



MS Dhoni and R Ashwin reunited as CSK amp up IPL 2025 preparations...

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Bhumi Pednekar Celebrates 10 Years Of Dum Laga Ke Haisha, Pens A Note As She...

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Economic Survey Report presented in the House

Continuous growth in Jharkhand's economy, GSDP expected to more than double

6.7% growth at constant, 9.8% growth at current prices estimated in the financial year

The state's GSDP, which was Rs 1,50,918 crore in the year 2011-12, is estimated to double at constant prices and more than triple at current prices by the end of this financial year (2024-25). It is estimated to grow by 6.7 percent at constant prices and 9.8 percent at current prices in this financial year (2024-25). During this period, per capita income at constant prices grew at an average annual rate of 6.7 percent. While at current prices, growth was recorded at the rate of 9.1 percent.



Ranchi: On the fourth day of the budget session of the Jharkhand Legislative Assembly, Finance Minister Radhakrishna Kishore presented the Economic Survey Report in the House. According to the report, Jharkhand's economy has grown steadily in the last three years. The state's GSDP (Gross State Domestic Product) at constant prices has grown at an average annual rate of 7.7 percent and GSDP at current prices at 10.7 percent.

Per capita income at constant prices increased from Rs 57,172 in the year 2021-

Growth rate:

- Average annual growth of 7.7 percent in GSDP at constant prices
- Growth rate of 10.7 percent in GSDP at current prices

Growth in per capita income:

- Average annual growth of 6.7 percent in per capita income at constant prices
- Growth rate of 9.1 percent in per capita income at current prices

Expected growth in coming years:

- State's real GSDP is estimated to grow by 6.7% in the current financial year (2024-25)
- Growth rate of 7.5% is estimated in the next financial year (2025-26)

22 to Rs 65,062 in the year 2023-24. At the same time, per capita income at current prices increased from Rs 88,500 in the year 2021-22 to Rs 1,05,274 in the year 2023-24. The state's GSDP is also estimated to maintain the pace of growth in the current and upcoming financial years.

CM gave a big gift to the state employees Launched the health insurance scheme



Ranchi: Chief Minister Hemant Soren gave a big gift to the state employees on Friday. He launched the health insurance scheme in a program organized in the auditorium of Jharkhand Legislative Assembly. Addressing the people present on the occasion, CM Hemant Soren said, "Today is a very pleasant experience personally. Today every person across the country is struggling with some physical problem. The problem of BP and sugar has become very common these days. The prices of medicines and other things are also skyrocketing."

Free treatment under the scheme

Under this scheme, state employees, pensioners, members of the Legislative Assembly, former members, university teachers and employees will get free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh. Apart from this, in case of serious diseases, medical expenses up to Rs 10 lakh will also be borne.

Air ambulance facility in special circumstances

In special circumstances, the facility of air ambulance will also be made available to the beneficiaries. To avail the benefits of this health insurance scheme, one has to apply online through the portal developed by JAPIT.

CM gave a big gift to primary schools, distributed 28,945 tablets among teachers



Ranchi: Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Friday gave a big gift to the primary schools of the state. In the Project Bhawan auditorium located in Dhurva, the CM distributed tabs to make the children technically empowered. Tabs were distributed among teachers of a total of 28,945 primary schools. During this program, the school report card was launched online. Apart from this, the Continuous Capacity Development Program for teachers also started.

Chief Minister addressed the teachers

On this occasion, Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren addressed all the people present on the spot. He said that today digitalization has affected every sector. From agriculture to every business, people are connecting through digital medium. Due to this, we have also taken steps in the field of education. In smart class, children are educated with the help of smart boards. In this episode, tabs are being distributed in schools today. He further said that everything has a positive and negative aspect. So it depends on us which aspect we choose.

In Shorts

CM Hemant wished for the safety of the workers of Uttarakhand

Ranchi: Chief Minister Hemant Soren has wished for the safety of the workers trapped due to the glacier breaking in Uttarakhand. He has said in a social media post that there are reports of many workers working under BRO in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand being trapped by the broken glacier. According to the information, relief and rescue operations are being carried out by BRO, ITBP and others. I wish for the safety of all the workers caught in this accident from Marang Buru.

Inspector Rishikant arrested for taking 5 thousand bribe in Ranchi

Ranchi: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) took action against corruption on Friday. The ACB team, while taking action in the women's police station of Ranchi, arrested 2018 batch Inspector Rishikant red handed while taking five thousand bribe.

The arrested inspector Rishikant had demanded five thousand rupees bribe from the plaintiff in the name of releasing the mobile phone and 20 thousand rupees in the name of writing the case diary, while the plaintiff was not ready to give the bribe. After which a complaint was made to the ACB.

Budget session: Opposition as well as ruling party raises questions on land acquisition and mutation scam



Ranchi: On the fourth day of the budget session of the assembly, the ruling party as well as the opposition raised questions on the scam related to land acquisition compensation, NOC and mutation. MLA Nagendra Mahato asked whether the government plans to take revenue from farmers by giving them ownership rights for such non-cultivated land.

On this, Minister Deepak Birua said that the previous BJP government had ordered an illegal investigation. But now those with settlement before 2018 can apply online. On this, Naveen Jaiswal said that after online, everything including account and plot number has changed. The officers have done this deliberately.

In online, instead of five acres, it has become five decimals. The

Medical colleges to be opened in 6 cities including Dhanbad, Deoghar, Health Minister announced



Many big announcements are being made during the budget session in Jharkhand. In this sequence, Health Minister Irfan Ansari has made a big announcement by taking a decision in favor of the youth of the state. He has said that medical colleges will be established in 6 cities of Jharkhand and super specialist hospitals in 5 cities.

Medical colleges to be opened in these 6 cities of Jharkhand

Making a big announcement, Jharkhand Health Minister Irfan Ansari said that medical colleges will be opened on PPP

CO demands a bribe of 25 to 50 thousand rupees. On this, Minister Deepak Birua said that

mode in Dhanbad, Deoghar, Khunti, Giridih, Jamtara and Jamshedpur. The opening of these medical colleges will benefit lakhs of youth here. Even students from outside states will be able to study.

Jharkhand Health Minister Irfan Ansari said that super specialist hospitals will be established in Dhanbad, Jamtara, Deoghar, Hazaribagh and Godda. With the opening of this hospital, the problems of the patients will be resolved and the burden on other hospitals will also be reduced.

if such a complaint comes from any region, action will definitely be taken.

Stock Market: 30 year old record shattered, investors lost 92 lakh crores in five months...

Mumbai: Indian stock market took a huge dive today on Friday. Today the 30 year old record was also shattered. Sensex has fallen by 50 percent in the last five months. This is the first time since 1996 that the market has declined for the fifth consecutive month. Let us tell you that in 1996, the stock market fell for 5 consecutive months between July and November. At that time the Nifty 50 index had fallen by 26 percent.

Investors are now scared

If we look at the stock market, during the last five months, Sensex has fallen by 11.54 percent and Nifty by 12.65 percent. BSE Midcap has fallen by more than 20 percent and BSE Smallcap by 22.78 percent. Nifty has closed in decline every month since October 2024. Investors are now scared that what will happen next? The BSE market capitalization has also declined sharply due



to the decline during the last five months. Due to the decline, the valuation of investors has come down significantly.

The total market valuation of BSE-listed firms decreased by Rs 92 lakh crore

The total market capitalization of companies in the BSE Sensex has declined by about Rs 25 lakh crore since September 26, 2024, when the market valuation of the index reached a record high of about Rs 171 lakh crore. On the other hand, the total market valuation of BSE-

listed firms has declined by about Rs 92 lakh crore during the same period.

Nifty closed at 22124 on Friday, down 420 points. Sensex fell by 1414 points. It closed at 73198. Nifty Bank closed at 48344, down 400 points. Out of the top 30 stocks of BSE, 29 stocks fell, of which Tech Mahindra's shares fell the most by more than 6 percent. Due to this fall, the market cap of BSE listed companies fell by Rs 9.61 lakh crore to Rs 383.49 lakh crore. However, HDFC Bank rose by 1.86 percent.

Glacier broke near Chamoli Mana village, 57 BRO workers buried under debris, 15 rescued



Chamoli: A major accident has occurred due to the breaking of a glacier near Mana village located near Badrinath Dham in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand. In this accident, 57 workers working under the contractor of Border Roads Organization (BRO) got buried under the debris. So far 15 workers have been safely evacuated. The search for the remaining 42 workers is on. It is being told that this incident has happened due to heavy snowfall.

According to the information, road improvement work is going on on the Mana Pass Highway in Mana village.

All these workers were present here for this work. At the time of the accident, all the workers were inside the containers. These containers are made for the workers which are near the Mana Pass entry. Due to heavy snowfall, all were present in the containers. Apart from the workers, there are also machine operators here. When the avalanche happened, some people ran outside while the rest got stuck inside. On receiving the information about the incident, the army and ITBP personnel camping in Mana village immediately rushed to the spot and started the rescue operation. At the same

time, Uttarakhand CM Dhama has expressed grief over the breaking of the glacier and the workers getting buried under its debris. He has prayed to Lord Badri Vishal for the safety of all the labour brothers.

At the same time, IG Nilesh Anand Bharane from the Police Headquarters said that three to four ambulances have also been sent to the spot. However, due to heavy snowfall for the last two-three days, the relief team is facing difficulties in reaching there.

High-altitude rescue team will be deployed by helicopter

The exact coordinates of the area have been obtained. As soon as the weather improves, the high-altitude rescue team of SDRF will be landed by helicopter at the nearest safe place of the incident site.

Due to heavy snowfall, the drone team of SDRF could not be deployed in the operation. Rescue work is being done by constantly coordinating between SDRF, district administration, BRO and Army.

So far 5 more workers have been evacuated, out of which 3 are injured and have been admitted to Army Hospital, Mana, while the condition of 2 is said to be normal.

News In Brief

Newborn is being treated in MGM Hospital, the child is physically abnormal

Chaibasa: A rare newborn child is being treated in MGM Hospital, Jamshedpur. This child is physically very abnormal. He has only one leg and there is no shape of the gender. The weight of this child is only one and a half kilo, which is very less for a newborn. Doctors are treating the child. Actually on Wednesday, Asha Singh Sardar, wife of Binod Singh Sardar, resident of Pargama of Neemdih police station area of Seraikela, started having labor pains. She was immediately brought to the Community Health Center of Neemdih block. Where Asha Singh Sardar gave birth to a rare child, after which, looking at the situation, the child was referred to MGM Hospital in Jamshedpur.

Hafiz announced for special prayers of Taraweeh on the occasion of holy Ramadan under the aegis of Anjuman Islamia

Gumla: An important meeting of the executive committee was held recently by Anjuman Islamia, in which a meeting was held by Anjuman Islamia Gumla with the Imams of various mosques and officials of mosque committees of the city. In this, a resolution was passed unanimously in the presence of Sadar Mushahid Azmi Secretary Maqsood Alam and the selection of Hafiz to recite Taraweeh on the occasion of holy Ramadan was done in this way. On this occasion, Anjuman Islamia spokesperson Aashiq Ansari issued a statement offering Ramadan Mubarak and said that according to the moon, it is expected that from today i.e. Shanichara, Taraweeh will be recited in about 12 places in various mosques of the city, 1 Hafiz and Qari Janab Mohammad Intesab Alam in Jama Masjid located on Thana Road, 2, Hafiz Zahid Hussain in Gausia Moti Masjid Bazar Bazar Tad Gumla, 3, Hafiz in Zainab Masjid Raza Colony Gumla Masihuddin, 4, Hafiz Shoaib Alam at Mecca Masjid, Sisai Road and etc were present.

Review of Education Department concluded under the chairmanship of DC

DN ■ Gumla

A review meeting of the Education Department was held today in the auditorium of Gumla Collectorate under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Karna Satyarthi in which District Education Officer Kavita Khalkho, District Education Superintendent Noor Alam Khan, ADPO, APO, Accounts Officer and Assistant Engineer of Jharkhand Education Project along with all BEO, BPO, Accountant and Junior Engineer of the district were present. The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the expenditure



to be made at district, block and school level including uniforms for students of class one to eight, composite grant of schools, CRC grant, BRC grant, PTM item and in view of the early completion of the financial year, directed to

spend the amount as per rules at all levels by March 10 and upload it on PFMS and make payment. The Deputy Commissioner instructed the DEO and DSE to review it on a daily basis and said that they should propose action

against those who are not working. In the review, Chainpur block was found lagging behind in all matters, while Ghaghra and Gumla blocks were instructed to complete the work soon in uniform distribution. While reviewing the conduct of class 10th and 12th board exams, the Deputy Commissioner directed to conduct the remaining exams in a transparent manner and to give internal marks to all the candidates as per their merit. While reviewing smart class, ICT lab, science lab, vocational education etc.

Gumla Polytechnic Celebrates National Science Day with Enthusiasm and Grandeur

DN ■ Gumla

Gumla Polytechnic celebrated National Science Day on February 28, 2025 with a series of events to honour the legacy of Nobel Laureate Sir C.V. Raman and promote scientific temper among the participants. The celebrations began with the lighting of the lamp by Principal Dr. Shiba Narayan Sahu and Head Administrative Officer Ajit Kumar Shukla, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness by the light of knowledge and wisdom. A floral tribute was paid to the portrait of Sir C.V. Raman, commemorating his remarkable contribution in the field of science, especially the discovery of the Raman Effect, for which he received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930. The event begins with a brief introduction on the life and discovery of Sir C.V. Raman. Mr. Amrit Kumar Pathak, Lecturer of Physics, gave an informative power point presentation on Raman Effect, giving the attendees a deep



insight into this phenomenal discovery and its significance in the field of science. On this occasion, Gumla Polytechnic College hosted several exciting events, including public speaking, drawing and model exhibition. Students from Kendriya Vidyalaya, Gumla, DAV Public School, Gumla, St. Mary's Public School, Toto, Wescott Public School, Gumla, PM Shri School, JNV Gumla and District CM SOE, Gumla showcased their skills and knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

West Singhbhum's fifth consecutive win, defeated Dumka by five wickets



DN ■ Chaibasa

West Singhbhum defeated Dumka by five wickets in the final league match of the inter-district under-23 cricket competition organized by Jharkhand State Cricket Association in Latehar. This is West Singhbhum's fifth consecutive win.

Dumka's team batted with a struggle:

Winning the toss and batting first, Dumka's team was all out after scoring 114 runs in 26.4 overs. Left-arm spinner Ashish Kumar Singh performed brilliantly and took five wickets for 41 runs.

West Singhbhum's brilliant innings:

West Singhbhum, batting in the north, won the match by scoring 115 runs for the loss of four wickets in 18 overs.

Man of the Match award to Ashish Kumar Singh: Ashish Kumar Singh was awarded the Man of the Match award (₹5000) for his brilliant bowling.

Colourful conclusion of Chhau dance on Mahashivratri at Mahadevshal

DN ■ Chakradharpur

A grand two-day Chhau dance festival was organized on the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri at Subansai Mahadevshal Honu Tota of Karaikela police station area, which concluded on Thursday. Two Chhau dance troupes of Subansai Upar Tola and Subansai Neeche Tola participated in this cultural event and won the hearts of the audience with their captivating performances.

Performances based on mythology

The program started with Ganesh Vandana by Subansai Upar Tola Chhau dance troupe. After this, both the troupes presented various dances based on mythology, which included dances like Shiva-Parvati Milan Mahishasura Vadh, Jai Maa Kali, Radha-Krishna, Tadakasura Vadh. The artists mesmerized the audience with their soulful performances and got a lot of applause.

Artists were honored

At the end of the program, the Puja



Committee honored both the Chhau dance troupes by awarding them. The organizers said that such cultural events keep the local culture alive and connect the younger generation with their traditions.

The villagers' cooperation was instrumental in making the program successful

Many villagers including Aryan Mahato, Ajay Mahato, Motu Mahato, Sonu Mahato, Biju Mahato, Munna Mahato played an important role in the success of this event.

Local people said that such cultural events on Mahashivratri strengthen religious faith and also strengthen community unity.

Youth sentenced to 5 years imprisonment with fine in case of attempted rape of a girl

DN ■ Chaibasa

Chaibasa court has convicted accused Mathura Karwa and sentenced him to 5 years imprisonment in case of attempted rape of a girl in Kondwa village of Tonto police station area of West Singhbhum district. Also, a fine of Rs 10,000 has been imposed on the accused. As soon as the court's decision came, the police arrested the accused again and sent him to jail.

The girl had gone to take bath in the river

On the day of the incident, the victim had gone to the river to take bath. She was changing clothes, when the accused Mathura Karwa reached there and tried to force himself on her. The girl showed courage and shouted, due to which the accused got scared and ran away from the spot. After this, the victim lodged a complaint in Tonto police station.

Police collected solid evidence

Seeing the seriousness of the case, the police started investigation and collected evidence based on the statement of the victim. Based on the evidence found during the investigation and the testimony of witnesses, the court convicted the accused and sentenced him to five years' imprisonment.



State President of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayati Raj Organisation met TAC member MLA Jagat Majhi

DN ■ Chakradharpur

State President of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayati Raj Organisation Jharkhand Suneet Sharma congratulated and wished the respected young MLA of Manoharpur Jagat Majhi ji by presenting him the Preamble of the Constitution of India on his nomination as a member of the Tribal Advisory Council.

Serious topics like forest conservation and migration were discussed, Panchayati Raj Department will coordinate with the MLA and help in reaching the welfare schemes of the Jharkhand government to the last person in his assembly.



State President of RGPRS (Rajiv Gandhi Panchayati Raj Organisation) expressed hope that PESA Act 1996 will be implemented soon in accordance with the Constitution. This meeting was held keeping in mind the aspirations of public interest, especially the honourable MLA who played an important role in

preserving the Saranda forest and the government should provide financial assistance to the Mukhiya in the Panchayati Raj system as before. Ranchi Metropolitan President of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayati Raj Organisation Anjani Ranjan was also present on the occasion.

Unique event of farewell of Mata Parvati after Mahashivratri, ritual completed duly

DN ■ Chaibasa

After the Mahashivratri festival concluded yesterday, the farewell of Mata Parvati was organized with great pomp in the city's Siddheshwar temple with full religious rituals this evening. This event especially presents a unique example of religious faith and traditions. Hundreds of women participated on this occasion and performed all the rituals duly. Yesterday, on the day of Mahashivratri, Shiva's procession was taken out by about 14 major religious organizations of the city with thousands of devotees, in which tableaux in the form of gods and goddesses were also displayed



apart from ghosts and spirits. After the marriage ceremony was completed in the Siddheshwar temple at night, distribution of sweets was also organized among the devotees. Traditionally, the farewell ritual takes place on the

second day of marriage, which was completed duly today. On this occasion, hundreds of women attended the Siddheshwar temple of the city and performed all the traditional rituals and bid farewell to Mata Parvati. This farewell

is known as a sign of prosperity and auspicious signs, which is considered a symbol of attainment of child happiness. Siddheshwar Temple Committee President Anil Mahato, Vice President Pappu Nishad, General Secretary Pawan Sharma and other committee members were also present in the farewell ceremony of Mata Parvati and played their part in making this religious event successful. This event has become an important part of the religious and cultural life of Chaibasa, which not only strengthens the faith of the devotees, but is also a symbol of religious unity and social harmony.

MP Manish Jaiswal called a special meeting, all the BJP presidents and general secretaries of the Lok Sabha constituency attended

► Many intellectuals addressed the gathering along with the MP, MP Manish Jaiswal held a special discussion with the workers on the expansion of his service works and upcoming plans, appealed for cooperation

► Service has been our tradition and service and development in public interest will remain the priority: Manish Jaiswal

DN ■ Hazaribagh

MP Manish Jaiswal of Hazaribagh Lok Sabha constituency is continuously expanding his service works in the entire Hazaribagh Lok Sabha constituency with his increasing steps and scope. While he is constantly visiting the area and getting acquainted with the public problems of various areas, he is also alert about solving the problems in public interest. With the aim of expanding his service in Hazaribagh Lok Sabha constituency and



taking the upcoming public welfare works to the last rung of the society, he called a meeting of BJP Mandal Presidents and General Secretaries of the entire Hazaribagh Lok Sabha constituency in the auditorium of MP Service Office, Hazaribagh on Friday. The meeting was jointly chaired by Hazaribagh District BJP District President Vivekanand Singh and Ramgarh District BJP District President Praveen Mehta.

Addressing this very working and important meeting, Hazaribagh MP Manish Jaiswal boosted the morale of BJP workers by stating their important role in the expansion of his service and development works and urged them to cooperate in taking welfare schemes of public interest to the needy of the society. MP Manish Jaiswal thanked all the BJP workers present for their immense cooperation in conducting the mass marriage of 101 needy couples through the MP Mass Marriage Festival-2025 organized by him on the land of Hazaribagh recently and congratulated them for making this event historic and unprecedented. Thereafter, MP Manish Jaiswal gave detailed information about his upcoming activities and service works of public interest and appealed to cooperate by ensuring their important participation in these works. Provide the names of clubs to promote the upcoming free equipment/registration camp for Divyangs and

senior citizens, to provide lehenga to the needy sisters and daughters of Hazaribagh Lok Sabha constituency and to provide sticks and swords to all the Akharas of the Lok Sabha constituency on the upcoming Ram Navami to give liveliness to the traditional weapon display art and skills. MP Manish Jaiswal said that service has been our tradition and service and development in public interest will be the priority.

Registration/testing camp for free assistive devices/equipment for Divyangs and senior citizens will be held on 02 March in Hazaribagh and 03 March in Ramgarh MP Manish Jaiswal, while addressing the BJP workers present, informed that it is very good news for the Divyangs and senior citizens of Hazaribagh Lok Sabha constituency that registration/testing camp is being organized in Hazaribagh and Ramgarh districts on 2 and 3 March 2025 to provide free assistive devices/equipment. This camp will

be organized in Hazaribagh Town Hall premises on 02 March 2025 (Sunday) for Hazaribagh district and in Ramgarh Town Hall premises on 03 March 2025 (Monday) for Ramgarh district. The time of the camp will be from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. This camp will be organized under the APD scheme and National Vyoshri Yojana of the Government of India with the activeness and promptness of MP Manish Jaiswal. Free assistive devices of Elimco Company will be available as per the need for the disabled. To avail the benefits of this scheme, the beneficiary must have UDID card (minimum disability more than 40%), Aadhar card, income certificate (monthly income maximum Rs 22500). At the same time, Aadhar card (60 years and above) and income certificate (monthly income maximum Rs 15000) are necessary in the necessary eligibility to get free assistive devices for senior citizens.

Economic Survey Report: Jharkhand's progress in rural development, 4.31 lakh active out of 13.42 lakh KCC cards

DN ■ Ranchi

The Economic Survey report was presented in the Jharkhand Assembly on Friday. According to the report, currently there are about 13.42 lakh KCC (Kisan Credit Cards) in the state, although the number of active KCC cards is only 4.31 lakh. In the financial year 2021-22, about Rs 2,591.75 crore was distributed under 3.69 lakh KCC accounts, which increased to about Rs 3,987.88 crore under 722 lakh accounts in the financial year 2022-23. National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 (MGNREGA) aims to enhance the livelihood security of people in the rural areas of the country. Under this law, there is a provision to provide 100 days of guaranteed wage work to every family in every financial year. The percentage of active workers to the total workers in the state was about 52.57 as of November 2024.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched by the Government

of India to provide connectivity to unconnected settlements as a poverty alleviation strategy. As of 30 December 2024, about 33198 km of roads have been sanctioned under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Jharkhand, out of which 30566 km have already been completed.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), formerly called the Indira Awas Yojana, is a social welfare program of the Government of India. It aims to provide housing to all homeless or those living in kutcha and dilapidated houses. The aim is to provide pucca houses and basic amenities to the rural families living in rural areas. The Rural Development Ministry has set an upper limit of 17,05,355 houses, out of which 15,64,091 houses have already been completed.

National Social Assistance Programme

The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) provides assistance to the elderly, widows, disabled and families whose main earning member has passed away. The number of beneficiaries under this programme



has increased over the years. The total number of beneficiaries in the state was 2.72 crores till the financial year 2018-19, which increased to 3.66 crores by the financial year 2023-24 (December).

Urbanisation: An Opportunity

Urbanisation is not a crisis but an opportunity, it is wrong to see it as a crisis. It is not just about villages, we want everyone to get opportunities wherever they live. The

soul should be of the village and the facilities should be of the city, this is our belief.

Level of Urbanisation

East Singhbhum district had the highest level of urbanisation at 55.03 per cent, while Godda had the lowest level of urbanisation at 3.53 per cent. The number of districts with more than 40 per cent urbanisation level increased to 5 in 2011, including Ranchi and Ramgarh districts.

Geographical distribution

In terms of geographical distribution, urbanisation was highest in the east-central and south-eastern parts of the state in both the years. Such distribution patterns have evolved mainly due to industrial development in these regions.

Road infrastructure

The state government has made significant efforts to improve the road infrastructure in the urban areas of the state. Effective road infrastructure ensures smooth transportation across the state, promotes industrial development, improves rural connectivity and facilitates access to other services such as healthcare and education.

Namami Gange Programme

The Namami Gange programme, approved by the central government in June 2014, is a holistic conservation mission. It aims to effectively depollute, conserve and revitalize the Ganga river. Jharkhand has received financial assistance of Rs 250.005 crore from the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) for project implementation from 2014-15 to 31 October 2022.

National Urban Livelihood Mission

The number of self-help groups under the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) increased from 2,799 in the financial year 2022-23 to 2,939 in 2023-24. This number was 1,924 as of 30 September 2024-25. Similarly, the number of members of self-help groups also increased from 28,099 in the financial year 2022-23 to 29,440 in 2023-24.

Skill training and employment generation

Skill training plays an important role in employment generation. The total number of persons who completed training in the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 were 7447 and 7367.

Students are the hope and future of the country, Governor said in JRU convocation

DN ■ Ranchi

The 5th convocation was organized today at Jharkhand Rai University (JRU). Governor Santosh Kumar Gangwar was present as the chief guest in the convocation ceremony. He awarded degrees to 393 students, including 122 postgraduates and 184 graduates. On the occasion, the Governor congratulated the students, parents and teachers and described this occasion as extremely proud.

In his address, the Governor wished National Science Day and explained the importance of science and research. Referring to the successes of 92 girl students, he said that it breaks the earlier concept that women are deprived of education.



The Governor said that education is not just a degree, but a commitment to serve the society and self-reliance. He inspired the students to make the nation proud with their knowledge and skills. In the end, he emphasized on value-based education, which develops morality and values in the youth. He said that all of you are the hope and future of the country. Move forward towards realizing your dreams.

Jharkhand HC dismisses ten appeal petitions related to graduate level teacher examination

DN ■ Ranchi

The double bench of the High Court has dismissed ten separate appeal petitions challenging the order of cancellation of qualification due to lack of document verification in the graduate level teacher examination. During the last hearing, the court had reserved its decision after hearing the arguments of all the parties. On Friday, the High Court has given its verdict.

The case was heard in the court of the Chief Justice



of the High Court. The Advocate General on behalf of the state government and advocates Sanjoy Peeparwal and Prince Kumar on behalf of JSSC

presented their case.

The qualification of many candidates was cancelled due to lack of document verification

Actually, JSSC had issued

advertisement number 21/2016 for graduate level teacher appointment in the year 2016. In which the qualification of many candidates was cancelled due to lack of document verification. After this, the candidates had first filed a petition in the single bench of the High Court. But they did not get relief there. After this, the order of the single bench was challenged by Nirmal Pahan and Alka Kumari and others through an appeal in the double bench.

Violent clashes between two communities every second month

DN ■ Ranchi

In Hazaribagh, violent clashes between two communities are taking place every second month. In such a situation, questions are being raised about the law and order in the district. Talking about the last 11 months, there have been six incidents of violent clashes between two communities in different areas of Hazaribagh.

It is worth noting that two days ago, on the day of Mahashivratri, there was a violent clash between two communities in Ichak, Hazaribagh. After the clash between two groups over the installation of religious flag and loudspeaker, stone



pelting and arson of vehicles were also done. Many people were injured in this clash.

Opposition party BJP had raised the issue of Hazaribagh violence in the budget session of Jharkhand Legislative Assembly on February 27 and demanded an impartial and thorough investigation.

Governor took informa-

tion from CM regarding Hazaribagh incident

Meanwhile, Governor Santosh Gangwar had spoken to Chief Minister Hemant Soren regarding the violence in Ichak, Hazaribagh on the day of Mahashivratri. The Governor had asked the government to take appropriate steps. Along with this, the attention of the Chief Minister was drawn to

many points related to this. **Violent clashes between two communities every second month:** – 26 February 2025: There was a clash between two communities over installing a sound system on the festival of Mahashivratri in Ichak of Hazaribagh district. During this, the miscreants pelted stones. Also, many vehicles were vandalized and arson was done on the road.

– 19 September 2024: There was stone pelting between two groups during idol immersion in Barkagaon of Hazaribagh. Many people were injured in this incident.

Jharkhand is rich in mineral resources, production has increased

DN ■ Ranchi

Jharkhand is rich in mineral resources. Mineral production has seen an increase in the year 2021-22. The number of bauxite mines remained stable at 19, while production increased from 1,497 thousand tonnes in 2020-21 to 1,819 thousand tonnes in 2021-22. Collection has increased from mineral production. The value of mineral production increased steadily from Rs 17,561.83 crore in the year 2016-17 to Rs 58,300.17 crore in the year 2021-22.

Adequate reserves of iron ore

In terms of mineral resources, Jharkhand has the highest reserves of iron ore (magnetite), amount-



ing to 4,710,146 thousand tonnes. This is followed by limestone at 620,765 thousand tonnes and bauxite at 289,244 thousand tonnes.

Reserves of graphite, copper and phosphate

Reserves of graphite are also huge, amounting to 20,006,367 tonnes. Apart from this, copper ore (251,463 thousand tonnes), phosphate (107,370,000 tonnes) and titanium (26,603,767 tonnes) are

also important minerals in the state.

Gold, silver and other precious metals are also present

Other precious metals include gold (10,076,527 tonnes of ore and 15.43 tonnes of metal) and silver (23,840,000 tonnes of ore and 5.22 tonnes of metal). Apart from this, chromite, manganese ore, kyanite and vermiculite are also present in the state.

BJP has not been able to choose the opposition leader till now

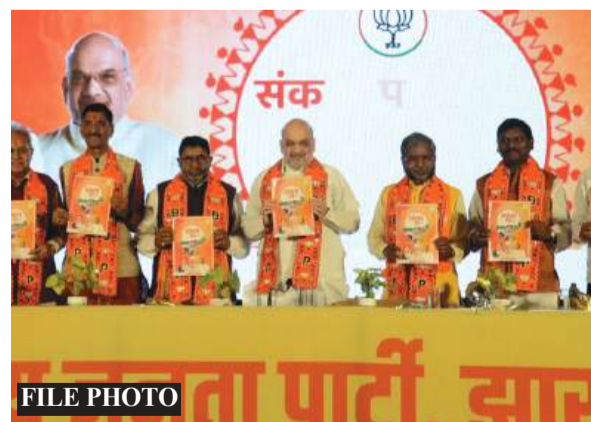
DN ■ Ranchi

This is happening for the second time in Jharkhand. The assembly is running without a leader of opposition. The result of Jharkhand assembly elections came on 23 November. More than three months have passed. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has not been able to choose its leader in the assembly.

A leader who can awaken BJP in the assembly. Who can roar. And can revive BJP again in Jharkhand. The workers are hoping that a leader will come who will roar in the assembly and with that roar they will be able to register their strong presence in the state.

We will fight strongly as the opposition, but here the leader of the opposition is not being chosen. The leaders of the state are looking towards the center and it seems that the central leadership is not interested. Not in the priority list at all. Overall, Jharkhand BJP is in auto mode.

Is it possible that the center does not have faith in any leader here. Has the central leadership started believing that there is no leader in Jharkhand who is strong or capable enough to do something on his own in Jharkhand. Who can be given the reins.



Earlier also in the fifth assembly-2019, this was the situation of BJP. Babul Marandi returned to BJP. The party made him the leader of the opposition in the assembly. But the assembly did not accept it. It did not give approval or recognition. In the end, tired and tired, BJP made Amar Bauri the leader of the opposition.

One of the reasons for the confusion in BJP regarding the leader of the opposition at present is also the non-election of the state president. The party is not able to strike a balance between the caste equation and the

big leaders in the state president and the leader of the opposition.

According to the discussion within the BJP, hardly anyone from the forward class will be able to be made the state president or the leader of the opposition. The leaders of this class do not even have any hope. The party is eyeing OBCs and tribals. But the Kudmi caste has increased the tension in between.

Everyone knows that there are only two posts in the party which can make them powerful while being out of power. And those are Leader of Opposition and State President. Due to this, there is so much lobbying and manipulation to get both the posts that even the central leadership is getting worried.

The absence of a Leader of Opposition is a big question. Among the many reasons for not being able to make the Leader of Opposition, the first reason is Babul Marandi. Babul Marandi is the state president of the party. The party was badly defeated in the assembly elections. The question is being raised that his hold among the tribals is not strong.

Babul Marandi contests elections from a general seat. A section in the party is trying to establish against

him that the tribals do not consider him their leader. If the party does not make him President or Leader of Opposition again, then the big question is where to adjust him.

Champai is the only tribal leader who could win from a tribal seat. At present, there is confusion in the party itself about his name. The confusion is whether he will remain in the party or not. And if he stays, it will be a challenge for the BJP to adjust to him as well.

A section of the party even wants him to go back to Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM). So that the adjustment problem is reduced to some extent. When Champai joined the party, even PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah praised him.

Raghubar Das has left the post of Governor. Since then, there is a discussion that he will become the state president and give edge to the party.

Overall, there seems to be an artificial lack of established tribal and Kurmi leaders in the BJP and until the state president is elected, it does not seem possible to finalize the name of the Leader of Opposition. Yes, during this time, there will definitely be an attempt to adjust the big leaders as well.

News In Brief

Body of a criminal released from jail found

Ranchi: The body of a youth accused of two murders has been found hanging from a noose. This case is from Indrapuri Road-1 of Sukhdev Nagar police station area. Where on Friday, the body of Sumit Verma alias Takla was found in a suspicious condition. His body was hanging in the room with the help of a rope.

On Friday morning, when the people around saw it, they informed the Sukhdev Nagar police about the matter. Local people say that Sumit Verma has been murdered. The police has reached the spot and started investigating.

Extremist lodged in Birsamunda Central Jail absconded

Ranchi: Extremist lodged in Birsamunda Central Jail absconded. The extremist who absconded has been identified as Sameer Tirkey alias Sakir Tirkey. He was sentenced to ten years. This incident happened on Thursday late evening at 6.40 pm. In this case, a written complaint has been given to Ranchi Police by the jail administration.

After the extremist's escape from jail, there is a stir in the jail administration, and questions are also being raised on the security arrangements of the jail administration. But no clue has been found so far.

News In Brief

Jharkhand Academic Council member did surprise inspection of Gandhi Smarak Uchcha Vidyalaya Sijua

Katras: Jharkhand Academic Council member cum supervisor Radharaman Sahu inspected the examination center Gandhi Smarak Uchcha Vidyalaya Sijua for surprise inspection during the Intermediate examination at Gandhi Smarak Uchcha Vidyalaya Sijua. In the first shift (189) students were found present in Matriculation and in the second shift (118) 177 students were found present. During the inspection, the supervisor expressed satisfaction and directed to conduct the examination without any malpractice. During this, Center Superintendent Nirupama Mukhopadhyay, deputed magistrate Abdul Gaffar, military force Vinod Singh, Arvind Kumar Singh, Siwani East were found deployed. Thereafter, S.S.N.M. Inter College, Girls High School Mudidih were inspected.

Journalist Association celebrated the 13th death anniversary of senior journalist late Mukesh in the premises of Nirsa Block Office

Nirsa: On Friday, the 13th death anniversary of senior journalist late Mukesh Srivastava was celebrated in the premises of Nirsa Block Office under the aegis of Nirsa Chirkunda Zone Journalist Association. The members of the association remembered late Mukesh by offering flowers on his picture and threw light on his life. Union President Secretary Indradev Prasad Secretary Sanjay Singh, while throwing light on the life of late Mukesh, said that Mukesh ji passed away on this day thirteen years ago. He was a good cricketer. In the field of journalism, he was a person rich in pen. He never compromised with the truth. He kept exposing the truth fearlessly. He became a source of inspiration for today's journalists. We are doing journalism by following the footsteps shown by him. May God give peace to his soul. Other speakers also expressed their views. Present at the condolence meeting were journalists Mr. Indradev Prasad and etc were present.

Complaint of not paying retirement benefits by BCCL

DN ■ Dhanbad

ADM Law and Order Piyush Sinha heard the complaints of people from Baliapur, Govindpur, Topchanchi, Jharia and other areas of the district in the Janta Darbar organized. In this, an old woman who came from Sundar Pahadi of Govindpur Mahubani told the ADM that her father was working in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL). He died in the year 1982. Even after several decades, BCCL has not paid PF, gratuity and other retirement benefits of her late father.

It is worth noting that the woman was very old and was unable to speak clear Hindi. Therefore, she was conversing with the ADM in Santhali language. To understand her words properly, the ADM called a worker



who spoke Santhali language. He heard all the things of the woman in Santhali language and told the ADM about the woman's pain. Taking immediate cognizance of the matter, the ADM directed him to write a letter to the CMD of BCCL and solve the woman's problem. Another woman said that she bought

2 decimal land from a land broker near Amaghata Lemon Chilli Hotel. The land has not been registered. When she went to build a house on the land, she came to know that the land was under CNT Act. The woman said that she had taken a loan and paid the land broker. She pleaded to get the money back that she had paid for the land. In the Janta Darbar, applications were received for adding name in ration card, getting approval for PM Awas, registering name in online register 2, forceful occupation of Raiti land by land mafia, and others. Assistant Director Social Security Niaz Ahmed, Chief Clerk of Public Grievance Cell Nandkishore Kushwaha were also present in the Janta Darbar.

Vinay Kumar Tiwari's important contribution in promoting regional language: Sadanand Mahato

DN ■ Topchanchi

Under the banner of Topchanchi All India Cultural Development Federation Khunti Jharkhand, the famous poet, writer, lyricist, artist Vinay Kumar Tiwari, resident of Dangi Panchayat Roam village, Topchanchi block, Dhanbad district, was honored by the forum by giving a certificate, shawl and bouquet for his contribution in the field of Khortha literature, a popular language of Jharkhand. At the same time, AJSU Party's district organization secretary social worker Sadanand Mahato has congratulated and wished lyricist Vinay



Kumar Tiwari. Mr. Mahato said that he has made an important contribution in promoting regional language in the entire state. Those who congratulated include Ramesh Bhagat, Saryu Prasad Mahato, Narayan Rajwar, Durga Prasad Gop, Amar Bharti, Gopal Bharti, Ramchandra Thakur, Shankar Rawani, Om Prakash Mahato, Farkeshwar Mahato, Vivek Mahato, Sanjay Singha, Prakash Thakur etc.

Tampering with the statue of Lord Birsa is unfortunate, action should be taken against the culprit: Dilip Singh



DN ■ Dhanbad

Yuva Sangharsh Morcha founder president Dilip Singh said that tampering with the statue of Lord Birsa Munda is unfortunate. There is a demand from the district administration to take action against such anti-social elements. Mr. Singh said that Lord Birsa is our God and Yuva Sangharsh Morcha will not tolerate tampering with his statue. Pay attention to the fact that the statue is being damaged repeatedly. Mr. Singh said that the administration should make proper arrangements for the safety of the statue so that such an incident does not happen again in the future. Dilip Singh honored the statue of Lord Birsa by garlanding it and draping a shawl on it. Omprakash Gupta, Brijan Ram, Pintu Modi, Mana Ram, Vivek Kumar, Raja Ram, Ranjit Kalindi, Kundan Kumar were present on the occasion.

Two-day 12th sports competition organized at K N Bakshi College of Education

DN ■ Giridih

The two-day 12th annual sports competition to be held from 28.02.2025-01.03.2025 started at K N Bakshi College of Education.

On this occasion, the Chairman of the institute, Dr. Shiv Shakti Nath Bakshi, Vice President Mr. Shailendra Kumar and Principal Dr. Ajit Kumar Singh jointly inaugurated the competition by lighting the lamp and cutting the ribbon. On this occasion, Dr. Shiv Shakti Nath Bakshi in his address wished all the students on his behalf and said that play with sportsmanship and bring glory to the college as well as the district,



state and nation. When you get selected as a teacher in the school, then you will be able to give the benefit of your knowledge to those students. The program in-charge teacher of this competition was Mr. Nilesh Lakra, Vice Principal Binod Suman, Dr. Ranjit Kumar, Dr. Suresh Yadav, Madan Kumar, Nutan Sharma, Dr. Gautam Gupta, Sumit Sehgal, Ragini Kumari, Vinay

National Science Day organized in Giridih College

DN ■ Giridih

Today Giridih College National Science Day was organized by National Service Scheme Unit 1. Today Principal Dr. Anuj Kumar and Program Officer of National Service Scheme Unit 1 Professor



Dharmendra Kumar Verma were the chief guests in the program. On this occasion, the Principal said that National Science Day is celebrated every year on 28 February. The main objective of celebrating this day is to spread awareness about science and promote scientific research and innovation. While Professor Verma said that on 28 February 1928, the famous Indian scientist C.V. Raman discovered the "Raman Effect", for which he received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930. In honor of his achievement, the Government of India announced to celebrate 28 February as National Science Day in 1986. Volunteers of National Service Scheme Unit 1 Ankit, Rahul, Ravi, Ranjit, Ranjit Das, Satish, Sunil, Rajan Rohit etc. were present in this program.

Purana Bazar is still deprived of basic facilities: Sohrab Khan

DN ■ Dhanbad

Chamber of Commerce Purana Bazar spokesperson Vijay Saini said that on 27-02-2025, Thursday, time 4 pm, place Hotel Chandrakala (Panchsheel Plaza) Purana Bazar, the first meeting of the executive members of the Chamber of Commerce Purana Bazar was held under the chairmanship of Chamber President Sohrab Khan. Chamber of Commerce Purana Bazar spokesperson Vijay Saini said that in the coming days, festivals like holy month Ramzan, Holi and Eid are important from the business point of view, in this regard, in the executive meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Purana Bazar, the solution of the problem of Toto, the impact of online market, cleanliness, electricity, street lights, parking, women's toilet and Sulabh toilet, other problems were discussed, the Chamber will try to resolve from the concerned department. The executive meeting of the Chamber will be called on the last Thursday of every month in which the works will be reviewed.



Sohrab Khan, President of Chamber of Commerce Purana Bazar, said that Purana Bazar is the oldest and busiest business area of Dhanbad. But even after 78 years of independence, it is still deprived of basic facilities like women's toilet, Sulabh toilet and parking. The Chamber is making efforts in a planned manner to solve all the problems. In view of the upcoming festivals, the Chamber appealed to the people of Dhanbad city to shop in Purana Bazar. Sohrab Khan, Kunal Kumar, Vijay Saini, Sanjay Pandey, Deepak Jha, Deepak Singh, Sardar Narayan Singh, Ashish Mehta, Dinesh Prasad, Rafiq Alam, Bhavesh Rathore, Gopal Prasad and etc were present.

Mahabhandara organized after worship of 51 virgin girls in Alkadiha Pataleshwar Mahadev temple premises

DN ■ Tisra

On the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri, like every year, this year also Bholenath and other deities were worshiped and Maha Prasad was offered in Pataleshwar Mahadev temple premises situated in Alkadiha of Baliapur block. After washing the feet of 51 virgin girls in the first phase by women, the girls were worshiped with clothes and makeup and were given Prasad. After this, the distribution of Mahaprasad for the dignitaries present continued till late night. The temple priest said that no one asks caste, whoever worships Hari becomes Hari's. With the coopera-



tion of Shiva devotees of Dhanbad district, such a huge Mahabhandara is being organized continuously for years. The cooperation of hundreds of devotees, who were actively dedicated with body, mind and money for 24 hours, with the unwa-

and going throughout the day, taking it for their family members in other vessels. On this occasion, the third police station in-charge Suman Kumar, along with his team, remained ready to serve the Shiv devotees and cooperated. Temple committee priests Shandeep Shastri, Amit Mukherjee, Basant Thakur, Navin Mukherjee, Pravir Mukherjee, Temple committee president Jayanti Singh, Chandicharan Modak, Kuldeep Saav, Hiralal Modak, Deepak Modak, Siddheshwar Modak, Naresh Mahato and other devotees remained engaged in service.

Shivaratri was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Putki

DN ■ Putki

Shivaratri was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Putki, Munidih, Bhagabandh and Karkend. Devotees thronged the Shiva temples. Devotees offered water to Lord Shiva and performed Puja. There was a queue of devotees in the morning itself at the Shri Shri Aditya Nandeshwar Shiva temple located in Putki A type. The worship of Lord Shiva was started by the Yajaman Mandir Samiti amidst chanting of Vedic mantras under the guidance of the temple priest Brajkishore Pathak. Bhakti Jagran was organized at night after the completion of Shiva-Parvati marriage. Devotees took prasad in



Shiva temples. Similarly, the rituals were performed in a joyous atmosphere at Kachhi Bahihari Temple, PB Project Temple, Karkend Hatia Temple, Putki Thana Mod Temple, Munidih, Baludih, Dhobni, Lalpur, Loyabad, Coke Plant, New Drip, Shri Nagar, Sanitary Office, Bhagabandh, Aralagadia, Kendadihi, Petiyar, Parsia, Garbhudih, South Bahihari and other temples. Gopal

Retired Senior Accountant Babu honored by Akhil Jharkhand Dusadh Mahasabha



DN ■ Putki

Akhil Jharkhand Dusadh Mahasabha Dhanbad District Dwar organized a felicitation ceremony at Prem Nagar Colony Putki on the retirement of BRK Paswan, working as Senior Accountant Babu in BCCL PB Area Office. In the event, the officials and members of the Mahasabha honored the retired BRK Paswan by garlanding him and presenting him a shawl. The program was presided over by Arjun Paswan and conducted by Ram Bilash Ram. District President Arjun Paswan, District Senior Vice President Ramcharitra Paswan, District Treasurer Shivanandan Paswan, District Executive President Ramvilas Ram, District Spokesperson Vijay Paswan, Ramchandra Paswan, Kusum Devi, Lucky Devi, Sarojini Devi and others were present on the occasion.

Jharia MLA raised question in the assembly regarding treatment under Ayushman Bharat

DN ■ Jharia

In the budget session of the assembly, Jharia MLA Mrs. Ragini Singh raised the issue of Ayushman Bharat Yojana in the House during the Question Hour on Friday and said that in order to provide medical treatment to the common people in Dhanbad district and other districts of the state, many government health centers along with private hospitals have been linked with Ayushman Bharat Yojana to provide better medical treatment to the common people. But there are many such government and private health centers in Dhanbad, in which the



common people are being deprived of the medical benefits of Ayushman Bharat Yojana and they are not being treated. MLA Mrs. Ragini Singh said that she is dissatisfied with the answer of the Jharkhand minister. It is not clear in the answer given by him that in how many government and private hospitals in Dhanbad district the benefit of Ayushman Bharat Yojana is being availed. The Health Department should issue a list of all those government and private hospitals in Dhanbad district, where the benefit of this scheme can be availed. In most of the hospitals in Dhanbad district, people are not able to get the benefit of the scheme.

National Science Day: Akshat made Bokaro proud in the world of science

DN ■ Bokaro

Steel city Bokaro is as famous in the country and the world for steel production as it is famous in the field of education. This is the reason why it is also considered as the educational capital of Jharkhand. 28 February is National Science Day.

On this day, today we will discuss some such talented students of Bokaro, who have made the name of this city proud at the national level due to their ability. These are the children who have made

Bokaro proud by doing great feats at a young age by setting an example of scientific innovation. In which Akshat Priyadarshi, a fifth class student of DPS Bokaro, was included in the list of national toppers in the National Scientific Aptitude and Attitude Assessment Test NASTA - 2024 organized by Knowledge and Awareness Mapping Platform KAMP. He has been awarded the Certificate of Outstanding Performance along with National Topper - Rank-2.

Akshat, the promising son of Amod Priyadarshi, Deputy General Manager, Bokaro Steel Plant and Dr. Toshiba Priyadarshi, a dentist, got the overall grade 'A+' and was selected for the National Award category. KAMP-NASTA is an important initiative of CSIR Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and NISPR National Institute of Science Communication Policy Research under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Government of India.

Special device created for road safety, Rupesh selected for national level and Japan tour

Bokaro: Rupesh Kumar, a promising student of DPS Bokaro, made his school, city and state proud by being selected in the final round of the ambitious Inspire Award Standard Scheme of the Government of India related to innovation. He has also got a golden opportunity to tour Japan. Rupesh has developed a special device and mobile application 'Rakshak'. With its help, as soon as an accident occurs, all the hospitals located within a radius of one kilometer of the incident spot will get information along with the location of the vehicle through call and SMS. This will enable the ambulance to reach the injured person on time. Not only this, along with the hospitals, the family members of the people in the vehicle and the police will also get immediate information. Rupesh, son of BSL worker Ravi Shankar Kumar and Revenue Officer Sunita Kumari in Bihar, got this idea after the tragic death of one of his father's friends in a road accident. If the ambulance had reached the incident spot on time, perhaps his life could have been saved. Rupesh also represented Jharkhand in the 108th Indian Science Congress organized at Nagpur University.

Organizing life skills training for adolescent girls

Bokaro: Sahyogini organised a life skills training programme for leadership development of adolescent girls at Bagda Panchayat Bhawan in Kasmar. Addressing the programme, trainer Prem Kumar Mahato said that it is important to adopt life skills methods to ensure career of girls. Girls can shape their future through life skills training. Sahyogini's programme coordinator Prakash Kumar Mahato said that by forming adolescent clubs in 30 villages of Kasmar block, their leadership skills are being developed.

Along with this, work is being done to connect them with government schemes and to stop violence against women. Sangeeta Devi said that for personal development, there is a need to understand the ways of living. Sahyogini organises various activities for leadership development of adolescent girls by forming adolescent clubs in 30 villages of Kasmar block. Neha Kumari, Nisha Kumari, Supriya Kumari, Lakshmi Kumari, Sanju, Neelam, Ruby Kumari etc. were present during the programme.

Employees will get 24x7 counseling and support through EAP program

DN ■ Bokaro

Steel Authority of India Limited is striving towards mental, emotional and financial empowerment of its employees. In this direction, Employee Assistance Program has been started under the MoU signed with EAP India, which has been implemented in all the units of SAIL. The objective of the program is to provide counseling support to employees and their dependents to deal with personal and professional challenges. This initiative will provide help in overcoming complex situations like stress management, conflict resolution, personal relationship harmony, anxiety and depression, harassment

at workplace, Ashok and Ashok Sant abuse and trauma, financial insecurity. This initiative was formally launched in Bokaro Steel Plant by Director-in-charge Virendra Kumar Tiwari in the main auditorium of Knowledge Acquisition and Development Department.

On this occasion, Executive Director, Chief General Manager, senior officers, a large number of employees and Founder Director of EAP India, Ms. Bharti Mahimkar and her team were present. In his address, the Director-in-Charge called this initiative an important step towards the mental, emotional and professional development of employees

and their dependents and called upon everyone to take advantage of this scheme. During the program, the team of EAP India presented the main features of the scheme through a detailed presentation. He said that this counseling service is completely free, confidential and safe. Not only the employees but also their dependents can get the necessary guidance by contacting directly without any hassle. Under this initiative, 24-hour telephonic counseling, web and mobile based counseling, video counseling and personal counseling services have been made available for employees.

If the demands are not met by 6th March, then there will be a traffic jam on 7th- Rajendra

DN ■ Bokaro

On Friday, a meeting of the Revolutionary Steel Mazdoor Sangh Hind Mazdoor Sabha was held in the blast furnace department of the steel plant against the anti-labor policy and in support of the pending demands of the laborers. Addressing the meeting, the General Secretary and member of the Union NJCS Rajendra Singh said that to wake up the management from its deep sleep, the laborers have geared up for a do-or-die struggle. The management has time till March 6, if the demands are not met, then in the first phase of the struggle, there will be a blockade of the coke-oven and blast furnace from 6 am



on March 7 to 6 am on March 8. He said that On one hand, regular workers are being exploited by giving them 39 months of arrears and years old incentive rewards. On the other hand, only God is the master of contract workers. The medical checkup law is beyond comprehension. Hundreds of workers are

out of work due to medical check-up. Many times, through talks, the officials were requested to improve the system, the anger among the workers is increasing, separate medical checkup from gate pass but every time only assurances were given. Similarly, skilled workers who have been excluded from ESIC are wandering from

door to door for treatment. There is no one to look after the treatment of Maharatna workers and their families.

They demanded treatment of workers along with their families in Bokaro General Hospital or to provide health insurance of Rs 20 lakhs to the family, separate AWA from wages, implement gratuity, night shift allowance immediately. Mr. Singh appealed to the workers and said that they will fight unitedly. Apart from Mr Singh, the meeting was addressed by Vipin Kumar Singh, Shashi Bhushan, Ambedkar, Manoj Thakur, Santosh Kumar, Basudev Kumbhakar, Uttam Mishra, Pramod Kumar etc.

Fix drinking water supply system before summer: DC

Repair broken hand pumps and water towers in mission mode; organise workshop for Jal Saheya

DN ■ Bokaro

Deputy Commissioner Vijaya Jadhav reviewed the progress work of various drinking water supply schemes being run in the district in the office room located in the Collectorate. Additional Collector Md. Mumtaz Ansari, DSO Shalini Khalkho, Executive Engineer Drinking Water and Sanitation Chas Tenughat Ram Praveesh Ram, Assistant Public Relations Officer Avinash Kumar Singh, all Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers etc. were present on the occasion. DC reviewed the progress work of the schemes being run under Jal Jeevan Mission. During this, he asked to take action to hand over the completed schemes to the Panchayats. He asked the Drinking Water and Panchayati Raj Department to coordinate and form a team and physically inspect all the completed schemes and hand over the same by March 7. Action will be

Take action against the contractor head who is negligent and obstructing the work: Jadhav

Bokaro: DC has given instructions to repair the damaged water supply scheme of solar mini water tower under 14th Finance Commission. He directed the head of the concerned Panchayat and the Panchayat Secretary to repair the water towers where the solar plate is damaged, motor is damaged, hand pump manufactured from other items other than the drinking water department is damaged etc.

The Deputy Commissioner asked the concerned Assistant Engineer and Junior Engineer to ensure that no complaint of water supply being disrupted for a long time is received and prompt action should be taken on receiving complaints of damaged hand pumps. During the review, Executive Engineer

Drinking Water and Sanitation directed Jal Sahias to upload the photos of damaged hand pumps and hand pumps repaired after repair. In the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the pending NOC from various departments regarding the installation of drinking water supply pipes. During the review, he asked to submit the NOC related to National Highway, Forest Department and Road Division Department to the department immediately. He asked to repair the damaged drinking water supply systems in mission mode. The Deputy Commissioner appealed to the general public to register their complaints regarding drinking water problems on toll free number 18003456502.

taken against the Mukhiya or Jal Sahia who will not take interest in taking over. If required, the financial capacity of the Mukhiya will be seized.

During this, expressing displeasure over the slow pace of the schemes, he directed the concerned

agency contractor to speed up the work. She asked to issue notice to the concerned agency contractor for poor performance and slow pace and recommend action. During the review, it came to light that the head of the Panchayat is not taking interest in implement-

ing the schemes. On this the Deputy Commissioner said that if anyone creates any obstacle in implementing the government schemes, then action will be taken against him as well. She asked the District Panchayati Raj Officer to take this message to the grassroots.

Hemant government is working for the welfare of the poor. Mantu

DN ■ Bokaro

An important meeting was held for the reorganization of JMM's Ritudih branch committee. Addressing this, JMM Bokaro Metropolitan Chief Mantu Yadav said that the increasing liking for JMM among the general public due to the public welfare schemes of the Hemant government is proof that the government under the leadership of Chief Minister Hemant Soren is working for the welfare of the poor. The results of the schemes launched by the government are now visible on the ground. This is the reason why people are joining the party. Mantu Yadav also said that our party works for the interests of



the people, now we have to become more active and build a strong organization in every branch. He said that organizational strength is proving to be an important step for the success of the party. Mainly Ramdayal Singh, Rajkumar Soren, Akash Tudu, Shyamlal Manjhi, Shivalal Kisku, Disha Hembram, Shivalal Manjhi,

Domain Hembram, Vijay Hembram, Ratiram Kisku, Mansa Manjhi, Phoolmani Devi, Sonia Devi, Tusu Devi, Sunita Devi, Reshma Kumari, Bhagwati Devi, Meera Devi, Urmila Devi etc. were present in the meeting. Ritudih Branch Committee President- Kaleshwar Manjhi Secretary- Jugal Soren Vice President- Ritvaran Hembram Treasurer- Pradeep Hembram Organization Secretary- Vakil Singh was made the office bearer of the committee.

The agreement is an important step towards the mental, emotional and professional development of steel workers and their dependents

Federation expressed trust in Sonaram and Anil in BSL's coke oven

DN ■ Bokaro

The departmental meeting of SAIL SC - ST Employees Federation, Bokaro Unit's Coke Oven and Coke Chemical Department was held today in the BSL Canteen No. 1 in Bokaro Steel Plant. The meeting was chaired by Federation Secretary Lalit Uraav and conducted by Visheshwar Rajwar. Problems related to the employees of the department were discussed in the meeting and on the proposal of the present officials and members, the departmental committee of the Federation in the Coke Oven Department was reconstituted. It is known that some people from the departmental committee have

joined the executive of Bokaro Unit, due to which the reconstitution of the departmental committee became necessary.

The committee unanimously elected Sona Ram Uraav as President, Kumar Sanu and Rajesh Kumar Lakra as Executive Presidents, Mantosh Paswan, Harendra Nath Bauri as Vice Presidents, Anil Paswan as Secretary, CKS Munda, Anil Kumar as Joint Secretary, Jyotish Kumar as Treasurer, Manoj Mahanand, Rameshwar Kumar as Deputy Treasurer, Pradeep Marandi, Ude Ram, RK Rajwar and Madheswar Paswan as Executive Members.

Shambhu Kumar, Bokaro Unit President cum Member of Central Committee congratulated the newly appointed office bearers and said that the population of SC ST employees is the highest in the Coke Oven therefore the first task of the departmental committee will be to get the membership of the Federation to those employees who have not taken it yet. Kartar Samant, General Secretary, Bokaro Unit cum Vice President of Central Committee, Rakesh Kumar, Mahendra Ram, Deepak Kisku, Ramlal Kisku, SR Uraav, Suman Paswan, Devesh Tudu, Premnath Ram, Manik Ram Munda, etc were present in the meeting.

Compassionate committee recommended the appointment of 4

Bokaro: A meeting of the District Compassionate Committee was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Vijaya Jadhav in the office room located in the Collectorate. In which a total of 6 cases were heard. Additional Collector Md. Mumtaz Ansari, SDO Bokaro

Ms. Pranjal Dhandra, District Transport Officer Vandana Shejwalkar, SDO Bermo Mukesh Machhua, Establishment Deputy Collector Premchand Sinha, District Education Officer Jagamath Lohara, District Education Superintendent Atul Kumar Choubey, etc were present.

25 years ago, the accused who committed a murderous attack was sentenced to five years of rigorous imprisonment

DN ■ Bokaro

In the case of attacking and seriously injuring a person 25 years ago while preventing him from ploughing the field, the court of Additional Sessions Judge IV Garima Mishra has convicted Medini Yadav 55, resident of Sector 4 Pilgadia Khatal of Sector 4 police station area, and sentenced him to five years of rigorous imprisonment. He has also been fined ten thousand rupees. In the case, the prosecution side was presented in the court on behalf of the government by Additional Public Prosecutor RK Rai. He said that in the case, three years and a fine of 3 thou-



sand rupees and two years imprisonment and a fine of two thousand rupees have also been given under various other sections. All the sentences will run simultaneously but the fine amount will have to be paid in full. He said that the incident took place on 28 June 2000 near Sector-4G Vishwakarma temple of Sector-4 police station area. Narayan Mahato, Sadhu Mahato, Nuru Mahato and others were ploughing the field near

Sector-4G Vishwakarma temple. Meanwhile, the milk vendor accused from Sector 4 Pilgaria Khatal came and refused to plough the field, saying that he grazes buffaloes on this land. There was an argument between the two sides regarding this and the accused attacked them, stopping them from ploughing the field. In which all were seriously injured. After which an FIR was lodged against the accused in Sector 4 police station. In this case, the accused absconded for a long time after getting bail. Then on 8 April 2024, he was arrested and sent to jail in judicial custody.

News In Brief

The union supported the family of the deceased assistant teacher

Chatra: Niranjan Bhuiyan, an assistant teacher posted at the upgraded middle school Pexa in Gidhaur block, died on February 20 during treatment at Ranchi RIMS. On the untimely death of the assistant teacher, all the assistant teachers of the block met the family of the deceased teacher Niranjan Bhuiyan and gave Rs 41500 as a donation on Thursday. It was told that the deceased assistant teacher was very poor and was a resident of Pexa village. Muneshwar Yadav, Bhim Yadav, Rakesh Kumar, Mahendra Yadav, Sohan Rana, Amresh Kumar, Sandeep Singh, Rajesh Napit, Ramdev Paswan, Sanjay Dagi, Maju Rana, Surendra Tiwari, Gangadhar Rana, Muna Rana, Vijay Dangi, Ram Kumar Yadav, Block President Gidhaur played an important role in providing the donation amount.

All work is being done as per the law: CO Gaurav Kumar Rai

Chatra: CO Gaurav Kumar Rai said that all the actions including encroachment removal, stopping sand smuggling, strict enforcement of no-entry and illegal occupation of non-cultivated land are being done as per the law in Simaria. Some people, upset with this action, have made allegations to the MP to defame them. All the people related to non-cultivated land are being called to the office for document verification by giving them notice three to four times. But people are not showing their documents. Further action is being taken to cancel the land of such people considering it as suspicious jamabandi. A board has been put up on the said land as nothing is mentioned in the authority column of the jamabandi of Hira Yadav in Murbe. Whereas no action has been taken on the land of the petrol pump till now. The most burning problem in Simaria is that of no entry. It is very important for the general public to enforce it with force. If the siren is not blown during no entry.

Science exhibition organized on Science Day in AK Singh College Japla

DN Palamu

AK Singh College Japla organized a science exhibition on Science Day. It was jointly inaugurated by Principal Surya Mani Singh and Academic Incharge Dr. Ram Subhag Singh. After that, the five-member jury members -- Principal Surya Mani Singh, Academic Incharge Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Sports and Cultural Program Officer Prof. Rahul Kumar Singh, Head of Physics Department Prof. Ravi Kumar Singh, and Lecturer of Chemistry Prof. Sunil Kumar Singh jointly observed the science models and appreciated the talent and efforts of the students. They asked questions on that subject to all the participants one by one and got satisfactory answers. 25 participants gave their demonstrations. In which mainly Shikha Kumari, Prajakta Kumari, Anshu Kumari, Divya Kumari, Renu Kumari, Ragini Kumari, Anjali Kumari, Khushi Kumari, Sandhya Kumari, Rinki



Kumari, Aarti Kumari, Musarrat Parveen etc. participated. Among the college staff, mainly Prof. Mukesh Kumar Singh, Prof. Shashi Bhushan Singh, Prof. Shivkumar Vishwakarma, Prof. Naresh Kumar Singh, Prof. Ashok Kumar Dev, Prof. Alok Ranjan, Amarendra Kumar Singh, Akhilesh Kumar Singh, accountant Om Prakash Singh etc. were present. The Principal said that soon the first three winners were honored by giving them certificates.

Take strict action against illegal mining, transportation and storage: DC

- ▶ Better results will come out by working in coordination
- ▶ Block the route of illegal transportation by cutting trenches
- ▶ 54 vehicles were seized in January, 26.25 lakh rupees were collected as fine
- ▶ Mining Task Force meeting held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner



DN Palamu

All officers should work actively to curb illegal mining, transportation and storage in the district. Better and positive results will come out with mutual coordination of all concerned officers, police officers and jawans. Officers should conduct raids in their respective areas in a confidential manner. Stop illegal mining, transportation and storage. Seize the vehicles involved in it, impose fines and ensure strict action by registering FIR against the

persons involved in it. These things were said by Deputy Commissioner Shashi Ranjan. He was holding a meeting of the District Mining Task Force today regarding illegal mining, transportation and storage. The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the action taken against illegal transportation, mining and storage from the sub-division, zone and police station level. He directed to be especially vigilant in the border areas of the district regarding illegal mining and transportation. He said that complaints are received from the border areas. Therefore, it is the responsibility of

everyone to play their important role in preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage. He said that raids should be conducted in their respective areas to ensure that no one is doing mining work by deviating from the lease area. Also, there should be no complaint of mining being done somewhere else than the lease. He said that the Zonal Officer and Police Station Incharge should ensure to conduct raids in the concerned areas. The Deputy Commissioner directed to take strict action against illegal lifting and storage of sand. He also directed to block the route of illegal transportation by cutting trenches. He said that to stop illegal transportation and storage of sand, trench cutting, barricading and deputation of Chowkidar at the zone and police station level will help in preventing illegal mining. The Deputy Commissioner directed to investigate the overloading of miner-

als and take action. At the same time, action was directed against tractors/trolleys operated without commercial registration and the Pollution Department was directed to investigate compliance with the conditions mentioned in the CTO. Superintendent of Police Rishma Rameshan* also directed to take strict action against illegal mining, transportation and storage and not to unnecessarily harass the people with challan. Forest Division Officer Satyam Kumar directed to pay special attention to the complaints of illegal mining in the forest area. He especially directed the Zonal Officer and Police Station Incharge of Chhattarpur, Pipra and Chainpur to increase vigilance, stressing the need to pay attention. He said that prevention of illegal mining, transportation and storage is the collective responsibility of everyone.

At the beginning of the meeting, District Mining Officer Sunil Kumar informed about the action taken in January 2025. He informed that in the month of January, 38 vehicles have been seized by the District Mining Office. At the same time, 6 FIRs have been registered. Along with this, Rs 18.90 lakh has been recovered as a penalty. The District Transport Officer informed that the Transport Office has also taken continuous action. 16 vehicles have been seized. A fine of Rs. 7.35 lakh has been collected. Also, the Forest Division Officer, Medininagar Forest Division has seized 9 crushers and filed a forest case against all the operators. Apart from the above officers, the Sub-Divisional Officers of all the three subdivisions, Sub-Divisional Police Officers, Circle Officers, Police Station In-charges etc. were present in the meeting.

SP honoured businessman Prabhat Gupta



DN Medininagar

Palamu SP Rishma Rameshan honoured the city's famous businessman Prabhat alias Pintu Gupta by giving him a memento for welcoming and honouring the players who came from outside in the football tournament in the name of martyrs organised at Palamu Police Stadium. SP Rishma Rameshan, who was present on the occasion, said that the business class people in Palamu have always been supporting and respecting the people. He said that the business class people participate enthusiastically in any programme. The SP thanked Prabhat Gupta for respecting the players who came from outside. Prabhat Gupta, who was present on the occasion, said that Palamu Police has worked to increase the respect of the families of the martyrs of the entire country by organising a football tournament in honour of the martyrs.

23 beneficiaries of the district will get Ved Vyas housing

Decision taken in the selection committee meeting held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner

DN Palamu

A meeting of the members of the selection committee was held today under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Shashi Ranjan for the selection of beneficiaries for allotment of Ved Vyas housing to fish farmers. In the meeting, it was decided to allot Ved Vyas housing to 23 beneficiaries. In the financial year 2024-25, under the Ved Vyas Housing Construction Scheme, a target of 20 in the general category and 3 in the Scheduled Caste category was achieved. In this light, application forms were received from the beneficiaries. All the beneficiaries were selected by the selection committee as per the target. At the same time, it was decided to build houses for the Scheduled Tribes from the general category as well. DC Shashi Ranjan said that ensure that the benefits of the housing scheme are given to the fish farmers easily.



Beneficiaries should not face any problem in giving the benefits of the schemes. District Fisheries Officer Mo. Kamru Zaman informed that under the Ved Vyas Awas Nirman Yojana, the District Fisheries Office had received applications from beneficiaries. There is a provision to allot Ved Vyas housing to fish farmers involved in fish farming in the district, who do not have a permanent house. The housing is to be constructed in clusters of at least ten.

Students showed their talent by presenting science models

DN Hariharganj

The fifth science exhibition was organized in M Public School and Alphabets International Free School Tandwa Road Hariharganj and Chhakanbag on Friday. Students displayed various self-made science models.



In the science exhibition, the students displayed science models including JCB, vacuum cleaner, crane, volcano, smart city plan, greenhouse, green city, ATM, hydraulic pump, modern parking, heart, artery, human brain, global warming, rain water harvesting by setting up stalls. Visitors and parents who came to the exhibition praised the science models and art gallery made by the students. School director M Parvez and headmistress Rumi Naz Noori and center in-charge Soni Kumari said that such events are organized in the school from time to time. So that science models can create awareness and new thinking in children. On this occasion, a large number of school children and parents including Saqib, Sujit, Awadhesh Snehi, Soni, Tanya, Riya, Simran, Mona, Chhotu Singh, Santosh Soni, Khushboo Soni, Babita Devi, Shivangi Shrivastava and Sulekha Kumari were present.

TSPC warned the police Said - present the arrested Naxalites in court within 24 hours, otherwise we will block traffic in Chatra

DN Chatra

After the arrest of the rewarded Naxalite Aakram of the TSPC Naxalite squad, the Naxalites have issued an open challenge to the Chatra police by issuing a press release. Regional commander of the TPC organization Manjeet has issued a press release warning to present the arrested Naxalite Aakram Ganjhu and two other Naxalites in court within 24 hours. It is also written that 3 including the regional commander of the TPC organization Aakram Ji alias Ravindra Ganjhu alias Ram Vinayak Singh Bhokta have been arrested by the Chatra police 5 days ago and are being continuously tortured by the police. If the police do not present them before the court within 24 hours, then traffic will be stopped. Also, the development work being done in the area around Chatra will be set on fire. He further said that the Jharkhand police should



not forget that there was no place to even set foot in Jharkhand. Today, it is due to the TPC organization that we are able to move around easily. Present them before the court as soon as possible, otherwise the area may have to suffer huge losses soon.

1239 young men and women were registered in the district level employment generation fair, 729 were shortlisted and 221 young men and women got offer letters

DN Chatra

Deputy Commissioner Ramesh Gholap taught the youth three main mantras on employment generation in his address. Wait for the opportunity, look for the opportunity, create the opportunity yourself. He also told that the present era is of competition and technology has expanded. In such a situation, there is a need to study, learn and improve oneself from the environment. It is necessary to strengthen the foundation to do any work. Hard work is very important to strengthen the foundation. The Deputy Commissioner said these things while guiding the young men and women in



the program organized under the District Level Employment Generation Fair 2025 organized at DRDA Training Bhawan Chatra on the occasion of the Fourth Tribal Pride Day. The fair was organized by the State Livelihood Promotion Society of Rural Development Department,

Government of Jharkhand under Deendayal Upadhyaya Rural Skill Scheme to provide a better future to unemployed youth. District Council President Mamta Kumari told that such a program provides golden opportunity for employment for Chatra residents and starts a better future for the

youth. District Council Vice President Brij Kishore Tiwari made people realize that employment leads to development of a family, village as well as district and state. Which leads to the creation of a better and developed country. During this, DPM of JSLPS Gaurav Kumar Jaiswal welcomed everyone. He said that work is being done to improve the economic condition by connecting everyone to employment by providing training through Deendayal Upadhyaya Gramin Kaushal Yojana. He said that more than 30 companies are participating in this employment fair in Chatra.

BDO did surprise inspection of examination centers



DN Chatra

On Thursday, Block Development Officer Chandradev Prasad did surprise inspection of intermediate examination centers run by Jharkhand Government in Simaria block. During this, BDO inspected examination centers Simaria Inter College, Kisan High School Dadi and State Sponsored Plus Two High School Simaria. Chemistry exam was held today. In which 128 students were present in Simaria Inter College Simaria, 09 in State Sponsored Plus Two High School and 66 in Kisan High School Dadi. During inspection, BDO inspected CCTV cameras/control room and rooms in examination centers and directed the deputed magistrate and center superintendent to conduct malpractice-free examination.

Explanation from Pipra's BEO, BPO and MDM operator

DN REPORTER

On the direction of Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee Chairman Shashi Ranjan, the District Education Officer and District Education Superintendent held a meeting with BEO, BPO and MDM operators. In the meeting, PM Poshan Shakti Nirman Yojana along with other schemes run by the Education Department in schools were discussed. Detailed information was obtained on SMS under PM Poshan Shakti Nirman Yojana. Under this, SMS is sent regarding the number of students present in schools daily, grains and cooking cost available per week, supplementary nutrition, cooking cost received, supplementary nutrition and quantity of grains received. During the review, when laxity in sending SMS on working day basis in the schools of Pipra area came to light, the District Education Superintendent sought clarification from Pipra's BEO, BPO and MDM operator. Warned of action in case of not receiving



clarification within the stipulated time period and unsatisfactory reply. He said that the Block Education Extension Officer and MDM Computer Operator of all blocks should ensure 100% SMS of PM Poshan Shakti Nirman Yojana. He directed for 100% coverage of cook-cum-assistant under PM Poshan Shakti Nirman Yojana from Ayushman Bharat-Mukhyamantri Jan Arogya Yojana. Apart from this, instructions were given to increase the coverage of students in schools, to feed iron and folic acid tablets to the studying students.

Governor Arif Mohammad Khan inaugurated Vijayshree Smriti Lecture series

The feeling of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is inherent in the Indian national consciousness: Governor

DN ■ Patna

The ideal of unity in the entire animate and inanimate world has been presented in Indian spiritual thinking. We believe that the same God exists in the form of soul in all human beings, non-human beings and the animate and inanimate world. Therefore, our spirituality does not discriminate between people in any way. This was said by Bihar Governor Arif Mohammad Khan. He was speaking as the chief guest and inaugurator of the 21st Prof. (Dr.) Vijayshree Smriti Lecture series in the memory of Prof. Vijayshree at Jayaprakash Narayan Anushad Bhawan. This lecture series on national consciousness was organized under the joint auspices of Bharat Vikas Viklang Nyas' Seva and Sanskar Cell, Patna and Department of Philosophy, Patna University, Patna.

The Governor said that Indian culture is centuries old. The feeling of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is inherent in our cultural national consciousness. We want to make India strong so that it can contribute to the welfare of the world whenever required.

Bharat Bodh is Manav Bodh

On this occasion, the main speaker, Prof. Sudhir Singh of Delhi University, Delhi said that Bharat Bodh is Manav Bodh. India is known all over the world not due to its wealth and military power, but for its cultural values. We will be able to make a developed India in the year 2047 only through humanity based power.



Padmashree Vimal Jain presided over the function

The program was presided over by the General Secretary of the Trust, Padmashree Vimal Jain and the blessings were given by Swami Bhavatananda, Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, Muzaffarpur. On this occasion, special guest, Vice Chancellor of Patna University, Patna, Prof. Ajay Kumar Singh and guest of honour, Vice Chancellor of Magadh University, Bodh Gaya, Prof. S. P. Shahi also expressed their views. The guests were welcomed by the Head of the Department of Philosophy,

Prof. (Dr.) Rajesh Kumar Singh. The program was conducted by Assistant Professor Dr. Vijeta. Treasurer of Darshan Parishad, Bihar, Prof. Veena Kumari gave a brief introduction of Prof. Vijayshree. Dr. Sudhanshu Shekhar, Head of Department of Philosophy, Thakur Prasad Mahavidyalaya, Madhepura and Saurabh Kumar Chauhan, a research scholar of BNMU also participated in the program.

Before this, the program was inaugurated by Governor cum Chancellor Shri Arif Mohammad Khan by lighting the lamp. The Governor and other guests were honored by presenting Angavastram, bouquet and memento.

On this occasion, Chairman of Bharat Vikas Handicapped Trust Deshbandhu Gupta, Vice Chancellor of Nalanda Open University Prof. Ravindra Kumar, former Vice Chancellor of Patna University Prof. K. C. Sinha, former Vice Chancellor of Magadh University Prof. Kusum Kumari, Prof. D. N. Tiwari of BHU, Prof. N. P. Tiwari of PU, President of Darshan Parishad, Bihar Prof. Poonam Singh, Vice Presidents Prof. Abhay Kumar Singh and Prof. Shailesh Kumar, General Secretary Dr. Shyamal Kishore, Joint Secretaries Prof. Kismat Kumar Singh and Dr. Sudhanshu Shekhar, RSS regional worker Dr. Mohan Singh, former regional organization minister of ABVP Nikhil Ranjan along with a large number of social workers, teachers, researchers and students were present.

Gram Sabha was organized in Kharna Panchayat



DN ■ Vishnugarh

Gram Sabha was organized in Kharna Panchayat of Vishnugarh block. Which was chaired by Mukhiya Nirmala Devi. Many important schemes were selected in the Gram Sabha. In which the development work of the village and the Panchayat was discussed. Necessary schemes were selected by the Gram Sabha. Which

will benefit the common people. Panchayat Secretary Surendra Prasad, Rajesh Kumar, Ward Member Rajendra Prasad, Rekha Devi, Poonam Devi, Kalavati Devi, Parvati Devi, Savitri Devi, Lilavati Devi, Lalchand Mahato, volunteer Umesh Ravidas, Ravi Malakar, Anita Devi and many villagers were present on the occasion.

Rest day organized by LIAFI was peaceful in all branches

DN ■ Dhanbad

As per the program organized earlier by Life Insurance Agent Federation of India (LIAFI) regarding the pending demands of the agents, rest day was celebrated peacefully in all the branches of Hazaribagh division including Dhanbad, Sindri, Chirkunda, Govindpur, Katras. Slogans were also raised by the agents during lunch hour. The slogans mainly included that the black law imposed on the agents must be withdrawn, PF, gratuity, pension of the agents must be implemented, medi claim must be given to all the agents. Stop insulting the agents in the branch, stop, such slogans were raised. During the program, Zonal President Prashant Kumar Dubey went to all the branches of Dhanbad and addressed the agents regarding their demands. Mr. Dubey said that all the branches of the division participated enthusiastically in the Maha Sammelan of Hazaribagh division on 23 February. Who deserve thanks. He urged to continue in the same way with the same zeal and enthusiasm in the future as well. He also said that instead of weakening the organisation by discussing negative discussions, work to strengthen the organisation by focusing your knowledge on discussing positive thinking. Also, it is the month of March. At this time, all of you need to pay special attention to your business as well. On this occasion, divisional president Suryakant Singh and etc were present.



Villagers held a meeting regarding Shri Shri 108 Lakshmi Narayan Mahayaga

DN ■ Vishnugarh

Villagers held a meeting regarding Shri Shri 108 Lakshmi Narayan Mahayaga at Bandkhoro Yagya Sthal under Jobar Panchayat of Vishnugarh block. The meeting was chaired by Panchayat Samiti member Kailash Mahato and conducted by Manohar Mahato. It was decided in the meeting that a five-day Mahayaga will be organized from 18 April 2025 to 22 April 2025. A committee was formed to make the Yagya successful. Lalchand Mahato was unanimously nominated by the villagers as President, Manohar Mahato as Vice President, Shrawan Kumar Mandal as Secretary, Kailash Mahato as Deputy Secretary, Gautam Kumar as Treasurer. Umesh Kumar Mandal, Dhanswar Mahato, Rajendra Kumar, Santosh Kumar Mahato, Vishal Kumar, Vipin Kumar, Tulsi Mahato, Baleshwar Mahato, Dularchand Mandal, Pushan Mahato, Mukesh Mandal, Alok Kumar, Nageshwar Mahato, Raju Kumar, Sujit Kumar, Sitaram Mahato, Vijay Kumar, Prakash Kumar, Mahendra Mahato, Ramji Saav were nominated as members in the executive members. A large number of villagers including Leela Devi, Binda Devi, Jageshwari Devi, Yashoda Devi, Rathwa Devi, Bundiya Devi were present in the meeting.

Grand inauguration of Al Matarf Travel and Tourism Ranchi

Hajj and Umrah at the best convenience and reasonable cost

DN ■ Ranchi

Al Matarf Travel and Tourism was inaugurated by cutting the ribbon jointly by AIMM leader Mehtab Alam and Maulana Mansoor, Imam Jama Masjid, Bargai at Mirza Market, Shop No. 5, First Floor, Bariatu Road, Ranchi. Chief guest Mehtab Alam said that Al Matarf Travel and Tourism will serve all the people of Jharkhand at affordable rates. He said that Al Matarf Travel and Tourism is a travel company licensed by the Government of India. Al Matarf Travel and Tourism focuses first on service and later on profit. On the occasion of inauguration, founder and



director of Al Matarf Travel and Tourism Mohammad Rashid said that Al Matarf Travel and Tourism has been serving people for the last several years. Al Matarf Travel and Tourism is a member of All India Hajj Umrah Door Limited. In this sequence, its branch was opened in Jharkhand's capital Ranchi. He said that we have the services of Hajj, Umrah, air tickets, railway tickets, visa

stamping, Betul Muqaddas tour, tour packages of India and abroad, forex and Wakala. He said that we will provide such services to the pilgrims which have not been provided by any travel agency till now. Mohammad Rashid said that every week a group will go for Umrah from Ranchi, even if there are two or five people in the group, they will be able to go for

Umrah. He said that we will provide thousands of homes to the people of Jharkhand and Ranchi at the best facilities and reasonable cost. Ranchi branch manager Mohammad Faizan said that we will try our best to provide good service to the people of Jharkhand. He said that he thanked the founder and director Mohammad Rashid for the office of Al Matarf Travel and Tourism. On the occasion, the director said that people will get packages for Hajj and Umrah and tour at a very affordable rate. On the occasion of inauguration, many people made bookings for Umrah and tour.

Journalist Association celebrated the 13th death anniversary of senior journalist late Mukesh in the premises of Nirsa Block Office

DN ■ Nirsa

On Friday, the 13th death anniversary of senior journalist late Mukesh Srivastava was celebrated in the premises of Nirsa Block Office under the aegis of Nirsa Chirkunda Zone Journalist Association. The members of the association remembered late Mukesh by offering flowers on his picture and threw light on his life. Union President Secretary Indradev Prasad Secretary Sanjay Singh, while throwing light on the life of late Mukesh, said that Mukesh ji passed away on this day thirteen years ago. He was a good cricketer. In the field of journalism, he was a person rich in pen. He never



compromised with the truth. He kept exposing the truth fearlessly. He became a source of inspiration for today's journalists. We are doing journalism by following the footsteps shown by him. May God give peace to his soul. Other speakers also expressed their views. Present at the condolence meeting were journalists Mr. Indradev Prasad, Sanjay Singh, B.K. Singh, Sunil Ambasth, Harendra

Singh Saini, Uttam Jha, Dharmendra Chaudhari, Biswajit Pandey, Purnendu Dutta, Indradev Rajvanshi, Vijay Srivastava, Arup Pal, Kanji Lal, Bubai Ghosh, Rajkumar Singh, Vijay Gupta, Nivas Singh, Dinesh Goswami, Sadhu Ji, along with BDO Inderlal Ohdar, Kallu Sheikh, Makar Ravidas, Bimal Gorai, Shyamdev Chourasiya, Roshan Lal Safaya, etc.

Two orderlies of Barkagaon block retired and were given farewell

DN ■ Barkagaon

Two orderlies Anil Kumar Ram and Naresh Nayak were given farewell on their retirement in Barkagaon block cum zonal office. The farewell ceremony was organized in the block headquarters Barkagaon auditorium building under the chairmanship of Block Development Officer Jitendra Kumar Mandal and conducted by Bhaskar Raj. BDO CO and other people present bid farewell to both the retired people by garlanding them and giving them gifts and wishing them good luck for the future. Block Development Officer said that retirement is a part of government job, which everyone has to follow. The tenure of both has been impeccable and commendable. Barkagaon will always remember both of them. Let us tell you that Anil Kumar Ram started his



job as an orderly in 1986 and Naresh Nayak in 2005 from Hazaribagh district. Anil has three sons, all three are studying, while Naresh has a son who is a chartered accountant, daughter is a government teacher in KB Middle School, while wife Geeta Devi is a clerk in the Child Development Project in Barka Village Block. In the farewell cum felicitation ceremony, mainly Block Development Officer Jitendra Kumar Mandal and etc were present.

Congratulated the administration for conducting the Shivratri festival in Barkagaon in a peaceful and harmonious environment: Baleshwar Kumar



DN ■ Barkagaon

It is unfortunate and shameful that Shiv Baraat did not come out from Ram Janaki Temple Barkagaon this year due to mutual animosity between two villages. I am very hurt and express sorrow over this. I congratulate the

Barkagaon administration and the leaders of all political parties for the fact that the great Shivratri festival was celebrated with great joy and in a peaceful and harmonious environment in Barkagaon block. The above was said by District Vice President cum District Working Committee Member cum Former MLA Representative Baleshwar Mahato of Bharatiya Janata Party OBC Hazaribagh while issuing a press release. He further said that for many years, Shiv Baraat used to come out

from Barkagaon Ram Janaki Temple and reach Budhwa Mahadev Temple premises, but this year it is shameful and unfortunate that Shiv Baraat did not come out due to animosity and deadlock between two villages. Hindu faith has been made ridiculous due to mutual animosity between two villages. Mr. Mahato further said that the incident in Dumraon village of Ichak block of Hazaribagh is also unfortunate. He raised the question that why is an attempt made to spoil the communal harmony only in the

processions and festivals of Hindu religion. Whenever there has been tension of religious frenzy, history is a witness that only the festivals of Hindu religion are obstructed. Mr. Mahato congratulated the Hazaribagh district administration and said that the administration's alertness in taking control of the situation in Dumraon village immediately is a sign of alertness and the district administration deserves congratulations for this. BJP OBC District Vice President Mr. Mahato further said that the coopera-

tion given by 25 percent of the Muslim community in Prayagraj region in organizing the world's largest 45-day Maha Kumbh Mela is something that both the communities of the whole of India need to learn from. The fact that no communal harmony was disturbed in such a huge and long-lasting fair is a sign of alertness of the Central Government, Uttar Pradesh Government, Prayagraj District Administration and deserves congratulations. The presence of a population of around 66 crore in this Mahasammelan

News In Brief

Dance competition organized on the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri

Chirkunda: On the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri, a dance competition was organized in Yegaarkund South Panchayat Shiva Mandir Lower Bengal. In which first prize was won by Mausami Bauri, second prize by Bandana Modi, third prize by Indu Modi, fourth prize by Riya Kumari, fifth prize by Rashi Kumari. The program was inaugurated by the head of Egaarkund South Panchayat Ajay Kumar Ram. Committee chairman Manoj Rajvanshi and all the members Munna Bauri, Uday Saav, Bikki Paswan, Kisan Bauri, Kapil Rabidas, Tinku Prasad, Tufan Bauri, Vishal Bauri, Arjun Bauri, Jackie Rajvanshi, Raja Bauri, Suresh Rabidas, Jogendra Rabidas, Sagar Modi, Manik Modi, Karan Modi, Vivek Bauri etc. contributed a lot in making this program successful.

Criminal who stabbed two people in broad daylight at Barkagaon Chowk, arrested by police, referred to Hazaribagh

Barkagaon: Criminal escaped after stabbing two people in broad daylight at Barkagaon main square at 7:45 pm. Injured Lalan Yadav and Chandan Yadav, both residents of Pipradih village, were brought to Barkagaon Community Health Center for first aid. Seeing the critical condition of both the injured, the doctor referred them to Hazaribagh Hospital for better treatment. Regarding the matter, injured Lalan gave a statement to the police that there are four people who stabbed. All are residents of Rewali village of Katkamdag police station area. Whose names are Rohit, Golden, Shivam and Raja, all are residents of Rewali. Lalan further told that I was driving the 16-wheeled vehicle of Ravindra Yadav alias Raja, resident of Barhi, from Triveni to Banadag for the last one year. The vehicle owner owes RS16000. When I was asking for the outstanding amount on the phone, people said that they will come to Barkagaon and give it to me.

The US was never Europe's safe harbour

The Europeans were left dumbfounded, if not shell-shocked, by the verbal whiplashing administered to them by US Vice-President James David Vance at the sixty-first iteration of the Munich Security Conference earlier this month. Vance questioned the fundamental commitment of Europeans to democratic values, that, he argued, underpinned the US-European construct. By the end of the speech, there was a lot of European strategic blood spilled on the conference floor of Hotel Bayerischer Hof. The diatribe led to extended recriminations, with many European leaders pushing back strongly against Vance's caricatured characterisation of the current state of play in Europe. However, this begs the question as to why Europeans are surprised. For, they have to only look back to the past hundred years or so of US ties with Europe to see that America has always only acted in its own interest — what it has conveniently characterised as American exceptionalism. The First World War began on July 28, 1914. It was triggered by the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian empire, and his wife Sophie, by a Bosnian Serb a month earlier. Though it was a European war, the Triple Entente — Britain, France and Russia — which was fighting the Triple Alliance of Austria-Hungary, Germany and Italy, pleaded with America to weigh in on its side.

The US, led by President Woodrow Wilson, stymied by Senators with Jacksonian impulses, refused to enter what it deemed, and perhaps correctly so, a European imperial joust. It was only two and a half years later, on April 7, 1917, that the US declared war on Germany. And that was only because the Germans had unleashed extensive submarine warfare in the North Atlantic Ocean, causing a huge loss of American men and material.

An added trigger was a communication by the then German Foreign Minister, Arthur Zimmermann, which later came to be known as the notorious "Zimmermann Telegram". It promised the Mexican government that Germany would help Mexico retrieve the territory it had lost to the US in the wake of the Mexican-American war of 1846-1848. In return for this assistance, Germany asked for Mexico's support in the war. This was a direct affront to the Monroe doctrine conceptualised by President James Monroe and his Secretary of State John Quincy Adams. Articulated during Monroe's address to the US Congress on December 2, 1823, the Doctrine held that the Western Hemisphere, especially the Americas, was the US' exclusive sphere of influence and the Europeans had no business to interfere in this eminent domain. Thus, only when its own interests were threatened did the US enter the European war.

After the spectacular collapse of the League of Nations — midwifed by President Wilson, vide the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919, with the Japanese walkout in February 1933 and the German withdrawal eight months later — the US once again retreated into splendid isolation even as Adolf Hitler and his Nazis gobbled up territories and countries in Europe, beginning with the Austrian Anschluss in March 1938. Even when the Great Britain stood alone in its darkest hour — from May to November 1940 — President Roosevelt expressed his inability to help it because of the Neutrality Act of 1939 and the Johnson Act of 1934. Though certain innovative means were found later, the US only formally entered World War II after the devastating Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Then also, to begin with, on December 8, 1941, it only declared war on Japan. It was only when Germany and Italy declared war on the US on December 11, 1941, did it reciprocate that announcement. The bottom line is that even as Europe was being subjugated by the hoodlums of the Gestapo and Schutzstaffel, the US may have continued to remain neutral had it not been for the Japanese attack.

Qatar counts in West Asia and beyond

The Gulf nation is important to India primarily for bolstering energy security

EVEN as analysts were preoccupied with the implications of US President Donald Trump's policies for India, an important visit passed under the radar. The Amir of Qatar, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, visited India last week and was given the signal honour of being received at the airport itself by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The courtesy has been reserved for the leaders of only a few countries, including leading economies like Japan and France. Qatar, in contrast, is a tiny West Asian kingdom. But it wields far more heft than is evident by its mere size. It is the fifth richest country in terms of per capita GDP and is home to the world's largest natural gas field. It also plays a disproportionately large role in the geopolitical events of the region, including recent negotiations to reach a peace deal in the Israel-Hamas war.

Qatar is critically important to India for many reasons, but primarily as a major supplier of liquid natural gas (LNG). As much as 45 per cent of the country's requirements are met by imports from this Gulf country. LNG is natural gas cooled to a liquid state. In this chilled form, it can be transported by special tankers to terminals around the world. It is then warmed again and moved through pipelines to distribution points. The advantage is that it can be transported to places beyond the reach of pipelines. There have been many proposals for subsea pipelines to bring natural gas from Gulf countries like Oman to the subcontinent, but these have failed to take off due to technical reasons. LNG imports are, therefore, a viable option.

Natural gas is also a cleaner alternative to other fossil fuels. It currently comprises only 6 per cent of the country's energy mix, but the target is to raise this to 15 per cent by 2030. The International Energy Agency has forecast that India's natural gas consumption will rise by nearly 60 per cent over this period from 2023 levels. This, in turn, will lead to a doubling of LNG imports owing to sustained demand growth and a slowing domestic production. Currently, imported natural gas accounts for roughly half of the country's consumption needs.

Qatar and the US look set to be major suppliers of natural gas in the form of LNG in the long run. An existing India-Qatar contract for the supply of 7.5 million tonnes per annum of LNG has recently been extended for another 20 years with effect from 2028. The value of the contract is a mind-boggling \$78 billion. This long-term commitment provides a tremendous comfort level in the energy sector at a time when the US is doubling down on sanctions against Russia. Right now, India needs to ensure that oil and gas supplies are not disrupted for any reason. Diversification of sources of supply has already been carried out in the case of oil, with imports contracted from multiple sources. As far as natural gas is concerned, the recent agreements with Qatar give similar confidence that much of the demand will be met without any hiccups.

PM Modi's warmth towards the Qatari leader also stems from an expectation of substantial investments to be made in the coming years.

A \$10-billion investment plan was announced during the visit, but this could expand significantly, especially in the energy sector. Foreign direct investments of \$1.5 billion



have already been made by the Qatar Investment Authority in a wide range of areas, including retail, power and information technology. As for bilateral trade, it is expected to rise from \$14 billion currently to \$28 billion over the next five years. Yet, investments from Qatar are lagging behind those from other Gulf countries like Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). These countries have announced investment plans of \$100 billion and \$75 billion, respectively, largely in the hydrocarbons sector. Clearly, more efforts are needed to enhance ties with the equally cash-rich yet smaller neighbour.

Apart from economic cooperation, the Qatar leader's visit has led to bilateral relations being upgraded to a strategic partnership. It becomes the fifth Gulf country with which India has developed this relationship. The upgradation of ties is significant, especially in the context of the key role that this small nation plays in West Asia. It has become a broker for peace talks in most conflicts in the region, the most recent being the Gaza truce that was negotiated in Qatar. For India, it has also emerged as a channel of communication with the Taliban in Afghanistan. The relationship had floundered in 2022 when eight former Indian Navy personnel were sentenced to death by a

Qatari court. PM Modi's intervention led to the sentence being commuted, but one former naval officer still remains in custody. It is also interesting that the ambitious India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC) project has bypassed Qatar, though both the UAE and Saudi Arabia are on board. Hopefully, these lingering irritants in bilateral ties will be ironed out soon. At a time when media scrutiny of the India-US relationship is overwhelming due to a raft of announcements by Trump on various issues, the growing importance of India-Qatar ties has been given only muted recognition.

But there is no doubt that this relationship, built on the foundational element of energy security, is set to become deeper. One aspect that will play a significant role in determining the course of these ties is the eight lakh-strong Indian diaspora that makes a major contribution to the economy of the Gulf country. It is incumbent on the government to ensure adequate working conditions for its citizens there, even as domestic foreign exchange reserves benefit from the bonanza of remittances that prop up foreign exchange reserves. A multiplicity of factors, therefore, are underpinning this much-needed initiative to expand relations with a country that has rapidly assumed a key role in West Asia.

Asphalt over art

HC's shortsighted ruling on Rock Garden



The Punjab and Haryana High Court's directive to demolish a section of the Rock Garden's wall for road widening and parking expansion raises serious concerns about the balance between infrastructure and heritage conservation. The decision, executed by the UT Administration, not only erases a part of Nek Chand's artistic legacy but also sets a troubling precedent for how India treats its cultural and forest heritage in the name of 'development.' For decades, the Rock Garden has stood as a testament to human ingenuity, turning waste into wonder. However, in what can only be described as an ironic injustice, a part of this artistic and cherished landmark is being razed to make space for asphalt and use by polluting vehicles. The claim that the demolished wall was not part of Nek Chand's original structure does little to justify the destruction. A landmark's significance is not merely in its blueprint but in the cultural and emotional connection it holds for the people.

The rationale for this demolition is flawed on multiple

levels. First, traffic congestion around the high court is largely due to poor management, not the presence of

the Rock Garden. Sustainable alternatives, such as better public transport and shuttle services, have been overlooked. Plus, a systematic restructuring of case lists by the HC can reduce daily footfall at the court, addressing traffic concerns. Second, the administration's promise of 'relocating' the wall and replanting trees does not compensate for the irreversible loss of an ecosystem. Chandigarh's famed tree-lined landscape is already under siege; removing century-old trees for road widening is another nail in the coffin of its ecological balance.

The larger question remains: If courts, meant to be guardians of justice, do not defend public heritage and environmental integrity, who will? Chandigarh deserves sustainable urban planning, not thoughtless destruction disguised as progress.

Why India must think twice about Trump's F-35 offer

The F-35 is already a highly questionable and controversial commodity in the USA itself. There have been too many glitches.

AFORMER foreign secretary has advised "India to adjust to a whole new world" with "only transactions and deals" and believes that there are "no friends and enemies in this scenario." Obviously, the diplomat's assessment originates from the 'real-time' unpredictability of the sole 'super power', President Donald Trump, who appears difficult to be dealt with by today's "whole new world." Simply put, the 'scenario' today has dramatically turned to 'T' for 'transactional Trump', and 'D' for 'dollar deals Donald', with the USA launching its global blitzkrieg for 'deal' and 'transaction'. The US unilateralism is compelling friends and foes alike to either scurry for cover or make a personal appearance before Trump to keep him in good humour, notwithstanding the bleak prospect of any meaningful result. Trump loves the driver seat for deals, dictating all in his durbur to put their signatures in the DC-prepared draft of transaction documents.

Trump now wants India to buy the Lockheed F-35 fighter to reduce America's \$35 billion bilateral trade deficit with Delhi.

However, India knows well (as does the USA, presumably) that any international deal, transaction, contract, or even the hatching of criminal conspiracy, is a bilateral process and essentially a matter of 'offer plus acceptance' for the sealing of the deal. From India's perspective, too, shouldn't then the F-35 be looked into? Barring the US Douglas DC-3 Dakota and Fairchild Packet C119G transport and air-dropping, the Indian Air Force has never had a US fighter in its combat squadron inventory since 1947. Hence, the sudden transformative, unilateral and command-like offer to India to buy the Lockheed F-35 multirole fighter by the transactional President of the US (POTUS) deserves a scrutiny, especially in light of the contemporary geopolitical weather and history of erratic, overbearing US policy

towards Delhi-DC bilateral contours over the decades.

First, let us be clear that no air force of a country of India's shape and size is made in a day and an air force building is no garden party or a matter of joke. It is a serious business of high-tech, high-risk, high-investment and exceptionally high-quality trained personnel or men behind the machines. Jane's All the World's Aircraft shows that the period from the "request for proposal" to the "first delivery" of the F-35 fifth generation multirole stealth fighter Lockheed, spanned over 15 years (December 1995-May 2011). Also, India was never under the US radar either as an industrial partner or a potential buyer or readymade user of the high-tech Lockheed fighter. The F-35 essentially was for the advanced west and its defence and security partners from the non-west. Thus, in late 1996, "Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Singapore, Spain and Sweden were briefed on the programme." It was clear from the beginning that it would be an enormously expensive flying machine.

First-level collaboration with 10 per cent cost-sharing was sought from the UK; Italy and the Netherlands were level-two partners, with 5 per cent cost sharing; level three involved the payment of 1-2 per cent with Denmark and Norway and, finally, came Australia, Canada and Turkey, who were to bear the cost on their own. Consequently, the cost of each fighter was exorbitant. As seen from the annual publication of Jane's All the World's Aircraft, from 2012-2013, each unit cost of the US Air Force F-35A was quoted as \$37.3 million. It escalated to \$94.3 million in 2017 and is now well over \$100 million per fighter. On top of this, if one takes into account the depreciation of

the Indian rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar, the expenditure by the Indian exchequer can be truly mindboggling. It can make any F-35 "deal" or "transaction" highly explosive and an impossible hot political potato, with the questionable possibility of the US fighter role, responsibility and utility in the Indian defence



system. There are also multiple technical factors which surely would be beyond the comprehension of the millions of uninitiated, who get impressed by the air display and further charged by the emotional public debate of/for optics. The F-35 is already a highly questionable and controversial commodity in the USA itself. There have been too many glitches and cost and time overruns that have made both the POTUS and his principal Man Friday, Elon Musk, making comments on the US aviation industrial capacity and capability. The

POTUS is after Boeing for its inability to deliver two 'Air Force One' transport craft for the White House. Musk is all over F-35, making comments like: "F-35 fighter jets are obsolete" and "meanwhile, some idiots are still building manned fighter jets like F-35."

Expectedly, the outgoing US air chief has given Musk a mouthful of expletives. Tech and economics aside, India is expected to follow zero-tolerance to flight safety failure if it afflicts an extraordinarily "sophisticated stealth" like F-35. Regrettably, things went wrong early in October 2010 itself, with a brief grounding of the fleet at the Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), owing to a "software problem affecting the pump that could have caused un-commanded inflight shutdown of engine."

Almost 15 years have gone by, but unexplained and unexpected inflight glitches continue to plague the F-35s. A few citations would suffice. In two successive accidents in June and July of 2014, a mixed group of F-35s "suffered catastrophic engine failure at Eglin AFB which was followed by a fleet-wide grounding order." This is similar to what the Indian Air Force faces today — a whole fleet of the indigenous Advanced Light Helicopter Dhruv being grounded after the January 5, 2025 crash. For the F-35, however, the most serious finding of the accident inquiry report was "rubbing between third-stage fan blades in low-pressure section of the P&W F-135 engine and the inner wall of compressor casing." Unfortunately, the F-35 offered by the POTUS still suffers from nagging niggles which do not inspire confidence of any potential user. That's the irony, but also the reality. One, therefore, would hate to see a possible increase in the number of widows and orphans in our Air Force stations during peace time.

Non-stop rain and snowfall in Himachal: Roads shut, power cut, landslide in Kullu

Snowfall continues in Lahaul-Spiti even after three days. In several areas, over three feet of snow has accumulated, and there also remains a risk of avalanches, said officials.

New Delhi. Heavy snowfall coupled with rain and landslides across many parts of Himachal Pradesh, including the tribal districts of Lahaul, Spiti, Chambal and Mandi, has put life to a standstill with no electricity reported in many areas. Snowfall continues in Lahaul-Spiti even after three days. In several areas, over

three feet of snow has accumulated, and there also remains a risk of avalanches, said officials. On the other hand, heavy rainfall for the past two days has caused mayhem in Kullu district as several vehicles have been reportedly washed away in the Bhoothnath Nala area and vehicles buried under debris in Gandhinagar. The meteorological department in Himachal has issued an orange alert.

Late last evening, an avalanche hit the Tindi Panchayat area of Lahaul Valley. Heavy snowfall in the region has left residents anxious. Though there was no loss of life, the sight of the ice flood left locals in shock.

Considering the continuous heavy snowfall on Thursday, the district administration has issued a notification ordering the closure of educational institutions in Lahaul-Spiti on Friday. Additionally, the snowfall has led to a drinking water



shortage, and 53 electricity transformers have been rendered inoperative.

Lahaul Valley is witnessing such heavy snowfall after a long time, forcing people to remain indoors. The Meteorological Department has also issued an avalanche warning for several areas, advising residents to stay indoors.

Meanwhile, a landslide in Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district has blocked the Chandigarh-Manali National Highway, with a bus reportedly involved in an accident. As a result, there is heavy traffic

congestion even though small vehicles are allowed to pass, said authorities.

The exact details of the bus accident remain unclear, and police are investigating. Machinery from Afcons, an infrastructure company engaged in four-lane construction, has been deployed to clear the debris which has been blocking the highway. Mandi District Police has shared an advisory on social media, urging travellers to exercise caution. Officials confirmed that efforts to clear the debris began immediately using Afcons machinery.

While partial clearance has allowed small vehicles to pass, traffic remains heavily affected on both sides, said officials. Authorities further said that full restoration of traffic will only be possible once all debris is removed. While debris removal is underway, continuous rainfall is slowing down the process, said a senior police official.

India Needs 7.8% Growth To Become High-Income Country By 2047: World Bank

To achieve this goal India would require reforms in financial sector as well as in land and labour market, the World Bank said in its India Country Memorandum titled 'Becoming a High-Income Economy in a generation'.



New Delhi. India will need to grow at an average 7.8 per cent to become a high-income country by 2047, a World Bank report said on Friday. To achieve this goal India would require reforms in financial sector as well as in land and labour market, the World Bank said in its India Country Memorandum titled 'Becoming a High-Income Economy in a generation'.

Recognizing India's fast pace of growth averaging 6.3 per cent between 2000 and 2024, the report notes that India's past achievements provide the foundation for its future ambitions. "However, reaching the ambitious target of becoming a high-income economy by 2047 will not be possible in a business-as-usual scenario... for India to become a high-income economy by 2047, its GNI (gross national income) per capita would have to increase by nearly 8 times over the current levels; growth would have to accelerate further and to remain high over the next two decades, a feat that few countries have achieved.

"To meet this target, given the less conducive external environment, India would need to not only maintain ongoing initiatives but in fact expand and intensify reforms," the World Bank report said.

In recent years, India has introduced a host of structural reforms to transform the country into a global manufacturing hub, to boost infrastructure, improve human capital, and leverage digitization, while at the same time bolstering macroeconomic stability.

"To reach high income by 2047, India's growth rate needs to average 7.8 per cent, in real terms, over the coming decades... Only an 'accelerated reforms' package would put India on track to become high-income by 2047," the report said. World Bank India country director Auguste Tano Kouame said lessons from countries like Chile, Korea and Poland show how they have successfully made the transition from middle to high-income countries by deepening their integration into the global economy. The report said that over the past decades, India has developed at a scale and pace that few would have thought possible. From 2000 to today, in real terms, the economy has grown nearly four-fold, and GDP per capita has almost tripled. Because India grew faster than the rest of the world, its share in the global economy has doubled from 1.6 per cent in 2000 to 3.4 per cent in 2023. India has become the world's fifth largest economy.

"This remarkable development story also includes a steep decline in extreme poverty, and massive expansion of service delivery and essential infrastructure. Building on these achievements, India has set the ambitious goal of becoming a high-income country by 2047," the report added.

"Arbitrary, Illegal": Top Court Sets Aside Dismissal Of Two Women Civil Judges

New Delhi. The Supreme Court set aside the orders the dismissal of two women civil judges in Madhya Pradesh in 2023, terming the action as "punitive, arbitrary and illegal".

The case pertained to the dismissal of Judges Aditi Kumar Sharma and Sarita Chaudhary, who had joined the Madhya Pradesh judicial service in 2018 and 2017 respectively. A bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and N Kotiswar Singh noted that one of judges, during probation period, had got married, contracted Covid-19, had a miscarriage, and her brother was diagnosed with cancer. "When there is birth there is sense of fulfillment whereas miscarriage has serious effect on mental health of women which has psychological impact which even leads to suicide and recurring miscarriages even has severe effects on health. Miscarriage affects a person's identity, stigma, isolation in other factors. It is not enough to find comfort in growing number of women judicial officers unless we secure a comfortable atmosphere for them to work in," Justice Nagarathna said.

While adding that women judges often take pain-killer medicines to sit through the entire day in court on certain days, the Bench added that freedom from discrimination for women during pregnancy is precious right. The top court direct the reinstatement of both women judges within 15 days. Justice Nagarathna said a report given by the Madhya Pradesh High Court in a sealed cover was also not satisfactory in persuading the Bench to take a different view. "We hold that the termination was in the form of punishment. The termination was stigmatic in nature," she said. On November 11, 2023, the top court had taken a suo motu cognisance of the termination of six women civil judges by the state government over their alleged unsatisfactory performance. However, a full court of the Madhya Pradesh High Court reconsidered its earlier resolutions on August 1, 2024 and decided to reinstate four officers -- Jyoti Varkade, Sushri Sonakshi Joshi, Sushri Priya Sharma and Rachna Atulkar Joshi -- on certain terms and conditions, leaving out the other two, Aditi Kumar Sharma and Sarita Chaudhary from the exercise.

Teacher writes answers on board during exam, suspended after video goes viral

New Delhi. In a shocking incident, a teacher in a Madhya Pradesh school was caught helping students cheat by solving the question paper on a blackboard. The incident, which was captured on camera, took place on February 25 in Betul district. The school has suspended the teacher and has launched an enquiry into the matter. During the exam, primary school teacher Sangeeta Vishwakarma was seen writing answers for the Mathematics question paper on the blackboard, enabling students to cheat.

As the teacher was helping students cheat, someone recorded the entire incident and shared the video on social media, where it quickly gained traction.

As soon as the video went viral, the district administration took immediate notice. Betul Collector Narendra Kumar Suryavanshi ordered an urgent investigation considering the seriousness of the matter. During the enquiry, the allegations of facilitating cheating against the teacher were found to be true, leading to her suspension.

Assistant Commissioner of the Tribal Affairs Department, Shilpa Jain, said that Sangeeta Vishwakarma was assigned as an invigilator in the examination hall. However, Jain pointed out that Vishwakarma misused her position by solving the question paper on the blackboard and facilitating cheating among students. "Following her suspension, a disciplinary enquiry has been initiated against the teacher. If further serious charges are proven, strict action may be taken against her," said Jain. Additionally, action is being considered against the examination centre head and assistant centre head. If required, an FIR may also be registered following the investigation," Jain added.

After this incident, the education department issued strict warnings to all teachers, stating that using unfair means or promoting cheating in any way during exams will result in severe consequences. The administration has also instructed authorities to enforce strict monitoring at examination centres to prevent such incidents in the future.

48-km stretch along Yamuna to get facelift

NEW DELHI. "No part of Delhi should experience waterlogging this season. If it occurs, the officials responsible will face suspension," said PWD and Water Minister Parvesh Verma on Thursday, the third day of the Assembly session. Outlining his plans for a cleaner Delhi, Verma said he has set a 100-day deadline for cleaning 77 drains throughout the city.

"Though the goal has been set for 100 days, we intend to complete the cleaning faster, before the Monsoon arrives. I have sought before and after pictures and videos of every single drain. Nearly 12 meetings have been held in this regard. The department has been given clear instructions -- desilt, use pumps or whatever is required, but waterlogging will not be tolerated."

Meanwhile, taking a step towards a cleaner Yamuna, Verma stated that the entire 48 km stretch will be



redeveloped into a green zone comprising jogging path, picnic spot dotted with small eateries and stalls.

He assured that rules against the river pollution will be made stricter. "The industries releasing the industrial waste into the Yamuna will be fined." Verma also emphasized that this year the Chhhat Pooja will be held amid better conditions.

He talked about waste leakage identification, replacement of old water lines, installation of a GPS system in water tankers, and

streamlining the drainage cleaning process.

Additionally, the minister instructed officials to initiate sewer and footpath cleaning, accelerate the construction of five flyovers, and enhance the aesthetics of pavements beneath flyovers within a set deadline. "I inspected the construction work at Barapullah (puliya) today and have directed officials to commence construction work in April and complete it in four months," he stated.

"Today, I instructed the Public Works Department (PWD) and flood management officials to prepare a plan for sewer and footpath cleaning, review pending flyover projects, restart their construction, and undertake pavement beautification under flyovers," he said.

Verma also examined a damaged culvert that had remained unrepaired for two years, leading to road closures and severe traffic congestion.

USAID accused of supporting Hamas, Lashkar-linked group at Congress hearing

New Delhi. Over USD 2 billion has been sent by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) to support the Hamas terrorist organisation since the October 7 attacks on Israel in 2023, under the Biden Administration, according to testimony presented during a House Committee hearing on USAID and federal workers.

Reports further indicate that USAID also provided assistance to an anti-Indian outfit designated as a terrorist organisation by the US government. It funded the Falah-e-Insaniat Foundation (FIF), a front for Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) based in Pakistan. LeT was responsible for the 26/11 Mumbai attacks, which left 166 people dead and over 300 injured.

Previously, USAID had been accused of continuing to support the foundation despite being under investigation for

the same. Both the LeT and its front JuD, proscribed as terror organisations by both India and the US, have carried out multiple terror attacks across India,



Hand for Relief and Development (HHRD). HHRD has alleged ties with jihadist organisations in South Asia. "USAID funded HHRD, a Michigan-based Islamist charity with ties to jihadist groups, including Pakistan's Falah-e-Insaniat Foundation, a US-designated terrorist organisation involved in the 2008 Mumbai attacks," said Middle East expert Amjad Taha said on X, further claiming that USD 110,000 was sent to jihadist groups operating out of South Asia, including FIF, which was behind the 26/11 Mumbai attacks.

The Trump administration has decided to cut 90% of USAID's foreign contracts and over USD 60 billion in funding for the US's assistance programs worldwide, signalling a decades-long shift in the US shaping up its policies and interests abroad with the help of the aid agency's initiatives.

'Duplicate registrations': CAG exposes Rs 220 crore irregularities in Ladli scheme

The report found that the Women and Child Development department overseeing the scheme failed to verify beneficiary details, leading to widespread duplication.

NEW DELHI. A Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) audit has uncovered massive discrepancies amounting to over Rs 220 crore in the Ladli Scheme, launched to provide financial assistance for girls' education. The audit documents, exclusively accessed by this newspaper, revealed thousands of duplicate and fraudulent registrations, an excess payment of over Rs 41 crore, and a staggering Rs 618.38 crore lying unclaimed. The report found that the Women and Child Development department overseeing the scheme failed to verify beneficiary details, leading to widespread duplication. It identified over 36,000 cases where beneficiaries' names, birth dates, and parental information were identical, raising concerns about fraudulent enrollments.

According to the findings, 16,546 duplicate and 131 triplicate registrations were detected among 8.84 lakh active beneficiaries as of December 2022. This resulted in an excess payment of Rs 11.49 crore. In another 20,127 cases, where either the names or dates of birth matched, Rs 29.23 crore was disbursed. The



audit also highlighted that the department did not integrate Aadhaar verification until May 2023, allowing multiple enrollments of the same beneficiary. The department only initiated steps to incorporate the Ladli Scheme into the Direct Benefit Transfer system that May. This failure to ensure a foolproof registration process led to significant financial irregularities.

The CAG flagged another primary concern: nearly 9 percent of beneficiaries were enrolled after turning 18, the scheme's maturity age, causing a financial loss of Rs 180.92 crore. The audit found that 78,065 beneficiaries who had already crossed the eligible age at

enrollment had accounts accumulating funds. "In many cases, the column 'Date of Birth' was blank," it stated. Meanwhile, a staggering '618.38 crore for beneficiaries remained unspent since the scheme's inception, even as lakhs of eligible girls have crossed the maturity age, the audit report has revealed. The initiative was launched in 2008 during the tenure of late former Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit to provide financial assistance to girls at different stages of their education and a lump sum amount of up to Rs 1 lakh upon turning

18. As of December 31, 2022, around 4.9 lakh girls, out of 8.84 lakh active beneficiaries, which amounts to 55% of the scheme's total active enrollees, had not received their due benefits despite meeting the eligibility criteria, the audit said. The report states that Rs 236.03 crore remained unclaimed by 1.26 lakh beneficiaries aged 18 to 20 years. Another Rs 224.56 crore was not disbursed to 1.18 lakh beneficiaries between the ages of 20 and 26, while Rs 157.78 crore never went to 77,000 girls now over 26 years old. Additionally, 1,74,960 cases where beneficiaries met the maturity criteria were left unsettled.

Signs that a co-worker likes you



Signs that a co-worker likes you
Office romance is not uncommon. In fact, a large percentage of people dream to find their special someone within their office premises. But it can be tricky as many companies see an office romance as a breach of policies. Every love has its pros and cons, but if you still want to go ahead with someone from the office, then you need to be sure that the other person likes you. Here are some signs a co-worker might be into you.

They talk to you the most
If that certain coworker keeps talking to you a lot, in between meetings, coffee breaks and more, then chances are high that they might be interested in you. If you're new in the office, they will certainly take an initiative to introduce you to the office curriculums but if you're no longer new, and they still prefer to talk to you, then you know what to expect!

Wants to know more about you outside of the office

Your coworker will make it a point to know more about you, outside your employee profile. They would want to know your preferences and dislikes and build up a conversation at any time of the day. What's best is that they might even ask you to go out for a brunch with them. Take it as a hint for a date!

Brings you coffee
Work and coffee go hand in hand. It's almost impossible to survive office pressure without a good cup of coffee. And so, your coworker might even bring you coffee to clear your mind up! Now, that's a move only people do, who care about you. That person will make it a point to get you coffee at your most pressuring times, just to help you ease up.

Helps you out anytime
They might be crazy busy, but if your coworker is always up for helping you out despite their heavy workload, then be rest assured that they're into you. Taking out time and putting efforts into doing the heavy work for you is simply a bonus point if your coworker likes you.

Engaging in interesting conversations
Your coworker will always have something to talk about, so that you both may never run out of topic to converse on. It becomes quite evident that they love talking to you. They even seem to know your birthday and other special dates because they're simply into you! Another strong indication of their feelings towards you is by wanting to know more about your love life, and if you're single!



How to get your first Job right



No matter where your career takes you in the future, the memory of your first job will live with you for the rest of your life. Your first job, which represents your transition from college to the corporate world, must be replete with learning opportunities and provide a strong platform for building a solid foundation that can ensure that your career is on the growth track.

Profile first
The work you do is very important. A very crucial parameter in choosing your first job

is the profile on offer. Choose a job that exactly fits your interests, does justice to your educational qualifications and career aspirations and is something you are passionate about. Explains Nishant Kantawala, founder and CEO, IndieMix, "Many freshers make the error of ranking salary as the most important criteria while evaluating job offers. Always remember that money is not always important. You have the rest of your career to grow your earnings. Instead, focus on the

5 tips for women to take control of their Careers

Focus on your strengths and make a few wise moves to jumpstart your career.

Working women face unique challenges at the workplace. Lack of investment in professional development, the absence of a role model, and juggling between work and family life are just a few of the barriers. However, it is possible to cross these hurdles and come out a winner. Suggests Deepa Sapatnekar, head of communication, LinkedIn India, Korea and MENA region, "Don't wait for your employer to give you guidance on your career path. Choose someone you admire at your company or elsewhere, and look at the career steps they made to be successful.



Find out, for instance, how long they stayed in their role, and how often they moved to a new company."

More ways to take control:

1. Seek out women who can act your mentor. Join business networking sites LinkedIn groups to find professional women in your industry or region and make new connections.
2. Ask questions about what you should look for in a mentor.
3. Research positions similar to your own to understand the skills involved and pay scales so you can have regular informed conversations about your remuneration.
4. Save time and effort by using online networks to meet like-minded women professionals, mentors and key business contacts.
5. Can't find the time to attend networking events? Take a bit of time each day online to reach out to one key contact.

Securing the right job is vital as it sets the tone for the rest of your professional life. here are a few tips on how to go about it

There is no right or wrong answer to the debate between working at an established corporate or a start-up. A first job with an established corporate will add weight to your CV and give you the opportunity to learn coveted business practices. However, life at a start-up will be dynamic and provide you a range of hands-on experiences across different profiles. While both start-ups and corporates have their merits and demerits, remember that the industry you choose to work in matters more.

"My advice would be to enter a booming or upcoming sector or industry. There is no point joining a sector which is incurring losses, as this limits your growth, learning, opportunities and the buzz of activity within the sector" opines Kantawala.

Lasting impression

It's all too easy to get misguided while choosing your first job. People around you will always have an opinion on the matter --whether family relatives or peers. Additionally, companies and hiring agent will make their own pitches to you. Spend time doing thorough research on the company, its policies, the industry, etc, to craft your own point of view.

Don't hesitate to ask your recruiter questions. Many freshers hesitate to seek clarifications to their doubts as they are unsure about how their questions will be received. Obtain absolute clarity about the job before you take a binding decision.

Don't make the error of looking at your first professional stint as just another job; rather, value it as the building blocks of your career.



quality of work you pursue."

Considering the fact that most companies are branching out to multiple locations today, both in India and abroad, freshers must also be open to exploring locations beyond their home city. To veto an interesting opportunity just because it involves re location may be a decision you will later regret; working in varied locations will enrich your personality and add value to your profile.

Learning is the key

Since your first job is all about learning and development, ensure that you imbibe crucial skills that are integral in building your career.

"You should work in an organisation which supports and facilitates learning to the best of its ability. For example, an organisation with an extensive training and development programme for workers would be highly beneficial. Planned training programmes will give structure and rigour to your training," believes Prabha Shankar, recruitment consultant, Shell Consulting India.

Agrees Srishti Roy, creative head, Orange Vistas, "I was recruited from campus as a trainee at my first job with a leading creative agency. It was an extremely well planned, hands-on experience, exposing me to all aspects and workings of the business. This gave me a very grounded, yet holistic view of the industry and helped me perform well at work."

Corporates vs start-ups

Must-follow work Etiquette rules

What do those opting for an etiquette class with a royal legacy have in store?

You never get a second chance to make a first impression, says Nisha Mehta, a senior trainer with The English Manner, a British finishing school that recently opened doors at an Andheri five-star.

I am there for a crash course in corporate etiquette, one of the several modules they run, catering to a wide cross-section, from ladies to children above eight. So far, my trainers have been stoic nuns at my convent school to well-meaning grandaunts, generous with knuckle raps when I'd wipe grubby hands on easily-accessible clothing.

"In the old days, children from affluent homes attended finishing schools in Switzerland, while on summer break. Now, ninety six per cent of young adults who approach us can't recognize flatware," she says, referring to the confusion with figuring cutlery and its varied purposes.

The 20 trainers here, have all worked with their English counterparts and boast of a legacy that goes back to founder Alexandra Messervy, a former member of The Royal Household of Her Majesty the Queen, helm part-time courses that use practical situations as tools. I, like the other 19 in a batch, would have to spare anything between Rs 5,000 and Rs 80,000 depending on the nature and length of module. I can choose from wardrobe planning, social etiquette, flower arrangements, dining, afternoon tea and 'special courses' for ladies.

- How to stand

Department, which has little to do with being expelled from a country on account of illegal status, concerns how I stand, walk and carry myself. I am told I walk like a "little boy". Mehta shows me how to do it right. Feet together, shoulders erect, tummy in and hands by my side. Practising with a book on my head, stepping heel to toe, will help. The unnecessary bounce or noise that your shoes make can easily be undone by adjusting your gait; heels are no exception. Do not stand with your arms locked behind your back - it is a sign of submissiveness best restricted to those called in to the principal's office.

- The way to sit Myth buster: it's okay to cross your legs in front of elders. It is not disrespectful, says Mehta, rubbing what I was told when young. "They tell that to

children who may not be able to handle their skirts," she says. The more casual yet elegant option, though, is to tuck one leg behind the other at an angle. Place your right leg near the right leg of your chair at an angle so that it can serve as marker. The angle, she explains, lends your body a pleasant silhouette without making it stiff.

Never, says Mehta, reveal the sole of your shoe to the person before you. "It is disrespectful," she says, adding, "This applies for men too."

- Shaking hands

When it comes to physical interactions at the workplace, handshakes are the only acceptable form of contact. So, you might as well do it right. Ensure you have clean, manicured nails. Unkempt nails are a deal breaker. Fellows, it's the same for you.

Ideally, maintain a three feet distance between yourself and the person before you. Don't lean in; it signals submissiveness.

When you make contact, the webbed skin between your thumb and index finger must touch the other person's. Grip firmly and shake twice, no more.

Similarly, when handing over your business card, use both hands, holding either edge of the card with the writing facing the

person receiving it. Don't forget to smile. When receiving a business card, use the same stance. Also, it's rude to put it down before the person leaves your side.

- Never do

"Don't fidget with your fingers. It gives away more than you intend to," says Anita Newton Engineer, another senior trainer. If your face is calm, kudos for hiding your nerves but make sure your fingers have received the memo too. "A person's attention must be stayed on the triangle of your face (eyes drawing down to a point). When you twiddle your fingers, you take their attention away from your face," she explains.

- Email etiquette

Besides basic grammar, be careful with salutations. 'Dear' is appropriate; 'dearest' is too intimate. 'Hi' and 'Hello' are best avoided. If used, it should be restricted to inter-department emails. The email format follows the same rules of a letter. 'Yours truly' is not to be used in official mails unless you work for your wife.



NEWS BOX

Harry Brook my choice to be next England captain, but be careful: Nasser Hussain

New Delhi Nasser Hussain said that Harry Brook would be his choice to replace Jos Buttler as England's next white-ball captain but admitted that they will need to be careful with the young batter. England faced another disappointing outing at an ICC event as they were dumped out of the Champions Trophy 2025 following their loss to Afghanistan. This would raise questions about Jos Buttler's position as the skipper of the side. Buttler admitted that he would need to assess his position as skipper following the exit from the Champions Trophy. Hussain, in his column for the Daily Mail, endorsed Brook to take the role as he felt it was time to move away from Buttler. However, the former captain admitted that the choices are a bit limited at the moment.

"Harry Brook would be my choice as England's next limited-overs captain now it's clearly time to move on from Jos Buttler." "If you're having to think about being England captain, as Buttler said he would be after Champions Trophy elimination earlier this week, you probably know you're done." "The truth is though that as far as future leaders go, the cupboard is



pretty bare and some of that is simply because not enough domestic 50-over cricket is being played," said Hussain. Brook has had experience leading England in ODIs as he was skipper of the side for the series against Australia last year.

Champions Trophy: Full Coverage | Points Table Issues with appointing Brook as skipper Hussain pointed out that the major issue with appointing Brook is that he is a regular in the Test team and England has a packed schedule this year when it comes to red-ball cricket. Hussain felt that England would need to ensure that they aren't weighing down a young player with too much burden. "And there would be issues with appointing Brook. Namely whether, in such an important year that includes a home Test series against India and ends with the Ashes, you want to pass on all the burdens associated with leading a struggling side onto a young man and make his life a bit more difficult as a result." "England are trying to go in a direction where they're playing a lot of their Test players in the limited-overs sides. Do they want that with the captain as well? That is another question."

Jose Mourinho banned for four matches and fined after Turkish referees comment

ISTANBUL: Fenerbahce manager Jose Mourinho was given a four-match ban and fined by the Turkish Football Federation following his comments about Turkish referees after a match at Galatasaray. The Turkish federation on Thursday fined the 62-year-old Portuguese coach 1.6 million Turkish lira (\$44,000) after he criticized the match officials in a media conference following a 0-0 Super Lig draw on Monday.

Mourinho served one of his suspended four games on Thursday when he was absent from the bench for Fenerbahce's 4-1 Turkish Cup win at Gaziantep. Britain's Sky Sports News said Fenerbahce had appealed the four-game ban. It means that if Fenerbahce's appeal is unsuccessful, he will miss their next three domestic games. In his post-match interview on Monday, Mourinho welcomed the decision to bring in a foreign referee for the



game and also praised Slavko Vincic of Slovenia for a "top performance."

Mourinho said he'd gone to see the referee and thank him following the game. When he saw the fourth official — a Turkish referee — Mourinho said he told him: "If you are the referee ... would be a disaster."

Asked about a challenge early in the match, he said a Turkish referee would have reacted with a yellow card "after the big dive and their bench jumping around like monkeys."

The Turkish federation said the ban and fine were instituted due to "derogatory and offensive statements towards the Turkish referee" and accusations of chaos and disorder in Turkish football. It said Mourinho's remarks violated sports ethics, promoted violence and disorder and could incite fan incidents. Fenerbahce issued a statement on Tuesday defending Mourinho, saying his comments were taken out of context and deliberately distorted. Former Chelsea, Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur manager Mourinho has previously been fined and suspended for his comments about Turkish match officials.

Lahore rain and Australia threaten Afghanistan's historic semi-final bid

← Afghanistan faces Australia in a virtual quarter-final at the Champions Trophy

← Rain is expected to threaten the match in Lahore

← Both teams have beaten England in Group B

New Delhi Australia and Afghanistan might not carry the history of India vs Pakistan, but it is quickly gaining traction as one of the most dramatic events in an ICC tournament. This is the fourth time in four different editions of ICC trophies that the two teams will meet in a high-stakes match, and sparks will fly once again as politics and cricket mix on the 22 yards at Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore.

Australia have previously refused to play against Afghanistan, citing the troubled history of women's rights in Afghanistan. There have been calls for a boycott from

certain sections of the Australian crowd once again, and thankfully, from a cricketing perspective — and a cricketing perspective alone — those calls have fallen on deaf ears.

The Afghanistan players, who have been prominent fixtures in the Big Bash League over the years, have publicly challenged the calls for a boycott in the past. "I want, all the players want, to play cricket because that is the only source of happiness for people back home in Afghanistan, and if you take that away, there is nothing that people could celebrate or enjoy," Rashid Khan had told PTI in an interview back in 2024. This subtle undertone of dissatisfaction, hurt, and betrayal has always added that extra pitch of theatre to this budding rivalry.

AUSTRALIA VS AFGHANISTAN IN ICC EVENTS

In recent years, Afghanistan have hurt Australia twice in ICC tournaments. In the 2022 T20 World Cup, Afghanistan played out a thriller against Australia in Adelaide, denying them a win by a big margin, thanks to a whirlwind knock from Rashid Khan. Rashid's innings meant that Australia won the Super 12 match by just 4 runs, which eventually led to their exit by Net Run Rate.



In 2023, at the ODI World Cup in India, Afghanistan had Australia by the scruff of the neck. But a generational double hundred from Glenn Maxwell knocked them out instead. From 91/7, Maxwell and Pat Cummins struck a spellbinding partnership to chase down 292 runs in Mumbai, creating a memory for the ages.

In 2024, Afghanistan took some semblance of revenge, beating Australia by 21 runs in the Super 8 stage of the T20 World Cup, booking a spot in their first-ever semi-final in the ICC tournament. Champions Trophy: Full Coverage | Points Table

AUSTRALIA AND ICC TOURNAMENTS While Afghanistan did it in 2024, beating

Australia in an ICC tournament is a monumental task. Ask India, who, despite having a near-perfect campaign in 2023, faltered against Australia in the final at home. India, under the leadership of Rohit Sharma, became the first team in over a decade to fail to win a World Cup final at home. Forget India, ask England in this Champions Trophy. Playing against a C-string Australian team, England failed to defend 350 runs in Lahore, despite having their full-strength attack. Australia are like a mythical beast in ICC tournaments. You hear about them in stories, like folklore of sorts. On their normal days, they play like a dream; it does not matter if they are weaker in strength, and on certain days, Australia remain utterly invincible.

MUST WIN FOR AFGHANISTAN

The good thing is that for Afghanistan, things remain simple. They have to slay the beast. If Afghanistan win, they go through to the semi-finals. If they lose, they are knocked out. Things remain slightly different for Australia, though. I mean, if they win, they surely go through, but if they lose, they have to hope that England heavily beat South Africa in their final group-stage game, which in turn would help Australia qualify via Net Run Rate.

Lewis Hamilton features on TIME magazine cover, reveals why he chose Ferrari

New Delhi Ferrari's Lewis Hamilton has been featured on the cover of TIME magazine ahead of the start of the F1 2025 season. Hamilton ended his association with Mercedes, where he won six World Championships, to complete his boyhood dream of joining the iconic team.

The British driver has already started his practice with Ferrari and featured in the famous red suit at the F1 2025 event recently. Ahead of the start of the new season, Hamilton is now on the cover of the iconic magazine, which had an incredible picture. The photo on the cover showed Hamilton with a prancing horse in the background, just like Ferrari's logo.

Why did Hamilton chose Ferrari?

In the interview with TIME, Hamilton revealed the reason behind choosing Ferrari. The 40-year-old said that he didn't want to stand still for a long time and wanted to throw himself into something uncomfortable once again. You can't stand still for too long," said Hamilton. "I needed to throw myself into something uncomfortable again. Honestly, I thought all my firsts were done. Your first car,



your first crash, your first date, first day of school. The excitement I got by the idea of, "This is my first time in the red suit, the first time in the Ferrari." Wow. Honestly, I've never been so excited." Hamilton also admitted that he had come to terms with the idea he may never drive for Ferrari. "If I'm really honest, I had accepted the fact that I'm probably not going to drive for Ferrari," says Hamilton. "I was OK with that." "While many have been sceptical about Hamilton's move to Ferrari because of his age, the British driver isn't ready to consider himself an 'old man' just yet. "The old man is a state of mind," says Hamilton. "Of course your body ages. But I'm never going to be an old man."

MS Dhoni and R Ashwin reunited as CSK amp up IPL 2025 preparations

← Ashwin rejoined CSK during IPL 2025 auction

← CSK begin their IPL 2025 campaign against MI

← Ashwin and Dhoni's reunion took the fans down memory lane

New Delhi MS Dhoni and R Ashwin were reunited once again as Chennai Super Kings amp up their preparations for the upcoming season of IPL 2025. Ashwin and Dhoni were part of the CSK team that won back-to-back IPL titles in 2010 and 2011. Ashwin wasn't part of the CSK side during the 2018 season as he moved to the Punjab Kings. The off-spinner would make his much-awaited return to CSK during the IPL 2025 auction as he was bought for a whopping 9.75 crore rupees. This means that Ashwin will be back at the Chepauk, alongside Dhoni and former India bowling

partner Ravindra Jadeja as Chennai bid to win their 6th IPL title. The franchise has already started their preps with Dhoni, captain Ruturaj Gaikwad and others joining at the team base for the preparatory camp.

CSK shared a video on social media on



Thursday, February 27 showing Dhoni and Ashwin heading onto the field for practice. This certainly struck a chord with the Chennai fans, who were quickly reminded of the great days that the duo shared while donning the famous yellow jersey. You can see the full video below: Ashwin had reacted

earlier about his CSK return and said he was reminded of the 2011 auction when the franchise went all in for him.

"They say life is a circle. I played for them from 2008 to 2015. I am always indebted to them. Whatever I learnt at CSK then has propelled me this far in international cricket.

It's been 10 years since I played for CSK."

"The price, CSK buying me and all that is there. But, I feel nostalgic because, CSK fought for me during the bidding war like how they did in 2011. It was a trip down memory lane. It's a very special feeling."

"I have seen a lot of 'Abunden fans' banners. I have played there for Rajasthan Royals. I played in Chennai, and I noticed that CSK fans won't shout or celebrate when I am bowling and batting." "CSK will begin their IPL 2025 campaign with a mouth-watering clash against Mumbai Indians at the Chepauk on March 23." "I am so glad to return to CSK. I am looking forward to playing in front of the ever-growing fandom. Looking forward to playing with MS Dhoni and playing under Ruturaj Gaikwad," said Ashwin.

Pakistan cricket's miserable state: Prime Minister to take notice, says advisor

New Delhi Pakistan's embarrassing exit from the Champions Trophy is set to have ramifications. Rana Sanaullah, who is the advisor to Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, said in an interview that the PM will be taking notice of structural discrepancies in the Pakistan Cricket Board, run by Mohsin Naqvi. Sanaullah gave a fiery interview to Pakistani paper Dawn, where he stated that despite the autonomy of the PCB, they have not been able to deliver results. The advisor to the Pakistani PM said that the PCB had done as they pleased, which included spending limitless money on the Champions Cup, with a budget of 900 million Pakistani rupees. "The cricket board is an independent institution. They can do as they please, which they have. And what they've done, it is my personal opinion that I will request the prime minister to discuss the matter in the cabinet and parliament," Rana Sanaullah



said. "This is not about any particular instance, or about any one chairman being appointed. This is a process that you can see has been happening for the past five or 10 years," he added. Champions Trophy: Full Coverage | Points Table "The expenditure happening at a higher level should be brought in front of the country and parliament," he concluded. Pakistan overspent their budget for the Champions Trophy by a significant amount due to the

renovation of their three stadiums. Lahore, Rawalpindi, and Karachi saw major overhauls to bring the stadiums up to international standards. According to a PTI report, Pakistan had originally planned to spend PKR 12.3 billion on renovation costs, but it went over by nearly 6 billion PKR when the project was completed. Sanaullah also slammed the Champions Cup, the brainchild of PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi, which was meant to elevate the standards of domestic players in Pakistan. Sanaullah claimed that the five mentors of the Champions Cup sides had no clue what they were doing and were essentially being paid for doing nothing. "Mentors are being paid PKR 5 million and have been heard admitting to the media that they are unaware of their responsibilities, so they've been taking PKR 5 million monthly for not working," he said.

Prague Masters: Praggnanandhaa held again, Chithambaram scores crushing win against Keymer

← Chithambaram was quite unstoppable as he kept increasing the pressure till Keymer walked in to a lost rook and pawns endgame? it took 45 moves in all.

PRAGUE. Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa played out a second straight draw against Turkey's Gurel Ediz while Aravindh Chithambaram crashed through the defences of Germany's Vincent Keymer in the second round of the Prague Masters here. Chithambaram, who has been knocking hard

on the doors of elite circles, scored his first victory with black pieces after squeezing himself out of danger zone in his first-round game against Czech Grandmaster Nguyen Thai Dai Van. The Indian was involved in the sole decisive game of the day in the 10-players round-robin format, while the other matches ended in draws. Dai Van drew his second game on the trot with Sam Shankland of the United States, top seeded Wei Yi from China opened his account after splitting the point with Dutchman Anish Giri, and Quang Leim Le of Vietnam achieved the same result against Navara David from Czech Republic.

With seven rounds to go, Chithambaram joined Shankland in lead on 1.5 points out of two games. They are followed by Giri, Le, Dai Van, David, Keymer and Praggnanandhaa. Ediz and Wei Yi share the last spot on a half point apiece from their two games. n a day when world champion Boris Spassky breathed his last, Chithambaram's



victory had traits of the Russian's style of play to go for the kill at the first opportunity and not let it slip. The Queen's gambit accepted may have a solid reputation with black pieces but the young Indian cavalry is all out to breakout of that stereotype.

How else could one explain Chithambaram's choice of move order that gave white the luxury of a dynamic centre? It was an inch-by-inch invasion that won Chithambaram a pawn in the middle game and the trade of

queens was later forced by the Indian to harp on the better possibilities for his troupe.

Chithambaram was quite unstoppable as he kept increasing the pressure till Keymer walked in to a lost rook and pawns endgame? it took 45 moves in all. Praggnanandhaa has shown his ability to play all openings with either colour and his choice of French defence turned out to be a good one guaranteeing an equal game. The lone problem was to make something out of an equal position and the 16-year old Turk proved why he is hailed as one of the brightest among young Europeans, as he gave a little away. The players signed the peace on move 46 when it was evident the rook endgame did not offer chances for either of them. In the challengers' section which is being held simultaneously, Divya Deshmukh broke out of her shackles to score an impressive victory over Richard Stalmach of Czech Republic.

Tara Sutaria's

Mom Shares Strong Note After Aadar Jain's 'Time Pass' Comment: 'He Shouldn't Be Saying It'

Before marrying Alekha, Aadar Jain was dating Tara Sutaria. However, the two called it quits in 2023.



Aadar Jain recently shocked everyone when he told his now-wife, Alekha Advani, during one of their pre-wedding festivities, that his previous relationships were only a "time pass". While Aadar's former girlfriend, Tara Sutaria maintained her silence and did not react to the comment, her mother now has seemingly taken a dig at the member of the Kapoor family. Recently, Tara's mother, Tina Sutaria, took to her Instagram stories and shared a note which read, "If your boyfriend/husband ever says anything disrespectful to you, tell him to write it down on a piece of paper, get in his car, drive and deliver it to his mother, or simply hand it to his daughter. If he can't say it to his mother or doesn't want another man to one day say it to his daughter, he shouldn't be saying it to you (sic)."

While Tara's mother did not tag anyone, the timing of her post must be questioned.

What Did Aadar Jain Say About His Past Relationships?

In a video from Aadar Jain's mehendi ceremony that went viral on social media, the groom was heard saying, "I have always loved her and I have always wanted to be with her. So she sent me on this long journey of 20 years through time-pass. It was worth the wait because I get to marry this beautiful, beautiful woman, who looks like a dream. I love you, and it was worth the wait. It's a secret, I have always loved her. I have done time pass for four years of my life. But now I'm with you, baby."

The statement left many disappointed, with netizens slamming Aadar for seemingly calling his previous relationship "timepass." "Shameless. Disrespecting another girl is not cool," one of the users wrote. "Oh my God!!! Such men!!! Time pass for four years!!!! Is he implying his previous relationship???? Why hurt someone else's sentiments?" added another. "Such a cr*p guy... I don't know the story, but what kind of person talks like this on his special day? Hollow," a third comment read.



Katrina Kaif Is All Smiles As She Enjoys In A Pool, Fans Call Vicky Kaushal 'Lucky'



Katrina Kaif took to her Instagram handle on Thursday morning to share a series of pictures from her recent vacation. In the first photo, the actress was all smiles as she spent some time in a swimming pool. Another picture featured Katrina in a black cap and a brown jacket with snow-clad mountains in the background. She also shared scenic photographs from her hotel. Needless to say, Katrina looked prettiest in these new photos. While her pictures impressed everyone, fans also rushed to the comments section to call Vicky Kaushal, her actor-husband, luckiest. "Vicky Kaushal is Luckiest Person on Planet" one of the fans wrote. "Literally a treat for the eyes" added another. "Oh so gorgeous" a third comment read. Check it out here:

Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal are one of the most adorable and loved Bollywood actors. They have been married for three years now. Recently, Vicky opened up about how Katrina supported him while he was shooting for Chhaava. The actor mentioned that he needed emotional space while working on the Laxman Utekar directorial and added that Katrina helped him by understanding the same.

"There were intense scenes, sometimes there were action scenes. So, once you are home after 12 hours of shooting, you just fall on the bed. Whatever time was there for personal life, it was little. Katrina being from the same industry, she understands that when intense parts like these are there, then some space is required. So, she was very kind, sweet and patient. I don't bring the characters home but I used to get a bit quiet because the mind is in that zone, it keeps on going what I did today and what I will do tomorrow. Otherwise, there was not much difference. Everything was pretty normal," Vicky said. Meanwhile, on the work front, Katrina Kaif will soon be seen in Jee Le Zaara with Alia Bhatt and Priyanka Chopra. However, there is no update on the film's shoot schedule as of now.

Amitabh Bachchan Asked For THIS To Capture His Emotions During Baghban Climax: 'Mere Andar Bhara Hua Hai'



Salim-Javed, the famous screenwriting duo behind hits like Deewaar and Sholay in the 1970s, are respected icons in Indian cinema. Although they split and never worked together again, many may not know that they contributed to Ravi Chopra's Baghban. The film's story was written by B.R. Chopra, with dialogues by Achala Nagar, but Javed Akhtar wrote the emotional climax where Amitabh Bachchan's character delivers a heartfelt speech. Salim Khan wrote the dialogues for Salman Khan's character. In a recent interview with Pinkvilla, Renu Chopra, Ravi Chopra's wife, shared these details. between Salim



and Javed. Renu remembered that the climax scene, where Amitabh's character receives an award and speaks about giving everything to his children, was 11 pages long. After reading it, Amitabh asked Ravi for three days to prepare for the shoot at a hotel. He told the director to use as many cameras as needed because he knew he couldn't capture the emotions again. They set up three cameras and began filming. Renu recalled Amitabh saying, "Mere andar bhara hua hai (It's all inside me, bursting to come out.)"

In the same interview, Renu Chopra, shed light on the challenges they encountered while making and distributing the film. Renu revealed that finding a distributor for Baghban was no easy feat, as most dismissed the project as "old-fashioned." "The film struggled during its first four days in theatres. Ravi even questioned why he made it. But everything changed on the following Tuesday, and the film picked up momentum," she recalled.

Skepticism about the project wasn't limited to distributors. Legendary filmmaker BR Chopra, Ravi's father, was also doubtful. The original story, penned by BR Chopra two decades earlier, was reworked by Dr. Achala Nagar. "Ravi's father discouraged him from making Baghban, saying it was outdated. Many believed films like Avtaar and Zindagi had already explored similar themes. But Ravi saw it differently—not as a social drama but as a love story between an elderly couple," Renu explained.

Bhumi Pednekar

Celebrates 10 Years Of Dum Laga Ke Haisha, Pens A Note As She Watches Film In Theatre

Bhumi Pednekar made her acting debut with Dum Laga Ke Haisha co-starring Ayushmann Khurrana. The film was loved by the audience. Well, the romantic comedy-drama has completed 10 years and on this special milestone, the actress has written a long note. She has also shared that she watched the film with her family in theatres. Taking to her Instagram stories, Bhumi shared scenes and wrote, "#10 Years To Dum LagaKeHaisha AYUSHMANN KHURRANA 10 years ago, I watched Dum laga ke Haisha for the 1st time. Full of nerves, an emotional mess cause I couldn't believe I was in a film. I was there watching my childhood dream come alive. And 10 years later, I watched it all over again in a theatre with people I love and those that love the film and my heart was is so full that little girl that dreamt of being a leang la hubhumipednekar, of knowing how, had done it. I couldn't have asked for a better way to enter the films. My dearest @ayushmannk. Thank you for being the best co actor/friend. You are so special as Prem. Couldn't have done it without you."

She also shared a video in which she is seen interacting with fans in theatres. Bhumi wrote, "A big thank you to everyone that came yesterday and relived this beautiful film. It was so special. The laughs, the cries and just the

joy of seeing movie that moves everyone so deeply is beyond words can explain. Thank you aap mere back bone ho." In the film, Ayushmann plays a disgruntled high-school dropout who reluctantly marries an educated but overweight girl. Initially hesitant about their marriage, he gradually falls in love with her after



they participate in a race. Made on a budget of Rs 14 crore, the film was a hit, earning Rs 113 crore at the box office. On the work front, Bhumi is currently seen in Mere Husband Ki Biwi with Arjun Kapoor and Rakul Preet Singh. The film has been doing well at the box office.

