

Trial in Kathua case begins in Pathankot, seven accused produced in court

PATHANKOT (PUNJAB), MAY 31 /- The trial in the rape and murder case of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua began here today with seven of the eight accused being produced before the district and sessions judge after the Supreme Court shifted the hearing outside Jammu and Kashmir. After hearing arguments and counter arguments, the court asked the prosecution to submit translated copies of charge sheet, statements and case diaries of the case from Urdu to English to everybody, including the defence lawyers, by June 4. A thick security blanket was thrown over the four-storey court complex as the battery of 31 lawyers representing the defence and the three-member prosecution team, led by S Basra from Gurukul in Punjab for Kathua, filed a plea for a fair trial following a plea by the victim's family. The Supreme Court had asked the district and sessions judge in Pathankot to permit the trial to proceed in the district and sessions judge and not assign it to other session judges, stating that it would monitor the progress of trial in the case and no other courts should entertain any other plea related to the case in the case on April 9. Kathua to Pathankot, about 30 km away, the apex court directed day-to-day in-camera trial in the case. A petition on the juvenile's case in the case on April 9 in Jammu and Kashmir High Court. The Crime Branch of the Jammu and Kashmir

police has contested his age and submitted medical reports to back his claim. The police said the evidence on the juvenile and the others is the same and his trial should also be held in Pathankot. A large number of policemen, including women personnel, were deployed within and outside the court complex. The main entrance of the complex was blocked for vehicles, including those belonging to the staffers, who were asked to park their vehicles in an adjacent complex. CCTV vans were also deployed in the court premises to keep an eye on trouble makers. Policemen were seen in riot gear, some armed with guns and most of them carrying batons and shields. Special security squads with trial detectors and sniffer dogs were doing the rounds to sanitise the complex, where the police set up barricades outside the main door. All necessary arrangements are in place to ensure smooth trial in the case, a senior police officer supervising the security arrangements in and outside the court told PTI. The Crime Branch had submitted a charge sheet in the case on April 9 to the Kathua court. The case came into the limelight after lawyers of

the Kathua bar association reportedly tried to prevent the police from submitting the documents. According to the 15-page charge sheet, the eight-year-old girl, who was kidnapped on January 10 this year, was allegedly raped in captivity in a small village temple in Kathua district. She was kept sedated for four days before being bludgeoned to death. The abduction, rape and killing of the child was part of a carefully planned strategy to remove the minority nomadic community from the area, it said. It named eight persons, including temple custodian and alleged mastermind Sanji Ram, his son Vishal, special police officers Deepak Khauria alias Deepu and Sunder Verma, and a juvenile. The others arrested in the case are the juvenile's friend Parvesh Kumar alias Mannu as well as head constable Tilak Raj and sub-inspector Anand Dutt. The case became a bone of contention between the state government and its alliance partners PDP and BJP. The saffron party had to sack two of its ministers - Choudhury Lal Singh and Chander Prakash Ganga - for participating in a rally of the 'Hindu Ekta Manch' in support of the accused (PTI)

INX Media case: Chidambaram gets interim protection from arrest

NEW DELHI, MAY 31 /- Foreign minister P Chidambaram today secured interim protection from arrest till July 3 from the Delhi High Court in the INX Media corruption case lodged by the CBI. Justice A K Pathak asked Chidambaram to join questioning and cooperate in the investigation as and when called by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The court also issued notice to the CBI and sought its response on the senior Congress leader's anticipatory bail plea and listed the matter for further hearing on July 3, directing that the agency will not arrest him till then. Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Salman Khurshid, appearing for Chidambaram, mentioned the matter before the judge in the morning and assured the court that Congress leader will cooperate with the investigating agency. Additional Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the CBI, opposed the plea saying Chidambaram should have first approached the trial court for relief, instead of

the high court. He said the politician has been called for questioning in pursuance to the law was equal for every citizen of the country. The court, however, observed that the ASG should make a statement that the CBI will not arrest him till the next date of hearing. Either you (Mehta) make a statement that you are not going to arrest him, (Chidambaram) or else I need to protect as he apprehends his arrest, the judge said. Chidambaram, who was earlier slated to appear before the CBI today, did not appear before for questioning in connection with the INX Media corruption case, officials said. In Chidambaram's anticipatory bail plea filed through advocate P K Dubey, it was contended that the former minister was being harassed in the case in which he was not named in the FIR. However, he has been asked to join questioning by the CBI. Chidambaram had yesterday rushed to a trial court for protection from arrest in the Aircel-Maxis case of the Enforcement Directorate

before approaching the high court in connection with the INX Media case. Chidambaram's role has come under the scanner of investigating agencies in the Aircel-Maxis deal of Rs 3,500 crore and INX Media case involving Rs 305 crore. It was during his tenure as finance minister in the UP-1 regime that FIPB clearance was granted to the two ventures in which alleged irregularities in the FIPB clearance to INX Media for receiving overseas funds to the tune of Rs 305 crore in 2007 when Chidambaram was finance minister. Chidambaram's son Karti Chidambaram was also arrested in the matter on February 29 for allegedly receiving funds to the tune of Rs 10 lakh in the case. He was granted bail on March 23. The other accused in the case include then INX Media managing director Pradyumn Mukerjee and then INX News Director Peter Mukerjee. (PTI)

Make e-cigarettes available to fight tobacco cancer: Experts

GUWAHATI, MAY 31 /- On World No Tobacco Day, experts from different parts of the world suggest that e-cigarette is the most practical option for smokers as it is less harmful and can reduce the health burden of smoking significantly. R Sharan, a senior professor in the department of biochemistry at the Indian Institute of Technology in Shillong, who has been researching on cancer and its causes for many years now, says consuming electronic cigarettes reduces the risk of cancer by around 90-92 per cent compared to the conventional ones. "Cancer is caused by carcinogenic elements that get into the lungs through the elements at a very high temperature of around 700-750 degree Celsius in conventional cigarettes. In e-cigarettes, there is huge reduction of such elements to the tune of 90-92 per cent," Sharan told PTI. That is why, the government should make a policy to give an option to the smokers to switch to e-cigarettes to reduce the cancer burden.

Expressing similar views, John Newton, Director of the Public Health England (PHE), the executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care in the UK, said that e-cigarettes have become the most popular quitting aid for smokers in Great Britain with three million regular users. "Our new review reinforces the finding that vaping is a fraction of the risk of smoking, at least 95 per cent less harmful, and of negligible risk to bystanders. Yet, over half of smokers either falsely believe that vaping is as harmful as smoking or just don't know," he added. American Cancer Society (ACS) in its latest report on electronic cigarettes has recommended with caution to healthcare clinicians that they add e-cigarettes and vapourisers as a smoking cessation option. "The ACS has always supported any smoker who is considering quitting, no matter what approach they use, and this is nothing more important that they can do for their health," it said.

Jeff Stier, a senior fellow with the pro-cigarette advocacy group Consumer Choice Center (CCC) said, "The ACS took a step in the right direction by recognising this important harm reduction option." Sharan said pure liquid nicotine is heated to a temperature of 80-120 degrees Celsius in e-cigarettes through a battery-run device, producing very tiny water droplets. On the contrary, tobacco leaves are burnt at around 700-750 degrees Celsius in normal cigarettes when one makes the puff, leading to a very fast burning process. "In such cases, the oxygen is very less and it is a partial combustion. It generates random types of chemicals and it can go up to 5,000-6,000 different types. Many of these are Class I carcinogens, which are proven cancer causing agents in humans," Sharan explained. He added that nicotine is only an addictive material and is not a cause for cancer as it is not yet proven to be Class I carcinogen. "The best is to get rid of smoking, but it is not so easy because people get addicted to it. We have been talking about nicotine therapies, but it is not serving the result and smoking has increased in the last 30 years. That is why, e-cigarettes should be given a chance in India," Sharan said, pointing out that e-cigarettes are banned in six states. (PTI)

Govt reconstitutes Press Council

NEW DELHI, MAY 31 /- The government has reconstituted the Press Council of India (PCI) for a three-year term but the names under medium newspaper category have not been announced as the matter related to it is sub-judice. According to a gazette notification, members of the newly reconstituted body under the category of Working Journalists are Chandramani Raghavanshi, Uttam Chandra Sharma, Pradeep Kumar Jain, Om Prakash Khemkarni, Sayed Razza Husain Rizvi and Baldev Raj Gupta. In the category of Working Journalists Other than Editors, the nominees are Anand Kumar Devthalapalli, Balwinder Singh Jammal, Sarat Chandra Behera, Pravat Kumar Dash, M A Majid, Kamal Nain Narang and Chhayakanta Nayak. Sharma, Dash and Nayak were nominated for the second term in the revamped PCI, the notification said. Vignesh Kumar Choudhary and Rakesh Sharma have been nominated from 'Big newspapers category', while Shyam Singh Panwar and Keshav Dutt Chandola from the 'Small newspapers category'. Ashok Upadhyay, editor of United News of India (UNI), has been nominated in the category of persons who manage news agencies. However, the names of two members from the category of medium newspapers have not been announced as the matter is sub-judice, a PCI official said.

Earlier, the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) had moved the Delhi High Court against the PCI's decision to reject the nomination of former NCA chairman and editor of Mumbai Sachin weekly and a member of the INS, in the category of medium newspapers. The court had stayed the council's decision. The INS had accused the PCI chief of "biased" selection of new members. The claims were, however, rejected by the media watchdog, which said, "In the past, there were followed in the process of induction of new members."



Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh talking to media persons after the party's victory in Shikhot assembly by-polls in Chandigarh

Kumaraswamy pitches for US consulate in Bengaluru

BENGALURU, MAY 31 /- Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy today pitched for a US consulate in Bengaluru during his conversation with the US Ambassador to India Kenneth Juster. The chief minister spoke about having consulates of all countries in Bengaluru, especially the US Consulate. Kumaraswamy also spoke about the strong ties Karnataka had with the US and said the setting up of consulate at the earliest would facilitate visa requirements of the citizens visiting the US, an official release said. He also assured Juster that the government would provide all infrastructure and other requirements such as land and building for the purpose. Kumaraswamy said a large number of Kannadigas were working in the US in prominent positions, while there was a rise

in the number of tourists from Karnataka visiting US. Juster said he would place the request for a consulate in Bengaluru to higher authorities in the US. The Ambassador too sought the government's help to resolve certain basic infrastructure issues faced by about 370 US companies working in Bengaluru. In reply, Kumaraswamy said he would resolve the issues at the earliest. Chief Secretary K Ratna Prabha too briefed Juster about the various development projects being carried out by the government to ease traffic and drinking water issues in the city. She also briefed him about extending the Metro Rail project by 200 km, elevated express highways and a billion dollar drinking water project in cooperation with a Japanese company, the release said. (PTI)

Punjab Cabinet makes financial frauds non bailable offence

CHANDIGARH, MAY 31 /- The Punjab Cabinet today approved a new legislation to make financial frauds a non-bailable offence, inviting up to 10 years of imprisonment, with provisions for attachment of properties. The cabinet has approved a new legislation to this effect to safeguard the interests of depositors and curb fraudulent practices by financial establishments, an official spokesperson said here.

The Punjab Protection of Interests of Depositors (in Financial Establishments) and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), he said. The meeting was chaired by Chief Minister Amarinder Singh. Under Section 6 of the legislation, if a finance company fails to return the deposits on the due date or defrauds the public, then the

promoters, managers and employees would be liable for imprisonment up to 10 years and fine of Rs 1 lakh, the spokesperson said. The financial establishment shall also be liable for a fine of Rs 2 lakh, which may be extended to Rs 1 crore, he said. Section 5 of the legislation provides that all financial establishments would be required to submit quarterly return of financial establishments, an official magistrate or additional district magistrate, the spokesperson said. In case of default, the company would be liable to pay fine of Rs 1 lakh. Section 4 authorises the government to attach the properties of the company and also that of its owners or directors, and promoters, he said. Section 4 provides that the officers, notified by the government, such as district magistrates and additional district magistrate, will dispose of properties as per orders of the court. Under Section 8, the government

would notify district and session judges as the designated courts for implementation of Act. Sections 9 to 12 of the legislation deals with detailed powers of designated courts, while Section 16 states that an appealatory bail would be allowed to promoters, managers and employees of the company found guilty of fraud, he said. The move comes in wake of mushrooming of financial establishments in Punjab, with many of them making unlawful gains by way of receiving money as deposits from the public, particularly of the middle class and the poorer sections, the spokesperson said. This done by companies by making impracticable or non-compliance with the law promises or by offering highly attractive rates of interest or rewards, with the intention of not fulfilling the obligation of refunding deposits on maturity or of not rendering proper services as said to the investors, he said.

Govt. Of SIKKIM State Lotteries Result Sheet (30/05/2018)	
GOKUL FORTUNE FOUR WEEKLY LOTTERY Ticket Price Rs. 2/- 07:35 PM	
1st Prize (Rs.10000 /-) 2nd Prize (Rs.500 /-)	
00 06 08 53 57 FB-75	
Kindly Check the Results with Official Notification Gazette Issued by Director, Sikkim State Lotteries.	
DEVI FORTUNE FOUR WEEKLY LOTTERY Ticket Price Rs. 2/- 09:05 PM	
1st Prize (Rs.10000 /-) 2nd Prize (Rs.500 /-)	
09 15 22 54 99 FB-71	
Kindly Check the Results with Official Notification Gazette Issued by Director, Sikkim State Lotteries.	
GEET FORTUNE FOUR WEEKLY LOTTERY Ticket Price Rs. 2/- 08:35 PM	
1st Prize (Rs.10000 /-) 2nd Prize (Rs.500 /-)	
46 53 65 84 99 FB-95	
Kindly Check the Results with Official Notification Gazette Issued by Director, Sikkim State Lotteries.	
GUNJAN FORTUNE FOUR WEEKLY LOTTERY Ticket Price Rs. 2/- 09:05 PM	
1st Prize (Rs.10000 /-) 2nd Prize (Rs.500 /-)	
04 17 22 25 81 FB-64	
Kindly Check the Results with Official Notification Gazette Issued by Director, Sikkim State Lotteries.	
RAJSHREE MEGA 5 LOTTO Ticket Price Rs. 10 /- 10:00 PM	
1st Prize Rs.50000 /- 08 10 18 24 33	
* Pari-Mutuel Kindly Check the Results with Official Notification Gazette Issued by Director, Sikkim State Lotteries.	
Rajshree Magic Lotto Ticket Price Rs. 20 /- 09:45 PM	
1st Prize Rs.30000 /- 01 02 08 15 30	
* Pari-Mutuel Kindly Check the Results with Official Notification Gazette Issued by Director, Sikkim State Lotteries.	
Rajshree Keno Rose Weekly Lottery Ticket Price Rs. 15 /- 06:30 PM	
1st Prize Rs.310000 /- 04 11 12 13 14 16 26 29 31 36	
46 49 53 56 60 61 64 73 76 78	
* Pari-Mutuel Kindly Check the Results with Official Notification Gazette Issued by Director, Sikkim State Lotteries.	
Rajshree Keno Wednesday Weekly Lottery Ticket Price Rs. 15 /- 09:15 PM	
1st Prize Rs.310000 /- 01 06 08 09 17 32 33 34 39 40	
43 48 49 50 54 58 65 69 70 75	
* Pari-Mutuel Kindly Check the Results with Official Notification Gazette Issued by Director, Sikkim State Lotteries.	

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Extract of Annual Financial Results for the quarter & year ended 31.03.2018				
Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter ending March 2018 (Audited)	Year to date ending March 2018 (Audited)	Corresponding period in the previous year (Audited)
1	Total Income from Operations	5.8	8.27	0.70
2	Net Profit (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	1.40	1.70	0.70
3	Net Profit (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	1.40	1.70	0.70
4	Comprehensive Income for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)	1.40	1.70	0.70
5	Comprehensive Profit (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)	1.40	1.70	0.70
6	Equity Share Capital	300.02	300.02	300.02
7	Reserves (including Retention Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	2.02	2.02	2.02
8	Carrying per Share of ₹10/- each (for continuing and discontinued operations):			
a) Basic		0.15	0.11	0.02
b) Diluted		0.15	0.11	0.02

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Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter ending March 2018 (Audited)	Quarter ending March 2018 (Unaudited)	Year ending March 2017 (Audited)
1	Total income from operation	1343.63	1057.50	4796.77
2	Net profit & loss for the period (before tax, Exceptional items and/or Extraordinary items)	40.74	17.29	96.70
3	Net profit & loss for the period (after tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	34.30	9.246	74.55
4	Total Comprehensive Income for the period	28.90	9.246	68.350
5	Paid up Equity Share Capital/(a) of ₹10/- each	1740.82	1740.82	1740.82
6	Earning per Share Basic & Diluted (after Exceptional & Dividends) per Share Basic & Diluted (after Exceptional Items)	0.23	0.053	0.40

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STATEMENT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER & YEAR ENDED 31.03.2018					
Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended		Year ended	
		March 2018 (Audited)	March 2018 (Unaudited)	March 2017 (Audited)	March 2017 (Unaudited)
1	Net Sales Income from Operations	291.0	64.02	34.02	204.6
2	Expenses	(14.8)	(15.07)	(15.8)	(14.9)
3	Net Profit (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	276.2	48.95	18.22	189.7
4	Net Profit (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	276.2	48.95	18.22	189.7
5	Comprehensive Income for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)	276.2	48.95	18.22	189.7
6	Equity Share Capital	256.13	256.13	256.13	256.13
7	Reserves (including Retention Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04
8	Carrying per Share of ₹10/- each (for continuing and discontinued operations):				
a) Basic		1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04
b) Diluted		1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04