indore district, a police official said. Superintendent of Police (Rural) Sunil Mehta said the 30-year-old woman was allegedly dragged out of her house and beaten up by four women during Holi festivities (on March 25) in a village under the Gautampura

Suicide

police station area.

Kota: A 19-vear-old NEET aspirant allegedly hanged herself at her PG room here, the seventh suicide by a coaching student in the city since the beginning of this year, police said on Thursday. Somya Kurmi committed suicide by hanging from the ceiling fan late Wednesday night, DSP Rajesh Tailor told PTI.

Condemn

■ New Delhi: National **Commission for Women** (NCW) member Khushhu Sundar on Thursday condemned the physical and verbal abuse of a PTI female journalist by an ANI reporter in Bengaluru and demanded immediate action against him by his employer.



Kejriwal's ED custody extended till Apr 01

A court here Thursday extended the Enforcement Directorate custody of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal till April 1 in the excise policy case.

The agency sought seven-day custody of the AAP chief, but the court said he has to be produced before it on April 1 at 11

The ED had produced him before Rouse Avenue court Special Judge Kaveri Baweja as his current sixday custody was ending on Thursday.

The ED said in its fresh remand plea that during Kejriwal's custodial interrogation, his statements were recorded over five days but he was "giving evasive replies".

It said statements of three other persons relevant to the case have also been recorded during the remand period.

It said that during the ED custody, Kejriwal was confronted with C Arvind, the then personal secretary to deputy CM Manish Sisodia who was handed over the draft Group of Ministers (GoM) report for the 2021-22 excise policy at the residence of the chief minister.

It said the statement of one of the AAP candidates in the 2022 Goa elections



Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal comes out of the Rouse Avenue Court, in New Delhi, Thursday.

was also recorded during Kejriwal's ED custody. It revealed that the candidate did not have any money and his election expenditure was "taken care of by the AAP Office Delhi only through their associ-

The plea said that during the custody, data from the mobile phone of the chief minister's wife have been extracted and were being analysed.

"However, data from other four digital devices seized during the search at Kejriwal's premises on March 21 (belonging to Kejriwal) are yet to be extracted as the arrestee (Kejriwal) has sought time in providing password and login credentials after con-

'Smokescreen to crush AAP'

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind

Kejriwal on Thursday himself made submissions in a court in New Delhi during the hearing in the excise policy case and said a smokescreen of the Aam Aadmi Party being corrupt has been created before the nation. He made the submissions as the Enforcement Directorate (ED) produced him in the court of Special Judge Kaveri Baweja and sought seven-day further custody, arguing he needs to be confronted with some people linked with the case. The ED said Kejriwal was giving evasive replies and not disclosing passwords of his digital devices. In his submissions, Kejriwal said, "I am named by four witnesses in the excise policy case. Are 4 statements enough to arrest a sitting CM?" A smokescreen of the Aam Aadmi Party being corrupt has been created in front of the nation, he said and added that he is ready to face

sulting with his lawyers,"

The application said the movable and immovable property details, income tax returns (ITRs), and other financial details sought from Kejriwal were yet to be provided by the chief minister, or his fami-

Ex-IPS officer Sanjiv Bhatt gets 20 yrs in jail

Palanpur, Mar 28 (PTI):

A sessions court in Palanpur in Gujarat's Banaskantha district on Thursday sentenced former IPS officer Saniiv Bhatt to 20 years in jail in a 1996 case involving planting of drugs to frame a lawyer. Bhatt, who is already behind bars in a custodial death case, was held guilty of falsely implicating a Rajasthan-based lawyer by claiming, in 1996, that police had seized drugs from a hotel room in Palanpur where the lawyer was staying. Bhatt, who was sacked from the force in 2015, was serving as the superintendent of police of Banaskantha district at the



PM ON LAWYERS' LETTER TO CJI

To browbeat, bully others is vintage Cong culture'

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday said it is a "vintage Congress culture" to browbeat and bully others, remarks that came in reaction to more than 600 lawyers writing to the Chief Justice of India, alleging that a "vested interest group" is trying to put pressure on the judiciary and defame courts.

'To browbeat and bully others is vintage Congress culture. 5 decades ago itself they had called for a "committed judiciary" they shamelessly want commitment from others for their selfish interests but desist from any commitment towards the nation," Modi said on X.

"No wonder 140 crore



PM Modi with Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates during a meeting at his residence, in New Delhi.

Indians are rejecting them," the prime minister said and tagged a post that carried the letter written by the lawyers. More than 600 lawyers, including senior advocate Harish Salve and Bar Council chairperson Manan Kumar

Mishra, wrote to Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud, alleging that a "vested interest group" is trying to put pressure on the judiciary and defame courts, especially in cases of corruption involving politicians.

'Height of hypocrisy'

The Congress on Thursday hit back at Prime Minister Narendra Modi after his criticism of the party over a lawyers' letter to the chief justice of India against a "vested interest group", saying the PM's brazenness in orchestrating an attack on the judiciary, in the name of defending it, is the "height of hypocrisy". Hitting back at the prime minister, Congress general secretary in-charge, communications, Jairam Ramesh said in a post on X, "The PM's brazenness in orchestrating and coordinating an attack on the judiciary, in the name of defending the judiciary, is the height of hypocrisy!" "The Supreme Court has delivered body blows to him in recent weeks. The Electoral Bonds Scheme is but one example.

Govinda joins Shiv Sena in Shinde's presence

Mumbai, Mar 28 (PTI):

Bollywood Govinda, a mass entertainer of the 1990s who is known for his excellent comic timing and epic dance steps, on Thursday joined the ruling Shiv Sena in Mumbai, making a comeback in politics after a 14-year hiatus.

The former Congress Lok Sabha MP joined the Shiv Sena in the presence of Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde at the time of election sea-

Govinda, who gave multiple superhit films in his decades-long career, made a blockbuster entry in



Actor Govinda joins Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) in the presence Shinde, in Mumbai, Thursday.

electoral politics in 2004. That year, the "Hero No. 1' actor emerged as a "giant killer" when, as the

Congress candidate, he defeated BJP stalwart Ram Naik in the Mumbai North Lok Sabha seat. Shinde welcomed the 60-

year-old actor into his party, saying he was a popular figure in all sections Speaking on the occa-

sion, an emotional Govinda, who started his acting career in the 1980s and whose films were massy family entertainers, said after his first stint in politics from 2004 to 2009, he never felt he would again come back to the same field.

"I am back (in politics) after a 14-year-long 'vanvas' (exile)," he remarked.

Savitri Jindal quits Cong, joins BJP

Chandigarh, Mar 28 (PTI)

Jindal guit the Congress and ioined the BJP in Harvana's Hisar on Thursday, days after her son and industrialist Naveen Jindal switched parties. The 84year-old Savitri Jindal joined the BJP along with her daughter Seema in the presence of Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, former chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar and other BJP leaders. Announcing her decision to guit the Congress in a social media post late on Wednesday night, she said, "I represented the people of Hisar for 10 years as an MLA and have served Harvana state selflessly as a minister.

'NET scores to be used for PhD admissions'

From 2024-25

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI):

The National Eligibility Test (NET) scores will be used for PhD admissions from 2024-25 eliminating the need for separate entrance tests conducted by universities and higher education institutions, according to the University Grants Commission.

The NET is conducted twice a year -- June and December. Its scores are currently used to award Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and as eligibility for



Jagadesh Kumar

appointment as an assistant professor for those with a Master's degree. According to University Grants Commission (UGC) officials, the commission had constituted an expert committee to review the provisions of the exam and based on the panel's recommenda-

Former Haryana minister Savitri

'Ice melting in Antarctica slowing Earth's rotation, affecting timekeeping'

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI):

Ice melting in Greenland and Antarctica, driven by global warming, is affecting timekeeping the world over by slowing down the Earth's rotating speed, according to a new research.

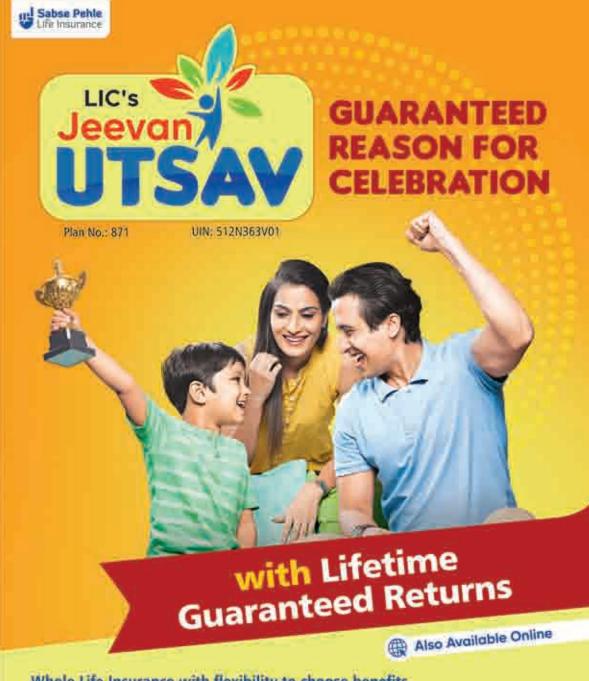
As a result, a second might need to be deducted from the Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) three years later than otherwise, it found. The study author, Duncan Agnew, explained that because the Earth doesn't always rotate at the same speed, the UTC consists of discontinuities.

Since 1972, all discontinuities have required that a 'leap second' be added, because many networked activities like computing and financial markets require the consistent, standardised and precise timescale provided by the UTC, he said. Agnew is a geophysicist at Scripps Institution Oceanography University of California San Diego, US.

Using mathematical modelling, Agnew showed that the rate at which the Earth's liquid core rotates -- angular velocity -- has been slowing down. To compensate for this, the rotating speed of the solid Earth has steadily increased. The compensatory effect comes from the fact that for a closed system such as the Earth, angular momentum -- the rate at which rotating speed changes -- is a conserved quantity and doesn't change, he explained.

His study has been published in the journal Nature.

He found that the effect of the solid Earth rotating faster has resulted in fewer leap seconds being needed to be added to the UTC in recent decades.



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Woman to get monthly installment under MVY on 1st of every month: Sai

Terms Congress as sinking ship; thousands of Cong workers join BJP fold



Doundilohara, Mar 28: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai made a new declaration in Doundilohara public meeting that under Mahatari Vandan Yojana (MVY), the women of the state will get the monthly amount of Rs 1000 on first day of the every month. He informed that under this the first installment of Rs 1000 has already been deposited in the account of more than 70 lakh women of the state and fulfilled the promise made under 'Modi-ki-Guarantee'.

Addressing a massive pub-

meeting Doundilohara, charged Congress of crossing all the limits of corruption in its five year rule and charged that in the liquor scam, there were two counters in the liquor shop and out of which from one the amount used to go to Congress party's account and other to that of Sonia-Rahul Gandhi's account. Bhupesh Baghel had made Chhattisgarh as an ATM of Congress party, he alleged. Gheraoing former CM Baghel, Sai said that to ensure that the Mahadev Satta app does not closes

and it continues and for this Bhupesh Baghel is facing charges of taking security money of Rs 508 cr and on which an FIR has been lodged and it is most shameful thing for

Chhattisgarh. Sai charged

that Congress party had

put the future of youth of

the state at stake with

launching of Mahadev

Satta App. CM Sai held PM Narendra Modi as the most popular leader in the world and said that in last ten years of BJP rule at the Centre PM Modi has economically strengthen and villages and the BJP government is always dedicated towards the poor.

CM Vishnu Deo Sai said that Chhattisgarh is Mata Kaushalya's 'mayaka' and therefore Lord Shri Ram is our 'Bhancha'. On construction of massive Lord Shri Ram's temple in Ayodhya, all the residents of Chhattisgarh are very happy and feel honoured. Modiji has increased the honour of all 140 cr Indians and therefore it is responsibility of all to ensure that he become PM of country for the third time.

In box of above In the massive public

meeting today, Vishnu Deo Sai seemed to be very much enthusiastic about entry of many from Congress into BJP-fold. From Doundilohara area, along with 30 Sarpanchs, thousands of Congress party workers and general citizens joined BJP and CM Sai welcomed all saying that Congress is a sinking ship and the party is not even getting candidates to contest LS polls.

RISE IN MERCURY



With temperature soaring high each day, people are taking all necessary precautions to avoid sunstroke and other

State registry offices to remain open on holidays

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar Computerized NGDRS is available in all the registry offices of the state. Registration work is going on through the system. In this financial year, there is a government holiday in the last week of March from 29th to 31st March. Butas the people do not face any inconvenience in registering the documents

related to purchase and sale of immovable property, all the registry offices of the state will remain open even during the year-end holidays from March 29th to 31st. To avoid any inconvenience to the people in obtaining the stamp for registration, e-stamp counters will also remain open on holidays. In the month of March, after March 16, people got convenience due to the registration work being done in the registry offices on all Saturdays and Sundays also. Every year maximum number of documents are registered in the month of March. In comparison to normal days, about two to three times the number of documents are presented for registration every day in March, keeping this in mind, in the month of March in this financial year, the

limit of daily appointments has also been increased from 10 am to 7 pm. On a normal day, appointments are available only till 5 pm.

By conducting the registration work on holidays, it will provide convenience to the people wishing to get registered in the financial year itself and will also increase the revenue received by the de-

Congress workers disillusioned with party: BJP Chief

the Congress government

in Chhattisgarh. In sup-

port to his claim, he said

that Jagdalpur Mayor

joined the BJP along with

his fellow councilors

whereas Bilaspur munici-

pal president is on fast

unto death against the

Congress candidate for Lok

Sabha seat and in Surguja

area thousands of workers

are ready to resign from

the Congress whereas re-

sentment is also brewing

in Rajnandgaon after the

by the National Statistical



Mar Bharatiya Janata Party State President Kiran Singh Deo on Thursday claimed that not only the public but also the Congress workers have become completely disillusioned with the Congress.

Talking to section of media persons here, the State BJP President and Jagdalpur MLA Kiran Deo said that there was tremendous anger among the

Congress nominated former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel from the constituency which is evident with the fact that he had to face opposition during a party workers convention. Deo said that this clearly shows that people have become disillusioned with Congress.

BJP state further said that the people of Congress fulfilling Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream of 'Congress-free India' through their actions. Not only are the Congress leaders not able to handle their own people. now the Congress leaders are not even able to answer to their workers. Deo said that the workers in the Congress Party are now feeling suffocated as Congress party has neither policy, nor rules nor lead-

PK Dwivedi, GM, Bol instructs to given top priority on customer service

 General Manager of **Bank of India, Pramod Kumar Dwivedi on** one-day visit to Raipur

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 28: Bank of India, Madhya Pradesh Chhattisgarh, General Manager, Mr. Pramod Kumar Dwivedi arrived in Raipur zone on March 21st. He was warmly welcomed by Zonal Manager Ms. Gayatri Kampa, Deputy Zonal Manager, Mr. Nagendra Prasad Chaurasia and all the staff. On the occasion, he held a review meeting with all the departments of the zonal office and selected branch managers and gave them detailed guidelines to achieve financial goals of the bank. The General Manager organised a meeting with the associates of the bank and



took advice for improved customer service. He held a meeting with diamond customers of various branches of the zone and directed the branches to give top priority to customer service. The present customers also put forward their important suggestions before General Manager. The General Manager assured all the customers that all the suggestions given by the customers will be taken in a positive manner and improved customer service will be provided.

Congress raise complaint to EC against HM Vijay Sharma

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 28: The Congress Law Department on Thursday raised complaint to the Chief Election Commissioner against Chhattisgarh Government's Home Minister Vijay Sharma for taking memorandum from common people through Holi Milan function. It has been said in the memorandum that at present the Model Code of Conduct is in force all over India, in such a situation, Chhattisgarh State Home Minister Vijay Sharma openly took memorandum from the residents of his assembly constituency Kawardha (Rajnandgaon Lok Sabha constituency) during the Holi Milan ceremony. This is a gross violation of the model code of conduct which is strongly opposed by the Chhattisgarh Congress Committee Law Department. It is often seen



Department etc. Chhattisgarh Government are posted in the bungalows of the ministers of Chhattisgarh Government and visit the bungalows of the ministers every day. Such movement of officials and employees is also a violation of the model code of conduct. Thus, there is a need

to remove all the departmental officers/employees who are visiting the bungalows of ministers from election work so that fair elections can be held in the state of Chhattisgarh.

Therefore, it is requested that appropriate action should be taken by immediately stopping the above mentioned issues. Congress Department State President Deva Dewangan, Ankit Kumar Mishra, Manoj Kumar Sonkar were present on the occasion.

Training camp organised by NSO

■ For self-compiling the returns of Annual Survey of Industries

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 28: The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is conducted every year by the National Statistical Office (NSO) (Field Operations **Division), Ministry of Statistics** and Program Implementation. Government of India, Under this, the prescribed returns are filled by the selected industrial units and submitted to the National Statistical Office. A training camp was organized

Office, Regional Office, Raipur today on March 28 at Bhakta Mata Karma Complex. New Raiendra Nagar, Raipur for these industrial units to selfcompile of the returns on the web portal. The program was presided over by Altaf Hussain Haji, Deputy Director General, National Statistical Office, Raipur. The participants in the program were welcomed by Ashutosh Awasthi, Deputy **Director, National Statistical** Office, Raipur. The program was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by Altaf Hussain Haji, Deputy Director General.

Presiding over the program, Altaf Hussain Haji, Dy DG, NSO, Raipur, while highlighting the

importance of this survey, said according to the Collection of Statistics Act 2008 and the rules made under it. Annual Industry Survey is conducted every year by the NSO. Under this, all the selected industrial units are allotted user ID and password on the web portal. The units themselves have to compile and submit the returns within the prescribed time limit. For this,

a training program has been organized with the aim of training the industrial units to compile the returns themselves. He called upon the industrial units to make maximum efforts to self-compile the returns.

At the end of the inaugural session, C.P.S. Markam, Assistant Director expressed his gratitude to the representatives of all the industrial units present in the program. In the second session of this program, R.K. Srivastava, O. P. Sahu, R.N. Soni, S.K. Behera S.K. Rana. Senior Statistical Officers, of National Statistical Office Raipur trained the representatives of industrial units to self-compile the returns on the web portal.

In the above training camp, representatives of various industrial units of Raipur Vandana Ispat, Heera Cement, Heera Rotocast Ispat. Industries, Navbharat Press, Vijay Transmission, Greenmac Technology, Tarni Steel, Rama Udyog, Shri Ram Iron Steel, Honda. Vaswani Industries and Har Chand Rai. Harimal etc. participated. Shri. Hemant Vrije, Shri. Anup Baa,

Shri. Bhiroj Lenka, Shri. Roshan Kumar, Senior Statistical Officers from Raipur office, guided the selected units to complete the returns themselves.

It is noteworthy that through the Annual Survey of Industries, data related to capital, turnover, value addition, fuel and raw materials and input-output etc. of industrial units is collected.

Apart from this, industrial data related to employment, number of working days and social security benefits are also collected. The data obtained is used for estimation of national income and estimation of Gross Domestic

Mona to represent Ch'garh in US



Raipur, Mar 28:

Actress and folk singer Mona Sen will represent Chhattisgarh in Chicago, USA. She has been invited by DeTribals Foundation. The trade fair has been organized in Chicago from September 12 to 15. Mona said, it is a big achievement for me that I will represent my state on foreign soil. During this time I will present our folk songs. India America Trade **Fair from September 12**

During my presentation in US. I will inform about the people of Chhattisgarh and the art and culture of Chhattisgarh. Mona said, in this program, people who have done better work in various fields and have created a distinct identity are invited. I was contacted through email. It is notable that actress and singer Mona is also active in social service. She is inspiring the women of Sen community to become self-reliant. Apart from this, she has launched a campaign to educate daughters and

'Baghel asking Cong workers to file **SPORTS ROUND-UP** Jaya, Shrinidhi into semis of nominations to breach EVM limit'

Central Chronicle News

Durg, Mar 28: A BJP leader in Durg district has written to the Election Commission accusing former chief minister and senior Congress leader Bhupesh Baghel of trying to instigate people to file as many nominations as possible to overwhelm EVMs and force polls to be conducted through ballot

In his letter, BJP Durg district vice president Rajendra Padhye claimed Baghel, while addressing Congress workers on March 26 in Patan, had said polls will have to be conducted through ballot papers if the number of candidates in any constituency exceeds "374". Padhye, in his letter, alleged Baghel asked his party workers to file as many nominations as possible from Rajnandgaon. Talking to the reporters after the event, Baghel had said, "The work which cannot be done by the court and Election Commission can be done by people sitting in this hall. They (party workers) asked how? If more than 384 canthen the EC will be forced to carry out polling through ballot papers," Padhye claimed Baghel was trying to influ ence the election process inappropriately by instigating party leaders in this manner and sought a ban on his campaigning outside Rajnandgaon Lok Baghel, who is currently MLA from

Patan, has been fielded from Rajnandgaon Lok Sabha seat by the Congress. As per poll officials, each EVM can have a maximum of 384 candidates, including NOTA, per constituency. A total of 16 candidates, including NOTA, can appear in one ballot unit and 24 ballot units can be connected simultaneously to the control unit, they said. Durg District Election Officer and Collector Richa Prakash Choudhary told PTI on Thursday that a complaint had been received and further action would be taken after examining it. "There is no such provision to conduct polls through ballot paper if the number of candidates exceeds 375," she said.



defeated Pal Upadhayaya with the score of 6-3, 6-1 to enter into the semi final of the Girls Single category of the ITF Tournament being organised under the aegis

of Chhattisgarh State Tennis Association (CSTA) here on Thursday. Similarly, Shrinidhi Balaji defeated Ananya Choubey with the score of 6-1, 6-4, Mihika Khanna defeated Pahal Khadkar and Shaivy Gaurav Dalal defeated Alina Farid to enter into the semi-final of the tournament. Providing the above information, the Tournament Co-ordinator Rupendra Singh Chouhan said



that Vajr Goel defeated Vishal Prakash with the score of 2-6, 6-4. 6-2 to enter into the semi-final whereas Shanker Hensam, Pranil Sharma and Arshvjit Senjam also entered into the semi-final of the tournament in Boys category. In the girls double category semi-final match, the pair of Meghna GD and Shaivy Gaurav defeated the pair

of Avani Chitle and Ananya Choubey with the score of 7-6(2), 6-2 whereas the pair of Alina Farid and Devanshi Gohil defeated Inshiya Mohwala and Tamanna Walia with the score of 6-2, 6-3 to enter into the final of the tournament. In the Boys double semi-final match, the pair of Shanker Hesnam and Asvajit Seniam defeated Vajr Gohol and Pratak with the score of 6-3, 6-4 to enter into the final of the tournament whereas the pair of Pradhuman Singh Tomar and Om Verma defeated Anurag Kalbela and Pranav Sarvankumar also won their matches to advance into the

Seminar for CSCS coaches and support staff held



Raipur, Mar 28:

Chhattisgarh State Cricket Sangh has successfully completed 2-day seminar for coaches and other support staff at Hotel Triton, Raipur here on Thursday. According to

the information received, total 31participated including coach, fielding coach, physio, trainer and team manager of men's and women's teams attended the seminar. Lot of creative activities dis-

cussed during the seminar

A press release issued here informed that skill development camp for 80

that could implement on

and off field.

make them self-reliant.

emerging players would begin from 29th March. Chhattisgarh Cricket Sangh (CSCS) has selected 80 emerging cricket players have selected for the camp across all categories in 2 batches. The camp will help players to work on their skills, fitness, playing techniques and mental stability. The camp will be super

headed by Hitesh Goshwami, Head Coach CSCS along with other Coaches, physio, trainers and video analysts.

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In The Cause Of Excellence In Education

Message of road safety and voting awareness in 'Holi Milan'



Raipur, Mar 28

Series of programmes such as Holi of Flowers, aerobics for health promo-Zumba, musical street drama for road safety and voter awareness were held under 'Holi Milan' of Holi festival in the city's Anupam Garden

and Oxy Zone. The event was organized by various social organizations including Raipur Welfare Foundation Society, Lions Raipur, Departmental Lead Agency Road Safety, Stay Fit with Me Group. Amazon, India

different age groups participated in the event. Stayfit with Me group head Shubhangiji made an innovative use of Zumba in devotional music, after which other choreographers of the team did aerobics to improve health.

In collaboration with the team of Road Safety Lead Agency, a very interesting musical presentation of street drama was given on the ill effects of drunk driving and other carelessness on the family/society. Lead Agency (Road Safety) Chhattisgarh President Sanjay Sharma administered pledge to the people

Govt BEd College conducts vibrant voter awareness drive

In a spirited initiative led by Principal Pushpa Kishpota and Dr. Lata Mishra, Assistant Nodal Officer of SVEEP, Government BEd College SVEEP, in Shankar Nagar, Raipur, embarked on a lively campaign to encourage voter participation.

With enthusiasm and dedication, student teachers pursuing M.Ed and B.Ed degrees spearheaded a dynamic voter awareness campaign in Shankar Nagar, Raipur by creatively distributed yellow rice to the people and inviting them to exercise their voting rights.

To the tune of "Main Bharat Hoon Bharat Hai Mujmen...", the campaign resonated through the



dents. Dr. D.K. Bodle, the B.Ed in-charge, led the pledge "I will definitely vote," underscoring the importance of active participation in the democrat-

The program witnessed the active involvement of esteemed academic members including Assistant Professor Dr. Lakshmi, Seema Agarwal, Lecturer Satish Kumar Tiwari, and many others, highlighting the collaborative effort behind this crucial initiative.

With vibrant slogans like "Hamara Aahvan Karen Matadan Karen,' students such as Hemdhar Sahu, Lalit Bijora, and a host of others from both B.Ed and M.Ed courses played pivotal roles in the

Collector inspects rooms constructed for LS election work



Raipur, Mar 28:

Collector Dr Gaurav Kumar Singh today inspected the branches operated for election work in the Collectorate premises and gave necessary in-

Singh inspected the control room, MCMC room and complaint room. On his visit to MCMC cell, he got information about Social Media Wing, Print Media **Reaches MCMC** room and takes information about various wings

Wing, Electronic Media Wing, Video Media Wing. District Panchayat CEO and SVEEP Nodal Officer Vishwadeep, Deputy District Election Officer US Bande and ADM Devendra Patel were pres-

Awareness being created thru OPD slip of Mecos

For voting by mentioning the election date in the slip

Jagdalpur, Mar 28:

With the code of conduct coming into effect in the Lok Sabha elections in Bastar, the first phase of voting is to be held on April 19. For which the administration is making the public aware in different ways from rural areas to urban areas. In connection with this awareness, on the lines of the election festival being a pride of the country, patients are being asked to actively participate in the first phase of elections by putting a seal of the election date in the OPD slip made for the patients in the Medical College, Dimarapal.

According to the employees of Mecos OPD, all the patients come to Mecos with their relatives for



treatment are being given slips and they are also being made aware about voting. Apart from this, the villagers as well as the common people coming from the urban areas are being asked to go to the polling centers and vote on

the morning of April 19. Besides, the festival of elections is also being described as the pride of the country in the form of slo-

After the announcement of the date of Lok Sabha elections in Bastar district, the Model Code of Conduct was implemented by the Bastar Collector, In Bastar district, everyone from common citizens to different organizations are playing their role in creating voter awareness among the people to vote. Voting is to be held in Chhattisgarh in three phases, in which the first phase will be held on April 19 for the Lok Sabha seat in Bastar.

The MRD department of Medical College, Dimarapal has taken the initiative to create awareness among the patients about voting by making receipts with their names in the OPD receipts as well as putting seals on them. Every person coming to Mecos is being asked to vote on April 19 by putting

Holi celebrated with joy and enthusiasm



Katagi, Mar 28:

The festival of colours Holi was celebrated with great zeal in the region with people of all sections of the society taking part in the festivities A day prior to Holi, Holika Dahan was also celebrated and this time in Katgi area. on the call of Gayatri family, women along with men went to perform Holika Dahan, prayed for happiness and prosperity, forgetting all the grudges and

gulal and played the ideal Holi in a peaceful manner. Following the ideal code of conduct, the youth were seen applying colors and gulal on each other and as a result all the squares and intersections were filled with water and colours. Also people enjoyed the delicacies prepared at their homes with children enjoying thorough. Meanwhile continues patrolling was being done by the police team to prevent

by applying colors and

SECR honours dedicated workers with awards

Bilaspur and Nagpur Railway Divisions receive over all efficiency Satpura Shield

Bilaspur/Raipur, Mar 28:

In a celebration of dedication and hard work, Central South East Railway (SECR) proudly honored its railway officers and employees with inaugural Distinguished Railway Service Award and Railway Service Award (General Manager level). The ceremony, held today at the North East Institute Auditorium in Bilaspur, was graced by the esteemed presence of Alok Kumar, the General Manager of SECR, along with dignitaries and esteemed guests.

The event, steeped in tradition and dignity, commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Chief Guest Alok Kumar. Welcoming all attendees, Sameer Kant



Mathur, Deputy General Manager (General)), highlighted the rich history of Railways. Expressing his heartfelt congratulations, Alok Kumar praised the outstanding achievements of SECR during the financial year 2022-23, attributing its success to the relentless efforts of its dedicated workforce.

In a momentous gesture, 8 officers and 61 employees were bestowed

with the General Manager Award for their exemplary contributions during the previous fiscal

> were distributed to various railway divisions and departments, recognizing their outstanding performance. Notably, Bilaspur and Nagpur Railway Divisions were lauded with the prestigious Over all Efficiency

Satpura Shield for their

exceptional work across

Being a six-time MLA of

year. Additionally, shields

all parameters.

Addressing the gathering, Alok Kumar emphasized the importance of continual improvement and unwavering dedication to ensure the safety and satisfaction of passengers and customers. He expressed his confidence in SECR's ability to meet the targets set forth by the Railway Board, acknowledging the invaluable support of employees and their families.

The ceremony concluded with expressions of gratitude to unions, associations, and the media for their support and cooperation. Saket Ranjan, Chief Public Relations Officer, extended thanks to all participants, highlighting their collective efforts in advancing the railway's mission of ex-

Collector-SP inspects strong room ■ For Lok Sabha **Election 2024**

Korea, Mar 28:

Regarding the Lok in the district Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh and Superintendent of Police Suraj Singh Parihar inspected the strong room and the place of stay of security personnel. Adarsh Ramanuj Government Higher Secondary School of Baikunthpur was made a strong room in the last assembly elections 2023 and the same venue has also been made strong room for the upcoming

Collector Vinay Kumar Superintendent of Police Suraj Singh Parihar inspected the officers and gave instructions to en-

Lok Sabha elections.



sure necessary arrangements for the maintenance of EVM and VPAT machines and security arrangements. Polytechnic College building located at Salka was also inspected by the offiwherein the cials. Collector instructed the PWD officers to organize the toilet room and repair the damage to windows, doors etc. immediately.

While giving instructions to the officials of Public Works, Energy,



Engineering, Municipal Council, Baikunthpur, he said that all the arrangements should be made on time so that there is no problem of any kind during the elections. Under the Lok Sabha elections 2024, the model code of conduct in the state including Korea district is effective from March 17, 2024. Voting will be held in three phases for 11 Lok Sabha seats in the state, while 6 Lok Sabha seats

are unreserved, 4 seats are reserved for Scheduled Tribe category and 1 seat is reserved for Scheduled Caste category. Publication of notifica-

tion for Korba Lok Sabha elections to be held in the third phase is on April 12 last date for filing nomina tions is April 19, and scrutiny of nomination papers is April 20, withdrawal of nominations is April 22 and voting is Tuesday, May 7, 2024. Counting of votes for all three phases will take place on Tuesday, June 4, 2024. During the inspection, District Panchayat CEO Dr. Ashutosh Chaturvedi, Additional Collector Arun Kumar Markam, Additional Superintendent of Police Mrs.Monica Thakur, SDM Mrs. Ankita Som and other officers were pres-

the BJP and Sai government is again working to

Festival of colours celebrated with Joy



Anwari, Mar 28:

Villages of the area including Anwari, Bhaisbod, Kumhari, Joratarai, Koliyari, Bhakhara Bhatheli, Sigdehi, Bhendasar, Sirve, Semra, Siltara, Supela, Navgaon, Bagaud, Bangoli, Banjari, Khapri, Kurra, and surrounding areas, Holi, the great festival of colors, was celebrated with complete simplicity and joy. The enthusiasm of this festival of love, brotherhood and uniting everyone was visible in every section and this time peo-

ple shared the happiness of this festival with full enthusiasm and excitement. On this special occasion of Holi, the village people met each other in their residence or square and applied colors and gulal. Native Ishwar Sahu Keshav Sahu told that a few days before the festival of Holi, people everywhere including Anvari were busy in the enthusiasm of the festival by singing Phag songs to the beat of Nangaads in the area and thereafter, on the eve of Holi, rituals were organized at various places.

Bijapur, Mar 28:

Konta, former cabinet minister and official candidate of Congress party from Bastar Lok Sabha constituency Kawasi Lakhma was on a tour of Bijapur district on Thursday. He met Congress workers of Bhopalpatnam, Maddeed, Awapalli and Bijapur areas of the district. After this, while addressing a press conference at District Congress Bhawan Bijapur, Lakhma said that "After the formation of Congress party government at the Centre, Congress party guarantees to give Rs 1 lakh per year to every woman of the country. According to this, every woman of the country will get Rs 8333 per month."

Lakhma further said in the

press conference that ever

 Alleges that BJP govt has failed to provide security to people of Bastar

since the BJP government has been formed in the country, unemployment and inflation have increased. The youth of the country have been demanding employment for the last ten years but the Modi government has completely failed in providing jobs to the youth of the country.

Modi's guarantee has completely Speaking further Lakhma said that as soon as the Congress party government is formed at the Center, the first thing that will be done is to fill more than 30 lakh vacant government jobs. This is the guarantee of the Congress party. Addressing the press



conference, Lakhma said that the tribals have been the most neglected, exploited lot in the BJP government. Today, even the district headquarters Bijapur is not safe. There is firing on the festival of Holi. This is the grace of Bastar's revered goddess Maa Danteshwari Devi, with whose blessings the people of Bastar are safe.

In the press conference, Kawasi Lakhma further

said that earlier tendu leaves had no importance in Bastar. 'I fought a long battle to get a fair price for tendu leaves, as a result of which today tendu leaves have become the biggest source of income for the people living in tribal areas', he said, adding that the people have started earning good income by selling tendu leaves.

Lakhma said that the government of Bhupesh 1700 tribals from jail but

Baghel in the state had worked on many public welfare schemes like giving 35 kg rice to every family and unemployment allowance. Now the government of Vishnu Deo Sai is ending the schemes made by the Congress. Now the BJP government is giving only 5 kg of rice to every family instead of 35 kg of rice. Baghel's government had released more than

put innocent tribals in jail. During the press conference, Bijapur MLA Vikram Mandavi President Panchayat Shankar Kudiam, District Congress Committee President Lalu Rathore, Panchayat District Member Neena Rawatia Udde, District Panchayat Member Basant Rao Tati, Panchayat Member Somaru Kashyap Municipal President Benhur Rawatia Senior Councilor Praveen Dongre, District Congress Committee Spokesperson Jyoti Kumar, Media Incharge Rajesh Jain, Senior Congressmen Girdharilal Rathi, Raju Gandhi and Virendra Singh Thakur along with a large number of Congress workers were present.

ECoR achieves 250 MT of freight loading

Highest ever freight loading by any zone

Bhubaneswar, Mar 28:

East Coast Railway has surpassed all records of Indian Railways Freight Loading in the Financial Year 2023-24. From 1st April, 2023 to 25th March, 2024, ECoR loaded 250 million tons of freight, shattering the earlier record of highest Freight Loading of 2022-23 fiscal. ECoR has also become the 1st Zone to cross the Milestone of 200 Million Tonne of loading for 5th times in a row. The three divisions of the ECoR have contributed greatly to the stupendous feat achieved by it.

East Coast Railway was the Second Railway Zone after undivided South Eastern Railway to load

200 MT in the financial year 2019-20. Today, it has become the first zone to cross 250 MT of freight.

During the financial year 2023-24, East Coast Railway has loaded 149.50 MT of Coal, 12.9MT of Raw Materials to Steel Plants, 20.15 MT of Steel & Slag, 37.4 MT of Iron Ore, 1.21 MT of Cement, 3.16

MT of Food Grains, 6.4 MT of Fertilizers, 3.0 MT of Mineral Oil, 23.27 MT of freight in Containers and other goods. This is 6% more than the corresponding period of last year.

Khurda Road Division of ECoR has contributed 156.17 million ton followed by 74.66 million ton by Waltair Division and 19.20

million ton by Sambalpur Division. All the three Divisions have performed better than previous year and surpassed their last year loading figure. The coalfields of MCL at

Talcher, five ports in ECoR jurisdiction, i.e. Paradeep, Dhamara, Gangavaram & Gopalpur; iron ore mines in Bailadila in Chhattisgarh, Major Steel & Aluminium Companies, iron ore mines in Keonjhar District are the major contributors in this achievements.

This remarkable loading has been achieved despite various challenges by remarkable performance of ECoR with proper planning and coordination with Govt Sectors and

POLL PREPARATIONS



A kite maker prepares kites featuring symbols of different political parties ahead of the upcoming Lok Sabha

Kolkata Metro urges commuters to maintain cleanliness

 Amid gutkha, paan stains at new stations

Kolkata, Mar 28 (PTI):

Kolkata Metro Railway has urged commuters to cleanliness amid reports of people dirtying newly inaugurated stations with gutkha and paan stains and littering the premises with plastic waste.

The country's first underwater metro service connecting Howrah Maidan and Esplanade stations along the East-West corridor of the Kolkata Metro Railway became operational earlier this month.

In an official statement, Metro Railway CPRO Koushik Mitra urged commuters to uphold the cleanliness maintained at the older north-south line, which is the country's first metro service.

"It has come to our notice that a section of the

vrindavan (UP), Mar 28 (PTT):

The shadow of Basanti

still looms large and

Hema Malini, who refer-

ences her role as the

feisty tonga puller from

the 1975 classic "Sholav'

in many of her rallies,

says candidly she may

The cinema icon and

BJP MP is currently

seeking a third Lok

term

"I will never come out

of the Basanti shadow. It

will always be there. I

was born with that. I

have done 200 films and

people still remember me

as 'Sholay ki Basanti' or

from 'Seeta Aur Geeta'

"I tell everyone that I

and 'Baghban'," she said.

am three in one -- a film

artiste, a dancer and a

terview here.

Bachchan),

perform at live shows.

"I am dedicated to my

classical dance... I am

thankful to god that I

was given the opportu-

nities at the right time,"

The veteran actor,

she added.

from

never come out of it.

Sabha

Mathura.

commuters, travelling in the new corridor, are turning the new, beautifully decorated metro stations dirty, unhealthy gutkha stains, dumping sachets, plastics in an indiscriminate manner. This is turning the ambience inside in this corridor as unhygienic," the statement added.

The Metro Railway sought cooperation from commuters to maintain cleanliness in the newer corridors as witnessed in the north-south line.

After the launch of services along Maidan-Howrah Esplanade section of the East-West Metro on March 15, images of gutkha and paan stains on the walls of Howrah Maidan and Esplanade stations and plastic packets being littered surfaced on social media, with commuters calling upon the Metro Railway to take note of the situation and initiate neces-

challenging scene she performed Mumbai, Mar 28: Star Bharat's show Shaitani Rasmein" has

been a top choice for viewers who love fantasy thrillers, thanks to the actors who makes the graphics and stunts in the show look more realistic. Such shows typically demand a great deal of preparation and conviction from the actors in order to achieve the ideal

> During a candid conversation Naqiyah Haji, who plays the lead role of Nikki in the show, talked about the hardest sequence she had to complete and the behind-thescenes work that goes into making those acts seem natural on television.

Action sequences on television always command significant attention, particularly when they align with the intrigue of shows like



"Shaitani Rasmein." Yet,

the true excitement arises when Naqiyah Haji shared insights into the most demanding scenes she tackled on the show, especially during its early days. Reflecting on her experiences, she expresses "I really enjoy each and every stunt in 'Shaitani

nothing is in the pipeline

in over 200 films in a six-

decade career, also direct-

ed two films - Shah Rukh

Khan starrer "Dil

Malini, who has acted

as of now," she said.

instance, in one scene, I was posed to be thrown into a well, but I accidentally fell from a considerable height, resulting in minor injuries. Similarly, in another

Naqiyah Haji discusses the most

scene where I was meant to drown in a pond, the freezing cold water made it difficult to hold my breath underwater and made the shooting incred-

that I, UPENDRA KUMAR SAHU

S/O MEHTAR RAM SAHU

Resident of house no. 334, ward

no.13 Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg

Indira chowk, Ram nagar Bhilai

supela, Teh & Distt-Durg,

Chhattisgarh have changed my

old name UPENDRA KUMAR

SAHU S/O MEHTAR RAM SAHU

so in future I should be

recognized by my new name

UPENDRA SAHU S/O M. R. SAHU

in all government and other

documents.

plause from

ence makes

scenes. On

hand, carry-

quences fre-

quently re-

quires a lot

of work. For

audi-

even

other

It is informed to the general public that I SOUMYA JAIN

happiness.

D/O MR. ABHAY KUMAR JAIN residents of MAHATMA NAME CHANGE GANDHI WARD, WARD NO.-14 ARJUNDA (CG) have changed my old name SOUMYA D/O ABHAY KUMAR JAIN so, in future I should be recognised by my new name SOUMYA JAIN D/O ABHAY

Nonetheless, we perse-

vered and achieved the

She went on to talk

about the constant obsta-

cles she experiences when

performing different

shots during the show.

"While those scenes stand

out as the most difficult,

each episode brings its

Achieving perfection

demands a great deal of

effort, and keeping the ap-

propriate facial expres-

sions during the action is

critical to delivering a

convincing performance.

Despite the hurdles, see-

ing the finished shot

makes it all worthwhile,

giving you a sense of

accomplishment and

NAME CHANGE

own set of challenges.

desired outcome."

KUMAR JAIN in all government and other documents.

SOUMYA JAIN

Mahatma Gandhi Ward, Ward No. -14, District - balod Arjunda (CG)

Unit inaugurated In Kothpada

Acharya Health Care

Paradip, Mar 28

AcharyaHealthcare (Medicine Store and Clinic) in front of Kothpada Government High school at Raghunath Bazar in Cuttack district was officially inaugurated on Wednesday. On this occasion, Abhay Kumar Sahu. Head master and Educationist Alekh Chandra Das joined as guests and inaugurate this new healthcare facility. It will provide

perienced doctors and convenient affordable medicines. This laboratory and clinic has been opened by the ef forts of Pharmacist Divyanshu Acharya, the owner of this unit. According to the scheduled time in the said clinic, drug specialist Dr. Nupendra Satapathy, physiotherapy specialist Dr. Syed Mehbub Alli, Dentist. Dr. Nityasundar Satpathy, Orthopedic Surgeon Himanshu Barala is recognized for providing medical

00019, RIC-Haitbandh, Tehal-Singe, Dist. Balotahazar-Bhatapara (C.G.) Related Kh. No. 3041(Part) Ares 9.20 hectare, Kh. No. 289 Area 0.46 hectare, Kh. No. 290 Area 0.32 hectare, Kh. No. 281 Area 0.23 hectare, Kh. No. 272 Area 0.120 hectare, Kh. No. 222/2 Area 0.19 hectare, Kh.No. 209 Area 0:20 hectare, Kh. N 270 Area 0:62 hectare, Kh. No. 266 Area 0: tare, Kh. No. 269 Area 0.48 hectare, Kh No.225 Area 0.400 hectare, Kh. No. 271 Are 0.17 hectare, Kh. No. 304/3 Area 0.20 hectare Kh.No. 222 (Part) Area 0.19 hectare, Relate graal Previous Sale Deeds 1 Dated 24-09-10 Volume No.1496, Doc. No. 1212, 2 Dated 7-12-2010 Volume No. 1508, Doc. No. 1494, 3 ted 24-05-2004 Volume No.949, Doc. No. 482 Dated: 16-08-2021 Volume No.2912, Doc. No. 919, 5. Dated 16-02-2009 Volume No. 1350, Doc. No. 1977, 6. Dated 24-03-2008 Volume No. 1273, Doc. No. 2238, 7. Dated 02-02-2009 Volume No. 1346, Doc. No. 1861, 8. Dated 29-03-2009 dume No.869, Doc. No. 1587, 9. Dated 27-06-119 Volume No.2688, Doc. No. 941, 10. Dated 15-11-2019 Volume No.2701, Doc. No. 1186, 11 Dated 28-12- 2005 Volume No.3061, Doc. No. 1619, 12. Dated 09-11-2011 Volume No.1627, Doc. No. 1235, 13. Dated 15-03-2002 Volume No.813, Doc. No. 1298 Has Been Lost/Misplace By Present Owner Mr. Ravi Singhal Sit Mr. Kunjishan Singhal Add-H-16, Opp-Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank, Recreational Road houbey Colony, Raipur (C.G.) And he wrote ntimation Duly Given in the Police Station, Saraswell Nagar, Raigur (C.G.) on 28-03-2024, and For Lost of above Sale Deed.

That the Mr. Ravi Smohat S/o Mr. Kunibit inghal wants to take a Loan from any banks or inancial institution on the basis of above

If Any Person/Bank/Corporation/Society fitution/Govt. Or Non-Govt. Authority Etc. Having An Interest In The Said Property Or An Part Thereof May Make Their Claim/Objection With Documentary Proof. The Undersigned Office With In 15 Days From The Date Of Publication, Without Any Reference To Such Claim And The Same, If Any Shall Be Consider As Waived & My Client Shall Be Enable To Create Mongage On Said Property. Jene-28-03-2024

Shashikant Agrawal Advocat Mahant Laxminarrayan Das Ward No.43 Turi Hatri, Purani Basti, Raipur (C.G.) Mb. 9826357861

possession and even after tot of search my client could not able to trace any of the above Sale Deeds and now my client is sure and confirm that he could not trace it anymore. Thus, my client has lodged a complaint for Loss of Sale Deeds before Potice Station- Dharswa on 14.11.2023 and got the acknowledgment of it on 18.12.2023. My client has also procured the certified copies of all the above Previous Sale Deeds, details of which are mentioned herein above and those are in

sustody of my client and till date my client has not kept those Certified copies as nortgage before financial institutions, ersons etc. neither sold it to any third t is therefore, hereby informed to Public a large for the Loss of Original Sale Deed o above mentioned properties that any person, bank institution or authority having

entioned herein above and those are in

person, bank, institution or authority having any claim, objection or interest against or into the aforesaid propertylles or any part thereof in any manner should approach lodge their objection, if any, with the undersigned with original documentary proofits within Seven days' time from today & thereafter no one's claim or objection shall be entertained and binding upon my client. Hence it is informed to cubtic at lient. Hence it is informed to public a

Advocate Nikhili Agrawal C4 vastu sadan, shankar nagar raipur-492004 Mo. 8120998100, Email-nikhili@cislip.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that my client Smt. Janki Devi Wio Tulsi Das, Rio Sindhi Colony, Durg, Tehsil & Dist. Durg (C.G.) has politician," Malini told PTI in an exclusive inurchased a piece and parcel of land bearin hasra no 1179/307, area 1000 sq. ft. Forty-nine years after 0.009 Hectare situated at Santrabadi. Durg P.H.No. 19. R.N.M Durg-1, Tensil & Dist PH.No. 19. R.N.M. Durg-1, Tensil & Dist. Durg (C.G.), from Jaynarayan Sto Laxmi Prasad Tiwari, vide registered sale deed dated 31.12.1986. The said sale deed it was released, Ramesh Sippy's "Sholay" continues to be a massive draw with its ensemble cast executed between Jaynarayan S/o Laxin rasad Tiwari AND Smt. Janki Devi W/o Tuts and characters living on Das dated 31, 12, 1986 were in the custody of in celluloid memory. my client and the same has been lost imsplaced by my client. A police report has There was Jai (Amitabh been lodged against the lost registered deed on dated 13.02.2024. If the said los Veeru (Dharmendra), Gabbar istered sale deed dated 31.12.1986 is (Amjad Khan), Thakur found by anybody, it is requested that the said deeds be handed over to my staff in my (Sanjeev Kumar) and office. Any person having any right, title or interest or any claim, demand or objection or Basanti, one of Malini's best loved characters. any nature whatsoever against or in respect of the said property or any part thereof is Malini, 75, is also a Bharatanatyam expoereby requested to notify the same in writing to the undersigned with supporting documentary evidence within 07 days from nent and continues to

> Subhro Chakravorty, Advocate For Ashwini Singh & Associates 12, Nagar Nigam Parisar, Supela, Bhilai, Durg (C.G.) PH. 0788-2272374

Hema Malini

'Will never come out of 'Basanti' shadow'

whose last film appearance was 2020's romance drama "Shimla Mirchi", also with Sippy, said she is waiting for the right script to come her way.

"If there are any good roles in films, I will also do that. If somebody offers me a nice role which suits me in today's time, I definitely will do it. But

NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general

Aashna Hai" (1992) and "Tell Me O Kkhuda" (2011) featuring daughter Esha Deol. Asked about her directorial plans, she said sim-

ply, "It will take time." Malini, who practises yoga regularly, said she believes in staying

"You should have the intention to look good and the intention to keep your health well... Be a little spiritual... I have all these things with me,' she added.

UPENDRA SAHU S/O M. R.SAHU

House no. 334 ward no.13 Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg Indira chowk Ram nagar Bhilai supela. Teh & Distt- Durg, Chhattisgari

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE This is Informing To General Public That Th This is informing to General Public That the perty Situated at Village-Giroud, P.H.No 00022, RIC-Raigur-16, Saragaon, Tehsil and Distl. Raigur (C.G.) Related Kh. No. 450/2 Area 0.235 hectare, Kh. No. 450/2 Area 0.233 hectare Kh, No. 455 Area 0.993 factare Related Original Previous Sale Deeds 1. Dated 20-08-1995 Volume No.20000, Doc. No. 7466, 2. Dated 13-10-1999 Volume No.23201, Doc. No. 1837 (kas), 3. Dated 07- 03-2005 Volume No. 30988, Doc. No. 14271 Has Been Lost/Misplaced By Present Owner Mr. Ravi Singhal Slo Mr. Kunjbihar Singhal Add- H-16. Opp- Chhattisgairh Raiye Gramm Bank, Recreational Road, Choubey Colony, Raipor (C.G.). And he wrote intreator Duly Given in the Potce Station, Saraswat Nagat Raipur (C.G.) on 28-03-2024, and For Los

> That the Mr. Ravi Singhal Sio Mr. Kunjbiha nghal wants to take a Loan from any banks or noial Institution on the basis of above

> ving An Interest in The Said Property Or An Part Thereof May Make Their Claim/Objections With Documentary Proof. The Undersigned Office With In 15 Days From The Date Of Publication: Without Any Reference To Suct Claim And The Same, if Any Shall Be Considered As Walved & My Client Shall Be Enable To Create Mortgage On Said Property.

Date-28-03-2024 Shashikant Agrawal Advocate
Mahant Laxminarrayan Das Ward No.43
Turi Hatri, Purani Basti, Raipur (C.G.)
Mb. 9826357861

Date: 29.03.2024

Place : Raipur, C.G.

YES BANK YES BANK LIMITED

Regd. & Corporate Office: YES BANK House, Off Western Exp. Highway, Santacruz East, Mumbai-400055. CN: L65190MH2003PLC143248, E-mail.communications@jyesbank.in, Website: www.yesbank.in

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

(As per Appendix IV) read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules. 2002 Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the YES Bank Limited ("Bank"), under the Securitization and Reconstruction of

Security Interest (Enforcement) Fluies, 2002, issued a demand notice dated as below calling upon the Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice with contractual rate of interest plus penal interest, charges, costs etc. within 60 days from the date of the said notice. The borrower/guarantor, having failed to repey the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, in particular and the public, in general, that the undersigned has taken the Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the

Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the

said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned herein after. The borroweriguarantor, in particular, and the public in general, are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the

property will be subject to the charge of the YES Bank Limited for an amount mentioned in the notice along with interest thereon and pena interest, charges, costs etc. from date of demand notice.

The borrower/guarantor attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to

Sr. No.	Name & Address of Borrower/ Guarantor	Description of the Immovable Property (Secured Assets)	Total claim amount as per 13(2) notice Date of Notice U/s, 13(2) Date of Possession
	Shree Radhe Marketing, Mr. Rohit Agarwal (Proprietor of Shree Radhe Marketing) & Mr. Manish Agarwal Loan A/c No. 004784690003220 & 047LA43231536001	ALI. THAT piece and parcel of residential house being no. 17/473 measuring about 1846 Sq.ft, & the part of residential house being no. 17/472 measuring about 923 Sq.ft, total 2769 Sq.ft, situated under khasta no. 220, PH No. 62, RIC-Raipur-12, Tethal & DistRaipur, CS. Boundaries for part residential house no. 17/472: North: House of Amit Agarwall/ South: House of Manish Agarwal being no. 17/243, East. Passage//West, Other's house Boundaries for residential house no. 17/473: North: House no. 17/473/ South: House No. 17/474, East. Common readtland of	Rs. 4,06,02,867,93/- (Rupees Four Crore Six Lakhs Two Thousand Eight Hundred Soxy Seven and Nine Three Paise only) under the Loan Alc No. 004784600003220, due as on 15.01.2024 & Rs.63,53,404.89/- (Rupees Sixty Three Lakhs Fifty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Four and Eighty Nine Paise only) under the Loan Alc No. 047LA32315300001, due as on 15.01.2024

Symbolic Possession Date: 27.03.2024 /erma Ji ALL THAT piece and parcel of land measuring about 1768 Sq.ft 1. Mr. Rakesh situated at Mouza- Bhathagaon, Khasra No. 705/10, PH No. 105/60, Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Wand, Ward no. 63 (Old); 61 (New). 2. Mrs. Magnshy Khandika No. 7, Tehsil & Dist - Raigur, CG. Madhuri Chouhan Boundaries: North: Land of Prahlad Sharmal/ South: Land of Shwet Loan A/c No. HLN004701034354

Rs. 19,35,914.29/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Thirty Five Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen and Twenty Nine Paise only) under Loan A/c No. HLN004701034354 due as on 10.05.2023 mand Notice Date: 10.05.2023

Physical Possession Date: 28.03.2024

Sdi- Authorized Office YES Bank Limited

the date hereof, failing which no such claims demands, objections etc. shall be tertained thereafter and the said propert shall be considered as free from al

public that I NIKITA BAFNA D/O MR. ABHAY KUMAR JAIN residents of MAHATMA

GANDHI WARD, WARD NO.-14 ARJUNDA (CG) have changed my old name NIKITA D/O ABHAY KUMAR JAIN so, in future I should be recognised

by my new name NIKITA BAFNA D/O ABHAY KUMAR JAIN in all government and other documents.

NIKITA BAFNA

Mahatma Gandhi Ward, Ward No. -14, District - balod Arjunda (CG)

Related Original Previous Sale Deeds Of Raipu Khas 1. Dated 11-07-1996 Volume No. 19898

perty being Diverted Residential Ptot Proper

ted at Village-Raipur Khas, Chirhuldir a, Raipur, Tehsil and Distl. Raipur (C.G.

Occ. No. 5926, 2. Dated 15-07-1996 Volume N 19904, Doc. No. 6043, Chirtudin 3, Dated 20-05 1992 Volume No. 16018, Doc. No. 2923, Puren Dated 08-11-2006 Volume No.35109, Doc. No. 2445 Has Been LostMisplaced By Presen Owner Mr. Ravi Singhal Sio Mr. Kumbhar Singhal Add- H-16. Opp- Chhattegarh Raiyi Gramiri Bank, Recreational Road, Choube olony, Raipur (C.G.). And he wrote intrination uly Given in the Police Station, Saraswati agar, Raipur (C.G.) on 28-03-2024, and For Lost That the Mr. Ravi Singhal S/o Mr. Kunjbihi

linghal wants to take a Loan from any banks of inancial institution on the basis of above.

tution/Govt. Or Non-Govt. Authority Etc Having An interest in The Said Property Or Ariy Part Thereof May Make Their Claim/Objections With Documentary Proof. The Undersigned Office With in 15 Days From The Date Of Publication: Without Any Reference To Such Claim And The Same, if Any Shall Be Considered As Walved & My Client Shall Be Enable To Create Mortgage On Said Property. late-28-03-2024

Shashikant Agrawal Advocate Mahant Lexminarrayan Des Ward No.43 Turi Hatri, Purani Basti, Raipur (C.G.) Mb. 9826357861

IGP holds meeting with Prosecution Officers



Discussion held on acquittal cases and removing errors in investigation during trial

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 28: Inspector General of Police (Durg Range) Ram Gopal Garg chaired the monthly meeting of prosecution officers in the auditorium of IGP office on Thursday. This meeting is organized monthly to resolve the problems being faced in

the prosecution.

In the meeting, the District Public Prosecution Officer and the prosecutors were instructed to establish coordination in the prosecution and its investigation.

They reviewed the types of shortcomings found by the prosecution and in the police investigation in the cases related to Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses Act, Scheduled Scheduled Tribe Act, Narcotic Drug and Alcohol Prohibition etc.
They explored the

shortcomings so that it can be removed in future and ensure higher conviction of the accused. In the review meeting, all matters related to prosecution were discussed.

Anurekha Singh, Deputy Director Durg; Premendra Kumar Vaiswade, Deputy Prosecution Director District Balod; Arpana Agrawal, District Prosecution Officer District Bemetara, DSP Shilpa Sahu, IG office officials were present in the

Cops learn the nuances of fingerprint collection

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 28: Under the direction of Inspector General of Police, Durg Range, Ram Gopal Garg, a range level fingerprint training workshop was organized on Thursday in the auditorium of Reserve Police Centre, Durg. print expert Finger Rakesh Narvare, Raipur-Durg Division, conducted the workshop.

He spoke about the importance of fingerprints in the crime investigation. He said that finger print identification helps the investigating officer in identification of the criminals. He detailed the precautions to be taken while collecting and preserving the finger prints.

The collection and preservation methods were explained in detail and the system for upload-



ing the collected fingerprints in NEFIS (National Automated Fingerprint Identification System) was explained.

Inspector General of Police, Durg Range, Ram Gopal Garg asked the police personnel that in the scientific era, more and more science should be

used in crime investigation. It has many benefits. Its biggest advantage is that there is transparency in the investigation and there is no possibility of

Sukhnandan Rathore, Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Bhilai-Durg; Chirag

Superintendent of Police, Durg; Alexander Kiro. Deputy Superintendent of Police (Headquarters), Durg; Chandraprakash Superintendent of Police (Police Lines), Reserve

Centre, Durg; Neelkanth

Verma, Reserve Inspector,

Police Reserve Durg, officials Court Moharrir / MOB Collator Constables posted in various police stations of Durg Range (30 trainees trainees from district Bemetara and 76 trainees from district Durg) attend-

06

Code violation complaint against Bhupesh Baghel

BJP District Vice President demands action against former CM for his provocative statements against the **Election Commission of India**

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 28: A complaint has been filed before the Election Commission of India against Rajnandgaon Lok Sabha candidate and former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel for violation of the Model Code of Conduct.

President Rajendra Kumar, on behalf of the Bharatiya Janata Party, has said in a written complaint that MLA of Patan assembly constituency Bhupesh Baghel, who is declared

Rainandgaon Lok Sabha constituency, made a provocative statement against the Election Commission of India in the Congress workers' convention held in village Amalori of Patan on Tuesday (March 26, 2024).

He made a public statement to this effect. Baghel had said if there are more than 375 candidates in Rajnandgaon Lok Sabha constituency, then the **Election Commission will** have to conduct voting through ballot paper in Rajnandgaon.

provoked Congress workers of Patan to go to Rajnandgaon Lok Sabha constituency in maximum numbers and file nominations.

Rajendra Kumar further stated in his complaint that former Chief Minister and Patan MLA Bhupesh Baghel has tried to tarnish the reputation of the and inciting more than 375



Rajendra Kumar

Election Commission of India through this statement. He also tried to unduly influence the election

Patan region have been unfairly instigated to go to Rajnandgaon Lok Sabha constituency and file nomination. Bhupesh Baghel has done the act of inciting the public against EVM

people to file nominations and harm the clean and healthy election process of the Election Commission.

The above act of Bhupesh Baghel is a clear violation of the election code of conduct. Bhupesh Baghel has violated the provisions of Representation of the People Act. Necessary legal action should be taken against him and Bhupesh Baghel should be banned from campaigning outside Rajnandgaon Lok Sabha constituency, Rajendra Kumar demanded.

Taking cognizance over the complaint filed by Rajendra President Kumar, the State Election Commission had instructed the Durg District Collector and Election Officer to conduct a probe and take action in accor-

Civic body workers take out voter awareness rally

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai. Mar 28: On the instructions of Collector and District Election Officer Richa Prakash Chaudhary, ADM Arvindra Ekka, Durg Municipal Corporation Commissioner Lokesh Chandrakar and Tehsildar Prafulla Gupta are making efforts for ensuring 100 percent voting in the Lok Sabha Elections-2024.

The officers and employees of Durg Municipal Corporation took the pledge, "We, the citizens of India, having abiding faith in democracy, hereby pledge to uphold the democratic traditions of our country and the dignity of free, fair and peaceful elections, and to vote in every election fearlessly and without being influenced by considerations of religion, race, caste, community, language or any inducement.'



Chandrakar, Tehsildar Prafulla Gupta, Deputy Commissioner Mohendra Sahu, Executive Engineer Dinesh Netam, Assistant Engineer RK Palia, Jitendra Samaiya, Building Officer Girish Diwan, Health Officer Javed Ali, Revenue Officer Durgesh Gupta, all the corporation officers and employees took out a voter

RSM organises cleanliness programme

placards with slogans on voter awareness, they motivated the voters during the rally. Encouraging the voters, they asked the people to leave all the work and be the first to vote and become the creator of the country's destiny. They marched from Municipal Corporation office and moved across Gandhi stat-

were parked in pattern to write SVEEP on the ground. The rally moved across the main roads of the city to

and reached Ravi Shankar

Stadium. Here, the vehicles

make the common citizens aware about voting and mo tivate them to vote. On this occasion, a message was read out to the employees and people as an inspiration

Divyangs and senior citizens pledge to exercise their franchise

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 28: Under the direction of Collector and District **Election Officer Richa Prakash** Chaudhary and under the guidance of District Panchayat Chief **Executive Officer and SVEEP** Nodal Officer Ashwani Dewangan, The divyangs of above 18 years of age and senior citizens took pledge to cast their votes in the Lok Sabha Elections 2024. According to the information received from the Deputy Director of Social Welfare Department, voter awareness programmes were organised in the institutions aided by the Social Welfare Department.

The programmes were organised at Bright School Jawahar Nagar Durg, Kalyani De-addic-

Training Centre, Belur Math), Arun

Kumar, CGM (Rowghat Mines), H

Shekhar, GM (ED-P&A Secretariat),

Yogesh Verma, AGM (Rowghat

Project), Sahee Ram Jakhar, DGM

(SC&CA), and other senior officials

ganized at Narayanpur, to encour-

age schoolchildren from the tribal

region to take an active part in

sports and games. At the outset

Chief Guest Pawan Kumar hoisted

The SAIL Khel Mela has been or-

of the Plant.



Kutiya Old Age Home, Junwani **Durg and Aastha Old Age Home** Sector 02 Bhilai.

Under the campaign, an oath was administered to disabled students and elderly people. They were urged to definitely use their voting rights and motivate people of every section to vote. On this occasion, Amit Parihar, Deputy Director of Social Welfare Department,

District Durg, appealed to the disabled students, elderly people and the teachers / old age home managers to maintain the traditions and dignity of democracy. He explained the importance of each vote.

Representatives of the institutions including Raju Rajput, Sanjay Deshmukh, Prakash Gedam, Jantram Thakur, Arun Verma and other employees were present in the program.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 'Swachhata Pakhwada" Cleanliness Fortnight is being observed by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, to bring an intense focus on the issues and practices of Swachhata by accelerating mass movement for realizing the vision of a 'Swachh Bharat - Clean India'. Under this initiative, the Plant's Rail and Structural Mill Department (RSM) organized a special cleanliness programme and campaign under the guidance of Tirthankar Dastidar. (RSM & RTS) at the Mill

premises on 26th

At the outset, 'Oath of Cleanliness' was administered to all the people present in the programme, followed by collective Shramdaan by the Senior Officials, Personnel, and Contractual Workers of the

department, for cleaning the canteen and adjoining areas in the R&S Mill premises.

Cleanliness is equally significant for promoting



a Safety Culture among employees and achieving the goal of "zero accidents". A comprehensive housekeeping programme was organized, and scrap

and unwanted materials were cleaned under the Swachhata Pakhwada initiative to create a risk-free work environment at the

Swachhata Programme was organized by the Personnel Department of Mills Zone-II. Along with maintaining cleanliness in the household and surrounding areas, it is very important to keep the workplace clean and organized.

It is noteworthy that SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant organizes similar cleanliness and safety initiatives and tree plantations from time to time, to promote the spirit of cleanliness and safety practices and better upkeep of the environment, among the Plantemployees and township

SAIL Khel Mela inaugurated in Narayanpur

1500 students from 34 schools of Rowghat area participating



Past by students. As many as 1500 students, among which 475 are girls, from 34 residential and nonresidential schools of Narayanpur district and nearby areas are participating in this four-day sports festival from 27th to 30th March 2024. Various sports events like Football, Badminton, volleyball, Kho-Kho, Badminton, Athletics, Archery, etc., are being organized under the SAIL-Khel Mela-2024. Chief Guest Pawan Kumar, in his address, congratulat-

ed the Ashram Collective for organizing the SAIL-Khel Mela successfully for the past 17 years, and stated that events like this will not only lead to the physical and menta development of the children but will also contribute to the progress of the area, for which SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant is devoted sincerely, Pawan Kumar said. Swami Purnanand Maharai in his address stated that the eminent Spiritual Guru and a visionary of Vedanta, Swami Vivekananda had envisioned such



spiritually. Therefore, the youth must take an active part in sports, physical exercise as well as meditation for mental strength-enriching activities. Mohan Lal, Asst General Secretary (Chhattisgarh Football Association), Rupsai Salam, Senior Social Worker (Narayanpur), Arun Srivastava, Brijmohan Dewangan, Akritanand. Swami Swami Devanathanand, Swami

Krishnamritanand. Swami Muktianand, Swami Pranatpalanand and other Brahmacharis and Sanyasis of RKM Narayanpur Ashram were also present on this occasion, along with 3,000 children including participants and teachers, and villagers from nearby areas in large numbers. An 800-meter running competition

was conducted during the inaugural function, wherein Jagdish of Eklavva Adarsh Vidyalay, Chherribeda secured the First position, while Narsingh Dugga of Ramakrishna Mission. and Rassu Korram of Adarsh Vidyalaya Garanji stood Second and Third respectively. In the program, Swami Vyapatananda Maharaj, Secretary (Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, Narayanpur) gave a welcome address on this occasion, while the vote of thanks was proposed by Swami Krishnamritananda, (Vivekananda Vidyapeeth).

White tigress arrives at Maitri Baag Zoo on exchange, to improve offspring

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 28: Bhilai Steel Plant is famed not only for its quality steel production but also for breeding white tigers. Bhilai's Maitri Baag Zoo, managed by the Horticulture Section of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Town Services Department (TSD) has witnessed the arrival of a young adult white tigress 'Jaya' on 21st March 2024. Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) and Pawan Kumar, ED (P&A) released the tigress in the enclosure of Maitri Baag Zoo.

To prevent in-breeding and pro mote out-breeding and healthy offspring, the 6 years and 5 months old white tigress 'Jaya' was brought from Jungle Safari, Nandanvan Zoo Raipur. In exchange of Jaya, another white tigress from Maitri Bagh



'Raksha', has been sent to Jungle Safari, Raipur, as per the animal exchange rules laid down by the Central Zoo Authority of India.

JY Sapkale, CGM (TSD & CSR), Sandeep Mathur, CGM (Personnel), VK Sharma, GM I/c (TSD), H Shekhar, GM (ED-P&A Office), Ajay DGM (ED-Works Secretariat), Dr NK Jain, DGM (Horticulture-TSD), and RK Garg, AGM (TSD), were present on this

Experts from CG State Government, Arif Khan, Rajesh Kumar Sharma Lalit Yadav, Yogesh Kumar Chandrakar and Prem Kumar from Maitri Baag Zoo, Zookeepers AK K Narsaiah. Mohan.

Mohammad Moharram, Jitendra Kumar, and Sunil Kumar were also present on this occasion. Animal offspring born to parents from the same family are susceptible to deformities and other genetic disorders. Tigress Jaya of Raipur's Jungle Safari is also born from parents of the common ancestors and has been brought to procreate with a male from another lineage.

Chinese military slams US for recognising Arunachal Pradesh as part of India

Beijing, Mar 28 (PTI):

The Chinese military on Thursday criticised the US for its assertion that Arunachal Pradesh is part of India, stating that India and China have mature mechanisms, communication channels, ability and willingness to properly handle the border issue through dialogue and con-

The US has a terrible record of stoking disputes between other countries for selfish gains. The inter-

national community sees it clearly, Sr Col Wu Qian, spokesperson for China's defence ministry, told a press conference here Thursday reacting to the recent statement by the US that Washington recognises Arunachal Pradesh as

Wu said there are mature mechanisms and communication channels between China and India on border issues. "The two sides have the ability and willingness to properly handle the boundary question through dialogue and consultations", he said.

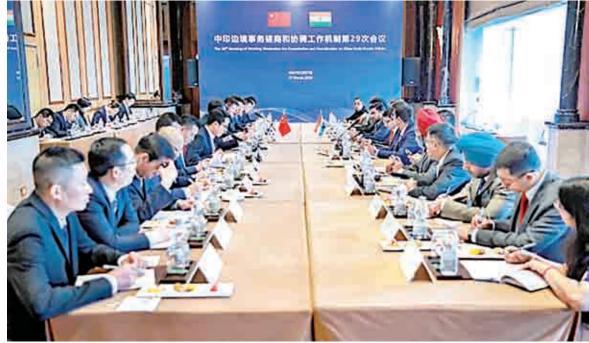
He was reacting to the US State Department Principal Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel's statement on March 9 stating that "the United States recognises Arunachal Pradesh as Indian territory and we strongly oppose any unilateral attempts to advance territorial claims by incursions or encroachments, military or civilian, across the Line of Actual Control.'

Wu also reiterated that Arunachal Pradesh is part of China's territory.

"Zangnan (China's official name for Arunachal Pradesh) has been China's territory since ancient times. This is an undeniable fact," he said, replying to a Chinese official media auestion about the Affairs External Ministry's remarks describing China's claim as "absurd" and "ludicrous".

"Where does the socalled 'Arunachal Pradesh'

INDIA-CHINA MEETING



Officials of India and China during the 29th Meeting of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on China-India border affairs, in Beijing.

No change in trade policy Pak to probe judges' allegation of intelligence agencies meddling in judicial affairs

Islamabad, Mar 28 (PTI):

with India: Pakistan

Pakistan on Thursday clarified that it has no plan to resume trade relations with India which has been "non-existent" since 2019 after the Indian government abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

The clarification from Pakistan's Foreign Office comes days after Foreign new Minister Ishaq Dar said in London that Pakistan will seriously consider restoring trade ties with India that have remained suspended since August 2019.

In August 2019, India

suspended Article 370 giving special status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated it into centrally-administered Union Territories

of Jammu & Kashmir

and Ladakh. At the weekly briefing here, Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch was asked to comment on reports about the possibility of resumption of trade ties with India.

"Pakistan-India trade relations have been nonexistent since 2019 when India took illegal steps in the illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir ... There is no change in Pakistan's position on it," Baloch said.

Islamabad, Mar 28 (PTI):

The Pakistan government on Thursday announced a formal probe into the explosive allegation by six judges of the Islamabad High Court about the country's powerful intelligence agencies meddling in the affairs of the judiciary.

The development came following a crucial meeting by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Supreme Court Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, who met to tackle the explosive situation in the wake of the letter by six judges of the Islamabad High Court (IHC) alleging interference by intelligence sleuths in

their functioning.

The high-level meeting came a day after the chief justice chaired a full court meeting and discussed the issue. The attorney general had also met the chief justice on Wednesday and discussed the thorny issue. Later he told journalists that it was a serious issue and "should be properly investigated".

Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar accompanied by Attorney General Mansoor Usman Awan addressed a press conference, saying that Sharif discussed in detail with the chief justice the thorny issue and they agreed to set up a probe commission, headed by a

the veracity of the allega-

Tarar, who along with Awan, was present in the meeting between the prime minister and the chief justice said Sharif had summoned a meeting of the Cabinet on Friday to discuss the issue.

"The Cabinet will agree on the name of a former judge of good repute to head the commission to probe the matter and prepare a report," he said. He also assured that the

matter would be properly investigated and steps would be taken to stop such incidents of interference in future.

terrorism: Khawaja Asif former judge, to ascertain Sharif, in the meeting, assured the chief justice that the government would Islamabad, Mar 28 (PTI): take the matter to its logical conclusion. "He (the Afghanistan is not makprime minister) said point ing any progress to root out blank in the meeting that terrorism from its soil, there will be no compro-Minister Khawaja Asif has

> Earlier, Justices Mohsin Akhtar Kayani, Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri, Babar Sattar, Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan, Arbab Muhammad Tahir and Saman Rafat Imtiaz, in a stunning move, addressed the letter to the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) for help to deal with the rising incidents of meddling in the affairs of the judiciary.

> have a clear motive as to

what caused this individ-

ual to commit such a

heinous crime," Redd

added. The suspect was ar-

rested by a Winnebago

County sheriff's deputy,

mise on the independence

of the judiciary," Tarar

quoted Sharif as saying.

his country. "In view of the increase in terrorist incidents, there is a need for a fundamental change in the border situation. The source of terrorism in Pakistan is in Afghanistan and despite our efforts, Kabul is not making any progress in this direction," Asif posted

Afghanistan not taking

steps to root out

Pakistan, which has witnessed a series of terror attacks in recent months, has openly said it suspects the involvement Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a splinter group of Afghan Taliban.

on X on Wednesday.

said, urging the Taliban

rulers in Kabul to tighten

border controls further to

mitigate the threat faced by

According to the Dawn newspaper, Asif regretted that despite the Taliban administration being aware of the hideouts of terrorism, terrorists were operating freely against Pakistan their territory. 'Cooperation from Kabul threat) is not available," the minister emphasised. Asif's comments came

against the backdrop of a string of attacks over the past few days including those on the Gwadar Port Authority complex and naval base in Turbat and the suicide attack on the van carrying Chinese workers in Shangla in the restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

The report said that the minister posted these remarks on X after attending a special security meeting convened by Minister Shehbaz Sharif and added, "His remarks in a way reflected the discussion at the meeting as PMO statement on security meeting had expressed concern over 'sanctuaries available to terrorists across the borders' and had called for "a

regional approach' for

countering terrorism.

BILATERAL TALKS



Denys Shmyhal shake hands during a group photo, as they meet for bilateral talks in Warsaw, Poland, Thursday, March 28.

Four people killed, five wounded in northern Illinois stabbings

Rockford, Mar 28 (AP):

Four people were killed and five hurt in stabbings in northern Illinois on Wednesday, authorities

A suspect is in police custody and was being questioned Wednesday afternoon, according to Rockford Police Chief Carla Redd. She said one of people wno was wounded remained in critical condition.

Rockford's population is about 150,000 and it's 144.84 kilometres northwest of Chicago. "My heart goes out to the families right now that are suffering a loss," Redd told reporters.

Police received a medical call at 1.14 pm, followed by additional calls for police and paramedics. She said in the city, "we have four individuals who are deceased. We have one that's in critical condition right now and an additional four that are in stable con-

Redd said that not all of the victims had stab wounds. None were shot.

'We have a suspect in custody who is being interviewed at this time," she said. "We don't believe there's any other suspects that are on the run or at large at this particular time." "Right now, we don't

Sheriff Caruana. A resident said she witnessed the arrest on Wednesday.

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India

FROM 01.04.2024 (00:00:01 Hrs.) The public are hereby informed that pursuant to approval of revised user fee rates communicated vide lette

dated 27.03.2024 of NHAI, the user fee rates for the use of section from Km.180.000 to Km.241.000 (Bedma-Dahikonga Section) of NH-30 is going to be revised as under w.e.f. 01.04.2024 (00:00:01 Hrs.) at Mashora Tol Plaza (216.400 km, near Mashora village Kondagaon District) in the State of Chhattisgarh at the following rates

Amount in Rs

Category of Vehicle	Fee for Single Journey			Fee for Commercial vehicles registered in district
Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	60.00	95.00	2070.00	30.00
Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle or Mini Bus	100.00	150.00	3345.00	50.00
Bus or Truck (Two axle)	210.00	315.00	7010.00	105.00
Three Axle Commercial Vehicles	230.00	345.00	7645.00	115.00
Heavy Construction Machinery (HCM) or Earth Moving Equipment (EME) or Multi Axle Vehicle (4 to 6 Axle)	330.00	495.00	10990.00	165.00
Oversized Vehicles (7 or more axles)	400.00	600.00	13380.00	200.00
The rates for monthly pass applicable for loc	al non-non	imercial vehicle	residing within a di-	stance of 20Km from

the toll plaza for the year 2024-25 shall be Rs.340/

The above section was developed under public funds (The above section was developed as per provisions of Contract Agreement dated 28.01.2015 on EPC and AE vide letter dated 23.05.2018 certified the completed ength of 61.17 Km, for putting on commercial operation). The above rates are applicable for a completed length of 61.17 Km, which comprises of following

Length (Km.) Equivalent Length (Km.) for Lane Configuration 8.640 8.640 4-lane Bypasses (Costing>Rs.10.0 Cr.) 0 Structure (length>60m) 0.4075 0.4075 2-lane

The following concessions are available at above Toll Plazas.

Contact No.

Return Journey within 24 hours from time of payment for users paying toll fee through FASTag for all categories of vehicles (discount 25%). 50 single journeys in a month from date of payment for users paying toll fee through FASTag for a

categories of vehicles (discount 33%)

Pass at Rs.340/- per calendar month for non-commercial vehicle having FASTag residing within 20 km

Commercial Vehicle (excluding those plying under national permit) registered in the District of Toll Plaza

paying toll fee through FASTag (discount 50%)

The list of exempted vehicles is given in the Amendment of Fee Rules dated 03.12.2010 vide GSR 950(E) The vehicle, which is loaded in excess of permissible load, shall pay 02 to 10 times the applicable fee rate

as per Gazette notification No.G.S.R.920(E) Dated 25.09.2018. The Capital cost of the project is Rs.313.40 Crore. The user fee (toll) rates shall be reduced to 40% or

recovery of capital cost For viewing the fee notification dated 22.07.2019 published in the Gazette, letter of NHAI dated 27.03.2024 containing approval of rates, etc. the website http://nhaitis.org.may.be.visited.

For any enquired and/or giving complaints/suggestions, please contact Name of Representative Sh. Pankaj Ojha, Project Director, NHAI, PIU-Dhamtari (C.G.) Block F-5, Shivraj Greens, Sihawa Road, Dhamtan Address

07722-351010

Kind Attention:- From 15th February 2021 onwards, User Fee payments is mandatory via "FASTag ONLY" and All the lanes have been declared as "FASTag ONLY". Users intending to pay user fee in Cash mode in FASTag lane will have to pay Two times of the applicable User fee rates. In addition to above, Return journey discount & Local journey discount are applicable for payments made via **Building a Nation, Not Just Roads**

Sri Lankan PM **Gunawardena** meets **Chinese President Xi Jinping**



Colombo, Mar 28 (PTI):

Chinese President Xi Jinping has assured continuous support to Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena for Sri Lanka's efforts for "political and socio-economic progress" and also said Beijing will stand for safeguarding the island nation's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

China and Sri Lanka agreed to continue to act under the friendship, peace, mutual respect and fivefold principle in international affairs that do not interfere in the internal affairs of a country during a meeting between Xi and Gunawardena

Wednesday at Great Hall in Beijing, the prime minister's office said in a statement here on Thursday.

"Chinese President assured continuous support of China to Sri Lanka's efforts for political and socioeconomic progress. The Chinese President said that China will always stand for safeguarding independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Sri Lanka," the statement said.

"It was emphasised that bilateral relations should be based on mutual respect and mutual productivity between the countries, and acting according to that policy would set a good example for both countries," it added



PUBLIC NOTICE

The public are hereby informed that pursuant to approval of revised user fee rates vide letter No. NHAI/PD/PIU-Raipur-II/DB/Toll Fee/2024/1144 dated 20.03.2024 of NHAI, the user fee rates for use of section from joining KM 308.600 to KM 326.600 (Durg Bypass section) of NH- 53 (Old No. NH-6) are going to be revised as under w.e.f. 01.04.2024 at Durg Bypass Toll Plaza (KM: 312.800, near Dhamdha Naka, Durg district) in the State of Chhattisgarh.

PUBLIC NOTICE ON REVISED USER FEE (TOLL) RATES AT DURG BYPASS TOLL PLAZA APPLICABLE FROM 01.04.2024

		Rate of Fee Per Vehicle for One Way Trip in Rupees.			
Sr. No.	Type Of Vehicle	Rates of Toll Fee per Vehicle for a one way trip as per Gazette Schedule (in Rs.)	Revised Toll Fee per Vehicle for a one way trip w.e.f 01.04.2024 (in Rs.)		
1	Truck 2 Axle	75.00	230.00		
2	Bus 2 Axle	Same as for Sr. No. (01)	230.00		
3	Extra for each additional axie in the case of Sr. No. (01) & (02)	50% Of Fixed Rate As for Sr. No. (01)	115.00		
4	Light Commercial Vehicle	2/3 rd (Two Third) of the Fee Applicable for Sr.No. (01)	155.00		
5	Car	1/3 rd (One Third) of the Fee Applicable for Sr.No. (01)	75.00		
6	Three Wheeler	1/8 th (One Eight) of the Fee Applicable for Sr.No. (01)	30.00		
7	Two Wheeler	1/12 th (One Twelve) of the Fee Applicable for Sr. No. (01)	20,00		
8	Earth Moving / Construction Vehicle	Twice the Fee Applicable for Sr. No. (01)	460.00		

2. The list of exempted vehicles is as given in the Fee Notification 803 dated 13.12.2000. As per Concession Agreement dated 05.11.1997, the Concession Period ends on 31.03.2031. The user fee (foll) rates shall be reduced to 40% after the end of the Concession Period.

 For viewing the fee notification 803 dated 13.12.2000 published in the Gazette, letter of NHAI dated 20.03.2024 containing approval of revised rates and provisions in the Concession Agreement, the website http://nhaitis.org may be visited . Name and address are as under, for any enquiry and / or giving complaints / suggestions:*

	Concessionaire	Independent Engineer	PIU of NHAI
Name of Representative	Durg Shivnath Expressways Pvt. Ltd.	MSV- DN Consultant (JV)	National Highways Authority of India, Pl
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Employment Epoch

Needs Urgent Action

ndia stands at a critical juncture, grappling with a pressing issue that demands immediate attention: unemployment. The stark reality revealed in the India Employment Report 2024, a collaborative effort between the International Labour Organisation and the Institute of Human Development, paints a grim picture. It unveils a distressing statistic - nearly 83 per cent of the unemployed workforce comprises the nation's youth. This demographic segment, heralded as the future of our nation, finds itself disproportionately burdened by the scourge of joblessness. The report delves deeper, shedding light on the escalating crisis. It underscores that the proportion of unemployed youth possessing at least secondary education surged to a staggering 65.7 per cent in 2022. Such statistics cast a foreboding shadow over India's ability to harness its demographic dividend - a cohort that constituted 27 per cent of the nation's population in 2021. Analysis of the labour landscape unveils a tumultuous journey. Between 2000 and 2018, the labour force participation rate, the worker population ratio, and the unemployment rate experienced a steady decline. However, a glimmer of hope emerged post-2019, amidst economic upheavals both pre and post the Covid-19 pandemic, save for two peak Covid quarters. Nevertheless, caution prevails as experts urge a nuanced understanding of this apparent upturn. Job creation during economic slowdowns prompts probing questions about the underlying drivers of this transformative shift. In the face of this mounting crisis, collaboration becomes imperative. India, as the world's most populous nation and the fastest-growing major economy, cannot afford to turn a blind eye to the plight of its youth. A concerted effort between the government and the industry is paramount. Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran rightly underscores the pivotal role of the industry in addressing this pressing issue. It is a fallacy to rely solely on government intervention to rectify every social and economic malaise. However, policymakers hold a crucial mandate in sculpting initiatives aimed at fostering skill development and catalyzing employment opportunities. Yet, the conversation extends beyond mere numbers. Quality of employment emerges as an equally vital facet of this discourse. The burgeoning growth witnessed across manufacturing, services, and construction sectors presents a beacon of hope. Stakeholders must harness this momentum to harness the untapped potential of India's educated youth. It is incumbent upon all stakeholders to ensure that employment avenues not only proliferate but also offer avenues for growth, development, and fulfillment. In the face of adversity, India has historically demonstrated resilience and innovation. Now, as we confront the specter of widespread unemployment, it is imperative that we unite in purpose and action. The time for rhetoric has passed; action is the need of the hour. Let us forge ahead with determination, leveraging our collective strengths to pave the path towards a brighter, more prosperous future for our nation and its youth.

A House of Cards

Sujit De

P aris based World Inequality Lab has recently published a report titled Theome and Warth I report titled, 'Income and Wealth Inequality in India 1992 -2023: The Rise of the Billionaire Raj'. As per the report, the inequality in India declined till the early 1980s. Thereafter, it started rising sharply. However, the rise of top-end inequality gained tremendous momentum during the last 10 years. Now, the top 1 per cent of Indians earn 22.6 per cent of the national income and their wealth share have risen to 40.1 per cent. The income share of the top 1 per cent of Indians is among the very highest in the world, higher than even South Africa, Brazil and the United States of America. The report says that India is now more unequal than during the time of the British Raj headed by the colonialist forces. While at one end, the number of underted people in our country is one billion as per the UN estimation; at the other end India has more billionaires than many developed countries. According to the data from the World of Statistics. India is home to 169 billionaires - the third highest in the world after the USA (735) and China (495). India, where over a billion people could not afford a healthy diet, has more billionaires than developed countries like Germany (126), Russia (105), Italy (64), Canada (63), the United Kingdom (52), Australia (47) and Japan (40). Former Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh once said, "India happens to be a rich country inhabited by very poor people." It highlighted the contrast between our resources and poverty. The time has come to say that India happens to be a country of very poor people inhabited by many billionaires. It will highlight a glaring inequality which has been created after 1980s and has further been widened in the last ten years. Inequality and poverty are deadly monsters. According to the National Crime Record Bureau's (NCRB), 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India 2022' report, a total number of over 1.7 lakh suicides happened in India in 2022. Among the suicide victims, one-third were daily wage earners, agricultural labourers and farmers. Daily wage earners, agricultural labourers and farmers are also victims of inequality and poverty. The Inequality Lab has prescribed a restructuring the tax policies for both income and wealth as well as a broad-based public investment in health, education and nutrition. It said that a "super-tax" of 2 per cent on the net wealth of the 167 wealthiest families in 2022-23 would yield 0.5 per cent of the national income in revenues and create valuable fiscal space to facilitate such investments. Contrary to the prescription to levy more tax on the super rich, write-off of huge amounts of bank loans has been done for some rich businessmen without much ado. while subsidies to the poor are being ridiculed as freebies. Instead of broad-based public investment in education and health sectors, privatisation of key sectors has become a fashionable choice for the policy makers. This has hijacked quality education and health care from the common people. India needs to rectify its economic policy to have an equitable growth. Banks should sanction more micro-loans for farming, cottage and small enterprises that can mainly generate employment and less NPA-generating macro-credits. Moreover, the poor who are reeling from high inequality, rising inflation and nagging unemployment must not be further burdened with GST. GST should exist only on luxury and non-essential goods. But essential goods must have zero GST. A lopsided growth cannot be durable in the long run. It is like building a trillion dollar house of cards. Moreover, inequality gives rise to human rights violations. Inequality and poverty not only cause stagnation in the market but also lower the quality of workforce in skill and health.

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

PRABUDDHA VARG SAMMELAN



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath being garlanded during a 'Prabuddha Varg Sammelan' ahead of upcoming Lok Sabha elections. in Muzaffarnagar. Thursday. March 28.

Invisibility of Narendra Modi: A Himalayan Challenge



ewarded with a wave of popularity, Prime Minister Modi's invincibility has become a huge challenge for parties that have chosen to join the opposition camp. Modi's address to both the houses in the parliament was loaded with extreme confidence. A great level of personal conviction and a dashing temperament, the Modi phenomenon has undoubtedly nullified the usual leadership definitions. Entirely, the politics of his side of the ruling group is dependent on the man who began the momentum with a slight disorientation a decade ago. Probably, that was justifiable in 2014. A new face with a flimsy experience of being in India's powerful national capital had a huge challenge to face. For almost a decade now, Modi managed to wrap up the entire scenario to his side, taking strides of success far more powerful than usual. with the whole host of leaders in his camp struggling to keep pace with him. This was the mantra, probably, the Modi magic that people often term it as: a unique style, a signature of commitment to whatever he chose to keep his hands on. He never left things half baked. He ensured that the job in hand is accomplished to its maximum and strove hard to walk the extra mile. He remained unique, his gestures and words and actions were loaded with a different flavor of commitment.

On his first day in the parliament the newcomer with an indubitable wave of humility, lay down flat on his chest in reverence to the temple of democracy at its doorstep. Simple vet the gesture of veneration was redefining the image of the monumental building that was usually perceived as a centre of verbal spat and pandemonium of the irritating type. He brought his usual demeanor to the scenario

but the country experienced something unusual and unprecedented and it was certain to catch attention. Convincingly, his vocabulary and the simplicity and style of his oratory caused a sudden churn. They conveved values and action plans and addressed the pitfalls. His accent got easily recognized as his messages had the salt of the perils that the country's poor had been through. He established a personal connection with the last man in the queue. His endeavors spoke for their authority and clarity. Holding values of the ancient he remained modern in its applicability. Unmatchable was his efficiency while he began to use Artificial Intelligence for his typical welfare projects. More prominent and effective was his style of communication using all social media platforms. His reputation, invincibility and reliable execution of welfare schemes gained him superstardom. Every time he approached and used social media with childlike curiosity while updating himself to its modern wavs of sophistication. But his decision to reach out to the people through radio had a special acceptance. Man Ki Baat must be the largest recorded personal conversation by any elected leader to his countrymen in the whole world.

This flow of conversation from the very first month of his administration had kept the momentum of his real personal touch with people cutting across rural and urban landscapes. India witnessed a new method of populist politicking that was more person centered than the ideology he represented. Growing beyond the horizon of his ideology, the Modi cult has redefined the stature of politics in India and the party that he represents became a distant shadow. Distancing itself from the rise of this cult, a deliberate question frequently murmurs its concern. That, will the world's largest democracy remain servile to this cult makeover and as his opponents blame, get easily crushed under its authoritarian feet at a time when its democratic essence is feared to be fading drastically? Has this cult managed to polarize India's secular fabric, as its adversaries accuse it often, totally forcing it to disintegrate? This question often emanates from the ravines of political discomfiture and social discordance. No narrative can be outrightly cancelled and there is definitely a sense of discontent. What surprises and probably shakes Modi's opponents of their confidence is his relentless, pragmatic and committed enthusiasm. It deals with and certainly flattens the aspirations of the other side and its savagery is reflected in its brutal enactment of justice. Defending the investigating agencies and their actions against the corrupt, Modi outrightly calls it his fight against the wrongdoers and ensures that it gains a hilarious acceptance.

Modi's image as the deliverer of justice and his ubiquitous spiritual charisma hold complete power to drag the emotions of a huge segment of the population. Systematically addressing the demands of the cultural laments of the country, his makeover as a spiritual giant has been extremely real and his gesticulation and involvement in redefining and reviving the lost glory of India's spiritual might has been receiving genuine accolades. A hat-trick comeback, undoubtedly an aspirational momentum at that with unpar alleled conviction could be dreamed only when efforts to actualize such a victory were actually put in place. This audacity for winning an absolute majority deserves a thumping resonance of exuberance. This is obviously a challenge, a challenge in a real sense. But the Prime Minister's body language in both the houses of the parliament had been firm though counter narratives were thrown intending to dismantle his views. Placing himself above his party and the government. Modi's deliberately well-knit vocabulary had the power to shake his opposition's intuitions. A jubilant Modi appeared to grab all narratives of victory for himself and pronounce them to the houses in his royal declaration. John

from Kerala, a Communist veteran and iournalist compares this audacity of Modi with an emperor's royal decree. His perceived third term will be the outcome of his skillfully measured and unfailingly executed policies. He was uncompromising and convincingly reluctant to water down his policies and climb down on his promises. Intelligently anointing himself as the chowkidar of the country, he managed to dwell in the hearts of millions. Startled but convinced to the core, the country heard him speak from the ramparts of the Red Fort about basic cleanliness and menstrual hygiene. Women across the country found in him a savior, a brother who dared to address their trauma and victimization. Thousands of villages became open defecation free zones. Women in the country found their aspirations flutter and dance with increased social respect and security. Millions had experienced the status of having a toilet facility at homes and its health benefits. Walking a careful line of development, Modi ensured that his initiatives reach the doorstep of the last man at the bottom line.

Britas, a first timer to the Rajya Sabha

A more accurate way to describe his sense of connecting with people comes through his three creative ways of communication. Starting from Mann Ki Baat to Chai Pe Charcha to the latest Modi selfie points, his mission continues to hold the electorate glued to its leader. The comedy of errors that we are forced to live in, is the erroneous way his opponents understand him. And that is the paradox. Pundits predict a consistent rise in Modi's pop ularity and they fear his third term would put it at the pinnacle. The deep despair hanging over the INDIA block is obviously visible. Inconsistent leaders and their disheartening positions turned the INDIA camp a miserable conglomeration. Nitish Kumar's exit and Mamata's admonishing decision to go solo in her state have deepened its crisis and helped the Modi fiefdom expand. Call him populist or the people's leader, the wind is surely blowing the Modi way.

(Writer is a Freelance Journalist & Author. The views expressed above are the author's own. They do not necessarily reflect the views of Central Chronicle.)

Reddy's BJP Reunion

Janardhana Reddy, renowned mining baron and KRPP MLA, recently merged his party with the BJP, pledging unwavering support for PM Narendra Modi's potential third term. Despite lingering legal entanglements stemming from a multi-crore illegal mining case, Reddy, accompanied by his wife Aruna Lakshmi and a loyal following, formally rejoined the saffron party. Court-imposed restrictions compelled him to contest the 2023 Assembly polls from Gangavati in Koppal district. The BJP welcomed this strategic move, aiming to refurbish Reddy's image and dismiss any lingering allegations. Remarkably, Reddy has remained unscathed by investigations from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), purportedly due to his significant financial contributions to PM Modi's anti-corruption cru-

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee, **Dignity in Debate**

The use of undignified language against Kangana Ranaut and Mamata Banerjee is deplorable in a mature democracy. Recent incidents highlight the erosion of democratic values, with a Samajwadi Party member's derogatory remarks towards a female parliamentarian and Rahul Gandhi's controversial gesture. Political parties must exercise restraint in criticism to uphold dignity. Ranaut faced objectionable social media posts from Congress leader Supriya Shrinate, sparking a heated controversy. Despite Shrinate's claim of a hacked account, accountability is essential. Similarly, BJP leader Dilip Ghosh's disparaging comments about Mamata Banerjee demand accountability. Both parties must address the coarsening of political discourse, ensuring respect for all individuals regardless of profession or political affiliation.

Yash Pal Ralhan, Jalandhar

Regulate Reused Cooking Oils

In commercial settings like restaurants, it's common practice not to discard oil after a single use. Unfortunately, with deep frying, failure to regularly change the oil can lead to the generation of trans fats through repeated reheating, potentially causing inflammation in the body as per health experts. Unhealthy oils can adversely aftect mainly heightening the risk of cardiovascular diseases and type 2 diabetes. Repeated heating of oil also leads to the accumulation of visible and invisible granules, altering the oil's composition and introducing neoformed compounds (NFCs) over time. This process diminishes the oil's nutritional quality.FSSAI lacks regulations or definitions for reused cooking oils, often leading food safety officials to rely on visual cues such as color or appearance. Therefore it's imperative for FSSAI to frame regulations for reused cooking oils .-

Dr. Vijaykumar H K, Raichur,

Eating some chocolate really might be good for you

Dan Baumgardt

Ithough it always makes me scoff slightly to see Easter eggs making their first appearance in supermarkets at the end of December, there are few people who aren't delighted to receive a bit of chocolate every year. It makes sense that too much chocolate would be bad for you because of the high fat and sugar content in most products. But what should we make of common claims that eating some chocolate is actually good for you? Happily, there is a fair amount of evidence that shows, in the right circumstances, chocolate may be both beneficial for your heart and good for your mental state.

In fact, chocolate - or more specifically cacao, the raw, unrefined bean - is a medicinal wonder. It contains many different active compounds which can evoke pharmacological effects within the body, like medicines or drugs. Compounds that lead to neurological effects in the brain have

to be able to cross the blood-brain barrier, the protective shield which prevents harmful substances - like toxins and bacteria - entering the delicate nervous tissue.

One of these is the compound theobromine, which is also found in tea and contributes towards its bitter taste. Tea and chocolate also contain caffeine, which theobromine is related to as part of the purine family of chemicals. These chemicals, among others, contribute to chocolate's addictive nature. They have the ability to cross the blood-brain barrier, where they can influence the nervous system. They are therefore known as psychoactive chemicals.

What effects can chocolate have on mood? Well, a systematic review looked at a group of studies which examined the feelings and emotions associated with consuming chocolate. Most demonstrated improvements in mood, anxiety, energy and states of arousal. Some noted the feeling of guilt, which is perhaps something we've all felt after one too

many Dairy Milks. Health benefits of cocoa

There are other organs, aside from the brain, that might benefit from the medicinal effects of cocoa. For centuries, chocolate has been used as a medicine to treat a long list of diseases including anaemia, tuberculosis, gout and even low libido. These might be spurious claims but there is evidence to suggest that eating cacao has a positive effect on the cardiovascular system.

First, it can prevent endothelial dysfunction. This is the process through which arteries harden and get laden down with fatty plaques, which can in turn lead to heart attacks and strokes. Eating dark chocolate may also reduce blood pressure, which is another risk factor for developing arterial disease, and prevent formation of clots which block up blood vessels.

Some studies have suggested that dark chocolate might be useful in adjusting ratios of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, which can help pro-

tect the heart. Others have examined insulin resistance, the phenomenon associated with Type 2 diabetes and weight gain. They suggest that the polyphenols - chemical compounds present in plants - found in foodstuffs like chocolate may also lead to improved control of blood sugars.

Chocolate toxicity As much as chocolate might be considered a medicine for some, it can be a poison for others. It's well documented that the ingestion of caffeine and theobromine is highly toxic for domestic animals. Dogs are particularly affected because of their often voracious appetites and generally unfussy natures. The culprit is often dark chocolate, which can provoke symptoms of agitation, rigid muscles and even seizures. In certain cases, if ingested in high enough quantities, it can lead to comas and abnormal, even fatal

Some of the compounds found in chocolate have also been found to have potentially negative effects in

heart rhythms.

humans. Chocolate is a source of oxalate which, along with calcium, is one of the main components of kidney stones. Some clinical groups have advised against consuming oxalate rich foods, such as spinach and rhubarb - and chocolate, for those who suffer from recurrent kidney stones.

So, what should all this mean for our chocolate consumption habits? Science points in the direction of chocolate that has as high a cocoa solid content as possible, and the minimum of extras. The potentially harmful effects of chocolate are more related to fat and sugar, and may counteract any possible benefits. A daily dose of 20g-30g of plain or dark chocolate with cocoa solids above 70 per cent - rather than milk chocolate, which contains fewer solids and white chocolate, which contains none - could lead to a greater health benefit, as well as a greater high. But whatever chocolate you go for, please don't share it with the dog.

BRIEF

Appointment



American software firm Sprinklr on Thursday said it has appointed Amitabh Misra as Chief Technology Officer (CTO), effective April 1, 2024. Misra will lead all R&D (research and development) teams across the globe, and will report directly to Sprinklr Founder and CEO Ragy Thomas. "As a technology enthusiast, I am passionate about building large-scale technology platforms, powered by the latest in AI research that are uniquely capable of delivering exceptional

Infra sectors'

said Misra.

value for customers,'

New Delhi: The growth of eight key infrastructure sectors slowed to 6.7 per cent in February on account of poor performance of some sectors like fertiliser, according to official data released on Thursday. However, the growth rate is higher than January this year. The growth of eight core sectors -- coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertiliser, steel, cement and electricity -- was 4.1 per cent in January. It was 7.4 per cent in February 2023.

Consolidated growth



■ New Delhi: Autotech and financial solution provider CarDekho Group is eyeing over 40 per cent consolidated headline growth in FY25 and is on the prowl for value-accretive acquisitions, chief executive and cofounder and Shark Tank India judge Amit Jain has said. Jain who leads CarDekho and is a familiar face on the business reality series Shark Tank India told PTI in an interview that the automobile marketplace (CarDekho) has been profitable for years now and hoped that profitability at a group level would come by in FY25, after which an IPO would follow.

Indian economy can grow at 8 pc till 2047: Subramanian

Indian economy can grow at 8 per cent till 2047, if the country can redouble the good policies that it has implemented over the last 10 years and accelerate reforms, India's executive director International Monetary (IMF) Fund Krishnamurthy Venkata Subramanian said on Thursday. Subramanian further said that clearly 8 per cent growth target is ambitious, because India has not grown consistently at 8 per cent before, but it is achievable. "So, the basic idea is that with the kind of growth that India

has registered in the last



10 years, if we can redouble the good policies that we have implemented over the last 10 years and accelerate the reforms, then India can grow at 8 per cent from here on till omy grew at better-thanexpected 8.4 per cent in the final three months of 2023. logging the fastest pace in the past one-and-a-half The growth rate in

October-December helped take the estimate for the current fiscal to 7.6 per cent. "And if India grows at 8 per cent, India can be a USD 55 trillion economy by 20147," Subramanian added. He pointed out that historically from 1991 onwards, India's average growth has been slightly more than 7 per cent. Subramanian emphasised that India needs to strengthen its domestic economy as about 58 per

comes from domestic consumption. "Therefore, you know, we do have the potential if we can create enough jobs, you know, that will lead to much higher consumption," he said. India's IMF executive director stressed on need of encouraging manufacturing sector for job creation. He also pointed out that reforms are required in land, labour, capital, and logistics sector. "Reforms are required in the manufacturing sector, but at the same time, we also need reforms in our banking sector to provide credit for manufacturing

AEROSPACE SERVICES



Yaakobovitc, Chairman of the Board Aerospace Services India (ASI); Boaz Levy, President and CEO, Israel Aerospace Industries Ltd (IAI) and Danny Lauber, CEO, Aerospace Services India (ASI) at the opening of AeroSpace Services India (ASI), IAI's Indian subsidiary. in New Delhi.

Less than 5 pc companies in India prepared to tackle cybersecurity risks: Cisco

New Delhi, Mar 28:

Less than 5 per cent of companies in India are ready to deal with cybersecurity risks even though an overwhelming number of them said their businesses are likely to be impacted by such threats in the next 12-24 months, according to a study. The 2024 Cisco Cybersecurity Readiness Index, which was released on Thursday, found that only 4 per cent of companies in India are ready to tackle today's threats, with 59 per cent of organisations falling into the "beginner or formative stages of readiness".

Globally, 3 per cent of companies are at a "mature stage", meaning they are prepared to handle cybersecurity risks, it said. Cisco said while compa-

against these attacks, they are slowed down by their own overly complex security postures that are dominated by multiple-point solutions.

The study is based on a survey of 8,136 private sector business leaders - over 1,000 of them from India -who have cybersecurity responsibilities in their organisations. The study revealed that 82 per cent of the participants surveyed expect a cybersecurity incident to disrupt their business in the next 12-24 'The cost of being un-

prepared can be substantial, as 74 per cent of respondents said they experienced a cybersecurity incident in the last 12 months, and 55 per cent of those affected said it cost them at least USD 300,000,"

Axis Bank credit card users impacted by fraudulent transactions

Lender says no data breach

Mumbai, Mar 28:

Multiple customers having Axis Bank credit cards have been impacted by fraudulent overseas transactions, a senior official from the third largest private sector lender said on Thursday. Sanjeev Moghe, head of cards and payments at the city-based lender, said starting Tuesday evening, customers witnessed unauthorised transactions where they received transaction alerts on certain low-value purchases being carried out at some e-commerce sites.

There has been "no data breach" at the bank's end, Moghe said, asserting that the scale of such transactions is very limited and

secure. Amid growing social media chatter about such unauthorised transactions going through, Moghe said the bank's inmechanisms stopped some transactions but added that many customers have been impacted. The bank witnessed spends of about Rs 500 crore per day by its credit card customers, Moghe said, adding that when compared with it, the extent of such transactions has been "very small".

Asked for more details, he said it is a small fraction of the overall spends and added that "we are speaking about thousands and lakhs". He also hinted that such incidents happened for a day, and have stopped. Fraudsters gained access to a few card numbers and matched it with the expiry dates to carry out the unauthorised transactions, he said, explaining that as these are international transactions, they can go through without any second factor authentication like a one time password over SMS or even the CVV number. To a query on how the data can be sourced by the fraudsters, he said the first six digits in a 16-digit number are bank-specific, and added that the card numbers can be picked up when the card is given for payments at petrol pumps

Domestic drug firms to witness 8-10 pc revenue growth in FY25: Report

New Delhi, Mar 28:

Revenue growth of leading 25 domestic drug firms is expected to moderate to 8-10 per cent in the next fiscal year, rating agency Icra said on Thursday. The revenue of the companies, which account for 60 per cent of the overall Indian pharmaceutical industry, witnessed an increase of 13-14 per cent in the current fiscal year. Following the high base of 2023-24, the revenue growth momentum from the US and Europe markets is expected to moderate to 8-10 per cent and 7-9 per cent, respectively, Icra said. The markets are expected to witness a year-on-year expansion of 18-20 per cent and 16-18 per cent, respectively, in the current fiscal year, it added. The domestic market, on the other hand, is expected to see a stable growth of 6-8 per cent, while the emerging markets may log an 8-10 per cent rise in FY25. against 16-18 per cent in FY24, the rating agency said. The revenue growth of the sample set companies in the US market in FY24 has been supported by increased new product launches, product shortages in select therapeutic segments, and healthy performance of complex generics (first to file), it stated. "However, as the base effect plays out, growth is expected to taper in FY25. While low-single digit pricing pressure in the US market is likely to sustain, Indian pharmaceutical companies remain focused on enhancing their revenue contribution from the complex generics in the US market," it stated

All major parties encashed electoral bonds; nobody has moral authority to say anything: FM

New Delhi, Mar 28:

Minister Finance Nirmala Sitharaman said that all major political parties have encashed electoral bonds and nobody has a moral authority to say anything as it was legal and according to law. She also said that in view of the Supreme Court's judgement against electoral bonds, more debate is needed to come out with a better system for electoral funding. Replying to a question at Times Now Summit here, the minister said the law, which has now been quashed by the apex court, was passed by Parliament and the bonds were purchased as per the prevailing law at that time. "It was passed by Parliament and based on



the law, bonds have bought and encashed by all parties but one... Everyone has received from everybody, every donor has given everybody. "The very party which now says well this is a scam, this is a scandal, had also taken money through the bonds. Tell me what moral authority anyone has to speak because it was the aw then... it went lawfully It was a step better than what prevailed earlier," Sitharaman said, On what the new government can do in this regard, she said there is a need to understand how to better the system, which has been rejected now. The system of electoral bonds was still better than the previous system, "which is what we've gone back to now. We need to do something better, but a lot more work is required", she added. Last month, a five-judge apex court bench, headed by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud, said the electoral bonds scheme violates the right to information and the freedom of speech and expression under the Constitution.

Markets end FY24 on buoyant note amid positive global cues; Sensex jumps 655 points

Mumbai, Mar 28:

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty rallied for the second straight session on Thursday to end the 2023-24 fiscal on a bullish note, powered by acrossthe-board buying amid a bullish trend in global equities. Power, auto and metal stocks witnessed robust demand, even as a depreciating weighed on sentiment, traders said. Extending its previous day's rally, 30-share index jumped 655.04 points or 0.90 per cent to settle at 73,651.35. During the day, it zoomed 1,194 points or 1.63 per cent to 74,190.31. The NSE Nifty climbed 203.25 points or 0.92 per



cent to end at 22,326.90. On a weekly basis, the BSE benchmark climbed 819.41 points or 1.12 per cent, and the NSE Nifty advanced 230.15 points or 1.04 per cent. In the 2023-24 financial year, Sensex jumped 14,659.83 points or 24.85 per cent, while the Nifty soared 4,967.15 points or 28.61 per cent. "Indian equities closed the day and fiscal year on

an optimistic note, with volatility by the end of the session, as buying by retails, DIIs, and FIIs surged across categories. The mid-and small-cap stocks have emerged as frontrunners, rebounding from the initial selloff earlier in the month. "An upgrade in the domestic economy forecast hints at an encouraging outlook for the stock market in However, the emphasis is on large-cap due to the persisting premium valuations of mid-cap stocks, which could pose a concern on the broad market in the short to medium term," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

Rupee falls 6 paise to settle at 83.39 against **US dollar**



Mumbai, Mar 28

The rupee depreciated 6 paise to settle at (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday due to a strengthening greenback against major rivals overseas and rising crude oil prices in the

international markets. However, a firm trend in domestic equity markets and recent foreign fund inflows supported the domestic currency, forex traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.32 and oscillated between the intra-day peak of 83.30 and the lowest level of 83.40 against the green-

The local unit finally settled at 83.39 (provisional), registering a loss of 6 paise from its previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee declined 4 paise to close at 83.33 against the US dollar. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.34 per cent higher at 104.42.

Boost your money habits using financial literacy: Ahmad Qutaishat

Mumbai, Mar 28:

Financial literacy is essential for handling personal finances. It plays a crucial role in key life phases like adulthood and retirement, incorporating tasks such as managing household budgets, navigating significant investment choices, and securing one's financial future. Even in youth, financial literacy fosters the cultivation of sound financial behaviors, understanding consequences of choices, and guards against expensive errors. A solid grasp of financial literacy equips individuals with the tools to confidently navigate diverse life stages, ensuring stability



and assurance along the way. According to Ahmad Qutaishat, Sales Director, VT Markets, Here are four strategies to improve moneysaving habits via financial literacy. Educate Yourself: Financial education equips people with the information and skills they need to make

wise financial decisions throughout their lives. It enables people to take charge of their finances, prepare for the future, and meet their financial objectives. Individuals with sufficient financial knowledge are better prepared to handle debt, save for emergencies, invest intelligently and accumulate wealth over time. Set Clear Financial Goals: Setting clear financial goals is a critical step towards achieving financial prosperity and a secure future. Having clear objectives, such as preparing for retirement, buying a house, or paying off debt, will help individuals stay fo-

cused and make wise finan-

cial decisions.

Motor to hike prices on select vehicles from April 1

Toyota Kirloskar

Hyderabad, Mar 28:

NMDC, India's largest Iron Ore



New Delhi, Mar 28:

Toyota Automaker Motor Kirloskar Thursday said it plans to increase prices of select vehicles up to 1 per cent from April 1 citing rising input costs and operational expenditures. In a statement, the company said it is planning to increase prices of certain grades of its specific models effective April, 1 2024.

NMDC excels at Governance now 10th PSU awards

Producer won five awards at the Governance Now 10th PSU Awards held on 22nd March in New Delhi. The chief guest of the event was Padmashree Dr. Sanjeev Bagai and Nirmal Kaur, IPS, Retd. DGP Jharkhand Police. On behalf of NMDC Satyender Rai, ED (P&A& DT) received the awards. These awards recognise organization's efforts and commitment towards making India a truly digital nation. For the visionary leadership and futuristic outlook, Amitava Mukherjee, CMD (Addl. Charge) has been honoured with the coveted CMD Leadership Award and Jaya Prakash, GM (Corporate Communication) has been

felicitated with the



Communication Leader Award. The National Miner brought home accolades in the categories - CSR Commitment (Overall), Innovation in Mining and HR Excellence (Overall) for its transformational social development initiatives and unwavering commitment towards growth of the iron and steel industry. Speaking on the occasion, Satyender Rai ED (P&A&

DT) said, "It's an honor to be receiving these prestigious awards. These awards recognize our contribution in the development of the sector while boosting our confidence to outperform and deliver exceptional results. At NMDC we pay special emphasis to community engagement while delivering record production and fostering responsible mining."

Unity and enthusiasm mark Congress workers conference in Kurud

Central Chronicle News

Kurud, Mar 28: In a vibrant display of unity and enthusiasm, the Kurud assembly level Congress workers convened under banner

Mahasamund Lok Sabha. Led by senior Congress leaders, the conference ignited spirits in Purana Mandi Kurud.

The event commenced

with a reverent homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, graced by the presence of Mahasamund Lok Sabha candidate Tamradhwaj Sahu alongother esteemed Congress leaders. Addressing the gathered workers. Sahu emphasized a message of familial bonds over mere electoral competition, stating, "I have not come to contest elections; I have come to build a family relation-



Taking a principled stance, Sahu questioned the tactics of opposition parties, particularly targeting the BJP. He questioned the silence on issues raised against prominent figures and denounced personal attacks such as being labeled a "deaf candidate.'

Dhamtari MLA Omkar Sahu blamed BJP, stating that false FIRs are being against

Congress candidates, for-Chief Minister mer Bhupesh Baghel, and former minister Kawasi Lakhma. He criticized the BJP for taking sides and engaging in pre-emptive actions under pressure from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) targeting Congress leaders.

Former MLA Gurmukh Singh Hora, former MLA Lekhram Sahu, former MLA Lakshmi Dhruv, Senior Congress leader

Vipin Panjayat President Tapan Chandrakar, Neelam Chandrakar, District Panchayat President Kanti Sonwani, District President Sharda

Sahu.

Sahu,

Chayya MLA Hemantalakshmi Kanta former Nagar Panjayat President Bharat Nahar, and others expressed their dissatisfaction over the statements and actions of the BJP, as well as the assurances

given by Prime Minister

District President Mohan Lalwani, Block President Ashish Sharma, Dihu Ram Sahu, District Panchayat Chairman Suman Santosh Sahu, Niranjan Sahu, Rameshar Sahu, Mahim Shukla, Pappu Rajput, Manish Sahu, Chumman Diwan, Manoj Agarwal, Yogesh Tukesh Chandrakar, Sahu, Uttam Sahu, Dumesh Sahu, and various other members from different cells of Congress actively participated in the

The proceedings were conducted under the guidance of District Congress General Secretary Pramod Sahu, and Congress District President Sharad Lohana expressed heartfelt gratitude for the overwhelming participation Residents rally to clean drainage system in Anwari



Central Chronicle News

Anwari, Demonstrating a commendable sense of community responsibility residents of the village of Anwari banded together to address concerns surrounding the local water drainage system.

A drain constructed in the street locality had become clogged with debris

over time due to a lack of maintenance, posing potential hazards to the com-

Recognizing the importance of resolving this issue, individuals includ-Ramgulal Sahu, Thanesh Nirmalkar, Fatte Uday, Toshbai, Khileshwari, Dulari Bai, and Lakshmi Dhuv took the initiative to clean the

Expressing their concerns, the residents highlighted the deteriorating condition of the drain, which had been construct ed just a year ago but had already suffered damage.

They emphasized the inconvenience faced by locals in their daily commute and emphasized the urgency of addressing the issue before it escalated into a significant problem.

Collector reviews logistics and security measures for LS elections

Comprehensive preparations underway for Bastar voting

Central Chronicle News

Bijapur, Mar Collector and District **Election Officer Anurag** Pandey led a thorough review meeting to assess the logistics and security arrangements in preparation for the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections in 2024. The meeting, attended by senior officers of the Central Reserve Police, underscored the commitment to ensuring a seamless and secure electoral process.

During the session, Collector outlined essential guidelines aimed at facilitating peaceful vot-These included security



passing the safe transportation of polling parties to and from polling stations, safeguarding EVM machines, and ensuring the security of sensitive polling stations.

In anticipation of the first phase of Lok Sabha Elections 2024, scheduled for April 19, 2024, in Bastar Lok Sabha, all necessary preparations are

underway. The meeting served as a platform to discuss and coordinate efforts among various

Notable attendees at the meeting included Commandants from various CRPF battalions, such as Vikram Singh 108

stakeholders to guaran-

tee the success of the

electoral process.

Kumar 170 Battalion, Vinod Kumar Mohiril 122 Battalion, Rajiv Kumar 122 Battalion, Hariom Sagar, Kuldeep Singh, and Manoj Kumar and Manoj alongside Tripathi, Deputy Senani Sanjay Kumar Singh.

Joint Collector Kailash Assistant Verma. Officer Returning Kaushal, Jageshwar Deputy District Election Officer Narayan Prasad Gawel, Deputy Collector Uttam Singh Panchari, SDMs, Tehsildars, and other senior officers also contributed to the discussions, highlighting the collaborative effort in ensuring the integrity and security of the electoral

Tarbahar underbridge opened for traffic

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Mar 28: In a bid to enhance infrastructure and alleviate traffic congestion issues, the construction work of the Tarbahar Underbridge has been successfully completed and opened for traffic on Wednesday. This development comes as a relief for pedestrians and commuters alike, ensuring uninterrupted and safe road traffic flow.

The Railway Administration has been diligently working towards infrastructure development, innovation, and expanding network capacity to facilitate safe and efficient railway operations while improving passenger facilities. As part of this initiative, the construction of limited height subways at level crossing gates has been ongoing to mitigate



ans. A significant milestone was achieved with the extension of the underbridge to the other end of the bypass line, particularly addressing the traffic bottleneck at the Tarbahar gate in the Bilaspur station yard. This rapid completion of the underbridge allows for smooth and safe road traffic for residents of Sirgitti and

gate for security reasons. Railway

Administration is confident that this underbridge will not only facilitate smooth and uninterrupted $road\ traffic\ but\ also\ provide$ gate closures, saving valuable time for other important tasks.

The completion of the Tarbahar Underbridge signifies a significant step to wards improving transportation infrastructure and easing congestion, underscoring the Railway Administration's commitment to enhancing the over-

Peaceful Holi celebrations brighten Lawan area

Central Chronicle News

Lawan, Mar 28: Despite minor incidents, the villages of the Lawan area, including Lawan city, experienced a tranquil atmosphere during the Holi festival. Notably, adherence to the code of conduct contributed to the exceptionally peaceful celebration of Holi in the area, reflecting the unity and harmony among resi-

This year's festivities included spirited Phag competitions held at various locations, showcasing the enthusiasm of women and children in the community. Additionally, the traditional ritual of Holika Dahan was observed at five different sites across



Lavan city. One such significant event took place at the Mahamaya temple complex, where the priest commenced the Holika Dahan ceremony at night, preserving a tradition dating back years.

Beyond the city limits, villages such as Korda, Sarkhor, Turma, Karda, and Marda also observed

vibrant Holika Dahan celebrations, highlighting the widespread participation and joyous spirit among residents. From dawn till dusk, people of all ages joined in the festivities, indulging in the age-old tradition of applying colorful hues on each other, fostering bonds of camaraderie

Leaders advocate for voter participation in **SVEEP activities**

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Mar 28: In a con-

certed effort to bolster voter awareness and civic engagement, a series of initiatives were launched under the direction of Collector and District Election Officer Ajit Vasant. Spearheaded by the Systematic Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program, a vibrant voter awareness campaign unfolded in Korba, Chhattisgarh.

The day witnessed the culmination of a slogan writing competition, held to foster a deeper understanding of the significance of



voting. At the Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company Limited Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Thermal Power Station in Korba East, participants were joined by dignitaries including Dr. Sadhna Khare, Principal of Government PG College Korba, and the Chief Engineer. Attendees took an oath to uphold their voting rights, underscoring the importance of active participation in the demoprocess

Simultaneously, other engaging programs unfolded at Late Pyarelal Kanwar Government College in Bhainsma and Hasdeo Education College in Amapali, Korba. These initiatives aimed to instill a sense of responsibility and awareness among citizens regarding their role in shaping the nation's future. Dr. Hemant Sachdeva, the Executive Director of the plant, emphasized the importance of voting, declar-

ing, "Our vote is our right." He underscored the significance of voter awareness. particularly SVEEP activities, in the presence of Dr. Sadhna Khare. Principal of Government Engineering Visvesvarava Post Graduate College, and Balram Kurre, college-level SVEEP nodal officer and assistant professor at Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Thermal Power Station, Korba East, During the event, Dr. Khare eluci-

Slogan writing competition promotes voter awareness initiatives dated the crucial role of voting and raised awareness among all present officers employees. Dr. Sachdeva reiterated the necessity of voting, asserting that every Indian should take pride in their right to vote. He emphasized that only responsible voters can foster awareness among all citizens, urging everyone to exercise their voting rights.

> The gathering witnessed the presence of Additional Chief Engineer Sanjeev Kansal, L.N. Suryavanshi, Senior Chief Chemist Malti Joshi, Chief Chemist cum Senior Welfare Officer Govardhan Sidar, and numerous other officers and employees, all actively participating in the initiative to promote voter awareness and participation.

Holi celebrations enliven Mungeli district

and community solidarity.

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Mar 28: The spirit of Holi illuminated the streets of Mungeli district as communities came together to celebrate the festival with immense joy and fervor. From Bada Bazaar to Pulpara and Rest House Ground, the air was filled with wishes of happiness prosperity the district.

Amidst the vibrant celebrations, the police maintained a vigilant presence, ensuring peace and security throughout the district. This diligence contributed to a harmonious atmosphere, allowing residents to revel in the colors of Holi with freedom and en-

In both urban and rural areas, the festival was marked by lively gatherings, with youth spreading cheer by dousing each other in vibrant hues of color. Children and women joined in the festivities, adding to the exuberant atmosphere by exchanging playful splashes of color and heartfelt greetings.

However, in urban centers, the fervor for Holi seemed somewhat subdued compared to previous vears. While pockets of youth engaged in spirited street revelries, the overall enthusiasm appeared diminished in certain areas. Nevertheless, the timeless tradition of applying col-



ings continued, embodying the essence of communal harmony and joy

The festival, celebrated in the wake of the construction of the Ram temple, held special significance for many, further amplifying the spirit of unity and celebration among residents. Despite minor disturbances, the festivities proceeded smoothly, with people setting aside differences to embrace the spirit of togetherness and cama-

raderie.

Yet, alongside the jubiof joy and camaraderie that lant celebrations, concerns defines the festival.

arose regarding the increased consumption of liquor during the festival. Liquor sales reached unprecedented levels, totaling around Rs 2 crore, presenting both a cause for celebration for the Excise Department and a matter of concern for the community.

As the festivities continued into the second day of Holi, a sense of merriment lingered in the air, with offices operating at reduced capacity as revelers indulged in post-celebration relaxation. Despite the subdued atmosphere in some areas, the essence of Holi prevailed, reminding residents of the enduring spirit

Arang Mahanadi Station seeks inclusion in Express train stoppage

Central Chronicle News

Arang, Mar 28: With the advent of the double engine government, hopes are high for the inclusion of Arang Mahanadi railway station as a stoppage point for express trains. The Market Committee Arang has spearheaded efforts to initiate this transformative change, led by Shravan Agarwal, the committee's Patron.

Nestled in the rich historical tapestry of King Mordhwaj's ancient religious city, Arang boasts a multitude of cultural and religious landmarks. From

revered Bageshwar Temple to the historic Kalchuri Era Jain Temple, the city is steeped in spiritual heritage. cognizant of the station's Additionally, Arang serves strategic importance, has as a vital administrative and economic hub, hosting numerous government of-

and a CRPF Soldier Camp. Despite its cultural and economic significance, Arang Mahanadi Railway Station remains the only neglected and backward station in the block. Despite serving as the last station of the Sambalpur Division,

it lacks stoppages for any

fices, industrial facilities.

educational institutions,

express trains, posing challenges for travelers and commuters alike. The Market Committee,

fervently advocated for its inclusion in express train routes. Specifically, they have urged for stoppages and reservation counters Visakhapatnam and Puri Ahmedabad Express trains. Such a decision would not only benefit tourists, businessmen, and students but also enhance accessibility for CRPF soldiers and local residents alike.

RCB, KKR eye course correction to add momentum to campaign

Victory in their respective previous games might have eased the initial nerves but imperfections remain, hence Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Kolkata Knight Riders will eye a quick course correction to add steam to their campaign in an IPL 2024 match here on Friday.

The Royal Challengers defeated Punjab Kings by four wickets, while the Knight Riders elbowed out Sunrisers Hyderabad by four runs to garner some early points.

But entering the points table has not really eased some of the worries - particularly pertaining to the top and middle-order bat-

The Bengaluru dugout might be a happy space after star batter Virat Kohli made a classy fifty on an unusually gripping Chinnaswamy pitch while chasing 177 against Punjab the other night, but that's only one part of the story

Skipper Faf du Plessis, Glenn Maxwell, Cameroon Green and Rajat Patidar are yet to hit the overdrive, and for the win against PBKS they had to rely on the last-minute cameos of Karthik and 'Impact Player' Mahipal

The Kolkatans have a much more capable bowling unit, at least on paper, and such a collectively un-



frontline batters might push RCB into deep troubles against them.

Once they iron out that rough edges, RCB can look at their bowling unit that still needs to fill a couple of unticked boxes despite good outings by pacers Mohammed Siraj and Yash Dayal against Punjab. Pacer Alzarri Joseph continues to be 0/38, 1/43 - might prompt the RCB think-tank to bring in England left-arm quick Reece Topley, who has impressive white-ball skills, in place of the West Indian for this match.

The Knight Riders offer a strikingly similar plot. Their top and middleorder consisting of cap-Shreyas Venkatesh Iyer,

SRH at the Eden Gardens.

It required a combined effort from impact sub Ramandeep Singh, Rinku Singh and Andre Russell -the 6, 7, 8 -- for them to post a competitive total.

Shreyas, who is central to their batting plans, was dismissed for a two-ball duck, but the return to Chinnaswamy might give him a sense of relief as he had fruitful outings here in white-ball cricket in his last two innings.

The elegant right-hander made an unbeaten 128 against the Netherlands in last year's World Cup before making a 53 against Australia in the fifth T20I in December

In bowling, Narine redeemed himself with a frugal spell (1/19) after a modest effort with the bat, but pacer Mitchell Starc, their record buy, and Chakravarthy failed to impress, leaking over 50 runs in their four overs.

The KKR think-tank might not be unduly worried as their campaign is still at a nascent stage, but they would like to see the first-choice pacer and spinner finding their range at the earliest.

But it is unlikely that the Knights will make changes to their eleven for this match, unless they want to give a go to promising leg-spinner Suyash Sharma, who showed fine form during KKR's pre-

ACA serves show-cause notice to **Hanuma Vihari**

Bengaluru, Mar 28 (PTI): The Andhra Cricket Association has served a show-cause notice to Hanuma Vihari a month after the India batter accused the governing body of unceremoniously removing him from captaincy and vowed not to play for the state again.

However, Vihari is yet to respond to the notice which was served after the ACA Apex Council meeting a few days ago. "Yes, we have served him a show-cause notice and we are awaiting his reply," an ACA official told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

However, the official said the association did not want to prolong the issue. "This is just to find what made him react the way he did last month. He has not reached out to us, so this is a chance for him to come out with his grievances.

"After all, we value Vihari and his contributions to the growth of state cricket as he has played a big part in Andhra going up in the ranks in domestic cricket." he added.

The train of unsavoury incidents began soon after Andhra lost to Madhya Pradesh in this year's Ranji Trophy quarterfinal. The 30-year-old righthanded batter took to social media to accuse the ACA of stripping him of captaincy right after Andhra's first match of the season against Bengal.

However, at that time Vihari attributed the decision to "personal reasons."

But in his Instagram post, Vihari said the ACA acted under pressure from a local politician after his son, a 17th player during that match, complained that the middle-order batter shouted swear words at



Madrid, Mar 28 (PTI):

Star Indian shuttler P V Sindhu continued her impressive run at the Madrid Spain Masters, advancing to the quarterfinals with a comfortable straight-game win over Chinese Taipei's Huang Yu-Hsun Thursday.

It was a smooth performance from Sindhu as she was hardly tested by the Taiwanese qualifier, ranked world no. 63, resulting in a 21-14 21-12 win in 36 minutes.

The former world champion, who finished runner-up in the last edition, will take on either sixth seed Supanida Katethong of Thailand or Japan's Natsuki Nidaira. In the opening game, Sindhu was 3-0 up

a phase where she often found the net or went long, while her rival produced some precise returns to grab a 7-6 lead before taking a one-point advantage with straight down-the-line smash.

The Indian, however, produced a better show after resumption, taking a 18-12 cushion with Yu-Hsun making errors. She soon grabbed eight game points, wasted two of them before sealing the opening game with her trademark smash.

After the change of sides, Yu-Hsun struggled to control the shuttle as her lifts repeatedly went long. The Taiwanese shuttler tried to use her drops and placements but she didn't have power in her smashes. The re-

waited for her opponent to commit errors. Soon she had a five-point advantage at the break. Every time Yu-Hsun tried to extend the rallies, she ended up with unforced errors.

Soon a smash handed another eight match points to Sindhu and she wrapped it up when her opponent sprayed into net again. With top seed Carolina

Marin of Spain pulling out of the tournament after her title-winning run at the All England Championships Swiss Open in the last two weeks, Sindhu is now the favourite to claim the crown and end a long wait.

Sindhu won her last BWF tour title at the 2022 Singapore Open Super

Surya might take few more days to get match fit: BCCI source of CA's 2024-25 central contracts list

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI)

World's number one T20 batter Suryakumar Yadav will skip a few more IPL matches as he continues to recov er from a sports hernia surgery with the National Cricket Academy (NCA) keeping a watch on his

Yadav, who plays for Mumbai Indians, has been missing in action in the league and his team has lost both its matches

"Surya is making very good progress and very soon he will be back playing for MI. However, he might have to sit out for a few more games, having missed the first two," a BCCI source said.

While MI is missing Yadav, the BCCI doesn't



will play for MI but after a sports hernia surgery, he can't be rushed," the source said. The 33-year-old often draws comparisons with retired South African superstar A B de Villiers for his range of shots. He has

a superb strike rate of $171.5\overline{5}$ in the format. Yadav has appeared in 60 T20 Internationals for India and has 2141 runs,

including four hundreds. MI will take on Rajasthan Royals in their third game, the first at home in Mumbai, on Melbourne, Mar 28 (PTI)

Veteran opener David Warner, who has retired from ODI and Test cricket, along with all-rounders Ashton Agar and Marcus Stoinis, was on Thursday dropped from Cricket Australia's list of centrally-contracted players for the 2024-25 season. Besides, Victoria opener

Marcus Harris and pacer Michael Neser have also missed out on contracts that were offered to 23 players, stated a report by 'cricket.com.au'.

Australia have a hectic season ahead that will feature the T20 World Cup in the USA and West Indies in June and a home Test series against India towards the end of the year among other engagements.

Warner's omission was expected as he intends to call it guits from the game



after the T20 World Cup. among those who have year's T20 series in South He is currently in India. playing in the IPL for Delhi Capitals.

Stoinis is the most notable omission. However, the 34-year-old, who is currently playing with Lucknow Super Giants in the IPL, remains in contention for the upcoming T20 World Cup despite missing Australia's recent tour of New Zealand with a back injury.

Pacers Xavier Bartlett

been offered contracts for the first time.

Bartlett (25) and Ellis (29) are joined by Victoria and Adelaide Strikers batter Matt Short (28), and Western Australia allrounder Aaron Hardie (25) as the four new faces on this year's central contract

The four players have already made their interna-

tional debut for Australia. Short and Hardie made their debuts during last

Africa, while Ellis played in Australia's ODI and T20I tour of South Africa, and T20 campaigns in India and New Zealand.

He, however, missed the home white-ball series against the West Indies due to a rib injury.

"Matt, Aaron and Xavier have been extremely impressive in the early stages of their international careers," national selection chair George Bailey was quoted as saying by crick-

HI congratulates Sreejesh on being

appointed co-chair of FIH Athletes Committee

'Their performances and the way they have embraced the international stage has been exciting to watch.

"The panel believes they have strong futures and are deserved of their contracts as they work towards striving to become regulars in the Australian

CA contracted men's Abbott, Xavier Bartlett, Scott Boland, Alex Carey, Pat Cummins, Nathan Ellis, Cameron Green, Aaron Hardie, Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Nathan Labuschagne, Lyon, Mitchell Marsh, Glenn Maxwell, Lance Morris, Todd Murphy, Jhye Richardson, Matt Short. Steve Smith. Mitchell Starc, Adam

That was insane: Pat Cummins



Hyderabad, Mar 27 (PTI):

"Insane" was the only word that Sunrisers Hyderabad skipper Pat Cummins could think of to sum up the six-hitting slugfest against Mumbai Indians in the IPL here on Wednesday. It was a game of many firsts as SRH smashed 277 for three, the highest total in IPL history. Mumbai Indians kept themselves in the game before ending at 246 for five. For the first time, 500 runs were scored in a game, including a record 38 sixes. "That was insane. The ball was really pinging around. Not until we bowled, it got a bit too close for comfort. They found a boundary whenever they needed it, but we finished it off well," said Cummins at the postmatch presentation. It was a batting beauty but Cummins did not envisage such a big total.

'You never play for 270, but we wanted to be positive and be aggressive, take the game on. It was a good wicket, so we have to suck it up knowing we would go for a few bound-

'What's important is to have clear plans with the ball. There was amazing atmosphere in the ground, enjoyed playing here, was incredibly loud," said the skipper after SRH's first win of the season.

skipper Opposition Hardik Pandya could only doff his hat to the opposition batters though his team also put up a spirited fight with the bat. "Wicket was good, 277 no matter how bad or good you bowl, if the opposition has to score that much, they have batted well," said Pandya.

Captain Pandya: In search of a sounding board

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI):

It's just two games into the tournament but Hardik Pandya already seems to have loads to worry about in his second with Mumbai stint Indians, the leadership part not quite falling in place thus far.

The exuberant allrounder, arguably one of the biggest match-winners in the current national setup, has been, to put it mildly, struggling in the IPL despite being back in the team that shaped him, the one he considers his home.

It's been anything but homely ever since Pandya was named captain, replacing the much-loved Rohit Sharma.

The results have only made matters worse. Two matches, two losses, some baffling tactics, his own form not being the brightest spot and Pandya has his back against the wall



within the first week of the tournament. There is no imminent threat to the 30-year-old's captaincy as the MI owners, after bringing him on board in IPL's biggest one way transfer,

would not want to take any decision in haste. After all, MI have always been slow starters, who take a while to find their rhythm, and it would be a bit presumptive to dismiss Pandya this early in the tournament given that he is, after all, leading a five-time champion side. But a team that is so desperate for success after three barren seasons perhaps cannot also look away from the fact that Pandya is making mistakes and he doesn't seem to have a sounding board for course correction. He had a solid one dur-

ing his time as Gujarat Titans skipper when Ashish Nehra would always be in his ears.

"I didn't try to convince Hardik to stay back," Nehra had said with a dead pan expression in Ahmedabad in the pre-season press conference when Shubman Gill formally took charge as captain.

who have picked up hockey New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI): Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey on Thursday congratulated PR Sreejesh on being appointed as co-chair of the FIH Athletes Committee, stat-

ing that the veteran goalkeeper can play a big role in directly impacting the lives of fellow players. The International Hockey Federation (FIH) on Wednesday named its new Athletes Committee, to be led by co-chairs Chilean women's

hockey team defender Camila

Caram and Sreejesh.

While Caram has been appointed as co-chair and **Athletes** Committee Representative Executive Board, Sreejesh is the co-chair and will lead the planning and meetings along with Caram. "It is heartening to see PR Sreejesh assume a role with the FIH that would directly impact the lives of

hockey players. A veteran like

him will have the experience

and perspective to advise on

the betterment of athletes

sticks around the world, Tirkev said in a HI release. "We are looking forward to witnessing the positive impact Sreejesh will have on the youth in this role."



appointed the co-chair in FIH **Athletes** the new Committee. "Sreejesh is an empathetic leader and we are confident, in his capacity as co-chair he will ensure that the voices of hockey players around the world are heeded, leading to the growth of the sport." The FIH Athletes Committee serves as a consultative body and makes recommendations to the FIH

Executive Board. Committees, Advisory Panels and other bodies. The roles also cover seeking

and providing feedback to the FIH on behalf of all athletes, while developing and promoting resources and initiatives to athletes such as health and welfare, anti-doping, social media, creating stars to attract new fans, career preparation and management.

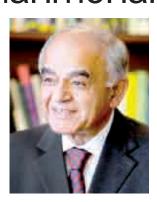
'1991 reforms brought by Narasimha Rao, Manmohan, not Congress'

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI):

It was former prime minister PV Narasimha Rao and the then finance Manmohan Singh who brought the economic reforms in 1991, not the Congress party, argued author and commentator Gurcharan Das.

Speaking at the launch of his book, "The Dilemma of an Indian Liberal", on Wednesday, Das said the mistake that India made in 1991, and the one that it continues to make, is its reformers doing the reforms "chupke chupke" and not selling it to the public.

"We were doing reforms chupke chupke. The reason was (Narasimha) Rao, (Manmohan) Singh and people around them had not even convinced their own party (Congress). So it was not the Congress



party that did the reforms... In fact, the party got so upset with Rao that they actually voted him out," said Das in his conversation with journalist Shoma Chaudhury.

To buttress his point, Das also gave the example of the former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher and how she used to "spend 20 per cent of her time reforming and 80 per cent selling the re-

shifted India's position from a closed and controlled economy to an open and liberalised one. It was brought under the leadership of former PM Narasimha Rao and his fiminister Manmohan Singh in the

Das further underscored the "sin" of not selling the reforms to the public, and how it continues even today, with no future reformers, including the likes of PM Narendra Modi, doing the needful.

Congress-led government.

This, the 80-year-old author alleged, is what leads to people in general thinking of reforms as something that makes the "rich richer, and poor poorer".

"None of the future reformers, be it Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh in the UPA years, not even Modi,

which means...people still believe there is no difference between being promarket and pro-business.

"That is why the Congress party, even today, at the drop of a hat makes a false trade-off between growth and equity," he explained.

The former CEO of Procter & Gamble India also talked about India's democracy, which, he alleged, has "begun to weaken" in contrast to its "robust economy"

He described the whole thing as an "irony" leading to a dilemma.

"When I was growing up we were admired as a country for our wonderful democracy, we were one of the true liberal democracies and we were envied for that. But we were

POLL TRAINING



An electoral officer demonstrates the functioning of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) during a training programme for polling officials, ahead of Lok Sabha elections, in Sonitpur, Thursday.

CCPA and ASCI join hands to protect consumer interests

Mumbai, Mar 28:

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) and The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) both operate with a mutual goal of protecting consumer interests. This objective is central to the missions of both ASCI and the Central Protection Consumer Authority (CCPA) when it comes to the issue of misleading advertisements.

It is noteworthy that

ASCI's code and associated guidelines in the area of advertising are harmonious with several guidelines enforced by the Consumer Authority Protection These encompass guidelines concerning misleading advertisements, dark patterns, influencer guidelines, coaching institutes, greenwashing and more. In light of this alignment, the CCPA has recognized

that any violation of

ASCI's code pertaining to

advertise-

misleading

contravene the Consumer Protection Act of 2019 and its related guidelines.

Therefore, the CCPA has requested ASCI to forward any advertisement that is non-compliant with the ASCI Code and could potentially violate the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, along with its accompanying guidelines, to CCPA for appropriate action. Any such case escalated by ASCI concerning misleading advertisements will be promptly addressed and handled in strict accordance with the Consumer Protection Act 2019 by the CCPA.

collaboration comes amidst the growing complexity of the advertising landscape, especially with respect to digital advertising. Commenting on this development, Rohit Kumar Singh, Secretary DoCA said, "The alignment between ASCI's code and CCPA's guidelines highlights a collective effort towards promoting transparency and fairness ments may potentially in advertising."

'Centre got Rs 150 cr, changed telecom policy'



Asaduddin Owaisi

Hyderabad, Mar. 28 (PTI):

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led NDA government has changed the telecom policy after receiving electoral bonds worth Rs 150 crore from a company, AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi claimed on Thursday. In a post on 'X', the

Hyderabad Lok Sabha MP said, "Modi government got electoral bonds worth Rs 150 crore from a company and the government changed its telecom policy. You can understand who benefited from the change in policy." "If 2G was a scam then what is this?" he asked. Owaisi tagged a picture of a news article which suggests that Bharti Group donated the amount. In another post, the AIMIM leader said the country will have to decide whether to choose a Prime Minister who has a deep "bond" with the oppressed Indians, or

India-China hold talks but Six-time Cuttack no breakthrough in sight

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI):

Amid a lingering border row in eastern Ladakh, top diplomats of India and China held a fresh round of talks and both sides agreed to "maintain regular contact" through diplomatic and military channels, with no indication of any breakthrough. Both sides had an in-

depth exchange of views on how to achieve "complete disengagement" and resolve the remaining issues along the Line of Actual Control during the 29th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC), the Ministry of External Affairs said on Thursday.

The key meeting was held in Beijing on March 27, it said in a statement.

Joint Secretary (East Asia) from the MEA led the Indian delegation. The Chinese delegation was headed by Director General of the Boundary

of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the statement said. "In the interim, both sides agreed to maintain regular contact through diplomatic and military channels and on the need to uphold peace and tranquillity on the ground in the border areas in accordance with existing bilateral agreements and protocols," it

Meanwhile, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a statement on Thursday said, "Both sides positively evaluated the progress made in the management and control of the situation in the China-India border area, and had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on the ideas of work for the next

The two sides "agreed to focus on the relevant issues on the ground along the border, reach a solution acceptable to both sides as soon as possible, and promote the transition of the border and Oceanic Department malised phase of control talks at an early date.

and management," it said.

The 28th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation Coordination on India-China Border Affairs was held on November 30 last Director-General of the

Department of Boundary and Ocean Affairs of the Foreign Ministry, Hong Liang, and Joint Secretary of the East Asia Division of Ministry of External Affairs of India, Gourangalal Das, co-chaired the 29th meeting, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in the statement.

Representatives from the foreign affairs, defense, immigration and other departments of the two countries attended the meeting, it said.

"Both sides agreed to continue to maintain communication through diplomatic and military channels, improve the mechanism for negotiation and consultation, and hold a new round of situation into a nor- corps commander-level

After quitting BJD

MP joins BJP

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI):

In a big setback to the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) on the eve of the Lok Sabha elections, its founding member and six-time Cuttack Lok Sabha MP Bhartruhari Mahtab joined the BJP here on Thursday.

Mahtab, 67, joined the BJP in the presence of senior leaders at the party headquarters here.

Along with him, former MPSidhant Mohapatra and noted Santali language litterateur Damayanti Beshra, who was conferred the Padma Shri in 2020, also joined the BJP in the presence of Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, party national vice president Baijayant Jay Panda and other senior leaders.

Addressing a joint press conference here after joining the BJP, Mahtab said he will now get the opportunity to work for the development and progress of Odisha. "Prime Minister Modi's 'shakti (strength)',



Bhartruhari Mahtab

(trust)' and (BJP chief) J P Nadda ji's 'prerna (inspiration)' will help us move forward," he said. Odisha is "going to" witness a "change" due to Prime Minister Modi's leadership, he added. Mahtab, a sixtime MP from the Cuttack Lok Sabha constituency, had resigned from the primary membership of the BJP last Friday. He was also a founding member of the BJD. Mehtab was elected to Lok Sabha from Cuttack seat in 1998, 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2019. He defeated the BJP's Prakash Mishra with a huge margin of votes in the 2019 Lok Sabha

JOINT TRAINING PROG

Personnel of Indian Army and Jammu & Kashmir Police during a joint training program at the White Knight Corps Battle School in Bhalra, Doda.

Kriti Devi Debbarman files nomination

■ For Tripura East LS constituency

Agartala, Mar 28 (PTI):

Kriti Devi Debbarman, the 'joint candidate' of Tipra Motha and BJP on Thursday submitted her nomination papers for Tripura East Lok Sabha constituency. Accompanied by Tripura

Chief Minister Manik Saha, Tipra Motha chief Pradyot Kishore Debbarma and other senior BJP and Tipra Motha leaders she filed her nomination papers at the Office of the Returning Officer of Tripura East Lok Sabha constituency.

Kriti Devi, sister of Pradyot Kishore Debbarma is married to Yogeswhwar Raj Singh of the Rajkot



East Tripura constituency with a BJP symbol, with Tipra Motha Party (TMP) supremo Pradyot Bikram Manikya Deb Barman before filing her nomination papers for East Tripura constituency, in Agartala, Thursday.

Chhattisgarh. She changed her surname to Kriti Devi Debbarman by an affidavit before filing her nomination papers as the Tripura East Lok Sabha seat is reserved

for Scheduled Tribe candidates. When contacted, the District Magistrate of Dhalai and Returning Officer (RO), Tripura East

status) is not changed by marriage even after her marriage as per the ruling of Supreme Court. "The Tipra Motha-BJP candidate submitted her

Saju Vaheed said her ST status is valid because it (ST

nomination papers for the Tripura East Lok Sabha constituency as Kriti Devi Debbarman and her ST status stands valid", the Returning Officer said.

Chief Minister Manik Saha claimed that the BJP-Tipra Motha-IPFT combine will both the Lok Sabha seats in Tripura. "Today's huge gathering is the signal that the BJP-Tipra Motha-IPFT combine will win both Lok Sabha seats in Tripura. We are sure of winning the Tripura East Lok Sabha seat by a huge margin", the chief minister told media per-

Centre gives green signal to road project in AP tiger corridor

New Delhi, Mar 28 (PTI):

The National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) has recommended the use of more than 40 hectares of forest land from the tiger corridor connecting the Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve (NSTR) and the Sri Venkateswara National Park in Andhra Pradesh for the develop-

ment of expressways, economic corridors and intercorridors under the second phase of Bharatmala Pariyojana, according to the minutes of a meeting held last month. Spread over 3,296.31 square kilometres, the NSTR is the country's largest tiger reserve. It is contiguous with Telangana's Amrabad tiger reserve and accounts

for the largest tiger population (around 72) in the Eastern Ghat landscape.

According to the minutes of the meeting, the length of the road passing through the tiger corridor under the project is about five kilometres. Three tunnels, four minor bridges, seven viaducts and two culverts have been suggested as mitigation struc-

tures in the project proposal. The length of the animal passage is around three kilometres on both sides. The member-secretary, National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), has informed the NBWL's standing committee that the mitigation measures suggested under the proposal appear to be adequate and therefore, it

may be recommended. The corridor connecting

the NSTR and the Sri Venkateswara National Park, known as the Nagarjunasagar-Sri Venkateswara Corridor, passes through forested habitats and includes three protected -- the Gundla areas Brahmeswaram Wildlife Sanctuary,

Lankamalleswara Wildlife Sanctuary and the Sri Narasimha Penusila

Wildlife Sanctuary.

Various state highways (31, 34, 56 and 57) intersect the corridor, highlighting the need for wildlife passageways and appropriate mitigation measures, the environment ministry's "Status of tigers, co-predators and prey in India2022" report said.

"The tiger density within the Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve is on the rise, and tigers will naturally disperse to recolonise the Venkateswara National Park. Therefore, it is crucial to maintain the functionality of the corridor to facilitate this natural dis-



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