

Ambedkar row: Cong moves adjournment motion against Shah

Congress described Shah's remarks as "a deep-seated disdain for the principles of social justice that Dr. Ambedkar fought."

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) Congress MP Manickam Tagore on Friday submitted an Adjournment Motion notice in the Lok Sabha, seeking an urgent discussion on Union Home Minister Amit Shah's recent remarks during his Constitution Day speech in the Rajya Sabha. Tagore demanded an apology and resignation from HM Shah, alleging that his comments undermined the principles of social justice and equality championed by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Tagore described Shah's remarks as "unacceptable" and reflective of "a deep-seated dis-

dain for the principles of social justice and equality that Dr. Ambedkar fought for throughout his life." He also urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take immediate action and remove HM Shah from his position, arguing that the remarks had brought "disrepute to the office of the Home Minister." "I demand that Amit Shah apologise unconditionally for his remarks and resign from his position as Union Home Minister. His continued presence in the Cabinet is an affront to the dignity of the Constitution and the people of India," Tagore wrote in his



notice. The Congress leader also called for the House to condemn Shah's comments "in the strongest possible terms." Tagore had earlier submitted a similar Adjournment Motion notice on Thursday, stressing

that the remarks were disrespectful to Dr Ambedkar and offensive to millions of Indians, particularly the Dalit community. He described the matter as one of "urgent public importance." He alleged that Shah's statements during his Constitution Day address insulted Dr Ambedkar, the principal architect of India's Constitution, and tarnished the ideals of justice, equality, and social harmony enshrined in the document. "These remarks not only demean Dr Ambedkar's legacy but also cause deep hurt to the Dalit community and millions of Indians who consider Dr

Ambedkar as a guiding light for social justice and empowerment," Tagore stated. Meanwhile, the INDIA bloc also held a protest march against the Union Minister, demanding his removal from the Cabinet. In response, the BJP MPs staged a counter-protest, accusing Congress of disrespecting the Constitution and Dr Ambedkar. Led by BJP MP Anurag Thakur, they raised slogans such as "Congress party maafi maango, Ambedkar ka apmaan nahi sahega Hindustan (Congress must apologise, India will not tolerate the insult to Ambedkar)."

TAM SPECIAL From guns to green fields...

Deepak Mahato

Ranchi, Dec 20: In a remote corner of Jharkhand, where the echoes of gunfire once silenced dreams, a remarkable transformation is blooming. Madi Munda, the nephew of jailed notorious Maoist commander Kundan Pahan and a former close aide of Rs 1 crore bounty rebel Anal Da, has traded his arms for a plough and despair for hope. Once a known name in the ultraleft... detailed story on pg 3

7 dead in Jaipur gas tanker explosion, 35 hurt

Jaipur, Dec 20 (IANS) A tragic accident on Friday morning at the Ajmer Highway in Jaipur claimed the lives of seven people when an LPG gas tanker collided with a truck. The collision triggered a massive explosion and fire, engulfing the area in flames, leaving over 35 people injured. Seven bodies, including one of a woman and two men who remain unidentified, have been brought to the Sai Man Singh (SMS) Hospital mortuary. One unidentified body was reportedly transported to the hospital in a polythene bag. The incident occurred at around 5:44 A.M. near Delhi Public School on the highway. The LPG tanker, traveling from Ajmer toward Jaipur, was making a U-turn back toward Ajmer when it collided with a truck coming from Jaipur. The impact caused the



gas to leak, spreading over a 200-metre radius before igniting into a massive fireball. The explosion led to catastrophic destruction, with more than 40 vehicles catching fire after that. Many victims were unable to escape, including passengers in a sleeper bus and workers at a pipe factory nearby. The highway was subsequently closed, and rescue efforts faced challenges due to the intense spread of gas and fire. Emergency response

teams, including over 30 ambulances and fire brigade vehicles, rushed to the scene. All injured individuals were transported to SMS Hospital. Reports indicate that 35 people sustained injuries, many of them with burns covering up to 70 per cent of their bodies. Several officials, including Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and Rajasthan's Medical Minister Gajendra Singh Khinysar, visited the site and hospital to oversee

rescue efforts and meet the injured. Union Home Minister Amit Shah also expressed his condolences, stating on his social media account: "The road accident in Jaipur, Rajasthan, is extremely sad. I express my deepest condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in this accident. I spoke to Chief Minister Shri @BhajanlalBjp ji in this regard. The local administration is working to provide immediate treatment to the injured. I wish the injured a speedy recovery." Jaipur Police have issued helpline numbers to assist those affected by the accident which include 9166347551, 8764868431 and 7300363636. The incident has left people in shock, highlighting the dangers of inadequate road safety measures and the need for stricter regulations to prevent such tragedies.

Body delivered in parcel to woman in AP

Amaravati, Dec 20 (IANS) A woman in Andhra Pradesh's West Godavari district was shocked on receiving a parcel containing the body of an unidentified person. The horrific incident was reported from Yendagandi village in Undi mandal of West Godavari district. A woman, identified as Naga Tulsi, had submitted an application to the Kshatriya Seva Samithi for financial help to construct the house. The Samithi had sent tiles to the woman. She again petitioned the Kshatriya Seva Samithi for further help in construction. The Samithi had reportedly promised to provide electricity appliances. The applicant had received a message on WhatsApp that she would be provided items like lights, fans, and switches.

SC lawyer petitions for action against LoP Rahul Gandhi, seeks expulsion

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) A lawyer of the Supreme Court on Friday lodged a formal complaint against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for alleged "criminal acts of physical assault and incitement" against BJP MPs within the premises of Parliament. In a petition addressed to Lok Sabha Speaker, the complainant said that on Thursday, when Members of Parliament belonging to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) were peacefully demonstrating at the Makar Dwar entrance of Parliament against the blatant misinformation being propagated by Opposition parties, particularly led by the Indian National Congress, Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition (LoP), "physically harmed" NDA Members of Parliament. "At approximately 10:40



AM to 10:45 AM, Mr. Rahul Gandhi arrived at the scene. Despite requests from Parliament security to take the designated entry path, Mr. Gandhi, with malicious intent to disrupt the protest and physically harm NDA Members of Parliament, ignored the instructions and forcefully approached the peaceful demonstrators," stated the complaint filed by advocate Vineet Jindal. It added that not only did Rahul Gandhi and others violate the instructions of security personnel, but he also instigated other INDIA

bloc members to act with force and aggression toward NDA MPs, jeopardising their safety. Had Rahul Gandhi committed this act outside Parliament, criminal charges under Sections 109, 115, 117, 125, 131, 351, and 3(5) of the BNS Act would have been initiated, and an FIR would have been registered against him, said the complaint, adding that he has misused the privileges provided to Members of Parliament during the Lok Sabha session to shield himself from criminal action.

Over 4 lakh jobs backlog for SC, ST, OBC filled since 2016: Centre

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) More than four lakh backlog vacancies in government jobs reserved for Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Other Backward Class (OBC) candidates have been filled since 2016, the Parliament was informed. "Occurrence and filling of vacancies, including the backlog reserved vacancies, is a continuous process," Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha. Instructions have been issued to all ministries and departments of the central government to constitute an in-house committee for identification of backlog reserved vacancies, to study the root cause of such vacancies, to initiate measures to remove the factors causing such vacancies and to fill them up including through special recruitment drives, the minister said.

The minister said each ministry/department of the central government is required to designate an officer of the rank of Deputy Secretary and above, as Liaison Officer, to ensure due compliance of the orders and instructions pertaining to reservation. Each ministry/department is also required to set up a special reservation cell to assist the Liaison Officer. In answer to another question, the minister also said that the Government has undertaken the 'Initiative for Increasing Efficiency in Decision Making in Government' in alignment with the policy of 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance'. The initiative for increasing efficiency in decision making, incorporated into the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure, adopted

a four pronged approach with focus on layering, delegation, digitization and desk officer system was implemented in all Ministries/Departments. In November 2024, the Government has issued directions to review the levels of disposal and channels of submission in Ministries/Departments and ensure that the levels do not exceed four. Mission Karmayogi is an initiative of the central government to enhance the attitudes, skills and knowledge of the Government employees. The mission targets to build capacity on domain, functional as well as behavioral competencies. A key feature of the Mission is the digital learning platform - IGOT Karmayogi, which provides more than 1500 courses to help civil servants upgrade their skills in governance, policy implementation, and technology.

Over 42k SC judgments translated into regional languages

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) With an increasing use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in legal work, 36,324 Supreme Court judgments have been translated into Hindi and 42,765 verdicts have been translated into 17 regional languages, as on date, and made available on the e-SCR portal, the Parliament was informed on Friday. Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Law and Justice, Arjun Ram Meghwal said, in a written reply in Lok Sabha.

Tata Steel appoints Rajesh Rajan as Corporate Communication head

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Rajesh Rajan, currently serving as Head of Communication for Raw Materials in Tata Steel's Corporate Communication department, has been assigned additional responsibility as Head of Communication for Jharkhand. This decision follows the resignation of Runa Rajeev Kumar, leaving the position vacant. A circular announcing the new appointment was issued on Friday. Rajesh Rajan will continue to report to the Chief of Corporate Communication and will carry out his duties from Jamshedpur. The additional responsibility is effective immediately and will remain in place until further notice.



Mamata attacks Centre over cancellation of Christmas as national holiday

Kolkata, Dec 20 (IANS) West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday targeted the Union government for cancelling the occasion of Christmas as a national holiday. "Previously the occasion of Christmas was considered as a national holiday. But the current Union government had cancelled that. Here in West Bengal, we have not cancelled a single holiday. Rather we have increased the number of scheduled holidays. Everyone wants to celebrate the day with their family members. We have regards for all religious festivals," the Chief Minister said while addressing an event "Kolkata Christmas Inauguration" at Allen Park in Kolkata. Speaking at the event, Banerjee once again launched a scathing attack against the BJP over the Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on B.R. Ambedkar. "I was really shocked by the comments made about Ambedkar," she said. Later in the evening while addressing a Christmas event organised by Kolkata's iconic St. Xavier's College, the Chief Minister again attacked the BJP both over



the Ambedkar comments and the deletion of Christmas from the list of national holidays. "I strongly believe while religion is personal to each, festivals are universal. That is why I have declared holidays on religious occasions. In a country like India, we cannot enforce one particular path or way of life. Unity in diversity is the root of Indian philosophy," the Chief Minister said. Banerjee said on Wednesday that as the Indian Parliament reflected on 75 years of the Constitution, the Union Home Minister chose to tarnish this occasion with derogatory remarks against Ambedkar and that "too in the temple of democracy".

Unusual weather conditions, dense fog and rising temperatures

Jamshedpur, Dec 20 : A well-marked low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal has significantly influenced Kolhan's weather today, with notable changes observed across the state. The phenomenon has caused widespread cloud formation in southern and central regions of Jharkhand, affecting daily life and visibility in various areas. Dense fog blanketed isolated locations in the north-western and adjoining central parts of the state early this morning, causing disruptions in road and rail traffic. The weather department has issued an advisory predicting similar conditions tomorrow, December 21, with dense fog expected in the early hours over northeastern, central, and southern parts of Jharkhand. Despite the foggy conditions, a noticeable rise in minimum temperatures was recorded across the state. Cities such as Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Daltonganj, Bokaro, and other areas reported tempera-



tures hovering around 10 degrees Celsius, marking a slight departure from the usual cold December mornings. This rise in temperature has been attributed to the influence of the low-pressure system and its associated weather patterns. The well-marked low-pressure area currently resides over the southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal. This system has been accompanied by an upper cyclonic circulation extending up to 5.8 kilometers above the mean

sea level. Meteorologists have forecasted that the system will move north-westward towards the north Tamil Nadu and south Andhra Pradesh coasts within the next 24 hours. Subsequently, it is likely to shift northward along the Andhra Pradesh coast in the following 24 hours. This movement is expected to have a cascading impact on the weather conditions in Jharkhand and neighboring states. Adding to the complex weather dynamics is an induced cyclonic circulation positioned over south-

west Rajasthan and its surrounding areas. This circulation, located at a height of 1.5 kilometers above the mean sea level, has further compounded the atmospheric changes, contributing to the evolving weather patterns observed in Jharkhand. The weather department has urged residents to exercise caution, particularly during the morning hours when dense fog is likely to affect visibility on roads. Travelers, especially those commuting through fog-affected regions, have been advised to adhere to safety protocols and avoid high-speed travel. The rise in temperature, though a respite from the biting cold, has raised concerns among agricultural experts. The unseasonal warmth could potentially impact the rabi crops, which rely on colder conditions for optimal growth. Farmers have been advised to monitor their crops closely and take necessary measures to mitigate any adverse effects.

Jamshedpur's Shreetama Sahu scores 99.67 percentile in CAT 2024

30 TIME students score 90 percentile and above

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: The results of the CAT 2024 examination, announced late on December 19, brought immense pride to TIME Institute Jamshedpur, as its students excelled once again. With over 3.29 lakh candidates appearing for the exam nationwide, the TIME students proved their mettle, achieving stellar percentiles that continue to uphold the institute's legacy of academic excellence. Among the top performers, Shreetama Sahu led the way with an impressive 99.67 percentile, followed by Jagpreet Singh (99.42%), Yuva Raaj (99.41%), and Prangan Gupta (99.04%). Other noteworthy scores included: Hardik Agarwal scored 98.91%, followed by Rahul Rai and Anirudh



Kulkarni with 98.90% each. Nanduri Venkat Lohitya secured 98.87%, while Mayank Khandelwal achieved 98.77%, and Debasish Mandal scored 98.72%. Other notable performers included Siddharth Apurv with 98.63%, Mayank Dhandania with 98.31%, and Yugdeep with 98.18%. Sumit Kumar Ghosh scored 97.68%, Shivam Agarwal 97.58%, Devanshi Mitra 97.54%, and Gaurav Kumar 97.51%. AdityaAnmol achieved

97.39%, Daniel Naimi 97.17%, and Jyotsna Priyadarshi secured 96.70%. Shashank Mishra scored 96.00%, Manish Kumar 95.47%, and Himanshu Lohani 95.21%. Other commendable performances came from Shreyansh Jain with 94.96%, Aman Apurv with 92.52%, Abhishek Jha with 92.43%, Vaibhav Sharma with 92.41%, Aditi Singh with 92.25%, and Aditi Kabra with 91.99%. Ronit Kumar Singh scored 91.92%,

Sangam Jain 91.89%, Rick Sen 91.79%, and Sushant Kumar Thakur rounded out the list with 90.82%. More than 30 TIME students achieved scores exceeding the 90th percentile, further cementing the institute's reputation for producing top-notch results. TIME Institute's Director, Shubham Khanna, expressed delight at the outcome, emphasizing that while these results are commendable, the next stage of the selection process—Personal Interview (PI) and Written Ability Test (WAT)—is crucial. To prepare for this rigorous phase, TIME will commence tailored preparation sessions for students starting December 23, equipping them with effective strategies to excel in the challenges ahead. (w/mb)

Congress demands impartial action in Alok murder case

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Congress on Friday accused the city police of ignoring complaints filed by Alok Munna's family members which led his day-light brutal killing. East Singhbhum District Congress Committee, district president Anand Bihari Dubey, talking to reporters in a press conference said, "Officials of Kadma Police station ignored the complaints by family members of our Congress partyworker Munna. Negligence by the officials irrespective of regular complaints of suspicious activities of individuals in the area led to this tragic incident." Dubey questioned the reasons behind the administration's inaction and its apparent reluctance to intervene, and questioned whose influence prevented them from taking action against the complaints. He added, "Alok Munna was an advocate for justice for the marginalized and underprivileged sections of society. Alok had been married only 25 days before his murder. His untimely death has devastated his newlywed wife, who still bore the ceremonial henna on her hand." The District Congress has demanded a fair and stringent investigation from the administration and the Senior Superintendent of Police. They also warned that failure to act would result in protests from the Congress party, both on the streets and in the legislative assembly.

Farmers empowered with mobile app to combat pest diseases

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Imagine holding the solution to pest problems in the palm of your hand. Progressive farmers and extension workers of East Singhbhum district are now equipped with the NPSS mobile app, a game-changer in pest surveillance and management. During a training session organized by the Central Integrated Pest Management Center (CIPMC), Ranchi, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, participants learned how this app can revolutionize their farming practices. The app enables farmers to upload pictures of pest or disease-affected crops, receive expert advice, and act on advance warnings to protect their fields. Technical assistants Nitish Kumar



Suman and Purnendra Mishra demonstrated the app's functionality, emphasizing its role in real-time pest identification and management. "This app bridges the gap between the field and expert guidance, ensuring farmers can mitigate risks promptly," explained Suman. The training also delved into integrated pest management (IPM) methods, the use of traps, and the importance of monitoring pest diseases. "Farmers will now have the ability to identify pest diseases and

friendly insects with precision, thanks to this app," added Mishra. Attended by Block and Assistant Technical Managers from ATMA and progressive farmers, the program aims to create a tech-savvy generation of farmers who can tackle pest challenges proactively. This initiative demonstrates the government's commitment to blending traditional farming wisdom with modern technology to safeguard crops and boost agricultural productivity. (w/pb)

Surprise raids to curb sale of tobacco products near schools

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Acting on the directives of District Magistrate cum Deputy Commissioner Ananya Mittal, a surprise raid was carried out to enforce the prohibition of tobacco product sales within 100 yards of educational institutions. The operation was led by Sub-Divisional Officer of Dhalbhum, Shatabdi Majumdar, and included Executive Magistrate Sudipta Raj and Food Safety Officer Manjar Hussain. The campaign focused on areas surrounding KPS School in Kadma, where the investigation team inspected shops for compliance. Shopkeepers were warned against selling tobacco products within the restricted perimeter of schools. During the raid, cigarette and tobacco



packets were thoroughly checked for statutory warnings, and violations were penalized. Three shopkeepers were fined a total of Rs. 600 for flouting the rules. They were cautioned that further violations would result in strict legal actions, including heavier fines and possible license cancellations. The initiative aims to curb the easy accessibility of tobacco products to students and promote a

healthier, safer environment around educational institutions. Authorities emphasized the importance of adhering to laws designed to protect the youth from harmful substances. The District Administration reiterated its commitment to conducting regular inspections to ensure strict compliance and urged the public to report any violations to support the campaign. (w/pb)

Chowkidar Recruitment Exam on December 22

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: DC, Ananya Mittal, convened a meeting with Center Superintendents to provide detailed guidelines for the Chowkidar recruitment examination scheduled for December 22. The examination, to be conducted across 13 centers, aims to maintain the highest standards of fairness and discipline, prioritizing a malpractice-free and peaceful process. Addressing the Superintendents, Mittal emphasized the importance of ensuring proper arrangements for the candidates, including the installation of CCTV cameras, adequate drinking water, clean toilets, and reliable elec-

tricity. Additionally, a sufficient number of Magistrates, police officers, and security personnel will be deployed at each center to ensure smooth conduct. The examination will last for 90 minutes, from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, with candidates required to report by 10:00 AM. Strict measures will be in place, including CCTV surveillance and videographers at all centers. Electronic devices will be strictly prohibited, and all candidates will undergo thorough frisking before entering the examination hall. The written test will feature 50 multiple-choice questions, with 45 covering district-

related general knowledge and five based on the local language selected by the candidate. The list of successful candidates for the physical examination will be prepared in a 1:3 ratio based on written exam scores. No new admit cards will be issued; candidates must carry the previously issued admit cards to the designated centers. Only black ballpoint pens are permitted for filling the OMR sheets, and items such as books, notes, and electronic devices are strictly banned. Candidates found engaging in malpractice will face legal consequences, and their candidature will be canceled. (w/pb)

Police arrests 9 for drink and drive

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: In a late night drive by the Jamshedpur police, cops detained 9 persons on Thursday late night for driving under influence of alcohol in the city. "A special drive was being carried out by traffic police across the city. During the drive a total of nine people

under the influence of alcohol," said deputy superintendent of police (DSP) Traffic. The drivers were detained after undergoing a breathalyzer test. According to police, four from Jamshedpur, three from Sakchi and two from Golmuri were detained and sent for medical test. The drivers were fined Rs10,000 are per Motor vehicle Act, 1988 under section 185. According to police, in the last week at least 17 persons were detained for drink and drive.

शपथपत्र

मैं, नामस्री बाकिरा, पति-स्व- मोने बाकिरा, निवासी ग्राम-पोडाकाटा, पो-गोपीडीह, थाना कुचाई, जिला-सरायकेला-खारसावाँ, राज्य-झारखण्ड का स्थायी निवासी हूँ एवं शपथ पूर्वक कहती हूँ कि :-

- यह कि मैं उपरोक्त स्थान का स्थायी निवासी हूँ।
- यह कि सुखलाल बाकिरा, पिता-स्वो मोने बाकिरा, माता-नामस्री बाकिरा, निवासी पोडाकाटा, पो-गोपीडीह, थाना कुचाई, जिला-सरायकेला-खारसावाँ, मेरा पुत्र है।
- यह कि मेरा उक्त पुत्र का आधार कार्ड क्रमांक सं-642773205144 में उसका नाम श्रीकांत बाकिरा दर्ज है जो गलत है।
- यह कि मेरा उक्त पुत्र का जन्म प्रमाण-पत्र एवं School Bonafide Certificate नं-749 में उसका नाम सुखलाल बाकिरा दर्ज है जो सही एवं सत्य है।
- यह कि मेरा उक्त वर्णित पुत्र का उक्त उपर वर्णित आधार कार्ड में नाम सुधार करते हुए दर्ज किया जाए।
- यह कि भविष्य में किसी भी प्रकार की त्रुटी पाये जाने पर सारी जबाबदेही मेरी होगी।

यह कि यह शपथपत्र मैंने मेरे उक्त उपर वर्णित पुत्र के आधार कार्ड में नाम सुधार हेतु कर रही हूँ।

Advocate

KCC students shine at Divisional Youth Festival 2024



Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Students of Karim City College (KCC) excelled at the Divisional Level Youth Festival 2024, organized by the District Administration, West Singhbhum, at Pillai Town Hall.

The event was inaugurated by District Sports Officer Rupa Rani Turkey, NSS District Nodal Officer Dr. Arpit Suman Toppo, and Dr. Dara Singh Gupta. The competition featured various categories, including painting, poetry writing, mobile photography, speech, story writing, solo and group cultural programs, folk songs, and a science fair. First-place winners will represent the division at the State Level Youth Festival in Ranchi on December 22. Karim City College participants delivered exceptional performances, securing top positions in multiple categories. Standout achievements included Badru Jamal (Photography), Sarfaraz Shad (Speech Panch Paran), Manav Ghosh (Story Writing), Muskan and

Group (Cultural Dance), Somi and Group (Folk Song), and Shruti Mandal (Painting). The triumphant students were warmly welcomed back by Karim City College Secretary Dr. Mohammad Zakaria, Principal Dr. Mohammad Riyaz, NSS Program Officer Dr. Ale Ali, and Program Nodal Officer Syed Sajid Parvez, who congratulated them and extended best wishes for the state-level competition. Key contributors to the festival's success included Avinash Tripathi (District Sports Officer, East Singhbhum), Anjali Kumari (Youth Officer, Nehru Yuva Kendra, East Singhbhum), Pankaj Jha (Music Teacher, Karim City College), and NSS Coordinator Syed Sajid Parvez. (w/gsd)

XLRI Jamshedpur partners with NSDM to train SC-ST youth

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: XLRI - Xavier School of Management has taken a significant step toward empowering underprivileged youth by aligning with the National Skill Development Mission. Through its Fr McGrath Skill Development Centre, the premier B-school has initiated a targeted program to train youth from SC/ST communities, marking a transformative moment in its 75-year journey. The institute launched a six-month skill development program aimed at equipping rural youth with vocational and communication skills. Over 100 students have already completed training in areas such as Data Entry and Communicative English, Garment and Fashion Design, as well as internships

in Electrical and Plumbing. XLRI hosted a certification ceremony where 81 students received their credentials. The event was graced by Fr Jerome Cutinha, S.J., President of the Jamshedpur Jesuit Society, as the Chief Guest, along with Dr Sanjay Patro, Dean of Academics. The students showcased their newly acquired English-speaking abilities and shared inspiring stories of personal growth during their training. The program, mentored by Jerome Sequeira and Biranchi Soreng, extended its reach to training centers in Bhubaneswar and Phulbani,



ensuring wider access for rural communities. "XLRI's Platinum Jubilee year gave us the opportunity to revisit our foundational vision of working closely with marginalized communities. This initiative is a testament to our commitment to creating meaningful societal impact," said Fr Donald D'Silva, Convenor of

the Centre. The ceremony concluded with cultural performances, including traditional dances and a one-act play by the trainees. The event left an indelible impression on the faculty and students of XLRI, showcasing the potential of these young talents to contribute to the nation's progress.

As part of its mission to foster inclusivity and self-reliance, XLRI pledged continued support for underprivileged communities. This initiative represents a significant stride toward building an Atma Nirbhar Bharat by empowering marginalized youth to join the mainstream and contribute to India's development. (w/pb)

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is Declared that Asim Kumar Bhattacharjee, son of Arun Kumar Bhattacharjee, resident of Flat No. 604, 6th Floor, C.M.K. New Palace, Pramathanagar, Main Road, P.O.-Tatanagar, P.S.Parsudih, Town Jamshedpur, District East Singhbhum, expired on 18.04.2021, he was the co-borrower in the loan account No. 16100000013 of PCHFL (DHL) Jamshedpur, whose payment has been paid (Cleared) by his wife Mahua Bhattacharjee and two borrowers. Smt. Mahua Bhattacharjee has to get its documents.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Hariam Das, S/o Ananta Das resident of village-Kadla, P.O.-Jugilong, P.S.-Nimdi, Dist-Seraikells-Kharswan, Jharkhand, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows :-

- That, I am permanent resident of the aforesaid address.
- That, I am known by two names is Hariam Das which is mentioned in my Aadhar card no-4744 5499 7855 and other name is Rajesh Goswami which is mentioned in my voter Identity card no. KDE1074668, both the names are and one person i.e. my self name.
- That, there is no difference between the name of Hariam Das and Rajesh Goswami, both the name are same and one person i.e. my self name.
- That I am swearing this affidavit for the purpose of declaring above mentioned facts.

And hence this affidavit.
Solemnly affirm and declared to be true by the deponent before me, who is identified by Sri A.K. Gope Advocate.

Verification
The statements made above are true to the best of my knowledge, belief and information and I signed this day 20.12.2024 at Chandli.

Advocate

AFFIDAVIT

I, KULESHWAR BAI, (new name/name as per supportino documents) wife of LATE SHATRUUGHAN, aged about 68 years, and residing at 15/16, Road No. 04, Cable Basti, P.O.-Golmuri, Jamshedpur, District:East Singhbhum, in the state of Jharkhand 831003, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under That Fulasia (name on the share certificates) and KULESHWAR BAI (name as supporting documents) is one and same person. I hereby affirm that I shall not hold the company or its agents anyway responsible for any consequences that might occur directly or indirectly on account of the company or its Agent acting on our request herein stated on account of replacing the name "FULASIA (name on the share certificate) with KULESHWAR (name as per supporting documents) in the company's records and for the consequential acts/deeds by the Co./its agent.

This Affidavit is executed in favour of the company/its agent on my/our own volition.

VERIFICATION
I solemnly affirm that the statement contained in the above paragraphs are true to the best of my knowledge. Information and belief and that nothing has been concealed from being disclosed, solemnly declared and affirmed on Identification at jamshedpur on this 18th day of

Advocate

From guns to green fields: Inspiring tale of Maoist rebel Madi Munda

TAM SPECIAL

Deepak Mahato

Ranchi, Dec 20: In a remote corner of Jharkhand, where the echoes of gunfire once silenced dreams, a remarkable transformation is blooming. Madi Munda, the nephew of jailed notorious Maoist commander Kundan Pahan and a former close aide of Rs 1 crore bounty rebel Anal Da, has traded his arms for a plough and despair for hope.

Once a known name in the ultra left outfit, Munda now stands as a beacon of change in Dadudag village, 50 kilometers from Ranchi in Namkum block.

It took three years of dedicated effort coupled with lots of patience and perseverance for the 24-year-old tribal to get rid of the rebel tag and emerge as a prosperous farmer.

It all started around 2017-2018 when he met Pravin Tiwary, a Maoist encounter specialist of Jharkhand police, during a face-off with the latter in the jungle.

Tiwary not only succeeded in influencing Munda to lay down arms but also made him impact several others in the ultra outfit to quit the treacher-



ous life in the jungle and avail the lucrative Jharkhand Police surrender policy to lead life afresh.

Come 2020, Munda severed all ties with the Maoist troupe that he had got associated with at the age of 16 and returned to his village.

Since there were no named FIRs against him, Munda could not receive the benefits of the surrender policy.

With almost negligible savings or income, he decided to till the farms and become a farmer to lead a normal life.

Where there is a will, there's a way, goes the adage.

In the next three years, supported by few of his village brethren, he worked very hard learning modern farming tricks and sowing cash rich crops that enabled him to multiply his income rapidly. There has been no looking back since then for him.

Today Munda is the most illustrious farmer of his village, who not only earns handsomely but also provides direct employment to 30 odd young men and women of his village.

The journey from a rebel

to a law abiding agripreneur wasn't a roller-coaster ride for him.

For several months, his former colleagues in the ultra outfit kept chasing him after declaring him a 'traitor', but he successfully managed to keep himself safe. Frequent surrender by local Maoist leaders and intensified police patrolling made his life further secure.

"I feel proud of what I'm doing now," Munda told The Avenue Mail at his makeshift farm-house amidst his lush green fields.

"I want my region to



flourish. I was wrong to believe the Naxal movement was for the betterment of villagers. When I realized my mistake, I quit."

Munda's journey into the world of insurgency began in 2017, lured by promises of revolution. "Maharaj Pramanik influenced me to join his platoon. I became a bodyguard to Anal Da and even met Kishan Da," he recounted. But disillusionment crept in, and I changed my path for good."

Starting with just one acre of ancestral land, Munda's organic farming

initiative has expanded to 14 acres. His farm thrives with seasonal vegetables and fruits-watermelon, tomato, brinjal, capsicum, okra, and more.

"During peak seasons, over 30 people work on my farm. Even in off-seasons, 10-15 remain engaged," said the former rebel, his voice tinged with pride.

His income has been surging every month. I manage to save at least Rs 6 lakh annually after meeting all expenses.

"With my earnings, I have purchased a Bolero SUV, a pick-up van for

transportation of raw materials and the crops to the market. I have also purchased a couple of motorcycles for my teammates."

Currently, his fields are lush with peas, tomato, brinjal, radish and capsicum. Soon, he would be venturing into poultry.

"This project is in its final stages. To begin with, I would be hatching 2000 chicks," he said while serving cut vegetables grown in his farm.

Munda considers Pravin Tiwary his mentor. "But for Tiwary Sir's brave initiative in getting me out from the outlawed group, I

would have died long back in any encounter with security forces," he stressed.

Tiwary says Munda helped Jharkhand police in a lot of ways, without divulging further.

"I am happy to see him prospering as an entrepreneur. He is an inspiration for several others of his clan. Munda has proved that guns are no solution to any problem."

Munda's transformation is a testament to the power of redemption and the Jharkhand government's efforts to reintegrate former extremists into society. Where fear once reigned, fields of green now flourish. Munda's story is not just one of personal triumph-it is a tale of hope for a region scarred by conflict.

"If I canchange, anyone can," he said, his eyes gleaming with determination.

Eminent Ranchi based businesswoman and social worker Vijeta Verma has come forward to support Munda in his philanthropic initiatives. "I appreciate his dedication and efforts in the uplift of his local community. I am doing my bit to support him," she said while distributing blankets in the village.

Adityapur-Seraikela Road turns deadly: Urgent action needed to save lives

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 20: The Adityapur-Seraikela road continues to be a death trap, with dozens of lives lost annually due to frequent accidents. Official data from the Seraikela Road Transport Department reveals alarming figures: in the last year alone, 215 accidents occurred along the 35-kilometer stretch between Adityapur and Seraikela, claiming around 150 lives and leaving 180 injured or permanently disabled.

A key cause identified is the roadside parking of heavy vehicles without proper radium stickers, particularly on the Adityapur-Kandra main road. "Most deaths are due to bike riders colliding with parked vehicles, especially during low visibility in the evening," said entrepreneur



Rupesh Katriyar.

Adding to the peril is the absence of streetlights on this busy route. Advocate Omprakash emphasized, "There are no traffic signals, zebra crossings are faded, and guard walls lack radium markings. These oversights sig-

nificantly contribute to accidents."

Hotspots for accidents include Akashvani Chowk, Imli Chowk, Ashiana Chowk, RIT More, Adityapur Toll Bridge, and Kandra More. Local resident Abhijeet Mahato from Sridungri lamented, "We've lost many lives

here. The absence of lights and proper road safety measures is unforgivable."

The police are working on a strategy to mitigate the issue. DSP Headquarters will lead a team to analyze accident patterns, identify high-risk zones, and propose solutions like installing signal lights, barricades, and road sliders. "We aim to address the traffic challenges caused by heavy vehicles and high congestion points," a police official stated.

The lack of marked parking spaces in the industrial area remains another concern. "The absence of basic infrastructure is alarming in a region that houses such a workforce," Katriyar added. The community urges immediate action to ensure safety, with calls for improved lighting, better signage, and strict traffic regulations. (w/nkm)

Over 13,000 PM Vishwakarma Yojana applications pending in East Singhbhum

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: The Prime Minister (PM) Vishwakarma Yojana, launched on 17 September 2023, is making slow progress in East Singhbhum, with over 13,000 applications still pending. Despite the scheme being more than a year old, neither the District Industry Centre nor the banks have compiled data on how many artisans from the district have actually benefited from the initiative. However, the District Industry Centre does have information on the number of applications received, which totals around 26,000.

Out of these, approximately 13,000 applications are stuck at the Panchayat or body level, awaiting further action. After being recommended at the district level, these applications are sent to the Industry Department in Ranchi. From there, they are forwarded to the Labour Department

and subsequently to the banks for processing. The delay in forwarding these applications is causing frustration among local artisans.

Santosh Kumar, the Lead District Manager (LDM), stated, "This is a new scheme, and while loan applications have started coming in now, we are still awaiting data from the banks." Under the scheme, once selected, artisans are provided with a tool kit worth Rs. 15,000 based on their profession. They are also given free training, with a daily scholarship of Rs. 500 to sustain their livelihood. After completing the training, artisans can access an initial loan of Rs. 1 lakh, which can increase to Rs. 2 lakh upon successful repayment.

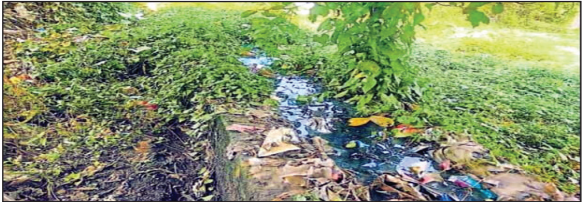
The delayed process is a concern, and the public is eagerly awaiting quicker action on these applications to ensure the scheme's benefits reach those in need. (w/nkm)

Overflowing drains spark epidemic concerns

Mail News Service

Ghatshila, Dec 20: The town's sanitation system is in a dire state, with overflowing drains posing serious health risks and threatening an epidemic. The clogged drains, filled with filth due to irregular cleaning, have caused waterlogging on roads and a foul stench that makes commuting difficult. Residents and shopkeepers have raised concerns, blaming both public representatives and administrative officials for their inaction.

Local shopkeeper Kunal Singh stated, "The lack of drain cleaning has become a constant issue, causing



inconvenience to everyone. Public representatives and officials must take responsibility."

A drain built between Gopalpur Gate and Ram Mandir turn in 2015-16 at a cost of Rs 32 lakhs remains neglected. Without proper lids, locals have turned it into a dumping ground, adding to the blockage. Shopkeeper Pankaj Singh suggested, "The responsibility for

cleaning drains should lie equally with panchayat representatives and administrative officials."

Despite Rs 9 lakhs being allocated for cleaning two years ago, locals allege misappropriation of funds. Resident Sujana Manna lamented, "During rains, dirty water floods shops and houses. This negligence has persisted for years."

Pawada Panchayat Head

Parvati Murmu assured action, saying, "A public meeting will be convened soon, and I will discuss this with the MP and MLA to ensure the drains are cleaned at any cost."

Local resident Shambhu Murmu emphasized collective action, stating, "People need to be serious about this issue and pressurize officials. Change will only happen when we act." The ongoing sanitation crisis in Ghatshila highlights the need for immediate intervention to prevent further health hazards. Residents continue to demand accountability and long-term solutions. (w/nkm)

Jaipal Singh Stadium construction cost soars by four times in six years

Stadium cost jumps to Rs 8.86 Crore from Rs 2.20 Crore

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: The long-delayed Jaipal Singh Stadium in Karandih is finally set to be constructed, but at a significantly higher cost. Originally budgeted at Rs 2.20 crore in 2018, the project's cost has now risen to Rs 8.86 crore, a fourfold increase. The decision to proceed with the construction comes after years of delays and complications, with work set to begin soon.

In 2018, the Rural Development Special Division issued a tender for the stadium's construction, but issues arose when the contractor, authorized by the then Deputy District Commissioner (DDC), began filling large pits in the uneven ground with fly ash. However, this work was halted due to protests from local Panchayat Samiti members.



The original plans for the stadium included a ground size of 120 x 90 meters, but after objections from locals, the size was increased to 220 x 135 meters, contributing to the increase in costs. Additionally, about six years of delays have led to the significant rise in expenditure.

The stadium's foundation stone has been laid twice: first by MP Bidyut Baran Mahto and former MLA Maneka Sardar in 2018, and again this year by MLA Sanjeev Sardar.

However, the project faced a significant setback in the form of a dispute with the contractor. Local Panchayat leaders had stopped the work, which led to the cancellation of the tender by the then Deputy Commissioner.

Following the cancellation, the contractor took the issue to the High Court, and a legal battle ensued. To avoid an unfavourable outcome, the administration reached a compromise with the contractor, allowing him to continue with the project. The long-standing dispute was resolved, and construction is now set to begin, despite the cost escalation and delays.

This stadium is expected to be a significant infrastructure project for the area, but its prolonged development and increasing costs have raised questions about administrative efficiency. (w/nkm)

Cold storage inaugurated in Naxal-affected Patamda, yet underutilized

Bamani cold storage opens, farmers urged to utilize facility fully

Shankar Agrawal

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: On October 3, the Jharkhand government officially inaugurated a new cold storage facility with a capacity of 5 metric tons in Bamani, Patamda, East Singhbhum. The project, costing crores of rupees, aims to support local farmers by providing a secure place to store their produce.

Despite the significant investment, the cold storage remains underutilized due to inadequate publicity. Currently, only a handful of farmers have accessed the facility, with jaggery being the sole commodity stored. "Only a few farmers have been able to connect with the cold storage so far. We need better awareness campaigns to ensure more farmers benefit from this facility," stated Abhinav Mishra, Managing Director of Vegfed, the operator under the PPP model.

The foundation stone for the cold storage was laid on March 10, 2019, by Jamshedpur MP Bidyut Baran Mahto and MLA Ramchandra Sahis. The project was initially slated for completion



within two years but faced delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic and challenges in selecting an operating agency.

Local MLA Mangal Kalindi and Harsh Ajmera, Managing Director of Hope and Health Care Private Limited, Hazaribagh, officiated the inauguration. "This cold storage is a crucial step

towards ensuring that our farmers can preserve their produce and reduce post-harvest losses. We encourage all farmers in Patamda and surrounding areas to take advantage of this facility," Kalindi remarked.

However, the lack of effective campaigning hindered the facility's reach.

"Campaigning couldn't take place due to the code of conduct during the assembly elections, but we are planning extensive outreach programs to inform farmers about the benefits and usage of the cold storage," added Mishra.

The cold storage facility is expected to generate an annual revenue of Rs 12-14 lakh. Presently, only 1,500 tins of jaggery are stored, highlighting the urgent need for increased farmer participation. "With better promotion and support, more farmers will utilize this storage, ensuring their produce remains safe and market-ready," Mishra emphasized.

The Jharkhand government has pledged to enhance the facility's utilization by organizing awareness drives and simplifying the registration process for farmers. As the region grapples with challenges posed by Naxal activities, initiatives like the Bamani cold storage are vital for sustaining the local agricultural economy and preventing youth migration in search of better opportunities. (w/nkm)

कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि संगठन
(भारत सरकार, श्रम व रोजगार मंत्रालय), क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय,
भविष्य निधि भवन, आमचयान, साकची, जमशेदपुर-831001 (झारखंड)

सं./No.-: JH/RO/SR/Adm-II/Adv/2024/ दिनांक/Dated : 20.12.2024

सूचना

एतद द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि संगठन के वैसे सभी सदस्य / अंशधारक जिनकी नियुक्ति दिनांक 01.04.2024 के पश्चात हुई है और जिनका यू. ए. एन. (UAN) सक्रिय (Activate) नहीं है वे अपने यू. ए. एन. (UAN) को अपने आधार से लिंक मोबाईल नंबर के द्वारा OTP के माध्यम से सक्रिय (Activate) कर लें, ताकि आपको भविष्य में प्राप्त होने वाली सुविधाओं एवं सरकार द्वारा समय-समय पर लागू की जाने वाली योजनाओं का लाभ सुचारु रूप से मिलता रहे।

यू. ए. एन. (UAN) सक्रिय (Activate) करने हेतु आपको यू. ए. एन. सदस्य पोर्टल (UAN Member Portal) के नीचे दिए गए लिंक पर Activate UAN पर जाकर अपना यू. ए. एन. (UAN), आधार संख्या, नाम, जन्म-तिथि, आधार से लिंक मोबाईल नंबर डालकर OTP के माध्यम से सक्रिय (Activate) करना है :

<https://unifiedportal-mem.epfindia.gov.in/memberinterface/>

यू. ए. एन. (UAN) सक्रिय (Activate) करने हेतु यदि आवश्यक हो तो अपने नियोक्ता या हमारे साकची अथवा चाईबासा स्थित कार्यालय से संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

कृपया इसे अति-आवश्यक समझें।

हउ/- (शशि भूषण कुमार)
क्षेत्रीय भविष्य निधि आयुक्त-।

Police arrest 5 including BJP youth wing leader in Alok Munna murder case

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: The police have cracked the murder case of Alok Kumar Bhagat, popularly known as Alok Munna, in the Kadma police station area. In a detailed operation, five individuals, including BJP Youth Wing Mandal President Vikas Singh, were arrested. The police recovered three country-made pistols, one live cartridge, and three empty shells from the accused. The case has stirred significant political unrest, with BJP leaders accusing the police of framing their members. SSP Kishor Kaushal revealed that the murder was a calculated act of revenge stemming from a brawl during Kali Puja. The victim, Alok Munna, had been under surveillance by the accused for over a month. Investigations uncovered that the

conspirators had meticulously tracked his movements, especially noting his routine of visiting the market every morning around 10 a.m. On the day of the incident, the conspirators identified Munna returning home on his motorcycle. Vishal Kumar alias Bhikhe Baba fired the first shot at him, causing him to fall off his bike. As Munna tried to flee, the attackers, including Pankaj Sahu and others, chased him on foot and fired multiple rounds. The group then fled the scene through Seven Road in Kadma, using pre-arranged bikes and an auto-rickshaw for their escape. The arrested individuals include: Akash Singh alias Chhotu Bachha (23) Alleged mastermind of the conspiracy. Vishal Kumar alias Bhikhe Baba (21) Suspected shooter. Pankaj Sahu alias Bachha (19)– Alleged co-shooter.



Shakti Bibhar– Conducted surveillance. Vikas Singh BJP Youth Wing Mandal President, accused of facilitating the crime. The police stated that the group's motive was rooted in asserting dominance and avenging the Kali Puja

altercation. The arrest of BJP's Youth Wing leader Vikas Singh has led to a massive backlash from party members. Hundreds of BJP workers, led by Jamshedpur Metropolitan District President Sudhanshu Jha, staged a demonstration at

the SSP office. Accusing the police of framing Singh under political pressure, the BJP demanded an unbiased investigation. Protesters also surrounded Kadma police station and blocked police vehicles, preventing the transfer of the

accused. The situation escalated when BJP workers forced the police to bring Vikas Singh out of the vehicle and escort him back to the station. The BJP leaders claim that Singh was falsely implicated in the case, with party leader Sudhanshu Jha alleging that the arrest was part of a conspiracy to malign their political image. Two key accused, including BJP leader Manish Pandey, remain at large. Pandey, along with another unnamed individual, has been charged with conspiracy and direct involvement in the crime. The police are conducting extensive raids to apprehend the fugitives. SSP Kishor Kaushal addressed the media, stating that the investigation was proceeding based on evidence and facts. He assured that the police would not succumb to

any political pressure and that all accused would be brought to justice. Kaushal further revealed that Alok Munna had been staying outside the city for a month due to threats to his life. He returned to Jamshedpur a day before the murder, which was immediately reported to the conspirators by their surveillance team. The incident has sent shockwaves across the Kadma area, with residents demanding stricter measures to curb the increasing gang violence. The murder has also raised concerns about the alleged involvement of political figures in criminal activities. While the police have made significant progress in solving the case, the political and social implications continue to unfold. With two key accused still on the run and BJP leaders intensifying their protests, the case is far from over. (W-pb)

75 units of blood donated in Telco



Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Muskan, a city-based stress relief organization, successfully organized its 12th blood donation camp at the Telco Recreation Club, collecting 75 units of blood. The camp was inaugurated by CSSB Director Manas Kumar Mishra, who lauded Muskan's contributions. General Secretary and Counselor Bijendra Kumar highlighted the organization's free 24-

hour confidential stress relief helpline (8092867918), which has helped 44 individuals overcome challenges to date. Special guests included IR Soumik Rai, VN Singh, Vishnu Chand Dixit, Rajat Singh, Pappu Singh, Shiv Shankar Singh, Chandeshwar Kha, Vishal Singh, Sanjeev Bhardwaj, Tridev Singh, Manorama Singh, and Golak Bihari Sahu, among others.

Outrage march demanding dismissal of Union Home Minister

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 20: In a strong protest against the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, the District Congress Committee of Saraikela-Kharsawan organized an outrage march on Wednesday. The rally, led by acting district president Ambuj Kumar, took place from Akashwani Chowk to S Type Chowk, demanding the immediate dismissal of the Home Minister. During the march, Ambuj Kumar condemned



Amit Shah's recent speech in the Lok Sabha, in which he allegedly insulted the architect of the Indian Constitution, Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar. Kumar stated that the

Congress party, along with the people of the country, was deeply saddened by the Home Minister's comments, calling them a gross disrespect to Ambedkar's legacy.

"The Home Minister's remarks are an affront to the principles of equality and justice that Baba Saheb Ambedkar fought for. We demand that Prime Minister Narendra Modi

take immediate action and dismiss Amit Shah from his position," said Ambuj Kumar. The protest was attended by a large number of Congress leaders and supporters, including city president Rahul Yadav, Akhilesh Tiwari, Devang Mukhi, Ramshankar Pandey, Khirod Sardar, Kondo Kumhar, and many others. The participants carried placards and raised slogans, expressing their anger over the perceived insult to one of India's most revered leaders.

Agrawal Sammelan serves meals to 500 needy at MGM Hospital



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: As part of the four-day program 'Nar Seva Hi Narayan Seva', the East Singhbhum District Agrawal Sammelan provided lunch to over 500 needy individuals on the premises of MGM Hospital, Sakchi. The initiative was led by District President Sushil Agarwal, General Secretary Rajesh Ringsia, and Treasurer CA Mukund Kedia. Key contributors included Shri Chaudhary, Neha Agarwal, Meena Shah, Kavita Agarwal, Richa Chaudhary, Babita Munka, Sangeeta Agarwal, Anuradha Agarwal, Shashi Khandelwal, Mitali Bhalotia, Riya Khandelwal, Shilpi Agarwal, and Babli Agarwal. Prominent members present included Shravan Debuka, Bhola Chaudhary, Vivek Chaudhary, Binod Shah, Manoj Palsaniya, Manish Khanna, CA Siddharth Khandelwal, Ratan Agarwal, Tiku Agarwal, Maliram Agarwal, Ritesh Sahariya, CA Ankit Agarwal, Aman Naredi, Shivam Chetani, Tushar Agarwal, Ashish Khanna, and Mohit Shah.



Ramgarh, Dec 20: Following the directives of the Jharkhand Council of Educational Research and Training (JCERT), Ranchi, the Jharkhand State Olympiad was held on December 19 and 20, 2024, at seven designated examination centers in the Ramgarh district. A total of 2,991 students from classes 7, 8, and 9 registered for the Olympiad. Their knowledge in Mathematics, Social Science, English, Science, and General Knowledge was assessed through state-provided question papers and OMR sheets. The seven examination centers in the district included the CM School of Excellence, Gandhi Memorial Plus Two High School, Cum School of Excellence Girls School Ramgarh, High School Koyritola Ramgarh, Women's College Ramgarh, Basic School Ramgarh, Cantonment Girls Middle School Ramgarh, and Radha Govind High School Ramgarh. Students from all blocks of the district participated in the event. The Olympiad 2024 was monitored by a state-level team and, at the district level, by District Education Superintendent Sanjeet Kumar, Additional District Program Officer Nalini Ranjan, and Assistant Program Officer Kumar Raj.

Saryu Roy on X: 119 tonnes of garbage collected from Mango

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20:After days of complaints, Mango Municipal Corporation has started taking steps for garbage disposal. Even today, the employees of the corporation collected garbage from the houses and dumped it at the designated place. According to reliable sources of Mango Municipal Corporation, garbage from the houses of all areas of Mango will be collected in the next two days. Jamshedpur West MLA Saryu Roy has written on X: Garbage collection is going on in Mango.

Today 119 tonnes of garbage have been collected and dumped at the designated place. According to the Municipal Corporation, garbage has been collected from the houses of Dimna Road. Garbage will be collected from all places in two days. If the Congress leaders of Adityapur had not created a hindrance, all the garbage would have been removed from Mango by now. If the Congress leaders had not opposed garbage dumping in Adityapur, the garbage of the entire Mango would have been removed by now. It is a matter of investigation that on whose



instigation the Congress leaders of Adityapur did not allow the garbage of Mango to be dumped there. Whereas

Adityapur Municipal Corporation has been made the nodal organization for Mango, Jugsalai by the order of the

government. It is worth noting that in his statement on Thursday, Saryu Roy had said that if anyone is guilty for not implementing the NGT order for one and a half years and for not being able to identify a place for garbage disposal by Mango Municipal Corporation, then it is only Banna Gupta. Now he is writing a letter to the Chief Minister to get rid of his faults and is gathering means of publicity for himself. Banna Gupta should apologize to the public for not solving the current problem prevailing in the Mango Municipal Corporation area. (w/pb)

Demand for compassionate benefits for Sonu Sardar's family

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 20: A delegation from the Jharkhand Sahayak Adhyapak Sangharsh Morcha (JSASM) visited the District Collectorate on Friday to submit a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner's office, seeking compassionate benefits for the dependents of late Sonu Singh Sardar. Sonu Singh Sardar, an Assistant Teacher at Nav Prathamik Vidyalaya Baddih, tragically lost his life on December 13 when he was shot dead by criminals. According to the Morcha, Sardar was the sole breadwinner for his



family, which includes his wife and three young daughters. The delegation, led by state operating member Lakhan Lal Mahato, district president Vijay Lenka, and Gamharia

block treasurer Amulya Mahato, emphasized the urgent need for the authorities to intervene. They requested that the case be prioritized in the establishment meeting to

ensure the family receives proper compensation and necessary support under compassionate grounds. Speaking on the matter, Lakhan Lal Mahato stated, "Late Sonu Singh Sardar's untimely demise has left his family in a dire situation. It is the duty of the administration to provide relief and ensure the dependents are not left destitute." The memorandum called for immediate action to address the family's financial and emotional plight, highlighting the responsibility of the government to support families of public servants who lose their lives under such tragic circumstances.

Shyam Baba's darbar today at Sonari

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Preparations are complete for the 22nd festival organized by Shri Shyam Seva Sangh, Sonari, scheduled on December 21. The venue, located behind Sonari Junior Carmel School, has been decorated with saffron Shyam flags and elaborate decorations. Renowned Rajasthani Bhajan singers Bhai Pravesh Sharma (Bikaner) and Jayant Beas (Kolkata) will grace the event, along with local Bhajan singer Mahabir Agarwal, who will conduct the stage. The Bhajan program, titled "Amrit Varsha", will begin at 8:30 PM and continue until late at night. Before the evening festivities, a Nishan Yatra will commence at 12:30 PM, starting with flag worship at the Sonari Ram Temple and proceeding through various routes to the festival venue. A Toran Gate has been set up to welcome Shyam devotees. Ashok Diwan, President of Shyam Seva Sangh Sonari, shared that the event features highlights such as Akhand Jyot, group Aarti, Makhan Mishri Bhog, and a Gajra Mahotsav at 2 AM. He also mentioned that the pandal has been beautifully crafted by skilled artisans from Bengal.



Baridih shelter home a lifesaver for homeless in city

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Amid the biting winter chill, where many battle the harsh realities of life under the open sky, the Baridih shelter home emerges as a lifesaver for Jamshedpur's homeless. This shelter, a lifeline for those without roofs over their heads, not only offers a place to rest but ensures dignity and warmth for its residents. Located in the heart of the city, the shelter stands as a hope for many, providing food, blankets, and firewood to combat the unforgiving cold. "Currently, we have 27 residents," said Vijayalaxmi



Rao, the shelter's in-charge. "We serve them beds, blankets, food, and other

essentials. Even the Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC) pitches in by providing

firewood during winters," added Rao. This isn't just a shelter - it's a home for many. Some residents, like small-time vendors running their shops nearby, find not only refuge here but also a sense of belonging. "They are given a large living area equipped with beds and chairs, creating a comfortable environment," Rao added. Ashiya Ahmad Khan, the COO of Baridih shelter home, recounted the journeys of the people who have found shelter there. "Many of them were displaced from Tinplate, their previous home. Today, they live

here with dignity, receiving essential facilities to rebuild their lives," she said. The warmth of the shelter isn't just from its blankets but from the care poured into every meal. "Nutritious meals are prepared daily by our dedicated staff and volunteers," said Salim Ali, the CMM of Baridih Shelter. "We aim to create a sense of community, encouraging social interaction and support among the residents. It's not just about survival - it's about living with dignity." Children too get special attention here. Milk and meals are provided to ensure they don't go to bed hungry. (W-sk)

Jamshedpur to get new Rose Garden today

Manpreet Singh Bhatia

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: The Horticultural Society of Jamshedpur (HSJ), with the support of Tata Steel UISL and Tata Steel, is set to unveil the city's newest green attraction-the Sir Dorabjee Rose Garden. Located adjacent to Sir Dorabjee Tata Park and in front of Sacred Heart Convent School, the rose garden will be inaugurated on December 21 by ChanakyaChaudhary, Vice President of Corporate Services at Tata Steel. This one-of-a-kind garden is being inaugurated as part of the 41st All India Rose Convention cum Rose Show and the 34th Annual Flower Show, scheduled to be held from December 29, 2024, to January 1, 2025 at GopalMaidan in Bistupur. The garden is designed to showcase over 300 plants, featuring a diverse array of rose species, and aims to provide a tranquil retreat



for residents and visitors alike. "The New Rose Garden will be inaugurated ahead of the Flower Show, fulfilling the requirement for a host city to have a dedicated rose garden for the All India Rose Convention cum Rose Show," Sumita Nupur, President of the Horticulture Society Jamshedpur had informed the media during press meet on December 19. She emphasized that the garden would not only elevate the city's

aesthetic charm but also provide a space for education and inspiration, promoting an appreciation for horticulture and environmental conservation among residents and visitors. Supported by Tata Steel and Tata Steel UISL, the rose garden is part of a broader initiative to enhance green spaces in the city. HSJ expressed heartfelt gratitude to these organizations for their contributions, highlighting how

the project aligns with global efforts to promote environmental sustainability and combat desertification. It is worth mentioning that the rose garden replaces the former rose garden at Jubilee Park, which was removed and replaced with a steel structure. The new project began with a groundbreaking ceremony on World Environment Day, June 5, 2024. During the event, a rose planting ceremony was led by SumitaNupur, President of HSJ, and PranaySinha, Chief, Corporate Affairs at Tata Steel. The garden is expected to become a significant attraction, adding to the beauty of Sir Dorabjee Tata Park and boosting Jamshedpur's reputation as a hub of horticultural excellence. HSJ emphasized that the initiative exemplifies the power of community collaboration in achieving sustainable development goals.

Bhagwat Katha Gyan begins with grand Kalash Yatra

Gamharia, Dec 20: The seven-day Bhagwat Katha Gyan commenced on Thursday at the Chaitanya Temple in Uparpara, Bada Gamharia. The inaugural day featured a grand Kalash Yatra, where over 100 women carried water from the Shiv-Bandh-pond to the Lakkhi Temple amidst music and dance. The Kalash was installed, and the women pledged their devotion before the program officially began with traditional rituals. Renowned narrator Nirupama Goswami from Bangladesh has been invited to deliver discourses during the event. The program is being organized with the support of the temple committee members, including Badal Das, Balai Bez, and Nitai Paul, along with enthusiastic participation from local devotees. (w/gsd)

Youth killed after being hit by truck in Seraikela

Seraikela, Dec 20 : A youth returning home after a friend's birthday celebration was killed in a road accident when he was hit by a truck on the Seraikela-Chaibasa main road under the Seraikela police station area in the early hours of Friday. According to Seraikela-Kharsawan police, the deceased has been identified as 26-year-old Himanshu Sharma, a resident of Haludbani in Karandih. A senior police officer told reporters that Sharma was returning from Tungri after celebrating a friend's birthday when a truck hit his two-wheeler near Hensaudi Mor. The officer added that Sharma was rushed to Sadar Hospital with the help of locals; however, doctors declared him brought dead. Raids are being conducted by the police to nab the driver who fled the incident site.



Unidentified man injured by train-hit near Gamharia Station

Gamharia, Dec 20: A 40-year-old man sustained serious injuries after being hit by a train near the yard of Gamharia Station. His identity remained unknown. Upon receiving information from bystanders, railway personnel and police promptly arrived at the scene and transported the injured man to the hospital for treatment.

No-Confidence motion against Zila Parishad Vice-Chairperson defeated

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 20: The no-confidence motion brought against Zila Parishad Vice-Chairperson Madhushree Mahato was defeated after voting on Thursday, with Mahato securing victory by 14 votes against 9. The motion was introduced by district council members citing allegations of her failure to visit the constituency, lack of interest in development projects, and inefficiency in their execution. The proceedings were conducted in the auditorium of the district collectorate under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Ravishankar Shukla. Before the voting commenced, Madhushree Mahato was given two minutes to present her defense. Denying all allegations, she argued that the claims of her lack of involvement in field visits and disinterest in development schemes were baseless. The voting process began after her



defense, resulting in 14 votes in her favor and 9 against, leading to the failure of the no-confidence motion. With this, Madhushree Mahato retained her position as Vice-Chairperson of the Zila Parishad. During the session, council member Shambhu Mandal raised objections to the voting process, stating that the inclusion of district heads, deputies, MPs, and MLAs in the voting violat-

ed procedural norms. Despite his reservations, Mandal extended congratulations to Madhushree Mahato on her victory. This result underscores Mahato's ability to secure her position amidst political challenges. Following her win, she expressed gratitude to her supporters and council members for their confidence in her leadership. (w/pb)

Gulmohur School student's innovative Robobot wins accolades at IIT Bombay

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: AkshatSarkar, a Class 7 student from Gulmohur High School, Telco (Jamshedpur), made waves at the 28th edition of IIT Bombay's Techfest, one of Asia's premier science and technology festivals held from December 17 to 19, 2024. This year's festival theme was Sustaininnovative Sentence. Participating in the Blixathon event, Akshat impressed both judges and spectators with his innovative Robobot design, earning the Runner-Up position in the "Best Innovation Category Award" among 1,300 participants. Blixathon, a crowd-puller at Techfest alongside other popular events like Robowars and Hackathons, provides a platform for young minds to showcase their



robotics skills. In the junior category, participants were tasked with building a Robobot

and competing in a Robofootball match. Akshat'sRobobot stood out for its efficiency, agility, and unique design, which utilized advanced gear and motor configurations. His work received praise not only from the Blixathon founder but also from international participants representing several countries. The achievement highlights the creative potential of young talent and the importance of fostering innovation through education. Gulmohur High School expressed pride in Akshat's success and credited the school's state-of-the-art AI and Robotics lab for providing students with an exceptional platform to develop their skills. The school also extended gratitude to the management, teachers, and parents for their support in nurturing the next generation of innovators. (w/mb)

Farah Naaz wins 3rd rank in state-level recitation

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Farah Naaz, a class 10 student of Vivekananda International School, Mango, has secured an impressive 3rd rank in the state-level 'Swadesh Mantra' Recitation Competition. Farah had earlier clinched the 1st position at the district level, which qualified her for the state-level event. The competition was organized by the Ramakrishna Mission, Morabadi, Ranchi. Farah's achievement highlights her dedication and talent in promoting the ideals of Swami Vivekananda. (w/mb)



35th death anniversary of martyred journalist Pawan Sharma commemorated

Mail News Service

Chakradharpur, Dec 20: The 35th death anniversary of martyred journalist Pawan Sharma was observed on Friday at Pawan Chowk in Chakradharpur. Family members, political leaders, journalists, and local citizens gathered to pay tribute to the fearless journalist. On this occasion, dignitaries present shed light on his significant contributions to journalism. All



attendees unanimously expressed their sorrow over the tragic loss of a journalist who was a true soldier of the pen. Pawan Sharma was assassinated on December 20, 1989, on

Rajbari Road in the evening while returning to his home in Dandasai. His fearless reporting and impactful writings remain etched in people's memories. He was renowned for his dedication to public interest through his journalism. The commemoration was initiated by his elder brother, Makhannal Sharma, who led the tribute ceremony. Attendees then offered floral tributes at the statue of Pawan Sharma. Prominent figures present at the event

included Makhannal Sharma, Dinesh Sharma, Ramgopal Jena, Gauri Shankar Jha, Manas Ghosh, Jitendra Jyotishi, Dilip Banerjee, Rohan Nishad, Sunil Sinha, Anand Priyadarshi, Ramesh Das, Pratap Pramanik, Rajeshwar Pandey, Bablu Mandal, Anil Kumar, Harinarayan Sharma, Ravishankar Mahanti, Sajid Hussain, Rupesh Kumar, Rahul Hembram, Jai Kumar, Ashik Verma, Arjit Verma, and Tariq Anwar.

Sports competition kicks-off at Sai Aman Play School

Mail News Service

Chaibasa, Dec 20: The annual three-day sports competition at SaiAman Play School, organized by SaiAman Welfare Society, was inaugurated today at Sadar Bazar MahuriBhawan. The event saw enthusiastic participation from young children, competing in various categories. In the first phase of the competition, the "Run for Boys" event for Group A saw Ayush securing first place, followed by ShivamYadav in second and ShubhamTati in third. In the Girls A Group, VarshaMundri took first place, KhushbooBera came second, and AlvinaKandil finished third. In



the Junior A Boys Group, GulshanGagarai clinched first place, with DumbiDevagam and Arab Gop taking second and third, respectively. AnanyaKudada, AnjaniKumari, and AnshuSundi took the top three spots in the Junior A Girls Group. The event, which will continue

over the next two days, will conclude with a prize distribution ceremony on December 24. Headmistress BonolataGhosh and teachers ShwetaKarmakar, AnkitaKumari, and IshikaChakraborty played key roles in organizing the competition.

YC Protests Arrest of National President and Parliament Clash

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: The East Singhbhum District Youth Congress Committee staged a protest today, near the statue of Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, close to the old court. Led by district president Neeraj Singh, the protest was held to condemn the clash between BJP and Congress members outside Parliament yesterday and the arrest of Indian National Congress Youth Wing National President Uday Bhanu Chib in Guwahati earlier today. The protesters, wearing black bands as a mark of dissent, gathered in large numbers to voice their grievances. Secretary of the Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee, Prince Singh, highlighted what he termed as a "conspiracy" by the ruling BJP government.



"False cases are being fabricated against our leader Rahul Gandhi, and now, under the same conspiracy, our National President Uday Bhanu Chib has been arrested. Whenever the Modi government feels threatened, it resorts to undermining democracy through legal manipulations," said Prince Singh. He further warned that if the National President is not released immediately and the cases against Rahul Gandhi are not withdrawn, the Youth Congress would intensify its protests from the streets to the

Parliament. The protest witnessed significant participation from key leaders, including State Youth Congress Committee General Secretary Rakesh Sahu, District General Secretary Sanjay Chaudhary, Jugsalai Assembly President Navneet Mishra, and others. Notable attendees included Naveen Mishra, Shubham Shukla, Mukesh, Kuldeep Singh, Sandhya Das, Namita Singh, Anish Singh, Sunil Thakur, Santosh Mundri, Ramesh and Nirmal, along with hundreds of Youth Congress workers.

JWU hosts winter donation camp

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: The NSS department of Jamshedpur Women's University (JWU) launched a two-day winter donation camp, 'Tapish,' at the university's Bistupur campus. The initiative aims to collect clothes from teachers and students to support the needy in rural areas during the winter season. The camp was inaugurated by Dr.DeepaSharan, Dean of Commerce, in the presence of NSS Coordinator Dr. Gloria Puri and NSS Officer Dr. D. PushpaLata. Dr.Sunita Kumari and NSS volunteers also actively contributed to the program's



success. Organizers have appealed to the university community to generously donate warm clothing, emphasizing the importance of supporting underprivileged communities during the harsh winter months. The collected items will be distributed to rural areas in the coming days. (w/mb)

CCA defeats MCC by 75 runs in SR Rungta League

Mail News Service

Chaibasa, Dec 20: In a thrilling encounter under the SR Rungta A-Division League, Chakradharpur Cricket Academy (CCA) emerged victorious by 75 runs over Meghahatuburu Cricket Club (MCC) at Birsamunda Cricket Stadium. With this win, Chakradharpur secured four points in the West Singhbhum District Cricket Association's ongoing tournament. Opting to bat first after winning the toss, Chakradharpur posted a total of 259/6 in their allotted 35 overs. Opener Sanoj Kumar top-scored with 69 runs, including one



four and six sixes. Anuj Oraon contributed 50 runs, hitting two fours and five sixes, while NijiParamjeet Singh remained not out on 46, also

smashing two fours and five sixes. Sumit Sharma added 41 runs with five sixes, and Sachin Dubey scored 22. For Meghahatuburu, Yashasvi Gautam claimed two

wickets, while AbhishekParth, Prashant Kumar, and RiturajMohanti took one wicket each. In reply, Meghahatuburu Cricket Club was all out for 184 runs in 30.4 overs. RiturajMohanti played a lone hand with 59 runs, including two fours and four sixes. Prashant Kumar (31), Niket Singh (20), and Yashasvi Gautam (20) were the other notable contributors. Paramjeet Singh was the standout bowler, claiming four wickets for 35 runs. Sumit Sharma and Ashish Kumar Singh took two wickets each, while Krishna and Sanoj Kumar added one each.

Give up violence for peace

The central government's firm stance on eliminating Naxalism is commendable. Union Home Minister Amit Shah's call for Naxalites to surrender arms and rejoin society highlights the importance of peace. Under the Narendra Modi government, there has been significant progress in curbing Naxalite activities. Security forces have inflicted heavy losses on Naxalites, confining them to limited areas.

The statistics are revealing: 287 Naxalites killed in encounters and 837 surrenders in a year signal the government's resolve to end this menace. For decades, no organization has caused as much harm under the guise of revolution as the Naxalites. However, this is the first time in 40 years that deaths due to Naxal violence, both civilian and security personnel, have dropped below 100. Over ten years, a 73% reduction in security personnel casualties and a 70% drop in civilian deaths reflect the government's success.

The Modi administration has exposed the Maoist agenda of obstructing development and spreading violence. Despite challenges like the Naxalites' village networks and their so-called "Robin Hood" image, the government gained the trust of innocent villagers, who realized these groups were hindering progress. This trust made counter-Naxal operations more effective.

By extending an invitation to Naxalites to join the mainstream, the government has demonstrated a commitment to reconciliation. If Naxalites abandon violence, a lasting transformation can be achieved.

From the Editorial Desk

Preservation efforts keep ancient Potala Palace young



On a viewing platform near the Potala Palace in southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region, many tourists, each holding up a paper note, have lined up for an opportunity to take a photo with the majestic palace.

Printed on the back of the 50-yuan note is the Potala Palace, a World Heritage site located in the regional capital Lhasa, with a backdrop of a vibrant sky and fluffy clouds.

On December 17, 1994, the Potala Palace was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Over the past decade, it has welcomed over 14.4 million visitors from home and abroad. "Without the two large-scale restoration projects, it would have been impossible for the palace to reach such a tourist reception capacity," said Kunga Tashi, Deputy Director of the palace's management office.

The Potala Palace is perched atop Mount Marpori, meaning "red hill" in Tibetan, in central Lhasa. It was built by Tibetan King Songtsen Gampo in the seventh century and expanded in the 17th century.

It is home to invaluable scriptures, historical documents and precious relics, such as a thangka painting of Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) Emperor Qianlong and a mural depicting the story of Princess Wencheng, who came all the way from Chang'an (today's city of Xi'an) to marry Songtsen Gampo over 1300 years ago.

Due to insect infestations, wood deformation and cracking, roof leaks and other challenges over the years, the palace with the earth-stone-wood structure received its first major restoration from 1989 to 1994.

With a total investment of 55 million yuan (about 7.65 million US dollars), the central government earmarked 15 kg of gold and 54 kg of silver, and the regional government bought precious materials, including pearls, red coral and turquoise, for the restoration project, Xinhua news agency reported.

Donden Tsering, a carpenter who participated in the project, recalled that worm-infested and bent wood was replaced during the repair process.

"The wooden components of the Potala Palace are like the bones of the human body and the replacement of the damaged wood has largely helped stabilize the ancient architecture," said Donden Tsering, now 63.

In 2002, the State Council officially approved three major renovation projects in Xizang -- the Potala Palace, the Norbulingka and the Sakya Monastery, marking the start of a seven-year-long renovation project of the palace with an investment of 204 million yuan.

Champa Kelsang, the former Director of the management office, said that the second major renovation project was a landmark cultural heritage protection project that fully respected tradition, science and ethnic styles.

"The renovation was done by people of various ethnic groups, including Tibetans and Han people, and its benefits will last for generations to come," said Champa Kelsang, who participated in the entire renovation process.

In addition to major restorations, the maintenance department of the palace's management office has employed over 60 local traditional artisans, such as carpenters, tailors and painters, to conduct regular "check-ups" and minor repairs.

The palace has also embarked on a range of projects incorporating technological advancements, including structural monitoring, data collection of murals and preventive conservation of movable cultural relics in the palace. The digital resources have given new life to the traditional cultural heritage.

The ancient palace is home to about 40,000 volumes of precious ancient books and documents including Buddhist scriptures and medical, historical and dramatic works. By the end of this year, China has invested 83.45 million yuan in digitizing and archiving some of these items.

"We will carry out cataloging, classification and other tasks for the digitization work, which will fill in the gaps in the existing database of documents in the Potala Palace," said Paldron, an antiquarian invited to join in the work.

Syria confirms the rise of radicalism in West Asia

D.C. Pathak

The capture of Damascus by the radical Islamic forces resulting in the flight of Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad to Moscow for political asylum on December 8 was seemingly a sudden development but it marked the culmination of what had been happening in Syria and Iraq for years signifying impact of religion on the old superpower rivalry in the region that was somewhere also changing the geopolitics at the global level.

It may be recalled that way back in 1928, a Muslim thinker Hasan Al Banna had founded Ikhwanul Musalmeen or Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and Syria to oppose the regimes of Gamal Abdul Nasser and Hafez Al-Assad --father of Bashar Al-Assad -- who were looked upon as pro-Soviet 'nationalist' Arab leaders.

Banna believed that the Quran was the best Constitution for Muslims and that an Islamic state could live 'in competition, not conflict with the West'. The US-led West appreciated the Muslim Brotherhood movement and even encouraged it.

When Maulana Abul Ala Maudoodi, an admirer of Hasan Al Banna, launched Jamaat-e-Islami at Lahore in 1940, this pro-West Islamic stream spread to the Indian subcontinent too and became the ideological anchor of Nizam-e-Mustafa defined by President Zia-ul-Haq as the goal for Pakistan.

In the wake of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan in 1979 and the Iranian Revolution of 1978, there was a wave of Pan-Islamism in the 1980s supported by the Saudi Arabia-led Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

At the fourth Islamic Summit held at Casa Blanca in 1984 under the auspices of OIC, Zia-ul-Haq declared that Muslims from 'Morocco to the Philippines' were one community who must stand together to solve any common problems.

Pan-Islamism as a movement sought to counter the influence of Communism and was blessed by the US whose closest ally in the Muslim world, Saudi Arabia, was pioneering it. However, there was a much older anti-West sentiment in the Muslim world -- flowing from the historical memory of the 'Wahhabi Revolt' -- the name given to the Jihad launched by the leading Ulema of the times in the 19th century against Western encroachment of Muslim lands.

Developments in Afghanistan following the invasion of that country by the Soviet army facilitated the ascendancy of radical fundamentalists in the Afghan territory and this was to influence the course of events in the conflict-prone Middle East in subsequent years.

The anti-Soviet armed campaign in Afghanistan was operationally led by the CIA-Pakistan's ISI combine and was run on the warcry of Jihad in which apart from the Pakistan-controlled Islamic militant outfits and Saudi-funded Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), radical forces headed by Al Qaeda of Osama bin Laden also took part.

The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in 1991 led to the dismemberment of the USSR and the demise of International Communism on one hand and put Afghanistan in the throes of anarchy on the other because of the feud among the warlords -- primarily the contest between General Ahmad Shah Masood heading the nationalistic Northern Alliance and Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of Hizbe Islami who was supported by US and Pakistan.



In 1993 Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, sent the Taliban -- products of the Deobandi madrasas known for practising a ruthless fundamentalist line -- to Afghanistan to control the situation there and they managed to install the Taliban Emirate at Kabul in 1996 under Mullah Mohammad Omar -- a close relative of Osama bin Laden.

Taliban carried the historical memory of the Wahhabi movement -- Darul Uloom Deoband was established near Saharanpur in India by the protagonists of the failed anti-British Jihad, in 1867 -- and the Emirate soon bared its fangs against the US which had to work for bringing down the Emirate by 2001.

This laid down the turf for 9/11 which was planned by Osama bin Laden taking shelter in Afghanistan. The 'war on terror' that the US-led Coalition launched against Islamic radical forces first in Afghanistan and then in Iraq, in the aftermath of the attack on the Twin Towers, created worldwide repercussions and not unexpectedly paved the way for the spread of 'radicalisation' in the two theatres.

Al Qaeda held on in Afghanistan and its competitor -- not an opponent -- appeared in the Iraq-Syria region in the form of the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL), later known as ISIS since the Levant stood basically for Syria. Bashar Al Assad had inherited the legacy of his father so far as the hostility of the US is concerned and had the consequent advantage of securing Russian support.

Also, the fact of his being an Alawite -- which is a Shia sect -- got him the backing of Iran and Hezbollah on grounds of religion even as Iran-US antagonism had already existed on a strong footing at the political level as well. Bashar's regime allowed Shiites to dominate levers of power disregarding the Sunni majority and this added to the strengthening of radicalisation among the disgruntled Sunnis.

Syria ran into a 'civil war' kind of situation internally because the Assad regime had become suppressive in economic distress facing the population and also because it was confronted by Islamic radical forces of Al Qaeda and ISIS on one side and the pro-West Islamic groups on the other.

Developments in Syria should be seen in the backdrop of the Arab Spring of 2011 which was a movement for democracy against dictatorial Arab regimes.

In Egypt, the Muslim Brotherhood was in the lead and that pleased the US.

As it proceeded in the Arab world, however, the stir allowed radical forces to come to the fore and the Western support to the ruling dispensation in the Arab countries became dependant on whether it was friendly towards the US or not.

Muslim societies in general

tend to fall back upon their own God in times of difficulties and while this may be true of others as well, they yield to a fundamentalist line or even to the call of Jihad more readily because of the 'pull of exclusivism' of faith that worked on them in those situations. Those behind the faith-based militancy used social media for indoctrination and this is what ultimately made 'radicalisation' a source of terror threat at the global level.

Radical Islam has a place in the spectrum of faith and cannot be totally discarded by Muslim societies.

In the Middle East, the conflict is both political and faith-based and that is how the US, Israel and Saudi Arabia are broadly in convergence against the Russia-China-Iran axis -- fundamentalist Shiism is ideologically opposed to Capitalism.

An anti-Assad block comprising of Qatar, Turkey and Saudi Arabia has also been a key factor in the regional politics.

Radicalised Hamas has been embraced by Iran because both are anti-US politically while the Iran-Israel confrontation reflects to an extent the historical conflict between Zionism and Islam.

The recent terror attack of ISIS-K on a Moscow concert in which at least 130 persons were killed was primarily a retaliation against the earlier Russian missile attacks on ISIS establishments in Syria and Iraq.

For ISIS both the US and Russia with their godless ideology were on the same footing as far as encroachment on Muslim territories was concerned.

The US-led West and the China-Russia alliance want a competitive presence in West Asia for political and economic reasons.

The US has been countering its primary enemies in the region -- Al Qaeda and ISIS -- by taking out their leadership in Intelligence-based operations.

Osama bin Laden was killed in a military operation at midnight carried out at his residence at Abbottabad near Islamabad in May 2011 while his successor Ayman al Zawahiri was eliminated based on precise intelligence in a drone attack in Afghanistan in 2022.

Interestingly, the present chief of Al Qaeda -- Saif Al Adel -- is said to be operating out of Iran. ISIS emerged as an offspring of Al Qaeda having been created by Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi leader of Al Qaeda in Iraq (AQI) in 2013 to operate in Iraq and Syria.

Nusrat Front, another Al Qaeda affiliate active in Syria, continued to work there independently. Its leader, Abu Mohammad Al Julani who had renamed Nusrat Front as Hayat Tahrir Al Sham, has emerged as the new figure of power in Damascus after the departure of Bashir Al Assad.

Al Julani also had organisational links with the Islamic State. It may be mentioned that in Iraq the US had launched air strikes to prevent ISIL from expanding into northern

Iraq, as it wanted to shield Christians and Yazidis -- who believed in both the Quran and the Bible. The US also released videos showing how ISIL fighters beheaded Western aid workers and journalists.

In 2019 Baghdadi was killed in Syria in a US raid during which he exploded his suicide vest.

After Baghdadi, ISIS-K -- 'K' standing for Khorasan -- became the main face of the parent organisation.

Khorasan is the region covering Afghanistan, Persia and Turkmenistan. The whole scene in the Iraq-Syria region was marked by violence along sectarian lines. Such conflicts always tended to become unending and indeterminate.

From the Indian perspective, it is a challenge to maintain bilateral relations with the major powers in the Middle East-Iran, Saudi Arabia and Israel and advocate the cause of global peace and human development.

There are signs of a new Cold War on the horizon between the US and the China-Russia combine and in this setting India's strategy would be to remain 'independent' in counselling for stoppage of armed confrontations and commencement of negotiations for peace.

India has done this in the case of both the Ukraine-Russia armed conflict and Israel's operations in Gaza.

India had no hesitation in promptly condemning the terror attack of Hamas on Israel on October 7 last year.

This country must be firmly against faith-based violence and must continue to call for condemnation of terrorism in all its forms, from different multi-lateral forums of which it is a part -- ranging from BRICS and Quad to G20.

The problem for India regarding radicalisation is substantially linked to the dubious role of Pakistan which had found a way of remaining on the right side of the US despite its proven track record of harbouring Islamic radical outfits and using terrorism as an instrument of state policy.

Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) operates from Pakistan and ISIS-K elements are said to have been seen on the Kashmir front.

The Sino-Pakistan alliance is known to be working for covert operations against India.

The use of Chinese drones for dropping arms and narcotics in Kashmir and Punjab has been reported multiple times and the two hostile neighbours were also in concert in the sphere of anti-India cyber operations.

The flux in West Asia in general and in Syria and Gaza in particular, is a reminder for India that developments in the Islamic world have to be closely watched for their impact on the internal security of this country.

(The writer is a former Director of the Intelligence Bureau. Views are personal)

Over 90 pc HAM road projects in India on steady path

Road projects under the hybrid annuity model (HAM) in India, awarded by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), are on a steady drive, with more than 90 per cent of the project length under development being constructed on schedule, according to a report on Wednesday.

Such timely execution and comfortable debt protection metrics will support the credit risk profiles of these projects, according to a Crisil

Ratings analysis.

Over the past five fiscal years, excluding 2024, about a quarter of the projects awarded by MoRTH were under HAM, underlining the model's significance in the sector.

Its success can be attributed to provisions such as the requirement of at least 80 per cent right-of-way (ROW) availability before the declaration of appointed date, de-scoping and de-linking of project length where ROW has not been received, and inflation



and interest-rate hedging given indexation of cash flows.

"Our experience is that nearly 66 per cent of under-construction project length is expected to be on or before schedule. Another 26 per cent is either delayed marginally or awaiting approval for timeline extension. These extensions are to account for delays that are not attributable to concessionaires, such as non-availability of ROW, or events such as heavy rains, a ban on mining,

etc," said Anand Kulkarni, Director, Crisil Ratings.

This leaves only 8 per cent of the project length under construction facing material execution-related challenges, he added.

Once completed, the HAM projects typically witness strong credit profiles due to inherent structural benefits such as timely receipt of steady cash flows from a central counterparty.

"Additionally, debt coverage metrics of

Crisil rated portfolio, as reflected in an estimated average debt service coverage ratio of 1.3-1.4 times, support the credit risk profiles of these projects," said Saina Kathawala, Associate Director, Crisil Ratings.

While credit risk profiles have remained stable so far, with the increasing popularity of HAM and the relaxation in bidding norms, the number of bidders has more than doubled over the last four fiscal, the report mentioned.

India now has 25,202 public charging stations for EVs: Minister

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) As many as 25,202 public charging stations for electric vehicles (EVs) have been installed in the country to date, the government said on Friday.

Karnataka leads with 5,765 EV public charging stations, followed by Maharashtra at 3,728 and Uttar Pradesh at 1,989, Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Steel, Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply.

As per the information received from the Ministry of Power, 271 EV public charging stations are installed in Chhattisgarh.

The Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) has been promoting the adoption of EVs in India. On September 29, 2024, the ministry notified the PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) scheme to accelerate EV adoption, establish charging infrastructure and foster the development of the EV manufacturing ecosystem in the country. The scheme has a budget



of Rs 10,900 crore for a two-year period. Of the total allocated budget, Rs 2,000 crore has been kept for the installation of EV public charging stations (EVPCS).

The Ministry of Power also issued "Guidelines for Installation and Operation of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure-2024" on September 17, outlining standards and protocols to create connected & interoperable EV charging infrastructure networks in the country.

requirements depend upon the composition of electric vehicles, running patterns, terrain & geography, urbanisation patterns, the technology of EVs and the technology of charging equipment.

"Since all these factors are still evolving, there is no global consensus on the number of charging points required for a certain number of EVs," the minister said.

As per the Vahan portal of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, the total registered electric two-wheelers in the country now stands at 28,55,015, with electric four-wheelers at 2,57,169 (as on December 4).

Meanwhile, the EV charging market in the country is projected to reach \$3.7 billion by 2030, led by increasing adoption. Battery swapping, particularly for two- and three-wheelers, is emerging as a popular solution in India, with major auto companies investing in battery-swapping technologies to make EVs more affordable and accessible.

Indian stock market loses over 14 pc amid global selloff

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) The Indian stock market shed more than 1,000 points on Friday amid the global selloff, after the US Federal Reserve hinted at a slow pace of interest rate cuts in the future.

Heavy selling was seen in the realty and PSU bank sectors of Nifty.

At closing, Sensex settled at 78,041.59 down by 1,176.46 points, or 1.49 per cent, and Nifty ended at 23,587.50 down by 364.20 points, or 1.52 per cent.

According to Krishna Appala of Capitalmind Research, the markets are becoming increasingly stock-specific while the broader indices take a pause.

"Several key events are influencing the current sentiment, including the upcoming US Presidential regime change with Donald Trump set to take office in January, and the Indian Union Budget announcement just weeks away," Appala added.

Nifty Bank ended at 50,759.20, down by 816.50 points, or 1.58 per cent. The Nifty Midcap 100 index closed at 56,906.75 at the end of trading after dropping 1,649.50 points, or 2.82 per cent.

On the sectoral front, selling was seen in Nifty's Auto, IT, Fin Services, Pharma, FMCG, Metal, Media, Energy, Private Bank, Infra, Commodities, and PSE



sectors.

On the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), 1,057 shares ended in green and 2,935 in red, whereas there was no change in 93 shares.

In the Sensex pack, Tech Mahindra, IndusInd Bank, Axis Bank, M&M, Tata Motors, L&T, SBI, TCS, UltraTech Cement, Power Grid, Reliance, and Tata Steel were the top losers. Nestle India and Titan were the top gainers.

According to experts, disappointment regarding the slower-than-anticipated rate cuts by the US Fed has adversely affected global market sentiment. This bearish outlook is particularly impacting the domestic market.

Wow Skin Science expands presence in tier 2 plus cities with Meesho

Ranchi: Wow Skin Science, a beauty and personal care brand has expanded its presence in tier 2 cities and beyond through its strategic partnership with value e-commerce platform Meesho.

The brand claims to have onboarded 1 million new customers from regions such as Ambernath, Trichy, Etah, Nalgonda, Pratapggarh, Itanagar, Rourkela, Berasia, and Ramagundam among others over the past one year through this partnership.

Wow Skin Science has witnessed strong growth on the platform across categories such as perfumes, facewash, serums, creams, sunscreens, shampoos, hair oils, aloe vera gel, and health drinks. It is targeting a 5X growth in annual recurring revenue (ARR) on Meesho over the next one year.

Commenting on the partnership, Manish Chowdhary, co-founder of Wow Skin Science in a statement said, "Our partnership with Meesho has been transformative, enabling us to unlock new growth opportunities and build strong brand loyalty in tier 2+ regions. Over the past year, this collaboration has driven a 10X growth in orders from these regions, underscoring the immense potential of tier 2+ markets."

Megha Agarwal, general manager business at Meesho added, "Our platform's extensive reach into tier 2+ markets enables brands to connect with millions of shoppers who seek products at affordable prices. The remarkable growth Wow has achieved highlights the potential of these emerging markets and reinforces Meesho's mission to democratize internet commerce for all." Going forward, Wow Skin Science plans to launch products that cater specifically to Meesho's vast consumer base to fuel its growth in the coming years.

DoJ case against Adani 'flimsy, baseless': Mahesh Jethmalani on US Attorney's resignation



New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) The US Department of Justice's (DoJ) indictment of Adani Group officials in an alleged bribery case is "extremely flimsy", senior advocate Mahesh Jethmalani said on Friday, as Breon Peace, the US Attorney behind the case, announced his resignation.

According to reports, Brooklyn US Attorney Peace, who presented charges against Adani Group officials, has announced to step down on January 10 - just days away from Donald Trump's inauguration as the next US President on January 20.

Peace, who was appointed by outgoing US President Joe Biden in 2021, will be replaced by First Assistant US Attorney Carolyn Pokorny.

"The Adani case in US court was already a very diluted case. There was no evidence or basis to the indictment. The uproar by the Opposition over the issue in the Indian Parliament is baseless," Jethmalani was quoted as saying in media reports.

Peace's resignation was on expected lines as he was likely to be asked by the next US administration under Trump to step down.

Last week, Adani stocks gained following the news of FBI Director Chris Wray resigning from office early next year after the US President-elect replaced him with Kash Patel.

Despite the earlier hedge funds allegations, the Adani Group made a roaring comeback on the stock market and the US Justice Department indictment will fizzle away soon, according to industry experts.

In November, the DoJ indicted Adani Group officials on allegations ranging from securities fraud to wire fraud. The Adani Group vehemently rejected the allegations as "malicious, mischievous and manipulative selections of publicly available information" to arrive at "predetermined conclusions for personal profiteering with wanton disregard for facts and the law".

The indictment by the US DoJ is nothing but a "wasted expense and once Trump assumes office, such wasteful exercises involving the government offices with overseas businesses will probably fade away," ace global investor Mark Mobius recently told IANS.

India Post Payments Bank opens 2.68 crore accounts in 2024, 59 pc belong to women

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) opened 2.68 crore accounts in 2024 (till November), with 1.56 crore or 59 per cent being owned by women and 77 per cent accounts being opened in rural parts of the country, the government said on Friday.

While 1.04 crore customers availed mobile banking services, 69 lakh utilised VDC (virtual debit card) services and around 2,600 crore were disbursed through AePS (Aadhaar Enabled Payment System) in the January-November period.

About 3.62 crore IPPB customers received direct benefit transfer (DBT) benefits aggregating Rs 34,950 crore while 4.40 lakh digital life certificates



were issued to pensioners in the January-November period, according to the Ministry of Communications. Nearly 58 per cent of total DBT beneficiaries are women, and the bank is proactively working towards women empowerment, aligning with the government's directions.

Parcel monitoring application (PMA) revolutionised real-time delivery information sharing from 4.33 lakh articles in May 2019 to 5.35 crore articles in October 2024.

As of October, 400,00 KYC verifications were successfully completed.

According to the ministry, radio frequency identification (RFID) gates have been installed at 42 major mail exchange hubs to ensure real-time tracking across networks.

"The establishment of 233 nodal delivery centres has enhanced the speed and efficiency of parcel delivery, covering over 1600 PIN codes and handling 30 per cent of total parcels delivered across India," it informed.

Aadhaar centres were

extended to defence personnel including the highest centre at Siachen, with 110 operational centres in Army Postal Service locations.

More than 1,000 Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra (DNKs) have been opened to facilitate commercial export through postal channels across the country. The Department of Posts acceded to the Postal Payment Service Multilateral Agreement (PPSMA) for electronic postal payment service exchange between the signatory parties.

Meanwhile, 25,133 individuals were engaged in the first tranche of the Rozgar Mela on October 29. The construction of 56 new postal buildings and renovation of 95 improved service delivery, according to the ministry.

Indian cement industry poised for robust recovery in 2nd half of FY25

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) The Indian cement industry is projected to see a robust recovery in the second half of FY25, driven by pent-up demand, a rebound in government capex and sustained momentum in the real estate and housing sectors, a Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd. (MOFSL) report said on Friday.

Industry volumes grew by 3-5 per cent year-on-year (YoY) during October-November 2024, despite a challenging October due to unseasonal rains, a high base from the previous year, and the overlap of festive seasons.

According to the report, November saw a significant 20-22 per cent YoY growth.

For H2 FY25, volume growth is projected at 8-9 per cent YoY, with



expectations of a strong start to FY26 during the March-June period, typically the peak consumption window, according to the MOFSL report.

The top picks in the sector include Ambuja Cements (ACEM), among others.

Cement prices have largely remained flat month-on-month (MoM)

imported petcoke stood at Rs 1.20/Kcal, compared to Rs 1.65/Kcal for South African coal.

Lower fuel prices are expected to improve cement spreads by Rs 25-30 per tonne in H2 FY25 over H1 FY25.

EBITDA per tonne is projected to grow 23 per cent sequentially during this period, supported by marginal realization gains, positive operating leverage, and cost optimization measures, including increased use of green energy, alternative fuels, and improved logistics efficiency.

"The Indian cement sector will remain structurally resilient, with strong demand fundamentals and improving cost structures," the report maintained.

Urban sector investments in India surge 16-fold: Centre

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) The investments in the urban sector in India have increased 16-fold as the government aims to achieve the 'Viksit Bharat' goal by 2047, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs said on Friday.

Under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), work orders have been issued in 8,066 projects amounting to Rs 1,64,669 crore, of which 7,352 projects (91 per cent of total projects) amounting to Rs 1,47,366 crore have been completed, as per the data provided by 100 Smart Cities.

Under the 'Swachh Bharat Mission,' in the past 6 months (since June 9, 2024), the government has released more than Rs 1,123 crore for projects in nine states -- Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal for solid waste and used water management, information, education and communication (IEC) and capacity-building projects.

According to the ministry, key accomplishments under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) include the creation of a 4,649 megalitres per day (MLD) water treatment capacity and a 4,429 MLD sewage treatment capacity.

Under 'AMRUT 2.0,' the government is prioritising stormwater drainage systems to address waterlogging challenges, alongside continuing efforts to enhance drinking water availability and sewerage systems, said the ministry.

World Bank okays \$800 million loan for developing Amaravati



New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved the \$800 million Amaravati Integrated Urban Development Programme, aimed to establish the city as a well-managed, climate-resilient growth centre in Andhra Pradesh that generates jobs and improves the lives of its current and future residents.

"With its urban population expected to double to 950 million by 2050, India aims to build sustainable and liveable cities as growth hubs, and Amaravati offers an exciting opportunity to

model this urban transformation," said Auguste Tano Kouame, the World Bank's Country Director for India.

"The World Bank will bring global expertise to support the design of city institutions and infrastructure that can create economic opportunities for residents, including women, youth and vulnerable groups."

Currently, about 1,00,000 people live in the Amaravati area, with the population expected to grow severalfold over the next decade. The government has prepared a master plan for a 217 sq km area that can accommodate 3.5 million people by 2050. The World Bank and the Asian Development Bank are supporting the first phase of the city's development.

"The Bank financing will also catalyse more than \$600 million in private sector investment to help the city become financially sustainable and provide economic opportunities for its residents," according to a World Bank statement.

Deals in farm goods via govt's e-NAM platform touch Rs 3.79 lakh crore

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) The government's National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme wherein online trading of Agriculture and Horticulture commodities is done for transparent price discovery for farmers for their produce through a competitive online bidding system has recorded trades in agricultural produce to the tune of Rs 3.79 lakh crore, the Parliament was informed on Friday.

As on October 31, as many as 1,389 mandis of 23 states and 4 Union Territories (UTs) have been integrated with e-NAM platform. So far, 1.78 crore farmers, 2.62 lakhs traders and more than 4,250 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) are registered on e-NAM, Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Ram Nath Thakur said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.

The minister said e-NAM is a demand-driven scheme. The integration of mandis under the e-NAM platform is based on



proposals received from state governments and Union Territories, reflecting their demand and readiness.

Mandis are integrated into the platform upon fulfilling the necessary infrastructure and technical requirements as per the e-NAM operational guidelines.

State-wise, the number of mandis integrated with e-NAM platform as on October 31, 2024 include Tamil Nadu with 157, Rajasthan 145, Gujarat 144, Madhya Pradesh 139, Maharashtra 133, Haryana 108

and Punjab 79.

The e-NAM portal provides single window services for all APMC related information and services. This includes commodity arrivals, quality and prices, buy and sell offers and e-payment settlement directly into farmers' account, among other services.

The e-NAM is a pan-India electronic trading portal, networks the existing Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.

"Can't Speak Kannada? Come to Delhi": CEO's hiring post sparks controversy

New Delhi: A social media post by Vikram Chopra, CEO of Cars24, has triggered a debate over linguistic identity and workplace inclusivity. Mr Chopra shared a post on X (formerly Twitter) aimed at those living in Bengaluru open for jobs in Delhi-NCR.

The post read, "Still can't speak Kannada after years in Bengaluru? It's okay. Aa jao Dilli (come to Delhi)."

We are not saying Delhi NCR is better. Only that it really is. "We are not saying Delhi NCR is better. Only that it really is. If you wish to come back, write to me at vikram@cars24.com with the subject - Delhi meri jaan," his post read.

While some interpreted the message as a light-hearted recruitment pitch, many others criticised it for belittling Kannada.

"This is probably not the mes-



Still can't speak Kannada after years in Bengaluru?

It's OK.

Aa jao Dilli ❤️

We are looking for kickass engineers who wish to stay

sage you would want to post in a hiring call. So basically you want north Indians/Delhiites in your team? The rest of the folks?" asked one social media user.

"Delhi NCR has its charm, but before calling it 'better,' let's take a moment to consider the reality.

A look at the crime data might offer a different perspective. Think twice before making the move," commented another.

One individual even dug out an old post by Mr Chopra himself in which he criticised the national capital. "The most difficult thing

in Delhi is to deal with its people," his post from 2009 read.

In June last year, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah issued a strong call for fostering a "Kannada atmosphere" across the state. He urged all residents of Karnataka to adopt Kannada in their daily lives.

"It is the responsibility of every Kannadiga to protect the Kannada language, land, and water," Mr Siddaramaiah said. He said that speaking Kannada should be a conscious decision for all residents of the state, regardless of their linguistic background. Supporters of Mr Chopra's post, however, have defended it as an acknowledgement of the challenges non-Kannada speakers face while living and working in Bengaluru.

"I compliment you for this initiative. It's important that those who work live close to their families," wrote one social media user.

Autism a significant health burden in India

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a significant health burden in India, according to a study, published in The Lancet Psychiatry journal, on Friday.

Autism spectrum disorder is a neurological and developmental disorder. The condition majorly affects how people interact, communicate, and behave with others.

The study, based on the Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) 2021, ranks autism among the top 10 causes of non-fatal health burden in youth under 20 years old.

The study showed that India had 708.1 case of ASD per 100,000 persons in 2021. Of these, 483.7



were females, while 921.4 were males. About 140 per 100,000 persons suffered poor health and disability due to ASD in India in 2021.

Globally, an estimated 61.8 million people, or one in every 127 persons were autistic in 2021. The study also showed stark disparities based on gender.

At 1,065 cases per 100,000 males, the global

prevalence of ASD was found to be significantly higher among males. It was almost double the global prevalence among females (508 per 100,000 females), the study showed.

While the high-income Asia Pacific, including Japan, recorded the highest prevalence globally (1,560 per 100,000 people), Tropical Latin America and Bangladesh reported the lowest number of ASD cases.

"The findings underscore the urgent need for early detection and sustained support for autistic individuals and their caregivers worldwide," said the researchers, while urging the need to prioritise resources for early detection of the disease.

Unicorns continue to be among large employers in India

Bengaluru, Dec 20 (IANS) Unicorns (with valuation \$1 billion and above) continue to be among the large employers in India and overall, 116 Indian unicorns employed 4,10,829 people in August this year compared to 4,17,561 employees recorded in the same month last year, a report showed on Friday.

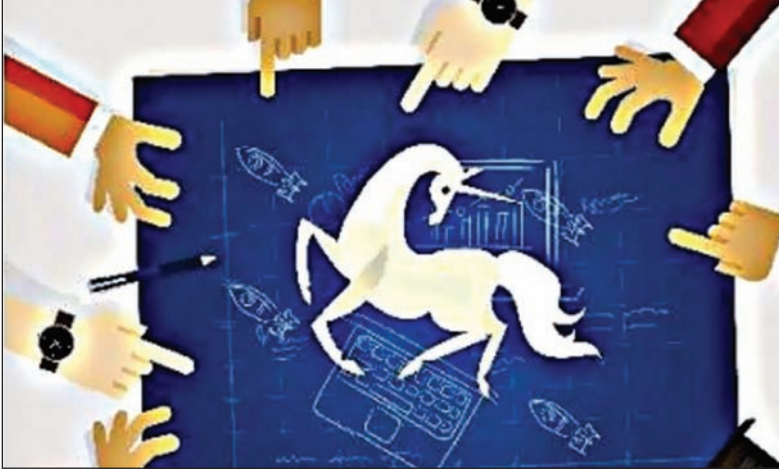
Unicorn hiring peaked in March at over 42,000 cumulative employee additions, according to the report by SaaS-based network platform PrivateCircle.

"Unicorns continue to be large employers in India. We find that

the compounded revenue growth among most unicorns has been in high double digits over a two-year period and yet these unicorns have maintained stable employee numbers," said Dr Murali Loganathan, Director of Research at PrivateCircle.

This signals efficient usage of human capital even during periods of high growth. The monthly net change in unicorn workforce has stayed between -0.9 per cent and 2.5 per cent during the selected time period, he informed.

Across all major startup hubs,



Delhi NCR saw the maximum additions in the total number of employees between August 2023 to August 2024.

The second highest employee additions were recorded in Chennai based unicorns, followed by Bengaluru.

In contrast, Mumbai unicorns saw a net decrease of 7,024 employees from the cumulative workforce. Pune and Hyderabad have also recorded a decrease in their overall workforce numbers.

Hiring at unicorn startups picked up from March 2024, which was the peak hiring month

with 42,000 employees being hired in a single month, according to the report.

"On the other hand, the maximum number of employees (39,000) left unicorn companies in September 2023, which was the highest in the time period under review," it added.

Meanwhile, India's tech ecosystem witnessed the emergence of six unicorns in 2024, marking a 200 per cent increase compared to 2 unicorns in 2023.

The country is expected to have over 300 unicorns by 2030, from more than 100 at present.

Here's how Kamal Haasan is 'handling' his new 'script'

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) Superstar Kamal Haasan, who is currently in the US, hilariously revealed that he is "handling" his new script with "kid gloves."

Kamal took to Instagram, where he shared a picture of himself from a clothing store. In the images, the star is seen trying out tan coloured gloves.

For the caption, the actor, who is dressed casually in beige sweatpants paired with a dark coloured jacket, wrote: "Handling my new script with kid gloves!"

Five days ago, Kamal was seen spending his time in Chicago and enjoying the "chilly weather."

Kamal took to Instagram, where he shared a string of pictures of himself and the picturesque locale can be seen in the backdrop. The star is seen dressed in sharp winter wear such as an overcoat, a scarf and pants. In one picture, the acclaimed actor is seen standing on a bridge and posing for a picture.

For the caption, he wrote: "Chicago also chills!"

Kamal, who will next be seen in filmmaker Mani Ratnam's "Thug Life", in November had penned a lengthy note where he requested his fans to simply address him by his name.

In a post on X, Haasan expressed his gratitude for



the affectionate titles he has received, including "Ulaganayagan." However, he humbly declined to accept any such titles or prefixes, stating that he sees himself as a lifelong student of the art of cinema.

The actor wrote, "The art of cinema transcends beyond any one individual and I am but a student of the craft, forever hoping to evolve, learn and grow. Cinema, like any other form of creative expression, belongs to all. It is the

collaboration of countless artists, technicians, and audience who make it what it is - a true reflection of humanity's diverse, rich, and ever-evolving stories."

He said that it is a humble belief that the artist must not be elevated above the art.

"I prefer to remain grounded, constantly aware of my imperfections and my duty to improve. Hence, after considerable reflection, I feel compelled to respectfully decline all such titles or prefixes."

"I humbly request that all my fans, the media, members of film fraternity, party cadre, and fellow Indians, to here on after, refer to me simply as Kamal Haasan or Kamal or KH. Thank you again for your gestures of kindness over the years. Please know that this decision comes from a place of humility and a desire to remain true to my roots and purpose, to always be one among all of us, the lovers of this beautiful artform," Kamal concluded his note.

Study shows surge in fake news, deepfakes in India; govt developing tools

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) There has been a significant rise in fake news and deepfake concerns in India, revealed a study on Friday, even as the government recently announced it is working to develop indigenous tools to address it.

The study, conducted by the Indian School of Business (ISB) and CyberPeace, showed that with social media emerging as the primary vector of misinformation, fake news and deepfake concerns are rising in the country.

The research, focusing on user behaviour and perceptions, provides crucial insights into the spread of misinformation and its impact on various segments of Indian society.

The study analysed a substantial number of fake news stories, revealing that political fake news accounts for the most significant share (46 per cent), followed by general issues (33.6 per cent) and religion (16.8 per cent). These three categories alone represent 94 per cent of the total fake news instances analysed.

Social media platforms are the dominant source of misinformation, responsible for 77.4 per cent of cases compared to just 23 per cent originat-



ing from mainstream media. Twitter (61 per cent) and Facebook (34 per cent) were identified as the leading platforms for spreading fake news.

"The fight against fake news and misinformation requires collective action. While governments and organisations must take the lead in creating secure ecosystems, individual responsibility is equally critical. CyberPeace is committed to building safer and resilient digital spaces by fostering awareness, collaboration, and innovation to counter these growing threats," said Major Vineet Kumar,

Global President and Founder of CyberPeace.

"This study underscores the urgent need for a comprehensive approach to combatting misinformation. We need to focus not just on technological solutions but also on enhancing media literacy, improving reporting mechanisms, and fostering responsible online behaviour," added Prof. Manish Gangwar, Executive Director, ISB Institute of Data Science.

Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw recently addressing the

Parliament, said that the government is committed to addressing fake news and deepfake through robust debate and responsible innovation while fixing accountability on social media platforms.

The minister highlighted the critical challenges posed by the emerging AI landscape, social media accountability, and the need for robust legal frameworks.

The minister underlined the importance of balancing freedom of speech with the responsibility to combat fake news and ensure accurate narratives in the digital age.

Single-use plastic bottles may be spreading antibiotic resistance

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) Scientists from the Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST) Mohali, an autonomous institution of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), have found that nanoplastics derived from single-use plastic bottles (SUPBs) may be contributing to the spread of antibiotic resistance.

Amid growing concerns about the joint threats of plastic pollution and antibiotic resistance, the new study, published in the journal Nanoscale, underscores an unrecognised public health risk.

Nanoplastics and microorganisms coexist in diverse environments,

including the human gut, and research has shown them to affect health.

In the study, the INST team traced how plastic nanoparticles could impact bacteria. They focussed on Lactobacillus acidophilus -- which plays a central role in the gut microbiota.

Dr. Manish Singh and his team investigated whether nanoplastics could transform beneficial bacteria into carriers of antibiotic-resistance genes and pose a risk to human gut microbiome health.

They utilised the used plastic water bottles to synthesise environmentally relevant nanoplastics particles as these polyethylene terephthalate bottle-



derived nanoplastics (PBNPs) better represent the actual pollutant nanoplastics generated due to dumping of single-

use plastic bottles and containers.

The scientists demonstrated that PBNPs can facilitate the cross-species

gene transfer from E. coli to Lactobacillus acidophilus via a process called horizontal gene transfer (HGT). This par-

ticularly occurs through outer membrane vesicle (OMV) secretion in bacteria.

They explained that there are two novel mechanisms through which PBNPs facilitate antibiotic resistance gene transfer. One of them is through the direct transformation pathway in which PBNPs act as physical carriers, transporting antibiotic resistance plasmids across bacterial membranes and promoting direct gene transfer between bacteria.

The other one is through OMV-Induced Transfer Pathway in which PBNPs induce oxidative stress and damage to bacterial surfaces, which makes stress response genes pro-

active and triggers an increase in outer membrane vesicle (OMV) secretion.

These OMVs, loaded with antibiotic resistance genes, become potent vectors for gene transfer across bacterial species, thus facilitating the spread of antibiotic resistance genes even among unrelated bacteria. This reveals an important and previously overlooked dimension of nanoplastics' effects on microbial communities.

The study highlights how nanoplastics might unexpectedly contribute to the antibiotic resistance crisis by introducing antibiotic resistance genes to beneficial gut bacteria

like Lactobacillus acidophilus, which may subsequently pass these genes to pathogens.

It indicates that beneficial bacteria like Lactobacillus acidophilus could act as reservoirs for antibiotic resistance genes, potentially transferring these genes to pathogenic bacteria during infections.

Protecting beneficial gut bacteria is crucial for immune support, digestion, and disease prevention. Limiting nanoplastic contamination could help preserve gut microbiota integrity, minimising the chances of antibiotic resistance gene transfer from beneficial bacteria and supporting microbiome resilience.

Khalistani separatist Pannun's threat to Indian ambassador 'serious' issue, taken up with US: MEA

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Friday revealed that New Delhi has taken "seriously" the latest threat issued by the US-based Khalistani separatist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun against India's Ambassador to the US, Vinay Mohan Kwatra and raised it accordingly with the authorities in Washington.

In a recent video, Pannun threatened that Kwatra is on the radar of pro-Khalistani Sikhs in America for allegedly coordinating with Russian authorities, who in turn were providing inputs to Indian intelligence agencies on the Khalistani network in the United States.

"As and when such threats are issued, we take them very seriously and raise them with the US government. In this



particular case also, we have raised it with the US government and it is our expectation that the United States government will take our security concerns seriously and act on it," MEA spokesperson RandhirJaiswal said during a weekly media briefing in New Delhi on Friday.

A former Foreign Secretary, Kwatra took charge as India's

Ambassador to the United States in August this year, succeeding Taranjit Singh Sandhu.

His appointment came at a time when Khalistani separatists continue to target Hindu community in the country and also the Indian missions.

Khalistanis have been found to be involved in incidents of defacement of temples, including in California and New York,

and also in acts of arson and vandalism at the Indian embassy in San Francisco.

Several lawmakers, including ShriThanedar - a Democrat elected to the House of Representatives from Michigan state - have raised alarm over the "substantial increase" in attacks on Hindus and their places of worship in the United States.

The lawmaker had recently expressed frustration with the investigating agency for their failure to find the culprits behind the incidents at the temples and the consulate.

"It appears to be a very coordinated effort to attack these places of worship which has created a lot of fear in the community. And often what we have seen is that the law enforcement, the local law enforcement enters into these

investigations and rarely any suspects have been identified, and that investigation goes nowhere.

"What that does is that it leaves the community feeling like nobody cares about them. Nobody reports back to them on what's going on. And that means that the community continues to live in fear, the computing community continues to live in an adverse situation with essentially no help from law enforcement," he said.

The lawmaker went on to state that he and his colleagues are asking the US Department of Justice for "coordinated efforts between the local law enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Department of Justice, and higher priority needs to be assigned to such hate crimes against this peaceful community".

Malaysia agrees to resume search for MH370

Kuala Lumpur, Dec. 20 (IANS) The Malaysian government has agreed in principle to resume the search for Malaysian Airlines flight MH370, Malaysian Transport Minister Anthony LokeSiewFook said on Friday.

Loke told a press briefing that the cabinet has agreed in principle to accept the proposal from exploration firm Ocean Infinity to proceed with seabed search operations to locate MH370 in a new area estimated at 15,000 square kilometres in the southern Indian Ocean.

"This endeavour will be based on the 'no find, no fee' principle. Under this principle, the Malaysian government will not be required to pay Ocean Infinity unless the wreckage of the aircraft is discovered," he said.

Loke also said the proposed new search area, identified by the firm, is credible based on the latest information and data analysis conducted by experts and researchers, Xinhua news agency reported. The disappearance of MH370 was a tragic incident that occurred on March 8, 2014, when the Boeing 777, en



route from Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Malaysia to Beijing Capital International Airport in China, vanished from radar screens with all 239 on board.

The families of those on board the ill-fated flight have been urging the government in Kuala Lumpur to begin a new search for the aircraft.

The Malaysian government had earlier also engaged US seabed exploration firm Ocean Infinity to search for the aircraft in the southern Indian Ocean, offering to pay up to \$70 million if it found the plane. But, its operation came up short.

China urges US to stop illegally occupying Cuba's territory

Beijing, Dec 20 (IANS) The United States needs to immediately stop illegally occupying Cuba's territory, close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, and pull out of the base at Guantanamo as soon as possible, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Friday.

Spokesperson Lin Jian made the remarks when asked to comment on a related query at a daily press briefing.

Lin said the United States has long unlawfully occupied part of Guantanamo Bay, and carried out arbitrary detention and used torture to extort confessions at the detention facility there. "What the United States has done severely violates international law and undermines Cuba's sovereignty and rights and interests."

It reported that the US Department of Defence recently announced the repatriation of a detainee from the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, and 29 detainees remain there. In recent years, successive US administrations have promised multiple times they would close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, but still haven't acted on it. Despite repeated protests from the Cuban government, the United States has unlawfully occupied part of Guantanamo Bay for over 120 years. The international community, including the UN, has more than once expressed concerns on this issue and asked the United States to close the detention facility there and treat the detainees justly as soon as possible, according to the spokesperson.

In another legal gain for Trump, appeals court throws out prosecutor in election interference case

New York, Dec 20 (IANS) In another legal gain for US President-elect Donald Trump, an appeals court threw out on Thursday the Georgia prosecutor on the case, accusing him of election interference.

The state appeals court cited Fani Willis' romantic link to a lawyer she hired to help prosecute the case and said that it created an appearance of conflict of interest.

The court did not throw out the case itself, which can continue with another prosecutor, but the decision effectively pauses the prosecution, which could extend to Trump's four years as President.

The two federal cases against him, accusing him of election interference and of mishandling secret documents have been dropped.

The sentencing in the New York case in which he was convicted has been paused. In that case, he was convicted of falsifying business records to hide the hush money paid to a porn star to keep her from going public with her claims of a tryst with him -- which he has denied. The New York judge, however, did not dismiss the criminal conviction leaving open the possibility of sentencing him at a later date. Willis, the prosecutor in a Georgia county, hired Nathan Wade, a lawyer without experience in cases like that against Trump, and paid his office about \$653,000.

Russia launches group strike in response to Kyiv's attack

Moscow, Dec 20 (IANS) Russia launched a group strike with long-range precision weapons on Friday in retaliation for Ukrainian attacks on its chemical plant with Western-made missiles.

The strike targetted the Ukrainian Security Service command post, the state-run Kyiv design bureau "Luch," and positions of the Patriot anti-aircraft missile system, the Russian Defence Ministry said in a statement.

It said the raid was in response to Ukraine's Wednesday attack on a Russian chemical plant in the Rostov region with six US-made ATACMS tactical missiles and four Storm Shadow air-launched cruise missiles.

Ukraine's General Staff of the Armed Forces said on Telegram that five Russian missiles targeted Kyiv but were shot down by Ukrainian air defence at around 7 am (0500 GMT).

The fragments of downed missiles resulted in deaths and injuries as well as damage in five districts of Kyiv, it said, Xinhua news agency reported.

In a major shift of policy on the Ukraine crisis, the United States in



November authorized Ukraine to use US long-range missiles to strike targets in Russia, triggering an escalation of tension around the conflict.

Earlier this week, citing a senior diplomat, the Ukrainian government-run Ukrinform news agency reported that Russia has carried out 12 attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure so far this year, launching about 1,100 missiles.

Sergiy Kyslytsya, Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, said that the attacks involved both cruise and ballistic missiles.

Russia last week conducted one of the largest assaults this year on Ukraine's energy facilities with 94 missiles and 193 drones, Kyslytsya said.

South Korea's acting defence chief, US Indo-Pacific commander underscore trilateral security cooperation with Japan

Seoul, Dec 20 (IANS) Acting Defence Minister Kim Seon-ho and US Indo-Pacific Commander Admiral Samuel Paparo concurred Friday on the importance of trilateral security cooperation with Japan to deter North Korea's threats and vowed efforts to further strengthen such cooperation, the South Korean defence ministry said. Kim and Paparo discussed the issue as they met at Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek, 70 kilometers south of Seoul, on the sidelines of a

change-of-command ceremony marking the inauguration of new US Forces Korea Commander General Xavier Brunson.

In their meeting, both sides agreed that the South Korea-US alliance remains "ironclad," and vowed to bolster cooperation and communications to uphold it with an overwhelming combined defence posture, the ministry said.

For such a goal, they concurred on the need to smoothly push ahead with pre-planned combined drills, Yonhap news

agency reported.

Kim was quoted as saying that South Korea's external policy remains unchanged and emphasised that the military remains committed to maintaining a firm combined defence posture under the acting president. Friday's meeting was attended by Brunson as well as US Ambassador to South Korea Philip Goldberg and General Kang Shin-chul, Deputy Commander of the South Korea-US Combined Forces Command.

Solidifying partnership with Gulf countries, PM Modi set to embark on historic Kuwait visit

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) Committed to fostering longstanding, historic and close relations with all Gulf countries, Prime Minister NarendraModi will undertake a two-day visit to Kuwait starting Saturday - the first by an Indian PM to the key West Asian country in 43 years.

"India and Kuwait share traditionally close and friendly relations which are rooted in history and have been underpinned by economic and strong people to people linkages. India is among the top trading partners of Kuwait. The Indian community is the largest expatriate community in Kuwait. The visit will provide an opportunity to further strengthen the multifaceted ties between India and Kuwait," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said ahead of PM Modi's historic visit.

During the visit, the Prime Minister will hold discussions with the leadership of Kuwait - including Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Emir of the State of Kuwait - and is also scheduled to interact with the large Indian community in the country.



PM Modi will be accorded a Ceremonial Guard of Honour at the Bayan Palace, following which he will hold separate one-on-one meetings with the Emir and the Crown Prince of Kuwait. It will be followed by delegation-level talks with the Prime Minister of Kuwait during which both sides will review the entire spectrum of bilateral relations,

including areas such as politics, trade, investment, energy, culture, people-to-people ties, and the steps needed to further enhance them

"India and Kuwait share an age-old bond characterized by historical ties, robust economic exchanges, and vibrant cultural connections," MEA Secretary (CPV & OIA) Arun Kumar

Chatterjee told reporters on Friday.

Ahead of the landmark visit, the MEA spotlighted that there has been a major transformation in India's ties with the Gulf region and the PM has given "special emphasis" to strengthen and deepen relations with the Gulf countries.

Kuwait currently holds the current presidency of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) - also comprising the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Qatar - and the only GCC member country that PM Modi has not visited so far since assuming office in 2014. A proposed visit in 2022 was postponed due to the Covid pandemic.

Gulf countries are major trade and investment partners for India, and New Delhi also has a strong energy partnership with these countries. During the visit, PM Modi will also interact with the Indian diaspora at a community event and will also visit a labour camp. He will also attend the opening ceremony of the 26th Arabian Gulf Cup as a special guest of the Emir of Kuwait.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, जमशेदपुर

Email ID- rdsd-jamshedpur@nic.in

का0आा0सं0 :- 2052

जमशेदपुर / दिनांक:- 20.12.2024

: - प्रेस विज्ञापित :-

श्रमायुक्त-सह-अध्यक्ष, झारखण्ड भवन एवं अन्य सन्निर्माण कर्मकार कल्याण बोर्ड, राँची के पत्रांक JB0CWW BOARD-31/2023-924, दिनांक 28.11.2024 के निर्देशानुसार इस प्रमण्डल अधीन विकास कार्य में संलग्न सभी संवेदकों को एवद प्रेस विज्ञापित के माध्यम से सूचित करना है कि भवन एवं अन्य सन्निर्माण कर्मकार कल्याण उपकर अधिनियम 1996 की धारा 4(1) एवं तत्संबंधी नियमावली के नियम 6(1) के तहत निर्माण कार्य प्रारंभ किए जाने के 30 दिनों के भीतर प्रत्येक नियोजक द्वारा प्रपत्र-1 (Form-1) में सूचना उपकर निर्धारण पदाधिकारी के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किए जाने का प्रावधान है। जिसके कारण संबंधित संवेदक का उपकर निर्धारण नहीं किया जा सका है। जिन संवेदकों द्वारा अपने प्रतिश्ठान का निबंधन नहीं कराया गया है जो अधिनियम की धारा 7(1),(a),(b) का उल्लंघन है।

अतः इस प्रमण्डल अंतर्गत सभी संवेदक प्रपत्र-1 (Form-1) भरकर अपना निबंधन श्रम अधीक्षक का कार्यालय, जमशेदपुर में अवश्य करा लें।

कार्यपालक अभियंता

PR 342540 Rural Development (24-25)_D

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, जमशेदपुर

जिला दण्डाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ।

(विधि शाखा)

T.A. Mise Case No.133/2024-25

आवेदिका 1. सावती लोहार, पति-स्व0 मोद्रा लोहार 2. गोपाल कुमार, पिता-स्व0 मोद्रू कुमार 3. नेपाल कुमार, पिता-स्व0 मोद्रू कुमार 4. गुरुवाती देवी, पति-स्व0 कालीपदो लोहार 5.मंगली देवी, पति-स्व0 रंजित लोहार 6.संजय लोहार, पिता-स्व0 शत्रुघ्न लोहार 7.विगुराम लोहार, पिता-स्व0 शत्रुघ्न लोहार 8. निरोवती देवी पति-स्व0 भरत लोहार, धाना-चाण्डिल, जिला- सरायकेला- खरसावाँ के मौजा-कटिया धाना नं0-259 के अन्तर्गत :-

(वादी)

बनाम

M/S S M STEELS AND POWWER LIMITED (प्रतिवादी)

: आम सूचना :

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि आवेदिक 1. सावती लोहार, पति-स्व0 मोद्रा लोहार 2. गोपाल कुमार, पिता-स्व0 मोद्रू कुमार, पिता-स्व0 मोद्रू कुमार, 4.गुरुवाती देवी, पति-स्व0 कालीपदो लोहार 5.मंगली देवी, पति-स्व0 रंजित लोहार 6.संजय लोहार, पिता-स्व0 शत्रुघ्न लोहार 7.विगुराम लोहार, पिता-स्व0 शत्रुघ्न लोहार 8. निरोवती देवी पति-स्व0 भरत लोहार, धाना-चाण्डिल, जिला- सरायकेला- खरसावाँ के मौजा-कटिया धाना नं0-259 के अन्तर्गत :-

खाता	प्लॉट	रकबा
95	1706	0.29
88	1310	0.11
कुल		0.40

को CNT ACT 1908 की धारा 49 के तहत उद्योग की स्थापना हेतु M/S S M STEELS AND POWWER LIMITED को किसी एवं हस्तांतरण हेतु आवेदन दिया गया है।

अतः यदि किसी को उल्लेखित भूमि हस्तान्तरण में कोई आपत्ति हो तो दिनांक- 10.01.2025 को 1:00 बजे अपराह्न में उपायुक्त, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ के न्यायालय में लिखित / मौखिक आपत्ति पत्र दाखिल करना सुनिश्चित करें। निर्धारित तिथि के पश्चात् किसी प्रकार की आपत्ति पर कोई विचार नहीं किया जाएगा।

मेरे हस्ताक्षर एवं न्यायालय के मुहर से दिनांक 13.12.2024 को सूचना निर्गत किया गया।

उप समाहर्ता

PR 342443 Law(24-25)D

विधि शाखा सरायकेला-खरसावाँ।

जिला दण्डाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ

(विधि शाखा)

T.A. Mise Case No.136/2024-25

आवेदक. 1. गोपेन सिंह मुण्डा, पति -स्व0 शुक्र सिंह मुण्डा 2. हलधर सिंह मुण्डा, पति-स्व0 शुक्र सिंह मुण्डा, धाना-चाण्डिल, जिला- सरायकेला- खरसावाँ के मौजा-कटिया धाना नं0-259 के अन्तर्गत :-

(वादी)

बनाम

M/S S M STEELS AND POWWER LIMITED (प्रतिवादी)

: आम सूचना :

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि 1. गोपेन सिंह मुण्डा, पति -स्व0 शुक्र सिंह मुण्डा 2. हलधर सिंह मुण्डा, पति-स्व0 शुक्र सिंह मुण्डा, धाना-चाण्डिल, जिला- सरायकेला- खरसावाँ के मौजा-कटिया धाना नं0-259 के अन्तर्गत :-

खाता	प्लॉट	रकबा
01	1326	0.22
90	1325	0.04
कुल		0.26

को CNT ACT 1908 की धारा 49 के तहत उद्योग की स्थापना हेतु M/S S M STEELS AND POWWER LIMITED को किसी एवं हस्तांतरण हेतु आवेदन दिया गया है।

अतः यदि किसी को उल्लेखित भूमि हस्तान्तरण में कोई आपत्ति हो तो दिनांक- 10.01.2025 को 1:00 बजे अपराह्न में उपायुक्त, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ के न्यायालय में लिखित / मौखिक आपत्ति पत्र दाखिल करना सुनिश्चित करें। निर्धारित तिथि के पश्चात् किसी प्रकार की आपत्ति पर कोई विचार नहीं किया जाएगा।

मेरे हस्ताक्षर एवं न्यायालय के मुहर से दिनांक 13.12.2024 को सूचना निर्गत किया गया।

उप समाहर्ता, विधि शाखा

PR 342441 Law(24-25)#D

सरायकेला-खरसावाँ

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, SERAIKELA

e-Procurement Notice

Tender Reference No.-26/WRD/MID/SERAIKELA/F2/2024-2025 (2nd Call), (UNTID FUND)

SL. NO	Name of the Work	Block	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Rs)	Cost Of B.O.Q	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time of Comp.
1	Construction of 02 Additional Class Rooms in Primary School in Village- Tankocha Under Nimdih Block.	Nimdih	3671300.00	5000.00	74000.00	09 Months
2	Construction of 02 Additional Class Rooms, Office and Stairs in the Upgraded Middle School Suryapost of Rajnagar Block.	Rajnagar	2474500.00	5000.00	50000.00	09 Months
3	Construction of 02 Additional Class Rooms, Office and Stairs in the Upgraded Middle School Pandra of Seraikella Block.	Seraikella	2475600.00	5000.00	50000.00	09 Months
4	Initial Bid Security in the shape of		To be deposited online as per S.O.P uploaded.			
5	Date of publication of tender on website		10.01.2025 from 2.00 P.M			
6	Start Date of Bidding		10.01.2025 from 2.00 P.M			
7	Last date & Time for online bidding		17.01.2025 up to 3.00 P.M			
8	Last date & time for upload of Bid security and other documents in online form		17.01.2025 up to 3.00 P.M			
9	Date & time for opening of Tender Bid		20.01.2025 at 4.00 P.M in the office of Executive Engineer , Minor Irrigation Division Seraikella .			
10	Name & Address of inviting Tender		Executive Engineer , Minor Irrigation Division Seraikella .			
11	Contact no. of Procurement officer		9142781867			
12	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell		9142781867			

Note :-Bid Document के Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) एवं Tender Fee/ Cost of Bidding Document के प्रावधान JAP-IT विभाग के ज्ञापक 120 दिनांक 03.10.2023 के प्रावधान के हद तक स्वतः संशोधित समझे जायेंगे।

Executive Engineer

PR 342450 Water Resource(24-25)#D

Minor Irrigation Division, Seraikella

Health

Foetal congenital heart defects can triple risk of preeclampsia, preterm birth: Study



New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) Foetus suffering from major congenital heart defects (MCHDs) may triple the risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes such as preeclampsia and preterm birth, finds a study.

MCHDs occur in approximately 1 in 100 live births, and can negatively impact both the health of the mother and the long-term outcomes for the child.

Researchers from the Statens Serum Institut in Copenhagen showed that about 23 per cent of pregnancies affected by foetal MCHD also result in adverse obstetric outcomes including preeclampsia, preterm birth, fetal growth restriction, and placental abruption.

The findings were based on data from 534,170 pregnancies, including 745 cases complicated by foetal MCHDs in Denmark. Pregnancies resulting in live births after 24 gestational weeks and without chromosomal aberrations were included in the study.

The study, published in JAMA Pediatrics, also assessed 11 MCHD subtypes, including univentricular heart, transposition of the great arteries (TGA), and atrioventricular septal defect.

Data on the obstetric risk profile for specific MCHD subtypes are limited and thus slow down the development of preventive interventions.

Pregnancies complicated by MCHDs suffered an adverse obstetric outcome rate of 22.8 per cent.

While foetal growth restriction occurred in 6.7 per cent of MCHD pregnancies, a higher prevalence of preeclampsia was found in 6.2 per cent of MCHD pregnancies.

They also found a 15.7 per cent increased risk of preterm births in MCHD pregnancies. While Placental abruption was rare it showed a significant trend toward higher incidence 0.9 per cent.

All MCHD subtypes, except TGA, were associated with significantly higher odds of the composite adverse outcome. The highest risk was observed in pregnancies with truncus arteriosus, pulmonary atresia with intact ventricular septum, and Ebstein anomaly.

The team also confirmed the findings with a meta-analysis of 5,993 cases of MCHDs. Notably, pregnancies with fetal TGA did not exhibit elevated risks of preeclampsia, preterm birth, or fetal growth restriction, the findings showed.

Science/Tech

Humanoid robotics to offer human-like dexterity, intelligence to industries: Report



New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) Humanoid robotics technologies will soon transform healthcare, manufacturing, logistics, and service industries by offering advanced dexterity, precision, and human-like capabilities, according to a report on Friday.

The report by GlobalData, a data and analytics company, showed that human-like dexterity and intelligence can help automate complex tasks, address labour shortages, as well as enhance operational efficiency across such industries.

"The rapid progress in humanoid robotics signals a turning point in robotics innovation. From water-powered biomimetic systems replicating human anatomy to AI-driven robots capable of learning and adapting to real-world tasks, these developments unlock unprecedented potential," said Saurabh Daga, Project Manager of Disruptive Tech at GlobalData.

"Breakthroughs in dexterity, power efficiency, and real-time adaptability mean these robots are no longer just prototypes; they are evolving into functional systems that can replace or augment human roles across industries. As energy efficiency, modularity, and AI capabilities advance, humanoid robots will transform healthcare, automation, and labor-intensive industries, paving the way for cost-effective, precise, and intelligent solutions to global challenges," he added.

As per GlobalData's Disruptor Intelligence Centre, there are key developments in humanoid robotics. The new robots can mimic human anatomy and movement using advanced biomimetic technologies that can have potential applications in healthcare, prosthetics, and industrial automation.

These also come with enhanced flexibility and optional dexterous hands, and being powered by AI can autonomously perform delicate tasks, making them suitable for domestic and industrial use while addressing labor shortages.

Daga noted that beyond making an industrial impact, the novel humanoid systems are rapidly advancing in sophistication, combining AI, biomimetic engineering, and real-time adaptability.

He also highlighted challenges such as cost, scalability, and energy efficiency. Yet, "advancements in biomimetic technologies, AI integration, and modular systems are accelerating innovation".

He urged for collaborative efforts among developers, manufacturers, and researchers will be critical to unlocking the full potential of humanoid robotics and achieving widespread adoption.

Diljit Dosanjh exudes 'Don' vibes as he surpasses Shah Rukh Khan to achieve this milestone

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) Singer-actor Diljit Dosanjh recently made headlines after surpassing Shah Rukh Khan on the UK's Top Asian Celebrity list. He shared his reaction to this achievement with his music.

The Punjabi sensation has claimed the top spot on the UK's list of the Top 50 Asian Celebrities in the World, surpassing celebrities like Shah Rukh Khan and Allu Arjun. The 'Udta Punjab' actor took to his Instagram stories to share his reaction and he let his music speak for him.

Reposting an article about the achievement, Diljit added his popular track "Born To Shine" to express his emotions. In another story, he featured his new song "Don," further celebrating this milestone.



Dosanjh claimed the top spot thanks to his chart-topping tracks, successful film projects, international collaborations, and his highly successful Dil-Luminati Tour. He also received widespread praise for his role in the critically acclaimed film "Amar Singh Chamkila."

The Jatt & Juliet 3 actor surpassed last year's top contender, Shah Rukh Khan, securing the top spot in the 2024 edition of the list published by UK weekly Eastern Eye. The list was unveiled earlier this month.

Singer Charli XCX secured the second spot on the list, followed by Allu Arjun in third, Dev Patel in fourth, Priyanka Chopra in fifth, and actor Vijay in sixth. Singer Arijit Singh placed seventh. Other notable Indian stars featured on the list

include Prabhas, Rajkummar Rao, Kartik Aaryan, Amitabh Bachchan, Alia Bhatt and Hrithik Roshan.

Meanwhile, Diljit is currently on his Dil-Luminati Tour, performing across various cities in India. The India leg of the tour began in Delhi on October 26 and has already seen successful performances in Jaipur, Lucknow, Hyderabad, and Ahmedabad. On Thursday, he performed in Mumbai at the Mahalaxmi Race Course.

Mumbai was initially not on the list of planned cities for the tour, but due to high demand, a show was added. Additionally, two more performances were included-one in Jaipur and another in Delhi.

The 12-city tour will conclude in Guwahati on December 29.

Ryan Reynolds 'proud' to be 'part of the ever-evolving Canadian story'



Los Angeles, Hollywood star Ryan Reynolds says he is "proud" to be 'part of the ever-evolving Canadian story' after he was feted with the Order of Canada honour.

The 48-year-old actor was included in the list of 88 new appointees to the Order of Canada on December 19. He said he "couldn't be more emotional and proud."

"Today I received the incredible honour of appointment to the Order of Canada. I couldn't be more emotional and proud of this moment. I'm so grateful to be a part of the ever-evolving Canadian story," he said.

Reynolds, a native of Vancouver, went on to thank his "third parent," the communities across Canada who "supported and shaped me."

"As well as all the people across Canada who do the work of helping people each and every day without recognition or pats on the back," Reynolds continued. "I'm asking the Governor General if I can break my officer's medal into thousands of little pieces to share."

The star also thanked the Canadian government for the honour on X, formerly called Twitter, adding that he promises to "use my powers for good... and general whimsy," reports people.com.

In addition to his work on screen, the Canadian government also recognised his support of Canadian causes, including Water First Education, Covenant House Vancouver and Sick Kids Foundation.

Bachchan and Khan family cheer for Aaradhya-Abram's joint performance

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) Two of the biggest families of Bollywood, headed by the Shahenshah and the Baadshah of Hindi cinema, cheered for their young ones at their school's annual function in the city.

Veteran Bollywood icon Amitabh Bachchan and Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan attended the event along with their families. The joint act by Aaradhya Bachchan, daughter of Aishwarya Rai and Abhishek Bachchan, and AbRam Khan, the youngest son of SRK, was the highlight of the evening.

The star-studded event was attended by several high-profile celebrities, including Kareena Kapoor Khan, Karisma Kapoor, Shahid Kapoor and Karan Johar as they gathered to cheer for their children.

Aaradhya and AbRam's Christmas-themed performance stole the show. In a clip that has now gone viral, While Aaradhya was dressed in a lovely red-and-white outfit, AbRam donned a white sweater and red muffler.

SRK was seen recording the video of AbRam, while Suhana and Gauri enjoyed his performance. On the other hand, Aaradhya's parents, Abhishek and Aishwarya, were seen clicking their daughter's photos and videos. We also spotted Amitabh



Bachchan looking in awe at his granddaughter's performance.

Other celebrities at the event included Saif Ali Khan, Kareena Kapoor, Mira Rajput, Suhana Khan, Gauri Khan, Riteish Deshmukh, Genelia D'Souza, Prithviraj Sukumaran, and Manish Malhotra.

Of late, the rumours around Abhishek and Aishwarya's divorce have grabbed headlines. Rumours around Abhishek's entanglement with actress Nimrat Kaur during the shoot of their streaming movie 'Dasvi' have also been doing rounds. The rumours of Abhishek and Aishwarya's separation started

doing rounds since last year when it was reported in the media that Aishwarya had left the Bachchan family's house, and has been living separately.

However, at the time, Aishwarya attended the premier of the streaming movie 'The Archies' which marked the debut of Big B's grandson Agastya Nanda. During the event, last year, Aishwarya was seen in good spirits with the Bachchan family. Aishwarya Rai and Abhishek Bachchan tied the knot in 2007 after dating for a couple of years. The couple welcomed their daughter in 2011, four years after their marriage.

Govind Namdev puts an end to rumours about dating actress Shivangi Verma

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) After news about him dating 31-year-old actress Shivangi Verma started doing the rounds on the Internet, actor Govind Namdev took to social media to put an end to the chatter.

The rumors started after Shivangi posted a picture with him on her social media with the caption, "Pyaar knows no age, no limits."

Putting a full stop to all the misunderstanding, Govind took to Instagram and wrote: "Ye real life love nahi hai, reel life hai janab!".

The captions further read with a mention of his wife Sudha: "Ek film hai 'Gaurishankar Goharganj wale'Jiski shooting hum Indore me kar rahe hain.Ye usi film ka story plot hai. Isme ek old man ko ek young actress se pyaar ho jata hai.Jahaan tak vyaktigat rup se mujhe kisi young-old se pyaar ho jaaye, ye iss janam me to sambhav hai nahi.Meri Sudha,saans hai meri!"

"Zamaane ki har



ada,Har lobh laalach,Swarg bhi,Fika hai bilkul,Meri Sudha ke aage ! Lad jaunga Prabhu se bhi, Gar kiya kuchh idhar-udhar to, Phir ho jaaye saza,Kuchh bhi ...God bless ... (This is not real life, sir, it's reel life! There is a film called "Gaurishankar Goharganj Wale", which we are shooting in Indore. This is the story plot of that film.

In it, an old man falls in love with a young actress. As far as my personal life goes, it's not possible in this life that I fall in love with someone much younger or older than me.)"

"(My Sudha, She is my breath! Every charm of the world, Every greed and temptation, Even heaven itself, Seems dull, In front of my Sudha! I would

even fight With God himself, If I ever did something Right or wrong, Let there be punishment, Anything...God bless...)"

He explained that the post was related to the plot of their upcoming movie, "Gaurishankar Goharganj Wale," which explores a unique love story where an older man and a young girl has an affair, which is part of its central plot.

Ram Gopal Varma questions if the police will go to 'heaven' to arrest Sridevi

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) Amidst the controversy surrounding Allu Arjun's arrest, maverick filmmaker Ram Gopal Varma has come out in support of the actor and raised a question on Sridevi, stating that three people died when they came to see the late star during the shoot of "Kshana Kshanam".

Taking to X, formerly called Twitter, Varma wrote: "Every STAR should STRONGLY protest against @alluarjun 's ARREST because for any celebrity whether it's a FILM STAR or a POLITICAL STAR , is it a crime for them to be ENORMOUSLY POPULAR???"

He then made a snarky remark towards the Telangana Police and wrote: "3 people died in the lakhs of crowd who came to see SRIDEVI in the shooting of my film KSHANA KSHANAM ..So will the #TelanganaPolice now go to #HEAVEN to ARREST #sridevi ???"

"Kshana Kshanam" was 1991 road comedy heist film. The film stars Venkatesh, Paresh Rawal, and Rami Reddy. The plot follows Satya, a young woman who is troubled by a gang of robbers headed by Nayyar and the police.



It was on December 14, when Allu Arjun was released from Chanchalguda jail. The star was welcomed with a tight and an emotional hug by his children and wife Sneha Reddy.

A video showed Arjun walking into his residence and being greeted by his family members. In the clip, the actor's children are seen running to him and giving their father a loving hug. His wife, Sneha, could be seen standing and as Arjun came up to her, she gave him a big emotional hug.

Kareena Kapoor had an unexpected encounter at her children's annual function

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) It was a rare sight to see when Bollywood diva Kareena Kapoor Khan and actor Shahid Kapoor were seen in the same frame during the annual day act of their children in a school.

Kareena was joined by her husband Saif Ali Khan and sister Karisma Kapoor as Taimur Ali Khan and Jeh Ali Khan. In a clip, Taimur was seen performing a few hand movements and had a serious face. Kareena was seen recording the video as her son performed on stage. Shahid was seen sitting right behind Kareena along with his wife Mira Rajput.



After Shahid and Kareena were seen in the same frame, pictures and videos went viral on social

media. Fans remembered their iconic film "Jab We Met", which was released in 2007.

The film tells the story of Aditya Kashyap, a heartbroken businessman who boards a train, where he meets a talkative Punjabi girl, Geet Dhillon. While they miss their train, Geet and Aditya begin a journey together to her home and what follows is a love that changes them.

The Bollywood diva also turned cheerleader for her younger son Jeh as he was seen dancing on the stage in an elephant costume.

Talking about their upcoming work, Kareena

was last seen on screen in Rohit Shetty's "Singham Again", where she stars alongside names such as Ajay Devgn, Akshay Kumar, Jackie Shroff, Ranveer Singh, Tiger Shroff, Arjun Kapoor and Deepika Padukone.

Meanwhile, Shahid Kapoor's yet-untitled action thriller, which will be directed by Vishal Bhardwaj, has been locked for December 5, next year.

The film also stars Triptii Dimri, Nana Patekar, and Randeep Hooda.

Sajid Nadiadwala, head honcho of Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment, took to X to share that the

filming journey begins on January 6, 2025 and will release in December the same year.

"#SajidNadiadwala presents @VishalBhardwaj film! A spectacular cinematic journey begins on 6th Jan 2025 Film releasing on 5th December 2025 @shahidkapoor @tripti_dimri23 @nanagpatekar @RandeepHooda @WardaNadiadwala," the tweet on Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment read.

Earlier this week, Shahid revealed that he has started prepping to play an "edgy and nasty" gangster from the 1990s.

Tata Archery Academy's Ankita wins 2 gold and 1 silver

Komalika bags 1 gold at Senior National Archery Championship 2024



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Tata Archery Academy's (TAA) Ankita Bhakat won two Gold and one Silver medal whereas Komalika Bari clinched one Gold medal in the Senior National Archery

Championship 2024 organised by the Jharkhand Archery Association in collaboration with the Archery Association of India, NTPC and Tata Steel. Jharkhand Women recurve team consisting of Ankita, Komalika and Tamanna clinched Gold defeating the

team from Madhya Pradesh. Ankita won Silver in the Women's Recurve category and Gold in the ranking round. Her score in the ranking tournament was 667/720. Deepika, ex Tata Archery Academy cadet won Gold in the Women's Recurve

Category. Arjun Munda, President, Archery Association of India, was the Chief Guest for the Closing Ceremony. Chanakya Chaudhary, Vice President Corporate Services, Tata Steel was the Guest of Honour. Others guests present were Mukul Vinayak

Choudhari, Chief Sports Tata Steel, Hemant Gupta, Head Sports Academies and Adventure Programme, Tata Steel, Padma Shri Purnima Mahato, Head Coach Tata Archery Academy and other distinguished officials from the field of archery. (W-mb)

Akaash House crowned champions at JUSCO School Kadma's 18th Annual Sports Day



Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Akaash House emerged as the overall champions at JUSCO School Kadma's 18th Annual Sports Day, held in the school premises on December 20. The event was marked by vibrant displays of athleticism, teamwork, and cultural performances, showcasing the students' talent and enthusiasm.

A.F. Madon, Administrator of JEM Foundation, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour, while Rishabh Garg, SP (Rural), Jamshedpur, was the Chief Guest. The event began with a spirited March Past by students of Jal House, Akaash House, Agni House, Prithvi House, and Vayu House, with Jal House bagging the award for Best March Past.

The highlights of the day included the Olympic Drill and the Dragon Drill, which captivated the audience. Yoga and Taekwondo demonstrations further showcased the students' diverse skills and discipline.

The winners of the sporting events were felicitated by A.F. Madon and the school's Principal, Jhumjumi Nandi. P. Yogesh and Srishti Kumari were awarded the title of 'Best Athlete,' while Shivam Dey and Kritika Kumari received the same honor in the senior category. In the final tally, Akaash House secured the top spot as overall champions, followed by Prithvi House as the first runners-up and Agni House as the second runners-up. Principal Jhumjumi Nandi, Vice Principal Anindita Roy, and coordinators Qamar Ali and Seema Tiwary extended their congratulations to the winners. The event concluded on a patriotic note with the National Anthem, leaving the school abuzz with enthusiasm and pride. (W-mb)

Thuppakiyapudinga Washi: Ashwin passes baton to Sundar in Thalapathy Vijay style

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) Amidst all the tributes pouring in for Ravichandran Ashwin following his retirement from international cricket, he wished fellow off-spin all-rounder Washington Sundar in a way which seemed like a passing of the baton moment in Indian cricket.

On Wednesday, shortly after Ashwin announced his retirement post the third Test at the Gabba ending in a draw, Sundar penned a heartfelt tribute on his social media accounts. "More than just a team mate, you have been an inspiration, Ash anna. It's been an honour to share the field and dressing room with you."

PCB has gained more than BCCI: Miandad

Lahore, Dec 20 (IANS): Legendary Pakistan batter Javed Miandad praised the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) for its sensible handling of the Champions Trophy saga, welcoming the decision to host the 50-over tournament using a hybrid model.

Miandad stated that the International Cricket Council's (ICC) mediation of the new agreement between India and Pakistan for world events represents a bigger victory for Pakistan than for their arch-rivals.

Guru Gobind Singh High School hosts 18th annual sports competition

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Guru Gobind Singh High School, Telco celebrated 18th annual sports competition with great zeal, featuring a series of athletic events, cultural performances, and exciting displays of talent. The event was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, school chairman Gurinder Singh Ahuja, along with Guest of Honor Santosh Singh and Principal Pushpa Pandey, who marked the occasion by releasing balloons.

The festivities began with a torch race led by special runners and school athletes, symbolizing the spirit of sportsmanship. Students from nursery to Class 10 participated in various



competitions, showcasing their skills and determination. Notable events included Tug-of-War, martial arts demonstrations, yoga performances, and captivating drills by both primary and high school students.

A welcome dance and colorful drills added to the vibrancy of the

day. Winners of the cross-country race organized by Tata Motors on August 31 were also felicitated during the event.

The school honored its top performers with medals and merit certificates, celebrating their achievements in sports. The event was coordinated by sports teacher

Virendra Kumar Mishra, martial arts coach Sunil Prasad, and yoga coach Niranjana Kumar.

The occasion was graced by members of the school's teaching staff, the School Management Committee, Telco Gurudwara Management Committee, Naujwan Sikh Sabha, and Stree Satsang Committee, all of whom contributed to the event's success.

The celebration concluded with appreciation for the collective efforts of teachers and organizers, who ensured the event was a grand success. Sports teacher Virendra Kumar Mishra expressed gratitude to all participants and supporters for their enthusiasm and collaboration. (W-mb)

Emerald House emerges overall champion

DBMS Kadma High School's 19th Annual Sports Day



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Emerald House claimed the Overall Championship Trophy at the 19th Annual Sports Day of DBMS Kadma High School, held at the J.R.D. Sports Complex on December 20. Sapphire House secured the runners-up position, while also earning the title of the Most Disciplined House.

The event began with the arrival of the Chief Guest, Purnima Mahato, an International Archery Coach at Tata Steel and recipient of the Padma Shri and Dronacharya Awards. She declared the Sports Meet open and inspired the students with her motivational speech on the importance of sports in personal

development.

National-level players from the school proudly carried the torch, and Ayush Raj, the Sports Minister, administered the sportsman's oath. The vibrant drills, including the Dance Drill, Christmas Drill, Emojis Drill, Petals in Motion, and Umbrella Drill, mesmerized the audience with their creativity and energy.

The students participated in a wide range of athletic events, from fun-filled junior activities like "Balance the Ball" and "Getting Ready for School," to senior events such as Shot Put, 100m, 200m, and 400m races, Relay races, and Tug-of-War.

Winners across categories were awarded medals and certificates.

Notable individual awards included: Best Athlete Sub-Junior Boys: Raj Singh (Emerald House), Best Athlete Sub-Junior Girls: Dhara Mahato (Emerald House), Best Athlete Junior Boys: Arush Das (Ruby House) & Himanshu Mahato (Topaz House), Best Athlete Junior Girls: Sakshi Sahu (Topaz House), Best Athlete Senior Boys: Mayank Dheebhar (Ruby House), Best Athlete Senior Girls: Sumonalsha Mandal (Emerald House) Topaz House won the Trophy for Best March Past, while Sapphire House was lauded for its discipline. The event concluded with applause for the Sports Coordinator, Suprava Panda, and her team for organizing a grand celebration of athletic talent and team spirit. (W-mb)

JFC eye top four spot as they take on East Bengal today

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Jamshedpur FC will face East Bengal SC in a crucial Indian Super League encounter on December 21 at Kolkata. Riding high on back-to-back wins, Jamshedpur have climbed to sixth in the league standings with 18 points from 10 matches. A victory at the iconic Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan could propel the Men of Steel into the top four.

In their last match, Jamshedpur FC delivered a statement performance, defeating Punjab FC 2-1. The team displayed attacking flair and defensive solidity, with Javi Siverio's well-placed header leading the charge. The midfield, led by Javi Hernández, dictated the tempo, while the defence stood firm against Punjab's attacks. This all-round display has given the Red Miners a much-needed confidence boost heading into their clash against East Bengal. East Bengal SC, however, present a formidable challenge. The Kolkata side showcased resilience in their last outing, coming from two goals down to secure a thrilling 4-2 victory over Punjab FC.

Jamshedpur head coach Khalid Jamil has emphasized the



importance of staying focused. "This is a very important game for us. We know East Bengal is a strong team, but nothing is impossible. Our aim is to focus on our game and ensure a solid performance," he said ahead of the clash. Forwards like Javi Siverio, who has been instrumental in recent games, will once again be key to Jamshedpur's

importance of staying focused. "This is a very important game for us. We know East Bengal is a strong team, but nothing is impossible. Our aim is to focus on our game and ensure a solid performance," he said ahead of the clash. Forwards like Javi Siverio, who has been instrumental in recent games, will once again be key to Jamshedpur's

Kohli leaving India, set to move to UK with wife and kids

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) India's cricketing icon Virat Kohli, who has often been a subject of debate on social media over spending a lot of time in the United Kingdom, is reportedly set to shift base soon. According to Kohli's childhood coach Rajkumar Sharma, the Team India star is looking to shift to the UK soon, with his wife Anushka Sharma, and children.

While the details on the topic aren't available yet, Kohli has been spending a lot of time in London with his wife and children, especially since Anushka became pregnant with their second child, Akaash.

Virat and Anushka own a property in London, where they've been spending a lot of time since Akaash's birth. Most likely, the couple would permanently shift in the UK soon. "Yes, Virat plans to move to London with his children and wife, Anushka Sharma. He is going to be leaving India and shifting very soon. However, right now, Kohli is spending most of his time with his family apart from cricket," Sharma said in a leading Hindi daily.

"So it's just about not leaving any undone business behind and not have any regrets later, which I am sure I won't." "Once I am done, I will be gone, you won't see me for a while (smiles). So I want to give it everything I have till the time I play, and that's the only thing that keeps me going," he said.



Delhi's Saarthak Chhibber takes two-shot lead with 64 in round 2

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 20: Saarthak Chhibber of Delhi moved into a sole two-shot lead at 13-under 129 after returning a sizzling seven-under 64 in round two of the INR 3 crore TATA Steel Tour Championship 2024, the TATA Steel PGTI's season-ending event being played at the Beldih and Golmuri Golf Courses in Jamshedpur.

Noida's Amardeep Malik (64) and Sri Lankan N Thangaraja (66) were placed tied second at 11-under 131.

Two-time TATA Steel Tour Championship winner Udayan Mane (65) of Pune was a further shot back in fourth place.

TATA Steel PGTI Ranking leader Veer Ahlawat (68) occupied tied ninth place at seven-under 135. Defending champion and two-time winner Gaganjeet Bhullar (67), Rahul Gangjee (67) and SSP Chawrasia (71), were all placed tied 21st at four-under 138.

The first two rounds of the

Tata Steel Tour Championship 2024 in Jamshedpur



richest event on the PGTI saw one half of the field play their first nine holes at Golmuri Golf Course and second nine at Beldih Golf Course while the other half of the field played Beldih first followed by Golmuri. This format will also be followed for the next two rounds of the tournament in Jamshedpur with the par for the round being 71. The leading

groups will start at Golmuri and finish at Beldih. Saarthak Chhibber (65-64), the overnight leader, came up with an error-free round to surge ahead on day two. The 26-year-old Saarthak began the day on a high with a 25-foot birdie conversion on the first hole. He then went on to score birdies on all the four par-5s (2nd, 9th, 12th, 16th) for the second day in

succession thanks to his steady ball-striking. Chhibber's round also featured a great approach shot on the 14th and a splendid 30-feet conversion on the 17th that both led to birdies.

Saarthak, currently 27th on the PGTI's money list and searching for his maiden title, said, "These golf courses are not easy if you start missing fairways. However, I was fortunate to make three good par-saves to keep the momentum rolling. I kept giving myself chances by making fairways and greens, otherwise these courses become very difficult to negotiate."

"I'm happy that I've dropped just one shot so far this week. The back-nine being played at Beldih requires you to be on point much more. The up and downs are a lot tougher here in Beldih but you stand a good chance if you put yourself in good places. "Going ahead, for me it will be about trusting the process and looking to keep hitting fairways and greens."

Hopefully, if I can make some putts, things should work out well," added Chhibber, who has posted three top-10s this season including a joint runner-up finish. Amardeep Malik (67-64) moved up six spots from his overnight tied eighth after a 64 that included an eagle, six birdies and a bogey. Amardeep, a two-time winner on the PGTI, sank two 20-footers, one for eagle and the other for a birdie. He also landed his shots within four feet on the eighth and 17th to set up birdies there. N Thangaraja (65-66), the overnight joint leader, slipped one spot after a round of 66 that featured eight birdies and three bogeys. Thangaraja was in outstanding form with the driver and also made a chip-in birdie on the third hole on Friday. The three Jamshedpur-based professionals Karim Taunk (even-par 142), Divvijay Singh (six-over 148) and Kurush Heerjee (eight-over 150) were placed tied 42nd, tied 54th and tied 57th respectively. (W-mb)

Better performance than I ever gave, deserve Oscars: Jaya Bachchan on injured BJP MPs

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) Samajwadi Party (SP) MP, Jaya Bachchan on Friday alleged that the BJP MPs injured during a recent confrontation in Parliament were "acting" and accused them of lying about their injuries, suggesting they deserve awards for their performances.

Her remarks followed a heated confrontation on Thursday in the Parliament premises during an INDIA bloc protest against alleged disrespect towards Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. During the incident, BJP MPs Pratap Sarangi and Mukesh Rajput were reportedly injured.

The BJP has accused the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, of "deliberately pushing" the BJP MPs, resulting in their injuries.

Reacting to the allegations of the BJP MPs, Jaya Bachchan said, "Sarangi ji is staging a drama. What did he even do during his time in Odisha?"

Speaking to reporters during the INDIA bloc's protest, she said, "We were



proceeding towards the House, but these (NDA) leaders blocked our way at the stairs. If someone gets a slight push in such a situation, it's natural for them to fall."

Bachchan went on to add, "Sarangi ji, Rajput ji, and the MP from Nagaland have delivered better performances than I ever did in my acting career. They deserve Oscars and all the awards for their acting. This was as scripted as any film."

Labelling the commotion in Parliament as a "man-made incident," the SP Rajya Sabha MP accused the BJP of "only knowing how to level

NDA slams Jaya Bachchan over 'acting' remarks on BJP MPs

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) NDA leaders on Friday condemned Samajwadi Party (SP) Rajya Sabha MP, Jaya Bachchan for her remarks accusing injured BJP MPs and Nagaland BJP MP Phangnon Konyak of "acting" and suggesting they "deserved Oscars" for their performances.

Bachchan's comments came after a heated confrontation in Parliament on Thursday during an INDIA bloc protest against alleged disrespect towards Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

The BJP accused the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, of deliberately pushing BJP MPs Pratap Sarangi and Mukesh Rajput, who reportedly sustained injuries.

Speaking to IANS, BJP MP Kamaljeet Sehrawat said, "She comes from a world where everything seems cinematic to her. She enjoys creating drama, even when the Speaker addresses her by name."

Sehrawat explained that INDIA bloc protests had been ongoing near Parliament gates, with NDA members using side passages.

Speaking to IANS, Union Minister of State, B.L. Verma, accused LoP Rahul Gandhi of recklessly pushing through the crowd.

"Hundreds of MPs and the media witnessed it. Pratap Sarangi was pushed, and I personally helped Mukesh Rajput, who got hurt," he said.

Verma questioned how Bachchan would react if someone dismissed her injuries as "drama."

"Would she tolerate it if a similar comment was made about her?" he asked.

NDA leaders stressed that the incident, recorded on cameras, speaks for itself and urged the Opposition to uphold parliamentary decorum instead of dismissing serious issues with derogatory remarks.

Manipur CM slams Rahul Gandhi for 'misbehaving' with MP from Nagaland

Imphal, Dec 20 (IANS) Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on Thursday slammed Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi for reportedly "misbehaving" with Rajya Sabha member from Nagaland Phangnon Konyak on Parliament premises.

The Chief Minister in a post on X said: "I condemn the unacceptable and disgraceful conduct of Congress leader Mr Rahul Gandhi, who assaulted Rajya Sabha MP from Nagaland, Ms. S Phangnon, in Parliament."

"This behaviour is an insult to the sanctity of the Parliament as an institution. I stand in solidarity with Ms. S Phangnon Konyak and I urge the authorities to ensure that justice is swiftly served. Let us work towards upholding the values of respect, equality, and decency in our institutions," Biren Singh said.

Earlier on Thursday, Konyak, the BJP's Upper House member from Nagaland and also the state President of BJP Mahila Morcha in Nagaland, accused Rahul Gandhi of making her feel



uncomfortable while protesting outside Parliament.

Konyak filed a complaint with the Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Thursday, claiming that her dignity and self-esteem have been deeply hurt because of the 'behaviour and conduct' of Rahul Gandhi.

"He misbehaved with me in a loud voice and his physical proximity to me was so close that I, being a lady member, felt extremely uncomfortable," she said.

"I stepped aside with a heavy heart and felt that no Member of Parliament should behave this way," she added.

The showdown between the Congress-led Opposition and ruling

BJP-led NDA over the alleged "insult" to B.R. Ambedkar led to an ugly turn on Parliament premises with claims of pushing and shoving involving MPs, leaving two BJP parliamentarians hospitalised and the woman BJP MP accusing Rahul Gandhi of "misbehaving" with Konyak.

The BJP accused the LoP in Lok Sabha of pushing MPs, causing injuries to two of its members.

Rahul Gandhi, however, denied it and said it was he who was pushed by a ruling party member, while Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge also accused protesting BJP members of shoving him and injuring his knees.

Both sides lodged complaints with the police.

Major fire at Kolkata slum, several shanties gutted

Kolkata, Dec 20 (IANS) A major fire broke out at a slum located at Topsia in eastern Kolkata on Friday, leaving several shanties totally gutted and the families residing there homeless.

No casualty has been reported so far. However, the fire officers, who were at the spot with nine fire tenders to deal with the situation, were facing a tough time in bringing the raging blaze under control because of the high wind speed and dingy lanes, leading to the slum.

"Our prime task is to ensure that the fire does not spread to the adjacent localities. However, we are facing problems in the exercise because of the narrow and dingy lanes



leading to the slum, which is making our task even more difficult. At the same time, we are also trying to ensure that no one is trapped within the slum where the fire has broken out," said a fire officer.

He also said that because of the high wind speed and the presence of inflammable items, the

fire at the slum had spread fast. In addition, the LPG cylinders stocked at the different shanties in the slum started bursting one after another, thus adding to the crisis.

The local people launched the initial fire-fighting efforts, using water from the local water body there.

Srinagar freezes at minus 6.2 degrees Celsius, season's lowest so far

Srinagar, Dec 20 (IANS) As mercury dropped to minus 6.2 degrees Celsius on Friday, J&K's Srinagar city recorded the season's lowest minimum temperature. MET Department officials said that at minus 6.2 degrees Celsius, Srinagar city recorded the lowest minimum temperature of this season so far.

Gulmarg had minus 6 degrees Celsius while Pahalgam recorded minus 8.2 degrees Celsius as the night's lowest temperature.

Jammu city registered a minimum temperature of 6.9 degrees Celsius, Katra 6 degrees Celsius, Batote 1 degree, Banihal minus 3.8 degrees, and Bhaderwah minus 1.6 degrees.

The MET office has forecast light snow in the higher reaches between December 21 and 22, while generally cold and dry weather is likely to continue in J&K until December 28.



Despite the absence of rainwater on the streets, slippery road conditions prevented people from venturing out of their homes in the morning in Srinagar and other towns in the Valley.

Vehicular traffic also remained off the roads in the morning as commuters waited for the day to warm up a little before going out for their daily chores.

Once again water taps froze in the morning as people burnt small fires around water pipes to defreeze them.

The 40-day-long period of intense winter cold known locally as the 'Chillai Kalan' starts tomorrow and will end on January 30. During this period of extreme cold, the maximum temperature also falls adding to the chill factor.

Most water bodies, including lakes, streams and rivers start freezing with the beginning of the Chillai Kalan. The sky usually remains overcast leaving locals with little opportunity to see a cloudless sky.

It is literally impossible to see any local not wearing the loose tweed over garment called the 'Pheran' in winter.

Designs of this attire have been suitably modified to make them fit to be worn during office hours.

Locals, without exception, wear the loose tweed overgarment called the 'Pheran' during the winter months which is made of different designs and stitching material depending on the affluence of the wearer.

In Kashmir, an earthen firepot woven in a basket of willow wicker called the 'Kangri' is filled with embers and kept under the Pheran for instant warmth.

Plea for verification of EVMs used in Haryana to be heard by another bench of SC

New Delhi, Dec 20 (IANS) For the second time in a row, a bench, headed by (now) Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna, referred to another bench the hearing of a plea filed by Congress leaders before the Supreme Court seeking verification of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) used during the Haryana Assembly polls.

A bench of CJI Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar on Friday opined that the matter should be taken up for hearing by a bench headed by Justice Dipankar Datta in January next year.

Last week, a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and P.B. Varale opined that the plea seeking directions to the Election Commission of India (ECI) to lay down a memorandum for the checking and verification of the original burnt memory/microcontroller of the four components of the EVM should be placed before the same

Bench which had passed directions on EVMs in April this year.

The Justice Nath-led Bench said that the fresh petition related to the interpretation and implementation of the previous judgment of the apex court and therefore, the registry should place the papers before the CJI, who is the master of the roster, for passing appropriate orders as to whether the petition should be listed before the previous Bench.

In order to strengthen the integrity of the election process in the country, a Bench of Justices Khanna (now CJI) and Datta, in April this year, had passed a direction for checking and verification of the burnt memory/microcontroller in 5 per cent of EVMs for any tampering or modification on a written request made by candidates securing second and third highest votes in an election.

The checking and verification exer-

cise was directed to be undertaken by a team of engineers from the manufacturers of the EVMs, with the candidates and their representatives having the option to remain present at the time of such an exercise, it said.

The latest petition filed by Karan Singh Dalal, a former 5-time Congress MLA, said that the ECI has not issued any procedure for checking and verification of the original burnt memory/microcontroller of the four components of the EVM (Control Unit, Ballot Unit, VVPAT and Symbol Loading Unit) in terms of the SC judgment.

The plea sought directions to the poll body to lay down a memorandum for checking and verification of the original burnt memory/microcontroller of the four components of the EVM (Control Unit, Ballot Unit, VVPAT and Symbol Loading Unit).

52 kg gold, Rs 10 crore cash recovered from abandoned car in Bhopal

Bhopal, Dec 20 (IANS) The Income Tax Department has recovered 52 kg of gold and Rs 10 crore cash from an abandoned car in Bhopal following hour-long searches in connection with a disproportionate assets case linked to former RTO Constable Saurabh Sharma, an official said on Friday.

The searches were conducted on the premises associated with Sharma, who ventured into the real estate business after taking voluntary retirement from the Transport Department of the state government.

Sources said the car was found abandoned in the jungle of Mendori village, which is located near a dense forest area and



Kaliasot Dam, around 15-20 km from Sharma's residence in Arera Colony, where the raid was conducted on Thursday.

The raid was conducted jointly by Madhya Pradesh Lokayukta's Special Police Establishment (SPE) and Income Tax Department at the residence of Sharma and his associate, Chandan Gaur.

The gold found in the car

are spread in several districts in the state.

Sharma, a resident of Gwalior had joined the MP government's transport department on a compassionate appointment after his father's death.

Sharma has been described as a 'simple man' during his joining. However, his lifestyle gradually changed completely and his assets saw a drastic growth during 12 years of his service, which initially raised suspicion, the police said.

After clashes with bureaucrats and complaints regarding a school allegedly built on government land, Sharma retired early to focus on real estate ventures.

Why Bihar's per capita income lowest despite you being CM for 20 years: Tejashwi

Patna, Dec 20 (IANS) Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav slammed Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Friday asking him why the per capita income of the state was lowest in the country despite his government in the state for the past 20 years.

In a post on social media platform X, Tejashwi, the Leader of the Opposition in the state Assembly, attacked the government, alleging poor infrastructure, corruption, vacant government posts and the need for JD-U's leader-proposed 'Pragati Yatra'. He termed CM Nitish's proposed Rs 225.78 crore 'Pragati Yatra' as a "Farewell Tour". "Why does Bihar lag on critical Human Development Index and Sustainable Development Index parameters as per NITI Aayog?" his post read.

He claimed that 90.5 per cent of the government schools in the state lack toilets for girls, and dedicated buildings, and despite available land, schools with buildings often lack boundary walls, which compromises security and infrastructure.

Tejashwi claimed that district hospitals, medical colleges, and sub-divisional hos-



pitals are reportedly in poor condition.

"When we came to power in 2015, we had taken initiatives like Mission-Jammu, Mission Parivartan, and Mission Buniyad, despite that, health services have significantly deteriorated," the RJD leader said.

He also alleged bribery and bureaucratic inefficiency in police stations and administrative offices. The leader also pointed out that sugar mills faced closure across the state under CM Nitish's tenure. "During the RJD government in 2015, a Cabinet decision was taken to reopen Riga Sugar Mill, yet no progress has been made till now," he claimed.

Bombay HC upholds Dharavi slum redevelopment tender awarded to Adani Group

Mumbai, Dec 20 (IANS) Citing weak grounds for a challenge, the Bombay High Court on Friday dismissed a petition against the Maharashtra government's decision on the Dharavi slum redevelopment project in Mumbai and upheld the tender awarded to Adani Properties Private Limited.

A division bench of Chief Justice D.K. Upadhyaya and Justice Amit Borkar dismissed a petition filed by UAE-based Seclink Technologies Corporation, saying: "The grounds raised in the petition lack force and effort. The challenge to the government's action of cancelling the earlier tender and issuing a fresh tender award fails."

The Adani Group had emerged as the highest bidder for the 259-hectare Dharavi Redevelopment Project and bagged it with its Rs 5,069-crore offer in the 2022 tender process.

In the first tender issued in 2018, the petitioner company had



emerged as the highest bidder with its Rs 7,200-crore offer.

The Eknath Shinde government had cancelled the 2018 tender and issued a fresh one in 2022 with additional conditions. The state government decided to include 45 acres of railway land in the project for slum rehabilitation, an element not included in the original proposal.

Advocate General Ashutosh Kumbhakoni had recommended that the state government issue a new tender to reflect the changes and incorporate factors like the costs of acquiring this land.

The state government had opposed the petitioner's claim and maintained that the revised tender conditions were not arbitrary but were important for ensuring that the development was financially viable. Referring to the changed

economic landscape between 2019 and 2022, the state government justified its decision to cancel the 2018 tender and issue a fresh one in 2022.

Seclink Technologies Corporation first challenged the cancellation of the 2018 tender and subsequently the 2022 tender award to the Adani Group.

The state government had submitted before the High Court that the tender process was transparent.

Dharavi, one of the world's largest slums, is spread over 2.8 sq km of prime land near the Bandra-Kurla. Established in 1884 during the British colonial era, it initially housed expelled factories and residents from Mumbai's city centre. Its informal leather and pottery industries are estimated to employ over 100,000 people.

The Dharavi redevelopment plan seeks to replace the existing informal settlements with modern housing, infrastructure, and commercial spaces.