



Central Chronicle

Raipur | THURSDAY, July 25, 2024

Fastest Growing English Daily Of Chhattisgarh

www.centralchronicle.in

Pages: 16 | Price: Rs. 4.00

Pilot survives, 18 killed in Nepal plane crash

One injured person (Captain Shakya) was rescued and taken to the hospital.

Press Trust Of India

KATHMANDU: A Nepalese private plane crashed and caught fire shortly after taking off from the Tribhuvan International Airport here on Wednesday, killing 18 people aboard, including a child, and seriously injuring the pilot - the only survivor. The Bombardier CRJ-200 aircraft of Saurya Airlines, carrying 19 people, including two crew members and technical staff of the airline, was bound for Pokhara International Airport for regular maintenance service when the accident occurred at 11.11 am (local time). "Shortly after take-off from runway 02, the aircraft veered off to the right and crashed on the east side of the runway," said a statement issued by the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal. It said rescue operations were initiated immediately and fire was brought under control. "One injured person (Cap-



Rescue operations are underway at the site of a plane crash at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Nepal.

HIGHLIGHT

● Plane flying from Kathmandu to Pokhara turned in the wrong direction.

tain Manish Ratna Shakya) was rescued and taken to the hospital, and 18 People were found dead," it added. The aviation authority identified one of

Deeply saddened by the tragic deaths.

KP Sharma Oli
Prime Minister

the passengers as a child named Adhiraj Sharma, who was the son of Manu Raj Sharma, a technician

of Saurya Airlines. Sharma's wife Priza Khatiwada and their four-year old son Adhiraj died in the crash.

A statement issued by the airline said that Priza and her son were initially identified as employees of the company, but it was later revealed that they were passengers. Videos posted online showed the plane being enveloped

in fire and smoke. Fire engines and ambulances were rushed to the spot after the incident.

The deceased were identified as co-pilot S Katuwal and employees of Saurya Airlines and a Yemeni national (Aref Reda). Pilot Captain Manish Shakya, 37, is undergoing treatment at Kathmandu Model Hospital.

SDRF's Ashiq Ali wins praise for saving five kanwariyas

NEW DELHI: A Muslim head constable of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) in Uttarakhand's Haridwar is being extolled for his heroic acts of saving five Kanwariyas, including two minors, from drowning in the Ganga River in separate incidents.

Almost everyone in the pilgrimage town is talking about SDRF head constable Ashiq Ali, who is deployed at Kangra ghat near Har Ki Pauri in

Haridwar. When 21-year-old Shiv devotee Monu from Faridabad in Haryana started drifting along the swift currents of the Ganga at Kangra Ghat on Tuesday, Ali, along with his fellow SDRF personnel, wasted no time in jumping into the river and rescuing him.

He saved another Kanwariya -- 21-year-old Govind Singh from the state's Udham Singh Nagar district -- the same day in a separate incident.

Jarange suspends fast over quota

MUMBAI: Activist Manoj Jarange on Wednesday suspended his five-day-old fast stating his community wants him to be alive to fight for the cause of Maratha reservation, and railed against the ruling BJP, heating up the quota politics ahead of the Maharashtra assembly polls.

World's hottest day record broken

NEW DELHI: The Earth experienced its hottest day in at least 84 years on July 22, with the global average temperature reaching a record high of 17.15 degrees Celsius, according to the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S). This exceeded the previous record of 17.09 degrees Celsius, set just a day before on July 21. These unprecedented temperatures follow a series of monthly heat records.

NEWSLINE

RAIGARH

Cong leader found murdered

A 45-year-old local Congress leader was found murdered on Wednesday with his body lying in a pool of blood near a nullah in Sarangarh-Bilaigarh district, police said. The deceased, Harinath Patel, was an executive member of the Baramkela Block Congress Committee, an official said. Prima facie, Patel was fatally attacked on his neck and head by some unidentified persons with sharp weapons when he was returning home to Kamrid village.

NEW DELHI

PM meets UK foreign secretary



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday met UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy and welcomed his country's desire to conclude a mutually beneficial free trade agreement (FTA). Modi said in a post on X, "A pleasure to meet UK FS David Lammy."

MUMBAI

Maha CM to attend NITI Aayog meeting

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde will attend a NITI Aayog meeting to be chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi on July 27. Shinde's office confirmed on Wednesday that he will participate in the meeting. The ninth meeting of the Council meeting of the Aayog will discuss the 'Vikshit Bharat@2047' document to make India a developed nation. The Council, the apex body of NITI Aayog, includes all State Chief Ministers, Lieutenant Governors of Union Territories, and several Union Ministers.



Art & Culture

Loha Shilp: A Glimpse into Chhattisgarh's iron craft heritage

Tucked away in the artistic enclave of Chhattisgarh, the captivating art form of Loha Shilpa, or iron craft, beckons with its mesmerizing blend of tradition and artistry. This unique craft, flourishing in the Bastar district, transforms humble iron into extraordinary masterpieces, showcasing the region's rich artistic heritage and innovative spirit.

Right to be forgotten has 'serious ramifications': SC

Press Trust Of India

"Issue notice, and in the meantime, the directions of Madras high court shall remain stayed," SC ordered.

NEW DELHI: Removing judgments from public domain by court order under the right to be forgotten after the acquittal of an accused in criminal cases will have "very serious ramifications", the Supreme Court observed on Wednesday.

The top court, however, agreed to examine the knotty question of law as to whether an accused, after being absolved in a criminal case, can seek removal of the judgment from the public domain, including digital platforms,



The Supreme Court of India.

FACTFILE

● The bench said even a convicted person may come up with the plea, saying he or she has served the sentence.

in exercise of their right to be forgotten.

"How can a court order this? To say that the judgment, a public document, be pulled down will have very serious ramifications," said a bench com-

prising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra after taking note of the submissions of Ikanoon Software Development Pvt Ltd, a Bengaluru-based legal website.

The firm said the Madras high court asked it to take down a judgment which revealed the identity of a person who was acquitted in a rape and cheating case. "Issue notice, and in the meantime, the direc-

tions of Madras high court shall remain stayed," the bench ordered. The court said it will settle the law on the issue.

The website, in its plea filed through lawyer Abiha Zaidi, said the high court decision "adversely impacts the freedom of speech and expression of the petitioner and the public at large, guaranteed by Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution as well as the petitioner's freedom of trade, occupation and profession protected by Article 19(1)(g)."

The counsel for the website said the high courts of Kerala and Gujarat have held that there was no right to be forgotten in such cases, while the Madras high court in the present case took a contrary view.

'Rs 6,922 crore for railway development in Chh'garh state'

Press Trust Of India

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav addressed the press via video conferencing.

RAIPUR: The budget for 2024-25 was presented in Parliament on 23 July 2024. In this context, provisions have been made for various ongoing projects, new projects, works, and expenditures related to railways.

The budget allocation for the railways primarily emphasizes industrial development, reducing congestion on high-density networks, and enabling multi-modal connectivity. In this sequence, on Wednesday Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav addressed the press through video conferencing, providing information on the bud-



HIGHLIGHT

● 22 times higher than the average allocation of Rs. 311 crore allotted to state during the period from 2009 to 2014.

● Under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, development is being carried out at 32 stations in state.

get allocation issued for the railways.

During this event, a large number of local journalists were present at the conference halls

of the Bilaspur headquarters, Raipur, and Nagpur Division offices.

An allocation of Rs. 6,922 crore has been made for rail development in Chhattisgarh state, which is 22 times higher than the average allocation of Rs. 311 crore allotted to Chhattisgarh state during the period from 2009 to 2014. During 2009 to 2014, an average of 6 kilometers of rail lines were constructed annually in Chhattisgarh state, whereas during 2014 to 2024, construction averaged 100 kilometers per year, which is 17 times higher.

100% electrification of rail lines has been achieved in Chhattisgarh state. During the press conference, in the DRM Office, DRM Sanjeev Kumar, Sr DCM Avadhesh Trivedi and others were present.

CLOSE SHAVE

Security forces recover IEDs planted by Naxals

Press Trust Of India

KONDAGAON: A potential tragedy was averted when security forces on patrol recovered two IEDs planted by Naxalites in Kondagaon district, police said on Wednesday. The Improvised Explosive Devices weighing 5 kg each were placed beneath the earth to target teams of District



Reserve Guard and police between Kotokoda and Kilenar villages under the Iragaoon police station limits on Tuesday, an official said. The IEDs were subsequently defused by the

Bomb Disposal Squad. Naxals often plant explosives to target security forces during patrolling in the Bastar division comprising seven districts. Chhattisgarh has

NUMBER

05

● IEDs weighing 5 kg each were placed beneath the earth to target teams of DRG and police.

reported 273 Naxal-related incidents, including 92 encounters between

security forces and Maoists, between December 2023 and June this year, as per the state government. Nineteen security personnel lost their lives and 88 were injured in Naxal incidents and encounters, while 34 civilians were killed by Maoists. Altogether, 137 Naxalites were gunned down, while 171 others were arrested during this period.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government has decided to reserve 10 per cent of vacancies in the Central Armed Police Forces and Assam Rifles for ex-Agniveers, the Rajya Sabha was informed Wednesday. A provision has been made for relaxation in the upper age limit and exemp-

10% reservation for ex-Agniveers in CAPFs

tion from the Physical Efficiency Test in the recruitment to the post of constable (general duty) and rifleman in the CAPFs and Assam Rifles for ex-Agniveers, Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai said in response to a written question. "The number of vacancies in the CAPFs and AR is 84,106.

Raipur



Union budget will boost agriculture and rural development.

Ashok Bajaj
Former President, District Panchayat.



PCC State in-Charge Sachin addressing a huge gathering before the gherao. (Inset) Water canon used to disperse the protesting Congmen before VS

Water cannons on Cong workers by Cop

Law and order situation has collapsed in state, said Sachin Pilot.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Police on Wednesday used water cannons on Congress workers in Raipur demonstrating against "poor" law and order under the BJP government, stopping them midway to the Chhattisgarh assembly where the monsoon session is underway.

Massive deployment of police personnel at various spots and placing big metal sheet barricades at several places ensured that Congress workers couldn't reach Vidhan Sabha on the

outskirts of the state capital. Police deployed water cannons on Congress activists as they tried to break down a barricade in Lodhi Para Chowk.

Senior Congress leaders including Sachin Pilot, former chief minister Bhupesh Baghel and Chhattisgarh Congress unit president Deepak Baij alleged the collapse of law and order in the BJP-ruled state. The Congress leaders addressed protesters near Mandi Gate.

"The law and order situation has collapsed in Chhattisgarh where the graph

HIGHLIGHT

● Pilot said thousands of people joined the gherao protest called by the Congress party

of crimes, including rape, murder, loot, is going high," AICC incharge for Chhattisgarh, Sachin Pilot, told reporters.

He claimed common people are bearing the brunt of law and order "break-down". "The state government has failed and is ineffective," Pilot alleged. Pilot

said thousands of people joined the gherao protest called by the Congress party against the government and vowed to continue the fight inside and outside the legislative assembly.

Echoing his party colleagues, ex-CM Bhupesh Baghel alleged the Opposition was compelled to take to the streets within just six months of the BJP coming to power.

"The government failed to avert arson at the office of the district collector and the superintendent of police in Balodabazar city last month.

Proposal approved for libraries in 13 urban bodies

RAIPUR: The proposal to establish libraries in 13 urban bodies across the state, modeled after the Nalanda campus in Raipur, has received the green light from the Finance Department. This initiative aims to foster a "Knowledge Based Society" by providing state-of-the-art educational facilities to youth preparing for competitive examinations and seeking admission to higher educational institutions. Chief Minister Vishnudeo Sai is dedicated to creating a high-quality educational environment for the state's youth. He announced this ambitious project as a significant gift to benefit students. The Finance Department has sanctioned over Rs 85 crore 42 lakh for constructing libraries in these urban areas. Among the planned facilities, four urban bodies will host 500-seater libraries, while nine will have 200-seater libraries. The primary objective of these libraries is to ensure the educational and cultural development of local youth, particularly those from smaller cities.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

Union Budget 2024-25 Reactions

Union Budget 2024-25 is a Balanced Budget: CCCI

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industries has lauded the Union Budget 2024-25, presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, as a balanced and forward-looking budget. State President Amar Parwani, General Secretary Ajay Bhasin, Treasurer Uttamchand Golchha, Executive President Rajendra Jaggi, Vikram Singhdev, Ram Mandhan, and Manmohan Aggarwal collectively praised the budget, highlighting its alignment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for a developed India by 2047. President Amar Parwani emphasized

that the budget lays a strong foundation for the country's economic development, balancing the needs of industry, rural economy, infrastructure, youth, employed individuals, and women. Parwani highlighted several key features of the budget: New posts in health, education, and various sectors have been approved to generate employment for the youth. The budget is designed to ensure the development of the last person in society, with significant announcements expected to boost business and employment in the state. Under the new tax regime, a 5% tax rate will

Developmental budget, beneficial for all: Satish

RAIPUR: Merchant Association President Satish Jain said that the budget presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for the financial year 2024-25 is populist, all sections have been taken care of. The budget has the potential to change the economic direction and condition. For the first time, a credit guarantee scheme for small businessmen and a separate fund will be created for small businessmen, which is welcome. Changes in the income tax regime, 12 industrial parks for cities, PM Suryaghar free electricity scheme

for solar plants, loan guarantee scheme for MSMEs, increasing the limit of Mudra loan from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh are commendable efforts. Custom duty has been reduced on mobile phones, chargers, gold-silver, shoes and slippers, they will be cheaper. He has demanded that a one-time license policy should be brought for small businessmen, which will get rid of the hassle of license renewal every year.

Growth, employment oriented Budget: PHDCCI

RAIPUR: The focus on GYAN (Gareeb, Yuva, Annadata and Narishakti) will all inclusive development and strengthen India journey towards Viksit Bharat, Sanjeev Agrawal, President, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry congratulates Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Honourable Finance Minister on presenting a strong Union Budget 2024-25. We appreciate that the economy is on a strong wicket and stable footing towards its journey to Viksit Bharat, said Sanjeev Agrawal. The nine priority areas of productivity and resilience in agriculture, employment and skilling, inclusive human resource development and social justice, manufacturing & services, urban development, energy security, infrastructure,

innovation and R&D and next generation reforms will strengthen the growth and all inclusive development of the country, said Sanjeev Agrawal. Support to MSMEs with the announcement of credit guarantee schemes in manufacturing to facilitate term loans for MSMEs, with a guarantee fund of up to Rs 100 crore, will enhance the business activity and employment creation in the country, said Sanjeev Agrawal. We appreciate that India's economic growth continues to be the shining exception and will remain so in the years ahead, despite global uncertainties, said Sanjeev Agrawal.

Central Bank Zonal Head congratulates AIIMS Raipur Director



RAIPUR: B.R. Rama Krishna Naik, the Zonal Head of Central Bank of India for the Raipur Zone, recently met with Lt. Gen. Ashok Jindal, the Director of AIIMS Raipur. During their meeting, Naik congratulated Jindal on his remarkable achievement of receiving the Param Vishisht Seva Medal for distinguished service in the Armed Forces. The prestigious award was recently presented to Jindal by the President of India, recognizing his exceptional contributions and dedication to service. The meeting highlighted the pride and honor felt by the local community and institutions in celebrating the accomplishments of such distinguished individuals.

Vande Bharat Express to run from Bilaspur to Delhi likely

Central Chronicle News

A major win for Union Minister Tokhan Sahu.



Vande Bharat train..

RAIPUR: The Vande Bharat Express train will soon commence operations from Bilaspur to Delhi, a significant development following the efforts of Union Minister of State and Bilaspur MP Tokhan Sahu.

Sahu met with Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, advocating for a direct Vande Bharat train service between Bilaspur and Delhi. This request has now been accommodated in the Railway Budget announced on Monday.

According to the details, there are plans to initially run a Sleeper Vande Bharat train, following the Seating Vande

FACTFILE

● Vande Bharat to reduce travel time between Bilaspur and Delhi to 10 hours as compared to current 18-20 hours.

Bharat. The introduction of this high-speed train will substantially benefit passengers traveling from Chhattisgarh to Delhi. The

Vande Bharat Express is set to reduce the travel time between Bilaspur and Delhi to 10 hours, compared to the current 18-20 hours by conventional rail services, saving passengers 8 to 10 hours.

The announcement has been met with widespread appreciation from the local community. Residents have extended their congratulations to

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, and MP Tokhan Sahu for this significant development.

The new train service is expected to enhance connectivity and provide a faster, more efficient travel option for passengers, marking a significant improvement in the region's transportation infrastructure.

DOCTORS SHORTAGE |

Jaiswal cornered over shortage of doctors

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal was today cornered in Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly by members of ruling and opposition parties over shortage of doctors, nurses and medical equipment in government hospitals in Baikunthpur, Bemetara, Gariaband and other parts of state. Minister Jaiswal asked the members to recommend doctors for appointment. Jaiswal said that 10000

posts in health department would be filled this year.

Raising the issue pertaining to set-up and vacant posts of staff in hospitals during question hour BJP MLA Bhaiyalal Rajwade asked when the staff will be appointed.

Minister Jaiswal said that 188 posts were sanctioned and 77 posts were lying vacant in Baikunthpur district hospital.

He said that 98 posts were filled up through DMF. He said that out of 25 posts of medical offi-



cer, 16 were filled while 9 were lying vacant. He said that posts of civil surgeons would be recruited within 15 days. BJP's Ajay Chandrakar said that instead of

10000 posts in health department would be filled this year.

Shyam Bihari Jaiswal.
State Health Minister.

talking, it would be necessary to work. Rajwade asked as to how long will the trend about doctors running their private clinics instead of treating patients in hospitals will continue.

Jaiswal said that appropriate action would be taken on this matter. Janak Dhruv of Congress stressed the need for appointment of doctors in Amlipadar so as to stop the process of referring patients.

Jaiswal said that process of filling up more than 10000 posts including that of doctor would be done in hospitals.

He said that 1079 posts of doctor, 884 posts of staff nurse, 23 posts of peon and 237 posts of assistant professor were sent to PSC.



Himalaya Optical unveiled its new store in Raipur

RAIPUR: Himalaya Optical has proudly unveiled its newly revamped store in Magneto Mall at Raipur, Chhattisgarh, marking a significant milestone in its journey. Established in 1935, Himalaya Optical has long been a leader in luxury eyewear, and this latest update is a testament to its commitment to excellence. The revamped store reflects a modern and sophisticated design, along with the launch of latest luxury eyewear collection from all the international brands which aligns with the brand's reputation. The event was graced by eminent actor, Bhagwan Tiwari who has been a part of many block-buster movies like, A Wednesday, Raees, Masaan to name a few.

The Raipur store proudly showcases an extensive collection of high-end frames and sunglasses from over 60 esteemed global brands, including Cartier, Hublot, Maybach, Lindberg, Philipp Plein, Chopard, Dita and more. This curated selection epitomizes luxury eyewear fashion, featuring the latest international collections. Mr. Devansh Binani, Director of Himalaya Optical, highlighted the sig-

nificance of this store revamp during the opening ceremony, stating, "Our revamped store in Raipur symbolizes our ongoing dedication to providing unparalleled luxury and the highest standards in eye care. We are thrilled to present a space that reflects both our heritage and our forward-thinking approach." The store features cutting-edge technology, including the advanced Visioffice system, designed for precise vision measurement and alignment. This ensures that clients receive the most accurate, customized and comfortable vision correction available.

Cong questions govt over Naxal encounter

Dy CM Vijay Sharma said the Cong should stop supporting Naxalites.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh legislative assembly on Wednesday witnessed stormy scenes after Congress MLAs raised questions over an encounter in Bijapur district of the state in May this year, and claimed that most of the persons killed in the incident were innocent villagers and not Naxalites.

Countering their charges, state Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma said the Congress should stop supporting Naxalites.

In the Question Hour, Leader of Opposition Charan Das Mahant asked about the statistics of Naxalite-related incidents in the state between December last year and June this year.

In his reply, Deputy CM Sharma, who also holds the home portfolio, said 273 Naxalite-related incidents, including 92 encounters between security forces and Naxalites, took place during this period.

Nineteen security personnel lost their lives and 88 sustained injuries in Naxalite incidents and encounters, while 34 civilians were killed by Maoists between December last year and June this year, he said.

FASTFACTS

● Congress MLAs alleged that innocent villagers engaged in tendu leaf collection were killed by police.

● Refuting their charges, deputy CM raised an objection and asked them to desist from making such "unacceptable" statements.

Similarly, 137 Naxalites were gunned down and 171 arrested in the state during this period, Sharma said.

As on June 30 this year, 790 Naxalites are in jail, of whom, 765 are under trial and 25 are convicted, he added.

Later, Congress MLAs, including former minister Kawasi Lakhma and Vikram Mandavi, raised questions over the authenticity of the encounter near Pidia village in Bijapur district and alleged that innocent villagers engaged in tendu leaf collection were killed by the police.

Refuting their charges, the deputy CM raised an objection and asked them to desist from making such "unacceptable" statements.

The Congress should



Chhattisgarh assembly.

Rural development projects will be a milestone in uplifting rural life: Sharma



Reacting to the Union Budget, Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma described the budget as development-oriented, inclusive, and welfare-centric. He appreciated the provisions made in various sectors and termed it crucial for the development of the country and the state.

Welcoming the provisions made in the budget for the Home Department, Panchayat and Rural Development, he said that the allocation for rural infrastructure development, drinking water supply, and sanitation projects will be an important milestone.

stop supporting Naxalites, he said.

Subsequently, the Congress members started sloganeering, saying the state government should stop targeting innocent

tribals in the name of Naxalites.

After the question hour ended, Speaker Raman Singh proceeded with further list business of the day.

3 accused arrested in theft case in Dhamtari

DHAMTARI: City police has arrested three accused in a theft case in Hinchapur Sankara village. According to the police, the victim Nageshwar Devdas had gone on his duty in Forest office Nagri on July 18. When he returned he found that the lock of the main door was broken and all the general items from the locker were scattered. The police apprehended some local youth as suspects. During the interrogation they confessed their crime. The police recovered ornaments and other valuables worth Rs 11400 from them and sent them on judicial remand.

Two accused arrested in theft cases of two wheelers

RAIPUR: The City police arrested two accused, in the theft cases of two wheelers. An applicant Nisha Nathani had lodged a report in Telibandha police station, that she had gone for shopping in Mahvir Nagar locality she parked her moped in front of the complex. When she returned her two-wheeler was not there. Today the informer hinted the civil Lines police that two persons were trying to sell one several two-wheeler.

Suppl budget will make women self-reliant: Rajwade

Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

RAIPUR: Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Rajwade said that supplementary budget will prove to be a big step towards making women self-reliant. She said that an additional provision of Rs. 4,900 crore had been made for Mahtari Vandan Yojana. In this budget, all sections including the poor, women, middle class, small traders have been taken care of, she said.

The first supplementary of the government of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai was passed by voice vote in the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly on 23 July 2024.

In the first supplementary budget of Rs 7 thou-

● Minister Laxmi Rajwade said that supplementary budget will prove to be a big step towards making women self-reliant.

sand 329 crore presented by Finance Minister OP Choudhary for the year 2024-25, provisions have been made for many schemes and development works including Mahtari Vandan Yojana, PM Janman Yojana, along with sports facilities, Anganwadi Bhawan. The Sai government has prepared this supplementary budget keeping in mind Developed India and Chhattisgarh Vision 2047.

Four nabbed, amount of Rs 3.24 crore frozen

JASHPUR: The Jashpur police has made a major breakthrough in Mahadev Satta App gang case in Jashpur in nabbing four accused and freezing a whopping amount of Rs 3.24 cr and seized cash of Rs 2.30 lakh, along with ATM cards of different banks, passbooks, cheque books, bank's seal, SIM cards and passport and others from their possession. As per information, the accused

have made a deposit of around Rs 28.26 cr in their bank accounts and withdrawal of Rs 25.51 cr. It is the son and father along with few other used to get account of innocent villagers opened in 95 different banks and made irregularities worth crore through 124 different ATM cards. These accused used to work along with those of Mahadev Satta App persons and indulge in crime.

NEWSLINE

COMMENTS

'Budget fulfills the aspirations of 140 cr Indians'



RAIPUR: Reacting to the Union Budget, senior BJP leader and Raipur MP Brijmohan Agarwal said that this budget is for the creation of a strong, powerful, self-respecting, and self-reliant India. This budget has taken care of all sections, including youth, poor, women, and farmers. He said that through this budget, 2 crore youth will be trained to provide employment, and they will receive Rs 5,000 per month from the central government for 1 year. An allocation of Rs 1.48 lakh crore has been made for education, employment, and skill development.

PROBE

'Purchase of T-Shirt for Sports dept to be probed'

RAIPUR: The issue of purchasing T-shirts and caps without tender and work order was raised in the House. BJP MLA Rajesh Munat raised the issue in the House and alleged that purchases worth Rs 3 crore 75 lakh were made without tender. The Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Tankaram Verma said that the purchase was not made from Golden Moment Institute through any government process. Nor has any payment been made. Munat asked whether the Sports and Youth Welfare Department supplied T-shirts and caps to Rahul Gandhi's conference in Jagdalpur under the Rajiv Mitran Yojana or not? The Sports Minister said, it was not purchased at the departmental level. Moonat asserted that the director of the sports department had written a letter and demanded the money from the government.

TT LEAGUE

Ahana creates upset to clinch twin titles in TT League



RAIPUR: Budding player Ahana Singh created upset in the Table Tennis League defeating stalwart and former Champion Surabhi Modi to win the Monsoon League TT organised under the aegis of Rajdhani Table Tennis Association (RTTA) at Sapre School TT Hall here. She doubled her success as she also won the Under 15 girls' title Samaya Pandey with the score of 2-1. Providing the above information, the RTTA Secretary Vinay Baiswade said that junior player Ahana Singh defeated Surabhi Modi with the score of 2-1 to clinch the title in senior category.

Mishra inspects upgradation works in Mukti Dham

Central Chronicle News

Commissioner of Raipur Municipal Corporation, Abinash Mishra, conducted a direct inspection of the upgradation works carried out at Sarjubandha Mukti Dham under Zone 6.

Sarjubandha Mukti Dham and effectively prevent encroachments. To this end, a boundary wall has been constructed around the entire area.

Additionally, two sheds and two buildings have been erected to improve the facilities. Furthermore, the development of a garden within the Mukti Dham premises has been undertaken, along with the construction of pathways and the installation of paver blocks for beautification purposes.

The Municipal Commissioner inspected these upgradation works, including the plantation activities within the Mukti Dham premises.

He expressed satisfaction with the progress and instructed the Zone Commissioner and Executive Engineer to ensure proper maintenance and upkeep of the site.

New bus stand in Rajim soon

RAIPUR: MLA Rohit Sahu raised the issue of pendency of the work of setting up bus stand in Rajim. Deputy CM Arun Sao said that Rajim being a religious destination needed bus stand and that effort would be made at the earliest to work on this. Sao announced to set up bus stand at Rs 2 crore in Rajim after earmarking the site.

Second main examination for class 10-12 begins

RAIPUR: The second main exam for High School and Higher Secondary students, conducted by the CGBSE, commenced on 23 July 2024 and will continue until 12 August. Smt. Pushpa Sahu (IAS), Secretary of the Board, inspected various examination centers to assess the examination arrangements.

ASFT Dept of Amity University organizes eight day PDP

Central Chronicle News

ASFT, Amity University, organized an eight-day PDP on the theme 'Sustainable Approaches in Fashion and Textile System'.

RAIPUR: Amity School of Fashion Technology (ASFT), Amity University Chhattisgarh, organized an eight-day Professional Development Programme on the theme 'Sustainable Approaches in Fashion and Textile System'. The program aimed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the latest trends and best practices in sustainable fashion and textile production and to equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions



ASFT, Amity University, organized an eight-day PDP.

FASTFACTS

● Prof. (Dr.) Piyush Kant Pandey, emphasized the significance of sustainable fashion in his inaugural address.

that promote sustainability and ethical practices

in the fashion and textile industry.

The Vice-Chancellor of Amity University Chhattisgarh, Prof. (Dr.) Piyush Kant Pandey, emphasized the significance of sustainable fashion in his inaugural address, stressing the necessity to conserve natural resources. The event featured eight

teen speakers from the academic, scientific, and industrial fields of fashion and textile who shared valuable insights.

Keynote speaker S. Periasamy, Advisor at AIC-NIFTTEA Incubation Centre for Textiles and Apparels, Tirupur, discussed 'Innovative Technologies: Driving Sustainability in Indian Textile Recycling' and underscored the significance of sustainability and innovative recycling technologies in textiles.

Dr. ASM Raja, Principal Scientist and Head of the Mechanical Processing Division at ICAR-Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology, Mumbai, focused on 'Sustainability of Cotton for Fashion and Textile Industries', emphasizing sustainable processing in cotton manufacturing.

NEW RELEASE |

Flair, Fun, Education this 'saavan' 'Mor Bai Hi-Fi'

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: This year's much-awaited Chhattisgarhi film 'Mor Bai Hi-Fi' is going to be released on July 26. Vijay Mishra 'Amit' will be seen in an important role in the film. He said, "The growing steps of women have been presented in a very interesting way in the film. The effect of change in society due to educating women community is the crux of this enlightening entertainer." Further

Mishra said, "Today's era is of tech and modernization. Producer and much-talked-about actor Prakash Awasthi has made full use of new technology in film'. Every scene and character has come alive with the very effective direction of young director Nitesh Lahiri. Actresses Srishti Devangan, Deepali Pandey, Pramila Ratre, as the main female characters of the film, have conveyed a strong message of becoming Hi-Fi



Its songs have been beautifully woven into captivating dances.

Vijay Mishra Veteran artist

to Chhattisgarhi women with their strong acting. The acting of Anupam Verma, Yogesh Agarwal and Kranti Dixit, who are experienced in the acting world, is praise worthy.

Vijay Mishra further mentioned, "Mor Bai Hi Fi has been filmed in a pure Chhattisgarhi environment. Also, its songs have been beautifully woven into captivating

dances. There is also a strong tadka of humour in between. It is worth mentioning that Vijay Mishra, an important character of 'Mor Bai Hi Fi', has been associated with Chhattisgarhi theatre Chandaini Gonda, Sonha Bihaan, Kari, Lorik Chanda since 1982. He also has a special identity as a writer and Anchor. He has done Chhattisgarhi films like 'Le Chalun Apan Duwari', 'Maya Hoge Re', 'Hamar Pahuna', 'Bahuriya', 'Mohi Dare' etc.

Rainwater harvesting demonstrated

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Rainwater harvesting was demonstrated with the use of innovative technology in front of Raipur Municipal Corporation Commissioner Abinash Mishra recently. The demonstration was conducted by the city's rain water harvesting expert Dr K Panigrahi in a small sector in front of the Mahatma Gandhi Sadan (municipal headquarters building). Pandit Sundarlal

Sharma Ward corporator Mrityunjay Dubey, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Ward corporator Rohit Sahu, and Additional Commissioners US Agrawal, Vinod Pandey, Superintendent Engineer Rajesh Sharma, Executive Engineer Anshul Sharma, and Imran Khan, were present during demonstration.

This technology allows for the easy and efficient collection of approximately 200,000 liters of rainwater.



“Monetary assistance of Rs 4 lakh sanctioned to the dependents of a lady who died in a fire mishap.”

Richa Prakash Chowdhari
Collector, Durg

Sheonath water level decreases by three feet

Situation being monitored round the clock to prevent mishaps.



Old bridge on River Sheonath on Durg - Rajnandgaon road.

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: On Wednesday, there was a slight relief from flood threat as the water level in River Sheonath decreased by about three feet. However, due to continuous rain in the catchment areas of River Sheonath for the past few days and release of water from Mongra Barrage, water is flowing almost 07 feet above the Mahamara Anicut in Durg City. The old bridge on Durg Rajnandgaon Road remained unaffected as water was flowing almost 6 feet below

FASTFACTS

● Water flowing 07 feet above Mahamara Anicut

● Approach roads and old bridges barricaded

the road.

Compared to the past days, the water level in Tandula river, Kharkhara river and other tributary drains of Sheonath has decreased. In view of the water level of the river, people still need to be cautious. SK Pandey, Executive Engi-

Administration on alert mode

The administration is on alert mode due to incessant rains in the district. SDRF, Police and other departments are closely monitoring the situation. Concerned officials conducted inspections in villages prone to floods. The villages located on the banks of Shivnath including Jhola, Bhothli, Ruda, Khara, Changori, Thanaud, Pise-gaon, Mahamara, Pulgaon, Kosmi, Mohlai, Nag-pura, Malud, Belaudi, Peeparchhedi, Jhenjhari, Hatgaon, Ganiyari, Sahgaon, etc are being continuously monitored.

neer of Water Resources Department (Tandula Division) informed that due to continuous rains, Tandula reservoir has been filled upto 45 per-

cent, Kharkhara reservoir upto 46 percent, Khapri reservoir up to 53 percent and Gondli reservoir is filled upto 25 percent of its capacity.

306.3 mm average rainfall recorded

BHILAI: An average rainfall of 306.3 mm has been recorded in the district from 01 June to 24 July. According to the information, the highest rainfall of 521.8 mm has been recorded in Patan Tehsil and the lowest 202.9 mm in Bori. Apart from this, 269.6 mm rainfall has been recorded in Durg, 218.2 mm in Dhamdha, 270.0 mm in Bhilai 3 and 355.2 mm in Ahiwara. On July 24, 45.8 mm rainfall was recorded in Durg, 30.0 mm in Dhamdha, 77.3 mm in Patan, 38.5 mm in Bori, 49.8 in Bhilai-3 and 72.4 in Ahiwara.

Public grievance redressal camp on 26

BHILAI: Under the guidance of Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary, a district level public grievance redressal camp will be organized in village Anda of Durg block on July 26 from 11 am to 3 pm. For the district level grievance redressal camp, District Panchayat CEO Ashwani Devangan has been appointed as the nodal officer and ANO will be SDO (Durg) Mukesh Raote and CEO of Janpad Panchayat (Durg) Rupesh Kumar Pandey.

Rose flower to traders to remove encroachment

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: The traders in Indira Market Durg are using the main road rather encroaching it regularly to display the goods outside their shops creating traffic chaos. Taking a unique initiative to smoothen the traffic and on the instruction of DMC Commissioner Lokesh Chandrakar and guidance of Revenue Officer Durgesh Gupta, Assistant Revenue Officer Shubham Goir, a rose flower was given to the traders in the main market Indira Market and urged them to keep their business goods within

their shop limits, so that the passersby and the customers coming to the shops do not face any inconvenience. The customers can

HIGHLIGHT

● Unique initiative to smoothen traffic congestion caused due to displayed objects

buy goods by keeping their vehicles inside the road line and there is no obstruction in movement. Due to temporary encroachment by traders and keeping material on the road, traffic jams are created.

Beneficiaries draw lottery for PMAY

BHILAI: As per the instructions of Durg Mayor Dheeraj Bakliwal, and DMC Commissioner Lokesh Chandrakar, lottery was drawn on Wednesday in the presence of Assistant Nodal Officer Jitendra Samaiya, Preetesh Verma posted by SUDA, Deepak Sancheti for housing allotment to the people living on rent in the houses of Pradhan Mantri Urban Housing Scheme built in DMC area. 32 beneficiaries were allotted houses through

lottery in the data center of the corporation, which has fulfilled their dream of owning a house. The 32 beneficiaries themselves drew the lottery through slips which includes 29 houses from Potiyakala, 8 from Ganpati Vihar, 1 from Maa Karma Borsi, 1 from Gokul Nagar, 2 from Saraswati Nagar. To participate in the lottery of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, the beneficiaries had reached the corporation to participate in the draw.

Dhaurabhatha villagers benefit from free health camp

Central Chronicle News

Free medicines were distributed to villagers attending the camp.



BHILAI: The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department of the Bhilai Steel Plant organized a one-day free Health Camp, at Village Dhaurabhatha on July 20, 2024.

A total of 80 villagers including 13 men, 53 women, and 14 children from Dhaurabhatha, availed free health services at the day-long Health Camp. Free medicines were also distributed to villagers attending the camp.

The Medical Team from the CSR department, comprising, Dr Nishi Minj, Medical Consultant, Rekha Dev, Nursing Staff, Ashraf, for Blood-Sugar, HB

and BP examination, AS Gaur, Pharmacist, and Shambhu Dayal, for registration, volunteered their services for the Medical Camp at Dhaurabhatha village.

It is noteworthy that conducting Health Camps is one of the prime initiatives, through which BSP's CSR Department has contributed substantially towards Public Health and medicine.

The CSR Department of Bhilai Steel Plant, conducts health camps from time to time in the adjoining areas or mines, to ensure adequate Medical and health facilities to the communities within which it works.

Applications invited for free training

BHILAI: Antyavasai Vocational Training Center, Industrial Area, Near Jawahar Nagar Gate, Dhamdha Naka Durg has invited applications from SC girls for free training in the trade of Self Employed Tailor. The last date for submission of application form is July 31. The applicant should be above 18 years of age and will have to submit a Caste Certificate, copy of Aadhar card, Domicile Certificate, income proof.

Monetary assistance sanctioned

BHILAI: Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary has sanctioned monetary assistance of Rs 4 lakh to the dependents of a lady who died in a fire mishap. Shastri Chowk Charoda resident Deepti Verma had succumbed to burns on October 01, 2022.

Central Chronicle News

BSF Intelligence Branch persuaded them to surrender.

BHILAI: With sustained efforts of the BSF Intelligence Wing, three active Maoists left the extremist organization and joined the mainstream of society on Wednesday. Feeling troubled with BSF's anti-Naxal campaign, they preferred the rehabilitation policy of CG Govt and surrendered. They were fed up with the hollow ideology, exploitation and atrocities in naxal organisation.

Anand Pratap Singh (IG, BSF, Frontier Headquarters, Special Ops, Bhilai) and Ajay Agarwal (DIG, G Branch, BSF, Frontier Headquarters, Special Ops, Bhilai) informed that the naxals

| SURRENDER |

Three active female Maoists surrender



The female naxals surrendered before BSF officers in Kanker.

FASTFACTS

● One of them was a Deputy Commander in naxal org

● Another one is the daughter of a Naxal Commander

who surrendered carried reward on their heads. The surrendered naxal Moti Poyam alias Yamla (25) was working as an area committee member

(deputy commander) in Gatta Local Operating Squad of Bhamragarh Area Committee of Gadchiroli Division of CPI Maoist organization. She was active in the Naxalite organization since 2015. The second one is Sanchila Mandavi (21) was working as a tailor team member of Naxal's Gadchiroli Division since 2020. The third surrendered naxal Lakhmi Padda (20) is the daughter of Kaknar LOS Commander Mangalu Padda.

She has been active in the Naxalite organization as a party member since 2019. They surrendered in presence of DIG (BSF) Vipul Mohan Bala, Commandant Raghendra Singh, 2IC Suresh Pandey, ASP Prashant Shukla, Asst Commandant Ajit Singh Baghel and other officers of BSF and District Police.

NEWSLINE

CLAIMS/OBJECTIONS

Claims and objections invited till Aug 05

BHILAI: Integrated Child Development Project Durg-Rural had invited applications for the vacant posts of Worker post in Anganwadi Center Borai No 04 and Assistant post in Pauwara Center No 02. The applications received after the last date were scrutinized and the interim assessment sheet approved on the basis of the prescribed criteria has been pasted in the office premises of Integrated Child Development Project Durg-Rural and Chief Executive Officer Janpad Panchayat Durg. Applicants can file their written claim / objection in the office of Project Officer during office hours till August 05.

FELICITATION

Applications invited for felicitation

BHILAI: Eminent personalities of tribal society are to be honoured on the occasion of World Tribal Day on August 09. The people having special achievement in academic, social, social service, cultural, environmental protection, primitive tribe painting, sports, agriculture, medical field, etc will be honoured. Assistant Commissioner (Tribal Development) informed that the persons of tribal society who have made special achievements in different fields can submit their application and records in the office of Assistant Commissioner in Collectorate Durg by July 25.

AWARD

Disaster Management Award

BHILAI: Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management National Award recognizes the excellent work done by individuals and institutions in the field of disaster management. The last date for online application is 31 August 2024. Interested people can visit the link <https://awards.gov.in>.

OBITUARY

Virendra Prasad Pandey



BHILAI: Retired Head Constable Virendra Prasad Pandey left for heavenly abode at age of 88 years on July 23. Funeral procession was taken out from his residence situated at Street 6, Sector 7 and last rites were performed at Ramnagar Muktidham. He was the father of Kamlesh Pandey, Avadhesh Pandey, Ramesh Pandey, Suresh Pandey and Shailesh Pandey.

| EXTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME |

Training prog for employees inaugurated

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: A special six-day extensive training programme on 'Process Instrumentation on Electro-Pneumatic Valve/Networking On Profibus/Profinet with Step 7 V15', is being conducted at Computer Complex of Human Resource Development Centre by the HR-L&D Department from July 22 to July 27, 2024, for a cross-section of Executives and Non-Executives, mainly



from Instrumentation Department. This six-day training programme is being conducted through external faculty from SAIL's MoU partner, M/s Siemens. The training pro-

gramme was inaugurated by SK Gajbhiye, CGM (Mechanical). In his inaugural address, Gajbhiye lauded the HR-L&D Department for conducting this immensely useful programme. He called on

“Make full use of the important inputs to be given at the programme and apply at workplaces”

SK Gajbhiye
CGM (Mechanical), BSP

the participants to make full use of the important inputs to be given in this programme, and apply

their learnings at their respective workplaces after its completion.

Amulya Priyadarshi, GM (HR-L&D) welcomed the participants and explained the background as well as the requirements for this program. SR Jatrele, GM (Instrumentation) briefed the participants about the objectives of this program, while Piyush Raj, the faculty from M/s Siemens explained the program structure to them.

STC students excel in MA Psychology exam



Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: The students of MA Psychology, St Thomas College (STC), Bhilai performed splendidly in the University Examination 2024. All Students scored more than

60%. Sudipta Nandi stood first in college with 81.9%. Oorja Parwana scored the second rank with 81.65%. Ravi Kumar Deshmukh scored 79.75% with the third rank. Ranju Prajapati scored 75.75% with the fourth rank. Shyamili Mehta scored 75.60% and held fifth rank. Subham Kumar Sah scored 75.30% with the sixth rank. Anuj Kumar Ukey, Jyoti Purung, Harmendra Kumar Tandan and Kiron Roy bagged seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth rank respectively.

N-E-W-S



“Our visit will boost ties of friendship between Bhutan and Bharat.”
Tshering Tobgay
Bhutan PM

Migrant Indian workers return from South Africa



Migrant labourers who were stranded in Cameroon, South Africa, upon their arrival at the railway station, in Giridih district, Jharkhand. | Photo: PTI

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

ACCIDENT

Five girls drown in separate incidents in Uttar Pradesh

SANT KABIR NAGAR: Five girls drowned in two separate incidents here, officials said on Wednesday. The first incident took place in the district's Bargo village of Bakhira police station area, where a boat carrying four girls -- Meenakshi (17), Kajal (16), Archana (15) and Payal (13) -- overturned in Bakhira lake, Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Shashi Shekhar Singh said. Meenakshi, Archana and Payal died in the incident but Kajal was saved by the villagers and is undergoing treatment at a hospital, where her condition is stable, Singh said. According to the ASP, the second incident took place in Khatiyawa village of Dudhra police station in the district. Two sisters, Pramila (18) and Urmila (15), were farming on a field when the younger sister's foot slipped and she fell into a pond, Singh said. **PTI**

RELOCATED

Hundreds relocated as heavy rains batter south, central Gujarat districts



AHMEDABAD: Hundreds of people were evacuated after swollen rivers and overflowing dams cut off several villages and inundated low-lying areas in many parts of Gujarat amid torrential downpours on Wednesday, officials said. Normal life was thrown out of gear as heavy rains pounded the south and central Gujarat districts like Surat, Bharuch and Anand since morning, prompting the authorities to declare a holiday for schools and colleges in some places, they said. Train services were also affected in some areas. **PTI**

Project Cheetah

MP govt denies RTI request on Project Cheetah, cites national security concerns



NEW DELHI: The Madhya Pradesh forest department has refused to provide information under the Right to Information Act on management of cheetahs brought from Africa and their cubs born in India. In response to a request filed by wildlife activist Ajay Dubey, the department cited Section 8(1)(a) of the RTI Act, which allows a public authority to withhold information if its disclosure would prejudicially affect the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security, strategic, scientific, or economic interests of the State, relations with a foreign State, or lead to the incitement of an offence. Dubey had requested the state forest department to provide “management

correspondence records of the Cheetah Project in Kuno and Mandasaur”. In his response, Saurav Kumar Kabra, Public Information Officer in the office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Madhya Pradesh, said: “The information (under point number 2) is related to the management branch, which has decided not to provide information under Section 8(1)(a) of the Right to Information Act, 2005.” Dubey said this is the first time that information on Project Cheetah has been denied under RTI Act since the launch of the programme with the release of eight Namibian cheetahs into Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park on September 17, 2022. **PTI**

Political clash over ‘non-stop Haryana’ slogan

Congress’ leader in Chandigarh, Bhupinder Singh Hooda has hit back at BJP and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini to change his slogan from ‘Non-Stop Haryana’ to ‘Full-Stop Haryana.’

Press Trust Of India

CHANDIGARH: Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda has said the Nayab Singh Saini government should change its “Non-Stop Haryana” slogan to “Full Stop Haryana” and alleged that the BJP regime has put a “full stop on investments, industrial development, job creation, crop prices” in the state.

“If there is anything non-stop in the BJP government, it is unemployment, inflation, crime, drug

addiction and migration of youth,” the leader of opposition in the Haryana Assembly said in a statement issued here on Tuesday.

His remarks were in reference to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government coming up with the “Mahra Haryana, Non-Stop Haryana” slogan ahead of the state Assembly polls due later in the year.

Over the last few days, the state government has issued newspaper advertisements, touching upon

HIGHLIGHT

● **BJP has launched a recent campaign called ‘Mahra Haryana, Non-Stop Haryana’ before the assembly polls and has spelt out the various initiatives that they will take when they come to power.**

several initiatives for various sections of the society, including the poor, farmers and women.

Saini hit back at the former chief minister

on Wednesday, saying, “Bhupinder Hoodaji, my Haryana today is non-stop Haryana.”

In a post in Hindi on X, the chief minister took a dig at the Congress regime (2005-2014) in the state led by Hooda, and claimed that a full stop has now been put on goondaism, atrocities against Dalits and backward classes, auction of government jobs, taking away farmers’ land and the reign of terror that prevailed when the grand old party was in power.

In his statement, Hooda said during the Congress era, big institutions like a health university, six medical colleges, an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and a cancer institute were built in the state, besides 641 rural hospitals and community and primary health centers. “But as soon as the BJP came to power, it put a full stop on this work being done in the health sector and did not build any major health institution in the state,” he claimed.

Odisha assembly disrupted over Governor's son issue

BHUBANESWAR: Proceedings of the Odisha assembly were disrupted for the third day on Wednesday, as ruckus continued over the demand by opposition members for action against Governor Raghubar Das's son for allegedly assaulting a government official earlier this month. As soon as the House assembled for the Question Hour, BJD leaders staged a walkout alleging police inaction over the issue, while Congress MLAs trooped in the well of the House, protesting against the “neglect” towards Odisha in the Union Budget. Assistant Section Officer (ASO) Baikuntha Pradhan was allegedly assaulted by the governor's son Lalit Kumar inside the Puri Raj Bhavan on July 7. Amid the pandemonium, Speaker Surama Padhy first adjourned the House till 11.30 am, then till 12 noon and subsequently till 4 pm.

| KANWAR CAMP |

Delhi govt has set up largest Kanwar camp for 20,000 people

Press Trust Of India

Delhi government establishes the country's largest Kanwar camp at Kashmere Gate for 20,000 pilgrims.

NEW DELHI: The Delhi government has set up the country's biggest Kanwar camp at Kashmere Gate to accommodate as many as 20,000 people, Revenue minister Atishi said on Wednesday.

Atishi visited the Kanwar camp to take stock of the preparations and instructed the administration to remain alert during the Kanwar Yatra to ensure the safety and facilities of the Kanwariyas, an official statement said. The minister said separate halls are avail-



Delhi Minister Atishi inspects 'Kanwar' camp set up. | Photo PTI.

FACTFILE

● **Separate halls for male and female Kanwariyas with large dining hall.**

● **185 camps across Delhi with essential facilities and 24x7 medical staff.**

able for male and female kanwariyas in the camp, with a large dining hall to receive ‘prasad’.

“There are 185 Kanwar camps that have been set up across Delhi, where all the facilities like waterproof tents, sleeping arrangements, clean water, and toilets are being provided,” Atishi

said.

According to the minister, medical staff will be present in all the camps 24x7 so that the Kanwariyas can be given immediate treatment if required.

She added that local dispensaries have been linked to the camps, with CATS ambulances deployed for emergencies.

The Kanwar Yatra commenced on the first day of the holy month of Sawan (Shravan) on Monday and will culminate on August 2, as Ganga water will be offered to Lord Shiva.

A large number of ‘Kanwariyas’ will reach Delhi, while some of them will go to Haryana and Rajasthan via Delhi borders.

| PROTECT ASHTAMUDI LAKE |

Kerala HC orders Ashtamudi lake cleanup

Press Trust Of India

Kerala HC instructs Kollam Corporation to prevent pollution of Ashtamudi Lake.



KOCHI: The Kerala High Court has directed Kollam Corporation to take strict measures to prevent the discharge of waste and other effluents into Ashtamudi Lake, a Ramsar site

known as the gateway to Kerala's backwaters. The court, astonished by the extent of land encroachment around the lake, emphasized the need to secure this area for future

generations and ensure the free flow of water. The directives came in response to a plea by advocate Boris Paul, who sought cleaning up the lake, restoring its water

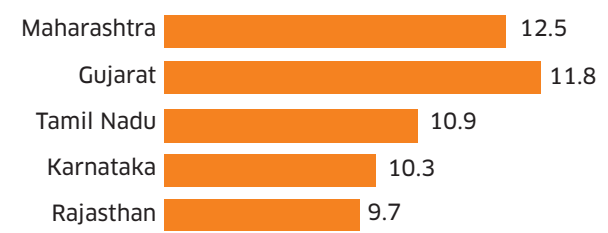
“Secretary must prevent waste discharge into lake, per government orders.”
Kerala High Court

quality, implementing sewage treatment facilities, and removing

encroachments. The court ordered the Kollam Corporation secretary to prevent waste discharge into the lake, as per government orders against public dumping. It also directed the Sub Collector of Kollam to remove encroachers within six months, with police assistance as necessary. The matter is set for further hearing on August 6.

The Day's NUMBERS

RENEWABLE ENERGY CAPACITY (IN GIGAWATTS)



(source- Agency)

CRIME

Two constables in Thane charged with bribery for demanding Rs 50,000

THANE: Police have registered a case against two constables in Maharashtra's Thane district for demanding Rs 50,000 bribe from a scrap dealer in exchange of releasing a truck loaded with goods, an official said on Wednesday. The case was filed at the Shivaji Nagar police station in Amarnath based on a complaint lodged by the Thane unit of the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), he said. The case against them was registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The police constable duo, Chandrakant Baban Shinde (44) and Sachin Sadashiv Mane (43), are attached to the Shivaji Nagar police station. “They demanded Rs 1 lakh from the scrap dealer, whose scrap-loaded truck they had detained. Later, they agreed to bring down the amount to Rs 50,000,” inspector Vijay Kawle of the Thane ACB said in a release. The complainant approached the ACB and filed a complaint against them, based on which further action was taken, he said. **PTI**

SEARCH

Assam police search Cong MLA's home in MP over cheating case



TIKAMGARH: A police team from Assam on Wednesday searched the residence of a Congress MLA in Madhya Pradesh's Tikamgarh city over a cheating case registered against his son, an official said. The team of cops reached the Congress MLA and former minister Yadendra Singh Bundela's home, located in the Tal Darwaja area of the city, he said. Superintendent of Police (SP) Rohit Kashwani said a case of cheating has been registered against the lawmaker's son, Shashwat Singh, in Assam. “A team of Assam police has come here in this regard and they sought the help of local police,” he said. **PTI**

Ensure active participation to tackle seasonal diseases taking all necessary precautions.

Ajit Vasant
Collector- Korba



Chhattisgarh



Guru Purnima block level Guru Purnima festival in the auditorium of the Government Pre-Girls Secondary School in Rajim.

Guru Purnima celebrated in schools

Guru Purnima festival was organized in schools across the state in a very enthusiastic atmosphere.

Central Chronicle News

RAJIM : On the orders of Vishnu Dev Sai Government of Chhattisgarh, Guru Purnima festival was organized in schools across the state in a very enthusiastic atmosphere.

In this dignified event of Guru Purnima, representative of Akhil Vishwa Gayatri Pariwar, Chandralekha Gupta, Chief Manager Trustee Gayatri Shaktipeeth Rajim, Sister Hemadevi from Prajapita Brahmakumari Ashram, Sant Vichar Saheb from Kabir Ashram and President Lala Sahu from

level Guru Purnima festival in the auditorium of the Government Pre-Girls Secondary School in the city under the Fingeshwar block.

In this dignified event of Guru Purnima, representative of Akhil Vishwa Gayatri Pariwar, Chandralekha Gupta, Chief Manager Trustee Gayatri Shaktipeeth Rajim, Sister Hemadevi from Prajapita Brahmakumari Ashram, Sant Vichar Saheb from Kabir Ashram and President Lala Sahu from

HIGHLIGHT

● Collective worship of the saints who are like Gurus of all the Schools in the region was done.

● Explaining the importance of saints and teachers in the society, guest gave the message of social harmony by sowing the seeds of values through saints in children and living a purposeful life.

Rajim Bhaktin Mandir Committee along with

retired teacher Yogeshwar Puri Goswami were present.

The program started with the worship of Mother Saraswati and Guru Charan Vandan by the saints present. In which the students of Sanskrit Vidyapeeth recited Swasti Vachan.

Thereafter, on behalf of the Education Department, BEO Ramendra Joshi and BRC Subhash Sharma welcomed the saints present by garlanding them and applying tilak.

Two bike riders killed after colliding with a truck

BEMETARA: bike riders were killed after colliding with a truck in village Mohad, adjacent to the city. The incident took place on Sunday evening of 21st July at 7:30 pm when two youths Nagesh Fardia, son of Santosh, age 27 years, resident of Muchedand and Komal Nayak, son of Binda, age 21 years, resident of Muchedand, coming from village Muchedand to Dongargaon on their bike number CG04 KT 4236, collided directly with the rear of truck number CG08 KC 8558 parked on the roadside near Mohad School. After the accident, these youths were taken to the community health center with the help of 112, but both these youths died due to head injury and excessive bleeding. These youths could not be identified even after several hours of the accident. After a lot of efforts by Dongargaon police, these two youths were identified and they turned out to be residents of village Muchedand of Dongargaon police station area. Their families were informed and the bodies were handed over to their families after post-mortem.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

POLICE ACTION

Illegal liquor being sold in Aari seized and handed over to police

DONGARGAON: When the administration failed to respond quickly, the villagers took the initiative on their own to stop the illegal sale of liquor in the village for years and showed their aggressive side. They raided the house of a person of the village and confiscated a large amount of liquor and called the police on the spot. The villagers, troubled by the increasing alcoholism in the village and the lethargic attitude of the Excise and Police Administration, have taken this step.

Let us tell you that earlier, due to the increasing activities of the drunkards and the Kochis, a complete ban was imposed on drinking and selling liquor in the meeting of the Gram Vikas Samiti Aari on July 14 and a provision of a hefty fine was made if caught selling it.

CELEBRATION

Gurupujan celebrated with enthusiasm in the schools of Bastar dist.



JAGDALPUR: On the special initiative of State Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, Guru Pujan program is being organized in all the schools of the state. In this context, as per the instructions of Collector Vijay Dayaram and under the guidance of CEO District Panchayat Prakash Sarve, Guru Pujan festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm in all the schools of the district on Monday.

On this occasion, special programs were organized in all the schools, under which first of all in the morning garlands and worship were done on the picture of Goddess Saraswati.

Green Day Celebration

CCA inauguration and Green Day Celebration at DAV Public School Bachel



BACHELI: On July 23 the inaugural ceremony of co-curricular activities along with the Green Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm. The objective of this gracious ceremony is to develop the versatile talent of the students. Various competitions like Bhajan, Fancy dress and Action Song were conducted for the different grades of students. After this, the students were told about the importance of co-curricular activities. Organization of co-curricular activities,

following the points directed by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), were carried out in a mesmerizing way. Saplings were planted by the students, the Principal-Dr. Chetna Sharma along with her team. This pious honour is carried out every year. The program was successfully conducted by the CCA Team and Eco- Club members under the able guidance of their Team leader Dr. Sharma. The anchoring part was done by Ms. Shama Parveen.

Saplings planted in girls' school

KHAIRAGARH: Under the literacy campaign of the government, the teachers of the Government Girls School, while taking oath from the students to educate and make the illiterate people around them literate, told them to work towards literacy by participating in the campaign.

In the organized program, under the call of Prime Minister Modi, Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam Abhiyan, all the students were given the oath to plant and protect and nurture trees. While taking the oath, the school's lecturer Dr. Kamleshwar Singh told the students that they should take the responsibility of teaching and educating their neighbors etc.

around their home and village with joy and enthusiasm. Development of society is possible only through education.

RELIEF WORKS

Collector takes stock of relief works in flood affected areas

Central Chronicle News

Collector asked the field staff to maintain constant contact with the officials of the bordering states.

SUKMA: The block headquarters Konta in the district falls in the submergence area due to being situated on the banks of the Shabri river. Due to the continuous heavy rain in this area for the last 48 hours, the Shabri river along with small and big drains of the district is in spate. Due to which the traffic of many villages is closed, while the water level of the Shabri river has also started increasing due to continuous rain. Collector Haris S. along with top officials reached Injaram of Konta development block to take stock of the flood affected



Collector reached Injaram of Konta block to take stock of flood affected areas.

FACTFILE

● During inspection, Collector instructed the officials to provide all possible help to the flood affected people.

● In order to avoid any emergency situation in flood affected areas, instructions were given to ensure adequate number of rescue boats.

areas. During this, the collector asked to ensure the arrangement of ade-

quate drinking water, food and electricity etc. in the marked relief camp sites. Along with this, the field staff of revenue, police, city army, district panchayat were instructed to remain alert and keep the staff regularly deployed in the flood control room.

The Collector asked the field staff to maintain constant contact with the officials of the bordering states. Along with this, he also asked to keep an eye on the water level of the Shabri river. In order to avoid any emergency situa-

tion in flood affected areas, instructions were given to ensure adequate number of rescue boats. Along with this, instructions were given to make all necessary preparations related to rescue and to give advice to the common people who cross the river drain risking their lives in case of flood.

Instructions given to send people to safe places by making announcements

The Collector is keeping an eye on the situation of flood affected areas in view of the heavy rains in the district. During this, he has instructed the officials to provide all possible help to the flood affected people.

Collector Shri Haris S. gave instructions to make announcements from time to time to send the common people of the affected areas to safe places apart from relief camps.

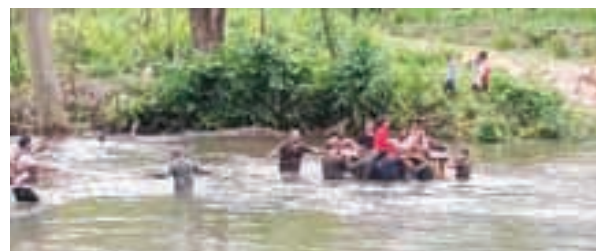
DISPLAY OF HUMANITY

'Brave soldiers display unique humanity'

Central Chronicle News

BIJAPUR: Today, an incident occurred in Bijapur district that won everyone's hearts. Madvi Jagi, a 24-year-old woman from Nambi Nayapara, suddenly went into labor. For this premature delivery, she needed to be rushed to the Community Health Center in Usur.

However, there was a major obstacle on the way - the Nambidhara river.



Due to rain, the river's current was strong. In this situation, the lives of both mother and child were in danger.

That's when the brave soldiers from CRPF 196

Camp Nambi and Cobra 205, who were stationed there, came forward to help. They quickly devised an ingenious rescue strategy. The soldiers collected large empty

Brave soldiers not only fulfilled their duty but also set an example of humanity and resourcefulness.

Residents
Nambi Nayapara, Bijapur.

plastic drums and tied them tightly together to

create a makeshift raft. They then placed bamboo poles across the top to create a secure base.

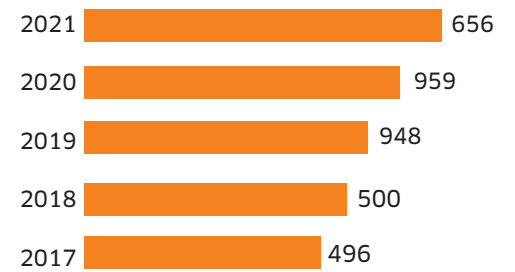
To ensure comfort and safety, they fashioned a bamboo mattress and laid it over the poles, creating a stable and relatively comfortable surface for the mother and child. To further ensure safety during the crossing, they stretched a long rope across the middle of the river.

The Day's NUMBERS

Floods across India caused a total of 656 deaths in 2021

Sources-Statista

NUMBER OF DEATHS DUE TO FLOODS IN INDIA FROM 2017-2021



AWARENESS

Special legal awareness camp organized in Kumhi inspiring youth

KHAIRAGARH: Under the aegis of Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority (CSLSA) Bilaspur, as per the instructions of President Sushma Sawant District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Rajnandgaon and under the guidance of President Chandra Kumar Kashyap Taluk Legal Services Committee Khairagarh and Secretary Hemant Kumar Ratre, a special legal awareness camp was organized in Kumhi on Saturday where paralegal volunteer Goludas Sahu inspired the youth present and said that man and environment are integral parts of each other. The whole creation is dependent on nature and environment. Without these, creation and any living being cannot be imagined. The environment around us is surrounded by trees, plants, rivers, forests, land and mountains etc. This is called nature. Further, PLV Sahu gave detailed information related to POCSSO Act, cyber crime, domestic violence, Motor Vehicle Act, Indian Penal Code Section 74, etc. Thereafter, tree plantation was done by all the villagers and youth including PLV Sahu, in which Gulmohar, Karanj, Aanwala, Banyan etc. plants were planted.

WARNING

Collector issues strict warning for delay in houses under PMAY



KOREA: Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, 80 percent of the work of the approved houses in Baikunthpur Janpad Panchayat has been completed, but 1463 houses are still incomplete. In view of this situation, Korea Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh reviewed the housing scheme in the recent time-limit meeting and gave strict instructions to complete the incomplete houses as soon as possible. In compliance with the instructions of the Collector, Sub-Divisional Officer (Revenue) Deepika Netam has issued notices to 19 beneficiaries on Thursday. These beneficiaries have been asked to complete their houses within seven days. Also, instructions have been given to submit photographs of the completion of the house in the upcoming appearance.

'Two partners charge of financial fraud'

A case of cheating by one of the partners in a transport based firm has come to light and the victims have alleged betrayal and sought justice.

Central Chronicle News

DALLI-RAJHARA: A case of cheating by one of the partners in a transport based firm has come to light and the victims have alleged betrayal and sought justice. As per information, Josh Koshi and Sunil Kumar Sahu of Dalli-Rajhara city, who along with Lakhan Lal jointly started a firm named Shri Arshiwad Transport, with applicable GST number, and through the firm, the traders started transporting iron ore from Boria Depot, Metabodli Mines and Ghidhali Mines through trucks via Silatra Raipur road, for which commission was received per vehicle. In the commission received, the ratio of the three partners was 50% for Lakhan Lal Sahu, and 25% for Josh Koshi and 25% for Sunil Kumar Sahu, but allegedly Lakhan Lal Sahu has unilaterally made the partnership firm inactive and has committed financial fraud by taking over the company single handily.

Both Koshy and Sahu have also alleged that the accused Lakhan Lal has warned them of dire consequences if they compliant against him at any level citing his political influences. They also said that Lakhanlal Sahu, along



A case of cheating by one of the partners in a transport based firm has come to light as per claims by two other partners.

FASTFACTS

● Two partners have alleged that Lakhan Lal Sahu has unilaterally made the partnership firm inactive and has committed financial fraud by taking over the company single handily.

with his sister Jayanti Sahu, is continuously causing financial loss to them as all the transactions related to the said transportation work are being done using the SIM card issued in the name of Sunil Sahu. The two have complained many times

If Josh Koshi and Sunil Sahu of Dalli Rajhara are demanding action by submitting an application in Rajhara police station with the rules and the CSP is not taking action, then wrong is being done to the public. The brutality of the police administration during the Congress rule will not work in the BJP rule.

Pawan Sahu District President BJP

Josh Koshi and Sunil Sahu have been making their demand for the last 2 years. CSP will have to take action. Rajhara Vyapari Sangh will definitely participate in the movement on 30th July and will get justice.

Govind Wadhvani President Rajhara Vyapari Sangh

City Superintendent of Police Chitra Verma is investigating as per the rules. Action will be taken as soon as the investigation is completed.

Ashok Joshi ASP Balod

in writing to the police station in-charge Dalli-Rajhara with full evidence,

but no FIR has been registered against Lakhan Lal Sahu till now.

30 devotees leave Ayodhya

KHAIRAGARH: Public representatives flagged off 30 Ram devotees of the district on Tuesday morning and the devotees will reach Ayodhya from Khairagarh to Durg by car and from Durg by special train. The devotees thanked Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai for this scheme and said that with this scheme fulfils their dream of seeing Shri Ram Lalla. District Panchayat Chairman Ghamman Sahu, Additional Collector Prem Kumar Patel, Chief Executive Officer of Janpad Panchayat Shishir Sharma along with other public representatives and officers, employees and the devotees going were present.

Special campaign run for e-KYC for PMKSN

KHAIRAGARH: Under the government's ambitious scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PMKSN), farmer families are given Rs 6000 in three instalments annually, Rs 2000 per installment, as agricultural input assistance. Under the scheme, Aadhar card is given in the linked bank account and to get the benefits under the scheme, it is mandatory to get e-KYC done.

Lockdown in SAGMS demanding resources

Central Chronicle News

RAJIM: The parents of students studying in Swami Atmanand English Medium School (SAGEMS) of the city have opted for indefinite lockdown from July 26, demanding appropriate resources for their wards. The parents have opined that schools have started and 27 days have passed but till now the students have not been able to get teachers for all the subjects due to which studies are not happening properly, neither is there enough resources for them in classrooms and other infrastructure need. The parents have also demanded change in shift of Hindi medium and English medium classes, as it debars



HIGHLIGHT

● The parents have opined that schools have started and 27 days have passed but till now the students have not been able to get teachers for all the subjects due to which studies are not happening properly.

the students of getting enough time to study. Parents Om Prakash Rajput, Shivraj Devangan, Toran Lal Sahu, Balwant Rao, Yuvraj Sahu, Salma Kausar, Rakesh Sahu, Vinay Tiwari, Gayatri Pawar, Manju Sahu, Yuvraj Sahu etc.

Inspection of fertilizer-seed and pesticide shops

KORBA: As per the instructions of Collector Ajit Basant, to provide standard level fertilizer, seed and pesticide to the farmers in the district, the district level monitoring team is continuously inspecting all the private and cooperative shops selling fertilizer-seed and pesticide in the district.

The district level inspection team inspected the fertilizer,

seed and pesticide shop Chhattisgarh Fertilizer, Krishak Jagat, Singhania Seed Bhandaar and Jai Kisan Seed Bhandaar of Korba last day and no irregularities have been shown in the inspection. The team provided necessary instructions to the vendors and directed them to sell standard quality seeds, fertilizers and pesticides at the correct price.

Students celebrate Guru Purnima in Govt. Middle School



Central Chronicle News

ANWARI: The festival of Guru Purnima festival was celebrated with great joy in Govt. Middle School. After Saraswati Vandana, all the teachers also presented their views and described the importance of Guru led by Mrs. P Sinha who told everyone about the glory of Guru described in Sanatan Dharma, while Mrs. Nandani Sinha instructed the rules to become good human beings.

The program was also

addressed by LB Sahu, Keshav Lal Yadav and I.R. Sahu. Principal P.N. Sahu also took a pledge from all the students to respect the Gurus and follow their words. On the auspicious occasion of Guru Purnima, the Principal of the institution Mr. P.N. Sahu, former Principal Mr. I.R. Sahu, Mr. Keshav Lal Yadav, Mrs. Nandini Sinha, Mrs. P. Sinha, Khomlata Ghogre, Miss Geeta Jangde, Mr. D.K. Sahu, Mr. L.B. Sahu and all the students were present.

Alumni conference of Sainik School organized

BIJAPUR: In the alumni conference of Sainik School organized at Manekshaw Center New Delhi, Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lieutenant General K.T. Parnaik, Army Chief General Upenendra Dwivedi, and Admiral Dinesh Tripathi were presented a symbol of Bastar culture by Collector Anurag Pandey on behalf of Bijapur.

Guru Purnima celebrated in Swami Atmanand School

DONGARGAON: Guru Purnima festival was celebrated in Swami Atmanand Utkrishit English and Hindi Medium School of the city with enthusiasm. In the program prominently present were Dinesh Gandhi, Gulshan Hirwani, Ramkumar Gupta, Arun Jain, Santosh Yadav, retired lecturer P.N. Sai, BEO, ABEO, and all the teachers and students.

BJP district working committee meeting concludes

| MEETING |

Central Chronicle News

A detailed district working committee meeting was held at the District BJP office Gaurela.

GAURELA: As per the instructions of the state organization, the detailed district working committee meeting was held at the District BJP office Gaurela. Presenting the introduction of the detailed district working committee meeting, BJP District President Kanhaiya Singh Rathore said that as a result of the tireless hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm of the BJP workers, we have succeeded in forming the BJP government in the state as well as forming the BJP NDA government at the Center for the third consecutive time under the leadership of



FASTFACTS

● This time the top leadership of the BJP has started a new initiative by honouring the contribution of workers up to the Mandal and booth level

● In the last 6 months, we have won the assembly and Lok Sabha elections with the dedication, hard work of the workers.

the country's successful Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The main speaker of the district working committee meeting, former MLA of Beltara, Rajneesh Singh, while praising the tireless hard work, energy and enthusiasm of the workers who made a significant contribution in forming the BJP government in the country and the state, said that this time the top leadership of

the BJP has started a new initiative by honouring the contribution of workers up to the Mandal and booth level, and inviting them to the state and district organization meetings.

Marwahi area's MLA Pranav Marpachchi said that a small election is a tough election for all of us, associated with a lot of hard work and prestige and by uniting together; we will certainly achieve success in every struggle.

| LACK OF INFRA |

Road under construction proving fatal for commuters

Central Chronicle News

DONGARGAON: Due to gross negligence of PWD department and contractor, the road under construction on the outskirts of the city is proving fatal for pedestrians. As per information, vehicle drivers are falling victims of serious accidents due to water filling in the pits dug haphazardly all over the road and in the increasing road accidents in the city, most of the accidents are happening between the



petrol pump at one end and the petrol pump at the other end and the road is being widened in this area only. Many bike riders became victims of accidents on Tuesday morning in the pit in the middle of

the road near the petrol pump near Kariyatola and mostly women and children are the victims.

The road under construction at a cost of 11.5 crores for the convenience of the city residents and

Water is being drained into the canal drain by cutting the drain; there is a problem of water drainage due to encroachment by cloth shopkeepers.

Harshad Sahu
SDO-PWD Dept- Dongargaon

freedom from accidents is now proving to be fatal for the people, where due to poor road construction; there are big potholes and water logging in the road, in which the drivers are becoming victims of accidents. Many accidents have been reported in the past few days and among them, two drivers suffered broken bones of hands and legs and an innocent passenger suffered a head injury and a media person was also injured in the accident.

91 devotees leave for Shri Ramlala Darshan

Central Chronicle News

RAJNANDGAON: Under the Shri Ramlala Darshan Yojana of the state government, 91 devotees of the district left from Durg Railway Station to visit Shri Ramlala in Ayodhya.

Under the guidance of Collector Sanjay Agarwal, 91 devotees from all the development blocks of the district were sent to Durg Railway Station to visit Shri Ramlala in Ayodhya. Collector Shri Agarwal congratulated and wished the

devotees for the darshan of Shri Ramlala. State government started the joy-jana to provide darshan of Shri Ramlala in Ayodhya to the residents of the state. Under the scheme, in the first phase, elderly persons above 55 years and below 75 years of age can avail the benefits of the scheme and application in the prescribed format for Ayodhya Dham Yatra will have to be submitted in the Gram Panchayat and in urban areas in the urban bodies.

NEWSLINE

SELECTION

Eight children selected for Inspire Camp



DONGARGAON: Eight children of Swami Atmanand Government Excellent English Medium School Dongargaon have been selected for 05 days free Inspire Internship Science Camp Program at Kalinga University Kotni, Nava Raipur. School Principal Bharatlal Dewangan said that this camp will be held from 22 to 26 July and as per the instructions of the Directorate of Public Instruction, children who have secured a place in the top 1 percent in the 10th board and who have scored more than 89.40 percent in 10th are all eligible for this program. The objective of this camp is to encourage youth to make a career in the field of science and technology and the camp will provide an opportunity to talented students to interact with eminent scientists and experts, which will increase their level of knowledge and motivation. Lukita Sahu, Tanveer Kumar Nayak, Ritu Sahu, Khushi Devangan, Novisha Thakur, Isha Nishad, Sameeksha Mahanand, Yuvraj Sahu from the 11th Science Faculty of the school have been sent for the 5-day Science Inspire Internship Program.

DEMOLITION

Police and DRG team demolished two Naxal memorials

SUKMA: Two Naxal memorials were demolished under the anti-Naxal campaign under the leadership of Superintendent of Police Sukma Kiran Gangaram Chavan. Police team demolished two memorials built by Naxalites in village Singaram of Thana Golapalli area of Konta block. There was a plan to celebrate Martyr's Week by building memorials, police and DRG team demolished the memorials.

TRAINING

5-day training under NEP 2020



GAURELA: A 5-day training of the third phase of English language under basic literacy under the National Education Policy 2020 was conducted here for teachers teaching from class 1-5 were conducted at BRC Marwahi from 16 to 21 July. The training concluded under the chief hospitality of Development Block Source Coordinator Marwahi Ajay Rai and addressing the program, BRC Ajay Rai emphasized on making all the goals of FLN reach the children and emphasised on the tricks of teaching English language in a simple way. He also told the ways of conversing in English language in all schools and teaching children English language in an interesting way through games and making them proficient.



TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee speaks in the Lok Sabha.

'Budget caters to interests of only two states'

Abhishek Banerjee said, Budget presented by FM is "anti-people" and aimed at "appeasing and compensating" coalition partners of the ruling NDA.

Press Trust Of India
NEW DELHI: Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee on Wednesday claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is leading a "creaky, shaky and vulnerable" coalition government that looked after the interests of only two states in the budget, ignoring all other citizens in the country. Participating in the discussion on Budget 2024-25, he said the budget presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is "anti-people" and aimed at "appeasing and compensating" coalition partners of the ruling NDA.

"The budget has no vision and agenda. There is no relief to the common people and the budget has neglected 140 crore people of the country," he said in a hard-hitting speech amid repeated disruption by a few BJP members from West Bengal. Banerjee claimed the 2024 general elections' results are a rejection of "arrogance and divisive politics" of the BJP. He said everything in the third term of the Modi government remained same with ministers retaining the same portfolios except that the number of "cheer leaders" of the ruling party

HIGHLIGHT
● NDA govt has allegedly betrayed the citizens, farmers, housewives, daily wage earners and many others during its rule.
● He claimed that the budget failed to mention many "tragedies" like the ethnic violence in Manipur.

said he will expand the word 'BUDGET' as B for betrayal, U for unemployment, D for deprived, G for guarantees which were failed by the government, E for eccentric decisions and T for tragedies. He said the NDA government has allegedly betrayed the citizens, farmers, housewives, daily wage earners and many others during its rule. Banerjee said prices of essential commodities have gone up, household savings have plummeted and debts have gone up. "It is a betrayal of the marginalised communities," he alleged. He claimed that BJP does not have a single

Muslim MP in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and any of the state assemblies which showed the party lacked diversity. The TMC leader claimed that the BJP has "failed to keep the promise" to provide 2 crore jobs to youths as the problem has gone up manifold. Banerjee said the Modi government has "deprived" West Bengal and other parts of the country from various benefits, including MNERGA and housing scheme. "Since you have failed the defeat us politically in West Bengal, you are now conspiring against the people of the state," he alleged.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

RELIEF
Crop insurance empowers farmers to face financial losses

BHOPAL: Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, is offering crop insurance under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme for the Kharif 2024 season in the state of Chhattisgarh. The scheme extends coverage to numerous districts, including Baster, Bemetara, Bijapur, Korea, Sarangarh-Bilgaigarh, Gariyaband, Janjgir-Champa, Kabirdham, Kanker, Sakti, Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki. It provides comprehensive insurance for a variety of crops, including Paddy (both irrigated and non-irrigated), Maize, Black Gram, Red Gram, Green Gram, Groundnut, Soybean, Kodo, Kutki, and Ragi. This initiative aims to provide financial protection for farmers, mitigating losses and encouraging them to innovate more in agricultural practices. **PTI**

VIABILITY STUDY
Pilot study to improve viability of FPS in 4 cities underway: Government

NEW DELHI: A pilot study is underway in the country to enhance the viability of 60 fair price shops, also called ration shops, across four cities Hyderabad, Ghaziabad, Jaipur and Ahmedabad, Parliament was informed on Wednesday. This initiative, supported by the Centre in collaboration with respective state governments, aims to provide essential assistance to Fair Price Shops (FPS) operators through partnerships with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for working capital and B2B online. wholesale aggregators focusing on nutritional products. **PTI**



Allegation levelled

LG administration responsible for deteriorating security situation in Jammu: Omar Abdullah



SRINAGAR: National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Wednesday blamed the lieutenant governor's administration in Jammu and Kashmir for the "deteriorating" security situation in Jammu region where terrorists have stepped up attacks on security forces over the last few months. He said the present administration has been "careless" with regards to security grid in Jammu region. "We are not worried about Kashmir, we are now worried about Jammu... LG administration is responsible for

the current situation and as long as he and people around him remain where they are, there will be no improvement. They're the ones responsible for deterioration in Jammu," Abdullah told PTI Videos here. "They've been careless. The security grid has been weakened, the anti-terror grid has been weakened in Jammu and we are paying the price for it," the former chief minister said. On the Union Budget, Abdullah said there was nothing for Jammu and Kashmir in the document. **PTI**

ELIGIBILITY

DU raises passing criteria to 63 pc for UG students

Press Trust Of India
The step has been taken to overcome the shortcoming in implementation of the NEP UGCF 2022 in the Delhi University. **NEW DELHI:** The Delhi University (DU) has raised its passing criteria for promotion to the next year from 50 per cent to 63 per cent in all its undergraduate courses, according to officials. With this, undergraduate students studying in all DU colleges will now have to obtain a total of 63 per cent in first and second semesters combined to be eligible for promotion. However, students representing Delhi University in sports, extra curricular activities, the National Cadet Corps



Delhi University.

FACTFILE
● A student should obtain at least 28 credits, up from 22 credits, to move to the next year. (NCC), and National Service Scheme (NSS), among others, may be exempted from the cri-

teria, subject to approval from their college's competent authority. The step has been taken to overcome the shortcoming in implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) Undergraduate Curriculum Framework (UGCF) 2022 in the Delhi University, a varsity official said. "Under the previous passing and promotion rules, a student was eligible for promotion from first year to second year of the course provided he/she cleared 50 per cent of the exams of first and second semesters taken together. The students had to clear seven papers and obtain a total of 22 credits to get promoted," the official said.

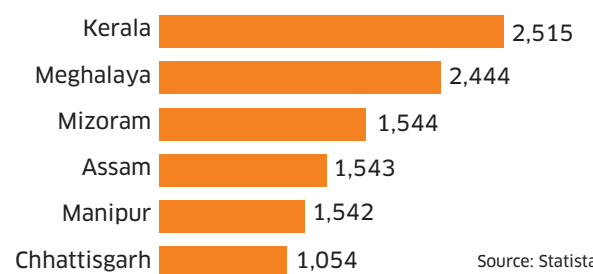
'Grant statehood to Ladakh'

NEW DELHI: Ladakh MP Mohammad Haneefa on Wednesday raised in the Lok Sabha the Union Territory's demands for safeguards under the sixth schedule and statehood. During the Zero Hour, the Ladakh MP Mohammad Haneefa highlighted the key demands of the Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance. **PTI**

The Day's NUMBERS

Kerala recorded the highest rainfall.

STATE WISE RAINFALL DATA IN 2023 (IN MM)



Source: Statista

GSI team examines houses

SAMBHAJINAGAR: A team from the Geological Survey of India has been examining houses and talking to local residents in Maharashtra's Hingoli district, days after an earthquake hit the area, an official said on Wednesday. **PTI**

छत्तीसगढ़ स्टेट पावर जनरेशन कंपनी लिमिटेड
(A Govt. of Chhattisgarh Undertaking) CIN: U40100CG2003SGC015821
No. 03-11/SE-III/HR/Veh/2246 Raipur Date: 23-07-2024
TENDER NOTICE
CSPGCL invites sealed bids from prospective bidders/contractors for the following works:-

क्रमांक एवं दिनांक	कार्य का नाम	निविदा का मूल्य	निविदा क्रम करने की अंतिम तिथि व समय	निविदा जमा करने की तिथि व समय	निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय	अमान्य राशि
03-11/HR/SE-III/Veh./W-T-96/2246 Dt 23.07.24	Hiring of a Pool Vehicle Category-II Car for office of C.E. (HR) CSPGCL, Raipur for a period of 02 years.	₹. 500/-	13.08.2024 17:00 बजे (शुक्रवादि दोपहर 12:00 बजे)	14.08.2024 15:00 बजे	14.08.2024 18:00 बजे (शुक्रवादि दोपहर)	₹. 10400/-

वक्त निविदा की सम्पूर्ण जानकारी हेतु कंपनी की वेबसाइट <http://www.cspgcl.co.in/cspgcl/tender/tendernotices/CentralOffices> से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। निविदा संबंधी किसी भी प्रकार के परिवर्तन की जानकारी वेबसाइट पर ही उपलब्ध होगी। निविदा खोलना जाना या रद्द करना कंपनी की क्षेत्राधिकार में अटल है।
"SAVE ELECTRICITY" S-409152

कवानिय अधीशन अभिव्यक्ति, लोक निर्माण विभाग, मण्डल क. 1 रायपुर (छ.ग.)
दूरभाष : (0771) 2331413 फैक्स : (0771) 4055885 ईमेल : ml.raipur@cgpn.gov.in
निविदा शुद्धि पत्र
आप क्र. /40-87/स.24(7) रायपुर, दिनांक: 23.07.2024
इस संबंधित बात अनधिकृत रूप से जारी की जा सकती है। दिनांक 03.07.2024 - 03.08.2024 तक (आठ सप्ताह) के लिए निविदा शुद्धि किया गया है। निविदा शुद्धि करने के लिए निम्नलिखित लिंक <https://pwr.cgpn.gov.in> से प्रवेशित कर दिया गया है:-

S.No.	Name of Work	Estimate cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Bid Security (Rs. in Lakh)	Cost of Tender + RFP Document + S.S.T	Time of Completion
1	Appointment of Event Consultant For Conceptualization, Planning, Coordination, Management, Monitoring and supervision of entire Event of 85th IRC Annual Session-2024 at Raipur (Chhattisgarh)	140.00 Lakh	5.00		02 Months

जी.नं. - 242500960
अधीशन अभिव्यक्ति
सो.नि.वि. मंडल क.-1, रायपुर (छ.ग.)
G-242501312/1

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER MAHANADI PROJECT RAIPUR (CHHATTISGARH)
e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
(Tender Cancel Notice)

01. System Tender No. 155388/ NIT No.: 01/SAC/2024-25 Dated: 28.06.2024. Construction of Futhamuda Main Canal including Lining and 25 No. Structures from RD 750 m. to 9330 m., Vide publication this No. G. No. 242500724. Tender 2nd call is canceled due to unavoidable reasons.

02. System Tender No. 155389/ NIT No.: 02/SAC/2024-25 Dated: 28.06.2024. Construction of Futhamuda Main Canal including Lining and 37 No. Structures from RD. 9330 m. to 19740 m., Vide publication this No. G. No. 242500725. Tender 2nd call is canceled due to unavoidable reasons.

Executive Engineer Water Management Dn., Rudri For Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Project, Raipur (C.G.)
G-242501310/1

Public Works Department
Office of The Superintending Engineer, Pwd., Raipur Circle No.-1 Raipur. (C.G.)
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
(1st Call)
No. 01/Raipur/2024-25 Raipur, Dated. 23.07.2024
Public Works Department (PWD) invites proposal for Planning, Design, Estimation and related services for the work:- "नगर विकास कार्य के लिए एंजिनियरिंग सेवाएं" का निर्माण कार्य हेतु कार्यविधि चरण काल।
Probable cost of project - Rs. 331.59 Lakh.
Minimum eligibility for participants shall be as below :-

S.N.	Building project cost	The applicant firms, firms forming Joint venture/consortium shall be	Earnest money (In shape as per annexure I) Favor of Executive Engineer, PWD Dhamtari Division,
1	For project cost Between 1 to 10 Crores	Empanelled as architect in Class "D" & Above Class in C.G. PWD.	Rs. 1,000/-00

General condition :- All the documents & information as per para 6.4, shall be submitted through speed post/Registered post, so as to reach the office of under signed on or before dated 12-08-2024 by 17.30 hour. Any documents received after the last date and time will not be entertained.
The detailed RFP is available on the website www.cgpn.gov.in/pdr/raipur from where it can be downloaded for submission. CG.PWD reserves the right to reject all or any of the application without assigning any reason. Right to modify the process of Pre-qualification is reserved with CG.PWD.

Superintending Engineer Public Works Department Raipur Circle No.-2 Raipur
G-242501324/1



QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today

[Franklin D. Roosevelt]

Comment

Dreams of traditional earthen potters turning into dust

OUR VIEW |

Transforming agriculture: A vision for the future

The 2024-25 Budget has set forth a bold vision for transforming India's agricultural landscape, focusing on sustainability, productivity, and economic growth for farmers. This comprehensive plan includes initiating one crore farmers into natural farming within two years, supported by the establishment of 10,000 bio-input resource centers. These centers aim to promote sustainable farming practices, aligning with global environmental goals and ensuring long-term soil health. The emphasis on Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), cooperatives, and startups marks a strategic move to enhance vegetable production and streamline supply chains. These entities are crucial for the efficient collection, storage, and marketing of produce, ensuring that farmers receive better prices and reducing post-harvest losses. This focus on cooperative models can significantly empower small farmers, providing them with the necessary tools and market access to thrive. One of the standout initiatives is the introduction of 109 new high-yielding and climate-resilient varieties of 32 field and horticulture crops. This move addresses the pressing challenges posed by climate change, ensuring stable agricultural production and enhancing food security. However, the success of these new varieties depends heavily on effective agricultural extension services, which need substantial strengthening. The Budget also aims to reduce India's dependence on imported edible oils by boosting the cultivation of oilseeds like mustard, groundnut, sesame, soybean, and sunflower. This strategic push not only seeks to improve self-reliance but also provides farmers with lucrative crop options, potentially increasing their income. Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) is another transformative element of the Budget, envisioned to revolutionize the agricultural sector by integrating farmers and their lands into a comprehensive digital framework within three years. While this digital push promises to enhance efficiency and transparency, it faces significant challenges in terms of technological adoption and equitable access, particularly in remote and underdeveloped regions.

GUEST VIEW |

India's economic rise - On the path to global leadership

In 2024, India is the world's fifth-largest economy with a GDP of \$3.57 trillion, projected to reach \$3.94 trillion in 2024 and \$4.34 trillion in 2025. By 2027, India aims to become the third-largest economy with a GDP of \$5.29 trillion, and \$6.44 trillion by 2029. India's rapid economic growth is driven by IT, services, agriculture, and manufacturing. A large domestic market, a young workforce, and a growing middle class contribute to this growth. Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal envisions India as a manufacturing hub, aiming for a \$2 trillion export target. Government initiatives focus on sustainable development, job creation, and welfare. Projections indicate India could be the world's second-largest economy by 2031 and the largest by 2060. Infrastructure projects like Bharatmala and Sagarmala, and digital initiatives like Aadhaar, are transforming the economy. Addressing youth unemployment and enhancing workforce skills are crucial for continued progress. India's rise as a major economic and geopolitical power positions it to shape the future global economy through inclusive growth, digital development, and climate action. Effective policies and international partnerships will be vital for achieving its global ambitions.



Dr. Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

Modern fridges and ACs have also shattered the dreams of artisans who make earthen pots. They make earthen pots but due to lack of sales, they have to struggle to feed themselves. How will the family run? No one is coming to buy pots. People associated with the business have also stopped selling pots on the carts. People of the Prajapati community work in making earthen pots all over the country. Potters cannot leave their ancestral work. Therefore, they have no other option of earning except selling earthen pots and pitchers in summer. The situation is such that now potter families are doing business by taking loans to keep their work alive. But even this does not cover their costs. People of the potter (Kumbhakar) caste earn their livelihood and make a living from clay.

The word Kumhar seems to have originated from Kumbhakar, which means Kumbh, i.e. pot maker. They are also known by the names Kumbhar, Prajapati, Pra-

japat, Ghumiyar, Ghumar, Kumawat, Bhande, Kulal, or Kalal in different states. The handicraft of potters is their means of employment. Potters make clay objects with their own hands.

To make objects from clay, potters mix black soil, red soil, sand, and ash, add water, and mix them well. After that, they put the clay on the wheel (Chakri) give it shape, and make various objects. Idols of gods and goddesses, diya, sack, bull, karsa, class, thekua, pura, marki, Om, Deva, stove and children's toys. After the clay utensils are baked, they take them to the nearby market and squares to sell.

After that, they live their life and take care of their children with the money they get from these objects. But the price of these clay utensils or toys is not as much as the hard work put into them. Moreover, the person who buys the object also bargains and reduces the price.

The employment of these potters is not that good. Because, in earlier times,

everyone used earthen utensils and earthen items. But now, in the present time, people hardly use earthen utensils. Because, everyone uses steel utensils, fiber utensils, etc. more. Due to this, their income is less than in earlier times.

At present, the condition of potters is very bad. Because, in the present time, people have stopped using earthen items like before. Due to this, they also have the made items. That too cannot be sold, due to which they have to bear losses. The rest of the clay items can be sold only in their season. It becomes difficult to sell them during the rest of the time. The problem of clay and water has broken the back of this business. Earlier this village was quite famous for this business. But with time everything is coming to an end. The number of kutch houses in the village has reduced considerably. Due to this, the sale of tiles used in the roof is negligible. Now there is no profit in this business. The biggest problem is with the clay. Earlier, clay was brought from the

forest department's land. But at present, it has been banned. The problem of water and the increase in the price of coal. Which has broken the back of this business. After the hard work of four members of the family, 250 tiles can be made in a day. Which are baked and sold for three thousand rupees. They do not get profit as per the cost. Apart from making earthen pots, they have no other job, nor do they have land for agriculture. And there is no other means of income. They are somehow managing to feed their families. In the present times, aluminum, thermo-coal, and plastic utensils have become very popular, which are harmful to our health. Our ancestors used utensils made of clay, iron, and bronze in their times. That is why they did not suffer from the diseases of the present times. If you also want to live a healthy life like your ancestors, then use earthen pots for cooking food, so that along with your health, the financial condition of these potters can also improve.



Priyanka Saurabh

Research Scholar in Political Science, Poetess, Independent journalist and columnist.

AETCOM: Shaping the future of Medical education

Health professions require knowledge, clinical skills, communication, attitude, and ethics, essential for creating globally and locally adaptable healthcare professionals.



Dr. ARVIND NERAL

Professor & H.O.D. Department of Pathology, Pt. J.N.M. Medical College, Raipur.



Integrating Education and Practice: The AETCOM Revolution in Medical Training.

Health professions and practice is a complex interplay of knowledge, clinical skills, acumen, communication, attitude, interprofessional behavior, and is largely dependent on strong ethical values.

India, as one of the major contributors to the world's healthcare, offers a significant share of health professionals globally. Therefore, it needs a curriculum that is better aligned with health professional attributes that are locally relevant and globally adaptive.

To this realization, teaching and learning of medical ethics, behavioral science, communication skills, and managerial skills have been given significant attention in the existing medical curriculum.

The entire concept of AETCOM lies on the fundamental principle that changing a person's attitude can change their behavior.

The cognitive components of attitudes are more fundamental and constant over time, closely connected to basic values.

Behavioral attitudes are manifestations of underlying cognitive and affective attitudes. Ethical dimensions play a crucial role in behavioral evolution, and the basic building block of good communication is the recognition that every human being is unique and valuable.

The overall goal of the undergraduate medical education program, as envisaged in the revised Graduate Medical Education Regulations 2017, is to create an "Indian Medical Graduate" (IMG) possessing requisite knowledge, skills, attitudes, values, and responsiveness.

This ensures that they function appropriately and effectively as a physician of first contact for the community while being globally relevant.

To fulfill this goal, the IMG must be able to function appropriately, ethically, and effectively in their roles as a clinician, leader, member of the healthcare team and system, communicator, lifelong learner, and professional. To

effectively fulfill these roles, the IMG must acquire a set of competencies at the time of graduation.

The philosophy of the medical profession is to practice with a love for humanity coupled with a love for expertise.

It is the combination of "Philanthropia and Philotechnia." One of the essential qualities of a clinician is an interest in humanity.

Patients expect physicians to do more than merely apply medical science to their conditions. A strong positive attitude from the physician creates more miracles than any wonder drug.

Healing is not in the pen nor in medicines but in the

hand that holds the pen. Medical science is the most human of all sciences and the most scientific of all humanities. Besides medicine, doctors should also administer injections of courage, encouragement, hope, and faith to patients.

It is not only medicines that cure; it is the doctor's smile, optimism, kind words, and unwavering faith that work wonders for patients. There is no medicine more effective than a smile. Besides professional knowledge and skills, ideal physicians possess the added qualities of a philosopher, a priest, and a prince.

The diagnostic capability of a doctor is greatly enhanced if they can effectively communicate with the patient and their relatives.

It has been aptly stated that "Medicine is an art whose magic and creative ability have long been recognized as residing in the interpersonal aspects of the patient-physician relationship."

Recognizing the pivotal role of effective interpersonal communication between doctor and patient in clinical training and practice, the Medical Council of India has embarked on an ambitious and robust teaching curriculum in various disciplines on a competency format with emphasis on domains of attitude, ethics, and communication, as envisaged in the AETCOM (Attitude, Ethics, and Communication) module.

The revised medical curriculum in India emphasizes the critical role of ethics, communication, and attitude in producing well-rounded healthcare professionals. By focusing on these areas, the program aims to develop Indian Medical Graduates who are not only competent in clinical skills but also possess the necessary interpersonal and ethical qualities to effectively serve both local and global communities.

The ultimate goal is to ensure that these graduates can provide compassionate and effective care, making a significant impact in the field of healthcare worldwide.

YOUR LETTERS

Landmark bail decision by SC

The Supreme Court's recent decision on bail under UAPA marks a significant shift towards upholding personal liberty. It ruled that the seriousness of charges alone cannot justify denying bail. Sheikh Javed Iqbal, awaiting trial under UAPA for nine years, was granted bail. The Court emphasized the right to a speedy trial and criticized arbitrary bail conditions, such as sharing a Google Maps PIN, as violations of privacy. This decision underscores the importance of balancing charges with trial duration and personal liberty.

Yash Pal Ralhan, Jalandhar

BJP remains divisive

It seems that the BJP did not learn any lesson from the mandate of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. It is still as communal and divisive as before the elections. Asking the peddlers and shopkeepers to display their nameplate is one of its instances. The BJP and its leaders should think that divisive politics would not last for long. It would be better for the saffron party to mend its ways before it gets a considerable loss in the ensuing assembly elections. This ongoing approach risks further alienating voters and damaging its political standing.

Hassan Khan, Sitamarhi, Bihar

Send your articles (600-650 words) and letters (70-80 words) for this page on: editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com. The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity.

Business



“Govt to implement GNSS-based toll collection system at select NHs.”

Nitin Gadkari.
Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways.

David Lammy at HCLTech campus in Noida



UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy with HCLTech Chairperson Roshni Nadar Malhotra during a visit to HCLTech campus, in Noida.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Q1 RESULTS

V-Guard Industries Q1 profit up 54 per cent to Rs 99 crore

NEW DELHI: V-Guard Industries on Wednesday reported 54.11 per cent increase in consolidated net profit at Rs 98.97 crore for June quarter FY25 helped by improvement in margins with softening commodity prices and cost-effective initiatives. The electrical goods manufacturer had clocked a net profit of Rs 64.22 crore in April-June FY24, according to a regulatory filing.

Revenue from operations rose to Rs 1,477.10 crore during the period under review from Rs 1,214.76 crore in the corresponding period a year ago. Total expenses were up 18.5 per cent to Rs 1,351.65 crore.

Total income was higher by 21 per cent at Rs 1,484.01 crore in June quarter. “The business has delivered strong topline growth in electronics and consumer durables segments led by strong demand for summer products,” Managing Director Mithun K Chittilappilly said.

INDICATORS

Share MARKETS

Market	Close	%chg
Sensex	80,148.88	-0.35
Nifty	24,413.50	-0.27
Nifty, MidCap	56,872.75	+1.04
Nifty SmallCap	18,723.50	+1.76
Nifty Bank	51,317.00	-0.89

Closing rates as on July 24, 2024 at 5:30p.m. (IST)

Forex RATES

Foreign currency Vs Rupee

US Dollar	83.71 (+)
Euro	90.93 (-)
Chinese Yuan	11.51 (+)
UAE Dirham	22.79 (+)
Pakistan Rupee	0.30 (+)
Sri Lanka Rupee	0.27 (+)

On July 24, 2024

World INDICES

Stock	Value	% chg
Dow Jones (US)	39,999.51	-0.89%
FTSE 100 Index	8,151.82	-0.19%
Nikkei 225 (JPN)225:	39,154.85	-1.11%
CSI 300 (CHN) 300:	3,418.17	-0.63%

Index at 05:30 p.m. (IST, July 24, 2024)

How the markets behave today?
Sensex, Nifty close lower on profit taking in banks after budget; fall for 4th day



MUMBAI: Extending the losing streak to the fourth day, benchmark BSE Sensex declined by 280 points on Wednesday due to profit booking in financial and banking shares after the government announced a hike in securities transaction tax and short term capital gains tax in the budget for 2024-25.

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 280.16 points or 0.35 per cent to settle at 80,148.88 with 19 of its components closing lower and 11 with gains. During the day, it tumbled 678.53 points or 0.84 per cent to 79,750.51. The NSE Nifty dropped 65.55 points or 0.27 per cent to 24,413.50. From the Sensex pack, Bajaj Finserv declined by 2 per cent after its first-quarter earnings failed to cheer

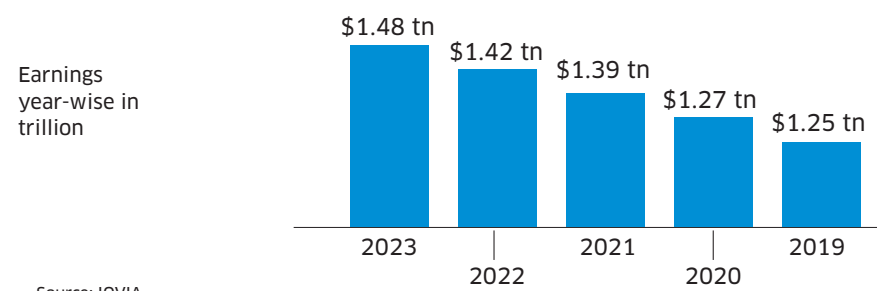
investors. Conglomerate ITC surged to 52-week highs before closing higher by 0.42 per cent in its second straight day of gains after the budget proposed no new tax on tobacco products. “The budget event has gone by leaving a mixed bias while reshuffling of capital gain tax is only a short-term negative surprise. The broad market seems to be losing momentum due to lack of further traction,” Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said.

Major Gainers: Tech Mahindra, ITC, NTPC, Tata Motors and Sun Pharma.

Major Losers: Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Unilever, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Adani Ports, Axis Bank and State Bank of India.

The Day's NUMBERS

GLOBAL PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET



NEW LAUNCH

Royal Enfield launched its premium modern roadster - Guerrilla 450

MUMBAI: Roadsters will never be the same again, nor will the roads, as Royal Enfield launched its premium modern roadster - the Royal Enfield Guerrilla 450; a motorcycle meant to remind the world what roadsters were really meant to be-kinetic, intuitive and eager to play throughout its wide power band. Precisely engineered to be raw, responsive and for visceral riding experience, the Guerrilla 450 is a powerful, versatile and sophisticated motorcycle meant to deliver pure, primal fun, be it the weekday hustle through traffic snarls, spirited Sunday morning zip through twisties, or long-haul rides on lazy roads. The Guerrilla 450 is a motorcycle that embodies character, substance and defiance, much like Royal Enfield's fiercely unique journey of building motor cycles that stand a part from the rest. Speaking about the Guerrilla 450, Siddhartha Lal, MD - Eicher Motors Ltd. said, “The Guerrilla 450 is our take on modern roadsters, and we are super happy with how it has turned out.

BULLION MARKET

Gold prices drop by Rs 650 to Rs 71,650 per 10g on weak demand

NEW DELHI: Gold prices dropped by Rs 650 to Rs 71,650 per 10 grams in the local market here on Wednesday, continuing the retreat for the second day in a row due to weak demand from jewellers and import duty cut announced in the budget for 2024-25. According to the All India Sarafa Association, the precious metal had closed at Rs 72,300 per 10 grams in the previous session on Tuesday after taking a hit of Rs 3,350. Silver prices, however, remained flat at Rs 87,500 per kg in the local market. Gold of 99.9 per cent and 99.5 per cent purity slumped by Rs 650 each to Rs 71,650 per 10 grams and Rs 71,300 per 10 grams, respectively.

‘Taxpayers can opt for ‘Vivad se Vishwas’ 2024 scheme’

The first date is (going to be) 31st of December by when we the taxpayer is supposed to actually opt for the scheme (Vivad se Vishwas 2024). Very soon, we will notify this.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The ‘Vivad se Vishwas’ scheme announced in the Budget for settlement of pending direct tax appeals will be launched this year and its notification apart from relevant FAQs would be issued soon, CBDT chairman Ravi Agrawal said Wednesday. Speaking to PTI during a post-Budget interview, the head of the direct taxes administration in the country said that a “substan-

tial” number of income tax appeals are logged at the appellate stage in different forums and it is expected that a “reasonable” number of taxpayers will avail the new scheme. The first ‘Vivad se Vishwas’ scheme for cases under the direct taxes or income tax category was brought out by the government in 2020 and, according to the CBDT chief, it was “quite successful” with about Rs 75,000 crore revenue being garnered and about

NUMBER

75,000

• Expects that a ‘reasonable’ number of taxpayers will avail the new scheme.

• First ‘Vivad se Vishwas’ scheme was brought in 2020 which was very successful.

lakh taxpayers availing the scheme. “The first date is (going to be) 31st of December by when we the taxpayer is supposed to actually opt for the scheme (Vivad se Vishwas 2024). Very soon, we will notify this scheme along with the FAQs (frequently asked questions) and all those things,” Agrawal said. Finance Minister Nirjala Sitharaman in her Budget speech proposed to introduce the scheme “for settlement of pending

appeals”. “It is proposed to be made operational from a specified date. Last date for the scheme is also proposed to be notified,” the minister said on Tuesday. he abolition of Angel tax for all classes of investors will act to “prompt” innovators and venture capitalists to better invest in startups and any instances of money laundering here will be taken care of by the existing legal mechanism, CBDT Chairman Ravi Agrawal said on Wednesday.

PRODUCT LAUNCH

Nissan looks to rev up India ops; 5 models to be launched

Central Chronicle News

The company has also unveiled the latest version of its premium SUV X-Trail



Nissan India President Frank Torres.

CAPNEW DELHI: Japanese auto major Nissan is looking to introduce five models over the next 30 months, as it looks to reboot its operations in the fast-growing Indian car market. The company, which is selling just one model in the country currently, is planning to drive in two mid-size SUV models (one five-seater and one seven-seater), one electric SUV and a refreshed version of its compact SUV Magnite. The company has also unveiled the latest version of its premium SUV X-Trail, which will be imported into the Indian market as a completely built-up (CBU) model.

FACTFILE

• Nissan is looking to introduce five models over the next 30 months.

“India is an important market for us, and we will be going in for a product offensive over the next two and half years, between FY24 and FY26,” Nissan India President Frank Torres told PTI in an interaction. He noted that the company is looking at tripling its sales vol-

ume in the domestic and export markets by FY26.

“In the next two and half years, we will enhance three times our volume in domestic as well as exports,” Torres said. The company expects to enhance domestic and export volumes to 1 lakh each per annum by the end of FY26, he added. Torres said the new product range would have a high level of technology and offer a value proposition to the customers. Last year, Nissan Motor

Co and Renault SA announced significant investments in six new models in India. Torres said the automaker is now also contemplating as to what global models could be considered for the Indian market after FY26. He admitted that the company has taken time to finalise its strategy for the Indian market. It currently sells just one model -- Magnite -- in the country. “Sometimes you need to take some time to ensure what you really need...we are now in a phase of transformation and implementation of this plan...”

We think that this is what will give us sustainable growth,” Torres stated. Nissan Motor India MD Saurabh Vatsa said: “I don’t think, in India, we are too late because the market is growing and it’s not stagnating, it’s not plateaued”.

AYURVEDIC MANAGEMENT

Ayurvedic Management for rainy season ailments

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The rainy season is eagerly awaited for its soothing effects and respite from the summer heat. It rejuvenates the earth, bringing a lush green carpet of plants, dancing peacocks, and singing cuckoos. However, this season also brings health challenges such as colds, flu, coughs, fever,

diarrhea, and malaria. Ayurvedic practices offer effective preventive measures and treatments to manage these ailments. In India, the rainy season is one of the six seasons identified by Ayurveda, each requiring specific regimens for maintaining health. Ayurveda emphasizes the importance of transitioning between seasons (‘Rutсандhi kal’)



and following seasonal routines (‘Rutucharya’) with dietary guidelines. During the rainy season, high humidity and contaminated water contribute to the prevalence of diseases. The first step in

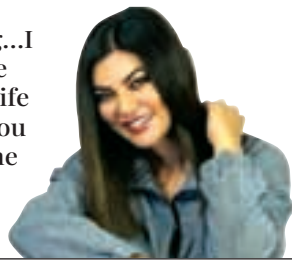
Ayurvedic management is prevention. Avoid getting wet in the rain, and if you do, take a bath with clean, warm water and dry yourself thoroughly. Boil drinking water and maintain cleanliness in your

surroundings. Avoid eating heavy foods, sleeping during the day, and sleeping in places exposed to cold air.

If illness occurs due to poor diet or contaminated water, Ayurveda suggests specific treatments. For cold, coughing, frequent sneezing, loss of appetite, and body aches, take Baidyanath Kasamrit-2 teaspoons, three times a day.

"I have no fear of failing...I have accepted the one important thing in my life that I am not perfect. You are going to fail at some point or the other."

Sushmita Sen
Actress



& Glitters

CLOSE UP

Beyond the Years: Radhikka Madan's take on age in 'Sarfira'

Bollywood actress, Radhikka Madan has put on a bold front and stated that she wasn't perturbed by the huge age difference between her and Akshay Kumar while filming Sarfira.

Central Chronicle News

Radhikka Madan who recently starred opposite Akshay Kumar in Sarfira has finally spoken about their 28-year age difference. She revealed that this discussion faded after people watched the film.

Radhikka Madan, Akshay Kumar's co-star in 'Sarfira', has addressed the notable 28-year age gap between them in a recent interview. She acknowledges the ongoing debate surrounding age disparities in Bollywood's leading pairs, emphasizing how perceptions shifted after the film's release. Despite initial skepticism, Madan mentions reading through "42 reviews," none of which dwelled on their age difference. Instead, critics highlighted their "cracking chemistry," "intense chemistry," and "lovely chemistry" on screen. This feedback pleasantly surprised her, contrasting sharply with early doubts expressed during the trailer's debut. Madan also underscores the filmmakers' efforts to move beyond superficial concerns, ensuring 'Sarfira' stands out as a unique cinematic experience.



Radhikka Madan is not bothered by 28 year age gap with Sarfira co-star Akshay Kumar



Radhikka Madan defends Sarfira age gap narrative

Radhikka Madan emphasized that 'Sarfira' speaks for itself regarding the age difference between her and Akshay Kumar's characters. She highlighted how the film beautifully explores their connection from the outset, including in the

opening scene. Madan explained that their bond goes beyond superficial aspects like looks or age, rooted instead in their shared struggles and dreams. She clarified that their attraction isn't based on wealth or appearance but on mutual respect and personal integrity.



| BOLLYWOOD |

Mona Singh: Charting a new course from Jassi to OTT

Central Chronicle News

Mona Singh's journey through the ever-evolving landscape of Indian entertainment has been a rollercoaster of challenges and triumphs. Known for her iconic role in 'Jassi Jaissi Koi Nah!', Mona recently shared her candid thoughts on navigating ageism in showbiz and finding new hope in the digital era. In a candid interview, the 42-year-old actress revealed her concerns about the industry's bias against aging actresses. She recalled a period in her 30s when she felt sidelined, questioning if roles were slipping away solely because of her age—a stark con-

trast to the more forgiving industry standards for male actors. But Mona's narrative took a promising turn with the advent of OTT platforms in India.

HIGHLIGHT

● **Mona Singh who was once a craze on television has recalled her transition and said that the time gap to find work made her worry about ageism in showbiz. However, the OTT boom eventually helped.**

Embracing this new wave of storytelling, she found a refreshing change where characters were no lon-



Munhya's Mona recalls being worried about ageism in her 30s; reveals how OTT boom helped

ger confined to black or white. "The digital space allowed me to explore complex shades and narratives without the constraints of traditional norms," Mona explained, highlighting her rejuvenated career trajectory.

Today, Mona Singh is not just reclaiming her space but expanding it. With a renewed zest, she dreams of tackling diverse genres, including her aspiration to play a cop and delve into action-packed roles. Her criteria for scripts are simple yet profound: they must evoke a sense of excitement and challenge her to dig deep into character complexities.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Web Series

Chalti Rahe Zindagi explores crisis and human bond

In the midst of a pandemic lockdown, 'Chalti Rahe Zindagi' unveils the intertwined lives of three families in a housing complex. Led by Krishna Bhagat, a humble bread supplier linking them all, the film delves into the unraveling of hidden truths and the resilience of human connections. Directed by Aarti S. Bagdi and featuring Seema Biswas alongside Manjari Fadnis, Siddhant Kapoor, and others, this poignant narrative explores love, loss, and redemption amidst crisis. As director Aarti reflects on the film's resonance with real-life struggles, 'Chalti Rahe Zindagi' promises to resonate deeply with audiences, offering a heartfelt tribute to the enduring spirit of humanity.

Lady Gaga's heartfelt tribute to Tony Bennett

Tears and Tunes: Gaga's tribute to Bennett



Lady Gaga commemorated the one-year anniversary of Tony Bennett's passing with a heartfelt tribute on Instagram. Sharing a photo with the late jazz legend, who passed away on July 21, 2023, Gaga reflected on their enduring collaboration. Despite Bennett's health challenges, they continued performing together, which his doctors acknowledged as beneficial for his well-being. Their partnership, highlighted by performances such as their 2021 Radio City Music Hall shows for their album Love For Sale, remained poignant for Gaga. She expressed deep emotional attachment, recalling their shared moments on stage and in the studio.



Fashion

Pooja Hegde brings the rainbow in Saaksha and Kinni

Pooja Hegde's latest vacation look in a Saaksha and Kinni colourful mini-dress is pure charm. Embracing Italy's picturesque backdrop, she radiates in the Rs. 15,000 piece, featuring a halter neckline and vibrant, flowing silhouette. The dress's playful multicoloured print resembles modern art, complementing her confident, Gen-Z styled pairing with sneakers. Hegde's minimalistic accessories—a delicate bracelet, droplet earrings, and white-framed sunglasses—perfectly balance the ensemble.

Trending on Insta

@shehnaazgill

Shehnaaz Gill's ethnic charm on full display

Shehnaaz Gill looked stunning in a blush pink kurta set adorned with pearls and sequins, complemented by monochrome chandelier earrings. Priced at Rs 15,900, her Instagram post garnered praise for her natural beauty and style.



Bachchan's Kaun Banega Crorepati prep

Amitabh Bachchan returns to host 'Kaun Banega Crorepati 16' from August 12 on Sony Entertainment Television, promising intense questions and personal stories in its iconic quiz format.



Netflix unveils Snyder's visionary sci-fi

Prepare for Zack Snyder's Rebel Moon, an interstellar adventure set in a universe dominated by a corrupt regime. Led by a stellar cast including Sofia Boutella and Djimon Hounsou, the saga unfolds across two movies, promising action and intrigue from August 2nd, 2024.



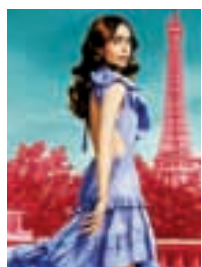
Ghudchadi: Streaming from August 9

Sanjay Dutt and Raveena Tandon's romantic comedy 'Ghudchadi' is set to stream on an OTT platform from August 9. The film, directed by Binoy Gandhi, also stars Aruna Irani, Ansha Sayed, and Navni Parihar.



Rampal's powerful addition to Rana Naidu

Arjun Rampal joins Rana and Venkatesh Daggubati in 'Rana Naidu' Season 2. The Telugu-language show, focused on the Naidu family drama, promises more action and tension. Rampal's addition raises the stakes for this Netflix series.



Love, Lies & Luxury: Emily's Parisian predicament

The 'Emily in Paris' Season 4 trailer teases more drama and romance. Emily is torn between Alfie and Gabriel, both of whom mean a lot to her. Will she finally choose her true love? Find out on August 15!



Art & Culture

NITA MUKESH AMBANI CENTRE'S DASHAVATAR

Embracing Divinity: The Dashavatar at Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre

During the Anant Ambani-Radhika Merchant wedding festivities, the entire NMACC was bedecked with glimpses of Varanasi and the exhibit that attracted most attention was the Dashavatar.

Imagine walking through the ancient streets of Varanasi, where incense fills the air and temple bells ring. Suddenly, you're immersed in divine stories and vibrant characters. This is the essence of the Dashavatars—the ten forms of Lord Vishnu in Hindu tradition. These aren't just ancient tales; they are living stories that have shaped beliefs and culture for millennia, especially revered in Varanasi, one of India's holiest cities. In a recent Instagram video, Nita Ambani, chairperson of Reliance Foundation, unveils the 'Dashavatar' at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre. The exhibit, described as "a breathtaking display of sights and sounds alongside the streets of Banaras," brings the ten avatars to life through cutting-edge technology. Ambani explains, "Hindus believe that when the world faces evil or chaos, Bhagwan Vishnu descends in some



In Varanasi, the Dashavatars are not only celebrated but also serve as a living embodiment of the city's spiritual ethos.



HIGHLIGHT

● NMACC's 'Dashavatar' is a stunning audio-visual tribute to Lord Vishnu's ten avatars. The experience vividly chronicles these incarnations across different yugs, offering profound lessons and timeless guidance for navigating life.

form, avatar, to restore cosmic order."

Mahant Sushil Pandey of Sundar Sadan Mandir Ayodhya notes, "In Varanasi, the Dashavatars are celebrated and embody the city's spiritual essence. The ghats, temples, and daily rituals are rich with their stories and teachings, creating a vibrant living mythology." He adds that the nightly Ganga Aarti often features hymns and prayers dedicated to Vishnu and his avatars, enhancing the spiritual atmosphere and connecting worshippers to profound themes of divine intervention, cosmic evolution, and spiritual renewal. This immersive experience captures the essence of Varanasi's rich cultural heritage and its enduring spiritual significance.

Discover Churchill the artist: Ten unpublished works

Discover ten never-before-seen paintings by Winston Churchill now on display at Heather James Fine Art in Palm Desert, California. The exhibition, titled "Winston Churchill: Making Art, Making History," highlights Churchill's passion for painting, a hobby he pursued alongside his political career. The collection features landscapes, seascapes, still lifes, and portraits, all bursting with colour. Churchill, a self-taught artist, began painting in 1915 and created over 500 artworks during his lifetime. Many of these paintings were given to friends and leaders rather than sold.



HISTORY OF THE WORD OK

Beyond the Obvious: The Story of OK

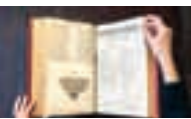


The origin of the word "OK," now widely used around the world, was long debated with theories ranging from German military abbreviations to French port names and telegraph shorthand. Some even linked it to Andrew Jackson or Civil War biscuits. The mystery was solved in the mid-1960s by Columbia University scholar Allen Walker Read, who traced "OK" to its 1839 Boston debut as an abbreviation for "ollkorrect," a playful misspelling of "all correct."

Cultural Hues

Uncovering the first American novel

William Hill Brown's "The Power of Sympathy," published in 1789, is considered America's first novel. This early work, published anonymously by Isaiah Thomas & Company, tells a tragic love story set in New England. Despite its historical significance, it's not typical summer beach reading. The novel, written during a time of American innovation, explores themes of seduction and virtue. Brown, a poet and essayist, aimed to shape societal values rather than seek literary fame. His work was only widely recognized as America's first novel in the late 19th century. Today, it remains a niche interest for literary historians and specialists.



Celebrating canines in the summer heat

"Dog says of summer" at Timothy Taylor Gallery in New York highlights the bond between people and dogs through art. The exhibition features over 60 pieces from 1915 to today, including paintings, drawings, photos, and sculptures by artists like Grandma Moses and Robert Mapplethorpe. It celebrates the special relationship between humans and their canine companions, showcasing various breeds and artistic styles. The show runs until August 23 and welcomes dogs with treats and water bowls provided.



Sadako Sasaki statue stolen from Seattle Park

A bronze statue of Sadako Sasaki, a Hiroshima victim, has been stolen from Seattle's Peace Park. The statue, unveiled in 1990, depicted the 12-year-old holding a paper crane, symbolizing her battle with leukemia and her hope for peace. The theft, discovered on July 12, leaves behind only a pair of small sandaled feet. Sadako's story, moving millions worldwide, represents peace and the tragic consequences of war. The Seattle Police Department is investigating, and the community is considering funding a replacement if the statue isn't recovered.



Giant stegosaurus skeleton fetches record price

A giant Stegosaurus skeleton called "Apex" has set a new auction record, selling for \$44.6 million at Sotheby's. This 150-million-year-old fossil, the largest and most complete Stegosaurus ever found, far exceeded its estimated value of \$6 million. Bidders competed intensely, with the final purchase made by billionaire Kenneth Griffin. "Apex" is significantly larger than the previous record holder, and its sale raises concerns about fossils being sold to private collectors rather than staying with research institutions. The buyer plans to loan the specimen to a U.S. museum.



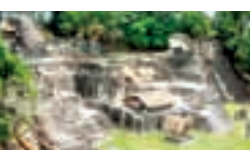
Historic paper treasure trove unearthed

Fragile paper cuttings made by 17th-century schoolgirls have been uncovered beneath the floorboards of Sutton House in London, a former girls' boarding school. The artifacts, including a tiny fox and a star, were found during renovations in the 1980s but were only cataloged last year. Now, they are being displayed publicly for the first time. These delicate creations highlight the educational practices of the era and will be on view from July 19 to December.



Hidden world of the Maya revealed

Researchers have uncovered a mysterious structure beneath a Maya ball court in Campeche, Mexico. The ancient building, likely dating from 200 to 600 C.E., features painted stucco walls and suggests the site's historical importance. Ball courts are typically found at major Maya centres, indicating the significance of this discovery. While further excavation is needed to determine the building's exact shape and purpose, the find adds to a growing list of significant Maya discoveries in the BalamKú Biosphere Reserve, including ancient pyramids and ceremonial centres.



| LOHA SHILP OF CHHATTISGARH |

Loha Shilp: A Glimpse into Chhattisgarh's iron craft heritage

HIGHLIGHT

● In Chhattisgarh, Loha Shilpa artisans breathe life into iron, crafting pieces that reflect the region's rich folklore and natural beauty.

this raw material, sculpting it into a range of stunning items—from elaborate figurines and intricate sculptures to functional tools and ceremonial objects. Each piece is a symphony of craftsmanship, blending artistry with practicality. What sets Loha Shilpa apart is its deep-rooted connection to the natural world and local folklore. Craftsmen employ techniques like repoussé and



The trade is often known as "LohaShilp" which literally means iron craft.

chasing to imbue their creations with detailed patterns inspired by the lush flora and fauna of Chhattisgarh. Imagine intricate iron depictions of mythical creatures, vibrant flora, and ancient symbols, each telling a story of its own. For art enthusiasts and collectors, visiting Chhattisgarh offers a rare opportunity to witness Loha Shilpa in its native setting. Observing the artisans' deft hands shaping iron into intricate designs provides a profound appreciation for their skill and passion. Loha Shilpa is not just a craft but a living legacy, celebrating the fusion of artistic brilliance and traditional craftsmanship in a way that's both timeless and deeply enchanting.

Central Chronicle News

Tucked away in the artistic enclave of Chhattisgarh, the captivating art form of Loha Shilpa, or iron craft, beckons with its mesmerizing blend of tradition and artistry. This unique craft, flourishing in the Bastar district, transforms humble iron into extraordinary masterpieces, showcasing the region's rich artistic heritage and innovative spirit. Loha Shilpa is a testament to the alchemical magic of traditional metalwork. The process begins with locally sourced iron ore, meticulously smelted using age-old techniques. Artisans then breathe life into

Sports



I paid a visit to the Bageshwar Dham temple in Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh, before departing for the ODI series against Sri Lanka.

Kuldeep Yadav
Indian cricketer

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

BASKETBALL

US women's basketball Olympic team rebounds to top Germany 84-57

WASHINGTON: A'ja Wilson had 19 points and 14 rebounds to help the U.S. women's basketball Olympic team rebound from a rare exhibition loss to beat Germany 84-57. The Americans lost to a team of WNBA All-Stars on Saturday before traveling over to London for the exhibition contest against Germany on Tuesday night. These two teams are in the same pool in the Olympics and will play again in the Paris Games on Aug. 4. "It was a breath of fresh air to get out of All-Star and come here, there's one goal and it's to win," U.S. guard Sabrina Ionescu said. The U.S. raced out to a 22-9 lead, scoring the first seven points of the game. By the end of the first 10 minutes, the Americans had built that 13-point lead. **PTI**

SQUASH

Indian men finish 6th, women 7th in World Junior Squash Championships



NEW DELHI: India finished sixth and seventh in the men's and women's sections respectively in the World Junior Squash Championships held in Houston, USA. The Indian men lost to England 1-2 in the match for fifth position while their women counterparts beat New Zealand 2-1 in the clash for the seventh on Tuesday. Both the matches went into deciders. **PTI**

England's 600 Ambition

Ollie Pope believes England can break 600-run barrier in a day with Bazball approach



LONDON: Ollie Pope reckons England can breach the 600-run mark inside a day's play in Test cricket while ruling out any let up to their ultra aggressive 'Bazball' approach with the bat. England hold the record for the most runs scored in a day when they piled up 588 for 6 on the second day of the Manchester Test against India in 1936, and Pope believes the current side under Ben Stokes can eclipse that. "Sometimes we might score 280 to 300 in a day but that's OK and probably because we're reading situations. There might also be a day where we go and get 500 to 600 at some point in the future as well. And that's a cool thing to have," Pope was quoting as

saying by 'BBC Sport'. In December 2022, England smashed 506 runs on the opening day of the first Test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi. England are currently 2-0 up in the three-match Test series against the West Indies after they followed up a victory by an innings at Lord's with a comprehensive 241-run win at Trent Bridge, Nottingham last week. The third and final Test starts on Friday at Edgbaston. The win in Nottingham was the first time England scored 400-plus in both innings of a Test match with totals of 416 and 425. Pope (121 in first innings) was one of three England centurions in the second Test alongside Joe Root and Harry Brook. **PTI**

The Day's NUMBERS

MOST CENTURIES IN TEST CRICKET

Sachin Tendulkar	51
Jacques Kallis	45
Ricky Ponting	41
Steve Smith	30
Virat Kohli	29

Source: ICC

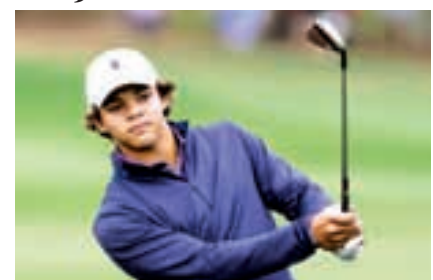
DU OLYMPIANS

Manika, Manu, Amoj among Delhi University's finest at Paris Games

NEW DELHI: Through swinging 70s, hip hop 80s and colourful 90s, Delhi University's marquee sporting spectacle would always be the Inter-College cricket final between St Stephen's and the Hindu with a clutch of international players representing both teams. Come 2024, the times have changed and as the Olympic movement gained momentum in India, Delhi University's roster now comprises of decorated athletes of varied Olympic sports. And in India's 117-strong contingent, seven alumni and two current students of Delhi University will be vying for top honours at the upcoming Paris Olympics. DU VC Yogesh Singh said that most of the top women shooters of the country who will be aiming bull's eye are either current or former students of DU's top colleges. In fact there will be half a dozen of them among 11 women shooters in the contingent. **PTI**

GOLF

Tiger Woods' son, Charlie, misses cut at US Junior Amateur



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP: Tiger Woods watched his son, Charlie, shoot a 10-over 80 and miss the cut at 22 over through two rounds at the U.S. Junior Amateur. The 15-year-old Woods, who earned a spot in the 264-player field last month, finished near the bottom of the pack on Tuesday. The top 64 players advance to match play, which begins Wednesday. The 36-hole championship match is Saturday. Woods did fare better on the Oakland Hills South Course, which Ben Hogan dubbed "The Monster," than he did with an opening 12-over 82 on the North Course. **PTI**

Sharath's cherished Olympic moments with Federer



Achanta Sharath Kamal. | Photo: PTI

Indian table tennis legend Achanta Sharath Kamal fondly recalls his favorite Olympic memories, from dining with Roger Federer to winning a set against Ma Long.

Press Trust Of India

PARIS: From lunching alongside tennis icon Roger Federer to taking a set off Chinese legend Ma Long, India's flag-bearer for Paris Olympics, Achanta Sharath Kamal, on Wednesday recalled the most memorable moments from his five appearances at the Games so far.

The 42-year-old table tennis legend helped the Indian men's team qualify for the first time in history and is believed to

be set for his final appearance at the Games.

The multiple-time Commonwealth Games gold-medallist believes that qualifying as a team could become the catalyst of growth for table tennis in India.

For someone who has a huge bank of memories from the Olympics having made his first appearance in 2004, Sharath recalled running into Federer at a dining hall in his debut Games.

"One day I was just out for lunch and as I was

HIGHLIGHT

● Lunch with Roger Federer and Andy Roddick at the Athens 2004 Olympics.

● Taking a set off Ma Long during the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

entering from this side, there was another person coming from the other side with a tennis bag and hair let loose. I feel like I have seen him somewhere. I couldn't recognise who he was with his

hair let loose," he said in a release from Ultimate Table Tennis.

"We pass each other -- we actually cross paths -- (and) he goes to give his bag at the baggage keeping area. I walk in, take my plate looking at what to eat and it suddenly strikes me. Man, it's Roger Federer!"

Sharath said he was rather shy at that time but nonetheless searched for the Swiss ace.

"He was sitting at one of the tables all by himself. I went as close as

possible. I didn't want to get in his place but still got close and I was eating (on the same table)," he continued. "Suddenly, a guy comes in with a reverse hat and shorts and they are clapping hands. I look at him and it's Andy Roddick," Sharath recalled. With the Tokyo Olympics postponed by one year during to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sharath recalled facing difficulties in training and yet he was able to make a dent in Long's march to the gold medal.

ASIA CUP CRICKET

Mandhana highlights crucial game time for all batters

Press Trust Of India

Mandhana decided to shuffle the batting order to give time to the other batters in the middle during their last group match against minnows Nepal.

DAMBULLA: Stand-in India skipper Smriti Mandhana was pleased to see the middle-order batters getting some much-needed runs under their belt against Nepal here on Tuesday ahead of the women's Asia Cup semifinals.

With regular skipper Harmanpreet Kaur skipping the match and India sitting pretty at the top of the group, Mandhana decided to shuffle the bat-



ting order to give time to the other batters in the middle during their last group match against minnows Nepal.

Mandhana, a regular opener, didn't bat at the top as Shafali Verma (81) and Dayalan Hemalatha (47) opened the innings and smashed their way to 122 in 14 overs to lay the foundation.

S Sajana (10) and Jemimah Rodrigues (28) then took them to a solid 178 for 3, which proved enough as Nepal could manage 96 for nine in 20 overs to suffer a 82-run loss.

"As an opener you don't get a lot of games where you don't bat. Much needed game time for all the other batters.

FACTFILE

● Mandhana praises middle-order batters for gaining crucial game time before the Asia Cup semifinals.

● Shafali Verma's explosive 81 leads India to a commanding victory over Nepal.

The middle order hasn't batted in the previous games," Mandhana said during the post-match presentation.

"The conditions were different and it is always good to have game time under your belt. The middle order didn't get time in the South Africa series as well, so good they could spend some time in the middle."

ONE GAME MANTRA

Team's mantra to take one game at a time: Deepti

Press Trust Of India

DAMBULLA: Senior player Deepti Sharma said India's mantra in the Women's T20 Asia Cup has been to take one game at a time as conditions haven't really changed from the last time the team played here.

India marched into the semifinals with a thump-

I (am) always ready to bowl in any kind of situation. I like to take the challenges from the front.

Deepti Sharma
Indian Women cricketer



ing 82-run win over Nepal on Tuesday after fireworks with the bat from Shafali Verma (81 off 48 balls) and Deepti's impressive 3/13 with the ball.

India amassed 178 for 3 after batting first and then restricted Nepal to a paltry 98 for 9 in their 20 overs.

"From the first game we are pretty confident

about each (match) and every situation and the condition as well. We are looking forward to semi-final as well," Deepti told the media after the match.

She said not much has changed in terms of the nature of the pitches and conditions in Sri Lanka from the team's previous tour to the island nation in June 2022.

Sports News

Indian Archers aim to break medal jinx

Indian archers aim to break their Olympic medal drought as they begin their campaign at the Paris Games. Veterans Tarundeep Rai and Deepika Kumari lead a full six-member squad, competing in all five archery events.

Press Trust Of India

On form front, India will have high hopes from the men's team, which won a historic World Cup this year in Shanghai.

PARIS: A different year and another Olympics, but for Indian archers, the target will be the same - fetching their first ever medal at the Games.

More or less regular at the Olympics since debuting back in 1988, the archers will kick off the nation's Paris campaign here on Wednesday with the qualification rounds at the Les Invalides gardens here.

For the first time after London 2012, India will have a full six-member squad after both the men's and women's teams qualified on the basis of rankings. This means they will compete in all the five events.

Veterans Tarundeep Rai and Deepika Kumari, appearing in their fourth Olympics, will lead their young teammates, hoping to securing at least a top-10 finish in the qualification round to ensure a favourable draw.

Each archer will shoot 72 arrows and the scores in the qualification round of 128 athletes from 53 countries will decide the seeds for the main knockout competition beginning with the women's team finals on Sunday.



It's a now-or-never situation for me: Tarundeep Rai

Paris: It's a "now-or-never situation for me", says veteran Indian archer Tarundeep Rai as he seeks to win a maiden Olympic medal in his fourth appearance at the Games while also serving as the team's unofficial mentor in Paris.

The 40-year-old Rai has won medals in every championships at the global and continental level but not the Olympics. He has two silver at the World Championships (2005, 2019), nine World Cup medals, including three gold, a silver and a bronze in Asian Games, two silver and a bronze in Asian Championships. "It's emotional every day. It's the fourth time. It's a now-or-never situation for me, and that's what I tell my teammates too. Maybe someone playing his first or second Olympics should think like it's now or never. You have to put in an effort as if it's going to be your last," Rai told PTI in an interview.

The veteran archer from Sikkim was part of the Indian teams at the 2004 Athens, 2012 London and 2021 Tokyo Olympics. He exited in the first round in the individual event in Athens, and in the second round in both 2012 and 2021 editions.



The qualifying round will be crucial for the Indians, who have often slipped in the seedings and ended up losing to heavyweights Korea, tipped to top the qualifications.

At the Tokyo Olympics, all the male archers finished outside the top-30 and got the ninth seeding as a team. Deepika, the sole woman archer there, also got a ninth place in rankings. Both ended up losing to top-seed Koreans in their respective quarters.

On form front, India will have high hopes from the men's team, which won a historic World Cup this year in Shanghai, upsetting Korea for the first time in a final.

They will have the experience in Rai and Tokyo Olympian Pravin Jadhav, while debutant Dhiraj Bommadevara will be on a high after beating Tokyo Olympics silver-medallist Mauro Nespoli of Italy en route a bronze at the World Cup Stage-3 in Antalya just a month back.

Individually, debutant Dhiraj is seen as a bright prospect as he has tasted success by winning the Asian Games team silver last year, albeit with different teammates.

Known to be "ice cool" in tough situations, Dhiraj would look to overcome the bitter memories of Hangzhou Asian Games where he botched up his release twice to exit in the individual quarters.



Salma Hayek Pinault waves after carrying the Olympic torch at the Chateau de Versailles, at the 2024 Summer Olympics. | Photo: PTI



Connor Priestley paints the Olympic rings next to a fencing piste as workers apply the final touches to the Grand Palais. | Photo: PTI



Young players participate in a 'Good Luck' signature campaign for boxer Lovlina Borgohain for success in Paris Olympics. | Photo: PTI

| PARIS OLYMPICS |

Olympic fans can enjoy mini world's fair in Paris Park

Press Trust Of India

Paris hosts a mini World's Fair with festive national team clubhouses for Olympic fans.

PARIS: Sip a cool caipirinha cocktail in Brazil. Sample a spicy samosa in India. Boogie down with a DJ in France till the early hours. Or, do all three in a day - and perhaps meet some athletes, too.

Paris is hosting a unique mini World's Fair at Parc de la Villette, renamed Parc des Nations for the duration of the Olympics. The event features 15 festive national team clubhouses where fans can immerse themselves in different cultures, enjoy food and drink, and celebrate with



Olympic athletes. Each clubhouse offers a distinct experience, such as Brazil's samba and caipirinhas, India's traditional sari weaving and Bollywood music, and Slovenia's national cuisine.

The Club France is the largest, accommodating up to 26,000 people with a stage for nightly music events and athlete appearances. The park's diverse structures allow countries to showcase

their culture uniquely, with Mongolia setting up traditional yurts and Czech Republic emphasizing its culinary heritage. Fans can pay a small fee to enjoy the festivities all day, including watching Olympic events on giant screens, participating in sports activities, and celebrating medal winners. The initiative aims to bring the Olympic spirit closer to everyone.

US men's basketball team arrives in France

VILLENEUVE-D'ASCQ: And now, the real work begins for the US Olympic men's basketball team. The four-time defending Olympic gold medallists arrived in France on Wednesday to begin their final preparations for the Paris Games. Their train from London arrived in their early afternoon, about three hours before the team was slated to hold an acclimation practice at the arena where they'll play their three group-stage games. The US opens its Olympic slate against Serbia on Sunday, followed by games with South Sudan on July 31 and Puerto Rico on August 3. The tournament then shifts from Lille to Paris for the knockout stage: quarterfinals in Paris are on August 6, semifinals are on August 8 and the medal games are August 10.

| WINTER OLYMPICS |

Salt Lake city awarded 2034 Winter Olympics hosting

Press Trust Of India

Salt Lake City secures the 2034 Winter Olympics, marking its second time hosting.

SALT LAKE CITY: Salt Lake City was formally awarded the 2034 Winter Olympics following a Wednesday vote by the International Olympic Committee in Paris, which gives Utah its second Games after hosting in 2002.

A watch party was planned at 3 a.m. local time - 11 a.m. in Paris - to celebrate the announcement. Large crowds were expected at the event that coincides with a state holiday marking the date Mormon pioneers discovered the Salt Lake Valley



People celebrate while watching a live feed from Paris at the International Olympic Committee awarded Salt Lake City the 2034 Winter Olympics.

HIGHLIGHT

● Olympic fanatics celebrated at a 3 a.m. local watch party coinciding with a state holiday.

considering for 2034. Climate change and high operational costs have reduced the number of cities willing and able to welcome the Winter Games. Utah has capitalized on low interest elsewhere, pitching itself to Olympic officials as an enthusiastic repeat host if the committee goes forward with a proposed permanent rotation of Winter Olympic cities. Olympic Games Executive Director Christophe Dubi had said Salt Lake City would be a prime candidate for such a plan.

Local leaders had their sights set on hosting multiple times even before Salt Lake City welcomed its first Games, bid team spokesperson Tom Kelly said.

in northern Utah. Olympic fanatics were already starting to gather downtown and pitch tents before sunset Tuesday.

Salt Lake City was the lone contender the Olympic committee was

| SPRINTING TO GREATNESS |

Noah Lyles: Sprinting to stardom and popularity

Press Trust Of India

PARIS: Winner. Entertainer. History maker. By the time the Paris Olympics are over, Noah Lyles hopes to be all of that and maybe more.

The confident 26-year-old sprinter thinks he can win medals, break records and bring the entire sport of track and field onto America's screens for more than 10 days every four years.

These are audacious goals. Winning the 100

and 200 meters and maybe a relay or two would put him in a category with Usain Bolt, Carl Lewis and Michael Johnson, to name a few. Making track popular again - that's a whole different, and more complex, mission, and one Lyles has not shown any fear of tackling.

"I want to see everybody be able to see the stories we create, the moments that are shared, and the big events that we have,"



I want to see everybody be able to see the stories we create, the moments that are shared, and the big events that we have. And, we need personalities to be able to show that.

Noah Lyles Sprinter

Lyles said.

"And, we need personalities to be able to show that. Because just going out there and winning doesn't mean everybody's watching."

Using behind-the-scenes documentaries to draw new fans

Lyles has a two-pronged strategy. The first part is dominating the sprints. That second part is becoming a must-see personality who transcends both track and sports, the way Bolt did.

Coco Gauff to be female flag bearer

Press Trust Of India

PARIS: Tennis star Coco Gauff will join LeBron James as a flag bearer for the US Olympic team at Friday's opening ceremony. Gauff, the reigning US Open champion, is set to make her Olympic debut at the Paris Games and will be the first tennis athlete to carry the US flag. She and James were chosen by Team USA athletes. The 20-year-old Gauff made the American team for the Tokyo Games three years ago as a teen-

ager but had to sit out those Olympics because she tested positive for COVID-19 before she was supposed to fly to Japan. Now Gauff, based in Florida, is a Grand Slam title winner in singles and doubles. She won her first major championship in New York in September, defeating Aryna Sabalenka in the singles final of the US Open, then added her first Grand Slam doubles trophy at the French Open this June alongside Katerina Siniakova of the Czech Republic.

