**BHUBANESWAR | SUNDAY, MARCH 28 | 2021** 

**WORD OF WARNING** 

Actor Urvashi Rautela says being disease-free should be the main aim during Holi celebrations



#### GEHLOT CASTIGATES MODI

Raj CM Ashok Gehlot demanded the Centre withdraw its electoral bonds scheme, as it will promote black money TWO STATES P7

#### SERIES-DECIDER TODAY

Virat Kohli & co look to seal series when they take on England in the third and

final ODI in Pune SPORTS P12

12 PAGES + SUNDAY POST | ₹4.00

#### VOLUME 10, ISSUE 355 | www.orissapost.com

### Power tariff hiked 30p/unit

RREGULAR by MANJUL

out unnecessarily. The virus is not sparing Gods, forget humans!

### **HOLIDAY NOTICE**

The offices & press of Orissa POST will remain closed March 28 & 29 on the occasion of Dola Purnima and Holi. Hence, there will be no editions of the paper March 29 & 30.

### SHORT **TAKES**

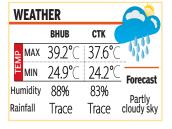
#### ■ SII likely to launch **Covovax in Sept**

New Delhi: Serum Institute of India (SII) CEO Adar Poonawalla Saturday said clinical trials of COVID-19 vaccine Covovax have begun in India and the company hopes to launch it by September this year. In August 2020, US-based vaccine maker Novavax, Inc had announced a licence agreement with SII for the development and commercialisation of NVX-CoV2373, its COVID-19 vaccine candidate, in low and middle-income countries and India

#### 6 held over girl's mysterious death

Puri: Police arrested six family

members of a girl for their alleged involvement in her murder in Chandanpur area of Puri district Saturday, Family members of the girl from Naikulasahi village claimed she died by suicide two days back. Without informing the police about the matter, the deceased's family members cremated her body at the village crematorium. The police registered a case against the girl's family members for cremating her body without informing the cops.



POST NEWS NETWORK Bhubaneswar, March 27: At a time when people are facing difficulties due

Regulatory Commission (OERC) has increased the power tariff by 30 paise per unit for domestic consumers with effect from April 4. In October, the tariff was hiked by 20 paise per unit and, taken together;

the hike translates to 50 paise per unit

to Covid-19 pandemic coupled with

soaring fuel prices, Odisha Electricity

in just six months. In response to GRIDCO's pleas, OERC has passed an order in this regard, Saturday, With the hike, the domestic consumers will now have to pay ₹3 per unit for the first 50 units, ₹4.80 per unit above 50 units and up to 200 units, ₹5.80 per unit above 200 and up to 400 units. The tariff has been fixed at ₹6.20 per unit above 400 units. This hike amounts to 5.60 per cent rise in overall retail supply tariff, it said. However, the revised price will not be applicable for farmers and BPL consumers. "There is no change in the monthly minimum fixed charge, demand charge and meter rent," the OERC order said.

As per the decision taken by the OERC, 2 per cent rebate over and above the normal rebate will be given on the bill to the domestic and single phase gen-



With the current hike, the domestic consumers will now have to pay ₹3 per unit for the first 50 units, ₹4.80 per unit above 50 units and up to 200 units, ₹5.80 per unit above 200 and up to 400 units. The tariff has been fixed at ₹6.20 per unit above 400 units

eral purpose category for consumers,

who pay through digital means. Similarly, 2 per cent rebate will be given to all pre-paid consumers, while the rural domestic consumers will get a rebate of 5 paise per unit in addition to all existing prompt payment rebate, the commission said.

There is a rise of 3 paise per unit in transmission tariff raising it to 28 paise per unit from 25 paise per unit.

The **new tariff will come** into effect from April 4

- The hike will not applicable to farmers and BPL
- The tariff was hiked by 20 paise in October last

However, the average tariff of Odisha Hydro Power Corporation (OHPC) has been reduced by 2.3 per cent (from 91.39 paise to 89.28 paise) per unit.

The average annual BSP has been revised to 296.29 paise per unit for fiscal 2021-22 as against 287.70 paise per unit in the financial year 2020-21.

It has approved the distribution loss of 21.24 per cent against the proposed distribution loss of 22.42 per cent by the

discoms. The OERC has also given its nod for AT&C loss of 22.03 per cent instead of 25.78 per cent proposed by the distribution companies (Discoms).

Meanwhile, Odisha Electricity Consumers' Association president Ramesh Satpathy demanded immediate rollback of the hike. "To safeguard the interests of GRIDCO and discoms, the commission has put extra burden on the consumers, who are already struggling for bread and butter due to the pandemic," he stated.

Opposition BJP and Congress slammed the government over the power tariff hike. BJP leader Bishu Sethi said, "The price hike during the pandemic situation is totally unacceptable and against the people.'

When the inflation is at its peak and the price of fuel and other essential items is very high, the power tariff hike aims to ensure profit for Tata Power. This is condemnable, said Congress legislator SS Saluja.

However, Energy Minister DS Mishra said, "The power tariff has not been hiked for farmers and BPL consumers. After hearing all parties including government, power transmission companies, discoms and consumer forum, the qausi-judicial body (OERC), which was constituted to protect the rights of consumers, has been given the order.'

Snake venom racket

busted, seven held

Bhubaneswar, March 27: In a significant de-

velopment, Forest department officials Saturday

busted a racket in snake venom smuggling in

Bhubaneswar. Seven smugglers, including the

son of the kingpin from Bolangir who is still at

large, have been arrested in this connection

POST NEWS NETWORK

The Forest offi-

cials Saturday re-

ceived inputs from

reliable sources re-

garding the illegal

deal of snake

venom in the capi-

Subsequently, an of-

ficial of the Forest

department the ac-

cused is the guise

of a customer and

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the sample which

### Start Strong. Grow Stronger. 1800 266 266 1 (tollfree)

### Ruckus in House over paddy procurement



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, March 27: Stalemate continued in the Assembly for the second consecutive day over alleged mismanagement in the procurement of paddy in the state. Consequently, the House witnessed several adjournments, Saturday.

Following the tactics of the Congress, BJP members Saturday disturbed the businesses of the Assembly. On Friday, the entire proceeding of the House was washed out and no business could be transacted due to unruly protest by the Congress members. Raising the issue during the zero hour, Leader of Opposition Pradipta Kumar Naik alleged that paddy sacks are lying at mandis despite the government's assurance that they would procure the entire paddy from registered farmers by March 31. However, he said, the situation remained unchanged even after they met Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at his residence to discuss

the issue few days back. Subsequently, the BJP MLAs trooped into the well of the House and shouted slogans against the state government. The sloganeering continued even as Speaker SN Patro and state Parliamentary Affairs Minister Bikram Keshari Arukh urged the Opposition members to raise the paddy procurement issue during the Budget discussion of the state Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare department, scheduled for the postin the Assembly for the 2nd consecutive day over alleged mismanagement in procurement of paddy in the state

Stalemate continued

lunch session.

As noisy situation continued to prevail in the House, the Speaker adjourned the House till 4 pm. The situation remained same in the post-lunch session too as the BJP MLAs continued to raise the issue in the well of the House forcing the Speaker to adjourn the House till 5 pm and later till Tuesday.

Briefing reporters outside, senior BJP MLA Jayanarayan Mishra said, "The state government's assurance in the Assembly that they will lift paddy from mandis has no value at all Paddy sacks are lying in the mandis across the state. The procurement deadline should be extended till April 15 and lapsed tokens should be revived," said Mishra.

Congress Taraprasad Bahinipati alleged that there was a 'secret' understanding between BJD and BJP to stall the House to avoid discussion on price rise of petrol, diesel and edible oils.

Responding to Opposition allegations, senior BJD MLA Amar Prasad Satpathy said it's not good to stall the Assembly when crucial matters needed to be discussed

### 'DAY OF SHAME' IN MYANMAR

### At least 93 protesters killed

The deaths Saturday, one of the bloodiest days since the coup, would take the number of civilians reported killed to nearly 430

REUTERS

Yangon, March 27: Myanmar's security forces shot and killed at least 93 people - including a young boy - Saturday, news reports and witnesses said, even as the ruling junta's leader said the military would protect the people and strive for democracy.

Protesters against the February 1 military coup came out on the streets of Yangon, Mandalay and other towns, defying a warning that they could be shot "in the head and back", while the country's generals celebrated Armed Forces Day.

'Today is a day of shame for the armed forces," Dr Sasa, a spokesman for CRPH, an anti-junta group set up by deposed lawmakers, told an online forum

The deaths Saturday, one of the bloodiest days since the coup, would take the number of civilians reported killed to nearly 430.

A boy reported by local media to be as young as five was among at least 13 people killed in Myanmar's second city of Mandalay. The Myanmar Now news portal said 64 people had been killed in total



against the military coup Saturday in Mandalay, Myanmar

across the country by 2.30 p.m. (0800 GMT). Three people, including a man who plays in a local under-21 football team, were killed in a protest in the Insein district of Myanmar's biggest city Yangon, a neighbour told this news agency.

"They are killing us like birds or chickens, even in our homes," said Thu Ya Zaw in the central town of Myingyan, where at least two protesters were killed. "We will keep protesting regardless... We must fight until the junta falls." Deaths were reported from the central Sagaing region, Lashio in the east, in the Bago region, near Yangon, and elsewhere. A one year-old baby was hit in the eve with a rubber bullet.

Meanwhile, one of Myanmar's two dozen ethnic armed groups, the Karen National Union, said it had overrun an army post near the Thai border, killing 10 people including a lieutenant colonel - and losing one of its own fighters.

#### samples from them A Forest department official with for testing. Later, two bottles of snake venom the officials tested seized from the smugglers

proved to be genuine snake venom.

city

The officials immediately swung into action and carried out raids at different places in the city to nab the accused. Sleuths of the forest department arrested three persons, including a lady from Airport Square, while four more were held from Master Canteen area. They seized the over one liter of snake venom from the possession of the accused.

During interrogation the accused revealed that they had struck a deal with a person to sell one liter of venom at ₹10 lakh.

Scientists warn of deadly heat waves in India

AN INCREASE IN EXTREME HEAT EVENTS CAN CREATE UNSAFE LABOUR CONDITIONS IN MAJOR CROP

PRODUCING PARTS OF INDIA. SUCH AS UTTAR PRADESH AND WEST BENGAL

### **DIGITAL TAX**

### US proposes action against India's equalisation levy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington/New Delhi, March 27: The United States Trade Representative (USTR) has proposed retaliatory trade actions against India and certain other countries that have imposed or are considering equalisation levy/digital services tax on e-commerce companies.

It has issued notices seeking public comments on proposed trade actions against six countries, including India

The USTR, in a statement, said it "is proceeding with the public notice and comment process on possible trade actions to preserve procedural options before the conclusion of the statutory oneyear time period for completing the investigations.'

According to a USTR document pertaining to India, it has requested "written comments regarding a potential trade action in connection with the Section 301 investigation of India's Digital Services Tax.

On this, sources in the government on Saturday said India will examine the proposed action with the stakeholders concerned and would take suitable measures, keeping in mind the trade and commercial interest of the country and overall interest of its people.

In June 2020, the US initiated an investigation under Section 301 of the US Trade Act, 1974 against the taxation on digital services adopted or under consideration by India, Italy, Turkey, UK, Spain and

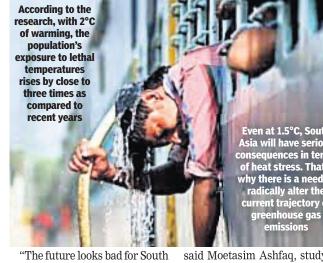
The report of this investigation in January this year concluded that India's equalisation levy, by its structure and operation, discriminates against US digital companies. It was strongly opposed by India.

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, March 27: Potentially deadly heat waves will likely become more commonplace in South Asian countries, including India, in the coming decades even if global warming is limited to 1.5°C, according to a new study.

Scientists, including those from Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the US, said such an increase in extreme heat events can create unsafe labour conditions in major crop producing parts of India, such as Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, as well as coastal regions and urban centres like Kolkata, Mumbai, and Hyderabad.

According to the research, published in the journal Geophysical Research Letters, with 2°C of warming, the population's exposure to lethal temperatures rises by close to three times as compared to recent years.



Asia, but the worst can be avoided by containing warming to as low as possible. The need for adaptation over South Asia is today, not in the future. It's not a choice anymore,'

said Moetasim Ashfaq, study coauthor from Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

"Even at 1.5°C, South Asia will have serious consequences in terms of heat stress. That's why there is

a need to radically alter the current trajectory of greenhouse gas emissions," Ashfaq added.

In the study, the researchers used climate simulations and projections of future population growth to estimate the number of people who will experience dangerous levels of heat stress in South Asia at global warming levels of 1.5°C and 2°C. They estimated the wet bulb temperature residents could experience, which is similar to the heat index, as it takes into account both humidity and temperature.

The study noted that a wet bulb temperature of 32°C is considered to be the point when labour becomes unsafe, and 35°C is the limit to human survivability when the body can no longer cool itself.

Based on the analysis, the scientists said 2°C of warming may increase people's exposure to unsafe labour temperatures by more than two-fold, and exposure to lethal temperatures by 2.7 times, as compared to recent years.

While the planet has warmed by 1°C since the start of the Industrial Revolution, it may reach 1.5°C of warming by 2040, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate

"Only half a degree increase from today is going to cause a widespread increase in these events,' Ashfaq said.

According to the scientists, densely populated South Asian cities already lack regular access to air conditioning, and about 60 per cent of their populations perform agricultural work and cannot escape the heat by staying indoors.

This deadline leaves little time for South Asian countries to adapt, since the people here are especially vulnerable to deadly heat waves with the area already experiencing very hot, humid summers, the researchers added





#### **JUSTIN THEROUX OPEN TO WORK** WITH EX JENNIFER ANISTON

Justin Theroux has shared he won't mind working with his ex, actress Jennifer Aniston, now that the two are associated with the same streaming service. Theroux has been cast in The Mosquito Coast, for the streaming service, Apple TV+.

### **BEYONCE ROBBED OF MILLION-DOLLAR WORTH GOODS TWICE THIS MONTH**

Thieves broke into American pop star Beyonce's storage unites in Los Angeles twice this month. Three of Beyonce's storage units in LA were broken into, and burglars made off with more than \$1 million worth of valuables.





### **ARIES**

You are likely to remain careful and watchful today, foretells Ganesha And because you'll be invited to parties and other social events, your enthusiasm will remain buoyant. You will also strike the right balance between business and pleasure, says Ganesha

#### **TAURUS**

In all probability, you will discuss certain sacred issues with your beloved today, predicts Ganesha. In the evening, you will be possibly visiting holy places. You had better make up for the lost time to finish pending work in the afternoon

### **GEMINI**

You will long for some privacy today, says Ganesha. You may end up earning a large amount of money, mostly through some private venture. The day will be a greatly profitable one for cashiers, money lenders and those in retail business. Keer working hard to achieve success.

**CANCER** Today, there is a strong possibility that you may face unexpected job changes. You are likely to spend lavishly to please family and friends. You may feel we make money to spend on loved ones.

Being good to oneself is not vanity. To Ganesha, this statement to heart since it looks quite possible that you

### VIRGO

work and partying is on the cards today. The parties may go on well into the night. You will make the right decisions today which will prove to be vital in putting you on the road to success. Ganesha says people will profit by engaging you in their work.

### that today may not be

the best day to underprocrastination, but it is highly unlikely

#### **SCORPIO** Do not get carried away

by sentiments and act like an emotional fool, tips Ganesha. Today, you will be in a dilemma as you have to choose between two best things. But, as they say, right choices are always tough to make. Be practical and take the right decision.

### **SAGITTARIUS**

Today, find yourself driv ing all your thoughts and family. You will also spend some superb time with your dearie and discuss intimate matters. A relaxing day today as you spend time with your friends and family, chilling out and having a good laugh or two.

### CAPRICORN Whether you're an artist

performer, professional or an entrepreneur, career issues will take the foreground today, while personal matters will wait in queue for your attention, says Ganesha

### AQUARIUS

Aim. Shoot. Achieve. Today, you will concentrate your energies to precision. Naturally, your work progresses by leaps and bounds. By sundown, you will achieve far more than everyone's estimation. That's the way to go, says Ganesha.

PISCES Of late, the harder you try, the more it seems you have to do. You are likely to put your foot down today and spend some time taking care of yourself and playing truant with your respon sibilities. Recharge your batteries fully while you are at it, says Ganesha



Mumbai: Actress Urvashi Rautela has urged for a safe Holi. She says looking after immunity will be important during the festival. "As Holi is expected to be the next super spreader event, being safe and disease-free should be

the main aim during Holi. We should take utmost care and precautions to minimise the chances of contracting the virus. I believe looking after your immunity becomes essential. Social distancing still remains (important)," Urvashi

The actress will next be seen in the web series Inspector Avinash along with Randeep Hooda. She will also be soon seen in Versace. an international music collaboration, with Egyptian superstar

Mohamed Ramadan and will also star in Black Rose, a bilingual thriller, and a Hindi remake of Thirutu Pavale 2.

It is never too late to

Mumbai: Action hero and fit-

ness enthusiast Vidyut

Jammwal says it is never too

late to start anything, includ-

Vidyut made his observa-

tion during a chat with actor

and parkour specialist Chase

Armitage, in a segment titled

His discussion with the

British stunt performer is re-

plete with nuggets for those

who would want to test the lim-

and his brother) just found

Jackie Chan movies and Power

Rangers and all the martial

arts movies so exciting when we

ing martial arts.

X-Rayed By Vidyut.

its of their body.

Chase shared:

start martial arts: Vidyut

were kids. We decided we were

going to go out and learn how

very often, 'Am I too late to

start training or to be a mar-

tial artiste?' My answer is

it's never too late to begin.

I want to emphasize the

fact that the notion of lim-

itations is in the mind.

Vidvut

found his

conver-

Chase

'awe-

some'.

Vidyut shared: "I'm asked



### Hema wishes fans Holi singing Krishna bhajans

Mumbai: Veteran actress Hema Malini has lent her voice to a couple of bhaians dedicated to Lord Shri Krishna for the festival of

The bhajans are titled Phagun mein shyam rang sang and Krishna holi mein rang jao. On the second bhajan, the actress is accompanied by noted singercomposer Shankar Mahadevan.

Addressing her fans,









say on state's theatre scene. Sourav Gupta has been promoting theatre for the past few years in the interior areas of Koraput. He said, "Indian mainstream theatre is confined to urban and semi urban centres which have facility to stage

atre. On World Theatre Day, let us now come together to promote theatre in rural areas and include them in the mainstream.'

Well known play director Abhinna Routray said that theatre education is part of the school curriculum in many countries. "Our government should also include theatre education in school syllabus. It will help those who want to make a career in theatre," added Routray.

Theatre director Dhira Mallick, founder of one of the oldest theatre troupes of the

**WORLD THEATRE DAY -2021** 

### 'Need to make theatre a part of school curriculum'



A scene from play Duiti Suryadagdha Phulaku Nei, directed by Abhinna Routray

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar:** Most theatre experts believe that there is no art like theatre. They say theatre has visual art, oral art,

here is what some eminent theatre practitioners have to

proscenium the-

city Satabdira Kalakar, said, "The theatre scene was quite depressing last year on this day with all auditoriums remaining shut. I am happy that people connected with theatre industry have geared up to start afresh as plays are being regularly staged across the state.

Theatre actor and director Ashok Kar from Damanjodi town said, "While many theatre practitioners are upbeat after the opening of auditoriums, spike in



Sangh president Haren Sahoo said, "Last year, scores artistes lost their livelihoods due to closure of auditoriums. I can only wish that we don't face a similar situation again so soon. But as per-



Akademi

performers a great deal.

Secretary Prabodh Kumar Rath said. "We have plan in place to invite national-level artistes to perform here in Odisha. Besides, a team from National School of Drama will stage two plays in the city soon. I believe, this will help the local

### **PEANUTS**



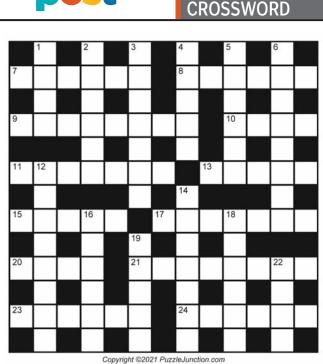
### CALVIN AND HOBBES



### BREVITY



### POST



17 Birds of prey

20 Fairy tale

villain

21 Widespread

disease

outbreak of

an infectious

Across 7 Seat of power 8 Portuguese islands

- 9 Strong coarse brandy (3,2,3)
- 10 Red-bearded god 11 Pride member
- (4,3)13 Danger
- 15 Venomous snake
- - **Down** bird
- 24 Advise

23 Curt

- 1 Three-toed
- 2 Red Sea kingdom
- 3 Zeal 4 Sheik's bevy
- 5 Chin whiskers 6 A kick
- downstairs 12 Impoverished
- 14 Tolerant
- 16 Duty-free
- 18 Dream up 19 Shade of green
- 22 Data

### SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, each row, column and box must contain the numbers 0 to 9 and the letters A to E.

				7	В	3		D	4					С
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	9				0	2		Α	В	Е	П			,
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			8		4		1							

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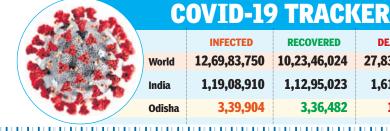
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**OR 2 YEARS\*** 

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AUR BHI BEHTAR HO JAATI HAI.

**ISILIYE APNE KAL KI TAYYARI** BHI MILKAR KEEJIYE.



INFECTED 12,69,83,750 1,19,08,910

RECOVERED 10,23,46,024 1,12,95,023

**Privilege notice** 

against MoS Home

BHUBANESWAR: Congress MLA

Santosh Singh Saluja Saturday

moved a breach of privilege notice

against Minister of State (MoS) for

Saluja said that the white paper

on law and order situation is usually circulated among members of the

time, the paper was distributed on

the day of discussion. Saluia also

urged Patro to refer the matter to the

Privilege Committee of the Assembly.

uation has deteriorated in the state,

he alleged that the House could not

hold the discussion as the govern-

Rubbishing the allegation,

Parliamentary Affairs Minister BK

Arukha said that the discussion on

Home department's budgetary de-

mand was shifted from March 22

to March 26 as Chief Minister

Naveen Patnaik was busy for the re-

cent visit of President Ram Nath

(17), Sambalpur (15), Nabarangpur (14), Balasore & Jagatsinghpur (13

each), Sonepur & Deogarh (10 each),

Bolangir & Jharsuguda (9 each) and

ment tried to avoid the debate.

Claiming that the law & order sit-

Home, Dibya Shankar Mishra.

27,83,074 1,61,240 1,920

500 mL l ₹ 33\*



Moti 450 mL | ₹ 28\*



Gold





400 g | ₹ 106\*

Mithai Mate 200 g l ₹ 56\*



200 mL |₹14\*

Amul







200 mL | ₹ 15\*







### 315 Odisha kids adopted by overseas parents

**ALTOGETHER 1.262 CHILDREN IN THE STATE HAVE BEEN ADOPTED DURING THE PERIOD FROM 2016-17 TO 2020-21** 

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, March 27: As many as 315 children from Odisha have been adopted by childless foreign couples during the period from 2016-17 to 2020-21, Women and Child Development Minister Tukuni Sahu said in the Assembly, Saturday.

In a reply to a question asked by Salipur MLA Prasanta Behera, the minister said, a total of 1,262 children from Odisha have been adopted by various parents from Odisha, outside the state and foreign countries.

She said 111 boys and 204 girls of the state have been adopted by foreign

The highest of 138 children from Sundargarh district have been adopted by the foreign parents while Khurda district recorded adoption of 34 students by overseas parents, she said.

Similarly, parents from abroad have adopted 23 children from Keonjhar, 18 from Kandhamal and 15 from Sambalpur district during the five years, Sahu

The others districts, which reported such international adoption include Cuttack (13), Mayurbhani (12), Koraput (11), Kalahandi (10), Puri (9), Dhenkanal (7), Kendrapara (6), Malkangiri (5), Ganjam (4) and Bhadrak (3).

Two children each from Nayagarh and Rayagada districts and one each from Gajapati, Bolangir and Jharsuguda districts have also been adopted by parents from abroad.

In her reply, the minister also mentioned that 258 boys and 484 girls have been adopted by parents from other states while 143 boys and 62 girl children have been adopted by parents from



1 38 children from Sundargarh and 34 from Khurda dist have been adopted by the overseas parents

during the period

Odisha in the five years.

Odisha adopted in past five years, the highest 180 children have been adopted from Sundargarh district followed by Khurda (119), Cuttack & Keonjhar (115 each), Kandhamal (75), Koraput (72), Mayurbhanj (54), Puri (51), Jajpur (47), Kendrapara (42), Kalahandi (37), Angul (30), Ganjam (28), Dhenkanal (26), Malkangiri (23), Nayagarh (22), Gajapati (21), Bhadrak (18), Rayagada

#### House, one day ahead of the demand discussion relating to the Home department. However, this

Minster Tukuni Sahu speaks in the House

Nuapada and Boudh districts have not reported any child adoption

Out of the total 1,262 children of

### Bargarh (2). Only two districts—Nuapada and Boudh districts have not reported any child adoption during the period.

the evening hours.

While forecasting the weather for

Sunday the department said, "Light

to moderate rain or thundershower is

very likely to occur at one or two places

over the districts of Koraput, Gajapati,

Kandhamal, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur,

Kendrapara, Bhadrak and Khurda, and

dry weather is very likely to prevail over

Similar warnings and forecast have been made by the department for the

next two days. There was no warning

issued for March 31 and there was no

forecast of rains during the day. The de-

partment, however, in the long term forecast issued warning of heatwave con-

dition April 1 and asked the authorities

The weatherman has also issued warning for the fishermen and asked

them not to venture into the sea between March 29 and 31. "Strong gusty

surface wind speed reaching 40-50 kmph

the rest districts of Odisha.'

and people to be alert.

Kovind to Odisha.

# COVID BLOW TO HOLI

With restrictions on Holi celebrations, stalls selling colours and other items in Bhubaneswar witness only a few customers

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Loan A/C No.	Customer Name
Branch Na	me: Balasore
060905006973	K Neeraja
060905011327	K Neeraja
060905003682	Dillipa Kumar Sahoo
060905004343	Chandan Behera
060905004424	Gajendra Barik
060905010101	Sangram Keshari
	Patra
060905007583	Achuyat Barik
060905008351	Karunakar Ghadia
060905008646	Dinabandhu Bar
060905008719	Suryakanta Acharya
060905008727	Sukumar Manna
060905008889	Bhagaban Nayak
060905009146	Jogendra Malik
060905009220	Keshab Chandra
	Nayak Yadav
060905009458	Purastam Das
060905009574	Sankarshan
	Pradhan
060905009893	Ramakanta Pradhar
060905009940	Minati Mohanty
060905009944	Gouranga Charan
	Khamari
060905010081	Sushanta Biswal
060905010110	Hemant Behera
060905010255	Ashok Kumar Jena
060905010326	Surajit Mohanty
060905012057	Debasish Das
060905011296	Dhiren Barik
060905011312	Biswajit Mohanty
060905011388	Prabhucharan Raut
060905011410	Sk Khursatalli
060905011432	Amar Jeeban Barik
060905011590	Manoranjan Behera
060905011662	Anjali Behera
060905011745	Lipi Singh
060905011789	Gourav Prusty
060905011843	Nishakar Jena
060905011912	Ramakanta Behera
060905011971	Mrutyunjay Jena
060905011993	Kamal Lochan Das
060905013342	Perashanta Sahu
060905013326	Deepak Kumar Das
060905013270	Chandan Mandal
060905013285	Chandan Mandal
060905013284	Rahul Samanta
060905013364	Harish Chandra
	Swain
060905013495	Umakanta Barik
060905013510	Goutam Krushna Dey
060905013551	Manoj Kumar Jena
060905013557	Chandrakanta Mishra

305205000354

305205002946

305205000718

Gangadhar Barik

Madan Manna

Loan A/C No.	Customer Name	Loan A/C No.	Customer Name	Loan A/C No.	(
	me: Balasore	305205000799	Purna Chandra	Branch N	am
060905006973	K Neeraja		Sahu	216405011162	Π
060905011327	K Neeraja	305205001261	Sanjay Kumar Jena	216405011842	
060905003682	Dillipa Kumar Sahoo	305205001278	Suresh Chandra	216405002907	
060905004343	Chandan Behera		Biswal	216405001596	
060905004424	Gajendra Barik	305205001378	Prabhudatta Dhal	216405001633	
060905010101	Sangram Keshari	305205001426	Niyarti Barik	246405002286	╀
	Patra	305205001427	Jagannath Giri	216405002386 216405003148	5
060905007583	Achuyat Barik	305205001545	Manmath Jena	216405003148	1
060905008351	Karunakar Ghadia	305205001605	Tulu Hazra	216405004621	╁
060905008646	Dinabandhu Bar	305205001733	Ananta Kumar Barik	210403004021	ı
060905008719	Suryakanta Acharya	305205002062	Pratap Giri	216405004991	
060905008727	Sukumar Manna	305205001865	Dipak Giri	216405005463	
060905008889	Bhagaban Nayak	305205001902	Bijay Kumar Rout	216405005537	Sa
060905009146	Jogendra Malik	305205002125	Akshay Nayak	216405005846	Ва
060905009220	Keshab Chandra	305205002186	Srinabash Patra	216405006307	
	Nayak Yadav	305205002902	Krupasindhu Mallick	216405006425	
060905009458	Purastam Das	305205002908	Debasish Mohapatra	216405007066	1
060905009574	Sankarshan	305205002953	Gadadhar Khilar	246405007220	⊦
	Pradhan	305205003000	Srikanta Roul	216405007329 216405007448	J
060905009893	Ramakanta Pradhan	305205003038	Barendra Nath Sahu	216405007448	۲
060905009940	Minati Mohanty	305205003052	Ganesh Jena	216405007481	+
060905009944	Gouranga Charan Khamari	305205003058	Sumatimani Behera	210403007024	Ľ
060905010081	Sushanta Biswal	305205003093	Dillip Kumar	216405007578	1
060905010110	Hemant Behera	0002000000	Gochhayat	216405007695	Т
060905010110	Ashok Kumar Jena	305205003098	Rabindra Giri		L
060905010235	Surajit Mohanty	305205003130	Ranjit Patra	216405007752	1
060905010320	Debasish Das	305205003167	Harihar Biswal	216405008758	Sa
060905011296	Dhiren Barik	305205003171	Manoranjan Das	216405008949	1.
060905011312	Biswajit Mohanty	305205003173	Shreekant Jena	216405008986 216405009034	М
060905011388	Prabhucharan Raut	305205003187	Manoj Kumar Mula	216405009094	+
060905011410	Sk Khursatalli	305205003204	Priya Lochan Das	210403009094	1
060905011432	Amar Jeeban Barik	305205003226	Priya Lochan Das	216405009140	Bi
060905011590	Manoranjan Behera	305205003218	Anii Kumar Das	216405009148	S
060905011662	Anjali Behera	305205003246	Arun Kumar Giri	216405009149	
060905011745	Lipi Singh	305205003299	Pradeep Mandal	216405009201	1
060905011749	Gourav Prusty	305205003233	Ganesh Chandra	216405009251	
060905011843	Nishakar Jena	30020000001	Das	216405009278	
060905011912	Ramakanta Behera	305205003305	Dinabandhu Behera	216405009331	L
060905011971	Mrutyunjay Jena	305205003329	Santosh Parida	216405009366	F
060905011993	Kamal Lochan Das	305205003345	Rabindra Raj	216405009377	F
060905013342	Perashanta Sahu	305205003371	Priya Lochan Das	216405009404	╁
060905013326	Deepak Kumar Das	305205003372	Bharati Jena	216405009415	╁
060905013270	Chandan Mandal	305205004633	Subrat Kumar Patra	216405009445	t
060905013276	Chandan Mandal	305205003457	Priya Lochan Das	216405009480	1
060905013384	Rahul Samanta	305205003493	Sanjay Debanath		
060905013440	Harish Chandra	305205003493	Tapan Kumar Jena	216405009484	
000303013440	Swain	305205003366	Deepak Kumar Das	216405009516	Bi
060905013495	Umakanta Barik			216405009531	
060905013510	Goutam Krushna	305205004061	Srikrishna Dalai		╄
	Dey	305205004735	Shyamali Das	216405009574	1
060905013551	Manoj Kumar Jena	305205004693	Anita Jena	216405009579 216405009657	E
060905013557	Chandrakanta	305205004927	Punam Prasad	216405009679	t
	Mishra	305205004955	Kamalalochan Sahoo	216405009707	I
	: Baleshwar-Proof	305205005053	Arabinda Masanta	216405009726 216405011140	+
	Road			216405011634	P
753905000180	Balaram Barik	305205005060	Priyabrata Mandal	216405011817	
753905000188	Rakesh Kumar Das	305205005067	Sanjaya Kumar Jena	216405011907 216405012098	S
	ame: Baliapal	305205005150	Manoranjan Jena	216405012056	1
305205000090	Binay Giri	305205005279	Prashanta Pradhan	216405012237	
00500500051					

305205005296

305205005322

Bansidhar Das

Amarjyoti Jena

305205005334 | Shyamkanta Jena

Loan A/C No.	Customer Name
Branch N	ame: Bhograi
216405011162	Satyaban Sahoo
216405011842	Satyaban Sahoo
216405002907	Manas Pal
216405001596	Tarulata Das
216405001633	Akshay Kumar
	Chakrabartti
216405002386	Ambika Panda
216405003148	Sudhansu Behera
216405004032	Madhumita Das
216405004621	Ananta Kumar
	Pradhan
216405004991	Jayadeb Mandal
216405005463	Subhadra Patra
216405005537	Sapan Kumar Swain
216405005846	Basanta Kumar Das
216405006307	Jitendra Patra
216405006425	Rajkishor Patra
216405007066	Ganesh Chandra
	Giri
216405007329	Manik Maiti
216405007448	Jhadeswara Patra
216405007481	Arun Patra
216405007524	Ganesh Chandra
	Giri
216405007578	Animsh Pradhan
216405007695	Santosh Kumar
	Laha
216405007752	Himanshu Behera
216405008758	Sanjay Kumar Patra
216405008949	Banbihari Bag
216405008986	Makar Chandra Giri
216405009034	Rabindra Dutta
216405009094	Pradip Kumar
	Pradhan
216405009140	Bijay Kumar Behera
216405009148	Sarat Chandra Bag
216405009149	Sangram Jena
216405009201	Kali Charan Jena
216405009251	Rina Das
216405009278	Damayanti Patra
216405009331	Sabita Pandit
216405009366	Panchanan Majhi
216405009377	Ramesh Chandra
	Behera
216405009404	Shrihari Behera
216405009415	Mamata Jena
216405009445	Asema Bibi
216405009480	Ganesh Chandra
	Patra
216405009484	Aswini Behera
216405009516	Bikash Kumar Patra
216405009531	Rajendra Kumar
coversion STT SCO	Dalai
216405009574	Rina Das
216405009579	Balabhadra Dinda
216405009657	Chandan Pattanayak
216405009679	Rajani Kanta Giri
216405009707 216405009726	Rakesh Kumar Parida
216405009726	Ruparani Patra Khagendra Ghosh
216405011634	Purnendu Kumar Panda
216405011817	Debrata Das
216405011907	Shibshankar Paramanik
216405012098	Shibsankar Paramanik Sanjeeb Patra
216405012154	
216405012154 216405012237	Barun Das

### Thunderstorm warning for 3 days

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, March 27: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Saturday issued warning of thunderstorm and lightning in several parts of the state for the next three days.

"Thunderstorm with lightning is very likely to occur at one or two places in the districts of Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara Bhadrak, Koraput, Gajapati and Kandhamal," the IMD said in its warning for Sunday.

Meanwhile, the Capital city witnessed thundershower Saturday evening bringing the much needed relief to the denizens. The Met department reported an average rainfall of 3mm in the city. While Raj Bhawan received the highLight to moderate rain or thundershower is very likely to occur in Koraput. Gajapati, Kandhamal, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Bhadrak and Khurda districts

capital, the KIIT University reported 8 mm. Cuttack reported 20 mm rainfall. The Norwester resulted in disruption in vehicular movement as visibility was affected by dark clouds and wind.

Isolated places bordering the districts of Rayagada, Kandhamal, Gajapati

est average of 9.5 mm rain in the state and Ganjam have recorded lightning in

Nor'wester rains lash Cuttack city, Saturday

is likely to prevail over northwest Bay of Bengal and along and off Odisha coast. The fishermen are advised not to venture into sea along and off Odisha coast and northwest Bay of Bengal during March 29 to 31," the advisory said. The department also said that the

maximum temperature of 40.5 degrees Celsius was recorded in Boudh Saturday while the minimum temperature of 18 degrees C was recorded in Phulbani.

The IMD also said that Bhubaneswar might see partly cloudy sky Sunday. "Partly cloudy sky with possibility of development of thunder/lightning is expected. Maximum and minimum temperatures are very likely to be around 38°C and 25°C respectively," the department said.

### **NO NEED OF CBI PROBE INTO** PARI CASE: ODISHA POLICE TO SC

New Delhi, March 27: Ruling out requirement of a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the murder of Pari, a 5-year-old girl in Navagarh district, the Odisha police Saturday informed the Supreme Court that the Forensic department of SCB Medical College and Hospital has negated the charges that some organs and bones were missing from the victim's body.

In a counter affidavit, the police informed the apex court that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) had probed the incident in a professional manner. The SIT had been assisted by experts from different fields including DNA test, forensic science and polygraph test. This apart, child counsellor, mental health experts, medico-legal experts and revenue department officials had assisted the SIT.

The police apprised the court that the SIT gathered different evidences such as medico-legal report, forensic reports including polygraph test and DNA report, audio video clip of the child (accused) in conflict with law (CCL) recorded by the expert, extrajudicial confession of the CCL, confession to the crime by CCL before independent witnesses and more vital piece of evidence i.e. recovery of incriminating articles and dis-



### 'ORGAN MISSING' **RULED OUT**

The Forensic dept of SCB Medical College and Hospital has negated the charges that some organs and bones were missing from the victim's body

t is, prima facie, established that the child in conflict with law has committed the offence, the affidavit said

The state police also ruled out involvement of Babuli Nayak and a state minister in the crime stating that no evidence was found against them during the investigation

closure of facts U/s 27 of the Indian Evidence Act, at the instance of CCL and 'last seen theory' about the deceased entering the house of CCL culpability of the CCL beyond all reasonable doubts.

"By correlating the opinion of the experts with the statements of different witnesses and circumstances. the SIT submitted the progress of the investigation to the Orissa High Court through the status report and the HC had found the progress satisfactory," said the affidavit.

On the basis of the circumstances and evidences, oral and documentary, collected during investigation, it is, prima facie, established that the child in conflict with law has committed the offence, added the affidavit.

The state police also ruled out involvement of Babuli Navak and a state minister in the crime stating that no evidence was found against them during the investigation.

The state police pleaded before the apex court to dismiss the writ petition as the investigation into the murder case has been completed and the trial is in progress.

The state police contended that since the investigation was monitored by the High Court, there is no need of transferring the case to CBI.

Significantly, a writ petition was filed by victim's mother, Saudamini Sahu, seeking a CBI probe into the incident. The SC had sought the state government's response on the petition.

### **Apollo successfully** performs TAVR

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, March 27: Doctors at Apollo Hospitals here have successfully performed Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) in two patients recently.

A team comprising interventional cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, cardiac anaesthetists and cardiac intensivists performed the TAVR.

The first patient was an 81-yearold man who had a bicuspid aortic valve. This was replaced with an Indian valve through the groin. This was the first case of bicuspid aortic valve undergoing a TAVR in Odisha and the eastern part of India especially with a 'Made in India' valve.

The second one was a case of a 70-year-old man, who already had an aortic valve replaced with a bypass surgery done approximately 10 years ago at Apollo Hospitals. This time he was considered a 'very high risk' case for a redo surgery.

He had his valve reimplanted (Valve in Valve procedure) along with stents to both his major coronary arteries which were also blocked critically. This VIV (Valve in Valve) procedure, with a valve from USA, was done for the first time in Odisha. Besides, the coronary artery blocks were dealt in the same sitting.

The team lead by Prasant Kumar Sahoo, Director, Interventional Cardiology, Apollo Hospitals in Bhubaneswar, is of the opinion that such therapies are a boon to many patients who are unable to undergo surgery due to the high

### **BAR ASSOCIATION POLLS**





Lawyers cast their votes to elect the office-bearers of Puri Bar Association, Saturday. (Bottom) The election process of Bhubaneswar Bar Association under way

### WASSUP TODAY

#### **BHUBANESWAR**

- Silver Jubilee celebrations of Smrutilipi, Buddha Mandir, Unit-9, 3,45 pm
- Book release of Sudhanya Publications, Rotary Bhawan,
- Mera Bharat Mahan by Susama Sangita Sadan, Rabindra Mandan,
- Drama by Labanya Theatre, Bhanjakala Mandap, 7 pm

### **BALIANTA**

■ Bhootapada Dola Melan, Bhootapada Ground, Kakarudrapur, 12 noon

### **CUTTACK**

- 2nd Mudra Festival by Nrutya Jyoti, Town Hall, 6 pm
- Inauguration of World Theatre Day by Theatre Movement, Kalavikash Kendra, 6.30 pm

### **CUTTACK SADAR**

Conclusion of Atmagyana Sagnana camp, Twin City Mandap, Telengapentha, 10 am

### **BEGUNIA**

- Sankirtan, Raghunath Dev Peeth.
- Devotional song programme, Trinath Dev Peeth, Koluhapatna, 4 pm

Programmes/announcements for wassup today may be sent to opwassup@gmail.com for record, it must also carry the sender's mobile number for our verification, but not for publication.

### **ANJANA GANGRAPE**

### CBI raids Biban's house, interrogates his family



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, March 27: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) sleuths conducted raid at the house of the prime accused in the infamous Anjana Mishra gangrape case late Friday night. The officials also reportedly seized incriminating material from the residence of the accused. Bibekananda Biswal alias Biban.

Sources claimed that a threemember team of CBI carried out the raid at Biban's house in his native village Naranapur under Barang police limits in Cuttack. They interrogated the family members of Biban to know how the accused used to contact them, how many times he visited the village during the last 22 years. The sleuths also questioned some neighbours and villagers in this regard.

Meanwhile, the CBI officials have reportedly questioned the cops in-

The CBI officials seized incriminating material from the residence of the accused. Bibekananda **Biswal alias Biban** 

volved in the secret operation to nab Biban from Maharashtra

Earlier, the CBI officials had held a discussion with the victim. Anjana Mishra, at her residence Friday morning. The victim urged the officials to unravel the conspiracy behind the gangrape. The CBI sources revealed that chargesheet in the case will be submitted before the court soon. Notably, the Commissionerate Police with the help of their Maharashtra counterpart arrested the prime accused from his hideout in Aambey Valley in Lonavala February after 22 years to the incidence.

### No dearth of vax doses in state: Pradhan POST NEWS NETWORK 1 DEATH IN SUNDARGARH TAKES

Bhubaneswar, March 27: Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Saturday said that there is no dearth of Covid-19 vaccines with the Union government and that the supply of the shots to Odisha would not be

I have been briefed that Odisha has been provided with 34.46 lakh doses of Covid-19 vaccine so far, out of which only around 23 lakh doses have been administered. Odisha will also receive additional 5.50 lakh doses March 28

DHARMENDRA PRADHAN | UNION



His reaction came after the state government shot off a letter to the Union Health Ministry on the issue citing likely dearth of vaccines in the light of the new vaccination schedule where universal vaccination for people above the age

### ODISHA'S COVID TOLL TO 1,920

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's Covid-19 tally mounted to 3,39,904 Saturday with 210 fresh positive cases, while one fresh fatality pushed the state's coronavirus death toll to 1,920. After the state government

termed the prevailing situation 'critical' following the detection of a new coronavirus strain, the state reported over 200 fresh cases for the third consecutive day. It had reported 234 new cases Friday and 214 Thursday.

Of the 210 new cases in 21 of the 30 districts, 124 were reported in quarantine centres, while 86 were detected during contact tracing.

Khurda district, under which Bhubaneswar falls, reported the highest number of new cases at 51, followed by Nuapada (23) and Cuttack (19).



The state now has 1,449 active (H&FW) department said that one cases, while 3,36,482 people have patient succumbed to the infection recovered from the disease

Khurda

district

reported the

highest

number of

new cases at

51, followed

by Nuapada

(23) and

Cuttack (19)

coronavirus death toll to 174. Also, 53 coronavirus patients have died due to comorbidities

in Sundargarh, taking the district's

Only Malkangiri district does not have any active case presently. The state has thus far tested over

89.49 lakh samples for Covid-19, including 28,828 Friday.

also receive additional 5.50 lakh

group of 45 years would begin. "Spoke to my senior cabinet colleague Harsh Vardhan ji (Union health minister) regarding the panic being created by Odisha government regarding availability of Covid19 vaccines in Odisha. He as-

sured me that there is no dearth of

availability of doses of the vaccines." Pradhan said.

He also added, "Further, I have been briefed that Odisha has been provided with 34.46 lakh doses of Covid-19 vaccine so far, out of which only around 23 lakh doses have been administered. Odisha will

doses March 28.

The mainister said that he was informed that Odisha has sufficient balance of Covid-19 vaccine doses. "There will be no shortage of vaccines in Odisha or anywhere in the country," he said.

### Unscientific fertilizer use threat to farmlands, humans

### **CLASSIFIED**

### **AFFIDAVIT**

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Attabira, I Lakshmi Bhoi, W/o. Adhikari Bhoi, R/o. Khairpali, P.O.- Larasara, Dist.- Bargarh declare that before marriage I was known as Sureswari Pradhan. But after marriage I am known as Lakshmi Bhoi. That both the names relateds to one and same person for all purpsoes.

MANISH KUMAR, OP

Bhubaneswar, March 27: Unscientific use of fertilizers and pesticides on the agricultural lands in Odisha is now creating new threats to the farming sector, experts claimed.

According to Sanjay Kumar Mohanty, in-charge of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Puri, several farmers in Puri district are going for uncontrolled administration of fertilizers and pesticides.

'The result is that in a rush to sell the crops as early as possible, sev $eral\, of\, \bar{t}hese\, chemical\, compounds$ are entering into the human food chain when they are sold before the resting period. Excess use of chemicals is also affecting the soil fertility," he said.

### **EXPERTS' TAKE**

Several farmers in Puri district are going for uncontrolled administration of fertilizers and

n a rush to sell the crops as early as possible, several of these chemical compounds are entering into the human food chain when they are sold before the resting period

• fertilizers as per the needs and other conditions of the crops which are often ignored

he need of the hour is to feed

At the same time, there are also cases where either less or higher doses of fertilizers are applied to



crops leading to unbalanced care and attention to standing crops. Rice Research Institute (IRRI) said

that uneven distribution of the same can hamper the growth and overall yield from the farmlands.

"Several farmers in the state use different doses of nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium evenly for all kinds of crops. This ignores the specific needs of various crops. The need of the hour is to feed fertilizers as per the needs and other conditions of the crops which are often ignored," said Preeti Bharti,

an IRRI researcher. Ajay Kumar Mishra, subject matter expert on farming from IRRI, said that site-specific nutrient management system is needed to promote more yield to cater to the different needs of crops grown in different climate and soil

conditions. Mishra said that the IRRI and the state government have collaborated for adoption of balanced fertilizer application in the state with the concept of Rice Crop Manager.

"It is based on the principles of Site-Specific Nutrient Management and has been developed to sustain the productivity of rice-based cropping systems and increase the net income of smallholder farmers, Sheetal Sharma, another researcher from the organization said.

The experts claimed that a majority of the farmlands in the state belongs to small and marginal land owners and thus the dissemination of information of site specific administration of fertilizers needed to be given to them to ensure better vield and usage of scientific method of growing crops.

### OR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookieman-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347 Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

### Bhadrak fisherman nets rare 22 kg fish



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhadrak, March 27: A fisherman from Chandanipal of Dhamra in Bhadrak district had a rare catch Friday.

In what could be a surprise of his lifetime, a rare variety of fish weighing 22 kg was caught alive in his net.

Out of curiosity, he brought the fish back to the village. As the news spread, villagers gathered to catch a glimpse of the fish. At first he was at loss thinking about what to do with the fish. However, he sold it to a trader for Rs 50.000. According to some, such variety of fish is found in the Pacific Ocean.

#### NOTICE

Mohan Lal Agrawal age about 59 years, S/o Late Amilal Agrawa R/o- At/Po-Sohela. Dist.- Bargarh declare that I had purchased land of area Ac. 3.28 through No-1042 dt. 26/05/2004 from Santosh Kumar Patra S/o Antarvami Patra of Mouza/PS Sohela, Dist-Bargarh & now I am recorded owner as Khata No. 325/1139.

That, I had lost the previous linked document having Origina No.2650 dt. 03.12.1998 RSD. No. 2617 dt. 21.07.1997 8 No. 2569 dt. 09.10.1995 somewhere at Sohela, PS-Sohela Dist.-Bargarh since five year ago Further I declared that I had neve mortgaged the above land/R.S.D in any Bank/F.I. Now I am applying for a loan from Union Bank of India Bargarh Branch-II, Bargarh by mortgaging the same. If anybody has any objection may kindly drav a notice before Union Bank of India, Bargarh Branch-II within 30 days of publication of this notice Later on no objection or claim will acceptable in any circumstances.

Mohan Lal Agrawal

Loan A/C No. Customer Name

Branch Name: Balinga, Odisha

305905000205 Sandhya Nag

Branch Name: Baudhgarh, Odisha

368205000339 Jvoti Ranian Suar

**Branch Name: Bonaigarh** 

368205000357

306205000441

306205000549

306205000589

306205000592

306205000758

306205000766

306205000852

30620500087

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147105003523

147105003566

147105003581

147105003603

147105004331

Motilal Meher

Behera

Dharanidhar Kalas

Rajesh Mahant

Surendra Guru

Niranjan Nayak

Bisalya Patra

Bedabyas Pradhar

Dhiroj Kumar

Manoj Dehuri

Sabita Kalendi

Surendra Pruthan

Bimala Patra

Sitaram Pal

Abhimanyu Behera

Sebati Mahanta

Hemanta Kumra

Braiesh Singh

Jitendar Yadah

Sakul Argal

Prema Gupta

Sunil Kumar Giri

anchunath Mallick

Waguar Alam

Mahboob Khan

Ravi Kumar Sharma

Jadab

Dutiyachanda

Binod Bihari Chakra

Krushna Buda

Sinu Rao

Santosh Kumar

Rudra Sahoo

Kumarsen Amat

Punam Devi Ray

**Binod Prajapati** 

Krushna Buda

Jahida Khatun

Bibhuti Bhusar

Mahammad Asaphak Ansari

Branch Name: Brajarajnagar

**Branch Name: Darlipali** 

216305000326 Dinesh Kumar Pate

**Branch Name: Hemgir** 

Branch Name: Jharsuguda

Branch Name: Rajagangapur

147105001671 Binod Bihari Chakr

### Andhra dairy firm lures Gajapati milk farmers

THE COMPANY FROM THE NEIGHBOURING STATE OFFERS DAIRY FARMERS IN GAJAPATI HIGHER PER LITRE PRICE THAN OMFED. AS IF THAT WAS NOT ENOUGH. FARMERS IN GAJAPATI ARE SUPPLIED WITH CATTLE FEED AT LOWER RATES

POST NEWS NETWORK

Paralakhemundi, March 27: The neighbouring Andhra Pradesh has been trying to claim its rights over water, land, and forests on the fringe areas of Koraput and Gajapati districts. Now, it has set its sight on dairy farmers in Gajapati. Andhra dairy companies are buying milk from farmers in several areas by offering them more price, a report

According to the reports, a vehicle (registration no-AP39TV5439) with a Covid pass, has been transporting milk from various parts of Kashinagar block for last several days. Hundreds of litres of milk are sent to the neighbouring state

It was learnt that OMFED has formed a milk farmers' cooperative society and was buying milk from farmers in Khandabam Budura, Haripur, Goribandha, Bathaba, Kashinagar, Tata Kashinagar, BN Pur, Kidigam, Kaithapadar, Ranipetha, Minigram and Hatapada. It was also selling cattle feed to farmers.

About 800 to 1000 litres of milk were being sold to the OMFED on



a daily basis.

However, a dairy firm of Andhra Pradesh lured the dairy farmers by offering them prices higher than that of OMFED. It supplied cattle feed at lower prices also.

 $OMFED \ \bar{was} \ selling \ cattle \ feed$ to farmers for Rs 1200 while

Andhra firm sold it to farmers for Rs 1000. The Andhra company also promised loans and bonus to the farmers. As a result, many farmers stopped selling their milk to OMFED.

On the other hand,  $\operatorname{OMFED}$  has been losing its customers. It is only

buying 420 to 500 litres per day now "Andhra has been conspiring to

close the business of OMFED in the region," alleged M Prabin Kumar, president of the cooperative society. Local residents like Madusudan and G Gobinda Rao also observed

CATTLE FEED TO FARMERS ABOUT 800 TO 1000 LITRES OF MILK WERE BEING SOLD TO THE OMFED ON A DAILY BASIS On the other hand, Collector

A VEHICLE (REGISTRATION NO-AP39TV5439) WITH A COVID PASS,

HAS BEEN TRANSPORTING MILK

KASHINAGAR BLOCK FOR LAST

SEVERAL DAYS, HUNDREDS OF LITRES OF MILK ARE SENT TO THE

NEIGHBOURING STATE EVERY DAY

IT WAS LEARNT THAT OMFED HAS

COOPERATIVE SOCIETY AND WAS

BUYING MILK FROM FARMERS IN

KHANDABAM BUDURA, HARIPUR,

KASHINAGAR, TATA KASHINAGAR,

BN PUR, KIDIGAM, KAITHAPADAR,

HATAPADA. IT WAS ALSO SELLING

RANIPETHA, MINIGRAM AND

FORMED A MILK FARMERS'

GORIBANDHA, BATHABA,

FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF

Anupam Shah has directed an OMFED official to look into the matter and submit a report. The Collector said that if any farmer, affiliated to the cooperative society, sells milk to Andhra company, stern action will be taken against him.

### **NOTICE FOR LOSS OF DOCUMENTS**

Notice is hereby given on behalf of my Client LICHFL, IPICOL HOUSE at Bhubaneswar, for advancing construction loar to Shri Ratikanta Mohapatra on his property at Plot No. 1333, Khata No.-1330/2914, Area- Ac 0.070 decimals and Plot No. 1332/8344, Area Acre 0.13 decimals at Mouza Pandara, Tahasil- Bhubaneswar, Dist.- Khurda (Odisha).

But it was found that, he has lost the original RoR bearing No. 1330/2914 favour of Shri Ratikanta Mohapatra, which was given to Shri British Mohapatra while he was coming from court to his residence in a Auto Rickshaw on 23 Feb. 2021. Therefore, notice is hereby given to general public that if anybody has got any right, title interest over the property on the missing document, they have to claim before the LICHFL, within 15 days from the date of publication and after that documents will lose its legal force and LICHFL will not be responsible for any claim. What-so ever on the property after 15 days.

Loan A/C No. Customer Name

087605008672 Saubhagya Bag

087605004142 | Shibanee Patel

087605006759 | Susanta Dansana

087605006805 Baisnaba Kachharia

087605007043 Sunil Kumar Pruseth

087605007650 Jagyandatta Sahoo

087605008278 M D Sanaul Hank

087605008344 Dalim Shekhar Laria

087605008386 Dhanuria Besan

087605008411 Bidyadhar Kaudi

087605008462 Rabindra Behera

087605008516 Rasananda Kalo

087605008642 | Mohammed Niaz

087605008660 | Kaial Mahanandia

087605008681 | Md Islam Ansari

087605009794 Dhananjay Patel

Branch Name: Telenpali, Odisha

367905000757 Jagannath Reddy

367905000766 Satte Kumar Nirala

Kailas Sarma

Kailas Sarma

Shibanee Patel

Rutu Patel

Nabin Das

Jayadev Ghasi

Prasanta Amat

Mana Pujhari

Santosh Swain

Santosh Swain

Devki Naik

Harihar Sahoo

Sudesh Bhitria

Devki Naik

Ranjita Patel

Sunita Garia

Jugeswar Dila

Bodhansu Naik

Doupadi Naik

Bedamati Kalo

Tejaraj Rohidas

Suchinta Perua

Rasananda Kalo

Uttam Kisan

Afsar Ahmad

Jogendra Dash

Ashok Kalo

Jyoti Sahu

Shibanee Patel

Nilambar Dalei

Jayaram Ganik

Upendra Sa

Khamari

Jayaram Raudia

Inayat Khan

Inayat Khan

Chandrama Neti

Nalini Jagat

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367905000764

Address for communication. **Branch-LICHFL Balasore** N.C. Pattnaik (Advocate) Mob-9853311189

Loan A/C No. Customer Name

147105004199 Bhudhabari Majhi

Branch Name: Raurkela - Chhend

189105001007 Nirada Kumar Patra

Branch Name: Raurkela - Koel

252105000430 Akhaya Kumar Siya

Branch Name: Raurkela - Udit

Nagar

756105000037 Biswajeet Biswal

Branch Name: Rourkela

019505007654 Ratna Manjari Rath

019505008922 | Bibhudatta Mishra

019505011435 | Md Jabbar Khan

019505011374 | Banamali Nanda

**Branch Name: Rourkela-**

Civiltownship

150305001284 Radha Kanta Sethy

Nagar

Arujun Badaik

Dhiren Badaik

Anjali Tanty

Gausia Bano

Dungdung

Sapna Sharma

Banita Lakra

Jaydev Behera

Sabitri Behera

Ricky Bajaj

Baisali Kolait

Bidyut Kumar Bari

Amareswari Pati

Pradhan

Kanti Patra

Shyamsunda

Shyamsundar

Sankhua

Bhagya Shree Mahapatra

Wasim Aslam

Manorama

Sonu Behera

S Karuga Rao

**Abdul Hamid Khan** 

**Anil Kumar** 

Choudhary

Ramesh Sahu

Janmajay Pal

Manash Ranjar

Malaya Bhol

Manoj Mahal

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147105004193

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### 100-yr old Pinchhabania Dola melan halted

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rupsa, March 27: Amid a rise in Covid infection cases, the Balasore district administration stopped century-old Pinchhabania Dola melan in view of possible spread of the pandemic. The Dola festival is observed every year for over a century on the borders of Balasore and Mayurbhani districts. The halt of the dola melan has left people in the region disheartened.

Over a lakh of people drawn from parts of Odisha, West Bengal, Bihar and Jharkhand throng the dola melan, which is observed for four days. "Only the idols of Radha Krishna will be worshipped at the village temple," said sarpanch Sanjay Sethi. Rupsa OIC Kamalakant Das said it was stoped as per a directive.

### 2 forests in Handapa range burning



POST NEWS NETWORK

Boinda, March 27: Fire broke out at Guia Pahad and Ananadamunda forests under Handapa range in Angul district Saturday. The blaze is spreading in these forests while the forest department has allegedly not taken up steps to douse the fire,

The report said, as the fire spreads, scores of trees and plants have reduced to ashes. Villagers were worried about the protection of valuable trees like mahula.

There are a large number of mahul trees in two forests, which need to be saved from the fires, said villagers.

They also alleged that some cowherds, who collect mahul flowers, set the forest afire.

On the other hand, forest fire had added to the atmospheric temperatures. Villagers demanded that immediate steps should be taken to extinguish the blaze,

Handapa ranger Chaitanaya Behera said that the department is taking step in this direction.

#### As Covid infections rise, VIMSAR PUBLIC NOTICE Registered office: Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara 390 007. Corporate office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Mumbai 400 051. **GOLD AUCTION CUM INVITATION NOTICE** mulls increasing number of beds entioned borrowers have been issued notice to pay off their outstanding amount towards the facility against gold omaments.("Facility") m from ICICI Bank Limited ("ICICI Bank'). We are constrained to conduct an auction of pledged gold omaments on Apr 08, 2021 as they have the dues. ICICI Bank has the authority to remove account /change the auction date without any prior notice. Auction will be held online ase log into given website. In case o



Earlier, three to four patients were under treatment. For over a week, their number is increasing. By Thursday, 24 Covid patients were under treatment. There is a need for increasing the number of beds. All necessary facilities are here. There are 100 beds and 20 beds in ICU. If the government gives permission for increasing the number of beds, there will be no problem

Patients from other districts like Bargarh, Bolangir, Sonepur, Boudh, Jharuguda and Deogarh could benefit

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, March 27: Even as Covid infections are increasing in various parts of Odisha and the neighbouring states, more patients are gradually coming to VIMSAR, the only Covid hospital in Sambalpur. The VIMSAR authorities have expressed concern over treatment of patients whose number may likely go up, given the spread of the infections.

The authorities have sought to increase the number of beds at the Covid hospital. The number of beds was 120. In March, the state government had issued a directive to decrease its number to 30 by March 16. This proposal is under consideration of the district administration. VIMSAR authorities have discussed the issue at a recent meeting. They have sought reconsideration of the government on its proposal to bring down the number of beds.

According to reports, in view of the rise in Covid infections, the state government had directed the district administration to take up necessary measures to tackle the situation. Various restrictions have been imposed.

At a meeting, VIMSAR director Lalit Meher, Principal Prof Lala Mohan Nayak, the dean and heads of departments deliberated on possible measures on tackling the increasing number of Covid patients.

Dr Sudarshan Pothal, the nodal officer of the Covid management said, 'The government will be proposed to increase the number of beds. Earlier, three to four patients were under treatment For over a week their number is increasing. By Thursday, 24 Covid patients were under treatment. There is a need for increasing the number of beds. All necessary facilities are here. There are 100 beds and 20 beds in ICU. If the government gives permission for increasing the number of beds, there

will be no problem.' He also added that patients from other districts like Bargarh, Bolangir, Sonepur, Boudh, Jharuguda and Deogarh could benefit.

"If patients coming for treatment of other diseases test Covid positives, they are first treated for Covid," he pointed out. Notably, the VIMSAR has treated 10,092 patients so far while 78 of them have died

### NIT-R to conduct semester tests through online mode

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, March 27: In view of the surge in COVID-19 infections in the state, the National Institute of Technology (NIT) in Rourkela Friday decided to conduct its semester examinations in online mode.

The decision was taken in Saturday afternoon after a large number of students protested against the NIT authorities' plan to conduct the final examinations in an offline mode this year.

In a notification in this regard, the premier technical institute stated that it would not be held responsible for any kind of glitches in internet connection at the time when candidates will be appearing for the year-end semester examinations in online mode.

A detailed schedule of the examinations will be declared well ahead of time, a senior NIT official expressed.

Notably, NIT Rourkela had earlier issued a notification stating that the upcoming semester examinations will be held in an offline mode, in two phases starting from April 5 and ending July 29.



fires in Boinda area of Angul district, Saturday

### Woman dies, 3 critical in road mishap

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, March 27: In a road mishap, a woman was killed and three others, including a minor girl, were critically injured after the car they were travelling in collided against a truck near Rengali College Square in Sambalpur district in

the wee hours of Saturday. According to a source, they were

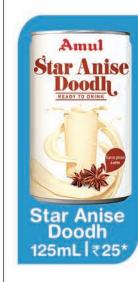
heading towards Sambalpur in a car. At Rengali College Square, the driver lost control over the wheels and the car ran into a truck moving in the same direction.

A female occupant died on the spot. Hearing the commotion, local people rushed to the spot, rescued the other occupants and shifted them to VIMSAR. Burla. Police recovered the body for post mortem.

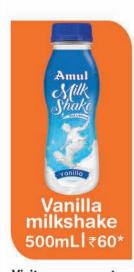












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Satpathy



The path is long, but self-surrender makes it short; the way is difficult, but perfect trust makes it easy.

THE MOTHER



Aakar Patel

exclusion of

In Pakistan, the

minorities has been

done by law, and in

India it has been

done by practice.

difference between

the two nations. We

much of a religious

State as Pakistan

and this is a fact

That is the only

have become as

### Our Hindu Rashtra

wrote a book that came out a few months ago. The problem with writing books in India, especially non-fiction and related to history, is that not lacktriangle many read such books. The quality of the book and the fame of the author are not important for the most part. The print run, meaning the number of copies of such books printed, is limited to a few thousand. Usually that print run lasts for years and it is not uncommon to see books that were published years ago still on the shelves. I wrote a book translating the Urdu non-fiction writing of Saadat Hasan Manto in 2014.

Manto is a very famous name in literature but even that book is still in its first print run. The new book is called 'Our Hindu Rashtra' and it examines where India stands today with respect to its Constitutional promise of being a secular and democratic state.

We are a democracy if you consider democracy to be free and fair elections. The rest of the world does not. In the Freedom House rankings, which recently demoted India to 'partly free', only 40% weightage was given to political rights of citizens, dealing and full marks were given for free and fair elections. It was on civil liberties and fundamental rights that India scored so badly that the good work done by free elections was negated.

My book examines this same process but over a longer timeframe. The

book is called 'Our Hindu Rashtra' because in my opinion we have already become one. No Constitutional or other major change is required for India to continue doing what it has been doing since 2014. In Pakistan, the exclusion of minorities has been done by law, and in India it has been done by practice. That is the only difference between the two nations. We have become as much of a religious State as Pakistan and this is a fact. Pakistan has no Hindu chief minister in its 4 states and India has no Muslim chief minister in its 28 states. Of India's ruling party's 303 Lok Sabha members, there is no Muslim, and in 15 Indian states there is no Muslim minister. In 10 other states there is only 1 usually given the minority affairs portfolio. Laws that specifically gave rights to religious minorities, such as propagation and occupation have been undone by India. The various, deviously named 'Freedom of Religion' laws that Indian states have passed actually take freedom away from us. The bans on cattle slaughter go against the right to occupation which is a Fundamental Right

As a nation we do not have a problem with these things and this is why they are not a political issue (only some columnists keep whining about them all the time). This is why I say we are already a Hindu Rashtra structurally.

The other thing is that this marginalising of India's minorities and writing of laws and policies that inconvenience them appears to be a very large part of why

Indians vote the way they do. India is an economy that is in its fourth year of slowing in terms of GDP growth. But there is not much media around this fact. India is the only economy in South Asia to be in recession but we do not seem concerned by this either else it would be an election issue and a media subject. Similarly unemployment which is at historic highs and has been since 2017, is not apparently as important as laws that stop women from marrying outside their religion, or who is allowed to enter temples and such things

We are told we are being led by a nationalist party but we are also informed that Ladakh's situation is no different today than it was last year. The fact that newspaper reports have said that about 1,000 sq km of land that we could patrol earlier we cannot today has not led to a questioning of the idea that this is a nationalist government. Its nationalist credentials have been established and bolstered by the actions it has taken against its own citizens, the minorities and not externally. This is the other reason I believe that we are already living in a form of Hindu Rashtra.

The question is what comes after this. My view is that it will be more of the same. It appears that many Indians are not voting mostly on the basis of issues like the economy and their own well-being as measured by data provided by the government. They seem to be as concerned and perhaps more concerned about other things, especially those that have to do with the harassment of India's minorities. The media has joined them in this and avoids issues like jobs and economic decline even if a leader of Rahul Gandhi's stature raises them. This is quite remarkable in a nation that is democratic and gets offended by the world saying that it is headed in the wrong way. But every fact on the ground shows that we are headed in the wrong way and that there is no mechanism we appear to have to correct our course.

### WISDOM CORNER



l always did something I was a little not ready to do. I think that's how you grow. When there's that moment of 'Wow, I'm not really sure I can do this,' and you push through those moments, that's

MARISSA MAYER

If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint,' then by all

VINCENT VAN GOGH How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before

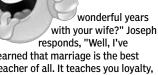
### WORDS**WORTH**

### **■** Callithumpian

Callithumpian refers to a band of discordant instruments or a noisy parade. It was first noted in America in 1836. It's possible it may have its origin in a southern English dialect word gallithumpian; the English Dialect Dictionary says this could refer to a heckler or someone who disturbs order at Parliamentary elections. This probably derives from gally, "to frighten", which turns up in another dialect word gallicrow for a scarecrow. But it's also been said to be a blend of calliope and thump, which sounds plausible as an evocation of a noisy fairground atmosphere, except that unfortunately calliope, in the sense of the steam-driven musical instrument, is not recorded before 1858. The word survives, though it's now rather regional even in the US, for example in the Callithumpian Parade on 4 July every year in Biwabik, Minnesota, and in the names of the Callithumpian Consort, which performs avant-garde music, and Jack Maheu's 'Fire In The Pet Shop' Callithumpian Jazz Band.

### Benefits of marriage

On their 25th wedding anniversary and during the banquet celebrating it, Joseph was asked to give his friends a brief account of the benefits of a marriage of such long duration. "Tell us Joseph, just what is it you have learned from all those



learned that marriage is the best teacher of all. It teaches you loyalty, meekness, forbearance, self-restraint, forgiveness -- and a great many other qualities you wouldn't have needed if you'd stayed single.'

### FOCUS NEIGHBOURHOOD

### **CHINA'S FIVE-YEAR PLAN**



George Magnus

TO MEET THE **CHALLENGES AHEAD, CHINA IS BANKING ON ITS 14TH FIVE-YEAR PLAN. WHICH WAS OFFICIALLY** APPROVED AT THE RECENT **MEETING. THE PLAN IS SUPPOSED TO ENSURE THAT CHINA IS ON** TRACK TO MEET **ITS GRANDIOSE LONGER-TERM GOAL** 

√his year's meeting of China's legislature, the National People's Congress, was one of the most important in recent times. China is facing its most hostile external environment in decades. with a growing number of countries pushing back against its political repression and coercive diplomacy. And the imperative of reshaping its economic-development model is more urgent than ever. While China's leaders now shun all mention of the so-called middle-income trap, their determination to avoid this looming threat is clear.

To meet the challenges ahead, China is banking on its 14th Five-Year Plan, which was officially approved at the recent meeting. The plan is supposed to ensure that China is on track to meet its grandiose longer-term goal, also affirmed at the meeting, of becoming a "modernized socialist country" - with an OECD-level

per capita income - by 2035. The phrase "Five-Year Plan" might conjure thoughts of production targets and coal, steel, or grain quotas. But China hasn't issued that kind of document in more than 20 years. Running over 140 pages, the 14th Five-Year Plan comprises a broad set of economic, social, technological, and environmental objectives and targets, intended to shape the behaviour of local governments, enterprises, institutions, and citizens.

To be sure, this does include grain-production targets. Yet that is but one part of a far more comprehensive strategy that reflects a growing emphasis on the link between the economy and national security. For Chinese President Xi Jinping, national security requires not only a modernized military (which China plans to build over the next decade) and internal "social stability" (which has been central to Xi's leadership). It also demands action in areas like food and natural resources, commerce, supply chains, and technology.

That is why the new Five-Year Plan includes binding targets not only for military spending, but also for grain production, invest-



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ment in research and development, and digital-sector growth. Moreover, it sets ambitious goals for Chinese leadership in cuttingedge sectors, such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductors, neuroscience and genetics, and space, sea, and polar exploration.

As for the environment, the Plan includes binding targets for reducing CO2 emissions and energy intensity per unit of output. Here, however, the targets lack ambition, casting doubt on China's ability to fulfill its previously announced pledge to reach peak greenhousegas emissions by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2060.

What the Five-Year Plan does not include, for the first time ever, is a target for overall GDP growth for the period. Instead, the government has pledged to keep annual growth "within a reasonable range as appropriate" – which, according to Prime Minister Li Keqiang, means "above 6%" for 2021–while aiming to meet non-binding targets for a range of other economic variables.

China will focus on implementing its "dual-circulation strategy," according to which it will reduce its reliance on external demand, in favor of increased self-reliance. While the government will continue to emphasize exports, it will also increase import substitution and introduce supply-chain safeguards, especially where American firms are closely involved. Most important. China plans to boost domestic consumption of the goods it produces. National-security concerns undoubtedly lie at the heart of this strategy.

One factor underlying inequality that China's government does plan to address is its household registration (hukou) system. By tying people to their "hometowns," this system has often blocked migrant workers' access to education, health care, and other social services. The new Five-Year Plan aims to abolish or ease restrictions in small and mediumsize cities, and introduce a points system in large cities.

China's government also wants to encourage an "appropriate birth rate" to address the looming economic drag caused by population aging. And there are proposals to raise the low statutory retirement

ages "in a phased manner." Both of these reforms are long overdue. But plans to implement them lack detail. Ultimately, China's government is going to give priority to its \$1.4 trillion science and tech nology strategy, aimed at achieving self-reliance in advanced technologies. Semiconductors, which form the core of such technologies. are vital to achieving this goal.

Here, China is not starting from a strong position. It can currently meet just 16% of its own, mostly low-end, chip requirements through domestic production, and the value of its semiconductor imports exceeds that of its crude oil imports. With the United States leading an economic-pressure campaign against China - including sanctions, export controls, and investment scrutiny – this is a cause for growing concern.

China's problem is that, although it is the world's leading manufacturer, it has embedded weaknesses in foundational areas, such as basic parts, materials, and advanced technologies. As former Industry and Information Technology Minister Miao Wei noted earlier this month, these weaknesses mean that the countrv is at least 30 years away from being a manufacturing economy of "great power."

Progress toward self-reliance on semiconductors will be an important test of China's ability to reach its broader goals. Its success will depend significantly on the extent to which its leaders rec ognize the limits of authoritarianism, top-down directives, and social control. These approaches, which are central to Xi's governance style, worked well to contain the COVID-19 crisis. But, at a time when the digital and information economies are becoming increasingly important, a country at China's level of development has only one way forward: transparency, openness, and institutional flexibility.

The writer is a research associate at the University of Oxford's China Centre and SOAS University of London.

### SPECTRUM EDUCATION

### Navigating the 'New Normal' for African Schools



Hanan Morsy

**PROLONGED SCHOOL CLOSURES CARRY AN EVEN MORE IMMEDIATE DANGER. WHEN THEY AREN'T ATTENDING SCHOOL, POOR AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN DO NOT RECEIVE SCHOOL MEALS - OFTEN A CRITICAL NUTRITION SOURCE** 

perate to get back to school. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, hers was closed for most of last year. Though it offered online classes, limited internet access in Rufisque, her small hometown, meant she often missed important lessons. Her chances of making the most of her education were slipping away.

Khadidiatou is one of millions of African students whose education has been disrupted by the pandemic. Many African countries took early steps to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, including closing schools. Using Oxford tracking data, the latest African Economic Outlook from the African Development Bank (AfDB) reports that 50% of African countries announced school restrictions within three days of the first confirmed cases of COVID-19. Within a month, all of them had done so.

Between February 16 and December 1, 2020, schools in Africa were closed for more than 100 days, on average. While the actual figure was much lower in some countries (below 50 in Madagascar, Benin, and Zambia), it was much higher in others (over 200 in Ethiopia and Uganda). On a regional basis, schools in southern Africa were closed for

(137). Unlike in rich countries, schools in many African countries were unable to shift the curriculum online quickly. In Kenya, despite an 83% internet-penetration, 80% of students failed to follow online classes because of unreliable broadband internet. Students may also lack access to internet-enabled devices – such as smartphones and laptops - to connect to online classes. Even unreliable electricity can disrupt learning.

As a result, countless African students lost an entire semester of learning during the last academic year. Not surprisingly, educational outcomes among students in low-income countries are suffering. Globally, the estimated lifetime earning loss from pandemic-related school closures translates to a loss of 43-61% of current GDP in low-income countries, compared to just 6 8% in high-income countries.

Even within countries, these costs will not be borne equally. Already-vulnerable students – es pecially girls, children from poor backgrounds, and those living in remote areas – will suffer the most, owing to lower access to digital services, the inability to afford internet-enabled devices, and, in many cases, pressure to contribute to the family's livelihood. Add to that

public and private schools have been able to shift curricula online, and the risk of a sharp increase in educational – and, ultimately, economic - inequality is high.

But prolonged school closures carry an even more immediate danger. When they aren't attending school, poor and vulnerable kids do not receive school meals – often a critical nutrition source. The World Food Programme reports that more than 369 million kids worldwide missed out on meals during peak school closures in April 2020. This included more than 75 million children in WFP- and government-supported schools in Africa, mostly in Egypt, Uganda, and South Africa.

The latest WFP data suggest that, today, more than 50 million students in Africa are still missing school meals. For many of these students, the school meal was the only one they had been receiving throughout the day, and an important reason why they attended regularly. These students have also lost access to basic health and nutrition services that schools used to provide - and which they may not receive otherwise.

The specter of rising malnutrition is thus looming over Africa, which already accounts for the world's largest share of under-

hadidiatou Fall, a 15-year-old the fewest days (85), and schools in the gap between how effectively nourished people. The risks are Africa, which are also battling climate shocks and locust invasions. Households managed by women who have been hit especially hard by job and income losses and COVID-19 infections - are especially vulnerable to malnutrition.

> Emergency food aid can help alleviate the threat of malnutrition. But it will do nothing to cancel out the effects of prolonged school closures on human-capital accumulation and inequality. Only reopening schools can do that.

> Creative solutions can go a long way toward minimizing the associated public-health risks. For example, to facilitate social distancing, large classes can be split into smaller ones, with teachers rotating in and out of the lesson or using support staff to increase coverage. Smaller classes could also be held on alternate days of the week. In countries where schools can-

> not yet be reopened safely, policymakers should take steps to eliminate obstacles to virtual learning.

The writer is Director of the African Development Bank's Macroeconomic Policy, Forecasting, and Research Department.

### etters

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

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### Bangladesh looking up

Sir, This refers to the article, "Bangladesh at 50", Orissa POST, March 27. Many had wondered about Bangladesh's chances of success at the time of its birth when it was seen as an 'international basket case'. But today Bangladesh's emergence as a vibrant nation has pitched it as South Asia's contemporary rising star. Under the leadership of current PM Sheikh Hasina it has registered steady economic growth and is on target to leave the list of least developed countries by 2026. It, in fact, overtook India in per capita GDP last year and, as per World Bank estimates, the country is projected to post positive GDP growth for 2020-21. Thus, Bangladesh has managed to grow its economy despite the pandemic while simultaneously registering lower Covid deaths per million than India. Moreover, Bangladesh is actually ahead of India in several human development indicators such as immunisation, hunger mitigation and fertility rate. That much of Bangladesh's surge happened in Hasina's time, even as she dramatically improved relations with India, shows how much regional cooperation can be achieved in South Asia which mostly has a sorry history of the opposite kind - of regional antagonism or at least neglect. Credit should go to both the Modi and Hasina regimes for working to revive bilateral connectivity and transit - long neglected by previous governments. India and Bangladesh share a special chemistry now. Let's focus on building on that fact by improving the trade, connectivity and people-to-people relationship. N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

### Punish the vigilantes

Sir, The recent Jhansi incident where two nuns traveling to Rourkela by the Utkal Express were harassed by self-proclaimed "Vigilantes" on the suspicion of conversion should trouble all right thinking Indians. There is no doubt that unwarranted "vigilantism" by such right wing elements is wreaking havoc in our society which hitherto basked under a pluralistic outlook. What happened in Jhansi only goes to show that such incidents may get repeated in the days ahead, be it in the name of conversion, choice of meat consumed, inter-community marriages, dress worn by women or even art and culture. That such obscurantist elements get a shot in the arm is due to lack of action. After the infamous Akhlaq lynching case, the Prime Minister merely sent out an innocuous warning which, later went largely unheeded. Hence there is not much hope that the Home Minister's assurance in the Jhansi incident will be carried to its logical conclusion. And the mayhem will continue unabated. Bhaskar Roy, NEW DELHI





### TWOSTATES

**Government Schemes in Rajasthan** 

**OrissaPOST** 





### Cong releases candidates' list

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, March 27: The Congress has fielded former minister Master Bhanwarlal Meghwal's son from the Sujangarh assembly seat which fell vacant after his death last year. It is among the three constituency's going to bypolls next month in

Manoj Meghwal will be contesting the by-election from Sujangarh against BJP leader and former minister Khemaram Meghwal. Bhanwarlal Meghwal, who was the state social justice and empowerment minister, succumb to brain stroke in November.

For Sahara assembly constituency, Congress has deployed Gayatri Devi against BJP candidate and former MLA Ratanlal Jat. Tansukh Bohara will be contesting as candidate from the Rajsamand assembly constituency. Bohara, a social worker, has been fielded against Maheshwari's daughter and BJP candidate Deepti Maheshwari.

### Rajasthan to roll out health insurance scheme on May 1

### THE CORONA MANAGEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT WAS EXCELLENT: CM

highest and the mortality rate was

the lowest in the state. We have

strengthened our medical infra-

structure and the per-day corona test-

ing capacity is 70,000 now," the chief

minister said. He said that

Rajasthan's "Bhilwara model" was

praised worldwide and the "No

Mask, No Entry" slogan was fol-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, March 27: "We are going to implement our ambitious universal health coverage scheme from May 1 and registration will start from April 1," said Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot at a virtual programme of the medical education department.

Under the scheme, announced in the state budget for 2021-22 by Gehlot, every family will get an insurance coverage of ₹5 lakh by paying ₹850 annually.

The CM said that medical and health sector is the topmost priority for his government.

"Development works, water, electricity, education, irrigation, social welfare and other sectors are also on the government's priority list, but health is the topmost priority area for us," Gehlot said.

He said the state government

had launched the "Nirogi Rajasthan" campaign which started in December 2019. The preparations for

outbreak. "The corona management of the government was excellent, due to which the recovery rate was the

it proved to be crucial in March

2020 at the time of the coronavirus

INSURANCE COVERAGE OF ₹5 I ΔKH RY PΔVING ₹850 ANNUALLY

■ THE PREPARATIONS FOR "NIROGI RAJASTHAN" CAMPAIGN OF 2019 PROVED TO BE CRUCIAL IN MARCH 2020 AT THE TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

■ EVERY FAMILY WILL GET AN

■ RAJASTHAN'S "BHILWARA MODEL" WAS PRAISED WORLDWIDE AND THE "NO MASK, NO ENTRY" SLOGAN WAS FOLLOWED IN THE UK ALSO

lowed in the UK also.

Highlighting the medical facilities in the state, Gehlot said his government is exploring the possibility of tie-ups with foreign universities for nursing-training courses. He said the numbers of medical colleges, seats in the MBBS and MD courses have increased in

the state and the government is developing model Community Health Centres (CHCs). Expressing concern on the second wave of Covid-19 cases, Gehlot informed that the state government has imposed certain restrictions, which would be made stricter if the situation worsens. However, he ruled out the possibility of clamping a lockdown, saying that it causes losses and is not a solution.

The chief minister also added that if required, the state government would impose stricter restrictions without clamping a lockdown. Health Minister Raghu Sharma, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Dhariwal, Transport Minister Pratap Singh and many other senior officials attended the programme during which the foundations of various projects were laid and a few other proj-

### **Gehlot castigates Modi over electoral bonds**



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, March 27: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Saturday, demanded the central government to immediately withdraw its electoral bonds scheme, saying the arrangement will promote black



money. He said that the Modi government brought in electoral bonds to "whiten black money", despite objections from the Election Commission, Reserve Bank of India and opposition parties. "RBI (Governor) had clearly stated that electoral bonds can lead

to money laundering. In 2017 18, BJP got 95 per cent share of the electoral bonds. EC filed an affidavit in the SC in 2019 stating that the electoral bonds would end the transparency of donations received by political parties. The EC has softened its stance now," Gehlot said in a series of tweets.

"Modi government should immediately withdraw the electoral bonds which are promoting black money. Simply withdrawing it will not serve the purpose. SC should take the petition regarding electoral bonds to its logical conclusion to ensure transparency in the political funding,

### 'GNCTD Bill is a move to target AAP'



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, March 27: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said that the bill giving primacy to Delhi's Lieutenant Governor over the elected government was passed by the parliament to curtail the rights of the AAP-led dispensation.

Terming the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2021 as "murder of democracy" he said abolishing the powers of an elected government is against the spirit of democracy. "Earlier the SC had clearly ruled that the elected govern-

cooperative federalism but in reality, NDA government is imposing decisions on state governments

by enacting such laws ASHOK GEHLOT I CM, RAJASTHAN

ment is the real head of Delhi.

Modi government wants to run the country in a fascist manner. Electoral malpractices, horse trading of elected MLAs, and when failing in both, it resorts to passing such a dictatorial bill on the strength of its majority in

Parliament. This is how the Modi government rules," Gehlot said in a series

He said the BJP could abolish the powers of any government by bringing such laws if it loses elections in a

"This dictatorial decision of the Modi government should be opposed at national level by rising above the party line," he added.

Accusing the BJP of doing a volteface, the chief minister said the party had earlier advocated full statehood status to Delhi.

"But now they have brought such law. Prime Minister advocates cooperative federalism but in reality, NDA government is imposing decisions on state governments by enacting such laws," he said. Speaking at a virtual programme of the state medical education department at his residence, Gehlot pointed out that those criticising the government are often branded as 'antinationals'."It is a matter of grave concern for us. Look at the chief election commission, income tax department, ED or the CBI. The agencies are being misused. The country has a challenge and we will have to make people un-

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327305005637	Manasi Tarai	327405001299	Naresh Chandra
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305305005199	Pruthiraj Behera	096305002525	Mahammad
305305005661	Pratap Kumar Das	330000002540	Jahangir
305305005737	Rasmikanta Barik	096305002639	Piraj Kumar
305305005963	Purandar Sahoo		Hansdah
305305006084	Jadumani Pradhan	096305002808	Samanta Sekhar
305305006247	Prabhat Sahu		Panigrahi
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305305006366	Sagarikha Sethy	096305002892	Maheswar Majhi
305305007726	Tirthajaya Swain	096305002957	Ajodhya Charan
305305007516	Ranjan Sahoo		Patra
305305007528	Rajendra Kumar		Name: Udala
	Pradhan	326305000072	Ganeshvar
305305007558	Subha Kanta Behera	22620520555	Mahapatra
305305007578	Abinash Khuntia	326305000595	Basanti Singh
305305007580	Akshay Kumar	326305000630	Satyanaryan Barik

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Basanti Marndi

326305001277 Saumya Kanta Jena

## **GOA GEARS UP** Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and Goa CM Dr. Pramod sawant held a meeting over

various projects related to Telecom, Electronics and IT sectors at Porvorim

### Goa MLAs to get tested for nCoV

derstand," he said.

Panaii: The Goa Legislature has asked all the MLAs in the state to Atanasio Monserratte, one of the 40 members, announced that he had been infected with Covid-19. In a health advisory issued on Saturday, Goa Legislature Secretary Namrata Ulman asked all the 40 MLAs and staffers to get themselves tested at Primary Health Centres (PHCs) or hospitals. "All the members should give their swab at the

PHCs/Hospitals of their jurisdiction. The primary contact, staff should also give their swab for testing at their PHCs/hospitals on 27th and 28th March, 2021," it stated.

### Courtrooms to shrink in future thanks to technology: CJI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, March 27: Chief Justice of India, S A Bobde Saturday said that courtrooms and court complexes would become smaller in future due to technological interventions. He was addressing a gathering after inaugurating a new building for the Goa Bench of Bombay High Court at Porvorim near here. Union Law and Justice, Communications, Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and others were also present on the occasion.

"I see a trend of having smaller courtrooms in the future because of Ravi Shankar Prasad's ministry. The efiling and data which can be contained is going to take away the need for many storage rooms and many rooms which are necessary for storing papers. The SC has done its bit on issues of court infrastructure. It has devised benchmarks and frameworks for minimum standards," he said in his speech.

The CJI said that the discussion on infrastructure has largely been on the quantitative part, that is on building more courtrooms.

"Though building more courtrooms is necessary and important, there was very little emphasis on modernising the

### Need to form NJIC: Justice Ramana

PANAJI: Supreme Court judge Justice N V Ramana Saturday asked the Centre and state governments to form the `National Judicial Infrastructure Corporation' to tackle the judiciary's needs. Justice Ramana, who is set to become the next Chief Justice of India (CJI), was speaking at the inauguration of a new building for Goa Bench of Bombay High Court at Porvorim here. CJI Bobde and Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad were also present at the function. "Talking of impediments in the way of modernisation, the financial constraints must never come in the path of progress," Justice Ramana said. "The Centre and states should cooperate and create 'National Judicial Infrastructure Corporation' to cater to the need for judicial infrastructure in the country," he said. He remarked that for ensuring better access to justice, sufficient infrastructure is essential. But integrating technology with judiciary has been an uphill task. "The coronavirus pandemic posed immense challenges but with the help of the Union government, CJI Bobde took steps to facilitate virtual hearings. This exercise addressed issues of geographical limitation and brought (courts) to people's doorstep," he added. He also explained that providing independent video conferencing facilities to all the courts and facilitating e-filing of documents were part of the same effort. Goa is a melting pot of different cultures. The coastal state also has a rich legal tradition dating back to 1544 when the Portuguese established the first high court in Asia here, he noted.

existing courtrooms. Though the pandemic has posed a lot of problems to access to justice, it has paved the way for modernising the courtroom," he said. The CJI also stressed the need to have a new building for the Bombay High Court in Mumbai.

Bombay (High Court) also needs a new building. The Bombay building was constructed for seven judges. It is now housing more than 40. It is im-

On the judiciary in Goa, an erstwhile Portuguese colony, the CJI said that the legacy of justice in Goa spans more than four-and-a-half centuries. "I am including the period before the liberation contrary to many other areas. Even though it was not part of Indian union, there was well-established system of administration or justice," the











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### national



With the country seeing a second spike of COVID infections vaccine diplomacy has come at a cost. These vaccines could have been put to good use domestically OMAR ABDULLAH | NATIONAL CONFERENCE

#### **HOSP DEPLOYS ROBOTS**

Meenakshi Mission Hospital and Research Centre (MMHRC) in Madurai has deployed as many as 16 mobile Teladoc Health robots for clinical examinations, diagnosis and monitoring of health parameters of patients. "MMHRC is the first and only healthcare institution in India to deploy them," it claimed





carrying out against Waze's seniors and Param Bir Singh gives rise to suspicion. The

agency is deliberately suppressing

SACHIN SAWANT CONGRESS SPOKESPERSON

The BJP is bringing in goons from outside Bengal to places where the party has some foothold. I will urge

the women of the state to come out with 'hata and khunti' (ladle and spatula) and confront the hoodlums

MAMATA BANERJEE | CHIEF MINISTER OF

incumbent government in Assam worked well. After a long period,

NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR UNION

the people of Assam witnessed peace, development and a sense of security under this government. The BJP will come to power again in that state

AGRICULTURE MINISTER

### SHORT TAKES

#### **BJP** worker found dead

Patna: A BJP worker was found dead inside his ancestral home in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district Saturday. The incident in Unshar village came to light around 9 am when the victim Sachidanand Singh's domestic help arrived at the house, said Bochaha police station official, "He found that Sachidanand Singh was lying on the bed and both his hands, mouth and nose were tied with cloths. The domestic help informed the village head (Mukhiya) about the incident who in turn communicated us." said Raiesh Ranian, SHO of Bochaha police station.

### Speeding truck mows down 3

Chitrakoot: Three persons were crushed under the wheels of a speeding truck, while two others were left injured in Uttar Pradesh's Chitrakoot district. All victims were car mechanics. Rajapur Police station Head, Jaishankar Singh, said the mechanics were busy taking care of punctured tyres near Pandey Purwa village late Friday when suddenly a loaded truck came from behind and ploughed them down. The injured were admitted to the hospital while the deceased were sent for autopsy. The truck that caused the accident has been confiscated but the driver is absconding.

### 500 shops gutted

Pune: Around 500 shops were gutted in a massive fire at the famous Fashion Street market in Camp area of Pune officials said Saturday. The fire had broken out around 11 pm on Friday, they said, adding that nobody was injured in the incident.

### Tigress bears four cubs

Panna: A 10-year-old tigress has given birth to four cubs in Madhya Pradesh's Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR), an official said Saturday. With the latest births, the tigress identified as T-6 has so far given birth to 17 cubs in six litters, field director of PTR Uttam Kumar Sharma said. "The tigress was captured on camera with four cubs recently. The cubs look two to three months old," he said. The big cat was brought here from Pench Tiger Reserve in 2014 under tiger repopulation plan in the reserve, the official said, adding that all the cubs are healthy.

### Mamata's audio clip seeking BJP member's help stirs row in Bengal

A BJP delegation, met the state's chief electoral officer and handed over the tape, claiming Baneriee was using her official position to influence the outcome of the bitterly contested assembly poll

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, March 27: A huge controversy erupted Saturday amid the polling for 30 assembly seats in West Bengal, with the BJP releasing an audio clip where Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is purportedly heard cajoling a BJP leader from Nandigram to rejoin the TMC and help her win the seat.

Banerjee is pitted against her former protege and now the BJP candidate Suvendu Adhikari in Nandigram, the spring board that propelled her to power in 2011, dislodging the Left Front from power after a 34-year unbroken rule.

A BJP delegation, led by party general secretary and Bengal minder Kailash Vijayvargiya, met the state's chief electoral officer and handed over the tape, claiming Banerjee was using her official position to influence the outcome of the bitterly contested assembly poll. The ruling TMC questioned the genuineness of the audio tape, but asserted that since Pralay Pal was



over to the BJP, there was nothing wrong with Banerjee trying to woo him back. Pal, who pledged his allegiance to the Adhikari family, whose two members are still TMC Lok Sabha members, claimed Banerjee personally called him up and asked him to help her win the Nandigram seat. "You should help us win Nandigram. Look, I know you have some grievances, but that's due mostly to the Adhikaris who never allowed me to get into Nandigram or East Midnapore, I will take care of everything henceforth," Banerjee purportedly told



"Didi, you called me and I am honoured. But I can't betray the Adhikaris as they have stood by me through thick and thin," he was heard saying in the audio clip.

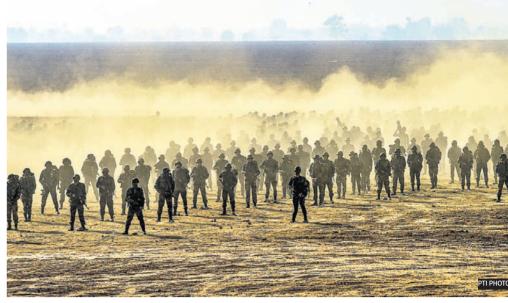
He later told TV news channels that Banerjee called him up and requested him to return to the TMC, a proposal he declined. "I am now working for the BJP and can't betray them," said Pal.

PTI could not independently verify the authenticity of the audio tape. Sharing the clip of the purported conversation, BJP's social media head Amit Malviva tweeted. 'Massive! Mamata Banerjee calls Proloy Pal, BJP's district Vice President in Nandigram and pleads for help! Proloy tells her that he was humiliated in TMC, and he, along with this family, cannot betray the BJP. Pishi is definitely losing Nandigram and TMC Bengal."

"Only a candidate who has accepted defeat can speak the way Mamata Banerjee has spoken, Vijayvargiya told journalists.

When asked about whether the tape was authentic, the BJP leader retorted: "I as saying what I am saying with full responsibility (jawab dari).'

"She's imploring (yachna) for help. It shows she has accepted defeat," he said. The TMC said the tape was not verified but found nothing wrong in Banerjee approaching a former partyman. 'First of all, the clip is not verified. We don't know whether it is true or false. But we don't see anything wrong in a politician calling her former leaders or aides. This is quite natural in politics," TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said. The high-profile Nandigram seat will go to poll April 1 in the



Army soldiers during an exercise in Agra, Saturday. The event was organised to show military skills of the Para Regiment

### Kin of migrants crushed by train await death certificates

The family members have told the Shahdol district officials that they are unable to carry out tasks related to bank accounts and are unable to avail the benefits of government schemes

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shahdol, March 27: An apparent bureaucratic delay has deprived families of 16 migrant labourers, crushed by a train in Maharashtra during the coronavirus-induced lockdown in May last year, from getting their death certificates.

They have been demanding the certificates from Shahdol district administration, which says these documents have to be issued by authorities in Maharashtra's Aurangabad district where the

tragedy took place.

Shahdol district officials said they have sent letters to the authorities in Aurangabad requesting them to give the death certificates of the deceased to their families.

The family members, devastated due to the death of their dear ones, have told the Shahdol district officials that they are unable to carry out tasks related to bank accounts and are unable to avail the benefits of government schemes.

The 16 migrant workers - 11 from

Shahdol district and 5 from neighbouring Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh - were walking to Bhusawal from Jalna on way to their state.

They were sleeping on rail tracks due to exhaustion near Karmad around 30 km from Aurangabad, when they were run over by the train early in the morning of May 8. The family members of the deceased in Shahdol said they had applied for the death certificates before the then Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Jaisingh Nagar.

### Over 79% polling in Bengal, 72% in Assam



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, March 27: As many as 79.79 per cent voters exercised their franchise in ten hours of polling for 30 Assembly seats in West Bengal on Saturday while the voter turnout was around 72.14 per cent in Assam in the same period.

More than half of the 73-lakh electorate in Bengal's 30 Assembly constituencies have cast their ballot and sealed the fate of 191 candidates who are in the fray on the first day of the eight-phase elections in West Bengal where polling is underway in five districts.

At least 21 female aspirants are contesting elections in West Bengal while 23 in Assam.

In Bengal, the serpentine queues showed people are aware of the importance of the crucial poll that is seeing a bitter battle between the ruling Trinamool Congressled by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and the BJP that has pitched every high-profile leader into campaigning in West Bengal.

As per the latest figures from Bengal, the approximate voter turnout trend till 5 pm in Bankura was the highest at 80.03 per cent. Jhargram at 80.55 per cent, Purbo Medinipur at 82.42 per cent, Paschim Medinipur at 80.16 per cent and Purulia at 77.13 per cent, according to the Election Commission's voter turnout App.

In Bengal's East Midnapore, two security personnel were reportedly injured in a firing incident that took place early Saturday at the Satsatmal, Bhagwanpur Assembly constituency ahead of voting. Tension prevailed in the Tulsidi village where the incident took place. Security forces are keeping a close vigil in the area, surrounded by forests that were once Maoist hideouts. There were reports of EVM malfunctioning at 20 booths in Bankura district, eight in Jhargram and 39 in Purulia. EVMs in various booths had stopped working temporarily due to a technical glitch. People said they had to wait for more than two hours to

cast their ballot. In Assam, voting began across 11,537 polling stations mostly covering eastern Assam's 12 districts at 7 am. The balloting will continue till 6 p.m as the Election Commission extended the time by an hour in view of the Covid-19

### Naidu concerned over frequent disruptions in legislatures, Parl

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hyderabad, March 27: Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu Saturday expressed concern over frequent disruption in Legislatures and Parliament as also decline in standards of debates.

Observing that disruption means derailing debate and derailing democracy and the nation, he cautioned that people will get disillusioned if the same trend continues. Naidu, who was speaking at the centenary celebrations of former parliamentarian and education is Nookala Narotham Reddy here said recent incidents in certain state legislatures were disheartening.

He stressed that conduct in parliament and legislatures should be in pursuit of the 3 D's-Discuss,

Debate and Decide The House should, at no point, bea platform for disruption. Obstructing the House only hurts the cause of public interest, he said

Reflecting on the exemplary quality of debates in Parliament during Narotham Reddy's time, Naidu suggested that representatives' actions in the legislatures should reflect people's aspirations and sought a more constructive and meaningful use of time in legislatures.

The Vice President also expressed concern over the declining atten-



dance of parliamentarians and leg-

islators in respective Houses. He stressed the need for them to be regular and contribute meaningfully in the discussion

He appealed to the people to elect representatives who possess the 4Cs Calibre, Conduct, Capacity and Character.

Emphasizing the role of education in inculcating moral values, patriotism and probity in public life, Naidu said education should produce well-rounded holistic individuals. Pointing to India's demographic dividend, he said no other country has this kind of advantage and stressed the need to fully leverage it for the nation's progress.

In this context, he called for upskilling the younger generation in tune with the 21st century needs.

Naidu also suggested that in the spirit of New Education Policy, institutes should restructure themselves and bring in a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to education. The policy also targets at reducing the burden of curriculum and attempts to bring about a comprehensive development in the young student, matching international standards, he observed.

Speaking about the importance of mother tongue, the Vice President underscored the need for connect ing with ones constituents through hisher own mother tongue.

People who elected us should know what we are talking about. That is why members should try to speak in their mother tongue as much as possible, an official release quoted him as saying.

He noted that with mother tongue as a priority, the Rajya Sabha has now given an opportunity to speak in 22 languages with adequate facilities having been provided for

### **Junior engineer and** 2 policemen booked

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ballia (UP), March 27: "A case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder was registered here against eight people, including a junior engineer of the power department and two policemen, following the death of a person who was allegedly beaten up by them for refusing to pay Rs 20,000 during an inspection," police said on Saturday.



Police Sanjay Yadav said a complaint was filed by victim Ram Prayesh's father Mudrika Gond of Rigvan village under Maniyar police station area, following which the case was registered on Friday.

Gond claimed that he had taken a legal electricity connection and was operating a wheat flour machine. On Friday afternoon, a team of the power department reached his shop and after an inspection, they demanded Rs 20,000.

Upon his refusal, the team threatened to cut the power connection and frame him in false cases. Ram Prayesh was badly beaten up and was later declared dead.

### India, B'desh want stability, love and peace in world: Modi

Prime Minister Modi made the remarks while speaking to the Matua community members after offering prayers at their temple in Gopalganj's Orakandi

AGENCIES

Dhaka, March 27: India and Bangladesh want stability, love and peace instead of instability, terror and unrest in the world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Saturday as he underlined that the two friendly neighbours want to see the world progressing through their own development.

Prime Minister Modi made the remarks while speaking to the Matua community members after offering prayers at their temple in Gopalganj's Orakandi - the birthplace of Hindu mystic figure and community's spiritual guru Harichand Thakur.

"Both India and Bangladesh want to see the world progressing through their own development. Both the countries want to see stability, love, and peace instead of instability, terror, and unrest in the world. Modi said that he was waiting for this opportunity for many years and during his visit to Bangladesh in 2015, he had expressed desire to visit Orakandi, which has come true now. This place is a pilgrimage site for the spiritual relationship between India and Bangladesh, he said.

"I was speaking to some people here. They were saying who could have thought that India's Prime Minister would visit Orakandi. Modi said, adding that he was feel-



ing the same emotions as felt by the Matua community members in India after coming to Orakandi, from where Harichand Thakur disseminated his pious message.

Orakandi is the abode of Hindu Matua community, a large number of whom are residents of neighbouring West Bengal.



Prime Minister Modi announced that India will upgrade one girls' middle school and set up a primary school in Orakandi. "My visit to the Orakandi Thakurbari is an experience I will remember for life. This is a very sacred place, which is closely associated with the Matua Community," Modi later tweeted.

Analysts said Modi's planned temple visits carry a political significance at the time of the ongoing assembly elections in West Bengal.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by BJP MP from West Bengal Shantanu Thakur during his visit to Orakandi. The Matua community's vote may determine the winner in some seats in the elections to the West Bengal state assembly, the first phase of which began Saturday.

In his speech, Modi said the Matua community celebrates 'Baroni Shanan Utshab' every year on the auspicious occasion of the birth anniversary of Harichand Thakur and a large number of devotees from India come to Orakandi to participate in this festival.

'To make this pilgrimage easier for citizens of India, efforts will be made on behalf of the

Government of India," he said. 'We are also committed to grand events and various works reflecting the glorious history of the Matua community in Thakurnagar (West Bengal)," Modi said, "I have always been very close to the family mem-

bers of the Thakurbari,' he added. "The way India and Bangladesh governments are working towards strengthening their ties; Harichand Thakur and Thakurbari have been doing this for ages. This place symbolises the spiritual trust of India and Bangladesh," he said.

The first phase of elections

upon my young friends to vote

NARENDRA MODI PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

comes to power, its government

will endanger Indians living in the

infiltrators. If this alliance wins, it

SARBANANDA SONOWAL | CHIEF MINISTER

MLAs, and when failing in both, it

Parliament. This is how the Modi

ASHOK GEHLOT | CHIEF MINISTER OF

**4 BJP leaders** 

killed in accident

including three women were killed and

overturned in southern Tripura's Gomati

district, police said Saturday. Police offi-

cials said that the three women and a

man accompanied by other workers of

the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party return-

ing home in a Maxi truck suddenly lost

control and overturned killing the four

local leaders at Chellagung late Friday.

Agartala: At least four BJP leaders,

eight others injured when a vehicle

resorts to passing such a dictatorial

bill on the strength of its majority in

state and strengthen illegal

begins in Assam. Urging those

Those who

stand for

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Modi govt

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RAJASTHAN

wants to run the country in

OF ASSAM

Congress-AIUDF

eligible to vote in record numbers. particularly call

### national



**Today, the first phase** of polling is being held in Assam. I appeal to the people of Assam, especially the youth and my sisters, to go to the polling booths today and vote in large numbers. Vote for progress and golden future of Assam PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA | CONGRESS LEADER

### **PREZ REFERRED TO AIIMS**

President Ram Nath Kovind has been shifted to All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Saturday for further treatment. His condition is stated to be stable. He was admitted the Army's Research and Referral Hospital in New Delhi on Friday morning after a chest discomfort.

6 states account for

79.57 pc of new cases

ported the highest daily new

cases at 36,902 followed by

Punjab (3,122) and Chhattisgarh

(2,665), the ministry said. Ten

states are displaying an up-

ward trajectory in daily new

Fourteen states and union

territories have not reported

any COVID-19 deaths in the

last 24 hours, the ministry

said. These are Assam.

Odisha, Puducherry, Ladakh,

Daman and Diu, Dadra and

Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep,

Manipur, Tripura, Sikkim,

Meghalaya, Mizoram,

Andaman and Nicobar

Islands, Nagaland and

Arunachal Pradesh.

Maha bans gatherings,

curbs timings of malls

Mumbai: Struggling to arrest the fresh

announced a complete ban on holding of

all types of gatherings, including political

Maharashtra government Saturday

and religious. The government also

ordered that restaurants, gardens and

also not be allowed to visit beaches

during 8 pm to 7 am, an official order

said. Drama theatres will also remain

shut from Saturday night. However, the

government has exempted delivery of

food in night hours in its new set of

malls will remain shut between 8 pm to 7

am beginning Saturday night. People will

surge in COVID-19 cases, the

cases, it said.

New Delhi: Six states --

Maharashtra, Punjab,

Chhattisgarh, Karnataka,

Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh

continue to report a high surge

in daily COVID-19 cases and ac-

count for 79.57 per cent of the

new infections reported in a

span of 24 hours, the Health

India's total active cases

have reached 4.52.647 and cur-

rently comprise 3.8 per cent

of the countrys total infec-

tions, it said. The country saw

62,258 new cases being regis-

tered in the last 24 hours, the

highest single day rise so far

this year, according to the min-

istry. Maharashtra has re-

Ministry said Saturday.

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Cheese **Block** 



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500 g l ₹245\*

### 56 'missing' women reunited with kin

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Raigad, March 27: Fifty-six young women, who had gone missing in separate incidents in Maharashtra's Raigad district in 2020, have been reunited with their families, police said Saturday

Apart from them, 14 boys from this coastal district, who had run away from home, were found and reunited with their kin, the Raigad police said.

"A total of 57 young women had run away from their homes in different parts of the district in 2020. Since all of them were above 18 years of age, missing person's reports had been filed," the police said in a

statement. Majority of them had eloped with their boyfriends, they said. During the investigation, po-

lice found 56 of them and handed them over their families. But one young woman is yet to be traced, they added.

In the last three years, as many as 230 young women had gone missing in the district, the statement said.

### India records 62,258 cases in a single day

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, March 27: India saw 62,258 new coronavirus infections in a day, the highest single day rise so far this year, taking the nationwide COVID-19 tally to 1,19,08,910 according to Union health ministry data updated Saturday.

Registering a steady increase for the 17th day in row, the active cases have increased to 4,52,647 comprising 3.80 per cent of the total infections, while the recovery rate has further dropped to 94.85 per cent, the data

The 62,258 new cases were reported in a span of 24 hours, the highest since October 16, 2020, while the death toll increased to 1,61,240 with 291 daily new fatalities, the highest in around three months, the data updated at 8 am showed.

As many as 63,371 new infections were recorded in a span of 24 hours October 16.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 1,12,95,023, while the case fatality rate has further dropped to 1.35 per cent, the data stated.

India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark August 7, 30 lakh August 23, 40 lakh September 5 and 50 lakh September 16.

It went past 60 lakh September 28, 70 lakh October 11, crossed 80 lakh October 29, 90 lakh November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark December 19.

According to the Indian Council of Medical Research, 23,97,69,553 samples have been tested up to March 26 with 11,64,915 samples being tested

The 291 new fatalities include 112 from Maharashtra, 59 Punjab, 22 from Chhattisgarh, 14 from Kerala and 13 from Karnataka.



A total of 1,61,240 deaths have been reported so far in the country including 53,907 from Maharashtra, 12,650 from Tamil Nadu, 12,484 from Karnataka, 10,987 from Delhi, 10,320 from West Bengal, 8,779 from Uttar Pradesh and 7,203 from Andhra Pradesh and 6,576 from Punjab.

The health ministry stressed that more than 70 per cent of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities.

"Our figures are being reconciled with the Indian Council of Medical Research," the ministry said on its website, adding that state-wise distribution of figures is subject to further verification and reconciliation.

### 'No possibility of

New Delhi: Health Minister Satyendar Jain Saturday dismissed any possibility of imposing another lockdown in Delhi, saving it was not a solution to check the spread of the coronavirus that is again surging rapidly. Jain said there was a logic behind the lockdown enforced earlier as nobody knew then how the virus propagates. "It follows a 14-day cycle between a person catching the infection and recovering from it. Experts said the virus will die if a lockdown is imposed for 21 days," Jain told reporters. "Authorities kept on extending the lockdown, but the virus did not die. I don't think lockdown is a solution," he said. There is "no possibility" of imposing another lockdown in the city. Jain said

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Loan A/C No.	Customer Name		
	lame: Angul		
	Santosh Kumar Das		
046005002759	Sarat Kumar Dalai		
046005004674	Ashok Sahu		
046005004973	Prashant Pradhan		
046005005295	Sarat Kumar Pradhan		
046005005487	Mohammad Samse Shiraj		
046005005627	Prashanta Kumar Sahu		
046005005653	Pradipta Ray		
046005005669	Ratan Kumar Pradhan		
046005005692	Biswaranjan Mohanti		
046005005726	Biswaranjan		
	Mohanti		
046005006152	Partha Sarathi Dutta		
046005006195	Anjana Malik		
046005006140	Shamshad Miya		
046005006000	Sanjeeb Kumar Nanda		
046005006050	Diptiranjan Dasmohapatra		
046005006116	Mohan Kumar Roul		
046005006186	Dhiren Sahu		
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755305000036	Dillip Kumar Swain		
	Vame: Asika		
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149805003472	Ganesh Behera		
149805004667	Kuni Parida		
149805003914	Pramod Kumar Gouda		
149805003982	Banita Gouda		
149805003985	Rajendra Sahu		
149805004710	Mangulu Jena		
149805004024	Basanta Gouda		
149805004094	Rita Gauda		
149805004096	Rita Gauda		
149805004549	Prakash Sethi		
149805004725	Rashmita Sahu		
149805004810	Rina Das		
149805004813	Tutu Behera		
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304405000877	Chitta Ranjan Karnna		
304405000203	Mohan Charan Nayak		
304405000824	Subrat Kumar Sahu		
304405000510	Rajesh Bhukta		
304405000702	Shobhakanta Sahoo		
304405000739	Bhakta Charan Majhi		
304405000749	Bishikesan Ksheti		
304405001064	Bhaskart Amanta		
304405001074	Susil Behera		
304405001103	Kumati Behera		
304405001168	Swagatika Samanta		
304405001173	Badala Biswal		
304405001194	Ashok Kumar		

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05002388				326805001714	Rabindra Kumar
		027005006946	Subhranta Kumar		Pradhan
05002759	Sarat Kumar Dalai		Mukhi	326805001806	K Nihar Ranjan
05004674	Ashok Sahu	027005007004	A Ramu		Achary
05004973	Prashant Pradhan	027005007019	Sudam Kothia	326805002271	Sipun Patro
05005295	Sarat Kumar			326805000835	P Keshabarao
	Pradhan	027005007223	Rudra Prasad Jena	326805000680	Sadhana Naik
05005487	Mohammad Samse	027005007700	Sagar Kumar Padhy	326805000699	Ajit Naik
	Shiraj	Branch Name:	Berhampur - Bada	326805000781	Simanchala
05005627	Prashanta Kumar		azar		Pradhan
05005050	Sahu	241905001407	K Iswar	326805001913	Jagabandhu Gouda
05005653	Pradipta Ray			326805001299	Jagannath Pradhan
05005669	Ratan Kumar	241905001416	Kabitanjali Mohanty	326805001377	Raju Behera
	Pradhan	Branch Nan	ne: Berhampur-	326805001643	Lakshmikanta Muli
05005692	Biswaranjan	Medical	collegeroad	326805001645	Ganesh Pradhan
	Mohanti	149705002439	Madan Mohan	326805001670	Sukanti Naik
05005726	Biswaranjan	110700002100	Tripathy	326805001687	Suni Gouda
	Mohanti	140705000401			
	Partha Sarathi Dutta	149705002401	Manoj Kumar Sahu	326805001843	Shankar Pradhan
05006195	Anjana Malik	149705001813	Basant Gouda	326805001749	Sanatan Pradhan
05006140	Shamshad Miya	149705002426	Deepak Kumar	326805001768	Santosh Kumar
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05006116	Mohan Kumar Roul	203605001658	Lily Nayak	326805001836	Kaki Pradhan
05006186	Dhiren Sahu	203605001710	M Jangamaya	326805001845	Patana Chandrabati
ch Name:	Angul - Fci Chowk				Rao
	Dillip Kumar Swain	203605002054	Mamita Sabar	326805001847	Kirttichandra
	Name: Asika	203605002064	Maheshwar Polei		Pradhan
05002994	Rita Polai	Branch Nam	e: Chhendipada	326805001931	Saroja Kumar Panda
_		256505000426		326805002307	Simanchal Gouda
05003032	Debaraj Gouda		Bijay Samal	Branch Name:	Dhaurapali, Odisha
05003472	Ganesh Behera	256505000427	Pralay Pradhan	367405000083	Sharat Nayak
05004667	Kuni Parida	256505000474	Sujita Kumar	367405000225	Suraj Bhan Behera
05003914	Pramod Kumar		Gadanaik	367405000238	Asit Kumar Sahoo
	Gouda	256505000993	Niranjan Behera	367405000436	Gagan Mallik
05003982	Banita Gouda			367405000396	Dillip Kumar
05003985	Rajendra Sahu	256505001081	Pramod Lahara		Pradhan
05004710	Mangulu Jena	256505001881	Choura Chandra	367405000427	Dusmanta Kumar
05004024	Basanta Gouda		Shau		Podha
05004094	Rita Gauda	256505001449	Karunakar Sahoo	367405000448	Arakhita Pradhan
05004096	Rita Gauda	256505001475	Subrat Kumar Sahu	367405000453	Suratha Nayak
05004549	Prakash Sethi			367405000462	Dinabandhu
05004725	Rashmita Sahu	256505001640	Dushasan Majhi		Pradhan
		256505001678	Pramod Dandapat	367405000475	Mati Sahoo
05004810	Rina Das	256505001851	Laxman Dehury	Branch Name:	Hinjilicut, Odisha
05004813	Tutu Behera		-	327005000969	Sukanti Swain
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05000877	Chitta Ranjan	256505001867	Ripu Dehuri	Kaniha	0
	Karnna	256505002069	Benudhar Pradhan	202605001922	Sanjib Naik
05000203	Mohan Charan	256505002078	Mahabir Pradhan	202605001322	Jitendra Bhutia
0500000	Nayak	256505002070		202605002130	Gahu Naik
	Subrat Kumar Sahu		Lingaraj Naik	202605002380	Ajaya Kumar
05000510	Rajesh Bhukta	256505002120	Sudarsan Nayak	202000002330	Garanayak
05000702	Shobhakanta Sahoo	256505002127	Gitanjali Sahoo	202605002428	Sabitri Naik
05000739	Bhakta Charan	256505002133	Gundicha Pradhan	202605002428	Bhagirathi Pradhan
	Majhi				
05000749	Bishikesan Ksheti	256505002152	Susanta Kumar	202605002481	Binaya Behera
05001064	Bhaskart Amanta		Sahu	202605002504	Bichhanda Pradhan
05001074	Susil Behera	256505002167	Sanjay Pradhan		ne: Palalahada
05001103	Kumati Behera	256505002202	Kalakar Majhi	304805000614	Ajay Samal
05001168	Swagatika Samanta			304805000739	Jayaprakash Naik
05001108	Badala Biswal	256505002204	Ajaya Kumar Sahu	Branch N	ame: Talcher
		256505002206	Jyoti Sahu	077305001386	Chandra Kanta
05001194	Ashok Kumar Pradhan	256505002208	Puspanjali Behera		Nayak
05001211		256505002213	Saroj Kumar Sahu	077305002480	Prasanna Sahoo
05001214	Ranjan Kumar Rebera			077305003421	Papita Nahak
05001015	Behera	256505002224	Anil Kumar Sahu	077305003528	Bijaya Kumar Sethi
05001215	Dilip Kumar Pradhan	256505002230	Labanidhar Sahu	077305003822	Jilu Sahoo
05001218	Anima Mishra	256505002238	Bachan Sahu	077305003898	Nrusingh Chandra
05001235	Sambit Rana				Behera
05001237	Sebati Mahakud	256505002386	Praphulla Bhutia	077305003950	Krushnachandra
05001606	Shankar Kheti	256505002391	Bishnupriya Sahoo		Behera
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### **2013 MUZAFFARNAGAR RIOTS**

### Court allows withdrawal of case against BJP leaders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Muzaffarnagar, March 27: A local court allowed to withdraw a case of inciting violence against 12 BJP leaders, including Uttar Pradesh minister Suresh Rana, BJP MLA Sangit Som, former BJP MP Bhartendu Singh and VHP leader Sadhvi Prachi, in connection with the 2013 Muzaffarnagar riots case.

Judge of the special court, Ram Sudh Singh Friday allowed the government counsel to withdraw the case.

According to district government counsel Rajiv Sharma, the accused were booked under various sections of the Indian Penal Code for violating prohibitory orders deterring public servants from discharging their duties and wrongful restraint.

It is alleged that the accused participated in a mahapanchayat and incited violence through their speeches in the last week of August 2013.



The state counsel had moved an application in the court stating that the Uttar Pradesh government has decided in public interest not to proceed further with the prosecution of the BJP leaders and that the court should allow its plea to withdraw this case.

At least 62 people were killed and more than 50,000 displaced in the communal clashes in Muzaffarnagar and its neighbouring districts in 2013.

### MANY COMMUTE DURING SILENCE HOUR IN PUNJAB

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, March 27: Many people kept moving in their vehicles in Punjab from 11 am till noon Saturday as they say they were unaware of the state government's decision to observe an hour's silence in memory of those who succumbed to COVID-19.

Police stopped intra city traffic at some places and it led to long queues of vehicles, causing inconvenience to commuters.

The Punjab government had announced observing an an hour of silence from 11 am every Saturday starting March 27 in memory of all those who lost their lives to the contagion.

During that hour, the traffic movement would not be allowed, except on state and national highways. Intra-city vehicular traffic should not be plied during this hour, as per orders.

Sirens were sounded in the districts to indicate the start and end of the silence period.



In Ludhiana, a commuter in a car said he was unaware of the state government's decision of observing the silence hour, adding that he was going to meet some patient at a local hospital. A two-wheeler rider in Hoshiarpur said he also did not know about the si-

People at many places including Ludhiana, Sangrur, Mansa and Moga,

were commuting during 11 am till noon. A police official in Hoshiarpur said they were appealing to people to stop their vehicles during the one-hour silence period.

He, however, said if anyone has an emergency, then he is allowed to leave. A commuter in Amritsar urged the

state government not to stop traffic during 11 am till noon as people who have some emergency work could get stuck in a traffic jam.

Friday, the state had reported 3,176 infections, the highest single-day spike, while 59 more people had died of the contagion.

### international



**The new Chinese** wine tariffs set to last for five years were "not ok" and deemed them as retaliation for **Canberra standing up** for its values

SCOTT MORRISON | PRIME /INISTER. AUSTRALIA

#### **PAK SC FINDS ENTIRE EVIDENCE 'DOUBTFUL'**

In a 2-1-majority judgement in the 2002 murder case of American journalist Daniel Pearl, the Pakistan SC held that the entire evidence is shrouded with doubts, with prosecution failing to prove the four accused guilty. Giving out the judgement, the court acquitted prime suspect, Omar Sheikh of all the charges



sanctions imposed on the Islamic Republic programme are hamper the import of coronavirus

vaccines. We order the vaccines, also pay for them, but before importation we are told that the manufacturers are still afraid of the **US** sanctions

HASSAN ROUHANI PRESIDENT, IRAN

The attack against police officers in Bristol is disgraceful. Our officers should not have to face having

bricks, bottles and fireworks being thrown at them by a mob intent on violence and causing damage to

BORIS JOHNSON | PRIME MINISTER, BRITAIN



at the same time. However, if the increase continues at this rate then in the next few days or next week, we will go beyond the level and

ASAD UMAR CHAIRMAN, NCOC, PAKISTAN

#### SHORT TAKES

### 'Variant booster to be ready by Sept'

London: Britain's vaccines minister says booster shots designed to fight new variants of the coronavirus should be ready for distribution to people over 70 by September. Nadhim Zahawi said that the government is expecting up to eight different shots to be available by the autumn, including some that may protect against variants. He said booster shots would be given first to the frontline health workers and the

### **Hundreds protest** against 'racism'

Auckland: Hundreds of people gathered for a protest in New Zealand's largest city of Auckland Saturday to demonstrate against anti-Asian racism and hate. The protest started at the Aotea Square in Auckland CRD where protesters spoke out against racism towards Asians in the US and New Zealand, before marching along the Oueen Street. reports Xinhua news agency.

### 10 arrested in Bristol

London: At least 10 arrests were made as British police officers faced a barrage of eggs and glass bottles from hundreds of protesters in yet another anti-lockdown protest dubbed "Kill the Bill" in the south-west England city of Bristol. After a standoff between police and protesters on Friday evening, officers in riot gear and mounted on horses attempted to disperse the crowds after several warnings were made through a loudspeaker.

#### 5,000 to attend rock concert

Barcelona: Five thousand music lovers are set to attend a rock concert in Barcelona on Saturday after passing a same-day Covid-19 screening, to test its effectiveness in preventing outbreaks of the virus at large cultural events. The show by Spanish rock group Love of Lesbian has the special permission of Spanish health authorities. While the rest of the country is limited to gatherings of no more than four people in closed spaces, the concertgoers will be able to mix freely.

### **New attempts to free giant** vessel stuck in Suez Canal

Suez, March 27: A giant container ship remained stuck sideways in Egypt's Suez Canal for a fifth day Saturday, as authorities prepared to make new attempts to free the vessel and reopen a crucial east-west waterway for global shipping.

The Ever Given, a Panamaflagged ship that carries cargo between Asia and Europe, ran aground Tuesday in the narrow canal that runs between Africa and the Sinai Peninsula.

The massive vessel got stuck in a single-lane stretch of the canal, about six kilometers (3.7 miles) north of the southern entrance, near the city of Suez.

Peter Berdowski, CEO of Boskalis, the salvage firm hired to extract the Ever Given, said the company hoped to pull the container ship free within days using a combination of heavy tugboats. dredging and high tides.

He told the Dutch current affairs show Nieuwsuur Friday night that the front of the ship is stuck in sandy clay, but the rear "has not been

Exporters' bodies to identify

cargo for priority movement

As efforts are underway to free the giant container ship stuck in the Suez Canal, the Indian government in discussion with the

Authority (MPEDA) and Agricultural and Processed Food Products

Export Development Authority (APEDA) will jointly identify cargo,

movement. The government has come up with a four-point plan to

deal with the situation arising from the blockage of Suez Canal. The

particularly perishable cargo, for priority movement. The exporters'

stakeholders has decided that the Federation of Indian Export

Organisations (FIEO), Marine Products Export Development

bodies will also work with the shipping lines for the priority

plan was chalked out in a meeting convened by the Logistics

Division, Department of Commerce, Government of India Friday.

completely pushed into the clay and that is positive because you can use the rear end to pull it free.'

Berdowski said two large tugboats were on their way to the canal and are expected to arrive over the weekend. He said the company aims to harness the power of the tugs, dredging and tides, which he said are expected to be up to 50 centimeters (20 inches) higher Saturday.

"The combination of the (tug) boats we will have there, more ground dredged away and the high tide, we hope that will be enough to

get the ship free somewhere early next week," he said.

If that doesn't work, the company will remove hundreds of containers from the front of the ship to lighten it, effectively lifting the ship to make it easier to pull free, Berdowski said

A crane was already on its way that can lift the containers off the ship, he said.

An official at the Suez Canal Authority said the authority planned to make at least two attempts Saturday to free the vessel when the high tide goes down.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to brief journalists. Egyptian authorities have prohibited media access to the site.

The salvage mission was turning its focus to the ship's lodged bow, after some progress was made towards freeing the ship's stern, the canal service provider Leth Agencies said Saturday.

Egypt Prime Minister Mustafa Madbouly called the ship's predicament "a very extraordinary incident," in his first public comments on the blockage in a press confer-

### Police: Two dead in Virginia Beach oceanfront shootings

AGENCIES

Virginia Beach, March 27: Two people are dead and eight people were wounded in shootings along Virginia Beach's oceanfront, police said Saturday. Eight people were shot just after 11 p.m. Friday, Virginia Beach police said in a news release. All eight were taken to local hospitals, with some of their conditions ranging from serious to life-threatening.

One woman died of a gunshot wound on the scene, the release said. At an earlier news conference, police Chief Paul Neudigate said the death possibly stemmed from an unrelated shooting.

The release also said one officer suffered minor injuries. Neudigate had said the officer was struck by a vehicle during the investigation.



A different officer fatally shot a man at the shooting scene. While officers were investigating the original shooting, shots were fired nearby, Neudigate said. The officer confronted the man, leading to the deadly gunfire.

The officer has been placed on administrative leave. He has been with the department for five years and is assigned to its special operations division.

The original shooting and the officer shooting were being investigated concurrently, the re-

#### **LEADERS' SUMMIT ON CLIMATE**

### Biden invites 40 world leaders including Modi



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, March 27: US President Joe Biden has invited 40 world leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to the Leaders' Summit on Climate to underscore the urgency and the economic benefits of stronger climate action, the White House said.

The two-day summit will be held virtually April 22-23 and will be telecasted live for public viewing. "It will be a key milestone on the road to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) this November in Glasgow," the White House said Friday.

Besides Modi, other leaders invited for the summit include Chinese President Xi Jinping. Russian President Vladimir Putin, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Saudi Arabia King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Bhutanese Prime Minister Lotay Tshering are the other two leaders from South Asia to be invited for the two-day mega conference on cli-

The summit will look into the economic benefits of climate action, with a strong emphasis on job creation, and the importance of ensuring all communities and workers benefit from the transition to a new clean energy economy

Transformational technologies will also be on cards that can help reduce emissions and adapt to climate

mate change.

The White House said a key objective of both the Leaders' Summit and the COP26 will be to catalyse efforts to keep limiting warming 1.5 degree Celsius' goal within reach. The summit will also highlight examples of how enhanced climate ambition will create good paying jobs, advance innovative technologies and help vulnerable countries adapt to climate impacts, it added.

By the time of the summit, the United States will announce an ambitious 2030 emissions target as its new Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement, the White House said. In his invitation, Biden urged

leaders to use the summit as an opportunity to outline how their countries also will contribute to stronger climate ambition, it said.

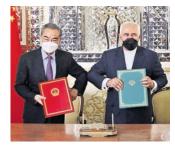
### Iran, China sign 25-year 'strategic cooperation pact'

Tehran, March 27: Iran and China signed a 25-year "strategic cooperation pact" Saturday in the latest expansion of Beijing's flagship trilliondollar Belt and Road Initiative as the US rivals move closer together.

Negotiations for the deal, launched five years ago, sparked controversy in Iran last year and virtually no details of its contents have been released.

China is Iran's leading trade partner and was one of the biggest buyers of Iranian oil before then US president Donald Trump reimposed sweeping unilateral sanctions in 2018 after abandoning a multilateral nuclear agreement with Tehran.

The China-Iran pact, which Tehran said included "political, strategic and economic" components, was signed by the two countries' foreign ministers, Wang Yi and Mohammad Javad Zarif, an AFP correspondent reported.



"We believe this document can be very effective in deepening" Iran-China relations, Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said, recalling that the pact had first been proposed during a visit to Tehran by Chinese President Xi Jinping in January 2016.

Xi and his Iranian counterpart Hassan Rouhani agreed then to establish a roadmap for "reciprocal investments in the fields of transport, ports, energy, industry and services.'

"Iran's government and people are

broaden relations with trustworthy, independent countries like China, supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said at the time, describing the proposed cooperation agreement as "correct and reasonable".

Xi has championed the Belt and Road Initiative, a plan to fund infrastructure projects and increase China's sway overseas.

"Nothing secret"

In July last year, controversy erupted over the proposed deal after former president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad charged that negotiations were being held for a "new, 25-year agreement with a foreign country" without the knowledge of the Iranian people.

The foreign minister was heckled in parliament when he assured lawmakers there was "nothing secret" in the proposed deal, which he promised would be publicly announced "once it has been finalised".

### **HOPE AMID THE RUINS**



A Rohingya refugee boy sits on a stack of burned material after a massive fire broke out in a Rohingya refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh recently. The blaze left over 300 people missing, according to the United Nations, with tens of thousands left without shelter in the world's largest refugee camp, where more than a million Rohingya live after fleeing persecution in their native Myanmar

### Shots and a musical serenade at NYC vax centre

FOR PEOPLE ON THE ROAD TO IMMUNITY FROM THE CORONAVIRUS, EXPERIENCING LIVE MUSIC IN THE SAME SPACE THAT SERVED AS A FIELD HOSPITAL AT THE HEIGHT OF THE PANDEMIC WAS A FITTING ACCOMPANIMENT ON A DAY OF HOPE

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, March 27: On a recent weekday, the sounds of Vivaldi, Mozart and Bach greeted hundreds of just-inoculated New Yorkers as they entered a medical observation area at one of the city's biggest Covid-19 vaccination sites, the Jacob K Javits Convention Center: Hearing the music, many stopped to record videos of the five musicians in a piano and string ensemble gathered onstage, performing live.

For people on the road to immunity from the coronavirus, experiencing live music in the same space that served as a field hospital at the height of the pandemic was a fitting accompaniment on a day of hope. For some of the musicians, it was something more.

Pianist Barbara Podgurski said her recent performances at the vaccination site were her first in public since the pandemic battered the



city last spring.

There were three months where I didn't play the piano because I felt hopeless," she said.

The reaction ... I haven't heard in a vear. You realize how much people need music in their lives, to feel beauty and magic. It gives them

The music is part of a series of daily, two-hour midday concerts from a collaboration between the nonprofit group Sing for Hope and violinist Victoria Paterson, who



started her own nonprofit, Music and

Paterson said many of her fellow musicians have been out of work since the city's music and performance scene shut down last

The musicians who perform at the Javits Center are paid to play. There's a tip jar, too, but contributions go

continue. 'We can't be buskers with family obligations at this stage in our ca-

to Sing for Hope so the music can

reers," Paterson said.

Podgurski, who is also a music professor at the City University of New York, said that with the city's live entertainment scene still largely shut down, any paying job is extremely welcome.

Some friends, she said, had to sell beloved instruments to pay

Another recent performer at the Javits concerts was violinist Katie Kresek, concertmaster and co-orchestrator for the Tony-nominated

Broadway musical "Moulin Rouge." Before the pandemic, her schedule was full, including performances in New Zealand and Australia. But after the pandemic hit, "within two weeks, all of my coming year

bookings were cancelled." Reflecting on playing at a vaccination center, Kresek said, Emotionally I felt I was contributingto this massive effort. It felt very gratifying to help out.'









### business



The Indian agro-chemical sector has a market size reaching more than ₹43,000 crores, out of which ₹23,000 crore worth pesticides are exported to the global markets. PRADIP DAVE | PRESIDENT, PMFAI

### **GLOBAL FAIR**

FICCI Alliance for **Re-imagining School** Education (ARISE) is going to organise its first global universities' fair called "FICCI Arise International Uni Fair" March 31





automotive industry is witnessing a gradual shift in technology into more LED-based lighting products. With strengthened technical capabilities in next level of lighting technologies,

we are well positioned to

technological shifts and to

benefit from these

achieve leadership

NK MINDA CHAIRMAN AND MD, UNO MINDA

The acquisition of WKTL will holster ATL's pan-India presence. consolidating

further its position as the largest private sector transmission company in India. This strategic West to South 765 KV interconnector with Substation in Southern India, completes ATI presence in all regions of the

ANIL SARDANA MD AND CEO, ADANI TRANSMISSION LTD

Covovax trials finally begin in is made through a partnership

India; the vaccine with Novavax and Serum Institute India. It has

been tested against African and UK variants of Covid-19 and has an overall efficacy of 89%. Hope to launch by September 2021 ADAR POONAWALLA

CEO, SERUM INSTITUTE OF INDIA

### **Media & entertainment** industry may grow by 25% in 2021: Report

Though the media and entertainment sector has been largely impacted by the pandemic, the positive news is that the digital subscription has grown by 49% and the online gaming industry has grown by 18%

DILIP CHENOY I SECRETARY GENERAL FICCI

AGENCIES

New Delhi, March 27: The Indian media and entertainment (M&E) sector is expected to grow by 25 per cent in 2021 and is expected to reach ₹1.73 lakh crore (\$23.7 billion), according to a FICCI-EY report.

Titled 'Playing by new rules', the report said that with its current trajectory, the M&E sector in India is expected to reach ₹2.23 lakh crore (\$30.6 billion) by 2023 at a CAGR of 17 per cent.

In 2020 while the television continued to remain the largest segment, digital media has overtaken print, and online gaming has overtaken a disrupted filmed entertainment segment. The Indian media and entertainment sector has de-



THE LARGEST SEGMENT, DIGITAL MEDIA HAS OVERTAKEN
PRINT, AND ONLINE GAMING HAS OVERTAKEN A DISRUPTED
FILMED ENTERTAINMENT SEGMENT

Digital media and online gaming The Indian media and were the only segments that grew in 2020 adding an aggregate of ₹2,600 crore

trillion (\$19 billion) in 2020 and the online gaming in-

entertainment sector has

de-grown by 24% to ₹1.38

trillion (\$19 billion) in 2020. Digital media and online gaming were the only segments that grew in 2020

grown by 24 per cent to ₹1.38

adding an aggregate of ₹2,600 crore. Other segments have de-grown by an aggregate of ₹46,700 billion. Dilip Chenoy, Secretary General FICCI, said that

though the media and entertainment sector has been largely impacted by the pandemic, the positive news is that the digital subscription has grown by 49 per cent

dustry has grown by 18 percent.

He further mentioned that different sectors of the media and entertainment industry will take different time to recover and this makes the report more crucial.

Ashish Pherwani, Partner and Media & Entertainment Leader, EY India, said the M&E sector witnessed a shift in demand patterns as consumers actively sought alternatives and had the time to try new things.

### **Gugnani Motors** inagurates new showroom



Bhubaneswar, March 27: Gugnani Motors Pvt. Ltd inaugurated new showroom for the Honda motor cycles and scooters in Nayagarh. The showroom was inaugurated by Odisha Agriculture and Higher Education minister Arun Kumar Sahoo. HMSI Odisha zonal manager Ajit Panda Area In charge (HMSI-sales) Abhishek Behera and Odisha High Court Advocate Abdul R Khan were also present at

the inaugural ceremony. It is Gugnani's seventh showroom in Odisha spread across an area of 7,000 sq ft. The showroom will provide two-wheelers, after sale service and also available spear parts of the vehicles. Managing Partner of Gugnani Honda Rajan Gugnani, highlighted on customers' satisfactions. Rajan said that the showroom will provide best service to the customers as it has been doing since its inception.

### Samsung expands Curd Maestro range

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, March 27: Samsung, India's consumer electronics and refrigerator brand, expanded its proprietary Curd Maestro technology to its large capacity refrigerators, including the IoT-enabled Family Hub, SpaceMax Side-by-Side refrigerators, building on strong demand for the Curd Maestro range of refrigerators that were launched last year.

Curd Maestro will now be available in 673 litre premium Curd Maestro Family Hub refrigerators and also in 692 litre Space Max series

### FORMAT C-7

Information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases, who have been selected as candidates, along with the reasons for such selection, as also as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates

(As per the Commission's directions issued in pursuance of the Order dated 13.02.2020 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in contempt petition@ no. 2192 of 2018 in WP(C) no. 536 of 2011)

Name of Political Party: BIJU JANATA DAL

\*Name of the Election: Bye-Election to 110-Pipili Assembly Constituency, 2021

Name of State/UT: Odisha

(1) Name of the Constituency- 110-Pipili Assembly Constituency

Name of the candidate-RUDRA PRATAP MAHARATHY

SI. No 1.

#### Criminal antecedents

Nature of the offences

Case no.

- Simple Rioting.
- 2. Simple rioting attempt to murder, with explosion of bombs and use of firearms.
- 3. Simple rioting, with explosion of bombs and use of
- 4. Wrongful restraint causing simple hurt and abusing in obscene language with explosion of bombs and use of firearms on members of SC and ST community.
- 1) Pipili PS Case No.321 Dt. 03.10.2008 U/S 147/341/323/ 294/379/506/109/149 IPC (Case returned as F.R. false).
- 2) Pipli PS Case No.398, dtd.12.10.2012 U/S 147/148/341/ 323/294/307/354/395/427/435/506/149 IPC/9(b) I.E. Act/25/27 Arms Act. (Case was charge sheeted against Jogendra Pradhan and others deleating the name of Rudra Pratap Maharathy from Charge sheet).
- 3) Pipli PS Case No.399 Dt. 12.10.2012 U/S 147/148/294/ 427/506/435/149/IPC/9 (b) I.E. Act/25/27 Arms Act. (Case returned as F.R. mistake of fact).
- 4)Pipli PS Case No.400 Dt. 12.10.2012 U/S 341/323/294/ 379/506/34 IPC/9(b) I.E. Act/25/27 Arms Act/3(1)(X) SC & ST (PA) Act. (Case returned as F.R. false).
- Name of the Court
- 1. Court of JMFC, Pipili
- 2. Court of JMFC, Pipili
- 3. Court of JMFC, Pipili 4. Court of JMFC, Pipili
- d. Whether charges have
  - No. Not in any case.
- been framed or not (Yes/No)
- Date of conviction, if any
  - Not Applicable
- Details of punishment undergone, if any
- Not Applicable
- Any other information required to

achievements and

merit of the candidate

and not mere

"winnability" at the

polls (not more than

2.

- Nil.
- be given to the qualifications,

The reasons for the The candidate, with a MBA degree, is a young and dynamic selection of the leader of the masses, who is entirely devoted to the cause of candidate. Selection Dalits and the marginalised in his constituency. As a student shall be with reference leader he led many social movements, and has done enviable social services during covid 19 by way of organizing free kitchen for the poor and migrant labours, orphan and even for the stray animals. He took active part in empowering women by organizing self help groups. His dedication to public welfare and his outstanding leadership in times of

crisis are clear reasons for his selection as a candidate.

Reasons as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates (not more than 100 words)

100 words)

Considering his above merits along with his dedication to the cause of the marginalized, women and the minority, he has an edge over others as a contesting candidate. He is deeply involved in sensitizing people on Covid guidelines, taking care of the patients and their families during the unprecendented pandemic, providing gainful employment to the labourers of his area have endeared him with the people. His head and heart and commitment to the service of the people are obvious reasons for selecting him as a candidate.

(2) Name of the Constituency- 110-Pipili Assembly Constituency Name of the candidate-RUDRA PRATAP MAHARATHY

.....and so on

\*In the case of election to Council of States or States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of Constituency.



Signature of office bearer of the Political Party Name: MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ Designation: General Secretary,



Janpath, Bhubaneswar- 751022 CIN: L40109OR1995SGC003960

No. CAD-I

NOTIFICATIO BULK SUPPLY PRICE EFFECTIVE FROM 4th APRIL, 2021

In exercise of powers conferred under Section 86 (1) (b) and other related provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission has passed an order on 26.03.2021 in Case No.72 of 2020 with regard to Aggregate Revenue Requirement and determination of Bulk Supply Price of GRIDCO Ltd. effective from 04.04.2021 for purchase of power by TPCODL, NESCO Utility, TPWODL and TPSODL strictly for use by the State consumers.

The GRIDCO Ltd. hereby notifies the schedule of Bulk Supply Price as given

**Bulk Supply Price** The Bulk Supply Price, as under, shall be applicable for sale of power by GRIDCO

Ltd. to the Distribution Utilities (TPCODL, NESCO Utility, TPWODL and TPSODL) which is strictly meant for supply of power by the Utilities to the State consumers and not for resale to any other utility / trader under Open Access. The total charges payable by a Distribution Utility shall be calculated by summation of the following charges mentioned in Para (A) to (F) below and applicable for supply of power with effect from 04.04.2021 until further order. (A) Energy Charges: The charges on the scheduled energy supplied by GRIDCO

Ltd. to the Distribution Utilities shall be as follows: 283.00 paise per kWh

**TPCODL NESCO Utility TPWODL TPSODL** 

320.00 paise per kWh paise per kWh 337.00 207.00 paise per kWh (B) Adjustment for Overdrawal / Underdrawal of Energy: Any over or under drawal of energy by the Distribution Utilities will be billed by GRIDCO Ltd. and

paid by the Distribution Utilities at the above Bulk Supply Price till Intra-State DSM Regulations comes into force in the State. Thereafter, overdrawal/underdrawal of energy by the Distribution Utilities shall be regulated under the provisions of Intra-State DSM Regulations. Demand Charges: There shall not be any levy of separate maximum demand charges upto the permitted SMD in a month for the distribution utilities for the FY

2021-22. Permitted SMD would mean monthly SMD recorded upto maximum of 10% over the approved SMD in the current tariff order to take care of monthly variations. Any excess drawl over the permitted SMD will have to be paid by the Distribution Utilities @ Rs.250 per KVA per month. This is again subject to the condition that the annual average SMD shall be limited to the SMD approved in the order. This is necessary to maintain the load planning and system stability. In case the annual average SMD is more than the approved SMD, then overdrawal quantum shall attract the penalty @ Rs.250 per KVA per month, notwithstanding the fact that a utility might have paid the SMD charges for exceeding the permitted SMD in any month.

Rebate: For payment of bills through letter of credit or by cash or by RTGS/NEFT within two working days (excluding holidays under the N.I. Act., 1881), a rebate of 2% shall be allowed on current dues. If the payments are made by the Distribution Utilities by a mode other than through a letter of credit but within a period of thirty days of presentation of bills, a rebate of 1% shall be

Late Payment Surcharge: In case payment of bills by the distribution utilities is delayed beyond a period of thirty days from the date of presentation of bill, a late payment surcharge at the rate of 1.25% per month shall be levied by GRIDCO Ltd. on the unpaid amount.

(F) Duty and Taxes: The statutory levy/duty/tax/cess/toll etc. imposed under any law from time to time shall be charged over and above the Bulk Supply Price fixed by the Commission. The detailed order of the Commission shall be available in the Commission's website

Bhubaneswar

Dt. 27.03.2021

OIPR-04056/11/0001/2021

www.orierc.org as well as in the website of GRIDCO Ltd. www.gridco.co.in

GRIDCO Ltd.

**Managing Director** 

### STRATEGIC SHIFT ON CARDS

### India take on England in the **ODI** series-decider today

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pune, March 27: Indian cricket team may like to revisit its 50-over template while picking up pieces from the Friday carnage with an aim to complete a hat-trick of series wins against England in the third and final ODI here, Sunday.

On batting belters that's been on offer at the Gahunje Stadium, England hit an astounding 20 sixes in a 337-run chase which became a cakewalk, thanks to inept bowling from spinners Kuldeep Yadav and Krunal Pandya.

Never before has captain Virat Kohli missed Ravindra Jadeja as much as he would have Friday when Jonny Bairstow and Ben Stokes took the mickey out of India's leftarm wrist and orthodox spinners.

In the bowling department, Kuldeep scripted an unwanted record when he conceded eight sixes, most by an Indian bowler. He leaked 84 runs in the second game after giving 64 runs in the first. And, so did Krunal Pandya, who gave 72 runs in six overs with an embarrassing average of 12 per over.

So, in all probability, the duo could be replaced by leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal and Washington Sundar, who can also chip in with the bat, if needed.

From team's perspective, it would be impossible to ignore Yuzvendra Chahal's inclusion in the playing XI even though the Haryana leg-spinner hasn't been in the best of forms.

Pandya senior would still make it to the team because of his batting skills but the apology of left-arm spin has certainly ensured that he won't be considered as a long term op-

In terms of batting, a total of 337 is certainly not bad by any standards but perhaps India can now

look to have strategic shift in terms innings building process.

The Men In Blue are the only team that always believes in accelerating in the last 15 overs, a template that was set by their illustrious former captain MS Dhoni.

It has worked on most occasions but of late, England with a world title has shown the world that attacking up front on batting tracks is the way forward.

It might just help Rishabh Pant and Hardik Pandya with their brand of power-hitting change the course of the innings in the back-10.

Skipper Virat Kohli, who hit two successive 50 plus scores, would be keen to carry his form and convert the start into a really big total and end the century drought. The skipper has however made it clear that he is not looking at milestones.

"I never played for 100s in my life, that's probably why I ended up getting so many in such little time. It's all about contributing to the team cause. If the team doesn't win when you get three figures it doesn't mean anything. You're not going to sit back at the end of your career and look at numbers, it's more about how you played the game."

For the record, his last century came in August 2019 in this format. Hardik would continue to play his role of a finisher but question mark remains on what kind of workload management is happening considering that he has rarely bowled save a few overs in the recently concluded T20L

On the pace front, while India would go-ahead with spearhead Bhuvneshwar Kumar, they could try going in with left-arm pacer and yorker specialist T Natarajan, in case they want to rest Shardul Thakur for the game.

Also, there could be a choice be-



Virat Kohli would look to stop Jonny Bairstow onslaught as early as possible in the series-decider as the in-form England opener has scored 94 & 124 in first and second ODIs respectively

tween Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna although Prasidh's pace is an advantage for the hosts.

bolstered by their Friday's pertival of colours Holi

Meanwhile, England would be

formance and the biggest positive would be the return of form of Ben Stokes, who otherwise struggled on many occasions on the entire tour. Come Sunday, it remains to be seen, if India win the game, it couldn't be better gift on eve of fes-

**Indian openers Rohit** 

**Sharma and Shikhar** 

Dhawan would look to provide India a good start PRASIDH KEEN TO LEARN FROM HIS MISTAKES IN FIRST TWO ODIS

### 'Need to improve my new ball performance'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pune, March 27: Prasidh Krishna has impressed one and all with his pace and bounce but Team India's newest pace sensation admitted that he needs to work hard on trying to be more economical with the new ball.

In both ODIs, Prasidh got wickets in his second spell with semi-new ball (as two new balls are used) and got a bit of stick from England batsmen during his opening overs.

"Personally, I would like to start better. I would like to improve on how I have been starting with the (new ball). Otherwise, all the runs that I gave away were scored off bad balls. So I would go back and work on those aspects," Prasidh said after India lost the second ODI by

While Indian bowlers had a poor day in office, Prasidh said that they could have hardly done anything in the face of an onslaught from Jonny Bairstow and Ben Stokes.

"We could have bowled better, am not denying the fact but we need

to give credit to the way they played as well. It was an onslaught, we got hit quite bad."

With only four fielders outside the circle during the second Powerplay (between 11-40 overs), it is always difficult to stop the batsmen on a flat deck.

"That's the game of white-ball cricket today. With four outside for the 11 to 40 overs, that's bound to happen. It was a very good wicket to bat on, no doubt. The score says it all. We scored 330-plus and they chased it down in the 44th over. It says it all. It was a flat wicket, challenging wicket for bowlers where the margin of error was very, very less," he noted.

The execution part went all awry and Prasidh seemed a trifle irritated with repeated references. "Our executions could have been slightly better, personally for me. Other than that, it is a repetitive question, the third time I am being asked. Yes. we did make mistakes, we could have done better but they batted well too," the Karnataka pacer re-



### Saina out, Krishna-Vishnu in final

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, March 27: Saina Nehwal bowed out in straight games in the women's singles semifinals but unheralded duo of Krishna Prasad Garaga and Vishnu Vardhan Goud Panjala kept India in the title hunt by storming into men's doubles final at the Orleans Masters here, Saturday

London Olympic bronze medallist, Saina lost 17-21, 17-21 to Denmark's Line Christophersen in 28 minutes, while women's duo of Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki

seeded Thai pair of Jongkolphan Kititharakul and Rawinda Prajongjai at the semifinals.

However, Krishna and Vishnu cheered up the Indian camp with a 21-17, 21-17 win over English pair of Callum Hemming and Steven Stallwood in a 35 minute semifinal clash to reach their maiden final of a Super 100 event.

The Indian duo, playing their first event together this year, will take on either Indonesian pair of Sabar Karyaman Gutama and Moh Reza Pahlevi Isfahani or fourth seeded English combination of Ben Lane and Sean Vendy in the title clash Sunday.

Krishna and Vishnu had a slender 4-2 early on but the English pair soon jumped to a 11-8 lead at the break. However, the Indian pair soon caught up at 13-13 and marched on to seal the opening game.

In the second game, Krishna and Vishnu slowly moved ahead to a 11-7 advantage at the interval and even though their rivals narrowed down the gap to 15-17, the Indian duo ensured there

The winning team's coach

ing to be crowned a champion. I

Krishna, 21, is India's No.1 ranked doubles player and used to pair up with Satwiksairaj Rankireddy in his

junior days. After Satwik and Chirag Shetty were paired together, Krishna started playing with Dhruv Kapila since November, 2016. The duo continued for two and a half years be-

fore separating in 2019. The 20-year-old Vishnu also played with a few other Indian doubles players in his junior days. He and Ishaan Bhatnagar had reached the finals at the 2019 Bulgarian Junior international.

### Vijayveer, Tejaswani shoot gold

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, March 27: India's Vijayveer Sidhu and Tejaswani claimed the gold medal in the 25m rapid fire pistol mixed team event to extend the country's dominant run in the ISSF World Cup here, Saturday.

In an all-Indian gold medal match, Sidhu and Tejaswani comfortably beat the duo of Gurpreet Singh and Ashok Abhidnya Patil 9-1 at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range.

In the Qualification 2, Gurpreet and Patil finished at the top with a total score of 370 while the team of 16-year-old Tejaswani and 18-yearold Sidhu aggregated 368.

Sidhu won the individual silver

tol event ahead of Anish Bhanwala and Gurpreet.

However, the Indian pair of Kynan Chenai and Shreyasi Singh missed out on a podium finish as they settled for the fourth place in the trap mixed team final of the prestigious tournament. The home team lost to Turkey's Safiye Sariturk and Yavuz Ilnam 35-38.

Kynan, who finished fourth in the individual men's trap Friday, began badly but improved as the mixed final progressed, even as Shreyasi too missed a few shots while finding the target on other occasions.

The Indian duo shot 141 in the qualifications to qualify in the fourth place for the bronze medal match behind Sariturk and Ilnam

ner's off-colour outing with his consistent showing.

The Italian team of Alessia Iezzi and Valerio Grazini topped the qualifications with 145 while the Slovakian pair of Zuzana Rehak Stefecekova and Adrian Drobny was second with 143. In the final, Iezzi and Grazini prevailed over the Slovaks Stefecekova and Drobny 39-36 on the shotgun range.

The medal-less outing in trap notwithstanding, a dominant India continued to lead the standings with 13 gold, eight silver and six bronze for a total of 27 podium fin-

Three finals are lined up on the the last competition day Sunday men's 25m rapid fire pistol team, trap team women and trap team men.

### Gokulam claim maiden I-League title

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, March 27: Gokulam Kerala FC Saturday clinched their maiden I-League title in spectacular fashion as they came back from a goal down to beat TRAU 4-1 in the final match of the season here.

Bidyashagar Singh's 23rd minute strike did little to stop the Gokulam juggernaut as goals by Sharif Mohamed (69th), Emil Benny (74th), Dennis Antwi (77th) and Mohammad Rashid (90+6) handed them the trophy.

With Churchill Brothers winning 3-2 against Punjab FC in the day's other match held simultaneously at another venue here, Gokulam shared points (29) with the Goan side but were crowned champions on head-to-head record.

In the two matches the two sides had played in the season, Churchill



had won 3-2 once while Gokulam had

Kerala to win the I-League title. emerged 3-0 victorious in the other. Gokulam thus qualified for the Vincenzo Alberto Annese could not group stage of the AFC Cup next seahide his joy at his players' achieveson, Asia's second tier club comment. "This is the best day of my life. I feel so happy and I feel amazpetition, as I-League champions.

They also became the first side from

am immensely proud of my team and we deserved to be champions. We outscored all teams and we have played like champions in this season," Annese said.

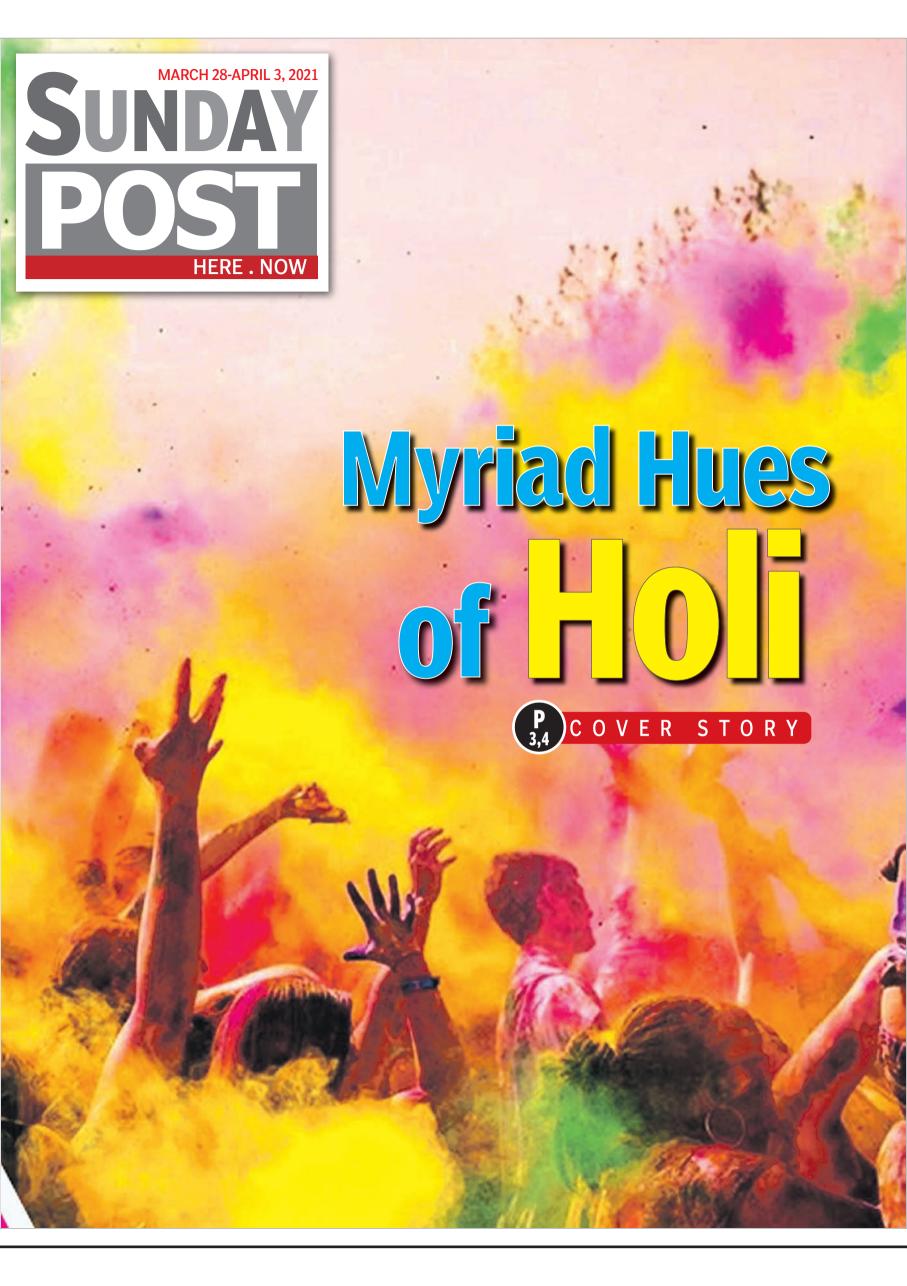
This means everything to me. This is my first season in India and it has already been a very special one. We have a very special team and nobody plays the style of football that we play," he added.

Gokulam pocketed ₹1 crore as prize money while the second, third and fourth-placed teams in the table received ₹60 lakh, ₹40 lakh and ₹25 lakh respectively.

Bidyashagar Singh (TRAU) won the highest goal scorer award (₹2.5 lakh) along with Hero of the League Award (₹5 lakh). The Best goalkeeper award (₹2.5 lakh) went to Kiran Limbu of Punjab FC. Syed Abdul Rahim Award for best coach went to Nandakumar Singh of TRAU.



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Music video director Biren Biren, who has more than 50 albums including 'To Pain Dil Mora', 'Tip Tip Barsha Pani', 'Punei Janha' and an award-winning short-film 'Kupi' to his credit, loves to wake up late and chill on non-working Sundays.



# With friends

### Love for **Parents**

As I live in Bhubaneswar, the first thing I do on a Sunday is to make a phone call to my parents who stay in Kendrapara and talk to them for hours. It makes my Sunday worthwhile.

### Greenhorn in Kitchen

Sundays are reserved for my friends. I catch up with some of my close friends and help them in cooking at their places as I am a bit of a greenhorn in the kitchen. Later, we hang out together and have fun.

### Movie Buff

Watching latest movies on streaming platforms is something I enjoy the most in my free time. More often than not, it helps me add quality to my job.

### house on

Staying alone means managing a whole lot of stuff. I wash my clothes and other belongings. Besides, I make sure to clean the Sundays if I am not working.

Doing Chores



RASHMI REKHA DAS, OP

### **WhatsApp** This Week

### Only on **Sunday POST!**

Send in your most interesting Whatsapp messages and memes received to: features.orissapost@gmail.com And we will publish the best ones

- The problem isn't that obesity runs in your family. It's that no one runs in your family.
- A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.
- People who take care of chickens are literally chicken
- If a parsley farmer gets sued, can they garnish his wages?



### **IDEAS FOR GOOD WRITING**

Sir. I was delighted to read the interview of essavist Chandrasekhar Hota, the Kendra Sahitya Akademi Yuva Purashkar winner for 2020. It highlights how Hota, as a police officer, has been able to strike a fine balance with writing which is his passion. His ideas for good writing holds true for one and all as he has rightly said that one has to first conceive an idea and then read a lot to give it a proper shape.

**DILLIP KUMAR DAS, TALA TELENGA BAZAAR, CUTTACK** 

### **POWER OF POETRY**

Sir, The cover story 'Capturing Creative Spirit' published last week to mark World Poetry Day was worth reading. Nikhilesh Mishra's quote on the purpose of poetry and what is that poetry and poetry alone can do was quite impressive. I too believe that poetry can change the outlook of a person and create harmonious ambience to live in. Needless to say, this is also a powerful medium which can influence people in a positive as well as negative way.

**ASHUTOSH PATNAIK, DHENKANAL** 



#### A WORD FOR READERS

Sunday POST is serving a platter of delectable fare every week, or so we hope. We want readers to interact with us. Please send in your opinions, queries. comments and contributions to

features.orissapost@gmail.com B-15, Industrial Estate, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar - 751010, Orissa. Phone (0674) 2549982, 2549948



BUDDHADEV NANDI

ne of the most popular Hindu festivals observed all over Indian subcontinent is Holi, the festival of colors. Holi, as per Vikram Samvat Hindu Calendar, is celebrated with pomp and grandeur on the full moon day of the month of Phalgun. This boisterous Hindu festival Holi befittingly equates Rituraj Basanta (King of Seasons) marked by a riot of colors in nature with blooming palash, simul and krushnachura. Therefore, Basantosav, another name of Holi, is the eponym of 'Basanta Ritu' in Odia and Bengali almanacs.

#### Days of Festival

The festival of Holi is generally observed for two days. The celebration of 'Holika Dahan' (Incineration of an Ogress called Holika) is observed on the full moon evening. It is also popular as 'Chhoti Holi'. It is followed by the celebration of 'Rangwali Holi' and 'Fagua' on the very next day. In some parts of our country especially in Bengal and Orissa, 'Holi Purnima' is also observed as the birthday of Shri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.

#### Holika Dahan

There are a number of mythological stories surrounding the festival of Holi. According to Hindu scriptures the name of the festival Holi is derived from Holika, the sister of demon king Hiranyakashipu who was killed by Narshinma (semi-man-semi-lion), one of the ten incarnations of Lord Vishnu. Though Lord Vishnu was the sworn enemy of Hiranyakashipu, his young son Prahalad was an ardent devotee of Vishnu. The demon king made several attempts to kill his son to get rid of him. But all his efforts were in vain.

Finding no other way, King Hiranyakashipu invoked his ogress sister Holika and entrusted

her with the onus of killing Prahalad. Holika was empowered by a strange boon. She could enter the fire unscathed. Holika entered a blazing pyre with Prahlad in her lap. But her sinister desire backfired because she was unaware of the fact that the boon would work only if she entered the blazing fire alone. So, the magical cloak that had so far protected Holika from the rage of fire flew away from her body and instead wrapped Prahlad leaving him unhurt. But Holika was burnt to death. As a mark of the great triumph of a true devotee of Lord Vishnu, the effigies of Holika are burnt in huge bonfires in many parts of Northern India. Therefore, 'Holika Dahan' symbolises the victory of good over evil.

century Sanskrit drama Ratnavali

#### Krishna's Jealousy

There is also a legend that tells that Holi originated when Lord Krishna with dark complexion was extremely jealous of Radha's fair complexion. He often lamented why Radha was so fair. His doting mother Yashoda advised him to smear Radha's face with variety of colors. In a mischievous mood

Krishna played pranks and smeared her skin. Therefore, Holi is a festival that removes the pride of skin complexion.

#### **Dhundi Episode**

Another legend tells that there was an Ogress named Dhundi in the kingdom of Prithu. She troubled little children. But no one could suppress her as she was endowed with a boon bestowed upon her by Lord Shiva. The boon made her almost invincible. However, the boon also entailed that her defeat could be possible only by the crazy group of boys. Therefore, on the day of Holi, in some parts of the country boys hurl abuses and play pranks to chase away Dhundi.

#### **References of Holi**

Historically, Holi dates back to several centuries before the inception of the Gregorian calendar. In ancient Hindu literatures and Puranas there are references of Holi festivals. Besides, the celebration of Holi is mentioned in the book by the great poet Kalidas in the 4th century and 7th century Sanskrit drama

Ratnavali. The reference of Holi festival is engraved and painted in sculptures and murals of ancient Indian temples.

#### Dola Yatra in Odisha

The festival of colour is popular as Dola Yatra in Odisha which is celebrated for five days here. It starts from celebration of Fagu Dashami on the 10th day of the bright fortnight of the month Falguna. People smear one another with coloured powder and circumambulate the idol of Madanmohan installed in a richly decked palanquin called Veemana. Processions participated by village folks, musicians and singers move around the villages with the deities for four days. This four-day itineration is called Chachery. On the day of full moon Dola Yatra or Swing Festival carrying the idols in palanquins with devotional songs in chorus in villages is celebrated. Besides, the idols of Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra are installed on the podium called Dolamandapa. Then the important events round the year according Odia almanac





### **COVER**

#### Festival in Bengal

In Bengal, the idols of Radha and Krishna are placed on well decorated palanquins. In this regard Basanta Utsav in Shantiniketan deserves special mention. Famous Bengali poet Rabindranath Tagore introduced the occasion in his Vishva Bharati University. There the students celebrate the occasion singing, dancing and throwing colour powders. Many tourists from our country and abroad turn up to become the part of Basanta Utsav. Bishnupur, the city of temple in Bankura district of West Bengal also has a rich tradition of celebrating Holi in the precinct of famous Madanmohan Temple.

#### **Prime Venues of Holi**

Holi is celebrated in different ways in different parts of India. Lath mar Holi is celebrated at Barsana, a town near Mathura in Uttar Pradesh. Women with sticks run after and



beat men who protect themselves with shields. In Mathura, Vrindavan and other parts of the Braj region Holi is celebrated almost in the same manner. Holi lasts for more than two weeks there. Holi in Gujarat is called Dhuleti which is celebrated with Rangoli or color dusts. In Bihar, Fagua or Fagu Purnima is the name of the festival of Holi. Huge bonfire is lit with cow dung cakes, 'araad' and 'redi' creepers



colours are applied to observe Holi. Besides, Holi is known as Dulandi Holi in Haryana, Rangpanchami in Maharashtra, Hola Moholla in Punjab, Kama Dahanam in Tamil Nadu and so on. Transcending the boundary of our country, Holi is celebrated in Nepal, Indonesia, Fiji, the USA, the UK and even in Pakistan.

#### **Ingredients of Colours**

In the past the hues and colours used to imbue one another would be derived from herbal and organic origins. Green was obtained from mehendi and dried leaves of neem, gulmohar and other leaves. Yellow, red and orange were extracted widely from turmeric, whereas, indigo plants were the basic sources of the colour blue. Besides, variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables including grapes, beetroot, tea, amla, hibiscus, palash and krishnachura were widely used to prepare color dust and gulal of different hues. But in this modern synthetic age, herbal colors have been replaced by cheap and bright chemical colors prepared with toxic metalbased pigments including mercury sul-

fide, lead oxide, aluminum bromide, copper sulphate and so on. It is heartening to note, with the ever increasing sense of healthconsciousness the

use of organic and herbal colors are gaining ground.

#### **Multiple Perspectives**

Needless to say, various legends and historical events associated with Holi mainly recognise the ultimate victory of good over evil. It is also the harvest time when Holi is celebrated. Nature turns into a collage of colourful pastel landscapes. The festival of colors plays the role of a mighty leveler to do away with discriminations and differences among people irrespective of cast, creed, complexion, sex, age and social status. However, Holi is a vibrant festival containing multifarious aspects.

#### **Essence of Holi**

There is a popular song that expresses the true essence of Holi, the festival of colors.

> Pyar ke rang se bharo pichkari Sneh ke rang do duniya sari Ye rang na jane koi jaat na koi boli Aapko mubarak ho aapno ki holi

It may roughly be translated into English: Fill the syringe with colour of affection And sprinkle it without discrimination For the color is ignorant of language and sect Let your holi be hailed with deep respect.





**UTKAL DIVAS SPECIAL** 

**Biswanath Das:** An ardent socio-political leader

The thoughts of Odisha' second Prime Minister were not only implemented in building the Constituency of India along with Dr BR Ambedkar, a Chapter on Directive Principles of State Policy was implemented on his ideas on social and economic justice

PRAFULLA CHANDRA MOHANTY

separate state on April 1, 1936,

on linguistic basis. While the

state is set to celebrate

the 84th anniversary of

its formation, it is time

one should recall the

contributions of the

tall men of the likes

of Maharaja Sri

Krushna Chandra

Gajapati Narayan

Deo, Fakir Mohan

Senapati, Utkal

arved out of Bengal-Bihar-Orissa

province, known as Bengal presidency,

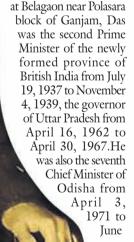
the present day Odisha was born as a

Madhusudan Das, Gangadhar Meher, Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo, Utkalamani Gopabandhu Das , Harekrushna Mahtab and Pandit Nilakantha Das who once fought valiantly and shaped the destiny of a vibrant Odisha.

However, there is one name that is not taken in the same breath on too many occasions. He was not the only Prime Minister and Chief Minister of Odisha whose thoughts and ideas were implemented in building the Constituency of İndia along with Dr BR Ambedkar and other prominent persons, a Chapter on Directive Principles of State Policy had implemented after his ideas on social and economic justice.

He is Biswanath Das, whose indomitable will power and dynamic leadership skills added important dimensions to the growth of the state. He was an eminent freedom

fighter, able statesman, remarkable administrator, astute politician and a charismatic leader. Born on March 8, 1889



him able to read, write and understand the ancient Indian Sanskrit verses mostly the Vedas, Upanishadas and Bhagwat Geeta. After formal education, he went to Cuttack and joined Victoria High School later known as Bhakta Madhu Vidya Peetha and then joined Ravenshaw Collegiate to complete his schooling. He joined Ravenshaw College and completed graduation in arts stream. Later, he went to obtain a law degree from Calcutta University in 1918. While studying he came in contact with freedom fighters. He came to know about the oppressive majors taken by British rulers on Indians to suppress the unity and raising voices against the foreign rule. He practiced law for sometime as an advocate at Berhampur under Madras presidency. Not happy with advocacy business, Das sincerely got into the freedom struggle to free his motherland from the clutches of British government. He joined Indian National congress as a member and took leadership in uniting the peasants of the district. He then started a drive against the middle men who were exploiting the innocent farmers. Later he joined politics and was elected president of Chhatarpur Taluk Board of the district Ganjam. His experience in the peasants 'movement helped a lot in acquiring popularity for his representation in the Taluk Board. He was also elected to Madras council for three terms from 1920 to 1929, but resigned from the membership under the call given by Congress. His tireless effort in amalgamating

14, 1972.

edge about Sanskrit made

Das' in-depth knowl-

Utkal conference (Utkal Sammilani). Being the first elected Prime Minister of the newly formed state Odisha in 1937, he initiated three important tenancy legislations during his tenure such as Madras Estates land (Orissa Amendment Act) Bill, Orissa Tenancy (amendment) Bill and Money Lenders Bill.

Odia speaking tracts helped to actualize the

formation of the new state Odisha April 1,

1936 in collaboration with the members of

He, however, resigned in 1939 in obedience to the directives of the Indian National Congress on the difference in the declaration of World War II by the British Government.

Das, who lived a life of austerity, had held high political offices on numerous occasions. After India got Independence, he became a member of constituent Assembly from 1947 to 1952. His ideas and ideals are reflected in many provisions of the constitution. He was very much optimistic about the working of the new constitution usually with constituent assembly names like BR Ambedkar, AK Avvar, N Gopalswamy Ayyangar, Hridaynath Kumzur, K Santhanam, Satichidananda Sinha, KM Munshi and Tej Bahadur Sapru came to occupy the memories of the students of Indian government and politics.

Besides being a member of the state congress executive committee 1947-1952, he was the president of Pradesh congress committee for a number of years. He was elected to the state Assembly in 1962, but he resigned from the post to accept the governorship of Uttar Pradesh. He was working for a period of five years as the Governor from April,1962. He returned to the state politics of Odisha once again to hold the post of chief minister constituted by the Utkal congress, Swatantra and Jharkhand parties during the year 1971 and 1972. He had set a high standard in social service by getting involved with the Servants of the People's Society of India in which he became the president after the demise of the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Sastri. Besides, he was one of the founding trustees of Chaturdhamveda Bhavan, Puri and instituted Biswanath Trust Fund to cater to the needs of poor students.

Even as he breathed his last June 3,1984, there shouldn't be any doubt that the study of his life will continue to help generations in understanding the growth of society and

legislative system in Odisha and constitutional system of India.



### **TINSELTOWN**



Kriti on playing Sita in *Adipurush* 

> ith great roles, comes great responsibility. Kriti Šanon is aware that all eyes are on her as she portrays the role of Sita, one of the most revered characters of Ramayana, in the magnum opus, Adipurush. "I am over-whelmed and grateful that I am playing such an iconic character. The role comes with a lot of pressure because we don't want to (portray anything that is not (true to) the part. People's sentiments are attached to the

character," she begins. The Om Raut-directed spectacle features South sensation Prabhas in the

titular role with Saif Ali Khan essaying the role of Raavan.

The bilingual marks Sanon's second-period drama after Ashutosh Gowariker's *Panipat* 

Noting that being authentic to the story is half the battle won, she says, "When you're telling a story that is not set in today's times, you have to keep a check on your body language and dialogue delivery. With Om, I am in safe hands. I like his clarity on the film, and he is technically sound. This is the first time I am shooting a film that demands such extensive chroma work. It is a pan-India film, so I had to work on my Telugu."



### **Grand trailer launch** for *Oyee Guitar*

A ppu Kanungo directorial *Oyee*Guitar had a grand trailer launch recently in Bhubaneswar in the presence of film's cast and crew.

Talking to the media, producer B Chandrapriya Subudhi of Srihaan Cinecreations said, "Oyee Guitar, a content-driven film, is my first foray into Ollywood and I hope it will get viewers' acceptance.

The musical drama features Aman, Aahana, RJ Guddy, Debu

Ch Jayprakash Das, Ranu Padhi, Jiban Panda and others.

"Behind every successful man there is a woman. But Oyee Guitar sends a message that she may not be your mother, sister, wife or girlfriend," said director Kanungo and added that the release date will be announced shortly.

The production house will present Mama Weds Papa to the viewers in forthcoming Durga Puja which will be a joint venture with producer Anup Singh, revealed Subudhi.

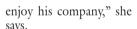


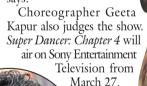
ctress Shilpa Shetty Kundra, Awho judges the dance reality show Super Dancer: Chapter 4 alongside filmmaker Anurag Basu, says the latter is fun to be with on set.

"Dada is fun to be around with. He is like a mischievous kid on the set. He is always making us laugh and has a peculiar style of speaking which is entertaining and endearing," she says.

She adds that he is a big prankster.
"He is always up to some

prank and looks for an opportunity to pull our leg. But, on a serious note, Dada is warm and affectionate and playing pranks is his way of expressing that affection. Both Geeta and I









### Anu, Sukanta team up for *Atithi*

The muhurat of new Odia film *Atithi* was held last week at the Hanuman Temple near CRP Square in Bhubaneswar. The entire cast of the movie including Anu Choudhury, Sukant Rath, Manoj Mishra, Divya, Chinmay Mishra and Aviskeh Giri were present during the launching ceremony.

Written by Manash Padhiary, the film is being directed by Ajay Padhi while Rabinarayan Das will take care of the dialogues, said the pro-

Not divulging much about the movie, veteran actor Sukant Rath, who has been cast opposite Anu, said, "The movie tells how a couple's married life is messed up when three unexpected guests suddenly appear at their place and how they deal with the situation. This is an original script and I'm sure viewers will identify themselves with the characters of the movie.'

The film is being produced by Sthita Patnaik while the music will be scored by Somesh Satpathy. Humane Sagar, Kuldeep Patnaik, Arpita Choudhury and Sanchita Subhadarshini will lend voice to the songs of the film.



### Safety tips on Festival of Colours

Apart from harmful UV radiation, exposure to sun during Holi also dries the skin by causing depletion of moisture and results in tan

oli festival which marks the onset of spring season will be celebrated Lacross India amid coronavirus scare for the second successive year. Traditionally spring flowers, berries, spices and other plants were used in the past as source of Holi colours. During the last few years expensive artificial bright and vibrant colours have started making their way into markets which contain chemical solvents and toxic agents like lead oxide, mercury sulphide and copper sulphate which may damage eyes, skin and lungs.

But Holi without the use of coloured water, water balloons, colours, dye is incomplete. You can enjoy fun and frolic of the festival by playing with organic, homemade colours available in markets. You can also take some precautions to prevent your skin, hair from getting damaged.

The dry Gulal and the wet colours of

today are not manufactured from natural sources. They contain chemicals, shiny particles of mica and even lead, which not only irritate the skin, but get collected on the scalp. Since Holi is played outside, sun-exposure can have a detrimental effect on the skin. Apart from harmful UV radiation, sun-exposure makes the skin dry by causing depletion of moisture and also tans the skin. The skin can become dry and dull after playing Holi.

#### Here are few tips to protect your skin and hair before playing Holi:

Remember to apply a sunscreen 20 minutes before going out in the sun. Use a sunscreen of SPF 20 and above. If your skin is prone to pigmented patches, select a higher SPF. Most sunscreens have builtin moisturisers. If your skin is very dry, first apply the sunscreen, wait for a few minutes and then apply a moisturiser. Apply moisturising lotion or cream on the arms and exposed areas.

Apply leave-in conditioner or hair serum on hair before playing Holi. This protects the hair from the effects of sun exposure and dryness caused by the colours. Hair Cream containing sunscreen is also available.

Take very little, spread on both palms and massage light into the hair, or smooth palms over the hair. Or, apply pure coconut oil and massage it lightly into the hair. This also provides protection against

Apply transparent nail varnish on the nails. This helps to protect the nails from absorbing Holi colours.

The real problem is removal of colours after playing Holi. Rinse the face with plenty of plain water and then use a cleansing cream, or lotion. Apply and massage it on the face. Then wipe off with moist cotton wool. Remember to cleanse the area around the eyes too, using a light touch. A cleansing gel helps to dissolve the colours and facilitates their removal.

To make your own cleanser, take half a cup of cold milk and add one teaspoon of any vegetable oil, like 'til, olive or sunflower oil. Mix well. Dip cotton wool into this mixture and use it to cleanse the

Sesame seed (til) oil can be used to remove colours from the body, massaging it on the skin. This not only helps to remove the colours, but gives added protection to the skin. Sesame seed (til) oil actually helps to counteract sun-damage. While bathing, scrub the body gently with a loofah or wash cloth. Immediately after your bath, apply a moisturiser on the face and body, while the skin is still damp. This helps to seal in moisture.

If there is itching, add two tablespoons of vinegar to a mug of water and use it as a last rinse. This helps to reduce itching. However, if the itching continues, and there is rash and redness, there may be an allergic reaction to the colour. Consult a doctor as soon as possible.

While washing the hair, first rinse with plenty of plain water to wash away the dry colours and tiny particles of mica. Then apply a mild herbal shampoo, working it into the hair with the fingers. Massage the scalp gently and rinse thoroughly with water again.

Beer can be used as a last rinse. In fact,

it will soften and condition the hair. Add the juice of a lemon to the beer. Pour over the hair after shampoo. Leave on for a few minutes and rinse off with plain

The day after Holi, mix two tablespoons honey with half a cup of curd. Add a pinch of turmeric. Apply this on the face, neck and arms. Leave it on for 20 minutes and wash off with water. Helps to remove tan and soften the skin.

Within the next few days give your hair a nourishing treatment. Mix one tablespoon pure coconut oil with one teaspoon castor oil. Heat and apply on the hair. Then dip a towel in hot water, squeeze out the water and wrap the hot towel around the head, like a turban. Keep it on for five minutes. Repeat the hot towel wrap 3 or 4 times. This helps the hair and scalp absorb the oil better. Wash

The pandemic has brought the world to a halt. Various state governments have already put reasonable re-

your hair after an hour.

strictions

relating to festival rituals. Please celebrate this fes-

tival with full zeal and enthusiasm with your family members in your home taking precautionary measures





