

Koregaon Bhima inquiry panel decides to summon Sharad Pawar

PUNE, FEB 25

THE Koregaon Bhima Inquiry Commission has decided to summon NCP chief Sharad Pawar for deposition in the case of caste violence near here in 2018.

The commission's chairman, retired Justice J N Patel, noted that Pawar has filed an affidavit before the panel and he would be summoned to depose, the judicial panel's lawyer Ashish Satpute told PTI on Tuesday.

"A summon to this effect will be issued," he said. Pawar is likely to be summoned during the last phase of the hearing by the commission, the lawyer added.

Earlier this month, the Shiv Sena-led state government gave the "final" extension to the commission till April 8 this year and asked the panel to submit its report.

Last week, social group Vivek Vichar Manch member Sagar Shinde filed an applica-

tion before the commission, seeking summoning of Pawar in view of certain statements made by him in the media about the 2018 caste violence.

In his plea, Shinde cited a press conference of Pawar held on February 18. As per the application, at the press meet Pawar alleged that right-wing activists Milind Ekbote and Sambhaji Bhide had created a "different" atmosphere in Koregaon-Bhima, located on outskirts of Pune city, and its vicinity. "In the same press conference, Mr Pawar also alleges that the role of Pune city police commissioner is doubtful and must be investigated. These statements are within the purview of the terms of reference of this commission and therefore, they are relevant," Shinde said the plea.

The applicant said he has reasons to believe Pawar has relevant and additional informa-



tion, apart from what he has already shared in his earlier affidavit filed before the panel regarding the violence and other related matters. Pawar filed the affidavit before the commission on October 8, 2018.

The commission is headed by former Bombay High Court Chief Justice J N Patel. Former Maharashtra chief secretary Sumit Mullick is the other member of the judicial panel. The commission was set up when the BJP was in power in Maharashtra.

Pawar's party is now a key constituent in the Shiv Sena-led government in the state. The former Union minister, in his affidavit, stated, "I would not be in a position to factually point out the chronology of the said events as that would be the domain of the existing law and order machinery."

He also stated that he would not be in a position to specifically make allegations against any particular organisation.

"However, it is unfortunate that the state government and law and enforcement authorities failed to protect the interest of the common man residing at Koregaon Bhima and its vicinity," he said.

Pawar further stated that the active role of "right-wing" forces behind the violence at Koregaon Bhima cannot be ruled out. However, concrete evidence in this regard can be gathered only by law enforcement agencies of the state, he said in the affidavit.

Gathering of anti-social elements in large numbers at Koregaon Bhima indicated the failure of law enforcement agencies, he told the panel. "Hence, the state of Maharashtra has to own the responsibility of a failed law and order situation on January 1, 2018," he stated. -PTI

Farmers demand streamlined token system

PBD BUREAU

SAMBALPUR, FEB 25

THE members of the Jay Durga Anchalika Krushak Sangathan on Tuesday demanded streamlining of the token system introduced for paddy procurement in State.

"We don't protest token system, but we protest the way it is implemented," said Aswini Pruseth, the president of the organization.

Pruseth and other members said that if a farmer has 80 quintals of paddy, he is getting token to sale 70 quintal.

"Then what he does with the rest 10 quintals. There are two options left before him. Either he has to sale the 10 quintal to the miller directly at much lower price or has to wait for next token for 10 quintal. And when he gets the token for the rest 10 quintals and go to market yard for sale, he has to pay the vehicle rent in full that is another loss for him," said the farmers.

Hence, the token system is faulty, they claimed.

EAST COAST RAILWAY WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR PART TIME DENTAL SURGEON. Notice No. SBP/Pers/Gaz/PTDS/Med/2020, Date : 14.02.2020. Engagement of "DENTAL SURGEON" on part time contract basis at Divisional Railway Hospital, Sambalpur.

Inter-refineries Sports Meet concludes at Paradip Refinery

PARADIP: The 20th Inter Refineries Sports meet concluded at Paradip Refinery recently. Director Refineries, IndianOil SM Vaidya congratulated the winners. He said sports is about competitiveness and passion to win.

Dhenkanal bags second position in completion of PMAY

DHENKANAL : Dhenkanal district has achieved the second position in allotment and completion of housing under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) in the current financial year till February 23. Sambalpur district tops the list in achievement.

Drunk headmaster of Odisha school suspended

KENDRAPARA : The headmaster of a government-run upper primary school in Kendrapara district was suspended on Tuesday after he allegedly came to the school in an inebriated state and abused some students, officials said.

Maoist carrying reward of ₹5 lakh surrenders in Odisha

PBD BUREAU/PTI

MALKANGIRI, FEB 25

A Maoist, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh on his head and allegedly involved in many incidents of crime, including killings, surrendered before the police in Odisha's Malkangiri district on Tuesday, police said.

He did this with a desire to return to the mainstream, a senior police official said. Kamlu Beti, a resident of Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh, who was an area committee secretary of the banned CPI (Maoist), surrendered before the Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police, South Western Range, Shefeen Ahamed K, here.

The Maoist was active mostly in Malkangiri and nearby areas in Odisha and he carried a cash



reward of Rs 5 lakh announced by the Government of Odisha, the DIG said. Suspected to be involved in many incidents of crime, including assault and killing of civilians, exchange of fire with security forces and destruction of government properties, Kamlu told police that he decided to give up the path of violence as he was disillusioned with the Maoist leaders. Beti saw various

Tata Steel recognised as one of World's Most Ethical Companies

PBD BUREAU

MUMBAI, FEB 25

PRIVATE steel major Tata Steel has been recognised as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies by the Ethisphere Institute, a global leader in defining and advancing the standards of ethical business practices, for 2020, a company release said here on Tuesday.

With this, Tata Steel has got the recognition nine times in the 'Metals, Minerals and Mining' category. "We are honoured to be once again recognised as

one of the World's Most Ethical Companies. This recognition encourages us to stay committed to the values and operating principles as practised by the visionary Founder leaders of the Tata Group. The Tata name evokes a sense of Trust, Credibility, and Integrity amongst stakeholders in India and overseas. It is a privilege to be part of the legacy and to build on this equity which has been earned so assiduously through our ethical conduct through the years," Tata Steel CEO and MD, TV Narendran said. Congratulating Tata

Steel on earning this recognition, Ethisphere's Chief Executive Officer Timothy Erblich said, "This is a moment to acknowledge the leaders working to advance corporate cultures defined by integrity and affirm those companies contributing to broader societal imperatives and the greater good." The companies earning the World's Most Ethical Companies distinction in 2020 will be honoured at Ethisphere's World's Most Ethical Companies Honouree Gala Dinner in New York City on March 31, 2020.

'Keep Sight' initiative to address glaucoma-related issues

PBD BUREAU

SANAKHEMUNDI (GANJAM), FEB 25

ALLERGAN, Sightsavers and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) on Monday announced the launch of their unique joint initiative 'Keep Sighted India', a community-based glaucoma screening programme to prevent glaucoma-related vision loss in Ganjam District.

The programme provides training for health-care professionals to screen at-risk populations, ensures early and accurate diagnosis and provides appropriate treatment and long-term care in an effort to make a positive impact

on people with glaucoma at all levels of comprehensive eye care.

The first outreach camp was organised on December 3, 2019 and subsequently four outreach camps were conducted under the pilot project, which kicked off in October 2019. The outreach camps included services like vision testing, refraction, IOP measurement, fundus photography, spectacle dispensing, cataract identification, referral services and counselling services. So far, 8276 people have been screened for glaucoma in these four outreach camps, from which 749 glaucoma suspects were identified and referred to the base hospital.



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The following e-Tenders of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited have been published on the Coal India Ltd. e-Tender portal (https://coalindiatender.nic.in) and also mirrored on Central Public Procurement portal (https://eprocure.gov.in). Kindly visit these website for further details.

Table with 5 columns: Sl No., Tender ID, Name of Work / Service, Value of Tender (in Rs.). Contains 42 rows of tender details including items like Procurement of spares of LED Cap Lamp, Construction of compound wall and gate at Panchayat High School, etc.