

Crucial cabinet meet today to chalk out strategies for Assembly session

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

A crucial cabinet meeting is scheduled at chief minister's official residence on Thursday evening to chalk out strategies for the upcoming monsoon session of the state assembly which will begin on Friday.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, who will chair the meeting, will discuss with his cabinet colleagues about the possible issues the opposition BJP is going to raise during the five-day long session.

Though Baghel government is only six months old, Janta



Congress Chhattisgarh, Jogi (JCC-J) is planning to move a no confidence motion against it in this session with the help of main opposition BJP. It has also sent a proposal in this regard to leader of opposition Dharamlal Kaushik.

Meanwhile, keeping a close watch on the fast-changing political developments in the state, the CM called the meeting to prepare themselves for the attacks of opposition on several issues, including power curtailment, failing to provide farm loan waiver to all farmers and the law and order situation in the state.

Suggestions invited for draft Water Sustainability Bill 2019

RAIPUR: Water Resources department has drafted Chhattisgarh Water Sustainability Bill 2019 for different uses of water such as irrigation, drinking water, industrial and other uses.

The department has now invited from public suggestions and objections on the draft bill by July 19, 2019.

The WRD intimated that the draft in Hindi and English has been uploaded in water resources department's website www.cgwrdd.in. Any state resident can go through the draft bill and register his suggestions and objections with office of the secretary, WRD, Government of Chhattisgarh, Mahanadi Bhawan, Atal Nagar Nava Raipur or email it to secy-wrdd.cg@gov.in.

Electoral awareness training through 'play mode' held

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Election Commission of India has taken up the initiative to continue with electoral awareness programmes across the country irrespective of election schedules.

As part of it, a two-day training programme was organized for state master trainers. They will take up the drive through 'Election Literacy Club'. The training schedules were made interesting both for the participants as well as for the trainers.

The training involved various aspects of elections such as EVM and its characters, functions, use

and other aspects like control unit, election symbols, candidates and other topics. Even certain games are also used to explain different features of election and its process.

Addressing the concluding ceremony, joint Chief Electoral Officer SVEEP Dr K.R.R. Singh appreciated role of master trainers and urged them to continue with the SVEEP activity.

The Club is just a seed, which will create awareness in future among the electors and continue to do so. The feedbacks from participants were also taken. Certificates were also given to the participants.

SECL Director (Personnel) Dr R S Jha's tenure extended

STAFF REPORTER ■ BILASPUR

Tenure of Director (Personnel) of the South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) Dr. R. S. Jha has been extended till January 31, 2021.

A decision in this regard was taken by appointments committee of the Union Cabinet. Dr Jha was to complete his five years tenure as Director (Personnel) of the SECL on September 30 this year.

During his tenure as the Director (Personnel) of SECL, Dr Jha has proved to be a strategic professional who displays participative



SECL employees and such other assignments of HR Department, the SECL said in a press release.

"These initiatives have not only been popular amongst the employees but have been widely applauded by HR fraternity across the country," the release added.

Dr. Jha, has also been instrumental in implementing various government welfare schemes, in SECL like the Swachh Vidyalaya, Skill India, etc.

Dr. Jha is a member on the Board of SECL as well as its two subsidiaries, viz. Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd. (CERL) and

Chhattisgarh East-West Railway Ltd. (CEWRL). He is Board of Trustee (BoT) member of Coal Mines Fund Organization (CMFO) and has also served as Chairman, Board of Governors, Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme-II, Government College, Bilaspur.

Dr. Jha was conferred "Pride of HR Profession (in PSU)" Award by the World HRD Congress in February this year. He has received several other awards and accolades during his tenure.

Amarjeet Bhagat warns ration shop owners against irregularities

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Food and Civil Supplies Minister Amarjeet Bhagat on Wednesday warned the ration shop owners in the state that they would be replaced if they were found indulging in irregularities.

The minister said his department was going to inspect all the ration shops across the state and will verify the complaints of irregularities against them.

Bhagat was speaking to media persons here at party's state headquarters, Rajiv Bhawan. He was present there to hear the plights of the Congress workers.

If any irregularity was



found an immediate action would be taken against the ration shop owners, he said. Bhagat further thanked

the chief minister Bhupesh Baghel for assigning him an important portfolio, which deals with the public

distribution system.

Informing about the universal public distribution scheme to be launched on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti (October 2, 2019), the minister said the process of preparation of ration cards would get completed by September 30. "It is the responsibility on my shoulder to make avail rice in affordable price to all 65 lakhs families from the ration shops across the state", he said.

Notable, the scheme was a part of election manifesto of the Congress in the recently held assembly elections. The Above Poverty Level families will also be benefitted from the PDS system under the food-for-all scheme.



Police personnel held a public outreach meeting with tribal residents at a Naxal-stronghold forested village under Konta police station in Sukma district on Wednesday. The cops explained in details to locals that police personnel needed to be treated by them as 'trusted friends'. Cops also advised them to seek local police help for any difficulties.

HIV Viral Load Testing Centre inauguration today

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Public Health, family welfare and medical education minister T. S. Singhdeo will dedicate the H.I.V Viral Load Testing Centre to public at Microbiology department (second floor) of Pt Jawahar Lal Nehru Medical College, Raipur on July 11 at 11.00 am.

After the inauguration of the Viral Load Testing machine at Raipur, the HIV infected persons blood sample testing will be done locally. Earlier, the blood samples were being sent to Kolkata or Mumbai for testing. The tests will be free of cost. It is hoped that the facility will give a boost to HIV treatment as with immediate results available, proper medication can be administered as per the changes detected in the patient.

National Aids Control Organisation (NACO) has provided the machines to all the states. Chhattisgarh will have its first and lone machine in treat-



ment of AIDS. Already, the state government is providing free treatment to the local AIDS patients.

NTPC Sipat organises health check-up camp

STAFF REPORTER ■ BILASPUR

Sipat Super Thermal Power Station of NTPC Limited organised a health check-up camp at village Kaudia on July 8.

In this camp 110 patients were examined by NTPC's specialist doctor and free medicines were provided for their treatment, according to a press communiqué issued by the NTPC Sipat.

The camp was organised under the NTPC's Corporate Social Responsibility - Community Development activities



as with the advent of monsoon various seasonal diseases spreads in the rural areas.

Apart from this, the NTPC also provides support for up gradation of physical health centres and other hospitals by providing health equip-

ments and machines. On this occasion Dr. Poonam Tirkey, Specialist (O&G) and Dr. Sarans Raja, MBBS and paramedical staff of Patanjali hospital and CSR Department employees rendered their service.

C'garh to host national science exhibition 2019

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh will host 46th Jawahar Lal Nehru National Science, Mathematics and Environment Exhibition-2019.

School Education minister Dr Prensai Singh Tekam held preliminary meeting on Wednesday at Mahanadi Bhawan (Secretariat) to discuss different aspects of hosting the event in the month of October-November this year.

Around 200 models on the theme 'Scientific solution for challenges in life' from across the country will be displayed in the exhibition. The sub-subjects are agriculture and organic farming, health and cleanliness, resources management, solid waste management, transport and commu-

nication and mathematical models.

As per estimate, around 400 students and 200 teachers will be participating in the exhibition to be held for 5-6 days. The local school students will visit the exhibition and hold discussion.

Chhattisgarh state will be submitting 25 models for exhibition.

Lecture series of renowned scientists will be held on daily basis on current and other subjects. A tour to prominent spots of the state will be arranged for participants from other parts of the country on the last day.

Principal Secretary School Education Gaurav Dwivedi, Director Public Instructions S Prakash and other senior officials were present in the meeting.

Businessman stabbed to death in Mungeli, one held

STAFF REPORTER ■ MUNGELI

A wholesale grocery merchant was stabbed to death in the early hours of Wednesday.

One of the three accused was later nabbed by the Mungeli police while two others are still absconding.

The incident took place at Sarthi Mohalla under Kotwali police station jurisdiction of the district headquarters.

According to Sub Divisional Officer Police (SDOP), Mungeli, Tejram Patel businessman Dhingadmal Jain was stabbed to death by three of the accused Raghu Nishad, Kuber and Pappu Alias Arvind. The accused were identified with the help of CCTV footages.



After identifying the accused Raghu was nabbed. The weapon used in the crime and a mobile phone, said to be of the accused, were also seized by the police. According to police the accused Raghu later admitted that the trio stabbed Dhingadmal with a knife in a fit of rage after the businessman scolded them on

Wednesday morning when they were consuming liquor and cannabis near his house.

Dhingadmal died on the spot, police said.

Police claimed that soon the rest of the two accused would also be nabbed. Police registered a case under relevant sections and are further investigating into the matter.

CricketCradle



Indian superfan Sudhir Gautam reacts after India's 18-run semifinal defeat against New Zealand at Old Trafford in Manchester on Wednesday

Narendra Modi @narendramodi
A disappointing result, but good to see #TeamIndia's fighting spirit till the very end.

India batted, bowled, fielded well throughout the tournament, of which we are very proud.

Wins and losses are a part of life. Best wishes to the team for their future endeavours. #INDvsNZ

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweets after India's loss against New Zealand in the World Cup semifinal

Virender Sehwag @virendersehwag
Will it be advantage employees if Salary is given by Duckworth Lewis in rainy months. If baarish mein bhi employee is coming to office. What do HR log think?

Virender Sehwag tickled the funny bone of everyone with his cheeky tweet on the Duckworth-Lewis method

Michael Vaughan @michaelvaughan
Come on Sanjay unblock me on Twitter... It's only Bantz... !!! #India

Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and KL Rahul shared an unenviable commonality of walking back with just one run each. After five centuries, Sharma's stay in the middle was the shortest when he was required to be there for the longest. Kohli, trapped by Boult, could not save himself despite a referral. KL Rahul got caught in a double mind, finally edging it away to the first slip when some lifesaving surgery was needed from his bat.

Michael Vaughan takes dig of Sanjay Manjrekar after the former Indian batsman blocks him on Twitter

Harsha Bhogle @bhogeharsha
Once again. 2015. 2017. 2019. Impressive India fall in the pressure game.

Cricket commentator Harsha Bhogle tweets after India once again fail to lift the ICC trophy despite playing outstandingly well throughout the tournament

Kevin Pietersen @KP24
How many times have we seen @RishabhPant777 do that????!!!!!!

The very reason he wasn't picked initially!

Pathetic!

Former England captain Kevin Pietersen criticises Rishabh Pant shot selection against New Zealand in the semifinal

Nasser Hussain @nasserhussain
These low scoring games are dull eh ???

Former England skipper Nasser Hussain tweets after Kiwis beat India in the low scoring World Cup semifinal



Pakistan fan holds New Zealand flag as he supports Kane Williamson's side against India at Old Trafford

India out!

Kiwis fly to Lord's, Kohli home; Jadeja, Dhoni fightback but India lose semi by 18 runs

PNS ■ OLD TRAFFORD (MANCHESTER)

India go home. New Zealand it is for Lord's! A horrible start, a late flourish by Ravindra Jadeja and MS Dhoni, the lowest ever first powerplay total in any World Cup, the highest ever eighth-wicket partnership in any World Cup – the story was all India's, but the end was all New Zealand's.

Sudden death, death, death. Life, life and then death again, this one was not for the faint hearted. New Zealand won by 18 runs with India packing up for 221. MS Dhoni the finisher, in the last World Cup match of his career, failed to finish though he toiled hard in the middle as Jadeja launched his most audacious knock of the tournament to somehow get to the Lord's dressing room where Kapil Dev had in 1983. After 77 runs, sadly Jadeja was still a broken heart as was Dhoni at 50 being run out when he dashed for victory somehow, anyhow.

But really, the impossibility was imposed, as skipper Virat Kohli admitted, in the first 45 minutes of the game, when the India horror show pushed the 17000-odd spectators at the Old Trafford into shock. The end of a great Indian run in the tournament seemed to have approached virtually before the beginning, putting New Zealand on the road to Lord's and India back home in nothing but abject despair of an unexplained, unfathomable and unexpected plummet.



Mahendra Singh Dhoni is run out via a direct throw from Martin Guptill during the Cricket World Cup first semifinal match between India and New Zealand at Old Trafford in Manchester on Wednesday

answer being made more than obvious by the Men in Blue and their opening show, or should one say the lack of it, in the middle.

From extra-ordinary to ordinary to less than ordinary – it just took three overs, inside an hour and a fall so vertical that the public around the middle started getting vertigo. Dinesh Karthik, meanwhile, got snapped by a flashy splashy catch at backward point to put the life support monitors on. It didn't matter that the ball would have otherwise raced to the boundary.

What mattered was India's dream of a Lord's dressing room presence on July 14 lay ripped – till of course Ravindra Jadeja came along to insert life in the coffin. India recorded the worst first powerplay figures of the World Cup – four wickets, 49 dot balls, 24 runs and a job totally undone after 35 days of ticking all the boxes, self-belief, fitness,

performance and professionalism that Kohli talked about.

New Zealand's 27/3 earlier in the innings paled into insignificance as the clouds started gathering over the stadium with prayers of a washout gaining chant, much like they did in the Joburg Final of 2003 and the Melbourne semi-final in 2015.

Yes, cricket comes with glorious uncertainties but this one stretched the game's imagination a wee bit more than the faintest one could have. The 50-4 on board showed up the 17th over and run rate that could not have surpassed the exit rate of the Big Three of Indian cricket on a grey Manchester morning living on the singular brightness of the floodlights at noon.

From 5/3 to 221/10, the fightback was on an individual blade which kept flirting with hope for a long time before getting extinguished. A 116-run partnership at No 7 was the shin-

ing penny in the thoughts but once Jadeja walked at 77, it was all towards home for India.

Jadeja who was playing only his third game in this tournament, was the fable of the day. He showed his class as much as he did his reserve in the high-pressure situation soaking in the difficult moments with elan and balance all at the same time. Kohli later spoke of Jadeja's extraordinary class in extraordinary circumstances as did Kiwi skipper Kane Williamson who pointed out how big a task Jadeja had undertaken by batting magnificently so late in the innings and under extreme pressure to put on board more runs than anyone in both the teams through this match.

Widely called India's bright future, Rishabh Pant could not muster the required maturity or patience, much like his senior Hardik Pandya who could not light even a glimmer of hope

once the first three went uncharacteristically. When India were 71, the young Pant could no longer wait to play the big shot and fell to William Santner with de Grandhomme grabbing his fall of patience near the boundary when he was 32.

The debris at the stumps, meanwhile, kept mounting steadily with no checks or balances by the Indian batsmen. Pandya did save some minutes on the fall line but he too fell to a high in the air shot off Santner bringing India to an unassailable 92/6 situation with no established batsmen left in the bag and the run rate mounting. Santner's best spell of the World Cup couldn't have come on a better occasion though his colleague Matt Henry bagged the Player of the Match award.

A word here on the beauties that were bowled by the Kiwi bowlers who kept their wits as beautifully as they did their line,

length and precision bowling, not allowing any of the Indian bats to drive even a single ball till well into the late 30 overs. With his brilliant bowling, Smith resembled Woakes, bringing in the swing which Bhuvneshwar could not. Yes, the conditions were overcast but the Indian blade has the navigational capabilities to steer out of the mess and the moisture. Boult stuck to regimen bowling to tap into the Indian panic room and Santner did the rest in a match that turned out to be the last one for the legend of the game MS Dhoni.

May be Sanjay Manjrekar will have something to fill up the stunned silence that India have left the nation in. Something about New Zealand, may be? If not, this silence will at least give the right atmosphere for Team India to reflect on what went wrong, why and how it should not have, at least not the way it did. Yes, shit happens, and how!

Kohli goes out with pride & poise

'That you go out with just 45 minutes of bad cricket is saddening & it breaks your heart'

PNS ■ MANCHESTER

India captain Virat Kohli was poised in defeat on Wednesday when he and his team lost the biggest moment of the World Cup in a matter of just 45 minutes. That this quick ouster came after a grand run of good cricket spreading over nine matches, record breaking performances and top-ranking outings with both the bat and the ball, made the heartbreak even more unbearable, not just for the players in the dressing room but also the fans and the Indian media.

It must have been a difficult job to address the media after such a convulsive day but Kohli showed acquired maturity and balance to deal with the situation, urging the fans to strike the same balance in reacting to victory and defeat. "We lost the match due to the first 40 minutes of bad cricket," the skipper said candidly.

"I don't think that I would like to break things down immediately but in time would like to sit down and analyse what went wrong and what things we could have done right, in this game particularly," Kohli said, talking about the heartbreak in the team which played good cricket throughout the tournament only to go out of the game because of just 45 minutes of bad cricket.



Virat Kohli throws his bat in air after getting out

"You feel bad for the result. Everyone goes out there to win the game. We are sad but not devastated because we know where we stand as a team," Kohli added.

He lauded the efforts of the New Zealand bowlers who put up a great show bowling with the new ball. "We lost three wickets for five runs and it is very difficult to come back from there," he said.

"Rohit got a good ball. My ball was also decent... Start is always important. The way they bowled did not give us any opportunity. The first seven or eight overs we did not get a ball to drive even one," he said. The "perfect spell of fast bowling, Kohli said, "put us under a lot of pressure."

He candidly admitted that "we are not good enough under pressure and we have to accept that," Kohli said.

Talking about the shot that took away Rishabh Pant from the middle when he had a big task at hand, Kohli said mistakes happen. "He is an instinctive bowler. Still young, I made many errors when I was young in my career. He will learn. He will look back and think he could have taken a different option in that situation. He realises that already. All these guys have a lot of pride and passion to play. They are the ones who feel most disappointed when mistakes happen... The talent is there,

the character is there. It happens in sport, you make decisions you make errors and you have to accept it," the skipper said. "The ones who make the error, trust me, are the ones who suffer the most," he added.

He called Jadeja's knock and Dhoni's partnership outstanding. Flicking away questions around the pace of Dhoni's innings, he said, "the way they batted together, it was the perfect tempo for that situation." Talking about Dhoni's dual role in the team, Kohli said: "He is been given that role of being in a situation where he can control one end like he did today or if there is a scenario that he could go and strike, then do so," he said.

"Failures teach you and you learn from them," he said philosophically.

Talking about his own personal heartbreak as a skipper and a player who could not bring in the victory in the knockout match, Kohli said: "You just go out with just 45 minutes of bad cricket is saddening and it break your heart also. We worked so hard throughout the tournament that we finish No 1 in the table and then a brief spell of bad cricket and you are out of the tournament completely. But we have to accept it. We have all come out better cricketers because of these setbacks. We have played some outstanding cricket and qualified for the

semis. We should also take some positives from here because there were a lot," he said.

Referring to Jadeja's celebration after he got to his 50, taunting commentator Sanjay Manjrekar with a wave of his hands, Kohli said: "I don't think we had anything to stop Jadeja after what had been going on for the past week. You saw the passion which he played. He has played like this in Test cricket also a couple of times. He played under tremendous pressure. He has got three triple hundreds in first class cricket. The talent has always been there. Watching Jadeja for 10 years and playing with him this is his best knock according to me."

Kohli felt that Jadeja was very motivated. "We all felt that the game can be closed down he played so well but a mistake can happen at any stage. I don't think that was a mistake. It was just lack of execution which in cricket happens. You have to take risks here and there so... He has been a very understated cricketer but..." he added.

He agreed to the question about the knockouts changing format and turning into playoffs, giving more chances to good teams. "If topping the table means anything than I think these things can come into consideration looking at the magnitude... it is a really valid point," he added.

