JHARKHAND'S OWN ENGLISH DAILY

THE AVENUE MAIL

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EYEING HAT-TRICK FROM JODHPUR, JAL SHAKTI MINISTER SHEKHAWAT BLAMES GEHLOT GOVT FOR KEEPING PEOPLE THIRSTY - PAGE - 9

JMM fields Samir Mohanty on Jamshedpur LS seat

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Putting an end to all speculations doing the rounds from past several days, Jharkhand MuktiMorcha (JMM) has officially declared its candidate for the Jamshedpur LokSabha seat. Samir Mohanty, the sitting MLA from Baharagora, has been nominated for the prestigious position, marking a significant development in the political landscape of the region. The party was facing backlash for delay in announcing the party's candidate from the coveted seat.

The announcement came with Central General Secretary of JMM, confirming Mohanty'scandidacy for the upcoming elections. Alongside this revelation, KalpanaMurmuSoren has been designated as the candidate for the Gandey Legislative Assembly constituency, as per simultaneous information released by the party.

Mohanty's nomination has quelled the uncertainties surrounding the candidacy for Jamshedpur, leaving no room for



doubt among contenders. At 49 years old, Mohanty hails from Baharagora and boasts a political career as an MLA, with notable assets and liabilities declared during the assembly elections.

With assets worth Rs 6 lakh 64 thousand 917, and debts totalingRs 4 lakh 30 thousand 899, Mohanty's financial standing is transparent. Despite facing three registered cases in the past, his political journey reflects a seasoned leader with experience spanning across different parties.

Mohanty's affiliation with JMM solidified after KunalSarangi's departure to BJP during the 2019 elections, marking his return home to the party after 15 years. His inclusion was celebrated in the presence of HemantSoren, underlining his influence in rural areas and reinforcing his candidacy for the Jamshedpur LokSabha seat.

In the 2019 LokSabha election, the Mahagathbandhan had fielded JMM leader and current Chief Minister ChampaiSoren, who suffered a significant defeat to the BJP candidate, Bidyut Baran Mahto, securing 59.4% of the vote share compared to Soren's 33%.

JMM fields Kalpana from Gandey



Ranchi, April 25: JMM has fielded KalpanaSoren, wife of former chief minister HemantSoren for the Gandey by-election. Kalpana Soren will file nomination from Gandey on April 29. Voting is going to be held in Gandey on May 20. Kalpana Soren has now become an active part of politics. She is continuously addressing meetings one after the other. Gandey seat of Giridih district has become vacant after the resignation of Jharkhand MuktiMorcha MLA Sarfaraz Ahmed. A notification from the Assembly Secretariat on December 31 said that the public is being informed that the Jharkhand Assembly Speaker has accepted the resignation of Gandey MLA Sarfaraz Ahmed. This seat is vacant from December 31, 2023.

JBVNL to start WhatsApp consumer redressal service from May 1

Mail News Service

Ranchi, April 25: JBVNL has brought relief news for the electricity consumers of Jharkhand. Now consumers will not have to visit the electricity office for electricity related problems as their problems will be solved while sitting at home through whatsapp. All complaints related to electricity through a message. It is noteworthy that JBVNL has now entered into an agreement with Gupshup Technology India Private Limited to provide electricity bills and other facilities to the consumers of Jharkhand through WhatsApp and messages. It is a chatbot software company, which is owned by Meta. This company is doing this work with electricity companies of MP and other states. Officials said that there was a technical problem in uploading data to provide the facility in WhatsApp in Jharkhand. Due to which this service will now start from May 1 after which consumers can get information about the dues along with the electricity bill.

Sukhdev Bhagat files nomination



Ranchi, April 25: Congress candidate SukhdevBhagat has filed nomination from Lohardaga parliamentary seat.

After the nomination of Chamra Linda as an Independent candidate in Lohardaga, the problems of Congress have increased. Sukhdev Bhagat has said that now is the time to act with discretion. Chamra Linda has filled the form without thinking. They have made a mistake. After the nomination, a public meeting was also organized at the Town Hall grounds which had chief minister Champai Soren, minister Alamgir Alam, Banna Gupta, Congress in-charge Ghulam Ahmed Mir, Congress state president Rajesh Thakur and Mandar MLA Shilpi Neha Tirkey were present.

ECI acts on MCC violations by PM Modi, Rahul Gandhi

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) The Election Commission (EC) has taken cognisance of violations of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) by both Prime Minister NarendraModi and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. The poll body on Thursday asked the Congress and the BJP to respond to the EC notice by 11 am on April 29.

Both the BJP and the Congress had moved the ECI against each other alleging speeches inciting hatred and religion.

The ECI has invoked Section 77 of the



Representation of the People Act and held party presidents responsible, as a first step, to rein in star campaigners.

In the notice sent to the BJP, the ECI asked the party to respond to the complaints filed by opposition parties accusing the Prime Minister of delivering a "divisive and defamatory" statement during his speech in Rajasthan's Banswara.

In its letter addressed to BJP President J P Nadda, the Election Commission asked him to respond to complaints. It also asked Nadda to bring to the notice of all-star campaigners of the party to "set high standards of political discourse and observe provisions of model code of conduct in letter and spirit".

In the notice to Congress, the ECI asked the party to respond to complaints filed by the BJP against Rahul Gandhi and party president MallikarjunKharge with regard to their respective remarks.

Cong leader asks party MLAs to give lead for alliance candidate

Ranchi, April 25: Congress Jharkhand in-charge Ghulam Mir has asked party MLAs to ensure that INDIA bloc candidates in Parliamentary seats are given lead from their respective assembly constituencies irrespective of the party affiliation of the candidate. He said that party MLAs should remember that there are assembly elections five months and party MLAs should not say that a mistake has been made then while claiming ticket. Ghulam Mir was speaking at public meeting organized in favor of Lohardaga Lok Sabha candidate Sukhde vBhagat. He said that Chief Minister ChampaiSoren is also present here and us watching everything. During this, MLAs of JMM and Congress, who won from the assembly falling under LohardagaLokSabha constituency, were also present.

Ghulam Ahmed Mir got the workers from Gumla, Sisai, Lohardaga, Vishunpur, Mandar under LohardagaLokSabha constituency to raise their hands. While giving the speech, the presence of the people was also noted.

Ghulam Mir said to forget everything and work to make the INDIA bloc candidate victorious.

Deeply biased: India on US report about 'human rights abuses' in Manipur

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Thursday sharply reacted to a report by the US State Department which says that "human rights abuses" occurred in Manipur after violence broke out in the state last year.

The recently released '2023 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: India' report, states that the ethnic clashes between the Meitei and Kuki communities in Manipur resulted in "significant human rights abuses". It also noted that Prime Minister NarendraModi described the incident as "shameful".

"This report is deeply biased and reflects a poor understanding of India. We attach no value to it and urge you to do the same," said MEA spokesperson RandhirJaiswal. The report released by the State Department every year is mandated by the US Congress. Also, while reacting to the campus protests in the US, Jaiswal said that there has to be a right balance between freedom of expression and a sense of responsibility. "We have seen reports on the matter and have been following related events. In every



democracy, there has to be the right balance between freedom of expression, sense of responsibility and public safety and order," he said.

Columbia University witnessed major protests over Israel's military offensive in Gaza.

"Democracies in particular should display this understanding in regard to other fellow democracies. After all, we are all judged by what we do at home and not what we say abroad," Jaiswal added. During the MEA's weekly briefing, while replying to a question regarding designated terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, Jaiswal said that a high-level committee has been set up for probe.

"The high-level committee is looking into several information that was shared by the American side with us because they also equally impact our national security. The high-level committee is looking into those aspects, and that is where it is right now," Jaiswal said. Jaiswal also confirmed that the health of the 15 Indian crew members on board the ship seized by Iran is good. "One girl who was there has returned. We had asked for consular access for these 16 people and we received that and our officers met them," he said.

Ranchi's Priyansh Pranjal tops JEE in Jharkhand, aims for IIT Bombay

Mail News Service

Ranchi, April 25 : Priyansh Pranjalof Ranchi emerged the top scorer in the recently released results of JEE Mains 2024 Session 2, securing the 30th rank nationwide. A student of JVM Shyamali, Priyansh expressed his joy upon learning about his achievement through a congratulatory message from a friend, following the publication of the JEE toppers' list.

His parents, Anup Kumar Sinha and SmitaSuprithi, described Priyansh as a diligent student who consistently dedicated himself to his studies. They highlighted his passion for learning, emphasizing that Priyansh never viewed studying as a burden. Priyansh attributed his success to rigorous practice, including solving previous year's questions, mock tests, and regular revision. Despite his academic commitments, Priyansh also finds time for recreational activities like playing video games. Looking ahead, Priyansh expressed his desire to pursue computer engineering at IIT Bombay, with a keen interest in further studies in Physics and Maths if given the opportunity. The Principal of JVM Shyamali expressed pride in the school's contribution to Priyansh's success, highlighting the institution's commitment to fostering discipline and academic excellence among its students. (w/gsd)

Anuj Kumar of Jamshedpur tops JEE Main Session-2

Jamshedpur, April 25: The National Testing Agency (NTA) released the results of JEE Main 2024 Session 2 on Wednesday night, showcasing the talent of Jamshedpur's students. While none reached the 100 percentile mark, the city's students achieved an impressive 99.72 percentile. Anuj Kumar emerged as the city topper with a score of 99.72 percentile and an All India



Rank of 4438. Sachin Kumar Gupta secured second place with a percentile score of 99.64, followed by Adarsh Rai with 99.10 percentile, and Priyanshu with 99.08 percentile.

The examination, held from April 4 to 12, saw the provisional answer key for Paper 1 released on April 12, with objections accepted until April 14. Paper 1 (BE/B.Tech) took place from April 4 to 9, while Paper 2 was conducted on April 12 in two shifts.

The top 2.5 lakh rank holders in JEE Main will qualify for JEE Advanced, the gateway to admission into the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). Applications for JEE Advanced will open on April 27, with the exam scheduled for May 26. Approximately 700 students from Jamshedpur qualified for JEE Advanced, with the application process set to commence soon. (w/gsd)

Rahul Gandhi gets Jharkhand HC relief in 2018 defamation case

Ranchi, April 25 (IANS): In a major relief for Congress leader and former party chief Rahul Gandhi, Jharkhand High Court has stayed the ongoing proceedings against him in the MP-MLA court in the defamation case.

The HC issued a notice to the complainant, PratapKatiyar and directed him to file the reply within two weeks. The MP-MLA court in Chaibasa district had issued a non-bailable warrant against Gandhi on February 27. To stop this, Gandhi had filed a petition in the HC.

In the complaint filed against Gandhi, Katiyar, a resident of Chaibasa, had alleged that Gandhi had made derogatory remarks against the then BJP national president Amit Shah in the Congress convention in 2018.

Rahul Gandhi had said that no murderer can become the national president in Congress. "Congressmen cannot accept a murderer as the national president, this is possible only in BJP," Gandhi said.

On this complaint case, Chaibasa Court had issued a bailable warrant against Gandhi in April 2022. No cognisance was taken from Gandhi's side on this. After this, the court issued a non-bailable warrant against him again in February 2024.

Kharge writes to PM Modi, seeks time to explain 'Nyay Patra' in person

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday wrote a letter to Prime Minister NarendraModi and sought time from him to explain in person, the party's 'NyayPatra'. In his two-page letter, Kharge said that the PM's advisors had misinformed him about the things that were not even mentioned in the Congress manifesto for the LokSabha elections. 'NyayPatra' aims at providing "justice" to youngsters, women, farmers, labourers and marginalised people across all castes and communities. "It has become your habit to seize on a few words taken out of context and create a communal divide. You are lowering the dignity of the chair by speaking in this manner," Kharge said in his letter. The letter further added, "You are being misinformed by your advisors about things that are not even written in our manifesto." "I would be more than happy to meet you in person to explain our 'NyayPatra' so that, as prime minister of the country, you don't make any statements that are false," Kharge said.

Rajiv Gandhi abolished inheritance law to save own interests : PM

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Upping the ante against the Congress on the 'inheritance tax' issue, Prime Minister NarendraModi on Thursday launched another scathing attack on the grand old party, saying it was former PM Rajiv Gandhi who abolished the inheritance law "to save their own interests" after the demise of his mother Indira Gandhi. Addressing a series of election rallies in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on Thursday, PM Modi said that he wanted to share an "interesting fact" with the country. "When Mrs. Indira Gandhi passed away, her property was supposed to go to her children. Had the previous law been in place, the government would have taken a portion of it. At that time, there was a talk that to save the property, her son and then Prime Minister (Rajiv Gandhi) simply abolished the inheritance law. When it came to their own interests, they



removed the law," said Prime Minister Modi.

"Today, driven by the greed for power once again, these people want to reintroduce the same law. After accumulating limitless wealth for generations without taxes on their families, now they want to impose taxes on your inheritance. That's why the country is saying 'Congress ki loot, zindagikesaathbhi, zindagikebaadbhi'," he added. Later in the day, PM Modi addressed rallies in UP's Agra and Aonla where he again said that Congress will set a "dangerous precedent" by implementing an inheritance tax. "The Congress-SP and INDI Alliance plans to impose a 55 per cent tax on your inheritance. This means they'll seize a significant portion of what you leave for your children. If you build a four-room house, only two rooms will go to your children, and the rest shall be seized by Congress-SP.

10 years RI for murder accused

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, April 25: In a significant development, the court has handed down a sentence of 10 years rigorous imprisonment to the accused in a murder case registered under Guva Police Station Case No. 18/2022. The accused, identified as Bhazoram Lohar alias Hathi, son of late Chamtu Lohar from Pandrashali (Bada Jamda) village, was charged under Section 304 for the murder of Mahendra Gop alias Karno Gop. The incident occurred on June 22, 2022, during a dispute in the courtyard of Pator Chatomba's house in Nayagaon forest. The accused allegedly beat Mahendra Gop with a wooden stick, resulting in fatal injuries. Tragically, Geeta Lohar, who was present at the scene, also succumbed to serious injuries sustained during the altercation. Following a thorough investigation by the Chaibasa police, the accused Bhazoram Lohar alias Hathi was arrested and subsequently placed in judicial custody. Subsequently, a comprehensive charge sheet was submitted to the court after collecting all evidence scientifically.Upon completion of the trial proceedings, the Principal District and Sessions Judge, Chaibasa, pronounced the accused guilty of the crime. Bhazoram Lohar alias Hathi has been sentenced to 10 years rigorous imprisonment, in addition to a fine of ten thousand rupees. (w/nkm)

Life imprisonment for murder accused



Chaibasa, April 25: The Chaibasa court has handed down a life sentence to the accused in two separate cases, marking a significant development in law enforcement. In the first case, registered under Chakradharpur police station case number 0-27/2022, accused Ponde Samad from Kullitodang village was charged with section 302 for the murder of his father, Sanagi Samad. The incident occurred on March 18, 2022, around 8 pm, amidst a domestic dispute where the accused allegedly attacked his father with a hanger, resulting in fatal injuries. Following diligent investigation by the Chaibasa police, the accused Ponde Samad was apprehended and subsequently placed in judicial custody. Through meticulous collection of evidence, a comprehensive charge sheet was presented to the court, leading to the trial of the case. After due legal proceedings, the Principal District and Sessions Judge, Chaibasa, pronounced the accused Ponde Samad guilty of the crime and sentenced him to life imprisonment. Additionally, a fine of ten thousand rupees was imposed as part of the verdict. (w/nkm)

JLKM's Damodar Singh Hansda files nomination for Singhbhum LS seat



Chaibasa, April 25: The race for the Singhbhum Lok Sabha seat is heating up as candidates rush to file their nomination papers. Today, Damodar Singh Hansda, representing the Jharkhand Loktantrik Krantikari Morcha (JLKM), officially submitted his nomination form amidst a vibrant rally attended by men, women, and children alike. Hansda, a recent entrant to JLKM, garnered significant support during the nomination filing process. The upcoming election for the Singhbhum Lok Sabha seat, scheduled for May 13 in the fourth phase, promises to be intriguing with multiple contenders vying for victory. (w/nkm)

Asha Runda files nomination as independent for Singhbhum LS seat



Seraikela, April 25: Asha Kumari Runda has officially filed her nomination as an independent candidate for the Singhbhum Parliamentary Lok Sabha seat. Supporters warmly welcomed her as she submitted her nomination papers, expressing confidence in her ability to secure victory. Among those present at the occasion were Suraj Gope, Banku Karua, Ravi Karua, Nihal Karua, Ashiq Behera, Barka Karua, Sumit Karua, Rustam Karua, Bharat Karua, Pradyumna Karua, and Niyan Kerketta, who pledged their support to Runda's candidacy. (w/nkm)

MG launches smart and sustainable Comet and ZS EV Drive

Gamharia, April 25: MG (Morris Garage), the renowned British automobile company with nearly a century of legacy, introduced its MG Comet EV and ZS EV vehicles in Jamshedpur on Thursday. Amit Kumar, Sales Manager of the company, emphasized the company's commitment to advancing green mobility in India. Having traversed through over 17 states across the country, the smart and sustainable MG Comet EV and ZS EV Drive made their debut in Jamshedpur. The initiative aims to promote awareness about electric vehicles as a viable, eco-friendly, and cost-effective transportation solution for urban areas like Jamshedpur. MG Motor India's dedication to EVs is underscored by the introduction of the 'Excite Pro', a new variant of its flagship EV. The MG ZS, featuring a dual-pane panoramic sky roof, is priced at Rs 19.98 lakh and is equipped with the MG Comet fast charging option. The smart EV MG Comet is available in five different variants, including Exclusive, Exclusive FC, Excite, Excite FC, and Executive, with prices starting at Rs 6.98 lakh. (w/nkm)

Meeting held to address water crisis in Neemdih Village

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, April 25: A crucial meeting convened under the joint chairmanship of village Munda Krishna Bari and social worker BN Purti shed light on the dire situation concerning the deteriorating water tower in Neemdih village of Tekrahatu Panchayat, under Sadar block. During the meeting, attendees expressed deep concern over the deteriorated condition of the water tower located at Susun Akhara and Sangi Sereng, which has left a significant population grappling with a severe shortage of drinking water for the past six months. Despite raising the issue with public representatives and the district administration, no action has been taken to address the pressing issue. Villagers emphasized that both water towers were constructed using funds from the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT), underscoring the responsibility of public representatives and the district administration to expedite repairs. Failure to address the water crisis promptly may compel villagers to consider boycotting the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. The meeting witnessed the presence of numerous concerned individuals, including Ramesh Kalundia, Ramesh Purti, Rengo Bari, Shiva Purti, Arun Purti, Krishna Bari, among others. (w/nkm)

Bird Flu outbreak in Jharkhand: 1800 chickens and 1697 eggs disposed of



Mail News Service

Ranchi, April 25: Following the confirmation of bird flu in Hotwar, Ranchi, authorities have imposed a ban on the purchase and sale of live or dead chicken products and eggs within a one-kilometer radius of the affected area. Approximately 1800 hens and four hundred ducks were reported in Hotwar. Sanath Pandit, Director of Animal Health Institute, Kanke, stated that a team has been formed under the supervision of the District Animal Husbandry Officer to dispose of the infected birds safely. The process of disposal is currently underway, and precautions are being taken to prevent further spread. Dr. Ganesh Ram Mahali, assistant manager of the regional poultry farm, emphasized the importance of raising awareness about bird flu and advised against consuming chicken to reduce the risk of infection. He reported that 1697 eggs and 1800 birds have already been disposed of, and the entire farm is being sanitized. Additionally, no new birds will be brought in for the next three months. Health experts have urged the public, especially children, to take precautions to prevent bird flu infection.

Dr. Manoj Kumar, Head of the Microbiology Department at RIMS, warned that while the virus primarily affects birds, humans can also be infected. Bird flu spreads through contact with infected birds and poses a significant risk to public health. (w/nkm)

Fire engulfs straw bale, prompt response ensures control

Seraikela, April 25: A sudden blaze erupted in the fields of Bada Kheri village, TTDih Panchayat, under Rajnagar block, triggering a swift response from local authorities. The fire rapidly intensified, engulfing Anadi Mahato's straw bale and reducing it to ashes before the fire department arrived. Upon receiving the distress call, villagers sprang into action, promptly alerting the fire department and mobilizing efforts to contain the inferno. BJP leader Ramesh Hansda, upon learning of the incident, rushed to the scene to oversee the situation.

Training for BLOs on Voter Slip distribution

Mail News Service



Seraikela, April 25: A comprehensive one-day training session for Booth Level Officers (BLOs) was organized on Thursday at the auditorium of Seraikela Block cum Zonal Office in preparation for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. Seraikela Zonal Officer, Praveen Kumar Singh, provided detailed instructions regarding Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and election procedures to all BLOs attending the training. During the training, it was emphasized that all BLOs are responsible for distributing voter slips to every eligible voter in their respective areas. Additionally, BLOs were instructed to ensure timely issuance of voter identity cards to eligible voters. Preparations at polling stations should be completed a day prior to voting, and proper arrangements should be made for the polling parties arriving at the booths. Furthermore, special assistance should be provided to specially-abled and elderly voters on the day of voting to ensure their participation in the electoral process. The training aimed to equip BLOs with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively manage their responsibilities during the upcoming elections. (w/nkm)

Voter Awareness Campaign sweeps across West Singhbhum

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, April 25: In an effort to ensure comprehensive voter education and active electoral participation in the upcoming Lok Sabha General Election-2024, a series of initiatives were undertaken today under the Sweep Voter Awareness Campaign in various blocks of West Singhbhum district. In Bandgaon block, a vibrant Prabhat Pheri was organized, captivating the spirit of the electorate and fostering awareness about the importance of voting.

Simultaneously, voter awareness drives were conducted at the booth level in Chaibasa and Gudari blocks, emphasizing the significance of each citizen's vote. In Sonua block, a concerted effort was made to raise awareness at the village level, where residents were encouraged to take the voting oath and commit to exercising their democratic right on 13th May. Additionally, an awareness program, facilitated by Booth Level Officers (BLOs), was conducted in booth numbers 55, 27, 28, and 47 in Goelkera block. Furthermore, to engage the younger generation, a poster-making competition was organized in various schools of Hatgamaria block, fostering creativity while imparting crucial knowledge about the electoral process.

Throughout these initiatives, voters were reminded of the pivotal role they play in shaping the democratic landscape.

They were urged to cast their votes on 13th May and to motivate their family members and neighbors to do the same, emphasizing that every vote counts in strengthening the foundations of democracy. (w/nkm)

SMC Meeting emphasizes parental involvement in Mangilal Rungta +2 School

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, April 25: To bolster parental engagement in school development at Mangilal Rungta +2 School in Chaibasa, a comprehensive meeting of the School Management Committee (SMC) was convened under the leadership of School Principal Shilpa Gupta. The meeting delved into various educational matters, including enrollment, discipline, uniformity, transition, zero dropout rates, house divisions, and reading initiatives, all aimed at enhancing the school environment and fostering student welfare. Key highlights of the session included the election of SMC members for the upcoming academic session and an extensive briefing on the Project Impact-NEP under the Prayas program, ensuring parents were well-informed. Additionally, SMC members were acquainted with the utilization of the Jigyasa chatbot for effective communication. Amidst constructive dialogue between parents and school teachers, valuable suggestions were exchanged to further improve educational standards. The gathering concluded with the rendition of the national anthem and the administration of a voter awareness oath to all attending parents, underscoring the significance of participation in the democratic process. The meeting witnessed active participation from a multitude of parents, including school teacher Sushma Jojowar, along with Lekha Singh, Sangeeta Sinha, Ananjay Prasad, Sarita Boipai, Draupadi Devgam, Meenakshi Bhanj, Rinku Nath Satpathy, Atal Kandulna, and many others. (w/nkm)

Indira Gandhi Shiksha Niketan registers win in Gyan Chand Jain Inter School Cricket Opener

Mail News Service

Chaibasa, April 25: In a thrilling inaugural match of the 13th Gyan Chand Jain Inter School Cricket Competition, organized by the West Singhbhum District Cricket Association and sponsored by industrialist Padam Kumar Jain, Indira Gandhi Shiksha Niketan of Chakradharpur secured victory over St. Xavier's Boys High School of Chaibasa by a margin of 36 runs. The match, held at the Birsa Munda Cricket Stadium ground in Chaibasa, saw the captain of St. Xavier's Boys High School winning the toss and electing to field first. Batting first, Indira Gandhi Shiksha Niketan posted a formidable total of 178 runs for the loss of five wickets in their allotted 20 overs. In pursuit of the target, the batsmen of St. Xavier's Boys High School faltered, failing to chase down the 179-run target within the stipulated overs. Following the conclusion of the match, the Man of the Match award was presented to Abhishek Prasad of Indira Gandhi Shiksha Niketan Chakradharpur for his exceptional all-round performance. The award was bestowed by Gurmeet Singh, a member of the West Singhbhum District Cricket Association and the District Women's Selection Committee. The competition was formally inaugurated by Asim Kumar Singh, former Vice President of the Jharkhand State Cricket Association and General Secretary of the West Singhbhum District Cricket Association. Singh conducted the toss in the presence of both team captains and umpires, marking the commencement of the highly anticipated event. (w/nkm)

Workshop on World Malaria Day raises awareness



Gamharia, April 25: In observance of World Malaria Day, a one-day workshop was conducted at the Community Health Center in Gamharia. Dr. Lakshmi Kumari, the center's in-charge, spearheaded the event, focusing on educating patients about malaria symptoms, prevention, and control measures. Dr. Kumari emphasized the importance of remaining vigilant despite a decrease in malaria cases in recent years. She highlighted the theme of this year's World Malaria Day, which aims to accelerate efforts in combating the disease. Dr. Kumari stressed the role of awareness and proactive measures in sustaining progress against malaria. To prevent malaria, Dr. Kumari advised residents to eliminate stagnant water around their homes, especially during the rainy season, and to use mosquito nets while sleeping. Additionally, an awareness rally was organized by health workers to further spread information about malaria prevention. The workshop saw the participation of all MPWs (Multipurpose Workers) and health workers, including Malaria Inspector Santosh Kumar Sahu, underscoring the collective commitment to combatting malaria in Gamharia. (w/nkm)

Career counseling program empowers students

Mail News Service



Gamharia, April 25: In a bid to empower students with informed career choices, Our Classes for Your Success Coaching Institute organized a comprehensive career counseling program. The event witnessed the presence of esteemed chief guests Akash Mahato, in-charge of the Green Pencil Foundation, and special guest Ajay Karua. During the inauguration, Mahato emphasized the importance of pursuing subjects that align with students' interests, asserting that such choices pave the way for a brighter future. Teachers Rahul Prasad, Sujit Kumar, and Amit Jha from the science group elaborated on how science education contributes to the nation's advancement. Aman Yadav, the commerce group teacher, highlighted the promising career opportunities in commerce, encouraging students to consider this field. The program concluded with the felicitation of coaching students who passed their class 10th exams with flying colors. They were honored with medals and certificates for their academic achievements. Institute Director Aman Yadav extended his gratitude to the attendees for their support in organizing the successful event. The program's success was attributed to the collective efforts of Rahul Kumar, Sujit Kumar, Amit Kumar, Ravish, Rakhi, Anil, Neeraj, Smita, Ajay, Akash, and others who contributed tirelessly. The presence of all teachers and students added to the event's significance, fostering an environment of encouragement and empowerment. (w/nkm)

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KSMS raises Earth Day awareness through "Abhirakshanam"



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: In a bid to commemorate Earth Day, the Jyoti Club of Kerala Samajam Model School (KSMS) orchestrated an enlightening awareness program. The event, held on April 22nd, saw active participation of students from Standards VIII and IX, who fervently emphasized the paramount importance of preserving our planet through a captivating street play titled "Abhirakshanam". Under the guidance of Principal, Nandini Shukla, along with Club Moderators SnehaKumari and PrabhsimranKaur, the students flawlessly executed their roles, portraying various themes centered around environmental conservation. The "Abhirak shanam" Nukkad Natak served as a poignant reminder of the urgent need for collective action to safeguard our planet's delicate ecosystems and biodiversity.

State-sponsored school leads voter awareness campaign



Mail News Service

Gamharia, April 25: Under the guidance of Principal Mithai Lal Yadav, students from the state-sponsored Plus Two High School in Gamharia took initiative in conducting a voter awareness campaign on Thursday. Venturing into the nearby villages, the students successfully motivated the residents to exercise their voting rights, achieving a remarkable 100 percent participation. Emphasizing the significance of voting in a democracy, the students conveyed the message that voting is not only a right but also a responsibility bestowed upon citizens, offering them the opportunity to shape the future of their nation. They urged the villagers not to let this precious right go to waste and encouraged them to exercise their franchise without fail. The campaign witnessed active participation from both students and teachers, including Ashish Kumar Ravi, Sanjay Kumar Singh, and Chhaya Rani, among others. (w/nkm)

CM Kejriwal's arrest not based on belated contradictory or coerced statements: ED's affidavit in SC

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has denied that the arrest of Chief Minister ArvindKejriwal in the Delhi excise policy scam case was based on belated contradictory or coerced statements of the other accused obtained in exchange for no-objection for their bail and said that its case was strong.

On Wednesday, ED had submitted an affidavit to the Supreme Court in response to Delhi Chief Minister ArvindKejriwal's plea challenging his arrest in the case.

The ED, in its affidavit, claimed that CM Kejriwal had made submission before the Delhi PMLA court, stating that he had no objection to the custody/remand being extended further.

"The petitioner has waived his right to question his custody as of today and the petitioner cannot be allowed to argue that his



custody as of today is illegal and the present petition is liable to be dismissed on this ground alone," read the ED's affidavit.

The agency also claimed that CM Kejriwal was asked to provide the password to his mobile phones during the search on March 21 and then during ED Custody the same was asked again and his reply was recorded in his statement wherein he refused to share the same.

"Even his statements during custody would reveal that despite being confronted with materials, the petitioner chose to give completely evasive answers," it added.

The ED arrested CM Kejriwal on March 21 after questioning him for over two hours at his official residence in Delhi and is presently lodged in Tihar jail. The ED has termed CM Kejriwal the "kingpin and the key conspirator" of the alleged excise scam in collusion with other ministers of the Delhi government, AAP leaders, and other persons.

Telangana CM alleges conspiracy to end reservations in the country

Hyderabad, April 25 (IANS) Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday alleged that the BJP plans to do away with the reservation for various weaker sections in the country as per the RSS's ideology and the party's policy.

In his remarks at an event to release a 'charge sheet' against the BJP government at the Centre, brought out by the state Congress unit, he alleged that there is a conspiracy to impose RSS thinking on the country, and the RSS has set the target of doing away with the reservation in its 100th year which will be marked in 2025.

The Chief Minister said Prime Minister NarendraModi thinks that if the BJP gets a majority, it will be easy for him to end the reservation.

Stating that there is a need for an "X-ray" of the country, he said the Congress will increase the reservation for various sections in proportion to their population. He alleged that the BJP is afraid that 27 per cent reservation for OBCs may be increased to 50 per cent.

Revanth Reddy cautioned that every vote for the BJP will help to end reservations. Some parties, which, for the sake of politics, want the reservation to go, are backing the BJP, he said and termed the ongoing election a referendum on whether the reservation should continue or not.

He alleged that during the last 10 years, the Modi government betrayed all sections of people.

Congress Committee mobilizes for LS Elections

Mail News Service

Gamharia, April 25: In a strategic meeting held at the KP House Auditorium in Gamharia, the Congress Committee discussed plans for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

The focus was on organizing and intensifying propaganda efforts in preparation for the electoral battle. Senior Congress leader KP Soren, presiding over the meeting, urged party workers to gear up for the elections. Stressing the importance of vigilance, Soren emphasized the significance of the polls for



the Singhbhum Lok Sabha seat scheduled on May 13. He called upon workers to diligently canvass for the alliance's candidate, Joba Manjhi, ensuring their presence at every voter's doorstep to secure victory. Soren highlighted the necessity for seamless coordination among Congress workers and allied parties, including JMM and RJD, to bolster the campaign. He expressed confidence in Joba Manjhi's capabilities, endorsing her as a competent and diligent candidate whose triumph would amplify the voice of Singhbhum's people in the Lok Sabha. Emphasizing unity and collective efforts, Soren rallied the workers, affirming that victory could be assured through their cohesive struggle against opponents.

The meeting, chaired by Block President Akhilesh Kumar Tiwari, saw the active participation of several key figures, including Raju Rajak, Vikas Ranjan Das, Pradeep Barik, Gauri Shankar Prasad, Ramesh Balmuchu, Vinay Singh, Mohammad Siddiqui, Vaidya Sanjay Kumar, Dilip Nayak, Kavilas Mandal, and Rizwan Khan. (w/nkm)

Rajya Sainik Board-Kolkata empowers deceased veteran's daughter with mobility

Kolkata, April 25 (IANS) In keeping with its commitment towards ex-servicemen and their families, the RajyaSainik Board (RSB), Kolkata extended a helping hand to the physically challenged daughter of a deceased veteran by presenting her with a motorised wheelchair.

RSB-Kolkata procured the advanced motorised wheelchair through crowd-funding. On Tuesday, Col Partha Pratim Barik, secretary, RSB-Kolkata, and AnkurChaturvedi travelled to ZilaSainik Board (ZSB), Malda, to hand over the motorised wheelchair to SwapnaSarkar, daughter of late ex-SepoySukumarSarkar and his widow Gita Rani Sarkar. Swapna suffers from locomotor disability and is unable to move around by herself. The wheelchair holds the promise to change her whole life. This step by RSB, Kolkata, turned out to be a great morale booster for the family and other ex-servicemen who had gathered at ZSB, Malda, to be part of the event.

Calcutta HC admits plea seeking action against Mamata Banerjee for 'anti-judiciary' remarks

Kolkata, April 25 (IANS) The Calcutta High Court on Thursday admitted a petition filed by CPI-M RajyaSabha MP and senior advocate BikasRanjan Bhattacharya seeking action against West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for her alleged anti-judiciary remarks made in the past two days. However, the division bench of Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam maintained that although the plea has been admitted, whether the court will take any action in the matter will be decided by a separate bench. As the administrative head of the high court, the Chief Justice will decide which bench will hear the matter. The Chief Minister's comments against a section of the judiciary came after the Calcutta High Court on Monday cancelled 25,753 appointments in teaching and non-teaching posts made by the West Bengal School Service Commission (WBSSC) in 2016. On Thursday morning, after Bhattacharya sought the attention of the division bench, the latter asked him to file an affidavit in the matter in the second half.

Saryu Roy urges Governor, CM to address land encroachment issue by Dhullu Mahato

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Saryu Roy, MLA of Jamshedpur East, has raised concerns regarding the actions of Dhullu Mahato, the declared BJP candidate from the Dhanbad Lok Sabha constituency. In a letter addressed to the Governor and Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Roy highlighted the alleged atrocities committed by Mahato on villagers in the Baghmara assembly constituency, where he currently serves as MLA. According to Roy's letter, Mahato and his associates have reportedly forcibly occupied



approximately 200 acres of land belonging to both villagers and the government. They have surrounded this land with a high boundary wall, effectively isolating it and even enclosing a rural road within the boundaries. Roy emphasized that these actions have severely impacted the local community, including residents of the MLA's own village. The letter includes eyewitness accounts and details of the encroachment, providing evidence of the situation. Roy has urged the Governor and Chief Minister to take immediate action to remove the encroachment on villagers' lands and reclaim government properties. Currently, the Governor is out of the state, and the Chief Minister is also away from the capital. Upon their return, Roy intends to meet with them personally to discuss the matter and seek their intervention. (w/nkm)

Akhilesh files nomination from Kannauj LS seat

Kannauj, April 25 (IANS) Samajwadi Party president AkhileshYadav, on Thursday, filed his nomination papers from the KannaujLokSabha seat in Uttar Pradesh. An hour earlier, BJP candidate SubratPathak had also filed his nomination papers. Pathak is the sitting MP from Kannauj. Meanwhile, Subrat Pathak told reporters that Akhilesh Yadav entering the fray would not make any difference to his victory prospects. "Earlier, the match was between India and Nepal and now it is between India and Pakistan.

Five-time MP Ramtahal Choudhary expresses disappointment over ticket denial

Mail News Service

Ranchi, April 25: Ramtahal Chaudhary, a five-time Member of Parliament from Ranchi, recently voiced his disappointment after not receiving a ticket from the Congress party. Having joined Congress just days ago with hopes of securing a ticket, Chaudhary expressed feeling cheated by the party. In an interview, Chaudhary recounted his political journey, citing instances where he felt let down by his previous party, the BJP, and his subsequent independent candidacy in the 2019 elections. Despite



staying unaffiliated for five years, pressure from his supporters led him to consider contesting from another constituency. However, despite assurances from Congress six months prior, Chaudhary felt disillusioned after not receiving the expected ticket.

He recounted conversations with party leaders, including a visit to Delhi where he was assured of his candidacy based on his experience and qualifications. Expressing his disappointment, Chaudhary emphasized that he did not join Congress merely to carry the party flag, stating that his supporters were even more upset than he was about the ticket denial. Despite his initial reluctance to contest, Chaudhary's decision to join Congress was influenced by the insistence of his supporters. (w/nkm)

S. E. RAILWAY TENDER

E-Tender Notice No. : RSO-HV-BSPX-3, datad 24.04.2024. Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical), South Eastern Railway, Chakradharpur for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender for the following work. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Name of work :** Hiring of one road vehicle (Tata Sumo/Victa/Bolero or equivalent) for transportation of crew and guard at BSPX-JMTC and BSPX-JRLI & back round the clock for thirty six months. **Tender Value :** ₹ 28,72,263.24. **EMD :** ₹ 57,500/-. **Cost of tender form:** Nil. **Place of opening of e-tender:** Office of the Sr. DEE (OP)/CKP, South Eastern Railway. **Date & Time of closing of tender :** 17.05.2024 at 15.00 hrs. **Date & Time of opening of tender :** 17.05.2024 at 15.30 hrs. The e-tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in**. The tenderer/ bidder must have Class-III digital signature certificate & must be registered under IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. **(PR-78)**

S. E. RAILWAY TENDER

e-Tender Notice No. : ST-CKP-OT-13-2024, Dated: 24.04.2024. Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/Co, South Eastern Railway, Chakradharpur for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-Tenders against Tender Nos. ST-CKP-OT-13-2024-1, 2, 3 & 4 due to open on **17.05.2024 at 15.00 hrs.** Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Sl.No., Name of works : (1)** S&T work in connection with construction of new FOB near Tisco Ground, Badampahar station. **(2)** S&T work for RUB/LHS in lieu of LC Gate No. 204 between Bhalulata-Bisra, RBK-38 between Kendposi-Maluka, RBK-43 between Maluka-Dangoaposi section. **(3)** S&T work for provision of new FOB at Barajamda, Lotapahar and Jhinkpani stations and extension of FOB from Up platform no. 2 to Sick line yard at Dangoaposi station. **(4)** S&T work for rehabilitation of 15 nos. Stone Slab bridges between Bondamunda-Jharsuguda stations and Conversion of existing 1 no. Arch Masonry Bridge between Rourkela-Jharsuguda section. **Tender Value:** ₹ 24,27,689.84 (for Sl. No. 1), ₹ 69,34,527.14 (for Sl. No. 2), ₹ 81,34,910.29 (for Sl. No. 3) & ₹ 29,36,627.53 (for Sl. No. 4). **Earnest Money :** ₹ 48,600/- (for Sl. No. 1), ₹ 1,38,700/- (for Sl. No. 2), ₹ 1,62,700/- (for Sl. No. 3) & ₹ 58,700/- (for Sl. No. 4). **Completion Period:** 12 months for each. The tender details can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate in e-Tendering. e-Tender forms shall be issued free of cost. **(PR-79)**

Blood donation drive collects 62 units

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Despite the blistering heat and scorching sun, the Railway Muslim Employees Welfare Association Tatanagar organized fourth blood donation camp at the Railway Officer Club. Total of 62 units of blood was collected.

The event, graced by PankajSinha, Vice President of the District Council, and Raj Kumar Singh, Former District Vice Chairman, saw an outpouring of support and encouragement for the blood donors.

Collaborating with the Prateek Sangharsh Foundation and Jamshedpur Blood Centre, the association ensured the smooth execution of the



blood donation camp. The hard work of the medical team and the commendable service of Prateek Sangharsh Foundation Chairman Arijit Sarkar were duly recognized and honored by the committee officials.

The success of the blood donation camp was attributed to the collective efforts of all members, with special mention given to Committee Chief Haji E R Khan, Secretary Imtiaz Ahmed, and President MoizurRahman, among others, who played pivotal roles in organizing the event.

The presence of distinguished individuals such as Sheikh Farid, KausarAlam, Iqbal Khan, Wahid Ali, Mo Sajjad, Haji Yusuf, Haji Mo Mazhar, Mo Arman, Tanveer Jacky, Waliullah, and EbrarAlam further enriched the program, highlighting the community's solidarity in contributing to humanitarian causes.

Tata Steel UISL creates awareness on malaria prevention

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Tata Steel Utilities and Infrastructure Services Limited (TSUISL) marked World Malaria Day with awareness session held today. The event witnessed participation from 290 individuals, underscoring the community's commitment to combatting malaria.

The event was conducted in presence of Dr JujharMajhi, Civil Surgeon, East Singhbhum, Dr A.K Mitra, District Malaria Officer, East Singhbhum, Krishna Kumar, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, JNAC, Ritu Raj Sinha, Managing Director, Tata Steel UISL, and Raghunath Pandey, President, Jusco Shramik Union.

The event aimed to raise awareness about malaria prevention, treatment, and the importance of collective action in eradicating this preventable disease. Through informative sessions and engaging discussions, participants were equipped with knowledge to safeguard themselves and their communities against



malaria. Krishna Kumar, appreciating the initiative, remarked, "It is heartening to see organizations like Tata Steel UISL taking proactive steps to address public health challenges.

Together, we can make significant strides towards a malaria-free future." Ritu Raj Sinha, MD of Tata Steel UISL, expressed gratitude to all participants and stakeholders, stating, "Our commitment to community welfare extends beyond business. By fostering awareness and collaboration, we can create a healthier, safer environment for all".

Selection test invitation for National Basketball Academy

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: Debashis Mahato, a student of Govind Vidyalaya from Jharkhand state, has been invited to participate in the selection trials for the National Basketball Academy by the Basketball Federation of India. This invitation is extended based on Debashis Mahato's outstanding performance. The selection tests are scheduled to take place on 30th April and 1st May 2024 in Chennai. Debashis Mahato's selection for this opportunity comes after impressive performances in the 47th and 48th Sub Junior National Championships held in Kangra and Puducherry, respectively. Recognizing his talent and potential, Debashis Mahato has been nominated by the School Management Committee for the National Basketball Academy. He is wished the best of luck and congratulated on being chosen to participate in the selection test. (w/nkm)

Lemonade Day at Sheyn International School

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: On a sunny morning at Sheyn International School, a palpable sense of excitement filled the air as students and faculty gathered to commemorate Lemonade Day. The festivities commenced with a refreshing speech during the morning assembly, extolling the therapeutic virtues and culinary versatility of the unassuming lemon. Captivating the audience with their insightful presentations, students from Std. II elucidated on how lemons have seamlessly woven themselves into our daily existence, not merely as flavor enhancers but also for their medicinal attributes. Following these enlightening speeches, the students showcased their creativity and culinary prowess by concocting delectable lemonades, which they generously shared with their peers and teachers alike. The lemonade extravaganza proved to be a delightful indulgence for all, fostering a sense of camaraderie within the school community. Addressing the gathering, the esteemed leaders of Sheyn International School - Rama Srinivas, Principal (Academics); Pushpa Bhalla, Principal (Administration); Keya Adak, Vice Principal; and Simran Saggu, Headmistress - underscored the importance of lemons in maintaining good health, particularly during the sweltering summer months. (w/nkm)

Demand for 75% local employment in Hydrogen Plant sparks tensions

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: The call for providing employment to 75% of the workforce from the local community in Tata Cummins' hydrogen plant, in accordance with Jharkhand government regulations, has ignited tensions. A delegation led by Jharkhand Mazdoor Union Central Secretary Rajesh Samant met with the company's HR officer, Rajeev Dutta, on Tuesday to press this demand. They warned of potential agitation if the government's directives were not adhered to. This isn't the first time such demands have been raised. Previously, there were similar calls to ensure local employment during the company's expansion endeavors.

Adding fuel to the fire, national union president Dulal Bhuiyan stated that failure to meet the 75% local employment quota, as stipulated by government guidelines, would result in the blockade of the company.

The delegation, comprising labor leaders like Rajesh Samant, Jharkhand Assembly Speaker's private medical in-charge Rajkumar Mahato, Amit Das, Chhote Sardar, Rajesh Munda, and others, emphasized the significance of prioritizing local employment opportunities in the region. (w/nkm)

Senior student expelled from hostel for 15 days over ragging incident

Jamshedpur, April 25: In response to a disturbing incident of ragging at MGM Medical College, a third-year student stands suspended from the hostel for 15 days. The decision was made following a meeting of the college's anti-ragging cell on Tuesday, where serious concerns were addressed. The incident came to light when a first-year student bravely filed a confidential complaint against the accused senior from New Delhi, detailing instances of obscene and indecent behavior. Prompt action was demanded, leading to the expulsion of the offending student from hostel premises.

With two reported cases of ragging within a week, university authorities, college management, and the anti-ragging cell united in their determination to address the issue. A comprehensive meeting, attended by Dhalbhum SDO, Patmada DSP, the Principal of MGM Medical College, and anti-ragging officials, was held to thoroughly investigate the matter.

Through diligent interrogation, the culprit was identified, and immediate disciplinary action was taken. It's worth noting that there was a slight confusion due to two students sharing the same name, but this did not impede the investigation process. Furthermore, all third-year students have been cautioned, emphasizing a zero-tolerance policy towards any form of ragging. They have been sternly warned that any future complaints will result in swift and direct consequences. (w/nkm)

Voter awareness campaign sweeps through Jamshedpur

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: Under the diligent guidance of the Deputy Commissioner of East Singhbhum, Jamshedpur, and the Additional Municipal Commissioner, a comprehensive voter awareness campaign is currently underway across the entire Municipal Corporation area.

In recent initiatives, voter awareness drives have been specifically conducted in Pardih and its surrounding localities in Mango, as well as at the Bank of India branch on Dimna Road. These efforts are part of a concerted push to increase awareness and participation in the Lok Sabha General Elections 2024 under the SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) program. Residents of Pardih and neighboring areas, along with women from self-help groups, were extensively briefed on the upcoming voting scheduled for May 25, and encouraged to exercise their democratic right. Rahul Kumar, the Branch Manager of Bank of India at Dimna Road, took the initiative to conduct an awareness session among bank employees, Municipal Corporation staff, and customers, emphasizing the importance of voting on the designated day.

As part of the program, everyone present solemnly took the voter awareness oath, underscoring their commitment to fulfilling their civic duty. Throughout the campaign, various activities such as awareness rallies and community events were organized, accompanied by the rallying cry of awareness slogans, all aimed at ensuring the local residents are well-informed and motivated to participate in the electoral process.

Notable figures including CMM, CO Nandi Purti, Lalita Languri, CRP Manorama Mahakund, along with the participation of Bank of India's Dimna Road branch manager, Rahul Kumar, bank personnel, members of the Women's Association, and individuals from adjacent areas, graced the voter awareness program, further enhancing its impact and outreach. (w/nkm)

Joint operation targets banned CPI(M) Naxalite leaders in Kolhan area

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, April 25: In an ongoing effort to counter the activities of the banned CPI(MAO) Naxalite organization in the Kolhan area, a joint operation involving Chaibasa Police, Cobra units 209 BN, 203 BN, 205 BN, Jharkhand Jaguar, and CRPF units 60 BN, 197 BN, 157 BN, and 174 BN is currently underway.

The operation targets top leaders Misir Besra, Anmol, Mochhu, Chaman, Kande, Ajay Mahato, Sagen Angriya, and Ashwin, along with their squad members, who are reportedly engaging in destructive activities. To intensify the operation, a joint campaign has been initiated from October 10, 2023, covering villages such as Kuida, Chhota Kuida, Maradiri, Meralgada, Hathiburu, Tilayabeda, Boypaissang, Katamba, Bayhatu, Boroy, border areas of Lemsadih under Goilkera police station, and villages Husipi, Rajabasa, Tumbahaka, Regada, Patatorb under Tonto police station.

The campaign also extends to the border area of Goburu, Luiya. During today's operation on April 24, 2024, three improvised explosive devices (IEDs) previously planted by Naxalites with the intent to target security forces were discovered and safely destroyed in the forest/hilly area around JimkiIkir, a forest village under Tonto police station.

Additionally, various daily use items were recovered from an old Naxalite dump in the same area, including 03 IEDs weighing 05 kgs each, a Plastic Sintex Tank (Capacity: 2000 Liters), 05 bags of rice (25 kg each, totaling 125 kg), 5 packets of salt, 5 packets of mustard oil, 10 packets each of turmeric powder and chili powder, and 2 packets of tea powder. The anti-Naxal campaign remains ongoing, reflecting the commitment of security forces to maintain peace and stability in the region. (w/nkm)

Ranchi Airport extends free parking time to ease congestion

Mail News Service



Ranchi, April 25: Birsa Munda Airport in Ranchi will implement changes in its vehicle movement and parking arrangements starting May 1, aimed at addressing increasing congestion issues.

The airport management has allocated additional parking space for 350 vehicles in front of the old terminal building to alleviate congestion near the passenger terminal.Effective May 1, the airport will extend the free parking time for private vehicles from 8 to 10 minutes.

Furthermore, a fixed automatic system for parking charges will be implemented in future. Measures will also be taken in collaboration with the district administration to curb unauthorized vehicle parking. Under the revised traffic and parking system, the entry route inside the airport will now serve as the exit route.

Additionally, the maximum free time for pickup and drop in front of the terminal building has been set at 5 minutes, included in the total 10-minute free parking duration.

For vehicles parking beyond two hours, a fee of Rs 10 per hour will be charged for four-wheelers and Rs 5 per hour for two-wheelers.

A fixed fee of 300 percent slab will be applicable for parking from seven hours to 24 hours. The airport will feature three lanes in front of the terminal building, with lane one allowing 10 minutes of free parking for private vehicles.

Vehicles exceeding this time limit in lane two will be charged Rs 30, while lane three will charge fees based on the parking duration for commercial vehicles. (w/gsd)

Five Jharkhand players in Indian Archery Team for Shanghai World Cup

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: As the Archery World Cup Stage-1 commences in Shanghai from April 23-28, the Indian team has been finalized, boasting an impressive representation from Jharkhand. Five talented players from the state have clinched their spots in the prestigious competition.

Leading the charge in the Indian recurve women's team are four remarkable archers from Tata Archery Academy and Jharkhand's own veteran, Deepika Kumari.

The squad comprises Ankita Bhakat, Komolika Bari, Bhajan Kaur, and the seasoned Deepika Kumari. Additionally, Mrinal Chauhan from Tata Archery Academy has earned his place in the men's team, showcasing the state's prowess in the sport. Adding to the pride of Jharkhand, Purnima Mahato of Jamshedpur has been appointed as the coach of the women's team. Purnima Mahato recently received the prestigious Padma Shri award at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on April 22.

Immediately after the ceremony, she embarked on her journey to Shanghai, driven by her commitment to the sport. Expressing optimism for the upcoming competitions, Purnima Mahato emphasized the significance of the year for archery, highlighting the World Cup and the Paris Olympic Qualifiers. She expressed confidence in the team's preparedness and hoped for stellar performances from the Indian archers. (w/nkm)

Newly appointed teachers protest at Education Department Office

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: A group of newly appointed teachers in Jamshedpur staged a demonstration outside the office of the District Education Department, voicing their grievances and demanding immediate action. The primary focus of their protest was the non-payment of their outstanding salaries and Dearness Allowance (DA).

The teachers, who were recruited in May of the previous year, lamented that they have yet to receive their salaries and arrears for a period spanning four to five months. This delay has caused considerable financial strain and uncertainty among the affected educators.

Speaking on behalf of the demonstrators, a representative highlighted the unique plight faced by teachers in Jamshedpur, noting that while teachers in other districts have received their dues, those in Jamshedpur have been neglected. The protesters emphasized the urgency of the situation and urged the District Education Officer to expedite the process of disbursing the outstanding salaries to all newly appointed teachers without further delay. (w/nkm)

Tatanagar Improvement Group urges prompt completion of station construction

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Members of the Tatanagar Improvement Group, led by Station Superintendent OP Sharma, conducted a thorough inspection of Tatanagar station, scrutinizing every aspect from platform to portico. In light of the assessment, directives were issued to departmental supervisors to expedite the ongoing construction of the foot overbridge on the platform and ensure the provision of cold water for passengers.

Additionally, instructions were given to maintain the coach display board and other essential equipment on the platform.

The inspection team comprised Commercial Inspector Shashi Kumar, Catering Inspector Rakesh Kumar, Health Inspector Jitendra Kumar, Senior Section Engineer J Haldar, and supervisors from various departments.

Stall operators were instructed to supply cold bottled water to passengers, adhere strictly to printed pricing, and operate their stalls around the clock. It has been emphasized that any deficiencies identified during the inspection must be promptly addressed with the assistance of the Engineering, Signal and Telecom, and Health Departments to mitigate inconvenience for passengers. Furthermore, ensuring smooth progress in the redevelopment of Tatanagar station remains a priority. (w/nkm)

Train delays persist due to stops at Jugsalai Railway Underbridge

Jamshedpur, April 25: Daily disruptions plague trains bound for Tatanagar via Adityapur, as they frequently encounter delays near the Jugsalai Railway Underbridge. Wednesday morning witnessed yet another incident, with a local train halting at the underbridge for over half an hour. Frustrated passengers were compelled to either disembark and proceed on foot to the station or seek alternative transportation to reach their destinations. The absence of a platform at Tatanagar station exacerbates the situation, forcing many express and local trains to pass through Jugsalai crossing en route to the underbridge.

This abrupt halt amidst the journey leaves passengers and their families at the station anxious and inconvenienced. Local residents lament the frequent halts, citing instances where even prestigious trains like Rajdhani and Duronto have been affected. The operational oversight of the underbridge falls under the purview of the South Eastern Railway Zone. Despite numerous complaints lodged online, the train operation system of the Railways continues to falter, leaving commuters exasperated and the issue unresolved. (w/nkm)

Notice pasted at absconding murder accused's residence

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: In a significant development, a notice has been affixed to the residence of Arshad Khan, also known as Langra Arshad, situated at Mango Jawaharnagar Road No. 14, Jamshedpur. Arshad Khan is a key suspect in the Zahid murder case of 2022 and has been evading authorities since. The notice has been issued by the court of First Class Judicial Magistrate Utkarsh Jain of Jamshedpur Court, calling for Arshad Khan's appearance. Mango Police, acting upon this directive, has pasted the notice at his residence. Arshad Khan, designated as an absconding accused, has been duly notified to present himself in court by May 30. Failure to comply will result in further legal action. The subsequent hearing is scheduled for June 5. This advertisement serves as a formal notice to Arshad Khan and underscores the judicial pursuit to bring him to justice. (w/nkm)

Jamshedpur SSP reshuffles officers

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: In a recent development, Jamshedpur Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishore Kaushal has executed transfers affecting two key police officers. Vinay Prasad Mandal, formerly serving as the Circle Inspector in-charge of Golmuri Traffic cum Telco, has been reassigned as the new police station in-charge of Sitaramdera. Simultaneously, Bhushan Kumar, who previously held the position of Sitaramdera police station in-charge, has been transitioned to the role of in-charge at Golmuri traffic station. Additionally, he has been appointed as the zonal inspector of Telco. The reshuffling was prompted by the closure of Bhushan Kumar's line at Sitaramdera police station, rendering the position vacant. Consequently, immediate measures were taken to fill the vacancy, ensuring continuity in operations. (w/nkm)

Protest at DC office against attempt to enclose JEMCO Grounds

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: Members of the JEMCO Maidan Sangharsh Samiti (JMSS)held a protest rally at the Deputy Commissioner's office against Tata Steel officials' attempt to enclosethe JEMCO Grounds in Telco. Despite a stay order issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Tata Steel's UISL and Land Department teams ventured to enclose the grounds, only to retreat empty-handed in the face of strong opposition from residents. Satish Kumar, a core member of the JMSS, emphasized that Tata Steel had been restrained by a stay order since January 12, prohibiting any action until the issue was resolved. The matter had also been brought to the attention of CM Champai Soren, who had assured the residents of providing the grounds. Residents demanded intervention from the Deputy Commissioner to prevent Tata Steel from enclosing the JEMCOGrounds until a decision was reached. The Grounds serve as a vital space for recreation and exercise for local residents, including children from nearby settlements. Despite repeated attempts by Tata Steel to cordon off the area, residents continued to resist, asserting their right to utilize the grounds. (w/gsd)

Prayer meeting to observe Late D.K. Singh Babu's 12th death anniversary

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: A prayer meeting on Thursday, April 25, marked the 12th Death Anniversary of the late D.K. Singh Babu, former General Secretary of the Tata Workers' Union.

The portrait of the Late DK Singh Babu was garlanded and floral tributes were paid in his memory.

Those present at the prayer meet included Sanjeev Kumar Choudhary, President, Satish Kumar Singh, General Secretary, Shailesh Kumar Singh, Deputy President, Nitesh Raj, Assistant Secretary, along with Committee Members and employees of the Tata Workers' Union.

The gathering served as a poignant reminder of Babu's contributions and legacy within the union, as colleagues and associates paid their respects. (w/gsd)

LFS School organizes Traffic Rules Compliance awareness walking rally



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Little Flower School (LFS), in association with Jamshedpur Police/Golmuri Traffic Police, organized an awareness-cum-walking rally aimed at promoting adherence to traffic rules. Students from various classes of LFS, accompanied by their teachers, participated in the rally, which aimed to educate the public, particularly parents and children commuting to schools, about minimizing road accidents and ensuring smooth traffic flow. Motivational messages and lessons on traffic safety were conveyed through placards and display flex boards, emphasizing the importance of safe driving practices for the well-being of all road users. (w/gsd)

Mangal Kalindi inaugurates 70th Shri-Shri Pahadi Puja Mahotsav

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: Jugsalai MLA Mangal Kalindi inaugurated the 70th Shri-Shri Pahadi Puja Mahotsav organized under the auspices of Loco Recreation Club on Thursday, April 25. Offering prayers to Pahadi Ma for the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of the area's residents, the festivities will span seven days. The Pahadi Puja has been a cherished tradition in the Railway Loco Colony since 1954. Over the course of seven days, Devi Ma will be revered and taken on a city tour, with the Puja culminating on April 30 with a grand farewell featuring fireworks and a tableau. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Mangal Kalindi commended the local community's fervent celebration of Ma Pahadi Puja Mahotsav, emphasizing the importance of active participation in religious and social events. Such gatherings, he noted, foster a sense of unity and harmony within society. Zila Parishad President Bari Murmu, Vice President Pankaj Sinha, along with several other guests, graced the event with their presence, extending their support and appreciation for the auspicious occasion. (w/gsd)

Retailers profit from potato sales amidst price disparity

Jamshedpur, April 25: A significant gap has emerged between wholesale and retail potato prices in Jamshedpur, raising concerns among consumers. While the wholesale price per quintal stood at Rs 2350 on Thursday, retail rates hovered around Rs 30 per kilogram at most outlets, representing a stark difference of seven rupees per kilogram. Just two days prior, the wholesale price was Rs 2700 per quintal, with retail prices at Rs 35 per kilogram. Despite this decrease in wholesale rates, many retailers have maintained the higher retail price of Rs 35 per kilogram. Retailers attribute this discrepancy to the recent elections, citing vehicle seizures as a reason for increased transportation costs. However, wholesale traders argue that the price hike was prompted by potato shortages among farmers, exacerbated by closed cold storage facilities. With the reopening of cold storage facilities on Thursday, the situation is expected to normalize. However, the district administration's focus on the ongoing elections has hindered efforts to address the issue of price disparities effectively. (w/nkm)



Heatwave alert for Jharkhand Jamshedpur records 42.6 degrees C

Ranchi, April 25: Jharkhand has been experiencing scorching heat with 11 districts witnessing temperatures surpassing 40 degrees. Following a brief respite from light rain, the weather has once again turned hot as westerly winds intensifying across the state. The Meteorological Department has issued a yellow alert for heatwave conditions, expected to persist until April 28. Abhishek Anand, meteorologist, warned that heatwave conditions would prevail on April 25 and 26 in some districts, including Kolhan division's East Singhbhum, West Singhbhum, and Seraikela-Kharsawan, as well as Bokaro and Dhanbad districts of North Chhotanagpur division. Similar conditions were expected in Jamtara, Dumka, Pakur, Godda, and Sahibganj of Santal Pargana, with yellow alerts in place for these areas. For April 27, heatwave conditions were predicted in at least 11 districts, while April 28 will likely see temperatures soaring in 14 districts, including the capital Ranchi and Khunti. Notably, Godda in Santal Pargana recorded a scorching 44.1 degrees Celsius, making it the hottest location in the state today. Other districts experiencing high temperatures included East Singhbhum at 43.7 degrees Celsius including 42.6 degrees C in Jamshedpur, Palamu at 41.2 degrees Celsius, Deoghar at 41.1 degrees Celsius, Garhwa at 41.1 degrees Celsius, Jamtara at 41.9 degrees Celsius, Pakur at 43.4 degrees Celsius, Seraikela at 43.4 degrees Celsius, Sahibganj at 41.4 degrees Celsius, Uttar Pradesh at 41.5 degrees Celsius, Simdega at 40.2 degrees Celsius, and West Singhbhum at 40.6 degrees Celsius. (w/gsd)

JMM vows to protect citizens from misinformation

Seraikela, April 25: In a gathering of grassroots activists convened on Thursday at the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha office in Gamharia Block Part 2 Kaladungri, under the jurisdiction of the Kharsawan Assembly Constituency, strategies were devised for the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections-2024. MLA representative Mangilal Mahato, addressing the assembly, emphasized the imperative of vigilance and proactivity. Mahato underscored the prevalence of individuals disseminating enticing yet misleading narratives, aimed at swaying public opinion. He stressed the importance of safeguarding citizens from falling prey to such deceptive tactics. To this end, continuous engagement with the public was deemed essential. A unanimous resolution was passed during the meeting, reaffirming the commitment to secure victory for Kalicharan Munda, the Congress candidate from Khunti, in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, thereby clinching the highest number of votes. The gathering witnessed the active participation of numerous dedicated workers, including Mangilal Mahato, Sudhir Mahato, Vasudev Mahato, Vijay Mahato, and Amulya Mahato, among others. (w/nkm)

Outstanding performance by MIITJEE students in JEE-Main (2024) Exam

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: Students of 'MIITJEE', a renowned coaching institute preparing students for engineering and medical entrance exams in Sakchi and Telco, have achieved remarkable success in the JEE-Main (2024) examination. This year, a total of 307 students from the institute have excelled, with 57 scoring above the 95th percentile and 167 students securing more than the 90th percentile. While the final results are still being calculated, the institute's directors, Krishna Banerjee, Sachin Verma, and Prabhat Ranjan, have extended their congratulations to all the successful students, wishing them a bright future ahead. MIITJEE has announced the commencement of the MIITJEE Kanya batch starting from April 30, 2024, offering a special admission offer. Additionally, enrollment for classes 9 to 12 is ongoing at MIITJEE School. Gurpreet Singh emerged as the topper in the institute, securing an impressive 99.68 percentile. Following closely behind, Akshit Bhagat achieved the second position with a percentile of 99.18, and Meenakshi with 99.09 percentile. Other successful students of the institute include Manali Sengupta, Sameer Mishra, Sana Naz, Sujal Singh, Ambika Kashyap, Ankita Kumari, Abhigyan, Tarak Nath Pati, Arijit Mandal, Sachin Kumar Gupta, Mohd. Ali, Satyarth Sinha, Vishal Kumar Singh, Sachin Kumar, Tannu Kumari, Nandini Kumari, Achin Mahato, Sagar Kumar, Ajay Kumar Sinha, Saurabh Jaiswal, Amisha Raj, Sweta Rani, Anjali Kumari, Amar Kumar, and Sulekha Kumari. The success of these students is attributed to the dedicated efforts of the institute's teachers, who provided rigorous preparation through daily tests, weekly assessments, comprehensive study material, and engaging academic sessions. The institute's commitment to regular offline classroom teaching, motivational sessions, faculty support, and backup classes has undoubtedly contributed to the outstanding performance of its students. (w/nkm)

Narayana students shine in JEE Main-2024 with remarkable results



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: The students of Narayana I.I.T./NEET Academy, located in Sakchi, Jamshedpur, have once again displayed exceptional performance in the JEE Main-2024 examination. Director of Narayana Jamshedpur Centre, Shyam Bhushan, announced that out of the candidates who checked their results at the Narayana Jamshedpur Centre, 153 students have achieved success, with several securing top ranks. An impressive feat was achieved with six Narayana students securing positions within the top 10 and seven within the top 12 ranks nationwide.

Among the notable achievers are Gajare Nilakrishna (AIR-Gen-1), H. Vidit (AIR-Gen-5), and Muthavarapu Anup (AIR-Gen-6). The success extends beyond the top ranks, with a list of students securing ranks within the top 50,000 in the General category released. Notable mentions include Anuj Kumar Ranjan (AIR-General-4438), Sachin Kumar Gupta (AIR-General-5812 & OBC-1215), and Adarsh Rai (AIR-General-14414).

Mr. Bhushan attributed the students' success to Narayana's exceptional faculty, comprehensive course materials, disciplined academic environment, and well-equipped library. He highlighted Narayana's meticulously planned academic calendar on a national level, ensuring thorough preparation for competitive exams. Furthermore, Bhushan emphasized the significance of Narayana's weekly tests conducted at the national level, providing students with insights into their rankings nationwide.

This ensures that students not only compete within their class but also at a national level, fostering a competitive spirit among them. As the students gear up for the upcoming JEE (Advanced) examination, Bhushan extended his best wishes for their bright future.

He expressed confidence that Narayana students would continue to excel and uphold the institution's reputation for academic excellence. (w/nkm)

Workshop for children on good touch-bad touch and social awareness

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: Members of Surabhi, the women's wing of Marwari Yuva Manch (MYM) Steel city branch organized a workshop aimed at educating children on the importance of understanding good touch, bad touch, and on social awareness. The workshop, held on the fourth day of a five-day program, was specifically tailored for the students of Punjab Refugee Middle School, Agrico in Jamshedpur. Led by Payal Agarwal, the workshop utilized interactive demonstrations to elucidate the concepts of good touch and bad touch, emphasizing the significance of distinguishing between them. Key aspects such as building a strong foundation of trust between children and parents were underscored by branch president Kavita Agarwal. It was stressed that open communication with parents was crucial for ensuring children's safety and well-being. Additionally, children were cautioned against accepting gifts or favors from strangers and encouraged to share any experiences with their parents. Branch Secretary Pooja Agarwal highlighted the importance of social awareness, particularly regarding the risks associated with excessive smartphone usage among children.

The workshop emphasized the detrimental effects of smartphone radiation on children's health and academic performance. The organizing team included President Kavita Agarwal, Secretary Pooja Agarwal, Treasurer Payal Agarwal, along with Usha Chaudhary and Pinky Agarwal.

सुदृढ़ प्रजातंत्र हेतु वृहत्तर सहभागिता

जिला दण्डाधिकारी एवं उपायुक्त का कार्यालय

पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर (जिला निर्वाचन शाखा)

पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला के सभी विद्यालय/महाविद्यालय/संस्था प्राधिकार के लिए आम सूचना

पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला अन्तर्गत कुल 1887 मतदान केन्द्र (जो 1132 भवनों में अवस्थित है) भारत निर्वाचन आयोग से अधिसूचित है। मतदान केन्द्र के रूप में चिन्हित भवनों के प्राधिकारों को सूचित किया जाता है कि, वे चिन्हित भवनों को अधोहस्ताक्षरी के अनुमति के वगैर, लोक सभा आम निर्वाचन –2024 की समाप्ति तक, किसी भी प्रकार से तोड़ने या ध्वस्त करने का कार्य नहीं करें।

यदि किसी प्राधिकार द्वारा ऐसा किया जाता है, तो सम्बन्धित प्राधिकार के विरूद्ध लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम 1951 के सुसंगत धाराओं के तहत कानूनी कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

ह0/–
जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी–सह–उपायुक्त,
पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर

PR 324081 Election (24-25)_D

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी–सह–उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर । (उत्पाद शाखा)

:: आदेश ::

मुख्य निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी–सह–सचिव, झारखण्ड, राँची के पत्रांक–01/ नि0वि–22–23 (पार्ट–1)/2020/1186 दिनांक–18.03.2024 एवं आयुक्त उत्पाद, झारखण्ड, राँची के ज्ञापांक–05/मु0स्था0–15–01/ 2019–814 दिनांक–12.04.2024 के आलोक में पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर जिला एवं पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर जिला के सीमावर्ती राज्य/जिला लोकसभा क्षेत्र में होने वाले वाले लोकसभा निर्वाचन 2024 के निमित्त मतदान समाप्त होने के 48 घंटे पूर्व से लेकर मतदान की समाप्ति तक एवं मतगणना के दिन शुष्क दिवस (**DRY DAY**) घोषित किये जाने का निदेश हैं।

लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम 1951 की धारा 135 (ग) में निहित निदेश के आलोक में मैं अनन्य मित्तल, जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी–सह–उपायुक्त, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर आदेश देता हूँ कि लोकसभा निर्वाचन 2024 के अवसर पर पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर जिला के सम्पूर्ण क्षेत्र में निम्न तिथियों/अवधि को शुष्क दिवस (**DRY DAY**) घोषित किया जाता हैं।

क्र0 सं0	लोकसभा संख्या एवं क्षेत्र का नाम	मतदान की तिथि	पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमषेदपुर जिला में घोषित शुष्क दिवस तिथि व समय
1	सीमावर्त्ती जिला सरायकेला–खरसावाँ	13.05.2024	दिनांक–11.05.2024 के शाम 5:00 बजे से दिनांक–13.05.2024 के शाम 5:00 बजे तक
2	09–जमषेदपुर एवं सीमावर्त्ती राज्य पुरूलिया (प0 बंगाल)	25.05.2024	दिनांक–23.05.2024 के शाम 5:00 बजे से दिनांक–25.05.2024 के शाम 5:00 बजे तक
3	सीमावर्त्ती राज्य मयुरभंज (ओड़िसा)	01.06.2024	दिनांक–30.05.2024 के शाम 5:00 बजे से दिनांक–01.06.2024 के शाम 5:00 बजे तक
4	मतगणना की तिथि	04.06.2024	

शुष्क दिवस की उक्त अवधि में पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला की सभी खुदरा उत्पाद दुकानें, होटल, रेस्तराँ एवं बार सहित अन्य उत्पाद अनुज्ञप्ति प्राप्त परिसर पूर्णतः बन्द रहेंगें तथा किसी प्रकार के होटल, रेस्तराँ, क्लब, भोजनालय, पाक्शाला, दुकान तथा शराब बेचने या परोसने वाले प्रतिष्ठान में अथवा निजी या सार्वजनिक स्थल पर कोई भी स्प्रिटयुक्त, मादक लिकर या वैसी प्रकृति का कोई अन्य पदार्थ न तो विक्रय किया जायेगा, न परोसा जायेगा और न ही वितरित किया जायेगा।

ह0/–
जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी–सह–उपायुक्त,
पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर

PR 324089 Excise(24-25)D

Political parties' strategies in the election race

The recently concluded first phase of Lok Sabha elections has set the stage for a fierce battle among political parties, with each vying for the support of voters through various means. From regional to national parties, leaders are leaving no stone unturned in their quest for victory, employing tactics ranging from finesse to controversy. In this electoral race, the political landscape has witnessed a notable shift towards polarization and identity politics. Both the Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are strategically tapping into demographic divisions to sway voter sentiment. Congress leaders have advocated for a caste census, seemingly aiming to disrupt the BJP's Hindutva vote bank by highlighting distinctions among Hindu voters. Meanwhile, the BJP has sought to exploit communal sentiments by accentuating the Hindu-Muslim divide, a tactic that has gained significant traction in recent times.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been at the forefront of this campaign, using rhetoric to frame the opposition's policies in a negative light. His reference to former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh's statement, insinuating that a Congress-led government would favor those who have more children, exemplifies the strategic narrative being propagated by the ruling party. This election season has witnessed a departure from traditional political discourse, with both national and regional parties resorting to polarizing rhetoric to mobilize their respective voter bases. The BJP has gone as far as likening the Congress manifesto to that of the Muslim League, painting a narrative of potential harm to Hindu interests under a Congress-led government.

Conversely, the Congress has made concerted efforts to align itself with marginalized communities, particularly Muslims and backward castes, a departure from its previous stance. Regional parties like the Samajwadi Party and Trinamool Congress have also capitalized on issues like the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), promising to revoke it if elected to power. Amidst this backdrop, crucial socio-economic issues like unemployment and inflation seem to have taken a backseat in the electoral discourse. Instead, the focus has shifted towards identity politics, with religion and caste emerging as central themes in political campaigns. As the election progresses, it is evident that political parties will continue to prioritize identity-based narratives to sway public opinion. With each passing phase of voting, the intensity of these narratives is expected to escalate, further shaping the electoral landscape in the days to come.

From the Editorial Desk

Congress bristled over funds freeze, but are its charges misplaced and unfounded?

The Congress party, in a press conference with a rare appearance of Sonia Gandhi on Thursday, accused the Modi government of crippling the Opposition by throttling its finances, and claimed that the Income Tax (I-T) Department is targeting their bank accounts at the behest of the Centre.

Amid the series of accusations by Congress, it has emerged that party's own failure to meet tax compliances and protracted approach in dealing with I-T cases led to the freezing of party's accounts.

Congress claimed that cases from the past, when SitaramKesari was party President, were reopened to stymie the party's electoral campaign by blocking its funds, but the "disclosures" from I-T Department present a different picture altogether. Also, the High Court upholding the Income Tax Appellate



Tribunal (ITAT) order and its harsh remarks against the party's bungled handling of the tax cases leave little to defend itself.

According to details from I-T Department, Congress was asked to pay Rs 105 crore outstanding tax for Assessment Year 2018-19, and the same was upheld by ITAT too. But, Congress moved High Court and got no relief, rather it received flak for sleeping over the case.

Moreover, the party, rather than getting its facts right and pursuing the matter legally, turned it into a political issue and alleged vendetta by the Centre, accusing it of silencing the Opposition.

Reports suggest that the party has not come clean on the alleged blockage of over Rs 200 crore in its bank accounts.

The party has claimed that its bank accounts have been frozen, making it difficult for the party to meet its expenses; but the I-T Department recently told the tax tribunal that it created only a lien in party's accounts to settle the outstanding tax.

The I-T Department told ITAT on February 16, that it has not issued an order to banks to freeze the transactions in Congress' bank accounts, the order of the tribunal read.

The ITAT order further stated that the Department has only created a lien on the amount in the accounts to settle the pending tax demand.

A lien refers to a claim or a legal right against an asset, which is usually used as collateral until the claim is paid.

First-time voters in Maharashtra consider climate action a key poll issue

Climate action ranks as the second-most crucial factor influencing the choice of political candidates or parties among first-time voters in Maharashtra, according to a recent survey.The survey titled 'Perception of First-Time Voters (aged 18-22 years) on Climate Education in India' revealed that 52.2 per cent of respondents advocate for climate education as the government's most effective strategy to combat the climate crisis. A significant portion of participants expressed a need for more comprehensive climate education to bridge the gap between awareness and actionable knowledge. The survey was conducted in a collaboration between Asar Social Impact Advisors, the Climate Educators Network (CEN), and CMSR Consultants.

It surveyed 1600 first-time voters from states including Maharashtra, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal. A total of 400 respondents from Mumbai and Pune participated in the survey.

The survey's findings underscore the urgency and importance of integrating climate education into our curricula, tailoring it to meet local contexts and students' needs, thereby fostering a generation equipped to tackle the climate crisis proactively.

On the quality of environmental education in schools and colleges, responses varied across different regions. In Delhi, the prevailing sentiment among respondents (58 per cent) was that the quality of environmental education is 'average', with 25 per cent considering it 'poor'. Conversely, in



Maharashtra and West Bengal, a majority of respondents (47 per cent and 58 per cent respectively) rated environmental education as 'good'. In Tamil Nadu, 39 per cent of the respondents perceived their environmental education positively as 'good', while another 25 per cent described it as 'average'.

On coverage of climate change topics, across locations, topics like global warming, greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy, and biodiversity loss were commonly addressed in the school curriculum. However, the majority of the participants expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of depth and solution-oriented approach. Despite some detailed discussions on specific aspects like greenhouse gases and mitigation strategies, there was a common sentiment of inadequate coverage or in-depth discussions about climate change and no practical solutions to address environmental challenges. Participants also emphasized the need for practical solutions in climate education, and topics like sustainable development goals and waste segregation to be integrated into the curriculum. They called for climate education to be free from political bias and made it mandatory, suggesting adjustments to the credit scoring system to reflect its importance.

There was a notable lack of awareness about climate change causes and consequences, highlighting the need for more knowledge dissemination. The need for comprehensive and in-depth coverage on topics like global warming, medical waste management, acid rain and ozone depletion was emphasized.

There were suggestions for a deeper exploration and analysis of the hazardous nature of industrial pollution and including detailed information on how climate change can be mitigated and reversed within the curriculum.

While a significant portion of respondents felt adequately informed about the causes and consequences of climate change through their education, qualitative findings revealed that many felt the knowledge imparted was insufficient.

In Maharashtra, West Bengal, and Tamil Nadu, a significant majority of respondents, comprising 93 per cent, 89 per cent, and 82 per cent respectively, reported learning new and significant aspects of climate change in school. However, in Delhi, only 23 per cent of respondents stated the same.

Respondents also suggested various strategies for the government to effectively tackle the climate crisis. The top strategy mentioned by respondents of West Bengal (87 per cent), and Delhi (74 per cent), was enhancing sustainable transportation infrastructure.Likewise, 80 per cent and 72 per cent respondents from West Bengal and Delhi respectively suggested implementing stricter regulations on carbon emissions to tackle the climate crisis.

Maximum respondents from Tamil Nadu (55 per cent) and Maharashtra (52 per cent) believed that an effective strategy would be to conduct climate education and awareness programs.

Prioritizing the development and utilization of renewable energy sources was suggested by 80 per cent respondents from West Bengal followed by 70 per cent, 50 per cent and 45 per cent respondents from Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra respectively. Participants also stressed the importance of political commitment to addressing climate change issues, indicating a growing awareness among voters regarding environmental sustainability and its influence on political decisions.

Chhatrapati scions vie to enter LokSabha via Kolhapur, Satara seats

By Quaid Najmi

As the clock ticks away for the polls, at least two descendants of the legendary Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj are likely to contest from Kolhapur and Satara, the two royal seats of the erstwhile Maratha empire, generating excitement among the ordinary folks.

The Opposition MahaVikasAghadi (MVA) has taken the early lead by fielding Chhatrapati Shrimant Shahu Maharaj -- the 12th direct descendant of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj -- from Kolhapur, on a Congress ticket. The gentle-looking, 76-year old scion is the grandson of the great reformer, Chhatrapati Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj, a democrat and an associate of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution. Interacting with the media a day after the Congress announced his candidature, Chhatrapati Shrimant Shahu Maharaj beamed and said that he was entering the fray only because the electorate wanted him to contest.

In fact, a few days ago -- when it became clear that Chhatrapati would be entering the poll battle -- his son YuvrajSambhajirajeChhatrapati, the 13th direct descendant of the founder of the Maratha Empire, gracefully bowed out of the Kolhapur election race.

YuvrajSambhajirajeChhatrapati, a former President-nominated RajyaSabha Member, was also hoping to enter the poll fray in Kolhapur, but magnanimously withdrew in favour of his 'revered father', earning laurels from the electorate and the local political bigwigs.

The Chhatrapati Prince also publicly declared that he would work hard till the very end to ensure his father's victory along with the workers of the Congress-Shiv Sena (UBT)-Nationalist Congress Party



(SP) and other parties, virtually making it a 'done and won' seat for the MVA.

In the neighbouring Satara, Chhatrapati Udayanraje Bhonsle, the 13th direct descendant of ChhatrapatiShivajiMaharaj is keen to contest the seat which he lost in 2019 LokSabhabypolls.

ChhatrapatiBhonsle, who was formerly a two-time (undivided) NCP MP from Satara, abruptly resigned and vacated the LokSabha seat to join the BharatiyaJanata Party and contested the by-election held the same year on a BJP ticket.

However, NCP (SP) President SharadPawar fielded a senior leader and veteran bureaucrat, Shriniwas D. Patil, plus vigorously campaigned for him -- once even in cold pouring rains -- that not only won him admiration, but rained votes for his nominee that helped trounce the royal contender ChhatrapatiBhonsle. After the embarrassing defeat in the 2019 Satarabypolls, the BJP made ChhatrapatiBhonsle a RajyaSabha Member, but now is desirous of entering the LokSabha again from Satara.

Countering the long-range threat from a prime adversary

By D.C. Pathak

It is now well established that China has -- with the Sino-Pak axis bolstering its threat potential -- emerged as the source of a lasting danger for India's defence and security and for that reason alone that country needed to be studied in depth on a continual basis from the angles of ideology that governs it, the philosophy that guides its military growth and the advance it is striving to achieve in the sphere of technology of combat.

From what appears in the public domain by way of its proclaimed objectives, President Xi Jinping's China has been following the strategy of gaining 'civil-military fusion', total supremacy of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and a steady push towards becoming the second superpower through the economic and technological route -- apart from pursuing the path of a defence build-up.

Xi's rise to power in China now matches that of Mao Zedong and his definition of Chinese ideology as 'Marxism with Chinese characteristics' is part of "Xi's Thought" put in the party's constitution.

Significantly, it calls for embracing the 'Civilisational strength' of China to build the nation- there is a learning from this for India. While making rapid strides in the area of using technology including artificial intelligence (AI) for the purposes of offence and defence, China wants to buy time for its economic consolidation and is apparently inclined to avoid a military confrontation with its main rival -- the US, at present. This came out during the meeting between US President Joe Biden and his Chinese counterpart Xi at the APEC summit in San Francisco in November last year.

It must have come as a relief to Xi when Biden observed that the US was "not seeking a conflict with China" -- the US President obviously had Russia weighing on his mind far more in the context of the ongoing Ukraine-Russia military confrontation.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that India is putting a comprehensive strategy in place for countering the threat from China and in a multi-prong response concentrating on measures to deal with the adversary on land and sea as well as in the air- through the development of missile and drone technology.

Indo-US relations are being constantly upgraded in the context of a new Cold War appearing on the horizon between the US and China and India is also successfully opposing the Chinese designs at international forums while assuming an active profile on a multilateral platform like Quad, in association with the US.

In a Marxist state, the released party documents tell a lot about which way the country was proceeding and these have to be closely studied and analysed.

Cyber warfare and the use of social media as an instrument of combat come naturally to China as they fit in with the Marxist maxim of 'winning a war without a battle' and so does the thesis of 'two steps forward one step backwards' that was designed to get away with 'salami slicing' which was likely to be practised by the adversary on our borders.

Since May 2020, the Chinese troops have engaged in aggressive activities and precipitated skirmishes along the Sino-Indian border.

India has done well in the regime of Prime Minister



NarendraModi to carry out the necessary military build-up along the India-China border, particularly in Eastern Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh and also push forward the civilian settlements there to match the Chinese activities along LAC. A lot is being done also to enhance the Naval power of India in the Indian Ocean where China was using Male as a springboard for deploying its Naval 'spy' ship possibly for hydrographic studies in the Indian Ocean. China has managed to have an ingress in Afghanistan because of Pakistan's initiative in arranging a 'give and take' between the Taliban Emirate and the Marxist state and has also stepped up its political and economic bonding with India's neighbours including Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and Maldives.

India has to safeguard its neighbourhood against China's attempts to use these countries to create bases for anti-India activities. Against a Marxist China that has called for rallying behind the 'civilisational strength' of the country, India has to respond with the 'whole of the nation' strategy and project the mandate that democratic India was 'one nation'.

The substratum of 'one man one vote' on which India's democracy has been tested over decades, leaves little scope for politics of religion, caste and region particularly when the governance of the country did not carry any denominational stamp and the state policies did not make any distinctions amongst citizens.

Moreover, nationalism strengthens democracy and the political opposition would do well to own it with full vigour. India is a land of socio-cultural diversities and different modes of worship but with one secular political umbrella created by the multi-party system submitting to a common electoral process.

Indian parties have to learn to keep national security above politics and not inject any element of 'separatism' in their campaigns. Narratives of 'majoritarianism', 'authoritarianism' and 'minority concerns' can not become the tools of running politics from behind and care has to be taken to ensure that 'influence warfare' of anti-India lobbies often working in conjunction with civil society groups opposed to the government of the day, did not damage our national interests by running a 'proxy' offensive for vested reasons.

Indian voters always prove to be shrewd judge of the merit and performance of the rulers and opt for good governance. Also, the average Indian showed great sensitivity to matters of security of the nation and even pushed personal economic concerns into the background whenever called upon to contribute to such a higher cause. In the present context, the promise of a stable government would be a major concern of the voter.There is another emerging area of concern for India attributable to Sino-Pak collaboration.

The Biden administration in the US has for some time been engaged in defending Islam as a faith that ought not to be discredited and defamed and seems to have felt particularly concerned over Islamophobic trends noticed in the US in the wake of the Israel-Hamas confrontation that began with the terrorist attack of Hamas on Israel on October 7 last year.

In a statement issued by the White House on March 15, it was announced that the US will develop the first-ever "national strategy to counter the scourge of Islamophobia and hate in all its forms" in the US and elsewhere.

The unusually large civilian casualties of over 30,000 resulting in Gaza from the Israeli attacks and domestic developments like forced resignations of the Presidents of Harvard and Pennsylvania universities for permitting pro-Palestinian demonstrations on the campus, seemed to have compelled the White House to try to be politically correct by speaking up against Islamophobia. Not unexpectedly, Pakistan and China co-sponsored on March 15 a draft resolution in the UN General Assembly on 'measures to combat Islamophobia', which was passed with 115 nations including both the US and Russia supporting it, no member expressing its opposition and 44 countries including India.

Selectors likely to name squad for T20 World Cup this weekend, say BCCI sources



New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) The senior national selectors are likely to meet this weekend in Mumbai to name the 15-member Indian squad for the ICC T20 World Cup, scheduled to be played in the West Indies and the USA later this year, Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) sources told IANS.The ICC has set a deadline of May 1 for the participating boards to announce their provisional squads for the mega sporting spectacle.

The Ajit Agarkar-led selection committee of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) faces the challenge of picking a balanced 15-man squad based on players' performances in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 season.Sources said to IANS, "They (selectors) will sit on April 27 or 28 to pick the 15-member squad. It will be really tough to name the squad as some young guns are really impressive in the ongoing IPL."

Indian Air Force beat Sri Lanka Air Force in Arjan Singh hockey meet

Chandigarh, April 25 (IANS) The Indian Air Force beat Sri Lanka Air Force on Day 1 of the 5th edition of Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh Memorial Hockey Tournament -- 2024. on Thursday at No. 3 Base Repair Depot (BRD) here.Four matches were played on the first day. The Indian Air Force won 4-0 against Sri Lanka Air Force. JWO Lovdeep Singh of the Indian Air Force scored four goals. He was declared the man of the match.The second match was won by Chandigarh XI against Punjab Police by 5-3.Air Marshal RK Anand, Air Officer-in-charge Administration, who was the chief guest, declared the tournament open.The chief guest felicitated veteran players -- Dharamveer Singh (Olympian) and ex-Air Force Hockey players, Group Captain JS Minhas (retd) and ex-Sergeant Prem Kumar. The spectators also witnessed an exhilarating air display of tenacity, precision, coordination and teamwork displayed by the Air Warrior Drill Team (AWDT).

Former Zimbabwe cricketer Guy Whittall injured by leopard

Humani, April 25 (IANS) Former Zimbabwe cricketer Guy Whittall, was hospitalised after miraculously surviving a leopard attack earlier this week. Whittall was out on a walk with his dog at a conservancy he owns in Zimbabwe.According to a post by his wife, Hannah Whittal, on social media (Facebook), the injury happened on Tuesday following which he was airlifted to Harare for treatment.Whittal played 46 Tests and 147 ODIs for Zimbabwe between 1993 and 2003 and amassed 4912 in both formats. In the Test, he claimed 51 wickets and 88 in ODIs.

Former Pakistan women's captain Bismah Maroof calls time on her playing career

Lahore, April 25 (IANS) Bismah Maroof, the left-handed batter and former Pakistan women's captain, has called time on her playing career with immediate effect. The dependable veteran batter recently played in Pakistan's ODI series against West Indies, which they lost by a disappointing 3-0.Bismah made her ODI debut against India in 2006 and her T20I debut against Ireland in 2009. She went on to represent Pakistan in 276 international matches, the most by any woman cricketer from her country. She has scored 6,262 international runs, including 33 half-centuries, and has taken 80 international wickets with her right-arm leg-spin.Following the series loss to West Indies, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) reconstituted the women's selection committee. Former women's team players Asmavia Iqbal and Marina Iqbal were retained, while Batool Fatima, Abdul Razzaq and Asad Shafiq (both members of the men's national selection committee) are a part of the new committee.Hours later, Bismah called time on her playing career, which she ends as Pakistan's leading run-scorer in women's ODIs and T20Is. "I have decided to retire from the game I love the most. It has been an incredible journey, filled with challenges, victories, and unforgettable memories. I want to express my gratitude to my family, who has supported me throughout my cricketing journey, from the very beginning until now.""I also want to extend my thanks to the Pakistan Cricket Board for believing in me and providing the platform to showcase my talent.

Archery World Cup: Indian men's recurve team secures spot in final



Shanghai (China), April 25 (IANS) With three consecutive wins, the Indian men's recurve team of Dhiraj Bommadevara, Tarundeep Rai, and Pravin Ramesh Jadhav, secured a spot in the final of the Archery World Cup here on Thursday.

The Indian trio lost the first three ends of the pre-quarterfinals match against Indonesia 1-3, but they rallied to win the next two ends, sealing the victory 5-3. After that initial scare, they didn't look back, winning easily 5-1 against Spain and Italy in the ensuing stages.

India maintained their form going into the knockout stages, finishing second overall and averaging a score of above 55 to reach the final. On April 28, they will compete for the title against the formidable South Korean squad in the final.

The women's recurve team maintained its dismal show, losing 3-5 to Mexico in the round of 16, thus exiting the competition early in contrast to the men's victory. Their failure was mostly due to the poor scores of under 53 that Ankita Bhakat, Deepika Kumari, and Bhajan Kaur shot in three of the four ends.

However, it was a mixed day for the Indians in compound individual events as Aditi Swami and Abhishek Verma exited early, whereas Jyothi Surekha Vennam and Priyansh progressed to the semifinals on Thursday.

In the individual men's compound pre-quarterfinals, Priyansh produced a stunning shock by eliminating the world's top seed, Mike Schlosser of the Netherlands, in a shootout (149(10)-149(9)). He advanced to the semifinals by winning another shootout, this time against Batuhan Akçao?lu of Turkey, 145-145(20-19).

Priyansh will face Nick Kappers of the United States in the semis on Saturday.

La Liga: Xavi to remain as Barcelona coach, to continue till June 2025



Madrid (Spain), April 25 (IANS) FC Barcelona coach Xavi Hernandez has reversed his decision to step down as first-team coach at the end of the current season and will now see out his contract until the end of June 2025. Barcelona vice-president Rafa Yuste confirmed the news late on Wednesday night outside the home of the club's president Joan Laporta following a meeting with Xavi.

"Xavi will stay, he's really happy and excited," Yuste told waiting journalists, before insisting the club had "never opened talks with any other coach."

Earlier on Wednesday, Xavi held face-to-face talks with Laporta and Barcelona's sporting director Deco in which he indicated he had changed his mind about the decision he made in January, reports Xinhua.

Xavi stunned Barcelona when he commented after a 5-3 defeat at home to Villarreal that he would step down at the end of this season. He said one reason for his decision was to try and spark a reaction in his squad, while also talking about the pressures of the job at FC Barcelona.

Xavi said the club needs a "change of direction," and said he felt there was "a lack of respect, you feel that your work is not appreciated."The coach's announcement saw a slight upturn in form, with the club moving into second place in La Liga and reaching the quarterfinals in the UEFA Champions League, before being knocked out by Paris Saint-Germain.

IPL 2024: Reading the batters, not trying much - the Kuldeep Yadav formula of holding your own



New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) At the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Wednesday, Gujarat Titans were having a flying start in their chase of 225 against Delhi Capitals. They had amassed 61/1 from Power-play and it looked like they would ace another chase. But with Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav operating from both ends, DC were beginning to have some control.

After Axar was taken for 13 runs in his second over, the onus was on Yadav to get DC a breakthrough. In his second over, Yadav bowled three short balls, before enticing Wriddhiman Saha to slice at a spinning away delivery. To his and DC's delight, Saha went for a huge slash, but couldn't keep it down and Axar timed his jump well at cover to take the catch.

For the rest of his spell, Yadav would mix tossed-up and short balls, while varying the pace. He signed off with a spell of 2-29 by catching a faint edge of Rahul Tewatia through a short ball outside off-stump, which was safely pouched by Rishabh Pant. In a match, where the aggregate was 400+ as fans were treated to another run-fest, Yadav's spell was the best amongst spinners from both sides.

"Happy to get the win! These two points are very important. Was an amazing game, held our nerve in the last over and turned out to be very tight. Obviously we had a plan. Coach and captain wanted one over (from me) when (Rahul) Tewatia came out (to bat)."

"I bowled a few balls to Tewatia into the wicket. I thought he would slog sweep. That was a good plan with Rishabh (in the end), and we got his wicket and it put us in a good position," said Yadav after DC won the match by four runs.Focusing on a steady line and length was also the key to his success against GT. "You have to read the batsman and see what they are trying to do. We batted well and put up a good total on the board. I didn't try too much when I came out to bowl. The line and length mattered a lot," added Yadav.

In a season in which batters have majorly called the shots through blazing Power-plays and Impact Player empowering them to go harder on the bowlers, it is heartening to see Yadav hold his own, as seen from 12 wickets in six matches this season, being second leading spin wicket-taker in the tournament after Yuzvendra Chahal.

Five days ago, on April 20, at the same venue, against Sunrisers Hyderabad, Travis Head and Abhishek Sharma amassed a staggering 125 in the Power-play, the highest-ever six-over score in any T20 game. With the possibility of 300 lurking around, Kuldeep Yadav came on to pick four SRH wickets in 17 balls of the middle-overs phase to finish with 4-55.

At a DC media day on Monday, Yadav elaborated on how bowlers have to be confident and brave in their abilities to stop rampaging batters in IPL 2024.

"Teams are obviously looking to attack more in the Powe-plays now and maximise when there's fielding restrictions. I feel bowlers need to be braver because the T20 format has evolved in the way that the batters are always on the attack and that, I feel, keeps the bowlers in play all the time."

'NWHL provides a platform for our top women's hockey talent to show their skills', says Bhola Nath Singh



Ranchi, April 25 (IANS) Hockey India secretary general Shri Bhola Nath Singh on Thursday spoke about the importance of the much-awaited National Women's Hockey League 2024-25 in a press conference held at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Astroturf Hockey Stadium.

Phase 1 of the league will be held in Ranchi from April 30 to May 9, 2024, marking a historic moment for women's hockey in India. This first-of-its-kind domestic league promises to be a thrilling showcase of the nation's top female hockey talent.

Structured in two phases, the NWHL aims to elevate the sport and provide a platform for both established and aspiring players. The inaugural phase will feature Haryana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand (Host), Madhya Pradesh, Bengal, Mizoram, Manipura and Odisha, the top eight teams from the recent 14th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championships

Further emphasizing its commitment to nurturing young talent, the league will include players under 21 years of age. This inclusion ensures a strong focus on grassroots development and future generations of hockey stars. The National Women's Hockey League promises to be a game-changer, not only by raising the bar for women's hockey but also by inspiring future generations. This competition will also serve as a vital platform for identifying and nurturing talent for the national team.

Speaking at the press conference, Bhola Nath Singh secretary general of Hockey India, highlighted the significance of the NWHL and said, "The launch of the National Women's Hockey League is a significant step forward for women's sports in India. This league provides a platform for our top women's hockey talent to showcase their skills and compete at the highest level. It will not only create a space for elite competition but also inspire young girls to pursue their passion for hockey."

Mission LA 2028: India's cycling hopes to ride on French coach Sireau and talented youngsters



New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) For the first time in the history of Indian sports, the Cycling Federation of India (CFI) is banking on a foreign coach, a two-time Olympic Games medallist, and a few talented youngsters to participate in the Los Angeles Olympic Games in 2028. The first target for them will be the World Championship to be held later this year.

India's hopes of competing in the cycling programme at the Los Angeles Olympics centre around Frenchman Kevin Sireau and a clutch of talented young men who have already established their credentials on the Asian and world junior circuits. Supported by the Union Sports Ministry, overseas coaches have had a role to play in almost every Olympic sport where India have excelled globally. This is the first time the Cycling Federation of India is riding on two-time Olympic medallist Kevin Sireau of France to fully exploit the potential of the national cycling ecosystem.

The 37-year-old Sireau, a professional racing cyclist, joined CFI in January and in four months, is already sniffing the eagerness among India's best cyclists to excel internationally. India are not only the Asian champions but has been the junior world champions in the sprint category.

The Indian quartet of Esow Alben, L. Ronaldo Singh, Y. Rojit Singh and Jemsh Singh had won a historic men's team sprint gold at the 2019 World Junior Track Cycling Championship in Frankfurt. Three years later at the Asian Track Cycling Championship in Delhi, Ronaldo became the first Indian to win an individual silver medal in the men's sprint race.

India did well as hosts in the Asian Track Cycling Championship for both able-bodied and special cyclists in February this year. India finished with a total of nine gold, six silver, and three bronze medals and created numerous national records on the way. The Asian meet was also a qualifying event for the Paris Olympics, but no Indian made the cut.

IPL 2024: Rishabh Pant emerges as the brightest star in left-handed batters' dominated run-fest

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Spotting the brightest star during a full moon night can sometimes become a tough ask. When the full moon is incredibly bright and illuminates the night sky on its own, it means just the brightest stars, planets, and constellations are visible to the naked eye.

On a Wednesday night, with a full moon illuminating the sky, the Arun Jaitley Stadium witnessed a topsy-turvy game between Delhi Capitals and Gujarat Titans, where total runs scored by both teams exceeded 400. In the exhilarating run-fest, left-handed batters from both teams overwhelmingly took the center stage, but it was Rishabh Pant, the Delhi Capitals skipper, who emerged as the brightest star.

Sure, Axar Patel expertly negated the threat possessed by Rashid Khan and Noor Ahmad by taking 46 runs off their combined 25 deliveries to make his number three promotion count with a 43-ball 66 and be the aggressor in his 113-run stand with Pant.

Add to that, B Sai Sudharsan's steady 39-ball 65 and David Miller's quick 23-ball 55 kept GT in the hunt of chasing 225, of which they fell short by four runs. But none came close to being as enthralling, illuminating, and fulfilling as Pant's blitzkrieg of 88 not out off just 43 balls.

There were doubts over Pant unleashing his best self as a finisher after a scratchy 44 in a high-pressure chase against Sunrisers Hyderabad in his homecoming on April 20. But Pant, amongst the wicketkeeper-batter contenders for the T20 World Cup squad, was at his magnificent best in applying finishing against GT, hitting eight sixes and five fours at a strike-rate of 204.6.

Hours before the game began on Wednesday evening, the area outside the stadium was abuzz with frenetic activity. Fans were flocking to buy and don 'Rishabh 17' jerseys, creating a palpable sense of anticipation from the local lad. To their absolute joy, Pant produced shots - orthodox and unorthodox - showing glimpses of his vintage self, which made him an absolute darling of fans.

When Pant walked in to bat, DC were in dire straits at 44/3, with Sandeep Warrier picking up all three wickets in power-play. Pant had to initially bide his time by keeping the scoreboard ticking with Axar, who was adept at picking boundaries whenever GT erred in line and length.

"When I was there in the first timeout, we discussed about what can be the ideal score here. We then came down to 180 and focused on getting it and then take it from there. Rishabh was confident about getting 180 for the time being and said if we can achieve that, we can get more," said DC assistant coach Pravin Amre in the post-match press conference.He opened up by getting in line of the short ball down leg from Noor and slog-sweep over fine leg for four. When Rashid bowled him short, Pant went quickly on backfoot to pull him through square leg for four and once Noor pitched it too full, he was quick to get low and slog-sweep again, this time for six.'"Let's keep going, let's get eight



or nine every over'. We knew if we targeted their main spinners, because that's how Gujarat play - their two spinners (Rashid and Noor) handle the game very well in the middle overs. That's what we talked about, that if we get something, we would take it on, (otherwise) we will keep rotating the strike," Pant would say after the game ended.

Mohit Sharma, GT's death overs specialist, came on at the start of the 12th, with slower balls and cutters in his armoury. But the length was of Pant's liking - short and wide enough to pull and cut for boundaries. It was just the start Pant needed to showcase his power-hitting and panache.

The 16th over saw Pant welcoming Mohit with a powerful whip over deep mid-wicket for six and then whacked with all his might a full, slower ball over long off. Pant reached his fifty in 34 balls, with a slog off Mohit over long-on for six, which generated resounding applause from the DC blue wearing crowd.

After Tristan Stubbs' onslaught off Sai Kishore in the 19th over fetched DC 22 runs, it was the perfect platform for Pant to finish the innings on a high against a one-dimensional Mohit. A powerful swing went through Shahrukh Khan's hands at long-on for six, followed by him losing his balance while trying to slice a wide yorker, which generated enough power in typical Pant style to fetch a four.

Rattled by this, Mohit angled a bouncer into Pant, who shuffled across and hooked to get a six. On the next ball, Pant dispatched a low full toss high over long-on for a maximum. With calls of 'we want sixer' coming from the crowd, Pant swiped another full toss over the boundary rope as 31 runs came off the last over.

"He started his preparation from the two weeks pre-season camp in Vizag and prepared himself very well because before that, he had been at the NCA. I remember his first day when he came at the Vizag camp, he went straight to ground from the airport. He was hungry, he made sure that he was going to utilise every day."

"You can see all his hard work is paying off. A couple of good knocks gave him the confidence, and today's (knock against GT) was special. He single-handedly got 31 runs against an experienced bowler like Mohit Sharma in the 20th over and that really shows that he is in good form," added Amre.

Pant smashing 62 runs off Mohit on facing 18 balls off him, including hitting seven sixes at a whopping strike-rate of 344.44 are both the most runs & sixes for a batter against a bowler in an IPL match. Since his return to competitive cricket following the life-threatening car crash, Pant's performance with both bat and gloves has been closely monitored. Wednesday's knock of 88 not out was the strongest evidence of him returning to his best form.

"Definitely, loved it. I am someone who can't praise myself. But being on the field actually really matters to me a lot, especially after the kind of injury I had. The conversation I had about myself was that when I am on the field, I should be looking better, moving better, and thinking better."

"Because something which keeps me awake in the night is, I don't want to be at the same place. This is a quote that I have actually read about and I feel the same about it each and every day. That's why when I step on the field, I just feel to give my 200% each and every game," added Pant.

Pant's electrifying performance in the late stages of the match, filled with powerful and rollicking shots, keeps DC in the hut for a playoffs spot. In the larger context, it may well secure his spot on the flight to play for India in the Men's T20 World Cup in West Indies and USA in June. But April 24, 2024 will forever be remembered as the night when Pant became the most radiant star on a moonlit evening.

UP topper shuts up trollers over her facial hair



Sitapur (UP), April 25 (IANS) Prachi Nigam, who topped the Class 10 UP Board examinations this year by securing 98.5 per cent marks, has finally responded to trollers who have been trolling her for her facial hair.

"Trollers can live with their mindset, I am happy that my success is now my identity," she said on Wednesday.

This is the first time that Prachi has responded to trollers.

She said that all her attention was focused on her studies and no one ever pointed towards her excess facial hair.

"My family, my teachers, my friends never criticised me for my appearance and I never bothered about it either. It was only when my photograph was published after the results that people started trolling me and then my attention was drawn to the problem. My aim is to become an engineer and what will ultimately matter are my marks and not the hair on my face," she said.

Indian chess grandmaster VishwanathanAnand extended support to Prachi and asked her to remain focussed on her academic goals.

Meanwhile, Prof R K Dhiman, director of Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGIMS) has said that the institute will treat Prachi free of cost.

"The endocrinology will treat Prachi for hormonal issues that are responsible for facial hair growth and are common in children between the ages of 8-16 years. It can be cured within months," he said.

Why drugs alone may not help treat obesity



New Delhi, March 25 (IANS) While new treatments in the form of drugs and injections have been developed to tackle global obesity, they may not be efficient alone, experts said on Friday, as they stressed the role of maintaining a proper diet and exercise.

According to global estimates, almost 2.3 billion children and adults are living with overweight and obesity. If the current trends continue, 2.7 billion adults could be living with overweight or obesity by 2025.

The current drugs targeting obesity have primarily been developed for the treatment of diabetes like semaglutide and other GLP -1 agonists, available both in injection and pill form.

"These drugs alone are not sufficient for weight loss. Alongside the drugs, patients must maintain a low-sugar, low-carbohydrate diet and engage in at least one hour of physical activity for optimal results," Dr. G. Moinoddin, Consultant - Bariatric Laparoscopic Surgeon, Manipal Hospital, Bengaluru, told IANS.

Weight loss typically becomes visible after 6-7 months of consistent use, with gradual progress over time. The mechanism of action of these drugs starts after six weeks.

In addition to the high cost, people cannot prolong the drug use due to "potential gastrointestinal side effects, and risks like kidney problems and pancreatitis". But, stopping the drugs can lead to a rebound in weight.

"In most cases, when patients stop taking these drugs, their metabolism returns to its previous state. If patients resume normal eating habits, the weight lost over 6 months to a year can return in just three months," Moinoddin said.

A recent study, published in the journal 'eClinical Medicine', emphasised the addition of exercise to improve healthy weight maintenance after treatment is stopped.

The findings showed that "body weight and body composition were maintained one year after termination of supervised exercise, in contrast to weight regain after the termination of treatment with obesity pharmacotherapy alone".

"The question everyone is asking is what happens after discontinuing weight loss drugs (GLP1RA)? Supervised exercise plays a key role in weight maintenance. If you depend on the drug alone, you are more likely to regain weight. Drugs are only a part of a weight loss plan," Dr.AmbrishMithal, Chairman, Endocrinology and Diabetes, Max HealthCare, said in a post on X.

mRNA vaccine tech can be harnessed to prevent deadly diseases



New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) The success of mRNA vaccine technology as seen during the recent Covid-19 pandemic offers hope for using the platform to reduce preventable illness across multiple disease areas, according to a report on Wednesday.

The report by GlobalData, a data and analytics company, as part of World Immunization Week, shows that there are about 507 prophylactic or preventive vaccines currently in late-stage development, of which 88 are being developed using the mRNA technology to prevent diseases ranging from tuberculosis, malaria, to influenza, Covid-19, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and Lyme disease, amongst others.

Unlike other vaccine technologies, mRNA enables rapid production and adaptability for evolving targets. While these vaccines require ultra-cold storage, modifying this would make it even more desirable.

World Immunization Week is observed every year during the last week of April to raise awareness about the potential of vaccines to prevent disease and protect life.

"Vaccinations have heavily reduced the burden of disease in our society. We have already seen the eradication of smallpox and are very close to achieving the same with polio. Promoting immunisation, improving vaccination schedules, and developing new vaccines are all methods that will contribute towards a decrease in morbidity mortality," said AnaelleTannen, Infectious Disease Analyst at GlobalData.

Currently, over 20-life threatening diseases are preventable with vaccines. In addition, novel mechanisms are expected to broaden the scope of available preventable vaccines in the coming years.

Data from the World Health Organization (WHO) shows that vaccines prevent about 3.5-5 million deaths annually from diseases such as diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, influenza, and measles.

"The recent Covid-19 pandemic has emphasised the need for effective vaccines, improving vaccination access and acceptance, in order to protect the health, wellness, and security of the world population," Tannen said.

"Whilst immunisation is one of the cheapest and most effective public health interventions, enabling the eradication of disease, vaccine hesitancy is still very much present, and especially with the mRNA approach. Therefore, more work is needed to encourage acceptance of this immunisation strategy among the public," Tannen added.

Born In India, Now In Pakistan: Indian Heart Gives Pak Girl New Life



Chennai, April 25 (IANS) An Indian heart has given new life to a young woman from Karachi in Pakistan, and her family, after a transplant surgery at Chennai's MGM Healthcare. And that is only half of this remarkable story; the surgeons, and the hospital, performed the procedure free, thanks to a medical trust.

19-year-old Ayesha Rashan, the transplant recipient, wants to study fashion design. Her family said they could not have afforded the operation without the support of the trust and the Chennai doctors. "I feel good after the transplant," Ms Rashan told NDTV as her mother thanked the doctors, the hospital, and the medical trust. Ms Rashan's condition is stable, and she can return to Pakistan. According to the doctors, Ms Rashan was admitted with severe heart dysfunction. Following heart failure, she was put on ECMO, which is a form of life support for people with life-threatening illness or injury that affects the function of their heart or lungs. However, her heart pump then developed a leak in a valve, necessitating a full heart transplant. A heart transplant can cost over ? 35 lakh. In Ms Rashan's case, this bill was covered by the doctors and the trust.

The donor heart came from Delhi, and the young girl was lucky, Dr KR Balakrishnan, Director (Heart and Lung Transplant), and Dr Suresh Rao (Co-Director (Heart and Lung Transplant), told NDTV. They said Ms Rashan received the heart rapidly since there were no competing claims. "She is like my daughter... every life matters," the doctors said, underlining Chennai's status as the "capital of organ donation and transplant surgery".

Xantham, guar gum in yoghurt, biscuits may raise diabetes risk



New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Love to binge on ultra-processed foods like cake, biscuits, bread, yoghurt, and ice creams? Beware, these foods rich in emulsifiers like xantham and guar gum may raise your risk of diabetes, finds a study.

Emulsifiers, the most commonly used additives, are often added to processed and packaged foods to make them look more appealing, boost their taste and texture as well as increase shelf life.

The study appearing in The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology linked emulsifiers including mono- and diglycerides of fatty acids, carrageenans, modified starches, lecithins, phosphates, celluloses, gums, and pectins to the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes. Previously emulsifiers have been linked to cancers of the breast and prostate.

Researchers from France's INRAE - National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment studied the relationships between the dietary intakes of emulsifiers, assessed over a follow-up period of 14 years, and the risk of developing type 2 diabetes in a large study including 104,139 adults between 2009 and 2023.

They diagnosed about 1,056 cases of diabetes as a result of chronic exposure to some emulsifiers.

These were carrageenans (3 per cent increased risk per increment of 100 mg per day); tripotassium phosphate (15 per cent increased risk per increment of 500 mg per day); mono- and diacetyl tartaric acid esters of mono- and diglycerides of fatty acids (4 per cent increased risk per increment of 100 mg per day); sodium citrate (4 per cent increased risk per increment of 500 mg per day); guar gum (11 per cent increased risk per increment of 500 mg per day); gum arabic (3 per cent increased risk per increment of 1,000 mg per day) and xanthan gum (8 per cent increased risk per increment of 500 mg per day).

"These findings are issued from a single observational study for the moment, and cannot be used on their own to establish a causal relationship. They need to be replicated in other epidemiological studies worldwide and supplemented with toxicological and interventional experimental studies, to further inform the mechanisms linking these food additive emulsifiers and the onset of type 2 diabetes," explained MathildeTouvier, Research Director at Inserm, and Bernard Srour, Junior Professor at INRAE -- lead authors of the study.

"However, our results represent key elements to enrich the debate on re-evaluating the regulations around the use of additives in the food industry, in order to better protect consumers," they said.

DRDO develops India's lightest bulletproof jacket against highest threat level



New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) A unit of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully developed the lightest bulletproof jacket for security forces in the country designed to withstand the highest threat level, known as Level 6, officials said on Tuesday.

The jacket, according to a DRDO official statement, provides protection against 7.62 x 54 R API ammunition and novel material along with new processes has been used to develop it.

"DRDO's Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur, has successfully developed the lightest bulletproof jacket in the country for protection against 7.62 x 54 R API (level 6 of BIS 17051) ammunition. Recently, this bulletproof jacket was successfully tested at TBRL, Chandigarh, as per BIS 17051-2018," the statement said.

The front Hard Armour Panel (HAP) of the jacket is a standout feature, capable of withstanding multiple hits (up to 6 shots) of 7.62 x 54 R API (Sniper rounds) in both ICW (in-conjunction with) and standalone designs.

What sets this jacket apart is its ergonomically designed front HAP, crafted from a monolithic ceramic plate with polymer backing. This design not only ensures maximum protection but also enhances wearability and comfort during operations.

"The areal density of ICW hard armour panel (HAP) and standalone HAP is less than 40 kg/m2 and 43 kg/m2 respectively," the statement added.

Emirates Calls 15-Year-Old Girl's Father At 4 am After She Misses Flight: "Well Done"



Dubai, April 25 : A man recently showered praise on Emirates airline and highlighted their customer-focused service after his 15-year-old daughter missed her connecting flight from Dubai. Manish Kalghatgi, who resides in Puducherry, shared that his child was travelling alone from Casablanca, Morocco to Chennai.

Mr Kalghati said that his daughter was eager and excited about travelling alone, however, the family was worried due to the travel chaos caused by rain in Dubai. Notably, over 500 flights were diverted, delayed or cancelled in the country. "This is an appreciation post for @emirates. Yesterday, daughter M (15) flew unaccompanied from Casablanca to Chennai - her first solo international journey. While she was excited to travel alone, we were a bit on the edge given the chaos EK went through in the past week," he wrote on X (formerly Twitter).

In another post, the father said that "flight ops remain affected and M missed her 2 am connection at DXB." However, the airline was "brilliant" in managing the situation. He said that his 15-year-old was met in the aircraft and was informed of the changes in her flight. Mr Kalghati said that she was also escorted to a transit hotel room to rest and recover before the next flight.

"At the same time, I was woken up around 4am by call from a most calm & reassuring EK executive, informing me of the missed connection & steps taken. The communication delivery was so effective that not for a moment thereafter was I concerned about the situation M was in," he added.

Concluding the post, he wrote that he was impressed by the "service excellence" and "customer focus" of the airline. "Given how the entire @emirates operations at DXB were thrown off gear just a few days back, this was excellent recovery and back to business-as-usual as quick as possible. This is what customer focus and service excellence is all about. Well done Emirates," he concluded.

Since being shared, the post has amassed 16,000 views and four hundred likes on the microblogging platform.

"Im not surprised about it as the airlines raises the bar always when it come to service and customer satisfaction," said a user.

Another person said, "That is Emirates. And that efficiency is with Emirates only. Hats off Emirates."

A third wrote, "Emirates cares every passenger personally."

Meanwhile, Dubai recently experienced an unprecedented weather event as severe thunderstorms swept through the city. It affected air travel and caused flooding on the streets throughout the United Arab Emirates, halting normal activities. The state-run weather agency said it was a "historic weather event" and Dubai had not seen such rain in 75 years.

Want 400 seats to thwart intentions of INDIA bloc, PM Modi says in UP



Aonla (Uttar Pradesh), April 25 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that he wanted 400 seats so that he could thwart the attempts being made by Congress and Samajwadi Party to curtail the reservation quota for OBC, SC/ST and give it on a religious basis.

"The Congress, SP and INDIA bloc are asking for your votes because they want to oblige one section of their vote bank as part of the appeasement policy, but I will not let them curtail your rights. The Samajwadi Party is confined to its family -- whether it is in Azamgarh, Kannauj, Mainpuri, Budaun or Firozabad -- and for them, it is only family first," PM Modi said while addressing an election rally here in this Uttar Pradesh town.

"The Congress has found a way to steal some of the 27 per cent OBC quota. They want it should be taken away and reservations should be given based on religion," PM Modi further said.

PM Modi also said that the friendship between "two boys" (Rahul Gandhi and Akhilesh Yadav) in Uttar Pradesh is also based on appeasement politics.

Continuing his attack on the Congress, PM Modi said that the grand old party is conspiring to snatch reservations from the people. He said the Congress is also talking about the survey of property and the party has an eye on public property.

PM Modi said that "our fight against corruption continues".

"The Congress wants to snatch away the 'mangalsutra' of our mothers and sisters. Will you allow it? People in foreign countries do not even know what this means to us, but we know its importance," PM Modi said.

The Prime Minister said that the most important thing today -- bigger than elections -- was the need to be aware of such forces.

PM Modi said that he had suffered their abuses for almost ten years when they ridiculed him saying "Mandir wahin banayenge par tarikh nahin batayenge".

"Now, Ram Mandir has been built. When we invited them to attend Pran Pratishtha ceremony, they turned down the invite as their vote bank would have been upset had they attended the programme," PM Modi said.

Taking a jibe at the Samajwadi Party, PM Modi said: "Not just Ram but these two princes have not spared Shyam either. I was ridiculed when I went to offer prayers at the underwater Dwarka. The Samajwadi prince calls himself a Yaduvanshi but he also joined in insulting me."PM Modi also urged the people to cast votes early in the morning, saying: "Every vote that is cast is for Modi."

Congress, SP playing divisive politics, says PM Modi in Agra



Agra, April 25 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday lashed out at the appeasement politics of the INDIA bloc, saying the Congress and the Samajwadi Party were playing divisive politics to consolidate their vote banks, while the BJP was pursuing politics of development for all.

Addressing a rally at the Kothi Meena Bazar ground here, PM Modi said the Congress manifesto bore the Muslim League stamp, whereas the BJP manifesto aimed at strengthening national unity.

"Some forces were opposed to our policy of self-reliance in the defence sector. We are working on the 'Saturation Model' which promotes sabka saath and sabka vikas. Our secularism does not discriminate. All sections are beneficiaries of our welfare schemes. Those who have been left out will be included in the next term," the PM said.

Criticising the Congress' stand on reservations for the Muslims, PM Modi said the fathers of the constitution did not want religion to be the basis of reservation. He said, "On several occasions, our courts stalled the Congress bid for granting reservations to minorities. The INDIA bloc wants to cut the OBC share and give to minorities. In Karnataka overnight they did this. They have the same game plan for UP to extend reservations from the backdoor. The Samajwadi Party too is playing a dangerous game. The two 'UP ke Ladke' have the same thinking, appeasement is the basis of their coming together."

PM Modi warned the people of the Congress party's policy on redistribution of wealth, that the heritage tax was nothing but loot and dacoity. "They want to deprive our women, mothers, and daughters of their 'mangalsutra' and 'stree dhan'. Your wealth and property will be snatched away from you," he warned, asking the audience if they were feeling angry. The response was loud and angry.

The Prime Minister hit out at the corrupt elements in the opposition. He said nobody would be spared. "The country's future depends on the youth and our youth is full of hopes. We are proud of our youth who are aspirational. Our government was doing all that was required to harness the youth's power...The Congress party was only promoting nepotism and family interests."

PM Modi said tourism in Agra was set to scale new heights as Kashi and Ayodhya were drawing large numbers of visitors who surely would visit Agra.

Wanted posters for missing Cong leader surface in Surat amid rumours of likely defection to BJP

Surat, April 25 (IANS) Wanted posters for Congress leader Nilesh Kumbhani have been put up across Surat, labeling him a "murderer of democracy" and a "traitor."

Amid rumours of Kumbhani's potential defection to the BJP, Congress supporters have staged protests outside his now-vacant residence, denouncing him as a "betrayer of the people."The posters, prominently displayed on the Hirabaug Bridge, were installed by former Corporator Dinesh Kachadiya. They urge the public to confront Kumbhani over his actions.This public display of dissent follows the controversial disqualification of Kumbhani's Lok Sabha candidacy by Surat Collector and Returning Officer, Sourabh Pardhi, amid claims of inconsistencies in his nomination documents.Kumbhani has since become unreachable, sparking concern among his party colleagues and supporters."He is neither at his home nor available on calls. He hasn't contacted party members since the election of Mukesh Dalal," reported a Congress party worker.

The situation escalated after Mukesh Dalal from the BJP was declared the winner unopposed in Surat, a result that came into place after all rival candidates, including those from major parties like the BSP, mysteriously withdrew their nominations.

Multi-cornered contest in Tripura East LS seat going to polls on Friday

Agartala, April 25 (IANS) A multi-cornered contest will be witnessed in the Tripura East Lok Sabha seat, which goes to the polls in the second phase of the 7-phase parliamentary elections on Friday.All arrangements have been made for Friday's polling for the Tripura East Lok Sabha seat where nine candidates are in the fray, a senior election official said.He said that around a 14-lakh electorate, including 6.93 lakh female voters, are eligible to cast their votes in 1664 polling stations in different districts.Of the 1664 polling stations, 13 would be model polling stations with all basic facilities for the voters and 12 would be all women managed polling stations.According to election officials, a large contingent of Central Armed Police Force and state forces, including the Tripura State Rifles have been deployed to prevent any untoward incident in the elections to the tribal reserved parliamentary constituency.Though there are nine candidates, including two women, contesting the Lok Sabha seat, the main electoral battle is expected to be fought between the ruling BJP and the opposition CPI-M.

PM Modi will free Telangana of corruption: HM Amit Shah

Hyderabad, April 25 (IANS) Union Home Minister, Amit Shah on Thursday assured the people of Telangana that if Narendra Modi becomes the Prime Minister for a third term, he will free the state of corruption.Addressing an election rally at Siddipet in Medak Lok Sabha constituency, he urged people to give 12 Lok Sabha seats to the BJP from the state.All 17 Lok Sabha seats in Telangana are going to polls on May 13."The people of Telangana are with PM Modi. People have decided that the lotus will bloom in every seat," he said.Alleging that the state government had made Telangana the ATM of Delhi in a very short time, he claimed that comprehensive development of the state would be possible if there was a BJP government at the Centre.HM Shah alleged that the Congress and the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) were hand in glove."Be it Kaleshwaram or land scam, the Congress has not probed the corruption done by the BRS government," he said.He also alleged that both Congress and BRS do not celebrate September 17 as Telangana Liberation Day as they are afraid of the MIM.

LS second phase polls in Raj: Two Union ministers, Lok Sabha Speaker, ex-CM Gehlot's son in fray

Jaipur, April 25 (IANS) Four Lok Sabha constituencies have become high profile seats in the second phase of elections scheduled on Friday as two union ministers, a Lok Sabha Speaker and former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's son are in the fray.The two union ministers trying their fate at the hustings are Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Kailash Choudhary, while Vaibhav Gehlot and Om Birla are also in the fray.While Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is contesting from Jodhpur, Kailash Choudhary is contesting from Barmer, Om Birla from Kota and Vaibhav Gehlot from Jalore Sirohi.In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat defeated Vaibhav Gehlot by over 2.74 lakh votes.Vaibhav was fielded by the Congress from Jodhpur then, however, this time he is a candidate from the Jalore-Sirohi seat.The BJP has fielded Lumbaram Choudhary from this seat. It had won by 2.61 lakh votes last time but it has cancelled the ticket of Devji Patel, who had won three-consecutive elections from Jalore Sirohi.

PM Modi urges people to not get upset with 'insulting language' used against him by Congress



New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Emphasising that "insulting remarks" are being made against him by top Congress leaders during the ongoing campaigning for Lok Sabha elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Thursday, urged people to not get disturbed by the language that is being used against him."The 'shehzada' of the Congress party is so worried these days that he enjoys insulting Modi every other day, saying one bad thing or the other. He keeps on saying things. I am seeing it on social media and TV that a lot of people are getting upset with what is being said against me and the language that is being used against the Prime Minister of the country," said PM Modi while addressing a public rally in Morena Lok Sabha constituency in Madhya Pradesh's Chambal region."I urge everyone who is getting disturbed by the language that is being used against me to not get angry and unhappy. You know it well that they are 'naamdar' and we are 'kamdar'. This has been the trend for decades. I am one of you who hails from a humble background and this is nothing new for us. They are so upset that a lot of things will be said in the times to come, so I request you not to waste time on the issue and move on," he added while addressing the 'Vijay Sankalp' rally.PM Modi mentioned that Congress is indulging in different games to get the chair anyhow by playing with the future of people."Nothing is greater than the country for BJP. But for Congress, it is family first," he said in Morena.

Eknath Shinde compares Uddhav Thackeray's change in political stance with 'chameleon changing colours'

Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar (Maharashtra), April 25 (IANS) Maharashtra Chief Minister and Shiv Sena chief Eknath Shinde on Thursday made a scathing attack on Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray's swift shifts in political stance, comparing it with the rapid colour changes of a chameleon.

Eknath Shinde made the remarks during a rally organised in support of MahaYuti candidate Sandipan Bhumre who is contesting from the Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar Lok Sabha constituency."Uddhav Thackeray was singing hymns in praise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi while he was in the alliance. But now, Maharashtra has witnessed a lizard changing colour swiftly, with stones being thrown...," he said.Eknath Shinde emphasised the necessity for a united front against such political flip-flopping."Maharashtra has observed a significant political metamorphosis, reminiscent of a lizard swiftly changing its hues," he said while denouncing the opportunistic nature of recent political maneuvers."I firmly believe that the upcoming election will usher in a victory for unity and progress," the Maharashtra CM said, underscoring the importance of the ongoing developments under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Google searches for inheritance tax and Sam Pitroda hit a new high amid raging row



New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) From religion-based reservation to wealth redistribution to inheritance tax, this election season is witnessing intense fireworks with political parties gunning for each other.

Interestingly, the public is also not behind in shaping the election narrative as they are showing keen interest on these issues even as the parties have accused each other of deviating from 'real issues'.

Google searches dated April 25, on topics like 'Inheritance Tax' and Sam Pitroda show that they are finding enough traction among the public.

The search engine found that Google searches for inheritance tax were at their highest in the last 20 years while Google searches for Congress leader Sam Pitroda were at their highest in the last five years.

Amid the heat of poll campaign, the electoral discourse got occupied by Sam Pitroda's advocacy of the inheritance tax in India and its vehement counter by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the poll rallies.

Indian Overseas Congress president Sam Pitroda sparked a major row when he termed the inheritance tax, as practiced in US, as an 'interesting idea' and called for the 'need for greater discussion' on it.

His remarks on inheritance tax came in response to PM Modi's charge that Congress party was planning to redistribute the nation's wealth to the minorities, if voted to power.

While the grand old party distanced itself from Pitroda's comments on inheritance tax terming it a "personal opinion", BJP leaders took turns to hit out at the Congress leader.

NCP-SP manifesto biggest fraud in the world, claims Maharashtra BJP chief



Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) The BJP claimed on Thursday that the manifesto ('Shapathnama') released by the NCP (SP) led by Sharad Pawar is the biggest fraud in the world.

In Sharad Pawar's life, a dagger is more important than the oath, said Maharashtra BJP chief Chandrashekhar Bawankule in his reaction. Due to this manifesto, the voters will not vote for the Pawar-led party, he added.

"In Maharashtra, an oath is more important than life," he said.

"Whenever Pawar was in power, he practiced vote politics and used power to make money and again used the same money to gain power. Maharashtra never benefited due to his politics," claimed Bawankule.

Bawankule said that Modi's Sankalp Patra (manifesto) is for the welfare of the country. On the other hand, in the INDIA Alliance manifesto the Congress talks about the abolition of Sanatan Dharma and also on redistribution of wealth among a particular community.

Bawankuke explained the importance of oath and Sharad Pawar's political journey. On April 26, 1645 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj took the oath of Hindvi Swarajya along with his Malvas and fulfilled his oath. In 1977, the Congress party split after the Emergency. Sharad Pawar left the Indira Gandhi led Congress and joined the Congress led by Brahmanand Reddy.

Eyeing hat-trick from Jodhpur, Jal Shakti minister Shekhawat blames Gehlot govt for keeping people thirsty



Jaipur, April 25 (IANS) Assuring that a 'double-engine government' will resolve the water crisis in the Jodhpur constituency, two-time MP Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has said that the BJP will connect every house in rural Rajasthan with a clean tap water connection in the next 18 months.

With water turning into a major election issue, Shekhawat, in an interview with IANS, blamed the previous Congress government for taps turning dry in Jodhpur.

As he takes on Congress' Karan Singh Uchiyarda - a Sachin Pilot loyalist - in a clash between two Rajputs, the Union Water Resources Minister promises that the 'Har Ghar Jal' scheme initiated by PM Narendra Modi will bring in massive reforms in rural drinking water supply.

Excerpts from the interview:

IANS. Water has turned into a major issue for the Jodhpur Lok Sabha elections with the opposition highlighting that there is a water crisis in the Jal Shakti minister's constituency. What do you have to say about these allegations?

Gajendra Shekhawat: Water is a big issue not only in Jodhpur but throughout Rajasthan. But, whose responsibility was it really to deliver water? Water is a state subject in the constitutional system. In 2019, the Honourable Prime Minister announced the Jal Jeevan Mission from the ramparts of the Red Fort. His resolve was that by 2024, we will provide drinking water to every household by providing tap connection.

When this scheme was started in the country, only 16% of the houses had tap connections. Despite the Covid pandemic, more than 75% of the houses have water connections today with 12 states having achieved the target of 100%. More than 90% work was completed in most of the states, but in Rajasthan, the scheme became a victim of Ashok Gehlot's politics.

Even after allocating Rs 27,000 crore, the previous Congress government did not work. Only Rs 6000 crores were spent in the last four years. In that too, a scam of Rs 1500 crore was revealed. If anyone has committed the sin of keeping the people of the state thirsty, it is the Ashok Gehlot government. Now, there is a double-engine government and our resolve is that in the next one-and-a-half years, we will connect every rural house in Rajasthan with a tap connection and provide clean water.

We have got Rs 4400 crore sanctioned for Jodhpur itself. The PM has promised that 'Har Ghar Jal' will be a reality soon, no matter what the cost is. In Jodhpur, the Rajiv Gandhi Lift Canal Project was delayed by the Gehlot government. Also, no efforts were made to clean the water of the Jojari River which has been flowing polluted water to the city. It was only after the BJP government was formed that the foundation stone of the restoration project of the Jojari River was laid in March this year.

HEALTH

Mumbai doctors perform total knee replacement on elderly US man weighing 193 kg



Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) A 72-year-old American man, weighing 193 kg, has successfully undergone a Total Knee Replacement (TKR) procedure, doctors said here on Thursday. "This is the heaviest-weighed patient for the surgery of total knee replacement in the world," claimed the surgeons from the Jaslok Hospital and Research Centre in Mumbai. TKR is a life-changing procedure for individuals suffering from debilitating knee pain, restoring mobility and enhancing their quality of life. However, overweight individuals often encounter barriers in accessing this treatment due to increased surgical risks and technical complexities."Every patient is different, and it's crucial to adapt our surgical techniques to address their specific circumstances. By customising our approach and collaborating closely with our colleagues, we were able to overcome the challenges posed by the patient's weight and achieve a successful outcome," said Dr. Rajesh Nawalkar, Senior Consultant, Orthopaedics.One of the primary challenges in TKR for overweight patients is anaesthesia risk and the heightened potential for embolism.Additionally, the use of a tourniquet -- a standard practice in TKR surgeries, poses technical difficulties due to the larger thigh circumference, increasing the risk of tissue damage and complications.To address these concerns, Dr. Nawalkar collaborated with instrument manufacturers to design specialised instruments tailored to the patient's unique anatomy, ensuring optimal surgical outcomes.Moreover, extensive preoperative evaluations and consultations were conducted to ensure patient readiness and informed consent.The patient, Richard Koszarek, underwent the surgery on January 7, 2024, with no complications reported during the procedure.However, the journey to recovery was equally crucial, with rehabilitation playing a pivotal role in achieving successful outcomes."Most of the doctors in India and overseas did not agree to perform surgery because of my overweight," said the patient, Richard, thanking the doctors for operating on him and enabling him to be "back on his feet".

Karan Vohra talks about how he bonded with child actor Nihan Jain



Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) Actor Karan Vohra, who is set to essay the role of an affluent businessman Aryaman in the television show 'Main Hoon Saath Tere' has opened up on his off-screen equation with child actor Nihan Jain. The actor, who is a father to twin boys in real-life, spoke about the activities that he likes to indulge in with Nihan in the sets to bring out the best in front of the camera.

Karan embraced fatherhood last year and is very excited for this new chapter in his life. While each actor has their own way of preparing for their roles, Karan feels it is his personal experience that is making it easier for him to shoot with a kid. Karan's kids stay away in Delhi, while he is working here in Mumbai. He finds himself very lucky to have little Nihan as his co-star. Talking about his journey of fatherhood, Karan said, "I was blessed with twin boys last year and I must say there is nothing more fulfilling than being a father. My kids and wife live in Delhi while I am shooting in Mumbai. I do miss them but I take time off in between shoots to visit them. When I signed up for 'Main Hoon Saath Tere', I knew I will be playing a father figure to a kid, and I was looking forward to it as I will get to play a father in reel life too." Speaking about his equation with his young co-actor, Karan said, "Nihan is very hard-working, and we immediately hit it off. I treat him as my child and imagine how I would be with my kids when they will be of his age and react accordingly in the scenes. Off-screen, I try to bond with him and play with him, which will eventually help us in our scenes with each other. He loves asking questions, and I love to answer and teach him. In a way I am getting prepared to become a better father to my kids when they will be of his age."

Geetanjali Mishra's summer look: Loose pants, breezy cotton shirts



Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) Geetanjali Mishra of the television show 'Happu Ki Ultan Paltan' has spoken about her sartorial choices for the summer. Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) Geetanjali Mishra of the television show 'Happu Ki Ultan Paltan' has spoken about her sartorial choices for the summer. The Mumbai summer is among the hottest and the most humid in the entire country. In such a situation, it becomes quite difficult for TV actors because of their demanding schedules, so Mishra keeps her wardrobe light both in terms of the texture of the fabric and the colours.Talking about her sartorial choices for the summer, the actress said, "Summer fashion, for me, is about embracing the essence of carefree living. I opt for loose pants and breezy cotton shirts that sway with every step, echoing the rhythm of summer itself." She continued: "Slip into a pair of trusty slippers, and suddenly, you're ready for impromptu adventures during the day or under the stars. But it's not just the clothes but also the accessories that complete the summer fashion story." On the subject of accessories, she added: "Dark shades of sunglasses add an air of intrigue to the brightest days, while a refreshing fragrance keeps the heat at bay, creating an aura that lingers in the summer air. And as the day melts into the evening, it's all about versatility. "Leggings effortlessly transition from casual daytime cool to night-time chic, offering both comfort and style as the evening breeze sweeps in, signalling the start of another summer soiree."

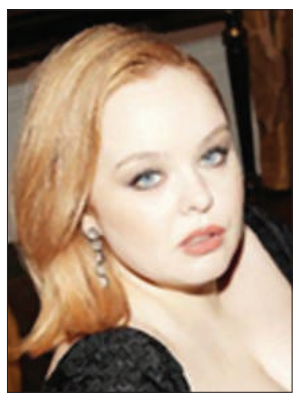
Prithviraj celebrates 13th wedding anniv: 'To dreaming bigger, taking on tougher battles

Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) Malayalam superstar Prithviraj Sukumaran, who has been receiving critical and commercial acclaim for his recent release 'Aadujeevitham', celebrated his 13th wedding anniversary on Thursday. The superstar took to his Instagram and shared a picture with his wife, Supriya Menon. In the photo, both of them can be seen wearing sunglasses and embracing each other while enjoying a boat ride. In the caption, the actor penned a note, saying, "Happy anniversary partner! From being friends to the parents of an incredible little girl, this has been one hell of a ride! To dreaming bigger and taking on tougher battles, can't wait to see where this journey takes us in the years to come." Supriya also shared a sweet post for her husband on social media. She wrote: "13 years with you! Wow! From being kids when we met to now being parents of a wonderful little girl! How far we have walked together on this road that's been rocky many times! And yet here we are! Happy 13th anniversary @therealprithvi. To many more years together where we push each other to achieve our dreams and live our best lives."



Bridgerton' star Nicola Coughlan warned aboutnot

Los Angeles, April 25 (IANS) Actress Nicola Coughlan, who is known for her role of Penelope Featherington in the hit streaming show 'Bridgerton', has revealed she faced repercussions for her vocal support to Palestine during the Israel-Hamas conflict. The actress shared that she was told her support for Palestine could affect the acting roles she's offered, reports 'Mirror.co.uk'.The Irish actress has been vocal about her support for Palestine amid the Israel-Hamas war on social media. She explained her support and willingness to be vocal - especially about the children of Palestine - comes from a "moral responsibility to give back" because of her privileged position. Nicola noted her desire to be proactive in support of causes she believes strongly in began before she landed her breakout role in Derry Girls. As per 'Mirror.co.uk', she recalled getting involved in several causes, including campaigning for marriage equality in Ireland and marching for abortion rights. "I've always cared about causes and social justice," she told Teen Vogue. "To me, it always becomes about supporting all innocent people, which sounds oversimplified, but I think you've got to look at situations and just think, 'Are we supporting innocent people no matter where they're from, who they are?' That's my drive". Nicola admitted she's been told that certain agents and studies may not want to work with her due to her vocal support for Palestine amid the ongoing conflict. Despite the warning, she continues to wear her Artists4Ceasefire pin. At the 2024 Oscars, Ramy Youssef, Billie Eilish, Finneas O'Connell and Ava DuVernay were among the celebrities also seen wearing the pin. She said, "You do get told, 'You



Anuj Sachdeva calls Karan V. Grover 'a human search engine



Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) Actor Anuj Sachdeva, who portrays Mann Singh in the television show 'Dhruv Tara - Samay Sadi Se Pare', has praised his co-actor, Karan V. Grover. Anuj shared that Karan is quite straightforward and possesses immense knowledge about many things. In the show, Anuj and Karan's characters have a different equation where Mann Singh (played by Anuj) is always looking for an opportunity to dethrone Surya Pratap (played by Karan). However, Anuj and Karan have a solid camaraderie off-screen, enjoying each other's company between shots. Besides filming, Karan and Anuj share a passion for discussing politics, acting, finance, spirituality, and fitness, finding common ground in their views. Speaking about Karan, Anuj said: "I've known Karan since before 'Dhruv Tara', and I must say, he's not someone you warm up to easily. He's very straightforward, which some might find off-putting at first. But as we got talking on the set, I realised there's more to him than meets the eye. Karan is a human search engine; he has answers for everything. We bond over our love for cinema and analysing acting skills. Karan's not just funny; he's also the go-to guy for quirky social media captions! Despite his serious demeanour on set, working with him is always a blast." For Karan, working alongside Anuj on 'Dhruv Tara' has been an absolute joy.The actor said: "We share so much off-screen, from discussing politics and the acting process to chatting about money and spirituality. Our similar sense of humour is a real bonus, it keeps the set alive with laughter. And our shared approach to fitness only adds to our camaraderie. It's wonderful to have such a strong bond with my co-actors; it makes the work not only enjoyable but also incredibly fulfilling."

Billie Eilish reveals her dramatic 2021 blonde hair transformation caused an identity crisis

Los Angeles, April 25 (IANS) Grammy Award-winner Billie Eilish revealed that her dramatic blonde hair transformation sparked an identity crisis, leaving her feeling like she had "no idea" who she was. In an interview with Rolling Stone, she said: "And then I dyed my hair blonde, and I immediately was like, 'Oh, I have no idea who I am'."The glamorous look aligned with the softer feel of her sophomore album, 'Happier Than Ever', but ultimately, it felt like too much of a departure from Eilish's true self, reports people.com."In a weird way, that was a little like being in a tornado cellar, reading a cute little story," Eilish's brother and collaborator, Finneas O'Connell, said in the profile."It was a coping mechanism for an album." Eilish showcased her new icy blonde hair in a March 2021 Instagram video.She made her Met Gala debut six months later in a peach tulle Oscar de la Renta corset ball gown, with her blonde hair styled into a glamorous bob.



Prosenjit Chatterjee: Even after 349 movies I've done, each new release feels like my

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Bengali superstar Prosenjit Chatterjee has dedicated over three decades to the world of acting, yet he still feels the pressure to deliver. Even after working in over 300 movies, the actor admits to feeling jittery with the release of a new film, as it feels like his first. Prosenjit, who is lovingly called Bumba Da by his fans, began his journey as a child actor with Hrishikesh Mukherjee's 'Chotto Jigyasa'. His breakthrough came in 1987 with Sujit Guha's 'Amar Sangi', after which the spotlight never left him. Despite the challenges he has faced in cinema, he still loves every bit of it. When asked about feeling pressure to deliver a hit film, considering his past successes, Prosenjit told IANS: "Yes. It is always pressure to do any kind of film, whether it is a hit or a critically acclaimed one. But for any kind of film, when it gets released, that's one pressure." "I always believe any film getting released, even after the 348-349 films that I have done, it is like my first film getting released." "So, I am always under pressure. People like us, who have been in the cinema industry for so long, cannot say that we are very particular... You can't say that, but I try to do the right things as much as possible," added the actor. Prosenjit asserted that while the pressure exists, "but to find out the right story or director, script, what I know my audiences are going to love it and it should somewhere be mentioned by the critics or the people who understand cinema… I try to cater to both." He shared: "So, I spent 18 hours a day just searching, not working, just finding out what I should do and what I shouldn't do." Is he happy with his run in cinema, or would he do it any other way? "The journey unfolds as it happens. Nobody can calculate in any profession," said the actor, who has worked in 'Chokher Bali', 'Shob Charitro Kalponik', 'Autograph', 'Moner Manush', and 'Jaatishwar', among many others. He said: "First of all, what I believe is that you have to start loving the profession… I always believed, when I was a total hardcore, mainstream actor, which I am till today, you have to start loving the work you are doing and you have to start understanding the audience." The 61-year-old star, who has produced TV shows such as 'Gaaner Oparey', among others, has seen the audience evolve. "I have witnessed changes in the audience. In many families, the mother, daughter, and granddaughter are my fans. When they watched my films, the language of cinema and expression were different, and now for the younger generation, cinema has changed," he said. The journey has been tough, but only in terms of catering to what his fans want to watch.



Hackers attacked Indian firms on average 2,444 times per week in last 6 months: Report

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Hackers have attacked Indian organisations on average 2,444 times per week in the last six months, compared to 1,151 attacks per organisation globally, a new report revealed on Thursday.

According to the cyber security platform provider Check Point Software, at present, over 90 per cent of attacks on companies originate from malicious emails.

In the last 30 days, 62 per cent of malicious files were distributed via email.It has been shown that one in 379 emails contains this type of file, with the PDF format being the most common, accounting for 59 per cent of the total.

"Email is currently one of the most effective tools for companies and although the advantages it offers are numerous, nevertheless, it is necessary to always stay alert against cyber-attack attempts leveraging emails, from ransomware attacks to cunning phishing schemes and scams," said Sundar Balasubramanian, India and SAARC MD at Check Point Software.EXE was found to be the top malicious file type by email (57 per cent). According to a Statista forecast, the global population sent 330 billion emails in 2022, and the forecast is expected to grow up to 17.8 per cent by 2026.

L&T Technology Services logs Rs 1,304 crore in net profit in FY24

Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) L&T Technology Services Ltd on Thursday reported a net profit of Rs 1,304 crore in FY24, an 8 per cent growth, with revenue of Rs 9,647 crore which is a 9 per cent growth (year-on-year).The company will also consolidate its existing five segments into three: mobility, sustainability and hi-tech.For the quarter ended March 31, the engineering services company registered revenue of Rs 2,537 crore, a growth of 7 per cent (year-on-year), with a net profit of Rs 340 crore.

"With a strong 5.1 per cent sequential growth in Q4, our revenue run-rate has now crossed the $1.2 billion run-rate, a year after we moved past the $1 billion mark," said Amit Chadha, CEO and Managing Director, L&T Technology Services.

Nifty closes above 22,550, Sensex up 487 pts on another day of gains

Mumbai, April 25 (IANS) The Nifty rose for the fifth consecutive session even as the volatility index inched up on Thursday, while the Sensex also made gains of over 480 points.At close on Thursday, Nifty was up 167.95 points, or 0.75 per cent, at 22,570.35, while the Sensex was at 74,339.44, up 486.50 points, or 0.66 per cent.Bulls kept their grip on Dalal Street on F&O expiry day, continuing the rise for the fifth consecutive session.The India VIX rose by 4.42 per cent to 10.73 on expectations of volatility in the short term, said Neeraj Sharma, AVP Technical and Derivatives Research, Asit C. Mehta Investment Intermediates.The volatility increased as traders rolled over holdings in the F&O segment from the April to May series.The Nifty will likely continue its upward trend and may attempt to break its all-time high of 22,776. The Nifty smallcap index also registered a record high, while the midcap index is still 1 per cent away from its previous high, Sharma said.Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said the market breadth was strong on Thursday, with oil prices correcting due to easing conflict in the Middle East and weakening US demand.

Google opens applications for this year's Startups Accelerator programme in India

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Google on Thursday said that it has opened applications for this year's 'Startups Accelerator: AI First' programme in India.

The programme will provide three months of equity-free support to startups solving problems across varied industries and using cases using artificial intelligence (AI).

"The Google for Startups Accelerator: AI First is one of the several accelerator programmes we offer throughout the year across the world, bringing the best of Google to early-stage startups using AI, machine learning (ML) and Cloud technology to tackle some of the most urgent global challenges," the tech giant said in a blogpost.

Credit card data of 17K ICICI Bank users exposed, bank blocks cards, assures compensation

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) After credit card data of at least 17,000 new ICICI Bank customers was exposed and reached "wrong users", the bank said on Thursday that it has blocked these cards and is issuing new ones to the customers.



The issue surfaced after some ICICI Bank customers voiced concerns on social media about the bank's iMobile Pay app exposing credit card details, including their full number and card verification value (CVV).

On the finance-related forum Technofino, several users reported seeing sensitive data such as the full card number, expiry date, and CVV of unknown customers' credit cards of some users suddenly on their iMobile Pay app.

In a statement to IANS, the ICICI Bank spokesperson said that it came to their notice that "about 17,000 new credit cards which were issued in the past few days were erroneously mapped in our digital channels to wrong users"."No instance of misuse of a card from this set has been reported to us. However, we assure that the Bank will appropriately compensate a customer in case of any financial loss," the spokesperson added.

According to the bank, the number of impacted credit cards constituted "about 0.1 per cent of the bank's credit card portfolio".

"As an immediate measure, we have blocked these cards and are issuing new ones to the customers. We regret the inconvenience caused," said the ICICI Bank spokesperson.

One of the users wrote on Technofino: "I have access to someone else's Amazon Pay CC due to a security glitch on the iMobile app. Although OTP restricts domestic transactions, I can do international transactions using the details from the iMobile app."The iMobile Pay app, launched in 2008, has more than 28 million users.

NDA rule has shown superior numbers on GDP growth, inflation, unemployment compared to UPA

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) The NDA rule of the last 10 years has shown superior numbers on GDP growth, inflation, CAD (Current Account Deficits), unemployment and FDI ex of pandemic year compared to the UPA regime, broking firm Prabhudas Lilladher said.



Under the NDA regime, tax collection has been robust, government CapEx has seen multifold increase which has kept the economy growing at 7 per cent despite global slowdown.

Rural development, food subsidy, domestic electricity connections, LPG have shown an upward trajectory under both regimes, the report said.

The NDA's focus on infrastructure is visible as CapEx is 4 times during NDA II than UPA II, the length of the highway has more than doubled and the number of airports have increased from 74 to 146.

The NDA rule of the last 10 years has shown higher GDP growth, lower inflation, lower unemployment rate, lower CAD and higher FDI. Tax collection has picked up significantly during NDA due to benign rates and better compliance. Government-led CapEx has led to sustained growth amidst global headwinds.

NDA has undertaken several important reforms including FDI in insurance, Air India privatisation, FDI in defence, reduction in corporate tax and retrospective taxation changes, the brokerage said.

Nifty is expected to scale up to 25,810 levels by December 2024. The upward mobility in Nifty is attributed to the continuation of the NDA government and La Nina-led normal monsoons which is expected to provide stability in policies and boost demand economic growth, the brokerage said.

Zinmat training youth in online digital marketing

Patna, April 25: The demand for digital marketing is increasing in today's time, that is why along with the youth, adult industrialists, working people and housewives are also showing interest in it. Along with studies, youth are also focusing on digital marketing. Our aim is to realize the dreams of youth as well as adult industrialists, working people, housewives - all of them by training them. These things were said by Manish Rawat, founder of Jinmat, during the digital awareness program organized on the second anniversary of the organization. He further said that Jinmat Private Limited has today become the largest online digital marketing platform of Bihar, in which more than 40 thousand youth from all over India are realizing their dreams by learning the skills of marketing.



Anurag Dangi, 'Co-Founder' of Zinmat, said that till now more than 200 people have been given internships and today, on the auspicious occasion of the second anniversary of Zinmat, more than 60 students were given internships.

On today's auspicious occasion, Zinmat organized a four-hour free workshop in which people from all over India participated and, in this workshop, they learned the basics of digital marketing, its benefits and all the information related to it.

Besides this, information about email marketing, social media marketing and search engine marketing was also given. In this four-hour workshop, they were given special information about digital marketing and were also made aware of it.

Reliance Jewels unveils Vindhya Collectionmarking Akshaya Tritiya Celebrations

Jamshedpur : Reliance Jewels, India's leading jewellery brand, continues its tradition of celebrating festivals with unique and exquisite collections, by introducing the Vindhya collectionon Akshaya Tritiya this year. Ninth in its iconic 'Jewels of India' collection series, Vindhya is inspired by the rich artistic traditions of Madhya Pradesh.Fashion icon and Bollywood divaDisha Patani unveiled the exclusive festive collection ata special event at the Reliance Jewels' store in Varanasi.Akshaya Tritiya, anauspiciousfestival signifying prosperity and abundancein the Hindu culture, is considered to be the perfect occasion for buying jewellery.Celebrating theoccasion, the Reliance Jewels Vindhya Collection offers a stunning array of jewellery pieces that pay tributeto the rich cultural heritage and architectural splendour of Madhya Pradesh.Each piece is intricately crafted with designs inspired by famous monuments of Madhya Pradesh such as the Gwalior Fort, the Stupa of Sanchi, the Mahakaleshwar Temple of Ujjain, and the Mitaoli and Bateshwar Temples.Commenting on the launch, Mr. Sunil Nayak, CEO, Reliance Jewels, said,"The launch of the Vindhya Collection this Akshaya Tritiya marks our commitment to celebrating India's diverse cultural heritage. Inspired by the rich traditions of Madhya Pradesh, this collection is the ninth in our 'Jewels of India' series and stands as our testament to showcasing Indian art and craftsmanship."

SJVN inaugurates India's first multipurpose Green Hydrogen pilot project

New Delhi, April 25 (IANS) Power major SJVN Ltd has achieved a significant milestone with the inauguration of India's first multipurpose Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at its 1,500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) in Himachal Pradesh's Jhakri, the Ministry of Power said on Thursday.The Green Hydrogen produced from the combined heat and power project will be utilised for the High Velocity Oxygen Fuel (HVOF) coating facility of NJHPS to meet its combustion fuel requirements. In addition, it will also generate electricity through its fuel cell of 25 kW capacity.

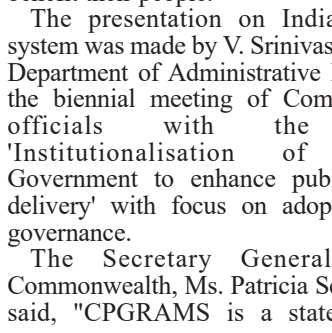
The state-of-the-art Green Hydrogen pilot project is set to produce 14 kg of Green Hydrogen daily in eight hours of operation.The hydrogen produced will be stored at a pressure of 30 bars in six storage tanks, with a total storage capacity of 12 m3. The project will produce hydrogen using an alkaline electrolyser of 20 Nm3/hour capacity, which would be powered by renewable energy supplied from the 1.31 MW solar power plant of SJVN in Wadhal, Shimla.Besides generating power, the Green Hydrogen will also be used for high-velocity oxygen fuel coating of turbine underwater parts.SJVN Chairperson and Managing Director Geeta Kapur, who inaugurated the project on Wednesday, said, "The pilot project is poised to accelerate the development of Green Hydrogen production infrastructure in the power sector in accordance with the Government of India's Green Hydrogen Mission."



FOREIGN

Ukraine suspends passport service for military-aged men abroad

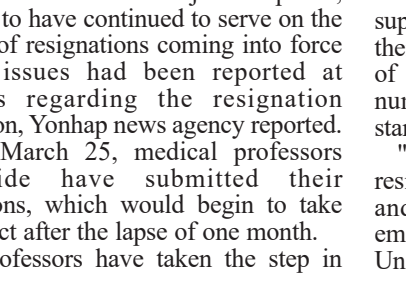
Kyiv, April 25 (IANS) The Ukrainian government has suspended issuing and renewing passports for overseas military-aged men, Ukrayinska Pravda, a Ukrainian online newspaper, reported. According to a government decree, male Ukrainians aged 18 to 60, who are eligible for military service, now can receive Ukrainian passports only inside Ukraine, Xinhua news agency reported.The new rules, which are valid till May 18, do not apply to Ukrainian men who are permitted to cross the Ukrainian border during martial law.Previously, Ukrainian men were allowed to receive ID documents in Ukrainian embassies and from the state-owned passport service Document of the State Migration Service.Earlier this month, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky signed a law to tighten military mobilisation rules, which introduces some penalties for evaders, including restrictions on consular services.



Differences on trade at focus as US secretary of state visits China

Beijing, April 25 (IANS/DPA) US Secretary of State Antony Blinken addressed points of difference with China regarding unfair trading practices in talks on Thursday with Shanghai Party Secretary Chen Jining, US press reports said.

Blinken pressed, "Chinese officials on a wide range of issues, including its support for Russia, cheap Chinese exports that US officials say threaten American jobs, and Chinese ships' aggressive manoeuvres in the South China Sea," the New York Times reported, citing a senior State Department official.The Chinese Foreign Ministry emphasised that China had always implemented economic and trade cooperation in accordance with market rules. Beijing hoped that the US would respect the principle of fair competition, Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said in Beijing on Thursday.



"We have an obligation for our people and, indeed, an obligation for the world to manage the relationship between our two countries responsibly," Blinken told Chen as reporters looked on. "That is the obligation that we have and one that we take very seriously."

The direction from US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping was "to deal directly with our differences as we also seek to build cooperation," Blinken said, referring to the meeting between the two leaders in San Francisco in November.Chen responded that since diplomatic ties were launched 45 years ago, the relationship had not always been smooth but also had progressed."The constructive interactions and the stable relation between China and the US have not only advanced our cooperation and exchange in all different aspects, and also help address global challenges, and helps promote world peace and development," he said, according to the US State Department.

Russian oil production facility in Siberia catches fire

Moscow, April 25 (IANS) A fire has broken out at an oil production facility in Russia's central Siberian oblast of Omsk, regional Governor Vitaliy Khotsenko said on Thursday.Three 200-litre containers of petroleum products are on fire, and two fire-fighting trains have been involved in extinguishing the blaze, which is estimated as a medium, the Ministry of Emergency Situations said in a statement, Xinhua news agency reported.The Ministry said that fire has consumed an area of 1,000 square meters.

The press service of the West Siberian Transport Prosecutor's Office reported that the fire occurred around 12 p.m. local time (0600 GMT).

North Korea touts ties with Russia on Kim-Putin summit anniversary

Seoul, April 25 (IANS) North Korea on Thursday reaffirmed its commitment to further strengthening ties with Russia on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the first-ever summit between North Korean leader Kim Jong-un and Russian President Vladimir Putin.Kim and Putin held their first summit in the far eastern Russian city of Vladivostok on April 25, 2019, and also met at Russia's Vostochny spaceport in September last year, Yonhap news agency reported."It is the consistent stand of the DPRK government to attach utmost importance to the DPRK-Russia relations and invariably develop the tradition of deep-rooted friendship," North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Im Chon-il said in an English-language statement uploaded on the ministry's website.DPRK stands for the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.The official said the two nations have strengthened their cooperation and extended full support to each other on the "common front to smash the military threats and provocations, and high-handed and arbitrary practices of the imperialists."

Commonwealth Secretariat recognises India's Public Redress System as global best practice

London, April 25 (IANS) The Commonwealth Secretariat has recognised India's Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) as a global best practice that can be adopted by other countries to benefit their people.

The presentation on India's redress system was made by V. Srinivas, Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms at the biennial meeting of Commonwealth officials with the theme: 'Institutionalisation of SMART Government to enhance public service delivery' with focus on adopting AI in governance.

The Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Ms. Patricia Scotland KC said, "CPGRAMS is a state-of-the-art grievance redressal system and a best practice of SMART government. The Commonwealth's remaining 1.2 billion citizens can benefit from the adoption of the technology platform in the same way India's 1.4 billion citizens have benefited."

The Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System (CVRS) and identity management systems of Namibia and Human Resource Management and E-Citizen models of Kenya were also received commendation as future-ready governance best practices from across the Commonwealth.

The forum brought together Commonwealth Heads of Public Service, Secretaries to Cabinet, Senior Public Officials, industry champions, and eminent scholars.

Fears grow over medical professors' mass resignations in South Korea

Seoul, April 25 (IANS) Resignations by medical professors in South Korea in protest against the government's medical school quota hike plan were supposed to take effect from Thursday, sparking concerns over its impact on the medical system already reeling from the monthslong walkout by trainee doctors.

Officials said most professors, who work as senior doctors at major hospitals, appeared to have continued to serve on the first day of resignations coming into force and no issues had been reported at hospitals regarding the resignation submission, Yonhap news agency reported.

Since March 25, medical professors nationwide have submitted their resignations, which would begin to take legal effect after the lapse of one month.

The professors have taken the step in support of junior doctors who have left their worksites since February 20 in protest of the government's plan to boost the number of medical students by 2,000 starting next year.



"Each professor designated their own resignation date given their work schedules and other things," an official of the emergency committee of Seoul National University's medical school said.

Russia warns NATO nuclear facilities in Poland, says, 'could become military target'

Moscow, April 25 (IANS) Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov on Thursday warned that NATO nuclear facilities, if permanently located on the Polish territory, will become a military target for Russia."The expansion of the practice of joint NATO nuclear missions - regardless of who becomes that country or those countries that can join those already participating in this practice - is of a purely destabilising nature. And in fact, threatening," Ryabkov said, Xinhua news agency reported.

In an interview with Russia's TASS news agency, he said that the approach of joint nuclear missions by NATO countries near Russian borders exacerbates security threats."I'm not even talking about permanent deployment, which is also being hotly discussed by hotheads in Warsaw.

Clash at Baradwari Veg Market, labor leader's bodyguard shot at, businessman arrested



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: A violent clash between two groups erupted late last night at the Baradwari vegetable market ground in Sakchi, resulting in injuries to labor leader Rakeshwar Pandey's bodyguard, Mukesh Tiwari and businessman Manoj Jaiswal. The altercation escalated into a physical confrontation, with supporters from both sides joining the fray. During the clash, Manoj Jaiswal allegedly opened fire, injuring Mukesh Tiwari in the thigh and stomach. Tiwari was rushed to Tata Main Hospital (TMH) and is currently undergoing treatment in the Critical Care Unit (CCU). Meanwhile, police from Sakchi and Sidhgora arrived at the scene and apprehended Manoj Jaiswal, recovering a licensed revolver from his possession. Jaiswal was also taken to TMH for medical treatment and has since been detained by the police. Jamshedpur City SP MukeshLunayat stated that investigations were going on into the incident, and an inquiry would be conducted to determine the reasons behind the clash. (w/gsd)

Retired Army doctor arrested from TMH

Jamshedpur, April 25: Retired Colonel Dr. Somen Kar, employed at Tata Main Hospital (TMH) in Jamshedpur, found himself in legal trouble as he was arrested in connection with an embezzlement case in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The arrest unfolded dramatically as an army battalion team from Ranchi conducted a raid at TMH, apprehending Dr. Kar from his workplace. Subsequently, he was escorted to the Bistupur police station for necessary legal procedures before being taken to Ranchi. The embezzlement case, dating back to Lucknow, pertained to allegations concerning funds mismanagement within the army. Dr. Kar's arrest was prompted by this lingering legal matter from his tenure in the military. (w/nkm)

Passenger disembarked from Bengal train, death reported at MGMCH



Jamshedpur, April 25: Sameer Ranjan, a 55-year-old resident of Kadamtalla Basti, Howrah, Kolkata, tragically passed away during treatment at MGM Hospital on Wednesday evening. The circumstances leading to his death unfolded amidst confusion and concern. Initially, railway police had disembarked Sameer Ranjan from the Howrah Mumbai Geetanjali Express suspecting him to be a victim of drug abuse. However, following a call from his family members, it was revealed that Sameer Ranjan had been battling deteriorating health for several days. Railway Police recovered a keypad mobile, Rs 900 in cash, and a sleeper class waiting ticket from the deceased, dispelling any suspicions of drug abuse. Family members informed that Sameer Ranjan was en route to Nagpur for work. According to the Railway Police, personnel on coach duty were alerted to an unconscious passenger in the sleeper coach. Subsequently, Sameer Ranjan was disembarked at Tatanagar station and provided with medical attention, where unfortunately, he succumbed to his condition. (w/nkm)

EVMs sorted Assembly-wise, team inspects strong room

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: In anticipation of the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in 2024, the process of physically segregating Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) constituency-wise has commenced, aiming to ensure a fair and transparent electoral process. District Election Officer Ananya Mittal conducted an inspection at the EVM warehouse located in Kitadih, overseeing the ongoing task. Representatives from various political parties were also present during the inspection. From April 24 to April 28, all EVMs will be meticulously separated and stored in the respective strong rooms allocated to the six assembly constituencies within the district. Mittal emphasized the importance of adhering to Election Commission guidelines, directing the entire process to be recorded on video for accountability and transparency. The subsequent step in the electoral process involves the second randomization scheduled for May 10, during which booth-wise allocation of EVMs will be carried out in the presence



of political party representatives. Marking key dates in the electoral calendar, the notification for Lok Sabha elections in the district is set to be issued on April 29. Candidates will have until May 09 to withdraw their nominations, with polling day scheduled for May 25. Counting of votes is slated for June 04, with Cooperative College, Jamshedpur designated as the central hub for EVMs and counting activities across all six assembly constituencies. The inspection witnessed the presence of several high-ranking officials including Deputy Development Commissioner Manish Kumar, ADM (SOR) Mahendra Kumar, Director NEP Ajay Sao, District Public Relations Officer Panchanan Oraon, SDO Ghatsila Sachchidanand Mahato, SDO Dhalbhum Parul Singh, and other Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs), underscoring the collective commitment to conducting free and fair elections.

Had not even dreamt of getting MP ticket: Sameer

JMM candidate admits mentorship of Bidyut



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Almost 41 days after the announcement of Lok Sabha elections, JMM has given party ticket to Baharagora MLA Sameer Mohanty from Jamshedpur Lok Sabha seat. Sameer Mahanti said that he had never imagined even in his dreams that the party would make him a candidate for the Lok Sabha elections and did not even have the courage to ask for a Lok Sabha ticket from the party. He admitted that he has learnt politics from BJP's candidate and two term Jamshedpur MP Bidyut Baran Mahato. Incidentally, Sameer Mohanty won the 2019 assembly elections from Baharagora assembly by defeating BJP candidate (then JMM MLA) Kunal Shadangi by 60565 votes. Sameer Mohanty received his primary school education from his native village Bend in Chakulia. He did his matriculation from Manohar Lal Government High School and later did his graduation in commerce from Ghatshila College. Sameer Mohanty started his political journey from JMM. As the president of Chakulia block of JMM, Sameer Mohanty's image was created as an agitating leader. They carried out many agitations and had many clashes with government office officials. After this, he joined AJSU party in 2005 under the leadership of AJSU supremo Sudesh Mahato. When he became disillusioned with AJSU, he contested elections from Baharagora in 2014 on JVM ticket. After the defeat in the elections, he joined BJP. After 14 years, Sameer Mohanty again returned to JMM and got the assembly ticket and won. Sameer Mohanty said that he got immense support from party Supremo Shibu Soren and former Chief Minister Hemant Soren in getting the ticket. In response to a question, Sameer Mohanty said that he has learned a lot of politics from Bidyut Mahato. "Even in Mahabharata, Dronacharya had taught Arjun the art of warfare, but when both of them came face to face in the war, everyone saw the fate. Elections are a battlefield, and I will fight with full force. The decorum will be fully maintained from my side," said Mohanty. Bidyut Varan Mahato had also contested the 2014 Lok Sabha elections as the MLA of Baharagora. (W/rg)

Bike fire sparks chaos in Sakchi



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Panic ensued near Sakchi Bazaar Jalebi Line in the Sakchi police station area of Jamshedpur when a parked Pulsar bike unexpectedly caught fire. Witnesses reported that two youths had arrived at the market riding the bike when smoke began emanating from it. Sensing danger, the bikers hastily abandoned the vehicle, which subsequently burst into flames. The incident caused turmoil in the vicinity, given the densely populated area. Quick-thinking shopkeepers rushed to the scene with fire extinguishers, managing to contain the blaze before it could escalate further. Fortunately, no injuries were reported, and the fire was swiftly brought under control. The bike's owner revealed that the vehicle had undergone servicing just two months prior to the incident, adding to the mystery surrounding the sudden fire. Firefighters arrived at the scene promptly to assist in extinguishing the flames and ensure the safety of the surrounding area. (w/nkm)

Advocates demand restoration of park in court premises

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Tensions rose at the Jamshedpur Court premises as advocates voiced their demand for the restoration of a recently demolished park that had been constructed with MLA funds. Reportedly, the park was removed to make way for e-court facility. Advocates expressed their discontent as a container was installed overnight at the site designated for the court's server room,



aggravating their sentiments. Senior advocate Prakash Jha emphasized the importance of restoring the park, originally built at a cost of approximately Rs 15 lakh, and criticized the lack of action despite assurances by the District Judge. The advocates highlighted the inadequate facilities available for the general public within the court premises, including malfunctioning lifts and a lack of bathrooms and drinking water facilities. Their demands included the removal of the e-court container and the restoration of the park to its previous state. The advocates' united stance denoted the pressing need for addressing infrastructure concerns within the court premises, ensuring accessibility and convenience for all stakeholders. (w/gsd)

Illegal house demolished amid protests near MGM roundabout

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: Tensions flared near the MGM roundabout as Tata Steel officials carried out the demolition of an illegally constructed house on Thursday. Despite protests from the resident, Bablu Prasad Dangi, the demolition proceeded under the supervision of Tata Steel officials and the police administration.

The house, which stood as an encroachment, was dismantled amidst objections raised by Bablu Prasad Dangi. He claims to have received no prior notice from the court regarding the demolition, nor was he afforded time to consider or comprehend the situation. The swift action by Tata Steel officials signals their commitment to address illegal encroachments and uphold property regulations in the area. Despite the protests, the authorities remained steadfast in their decision to remove the encroachment and restore order near the MGM roundabout. (w/nkm)

R Adhiraj, Naira Alam crowned Mr and Ms Fresher at Loyola School

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 25: The class 11 students were warmly welcomed into the Loyola School with a grand Freshers' party organised by the class 12 students at Fasy Auditorium on April 25. Fr Rector, Fr Principal, Fr Treasurer and Administrator, the Vice Principal and Plus Two Coordinator were present at the function which began with the lighting of the lamp, followed by a melodious welcome song and a dazzling dance performance. Then followed, a short but meaningful enactment of a typical issue faced by every eleventher. The ramp walk was the most awaited event as the handsome boys and gorgeous girls literally set the stage on fire. An age old yet evergreen game Queen of Sheba, had students tripping over each other to please King Solomon and Queen Sheba. Amidst anticipation, the crowning moment arrived with the announcement of Mr and Ms Fresher, eliciting thunderous applause as R Adhiraj and Naira Alam were crowned with the prestigious titles. FrVinodFernandes, Principal, in his address, welcomed the eleventhers and motivated them to make the best use of their stay at Loyola. The day was all about comradeship and solidarity to be established between 12thers and newcomers.

Protests at KPS Burmamines as 80 students fail re-test

Jamshedpur, April 25: Kerala Public School (KPS) witnessed protests on Wednesday as 80 students failed in the re-test for classes 9 and 11, sparking allegations of deliberate failure by the school administration. Parents and students expressed frustration, claiming that despite minimal differences in marks from the previous exams, they were failed again.

Under the leadership of Hemant Pathak from the All Jharkhand Student Union and Youth Committee, parents attempted to meet the school Principal to address their concerns. However, after waiting for hours without response, they staged a protest at the school's main gate. The protesters questioned the necessity of conducting the re-test if students were destined to fail again, especially since fees were charged for both the main examination and re-test. Pathak accused the school of prioritizing financial gain over the students' academic progress, suggesting that failing students could coerce parents into paying additional fees for their children's future. (w/gsd)

Living person declared dead on paper in MGMCH



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: In an alarming case, a resident of Tamolia near Jamshedpur, Fuchu Hembram, has been declared dead on paper, despite being very much alive. The confusion arose after the unfortunate demise of Fuchu's brother-in-law, Haldhar Majhi. According to Fuchu, he has been tirelessly visiting MGM Hospital to rectify this administrative error and prove his existence. The ordeal began when Fuchu went to MGM Hospital to obtain a death certificate for his late brother-in-law, who passed away on April 1 during treatment at the hospital. To his astonishment, Fuchu discovered that his own name had been erroneously listed as deceased in the hospital records. Since then, he has been persistently visiting the hospital in an effort to correct this glaring mistake. Frustrated by the lack of resolution, Fuchu sought assistance from BJP leader Vimal Baitha. Consequently, efforts are now underway to rectify the situation, with MGM management reportedly requesting an affidavit from Fuchu to correct the error. Fuchu has submitted an application to the MGM Hospital Superintendent, affirming his identity and pleading for the necessary correction to be made. (w/nkm)

CII Yi's 'Ambassadors for Change' training session on April 27

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 25: For the first time in Jamshedpur, CII Young Indians (Yi) is organising a groundbreaking training session - Ambassadors for Change, aimed at empowering individuals, teachers, and professionals to effectively detect and respond to instances of child abuse. The primary objective of this session is to equip key stakeholders, particularly teachers, with the necessary knowledge and skills to address the issue of child sexual abuse effectively. Through this training, educators will be better prepared to deliver age-appropriate information to students and provide crucial support to those who may have faced unsafe situations. Rashmi Kauntia, Chair Masoom, Yi Jamshedpur informed that the training will be facilitated by 'ARPAN' a Mumbai-based non-profit recognized globally for its work in eliminating Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) in India. With a team of over 140 dedicated professionals, it is India's largest non-profit providing CSA Prevention and Intervention services for



both children and adults. Arpan has received numerous national and international awards for its exemplary work. The 'Ambassadors for Change' training session is scheduled for April 27th, 2024 (Saturday), starting at 9:00 AM. The session will run for 8 hours (with lunch break) and will be held at the CFE Auditorium. Mode of communication will be a mix of English and Hindi. Certificates will be awarded to all participants who attend the entire training session. The training will cultivate a cadre of trained individuals in every organization and institution who can effectively address child sexual abuse. It will empower participants to lead Personal Safety Education (PSE) programs for children and conduct adult awareness sessions; and will provide participants with fundamental knowledge, attitude, and skills to prevent and respond effectively to child sexual abuse (CSA). Participating in this training, teachers will not only gain valuable insights but also contribute to creating a safer learning environment for the children. Interested candidates can contact Yi on 9167849394 (Debasmita Guha) or 9570004343 (Rashmi Kauntia) for any further details regarding the training session.